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MS-763: Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman Collection, 1930-2004.

Series H: United Jewish Appeal, 1945-1995.

Subseries 1: Sermons, Speeches and Writings, 1949-1982.

Box
21

Folder
18

Speech notes. March-May 1956.

For more information on this collection, please see the finding aid on the
American Jewish Archives website.

HERBERT A. FRIEDMAN

N.Y. Cotton Dinner - 27th ¹⁹⁵⁶ Mo
Frest Hills Center - 28th Mo

Jews of America seemed to sense emergency and started to respond.

So-called emergency was at height in April - Yedayeren

Then 2 things happened + now everyone has feeling things are quiet:

- a) Cease-fire
- b) Russian statement

I say not to depend on either one.

1. Cease-fire has been violated
2. Long-range intentions of Kasser don't change.

After Day H. left, Cairo Radio said:

"The elimination of Israel is indispensable and Israel herself knows that no other possibility exists. Since the Czech-E. arms agreement, Israel dances upon a powder keg. The Arab armies are now united and have at their disposal a sufficient quantity of arms for an attack on Israel."

3. Russian statement, ^{for peace} was followed by another Greek deal with Syria, —
E. now plays Russian game, recognizes Red China, and is still anti-western.

So, what should Israel do?

1. She is buying arms and has good facilities. This could not be said few months ago.
2. She has prepared shelters — food + fuel reserves — auxiliary power stations.

And she continues to take immigrants.
Time is running out in North Africa.

~~THE~~ JOB for Israel — DEFENSE
THE JOB for US — IMMIGRATION

Survival fund is answer —
high challenge to Jewish endurance.
long view.

HERBERT A. FRIEDMAN

1. Almost war few weeks ago.
2. Israel wants peace, didn't retaliate to fedayeen raids

U.S. Ambassador Praises Restraint

TEL AVIV (ISI) — United States Ambassador Edward B. Lawson expressed deep appreciation for the restraint displayed by the citizens of Israel in the face of murderous acts perpetrated by Egyptian gangs. Ambassador Lawson was addressing ceremonies inaugurating the first nine buildings at Bar Ilan University.

"I am certain," Mr. Lawson said, "that the world will know how to estimate properly the restraint you showed in the face of this terror. If there is a trait which represents a great nation, it surely is its stand in such a critical hour of trial."

3. Then came cease-fire
4. Then came Russian statement pledging support to UN efforts to achieve peace.

5. Does This mean anything?
6. Cease-fire is fragile & incomplete.
7. Russian promises mean nothing -
Czech deal announced today with
Syria.

3 May 1956

1956

CZECH ARMS SALE TO SYRIA REPORTED

Special to The New York Times.
LONDON, Thursday, May 3—
Czechoslovakia and Syria have concluded an arms agreement providing for the shipment to Syria of 100 tanks, 100 armored cars and twenty-five MIG fighter planes, The Daily Telegraph reported today. There was no confirmation from official British sources.

Negotiations between Communist Czechoslovakia and Syria have been going on since early this year. According to The Telegraph's diplomatic correspondent the arms agreement was concluded six weeks ago.

In addition to fifty old German tanks and fifty Russian tanks, the armored cars and the jet fighters, Czechoslovakia will sell to Syria heavy anti-aircraft

guns, field artillery, 10,000 sub-machine guns and ammunition of various types.

The statement, issued after last week's talks between British leaders and Nikita S. Khrushchev, the Soviet Communist party chief, and Premier Nicolai A. Bulganin of the Soviet Union said London and Moscow would do their utmost "to end the armaments race in all parts of the world." The Daily Telegraph said the deal by Czechoslovakia and Syria was reached before the Soviet leaders arrived in Britain.

8. Crisis even more acute.

Time is on Arab side.

Eban said few days ago:

"War danger is not dispelled.

The crisis may be renewed in sharper form within a few weeks when the Egyptian dictator has perfected his mastery of his new air & armored power.

From Lebanon, N.Y. Times correspondent reported on 27 April: "Most observers here believe that Dag H. has won an assurance that there will be no war in the Middle East for several months at least."

8 a. Sharet said this may only be
HERBERT A. FRIEDMAN "hell before storm"

9. In Israel people are calm,
but preparing

- a.) City labor helping dig fortifications.
- b.) Laying in supply of food, fuel,
raw materials.
- c.) Diversifying electric power stations.

10. Meanwhile, immigration from
North Africa continues.
Average 4200 monthly.

They know they are going to
dangerous area - why go?

Because they want to get out.

And that is exactly the reason
Israel takes them in, no matter
what the strain.

11. Intensified anti-Israel propaganda of Arab League in Tunisia has Jews worried - causes spirit of registration.
12. Emigration of Moroccan Jews is an "anti-national" act, leader of Istiqlal Party tells Jewish audience. Tells them they should stay. They don't.

We take whole load of non-war costs from their shoulders.

"with tears + sympathy you can't help."

rise to S.S.F. - RESPONSE
TO CHALLENGE

HERBERT A. FRIEDMAN

We are:

13. Pro-Jewish
Pro-American
anti-Communist

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

Israel will live and
all our values & ideals
will be preserved.

1. Few hours - Chief Rabbi - 8th
birthday visit to tomb - parade.
2. Tension almost reached breaking point last week.
 - a. Egyptians started shelling Nahal Oz
 - b. Israelis killed Gaza military HQ
 - c. Egypt sent in Fedayeen
 - d. Air battle
3. Lawson praised Israel for self-restraint
He expressed appreciation of Israel's patience & restraint
in the face of continuing terrorism and night marauder
squad. He hoped that the nations of the world
would appreciate Israel's behavior in this crisis.
4. Details of arms purchase plans were revealed
in N.Y. Times this morning, so I can now tell them.
5. Meanwhile, immigration continues 4200 per month.
Point of honor & sense of destiny not to stop this.

Two Things at stake

1. Fate of Israel
2. Fate of Democracy

as Jews we want to stand with Israel

as Americans we ~~must~~^{want to} stand against communism.

used to be said that we couldn't antagonize
Arabs because of oil.

But now clear that the Arabs have invited the
communists in.

~~only Jews~~

The big switch is on - everyone now realizes
that only Israel is really anti-communist.
England, France, Canada, Italy, LIFE magazine,

Thus our interests as Jews and as Americans
meet in happy coincidence.

HOTEL *Statler* CLEVELAND

6. So, our continued financial support necessary.

- a. as friends of Israel
- b. as humanitarians lovers of our fellow Jews
- c. as Americans, who can see that this problem is bigger than Israel - part of east-west struggle. Our government will thank us.

shoot for goal, 4,821,000 -

1948 figure would be by news throughout the country.

and would be the greatest message of hope we could send Israel today.

"with tears & sympathy you can't help"

9th MANY THINGS IMPORTANT IN JEWISH LIFE, FOR US + FOR WORLD ①

RELIGION
IDEALS
VALUE OF KNOWLEDGE
PEACE
FAMILY LIFE

THESE ARE TRANSCEDENT VALUES -
BUT THEY DO NOT EXIST IN
ABSTRACT

THESE IDEAS + IDEALS ARE CARRIED
TRANSMITTED BY A PEOPLE

SURVIVAL OF THAT PEOPLE IS MOST IMPORTANT FOR ITSELF
AND FOR THE WORLD. WITHOUT THE PEOPLE THERE IS NO JUDAIISM.
ISRAEL PLAYS A KEY ROLE IN SURVIVAL OF THE PEOPLE.

IN PAST IT WAS A REALITY, THEN BECAME OBJECT OF A ORGAIN,
NOW IS REALITY AGAIN. THE LAND OF ISRAEL + PEOPLE OF ISRAEL
ARE INTERWOVEN.

I AM HERE TO SOUND AN ALARM.
LET THERE BE NO SELF-RECRIMINATIONS LATER.
LEADERSHIP MUST SPEAK AND ALERT COMMUNITY.

1. ISRAEL IS IN DANGER OF ATTACK

(2)

- a) Russian Arms Deal is Devastating
- b) Arab summit conference is forging a unified command, not existent before.

2. WHAT IS ISRAEL TRYING TO DO ?

- a) Purchase arms abroad - CAN SHE?
SOME PLACES - YES
SOME PLACES - YES.

- b) Five-point program at home

Day before yesterday - Mirtachim - B.G. + Dagan filled sandbags, dug, fastened barbed wire to stakes

3. HOW IS MORALE ?

- a) No panic - want peace, but won't shirk war
- b) Continue to take immigrants - North Africa

Discussion to cut four was repudiated.

4. WHAT CAN WE DO?

3

- a) Not lose heart or faith - she will survive
- b) Not forget how hard we worked to achieve the state - and therefore work again to save it.
- c) Use all means - political + public relations - to win support for Israel.
- d) Above all else - give her the means to keep strong. MONEY TALKS

NO ONE IS MORE INTERESTED IN ISRAEL THAN ARE WE. LET US NEVER FORGET THAT.

1. Washington watches ^(+ for some Ottawa) ~~out~~ ^{financial} support Jewish
2. Arabs watch
3. People of Israel watch

Money will buy arms ^{may buy} + place by deterring aggression. _{to defend}

THIS IS HIGH MOMENT OF CHALLENGE.
ISRAEL WORTH SAVING - FOR US + FOR WORLD.