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REMARKS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY
THE HONORABLE CASPAR W. WEINBERGER
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
TO THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE
NEW YORK, NEW YORK
FRIDAY, MAY 13, 1983

I AM PLEASED AND HONORED BY THE OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THIS DISTINGUISHED GROUP. HOMER, IN THE ILIAD, TELLS US THAT ACHILLES WAS RENOWNED FOR HIS EXCELLENCE AS "BOTH A SPEAKER OF WORDS AND A DOER OF DEEDS." SO TOO THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE HAS GAINED A REPUTATION BOTH FOR REFLECTION ON PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES AND FOR ACTIVISM ON BEHALF OF HUMANITARIAN IDEALS.

IT IS NOT ALWAYS EASY, OR PLEASANT, TO ACCEPT THE RESPONSIBILITY BOTH TO SPEAK WORDS AND TO DO DEEDS. THE REPORT OF YOUR DEFENSE AND ARMS LIMITATION COMMITTEE ACKNOWLEDGES THAT: "MUCH TIME AND EFFORT WAS SPENT DECIDING WHETHER THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE SHOULD ACTIVELY STUDY THE ISSUES OF DEFENSE AND ARMS LIMITATION." YOUR DECISION WAS THAT A "PARAMOUNT CONCERN FOR HUMAN SURVIVAL AND FOR A PEACEFUL AND STABLE WORLD" REQUIRED YOU TO GRAPPLE WITH THE UNEASY CALCULATIONS OF DETERRENCE AND ARMS CONTROL. I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR COURAGE -- AND FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION.

THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT, IN MY VIEW, REPRESENTS A SERIOUS AND CAREFUL EFFORT TO CONSIDER THE MANY SIDES OF THE CURRENT DEFENSE DEBATE. ITS CENTRAL PREMISE ECHOES THE UNITY FOUND IN KING DAVID'S WORDS FROM THE 19TH PSALM: "THE LORD WILL GIVE STRENGTH UNTO HIS PEOPLE; THE LORD WILL BLESS HIS PEOPLE WITH PEACE." YOU HAVE RECOGNIZED THAT PEACE AND STRENGTH ARE BOUND TOGETHER, THAT ONLY A STRONG NATION CAN DETER THOSE WHO ARE THE ENEMIES OF PEACE.

MORE SPECIFICALLY, THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT SUPPORTS THIS ADMINISTRATION'S BELIEF THAT WE MUST

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PURSU~~E~~ TWO COMPLEMENTARY PATHS TO PEACE. FIRST, WE MUST MAINTAIN A CREDIBLE DETERRENT. MORE SPECIFICALLY, IN THE COMMITTEE'S OWN WORDS, THE UNITED STATES MUST "MAINTAIN THE NECESSARY MILITARY AND GEOPOLITICAL BALANCE THAT DOES NOT TEMPT AGGRESSION AGAINST US OR OUR ALLIES." SECOND, WE MUST PURSUE GENUINE, MUTUAL ARMS REDUCTIONS.

THESE TWIN AIMS ARE NOT NEW; BUT THEY ARE THE AIMS OF BOTH YOUR COMMITTEE AND THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION. SINCE THE DAWN OF THE ATOMIC AGE, THE UNITED STATES HAS SOUGHT TO PRESERVE PEACE AND FREEDOM BY CONVINCING ANY POSSIBLE ADVERSARY THAT THEY WOULD LOSE FAR, FAR MORE THAN THEY COULD EVER HOPE TO GAIN FROM AGGRESSION. AND SINCE THE DAWN OF THE ATOMIC AGE WE HAVE TRIED, FIRST THROUGH THE UNITED NATIONS, THEN THROUGH BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION, TO HALT AND REVERSE THE GROWTH IN NUCLEAR ARSENALS.

BUT THOUGH OUR AIMS REMAIN CONSTANT, THE WORLD IN WHICH WE PURSUE THEM HAS DRAMATICALLY CHANGED. IN THE EARLY 1960s, THE UNITED STATES HAD CLEAR STRATEGIC NUCLEAR SUPERIORITY, WHILE OUR CONVENTIONAL FORCES -- THOUGH OUTNUMBERED -- WERE TECHNOLOGICALLY SUPERIOR TO THE SLOW, CUMBERSOME SOVIET MILITARY. TODAY, AFTER TWENTY YEARS OF STEADY MILITARY BUILDUP BY THE SOVIET UNION, AND A DECADE OF NEGLECT BY THE UNITED STATES, WE ARE STRUGGLING, NOT TO ACHIEVE OR EVEN SEEK THE SUPERIORITY WE ONCE ENJOYED, BUT SIMPLY TO RESTORE THE MILITARY EQUIVALENCE NECESSARY TO PRESERVE THE PEACE.

NOWHERE WAS THIS SHIFT MORE DRAMATIC THAN IN THE STRATEGIC NUCLEAR BALANCE. AT THE BEGINNING OF THE 1970s THE UNITED STATES MADE A CONSCIOUS CHOICE: WE WOULD RESTRICT IMPROVEMENTS TO THE YIELD AND ACCURACY OF OUR NUCLEAR MISSILE FORCES SO AS NOT TO THREATEN THE SOVIET UNION WITH A SUDDEN, DISARMING FIRST STRIKE. OUR PURPOSE WAS TO ENCOURAGE SIMILAR RESTRAINT BY THE SOVIET UNION, AND TO CODIFY, IF YOU WILL, A SHARED STRATEGY OF ASSURED DESTRUCTION. THE RESULT WAS TO ALLOW THE SOVIET UNION A "SANCTUARY" FOR ITS ICBM FORCE.

THE TROUBLE IS, THE SOVIETS DISREGARDED OUR PEACEFUL SIGNALS. INSTEAD OF JOINING US IN RESTRAINT, THEY STEPPED UP THEIR OWN STRATEGIC MODERNIZATION PROGRAM. THEY DEVELOPED A NEW GENERATION OF ICBMS SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED TO DESTROY U.S. MISSILE SILOS AND B-52 BASES. THEY CONTINUED TO BUILD FAR MORE INTERCONTINENTAL BALLISTIC MISSILES THAN THEY COULD POSSIBLY NEED TO ASSURE EFFECTIVE RETALIATION AGAINST ATTACK. THEY HARDENED THEIR MISSILE

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SILOS, ACQUIRED THE CAPABILITY TO RELOAD SOME OF THEIR LARGER ICBMS, AND ENHANCED THEIR STRATEGIC DEFENSES. ALL THESE DEVELOPMENTS, TOGETHER WITH SOVIET WRITINGS AND EXERCISES, SUGGESTED THAT THE SOVIETS THOUGHT THEY COULD FIGHT -- AND WIN -- A NUCLEAR WAR.

WE, FOR OUR PART, ARE UNDER NO SUCH ILLUSIONS ABOUT THE DANGERS OF NUCLEAR WAR. WE BELIEVE NEITHER SIDE COULD WIN. BUT IT IS NOT ENOUGH TO CONVINCING OURSELVES THAT NUCLEAR WAR IS UNWINNABLE. WE WILL PRESERVE DETERRENCE ONLY BY CONVINCING THE SOVIET UNION THAT THEY CANNOT WIN.

IN THE SAME WAY, IT IS NOT ENOUGH TO RECOGNIZE OURSELVES THAT THE WORLD WOULD BE FAR SAFER IF BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION REDUCED THEIR NUCLEAR ARSENALS. WE WILL ACHIEVE GENUINE, MUTUAL ARMS REDUCTION ONLY BY CONVINCING THE SOVIET UNION THAT THEIR ALTERNATIVE IS NOT SOVIET NUCLEAR SUPERIORITY, BUT AMERICAN DETERMINATION TO MAINTAIN NUCLEAR PARITY -- EVEN IF THIS MEANS AT HIGHER LEVELS AND AT HIGHER COST.

UP UNTIL NOW I HAVE FOCUSED ON THE STRATEGIC BALANCE. BUT THE SHIFTING MILITARY BALANCE NOT ONLY UNDERMINED DETERRENCE AND THE PROSPECTS FOR ARMS REDUCTION; IT ALSO EMBOLDENED THE SOVIETS TO EXPAND THEIR MILITARY POWER FAR BEYOND THEIR OWN BORDERS. IN RECENT YEARS THE SOVIETS HAVE DRAMATICALLY EXPANDED THEIR POWER PROJECTION CAPABILITIES -- THEIR NAVAL, AIRBORNE, AND AIRLIFT FORCES. THEY HAVE GAINED OPERATING BASES IN KEY PARTS OF THE WORLD, AND SIGNED SECURITY COOPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH NATIONS IN AFRICA, THE MIDDLE EAST, ASIA, AND EVEN OUR OWN HEMISPHERE. THEY HAVE DELIVERED A MASSIVE ARSENAL TO SYRIA, LIBYA, AND OTHER THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES AND DOUBLED THE NUMBER OF WARSAW PACT MILITARY AND TECHNICAL ADVISERS. THEY HAVE USED CUBAN, LIBYAN, AND EAST GERMAN MILITARY PROXIES IN AFRICA AND CENTRAL AMERICA. THEY HAVE INVADDED AFGHANISTAN.

YOUR COMMITTEE REPORT RIGHTLY EMPHASIZES THE GRAVE THREAT THIS EXPANDING SOVIET MILITARY POWER POSES TO AMERICA'S INTERESTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AND ESPECIALLY TO THE SECURITY OF ISRAEL. WE ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED BY THE GROWING MILITARY PRESENCE OF THE SOVIETS AND THEIR PROXIES, PARTICULARLY IN LIBYA, ETHIOPIA AND SOUTH YEMEN. THESE COUNTRIES NOT ONLY SIT ASTRIDE THE MAJOR CHOKE POINTS AND LINES OF COMMUNICATION IN THE REGION, BUT, THROUGH THEIR SUPPORT FOR TERRORISM, INSURGENCY, AND CROSS-BORDER ASSAULTS, THEY ACTIVELY SEEK TO UNDERMINE ALL THE MODERATE AND WESTERN-ORIENTED REGIMES IN THE AREA.

ADDITIONALLY, WE HAVE SEEN A DRAMATIC INCREASE IN SOVIET ACTIVITY IN SYRIA. THE SOVIETS HAVE INSTALLED SAM-5s THAT COVER ISRAELI AIRSPACE, THEY HAVE LITERALLY FLOODED SYRIA WITH NEW ARMS, AND THEY HAVE ISSUED PROVOCATION

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TIVE STATEMENTS DISPARAGING U.S., ISRAELI, LEBANESE EFFORTS TO BRING PEACE AND STABILITY TO LEBANON. THEY HAVE ALSO SENT SOVIET TROOP UNITS TO SYRIA, NOT JUST "ADVISORS" OR TRAINERS. THIS STEPPED-UP SOVIET INVOLVEMENT IN THE REGION MAKES A SOLUTION TO THE CRISIS IN LEBANON MORE DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE, AND HEIGHTENS THE DANGER OF DIRECT CONFLICT BETWEEN SYRIA AND ISRAEL.

THE AGREEMENTS WHICH ISRAEL ENTERED INTO WITH LEBANON TO WITHDRAW THEIR TROOPS WHEN AND IF THE SYRIANS AND PLO WITHDRAW ARE A MAJOR STEP FORWARD -- A STEP FOR WHICH GEORGE SCHULTZ AND THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT DESERVE OUR THANKS AND GRATITUDE, FOR ADVANCING THE CAUSE OF PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. I HOPE SYRIA WILL SOON SEE IT IS ENORMOUSLY TO THEIR ADVANTAGE ALSO TO AGREE TO WITHDRAW THEIR TROOPS FROM LEBANON.

LET ME STOP AT THIS POINT, AND TALK ABOUT SOMETHING WHICH HAS CONCERNED BOTH OF US DEEPLY, AND THAT IS THE ALLEGATION THAT I, PERSONALLY, HAVE SOME ANIMUS AGAINST ISRAEL.

I WANT TO SAY, AS FORCEFULLY AS I CAN, THAT THIS IS SIMPLY NOT TRUE. I AM A STRONG SUPPORTER OF ISRAEL, AND AN ADMIRING WITNESS TO THE DEMOCRACY THEY HAVE BUILT AND PRESERVED UNDER THE MOST TRYING CONDITIONS. I THOROUGHLY ENJOYED MY VISIT LAST YEAR AND WAS MOST HOSPITABLY RECEIVED. WE HAVE ALL HAD OCCASIONAL DISAGREEMENTS WITH SOME POLICIES OF ISRAEL, AS WITH OTHER SOVEREIGN NATIONS. I HAVE, AS IS MY RESPONSIBILITY, SOUGHT TO PURSUE POLICIES IN THESE MATTERS, AS IN ALL OTHERS, THAT I FELT IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES, BUT EVEN IF I WERE NOT A STRONG ADMIRER OF ISRAEL AND ALL THEY HAVE ACCOMPLISHED, EVEN IF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WERE NOT BOUND TO ISRAEL BY EMOTIONAL TIES, AS SECRETARY OF DEFENSE I WOULD STILL BE A STRONG SUPPORTER OF ISRAEL. LEAVING ALL SENTIMENTS ASIDE, LOOKING ONLY AT OUR OWN NATIONAL INTERESTS, IT IS CLEAR THAT WE IN THE UNITED STATES HAVE AN IMPORTANT STAKE IN ISRAEL'S SECURITY. WE HAVE ENORMOUS STRATEGIC INTERESTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST; ISRAEL HAS A MOST EFFECTIVE MILITARY FORCE, AND, BECAUSE IT IS A DEMOCRACY, ONE OF THE MOST STABLE GOVERNMENTS IN THE REGION. WE KNOW THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD DEARLY LOVE CONTROL OVER THE MIDDLE EAST'S RESOURCES AND STRATEGIC CHOKEPOINTS; BUT ISRAEL STANDS DETERMINEDLY IN THEIR WAY!

FINALLY -- AND THIS IS A CRUCIAL POINT -- THE UNITED STATES CANNOT AFFORD TO HAVE ANY OF OUR FRIENDS IN THE REGION, INCLUDING THE MODERATE ARABS, CONCLUDE THAT WE IN THE UNITED STATES ARE UNRELIABLE, AS THEY SURELY WOULD CONCLUDE IF WE WERE SEEN TO ABANDON ISRAEL.

YOU MAY HAVE HEARD THAT I AM A GREAT ADMIRER OF WINSTON CHURCHILL. AND ONE OF THE REASONS I FEEL THAT

WAY IS THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THAT WEAKNESS IS PROVOCATIVE, THAT TYRANNIES CAN ALL TOO EASILY CONCLUDE FROM OUR RESTRAINT NOT THAT WE ARE PEACEABLE, BUT RATHER THAT WE ARE POWERLESS.

ON MAY 23, 1939, JUST A FEW SHORT MONTHS BEFORE THE WAR CHURCHILL ALREADY KNEW WOULD COME, HE ROSE IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS TO SPEAK OF EFFORTS, STATED IN A GOVERNMENT WHITE PAPER, TO UNDERMINE THE BALFOUR DECLARATION'S SOLEMN COMMITMENT. HE SPOKE OF THE TREMENDOUS ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE JEWS IN PALESTINE. AND THEN HE MADE, ONCE AGAIN, HIS PLEA FOR DETERRENCE:

"WHAT," HE ASKED, " WILL OUR POTENTIAL ENEMIES THINK (ABOUT THIS SHIFT IN OUR POSITION TOWARD THE BALFOUR DECLARATION) ...WILL THEY NOT BE ENCOURAGED BY OUR CONFESSION OF RECOIL? WILL THEY NOT BE TEMPTED TO SAY: 'THEY'RE ON THE RUN AGAIN. THIS IS ANOTHER MUNICH.' AND (WILL THEY NOT) BE THE MORE STIMULATED IN THEIR AGGRESSION BY THESE VERY UNPLEASANT REFLECTIONS WHICH THEY MAY MAKE?"

THE UNITED STATES IS BOUND TO ISRAEL BY STRATEGIC INTERESTS. THE UNITED STATES IS BOUND TO ISRAEL BY A COMMON HERITAGE OF FREEDOM AND A PIONEERING SPIRIT. BEYOND THAT, AS FREE NATIONS WE ARE BOUND BY OUR COMMON NEED TO PROVE THAT HISTORY DOES NOT INEXORABLY FAVOR TYRANNY OVER DEMOCRACY, AND CONFLICT OVER RECONCILIATION. THIS IS WHY -- IF I MAY LAY ANOTHER MYTH TO REST -- NO ONE SHOULD QUESTION ANYONE'S STRONG SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL AS BEING "DUAL LOYALTY." FREEDOM IS NOT SO EASILY DIVISIBLE, AND SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL'S SECURITY IS SUPPORT FOR OUR OWN SECURITY.

PEACE CANNOT BE ACHIEVED WITHOUT STRENGTH, AND STATES THAT DO NOT FEEL SECURE CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO TAKE RISKS FOR PEACE. ISRAEL CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO EXPOSE ITSELF TO THE RISKS OF TERRITORIAL WITHDRAWAL IF IT IS NOT CONFIDENT ABOUT ITS OWN DEFENSE CAPABILITIES, ABOUT THE SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS THAT ACCOMPANY ANY WITHDRAWALS, AND ABOUT THE STRENGTH AND PERMANENCE OF OUR U.S. COMMITMENT TO ISRAELI SECURITY.

SIMILARLY, IF THE MODERATE ARABS ARE TO JOIN THE PEACE PROCESS, THEY MUST FEEL CAPABLE OF WITHSTANDING THE INEVITABLE RETALIATORY THREATS FROM THE RADICALS AND REJECTIONISTS THAT THEY ARE SURE TO CONFRONT. AND THAT MEANS THEY, TOO, MUST BE CONFIDENT ABOUT THEIR OWN CAPABILITIES AND OUR COMMITMENT TO THEIR DEFENSE.

INDEED ONE OF THE GREAT THINGS ABOUT THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROPOSALS OF THE PRESIDENT, AND THE REALIZATION OF THE FIRST STEP ON THE ROAD TO THAT PEACE, IS

THAT IF WE CAN ACHIEVE IT, ISRAEL WOULD BE ABLE TO RELY ON SOMETHING BETTER THAN ITS MILITARY MIGHT TO PRESERVE ITS SECURITY -- AND THAT WOULD BE FRIENDLY NEIGHBORS THAT RECOGNIZE ISRAEL AND ITS RIGHT TO EXIST FOREVER.

ACHIEVING PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH, THROUGH THE TWIN AIMS OF DETERRENCE AND NEGOTIATION, IS OUR GOAL FOR THE MIDDLE EAST, AND FOR THE MANY OTHER AREAS IN THE WORLD WHERE SOVIET-BACKED TERRORISM THREATENS. JUST AS CHURCHILL SAW THE LINK BETWEEN A COMMITMENT TO THE JEWS OF PALESTINE AND A COMMITMENT TO THE SECURITY OF EUROPE, SO WE MUST RECOGNIZE THAT OUR WILLINGNESS TO COUNTER AGGRESSION WHERE IT ARISES, OUR WILLINGNESS TO REBUILD OUR STRATEGIC FORCES, AND OUR WILLINGNESS TO RESTORE THE READINESS AND SUSTAINABILITY OF OUR CONVENTIONAL FORCES, ALL SENDS A SIGNAL TO ANY WHO WOULD THREATEN PEACE, WHEREVER THEY WOULD SO THREATEN PEACE, INCLUDING IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

IN 1980 PRESIDENT REAGAN WAS ELECTED WITH A MANDATE TO RESTORE THE BALANCE OF POWER AND TO PURSUE A LASTING PEACE. HE WAS CONFRONTED, ON TAKING OFFICE, WITH MILITARY CAPABILITIES THAT HAD BEEN SAPPED BY YEARS OF NEGLECT.

WITH BIPARTISAN SUPPORT IN CONGRESS WE BEGAN THAT VERY DIFFICULT BUT VITALLY IMPORTANT TASK AND TODAY I THINK IT IS FAIR TO SAY WE SEE VERY ENCOURAGING RESULTS. WE HAVE TAKEN STEPS TO TURN AROUND THE INCREASING AGE AND OBSOLESCENCE OF OUR NUCLEAR DETERRENT. RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM IS UP, DRAMATICALLY. OUR SPARE PARTS AND MAINTENANCE BACKLOGS ARE FINALLY GOING DOWN, AND AMMUNITION STOCKS ARE BEING RESTORED.

WE HAVE ALSO BEGUN THE LONG-NEEDED MODERNIZATION OF OUR CONVENTIONAL FORCES. THE ARMY IS GETTING ITS FIRST NEW TANK SINCE 1962. THE AIR FORCE IS GETTING MODERN FIGHTER PLANES TO COUNTER THE SOVIETS' GROWING OFFENSIVE AIR POWER. WE ARE REBUILDING OUR NAVY TO REFLECT THE EXPANDING GLOBAL REACH OF SOVIET POWER, WE ARE UPGRADING OUR OBSOLETE AIR DEFENSES TO ENSURE BETTER WARNING OF A SURPRISE ATTACK, AND WE ARE ACQUIRING THE CAPABILITY WE NEED TO MOVE TROOPS AND EQUIPMENT QUICKLY TO TROUBLE SPOTS SUCH AS THE PERSIAN GULF.

AS WE SHORE UP OUR NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL DETERRENT, WE HAVE MOVED FORWARD BOLDLY WITH PROPOSALS FOR A RADICAL REDUCTION IN NUCLEAR ARSENALS. IN THE STRATEGIC ARMS TALKS -- START -- THE UNITED STATES HAS PROPOSED REDUCTIONS IN THE MOST DESTABILIZING NUCLEAR WEAPONS, BALLISTIC MISSILES. IN OUR LONGER-RANGE INTERMEDIATE NUCLEAR FORCE NEGOTIATIONS WE HAVE PROPOSED ELIMINATING THIS CLASS OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH. AND, TO FACILITATE AGREEMENT TOWARD THAT GOAL, WE HAVE ALSO PROPOSED AN INTERMEDIATE STEP IN WHICH THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION WOULD

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BOTH REDUCE THE LEVELS OF THESE FORCES TO AN EQUAL LEVEL BELOW THAT OF CURRENT SOVIET DEPLOYMENT. WE HAVE PROPOSED MAJOR NEW INITIATIVES TO IMPROVE COMMUNICATIONS AND REMOVE THE DANGER OF INADVERTENT WAR, ACCIDENTS, OR MISCALCULATIONS.

WE MUST CONTINUE TO PURSUE THESE TWO PATHS TO PEACE, TO PRESERVE DETERRENCE AND TO SEEK GENUINE, MUTUAL ARMS REDUCTION. BUT FOR THIS WE NEED THE GIFT OF PATIENCE, WE MUST RECOGNIZE THAT REBUILDING OUR DEFENSES WILL TAKE TIME AND RESOURCES, BUT THAT MUST BE DONE. WE MUST ALSO RECOGNIZE THAT THE SOVIETS WILL TRY OUR METTLE BEFORE CONCLUDING THAT WE WILL NOT BE DEFLECTED FROM OUR PATH.

AND ABOVE ALL, WE NEED THE GIFT OF THE BEST THINKING IN OUR NATION FROM CONCERNED MEN AND WOMEN LIKE YOURSELVES. THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE HAS TAKEN GREAT TIME AND CARE TO SHARE ITS DEEP WISDOM WITH THOSE WHO FORM AMERICA'S DEFENSE POLICY. LET ME AGAIN THANK YOU AND ASK FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND COUNSEL AND PRAYERS THAT OUR PATHS MAY INDEED BE, AS SCRIPTURE ENJOINS, 'THE PATHS OF PEACE'.

