



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

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

Series H: United Jewish Appeal, 1945-1995.

Subseries 4: Administrative Files, 1945-1994.

Box
42

Folder
12

Klutznick, Philip. United Jewish Appeal luncheon speech. 5
February 1961.

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

MSG

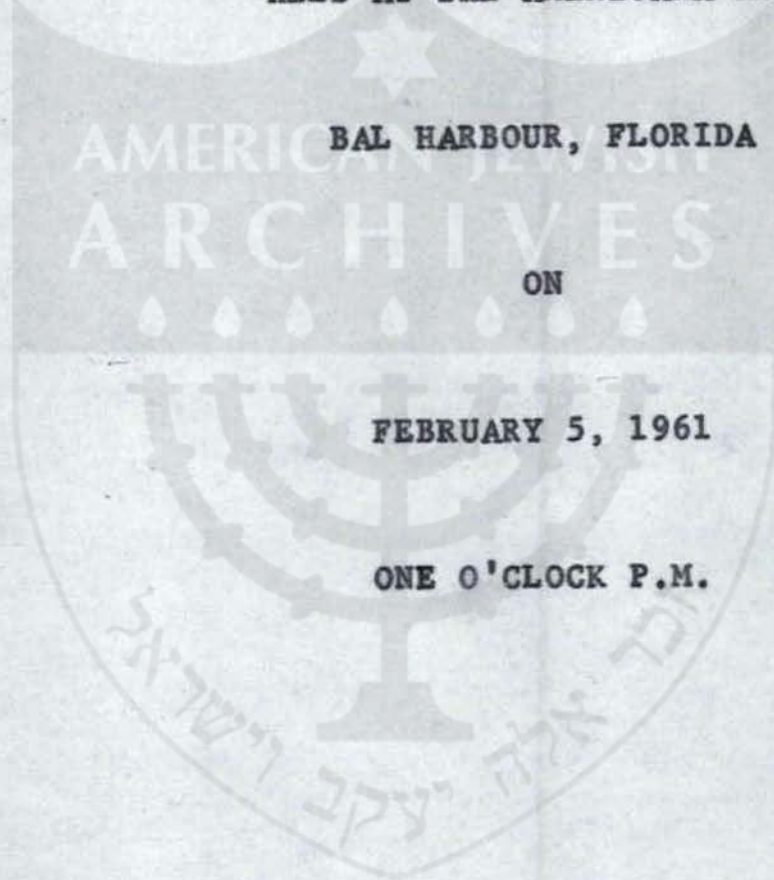
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

051101619

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL

LUNCHEON

HELD AT THE AMERICANA HOTEL



BAL HARBOUR, FLORIDA

ON

FEBRUARY 5, 1961

ONE O'CLOCK P.M.

Hemlock

**Reported by:
R. Gurian**

RECORD CONTENT

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

MR. LEVIN: Ladies and gentlemen, may I take this opportunity to welcome the friends of the United Jewish Appeal from all over the United States and Canada, and may I ask the Chairman of the Campaign Committee of our City of Miami, Joe Lipton, to please stand up and take a bow.

(Applause.)

Our good friend, Sam Hyman, the president of the Miami federation is stuck in New York with the snow and cannot get out. Representing the federation is Judge Irving Cypen. Judge, please stand up and take a bow.

(Applause.)

As a matter of personal privilege, I should like to ask another gentleman to take a bow. He has been very helpful to me in working on this conference. He has been with me all week. Here is a man whom you all know, Mel Dubinsky.

(Applause.)

Friends, in presenting our first speaker, one is touched with a feeling that cannot be put into words, and yet I must do so with pride and regret, pride in the fact that one of our own has achieved such great distinction in the field of national and world affairs, and regret that this very

051101620

1 recognition of his ability will be the cause of
2 taking him from the helm of the United Jewish Appeal.

3 Phil Klutznick has been one of the
4 prides and glories of the American Jewish life, of
5 world Jewish life for many years. Over the years,
6 his talents have likewise been at the service of the
7 country and of the American people as a whole. His
8 leadership has brought vital force and guidance to
9 virtually every facet of American Jewish life.

10 A few of the organizations I might
11 mention are B'nai Brith, the United Jewish Appeal,
12 the Claims Conference of the Jewish Agency, Incorporated
13 and many, many others.

14 At the same time, his work for the
15 Federal Government as a housing expert, as President
16 Roosevelt's wartime housing commissioner and as
17 United Nations delegate for President Eisenhower's
18 administration, he has helped America as a whole
19 during many critical times in our history. As a
20 matter of fact, the Senate Committee as a whole
21 approved his nomination by the President of the
22 United States on Tuesday and he shortly will assume
23 this new position of importance, that of United States
24 representative to the United Nations Economic and
25 Social Council, for the benefit of Americans, but

051101621

1 particularly for the benefit of people in under-
2 developed countries all over the world.

3 This is a great man, a great Jew, a
4 great American. But remember, I have the feeling
5 we are not losing Phil. We are gaining, because
6 what he will accomplish in the United Nations will
7 be of help to all mankind, and the United Jewish
8 Appeal will forever be of supreme importance to him.

9 Let us hear from Phil now. Here is
10 our good friend, Phil Klutznick.

11 (Applause.)

12 MR. KLUTZNICK: Mr. Chairman, General
13 Laskov, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.
14 The Chairman's enthusiasm in the traditional tidbit
15 of yesteryear filled me with an extreme desire to
16 hear myself speak, although these are not the easiest
17 words that one speaks.

18 Many months ago, I agreed to accept
19 the General Chairmanship of the United Jewish Appeal.
20 To this agreement, I attached one condition; if
21 after the elections the new President would call on
22 me to assume a responsibility in which I felt I could
23 be of service to our nation, I would feel bound to
24 accept. I also indicated, however, that I would not
25 actively seek such an office, for I felt then, as I

051101622

1 feel now, that to serve the U.J.A. and my other
2 communal interests was sufficient for me.

3 These conditions were part of my
4 acceptance and so agreed to by the Committee of the
5 U.J.A. On the eve of the U.J.A.'s national annual
6 conference in December, the announcement was made
7 of the appointment of the new head of the United
8 States Mission to the United Nations. Even while
9 our conference was taking place, some of those present
10 here were being interviewed by a certain agency of the
11 government with respect to your present speaker.

12 I suggested to some of my friends in
13 the U.J.A. that the signs were clear that I was going
14 to be offered a post, in which I felt I could serve,
15 and that if I was offered it, I would not reject it.
16 In spite of this, I was urged to accept the General
17 Chairmanship, with the understanding that everyone
18 would appreciate the necessity of resigning if the
19 events which have transpired had come to pass.

20 Ten days ago, when the U.J.A. Executive
21 Committee met, the ~~die~~^{die} had been cast. I so advised
22 the Committee. I have tried to carry on as General
23 Chairman from the day of the election until this
24 moment, when my successor is to be presented officially.
25 Now that the President and the Senate have seen fit to

051101624

1 accelerate consideration of my nomination and with
 2 the necessity of key manpower in our mission pressing,
 3 I must anticipate that this meeting and my appearance
 4 in Chicago on February 8th will be my last public
 5 acts in connection with the United Jewish Appeal for
 6 the duration of my service to my country.

7 Last Tuesday, I appeared before the
 8 Senate Foreign Relations Committee to respond to
 9 questions the Committee might have bearing on my
 10 fitness to represent the United States. The massive
 11 area of concern of the Economic and Social Council
 12 of the United Nations, covering as it does the
 13 economical, cultural and humanitarian work of all the
 14 specialized agencies of the United Nations, along
 15 with the technical and financial assistance to the
 16 less fortunate countries, prompted questions as to
 17 my prior interests, not the least of which has been
 18 my reasonably extensive list of Jewish affiliations.
 19 In view of my long and intimate association with both
 20 philanthropic and business enterprises concerning
 21 Israel, I regarded it entirely proper that I should
 22 be so questioned.

23 I was pleased that the occasion
 24 afforded me an opportunity to express my views and
 25 my plans. Paranthetically, being human, I was no less

051101625

1 pleased that it also provided certain senators an
 2 opportunity to express their personal knowledge of
 3 me and their confidence in the kind of work we have
 4 done.

5 It was at these hearings that I
 6 publicly declared that it was my intent to resign
 7 from all obligations, whether in voluntary associa-
 8 tions or of a business nature, which could conceiv-
 9 ably create any question of conflict of interests or
 10 absorb any part of my time. Working for peace in
 11 the world in which we live is not a part-time
 12 commitment.

13 Believe me when I say that I have
 14 found the choice of which vineyard in which to labor
 15 a difficult and burdensome one. To leave U.J.A.,
 16 B'nai Brith, Hebrew University, Roosevelt University
 17 and a host of other activities which are contributing
 18 so much to human welfare and to separate myself from
 19 even the occasional exciting business venture has not
 20 been the product of a single night's thought. During
 21 these several weeks, this need to decide has produced
 22 many sleepless nights and unanswered questions. The
 23 very philosophy by which I live was born midst the
 24 trials of these efforts from which I now take leave.
 25 But I also feel strongly that it is a privilege to

1 labor on the world scene, for the dignity of one's
2 fellow man and for his freedom from slavery, want,
3 fear and distress. These are ideas not only applying
4 to the U.J.A. or limited even to our Jewish tradition
5 alone. The New Testament, the Koran, the tenets of
6 Buddhism and of the many faiths of our complex world
7 all invoke the great vision that all men shall be
8 free and live in dignity.

9 Here in the U.J.A., we have set a
10 standard for others to follow. What has been our
11 work but to rescue human beings and to give them a
12 genuine chance to achieve normal, useful lives.
13 Ours has been not only a mission of mercy for those
14 who have found their way to Israel, but for all our
15 co-religions in the many lands of the world, where
16 they have lived in want or fear or without a chance
17 for the most elementary medical care or educational
18 opportunity.

19 The work of the Jewish agency and of
20 the Joint Distribution Committee has been compliment-
21 ary efforts, parts of a world-wide organization
22 based on the ancient Jewish concept that the salva-
23 tion of the world rests on three things, learning,
24 justice and peace. We have never considered that
25 our task was done by merely feeding the hungry

051101626

051101627

1 and clothing the naked. We have regarded it completed
 2 only when we brought those we were helping back to
 3 some measure of human dignity by giving them the
 4 opportunity not only to eat, but to learn and to
 5 labor.

6 In today's world, there are also many
 7 other people who suffer deprivation similar to those
 8 whom we have sought to compensate or that which we
 9 have sought to end among our fellow Jews. We, in
 10 this country, live in an advanced society, where
 11 one-fifth or even one-tenth of our total labor force
 12 can meet all this country's food needs and even create
 13 an unmanageable surplus. Yet there are vast regions
 14 of the world where two-thirds of the labor force or
 15 even more is engaged in a grim, desperate battle to
 16 produce enough food to live by, and their people are
 17 going hungry.

18 We Americans live in a society in
 19 which the technology of transportation is so advanced,
 20 only a few days ago we could send a chimpanzee far
 21 out into space and have him returned. Yet throughout
 22 the world, there are great areas where transportation
 23 is so primitive that farmers are unable to reach
 24 markets only a few miles away.

25 In our envirement; the average expect-

1 ancy has been raised to over 70 years. In many world
2 areas, it is still not more than 35 years. Over 45
3 per cent of the world population is still illiterate,
4 and a still similar proportion of the world's children
5 do not even attend school.

6 The task to which I have been called
7 and to which I am privileged to undertake seeks to
8 promote a maximum of world cooperation in many of the
9 very fields in which we are active here in the United
10 Jewish Appeal. I could not find it in my heart to
11 reject any invitation from the President of the
12 United States to serve our nation's legislative hopes
13 and ambitions. But in addition, I especially welcome
14 this opportunity to serve in an area which I regard
15 as an extension of the very interests that for many
16 years have occupied my energies and my best hopes.
17 After all, what greater joy can one have than to be
18 able to help try to find the formula for world
19 cooperation, to advance human dignity, economic
20 independence, learning, and all the attributes of a
21 good life.

22 I have no delusions as to the magnitude
23 of the task, nor do I consider myself one amongst
24 many working in these vital areas, but to the utmost,
25 I shall strive to represent this nation of ours in

1 the great effort to attain and preserve on a world
2 scale the goals of human dignity to which we are
3 committed as Americans.

4 As I face this work, I feel strength-
5 ened for it by the heritage of spirituality, of
6 generosity, of the eternal desire and hope for a
7 better world, with peace and justice for all, a
8 heritage which is mine as a Jew.

9 At the hearings in Washington last
10 week, some interest was expressed in my ability to
11 serve objectively in this new work. May I repeat
12 what I declared then, that no man, no matter what his
13 origin or religion, need fear my sense of fairness
14 if what he seeks is human dignity, peace, justice
15 and relief from the pressures of want and of fear.

16 If, out of the long history of my
17 people, I have not learned the meaning of compassion
18 for my fellow man, then I have learned nothing. In
19 this blessed nation of ours, God and circumstance
20 have shined upon me and my dear ones. I believe this
21 is true of all of you, and that this fact is implanted
22 in us in the will and the determination to exert our
23 full strength in the precious hope that we, or at least
24 our children, shall enjoy the benefits of an entire
25 universe of peace, with all people living in freedom,

1 supported by the strength of their various faiths.

2 May I then, in a few concluding words,
3 beg a favor of each of you? Today, we launch our
4 annual nationwide campaign for the United Jewish
5 Appeal. What we do at this national inaugural
6 conference will set the tone and provide the message
7 for the campaign throughout the country.

8 For the first time in many years, we
9 have before us a fixed national goal, \$72,740,000.
10 My friends, this is almost \$11,000,000 more than we
11 actually raised last year. For the moment, a declin-
12 ing economy and a falling stock market suggested that
13 this might have been a difficult campaign, but the
14 economic tide is turning. I think the signs are
15 almost at hand of a rising economy in this vast,
16 great America of ours. But even if the tide has not
17 set in, as set in it will, we are not faced here with
18 a question of how good is business or how bad is
19 business, we are faced instead with this vital
20 question; can you or I, because of temporary
21 fluctuations in our assets or our income, fancied or
22 real, permit our great work of life-saving and life-
23 building to suffer a setback of any kind.

24 My friends, we are a blessed genera-
25 tion for we, in our lifetime, have been privileged

051101630

1 to see 2,000 years of Jewish agony and grief replaced
2 by hope and the God-given opportunity to save lives.
3 Do we now permit this singular and this long-prayed
4 for opportunity to slip through our fingers? Our
5 1961 goal is a minimum one. I tell you from personal
6 knowledge that its achievement will still leave great
7 human needs unmet, but it is a realistic one, an
8 attainable one, and it will go far to further our
9 final aims.

10 If we fail to win it, we will leave
11 untold suffering and misery in the path of our failure.
12 We must not fail. We must not say or think we are
13 tired of giving or that we are giving too much. We,
14 who have behind us generations as dispensors of
15 justice, do we dare not to face up to our responsib-
16 ilities, but rather our great and unparalleled
17 opportunities.

18 So long as one man, one woman, one
19 child faces the problems which we have been meeting
20 and have met for a million and a half who turned to
21 us in the past decade, we know what we must do, what
22 we need to do, and for God's sake, let us keep our
23 standards high. Let others learn to follow the flag
24 of devotion which makes us so rich and paves the way
25 for the lights which lead us. In this, we shall be

051101632

1 leading the path of today, when universal human
 2 compassion shall exist among all peoples and all
 3 nations.

4 I tell you, ours is a glorious role.
 5 The role of being a Jew has nothing to exceed it in
 6 the world in which we live. Some people, some
 7 generations, have, by their acts, touched the very
 8 helm of immortality. Let that be our way today, and
 9 may God bless you as you complete today's ceremonies.

10 Now, my friends, I come to that moment
 11 of the transfer of duty and of power. There is very
 12 little of the latter. There is more than a sufficiency
 13 of the former.

14 Before I formally introduce my
 15 successor, may I make this little statement which I
 16 feel compelled to make. I make it to him before I
 17 present him. I have known of the U.J.A. for a long
 18 period of time. I have known the members of its
 19 professional staff and key staff in many ways for many
 20 years, but intimately for only a few months. I would
 21 consider myself completely lacking of the decency I
 22 hope I possess if I did not say now to Herb Friedman,
 23 Mel Goldstein, Irving Jacobs and all their cohorts
 24 who really work at this task 24 hours a day, that in
 25 the past two months, what I knew of them I liked of

1 them, and as I got to know them better, I liked them
2 better. I shall miss them, for in this short period
3 of time, we have been more than colleagues. I hope
4 we become good friends.

5 I have known the man who succeeds
6 me for a number of years. I knew him when we did not
7 always agree on certain national policies in the
8 field of housing. I, of course, was right. Since
9 he speaks last, I have led with my chin and I shall
10 expect to suffer. But I have watched him show not
11 only devotion to whatever task he committed himself
12 in the field in which he has done so well during this
13 time, but as each step was taken, I have watched him
14 share more and more of what he is a success in with
15 those who need him. He is a man full of generosity
16 and understanding. He is a person who lives not alone
17 of himself and his worldly goods, but of the best
18 that is in him and, I begin to see, even of his whole
19 family.

20 If I have any regrets in leaving, and
21 there are many, they are at least completely overcome
22 at this moment by the knowledge that in the hands of
23 my successor, the U.J.A. will not only succeed this
24 year, but in the years to come. It is a source of
25 delight that the leadership of the U.J.A. has seen

051101634

1 fit to select as the General Chairman of the United
2 Jewish Appeal one of the great American Jews of our
3 day, my good friend Joe Meyerhoff.

4 (Applause.)

5 MR. MEYERHOFF: Mr. Klutznick, General
6 Laskov, ladies and gentlemen. First, let me say to
7 you, Phil, how pleased I am with your very gracious
8 introduction. It is probably a little more than I
9 deserve. I also want to voice what Al Levin said.
10 I consider it, and I am sure all of us consider it
11 a real loss of the U.J.A. not to have the benefit of
12 your leadership and your guidance in the years ahead,
13 but at the same time, I am sure I also speak for all
14 of you and from many thousands around the United States,
15 appreciating what a tremendous sacrifice and substan-
16 tial sacrifice you are making to undertake this
17 government position, and that we have nothing in our
18 hearts but the best wishes for you in your undertaking.
19 We know you will do well.

20 (Applause.)

21 Of course, I appreciate the confidence
22 of the leadership of the U.J.A., who felt I could do
23 this job. I am not nearly as confident about it as
24 they are. As a matter of fact, I feel quite humble
25 at this moment, when I realize that I follow in the

1 footsteps of men like Eddie Warbush and Eddie
2 Rosenwald and Morris Bernstein who have served the
3 U.J.A. for so many years with such devotion and
4 distinction, and of course Phil, who served the U.J.A.
5 for too brief a period of time.

6 I am sure you must all know, just as I
7 know, that this is not a one-man job. You can call
8 me the General Chairman, but I cannot raise the money
9 myself and neither can any other General Chairman.
10 We require your support and your leadership and those
11 like you around the United States. There are many
12 hundreds who must accept this responsibility jointly
13 with me.

14 All I can say to you, and I do not have
15 to say it to you, but I say it to you so that you can
16 tell others, is that the U.J.A. deserves your loyalty
17 and support, just as it does the loyalty and support
18 of every American Jew. We have an opportunity and a
19 special responsibility, and that is to interpret the
20 needs of the U.J.A. to the American Jewish community.

21 The average American Jew is a good
22 fellow, and the average Jewish community is a good
23 community. The important thing is for us to make
24 them understand what our needs are. If you can once
25 express our needs and get their ears and hearts, I

051101635

051101636

1 do not think you will have any trouble meeting our
2 goal, because the average American Jewish community
3 can afford and will support all causes. I have never
4 had any conflict myself with local causes or national
5 causes in relation to the U.J.A. There is enough
6 money to go around for everyone, provided we can make
7 people understand the needs of the U.J.A. The U.J.A.
8 has accomplished a lot in twenty-one years. We have
9 actually, all of us, rescued nearly one million men,
10 women and children settling in Israel, in addition
11 to 300,000 or more who have gone to the United States,
12 South America, Canada and Australia, which they could
13 have only done with our help.

14 These people, these men, women and
15 children, have been given an opportunity for a life
16 of freedom, of self-respect and human dignity. This
17 is in addition to the tremendous work the J.D.C. has
18 done in our European countries in helping to re-esta-
19 blish Jewish communities throughout the European area.
20 They have helped to school, clothe and feed Jewish
21 children in Moslem countries. This is a tremendous
22 record of which you all ought to be awfully proud.

23 But this job is far from done. The
24 U.J.A. has many unfinished jobs. I think neither
25 you nor I would be satisfied to say our work is

051101637

1 completed when we know there are still fellow Jews
 2 who must be saved, and they look only to us. There
 3 are others who cannot be saved tomorrow or next year,
 4 but I think they are sustained in their hopes and
 5 lives because they know we have not forgotten them.

6 In addition, we must be constantly
 7 prepared to rescue and help those who are the victims
 8 of persecution, oppression and discrimination only
 9 because they are Jews. These are the responsibilities
 10 we have, and they are serious responsibilities. It is
 11 not an easy job to raise the kind of money about which
 12 we are talking. \$11,000,000 more than we raised last
 13 year is not easy, and those of you who have been
 14 raising this money must know it is not an easy task,
 15 but it can be done.

16 Our job, as far as Israel is concerned,
 17 is additional to our other responsibilities, certain-
 18 ly does not end at the shores of Israel. We cannot
 19 send people there and say, "Now, you take care of
 20 finding a job." They have responsibilities which
 21 they are willing to undertake, but I think we also
 22 have some responsibility in helping to integrate
 23 these people in the community and make them self-
 24 supporting and self-sufficient.

25 I know all of you have undertaken your

051101638

1 responsibilities as leaders in the U.J.A., just as I
 2 have, out of a sense of duty, out of a sense of what
 3 compells you to do the things you know are right, and
 4 I feel the same way.

5 Frankly, I am not very happy about
 6 undertaking this job. It will take a tremendous
 7 amount of time and energy and all the other things
 8 you know go with these jobs. In many ways, they are
 9 thankless jobs and many of us are perfectly willing
 10 to say, "Well, it's about time they started asking
 11 somebody else to do this work." I sympathize with
 12 you and I sympathize with myself. Sometimes I say
 13 to myself, "It's terrible. Why shouldn't someone
 14 else do this job," but we know we would not want it
 15 any other way. We want to do what we can to see that
 16 our responsibilities are fulfilled. We have a
 17 tremendous responsibility as leaders of the American
 18 Jewish community.

19 You do not have to have wars and blood
 20 running in the streets in order to make people under-
 21 stand they must continue to support the U.J.A., but
 22 we can only do that if we continue to give the leader-
 23 ship the task. We must continue to lead and inspire
 24 by our devotion and by our example and our dedication
 25 and our generosity.

1 I ask all of you to join me in
2 dedicating yourselves to the U.J.A. for 1961 and the
3 years ahead. Our work is not finished. The survival
4 of the Jewish people and all the other things we
5 stand for and have stood for these many years are at
6 stake. They can only be solved and they can only be
7 resolved if you and I and hundreds of others who are
8 part of U.J.A. will get together and put your shoulders
9 to the wheel and get the job done.

10 Thank you for your confidence and I
11 hope we can do the job together.

12 (Applause.)

13 MR. LEVIN: With all our help, I am
14 sure our new National General Chairman will do a
15 successful and wonderful job. Joe is asking every
16 one of us to join him in this tremendous opportunity.

17 Now, my friends, it gives me the
18 deepest pleasure to present to you a great soldier of
19 our time. Over the years, the United Jewish Appeal
20 has had the honor to bring to American Jewish
21 audiences some of the most notable figures of the
22 20th century. General Laskov is one of these people
23 who has helped to shape the destiny of his country
24 and of the world. He is a great soldier, one of
25 Israel's greatest. But more than that, he is one of

051101640

1 Israel's men of peace, an educator, an authority on
 2 the life of Israel's immigrants, a man of determina-
 3 tion, seeing a future in the Neghiv. He is here to
 4 tell us of his problems, needs, and of his practical
 5 visions of the future.

6 I present to you now the former Chief
 7 of Staff of the Israeli defense forces, General Haim
 8 Laskov.

9 (Applause.)

10 GENERAL LASKOV: Mr. Chairman, Rabbi
 11 Friedman, ladies and gentlemen. I feel that a great
 12 honor was bestowed upon me to address you here today,
 13 but I must tell you that I am laboring here under
 14 certain difficulties. I find that I am, in a way,
 15 embarrassed and surprised to be in this country,
 16 embarrassed because I grew to know that the U.J.A.
 17 is supporting us, and I find myself supporting the
 18 U.J.A. I am surprised, because at the beginning of
 19 the month in Israel, at the Prime Minister's office,
 20 I attended a ceremony, the changing of our guard, and
 21 at the end of 23 years, the ending of my formal
 22 military service. I was soldiering all my life in
 23 a citizen's army. The things I want to talk about
 24 and the message I want to convey to you is more from
 25 a civilian than from a military standpoint.

1 It is true that we of the Israeli
2 defense forces are proud to have won a war of
3 independence. I might correct a misunderstood part
4 of our history, because it was not the Balfore Declaration
5 of 1917 which gave us the State of Israel. It simply
6 gave world Jewry an opportunity. It was only the
7 war of independence of 1948 that gave us our State
8 and to all Jewry another opportunity, and maybe our
9 last one.

10 It is also true that we take pride in
11 the results of the Sinai Campaign. We are humbly
12 proud to safeguard our country against odds and on
13 our own. But what we are really proud of is the fact
14 that we are the biggest school for adults, that we
15 integrated people from over one hundred languages
16 into Hebrew, from over eighty countries of origin
17 into one community that teaches citizenship and trains
18 citizen soldiers to live hard, because they will have
19 to fight hard. It is a school which initiated the
20 training of skills and crafts and started the
21 industrial revolution in our country.

22 As you watch our people coming from
23 different places to our shores in different ships,
24 you cannot help feeling that they are all in the
25 same boat. To say the survival of the State of

051101641

051101642

1 Israel is a miracle is to tax the language too much
 2 and to belittle the efforts and sacrifices of men of
 3 faith toward their might and mind.

4 You may look now with pride at our
 5 joint achievement. Before the war of independence,
 6 Mr. Richard Crossman, from England, had a terrible
 7 prophecy for us. He said that Israel will become
 8 the dumping ground for all the unwanted Jews. A
 9 better word for it is the scum of the earth.

10 In this year of Bar Mitzvah, there is
 11 no need for misgivings. You might even have a very
 12 brief moment for rejoicing the achievements of the
 13 Jewish people. Great progress was made, but not enough
 14 to enable anybody to say that the Israelis never had
 15 it so good.

16 I wish I could tell you today that all
 17 our Torahs are over, that all our obstacles have
 18 been removed. They have not. I feel I have to tell
 19 you and warn you, as I did when I was in this country
 20 in 1957, that we must prepare for further efforts and
 21 sacrifices for the cause for which we are all soldier-
 22 ing.

23 In this 13th year of our State, if I
 24 were to draw an intelligent summary, I would have to
 25 tell you that we have not topped the ridge yet, but

051101643

1 that we can see our way clear ahead. I would also
2 have to tell you that we at home have a stubborn and
3 unflinching will to get to the top of the ridge,
4 despite obstacles and hindrances, even if we will have
5 to do it alone.

6 The borders seem to be quiet. Are
7 they quiet? They are not, because deep in their cou-
8 ntries our neighbors are conducting an arms race.
9 Nasser has attempted to subvert our neighbors and
10 establish Egyptian rule over them. His struggles
11 with the people of Africa have been for the same
12 reason, to isolate us. When there is trouble in
13 Africa, we send out medical aid.

14 As you see, their military budget,
15 the cost of raising military equipment and military
16 stores, in proportion to the size of his navy and
17 army, you do not get the true picture, because he
18 pays to his supplier of arms less than the cost.
19 We are on our own, no treaties and no arrangements.
20 We pay through the nose for our security, and not all
21 the free nations are able to supply us with the
22 meager guarantee of equipment we so badly need.

23 If you decode the meaning of the
24 expression, of course it has military in it, because
25 our problem is to be strong in order to avert war.

1 Of course, it has this effort to gain friends among
2 nations, but it also means to industrialize the
3 country, to receive and absorb newcomers and to
4 settle the Neghiv and to settle the borders.

5 This is where you come in. If you
6 take these and Nasser's intention to attack us some
7 day, you will find where the Jewish front line really
8 is. We cannot prevent Nasser from dreaming of throw-
9 ing us into the sea. Neither can we prevent him from
10 telling his people in their illiteracy and misery
11 that he can do it. But if he dares, and dare us he
12 may, there is the little army of Israel to prove to
13 him that this was only a dream. Throw us into the
14 sea. Little does he know that we do not teach our
15 little boys and girls to swim. However, this is the
16 burden that we Israelis carry alone, proud not to
17 share it with anybody, not even the world Jewry.

18 Economically, we are not there yet.
19 To every nation, the freedom of the high seas is a
20 birthright. For us, despite two military struggles,
21 armistice agreements, the United Nations Security
22 Council resolution, the Suez Canal is blocked off
23 enough to become the sewerage of broken words and
24 promises.

25 Water for irrigation is a problem for

1 us, a struggle. As we go on our way to the top of
2 the ridge, in its various stages, we find that nations,
3 like individuals, have to consolidate, and this is
4 what we are doing now. It does not mean marking
5 time. It means the marshalling up of momentum so
6 that we can bridge this top of the ridge.

7 Those of you who have been to Israel
8 have seen a bright and rich land. You have seen the
9 look of fertility about the country and how many acres
10 were conquered from the desert, the way buildings
11 are going up and roads are put down and towns are
12 being built. You have seen people dress better and
13 eat better. You have seen our little army. It is a
14 good army.

15 These are tremendous things of which
16 we can be proud, of which you can be proud, of which
17 all of us should be proud. This is because we have
18 worked hard, long and honestly. These results were
19 achieved at a cost of lives, blood, tears, sweat and
20 agony. Maybe it is because of this sufference that
21 these achievements are so dear to us.

22 In one respect, this little State of
23 Israel is the only Western democratic achievement in
24 this world since 1948. Others started as a democracy
25 but rather hurriedly reverted to a totalitarian

1 regime. We are a democracy, although we face many
2 problems and difficulties.

3 As I said before, I am here to draw
4 a very short and intelligent summary, for you to see
5 the goals, the objectives, the difficulties, the
6 problems, the success and the failure, because you
7 must know, because you will have to act.

8 It is true that we have done a
9 tremendous job in absorbing over a million newcomers,
10 but the fact is that one out of three has not yet
11 been absorbed. He is not productive yet. There are
12 still rocks to be cleared, but thanks to your efforts,
13 harder to find. Our farmers are not eking out a
14 living yet. This is a matter of grave concern. The
15 aged do not get the treatment to which they are
16 entitled. The youth do not get the education which
17 we think is the minimum they need. This, in United
18 Jewish Appeal terms means the absorption to bring to
19 productivity over 300,000 people. Or, if this number
20 is rather startling, to bring over 400 villages to
21 self-sufficiency of these settlements on the borders
22 and in the Neghiv, whether on an agricultural basis
23 or industrial basis or both. You know their economic
24 and social aspect. I do not have to enlarge on this.
25 But there is another aspect to them. By their very

051101646

051101647

1 nature, by their very existence, they reduce the
 2 chances of war. This is why the Arabs are against
 3 them. This is the very reason why they oppose more
 4 immigration to Israel, because it is not a desert
 5 that fodders the Arab, it is the Arab that fodders
 6 the desert.

7 Also, we need to stretch our water
 8 grid to better these settlements, to inhabit the
 9 Neghiv, to conquer more land from the Neghiv, to
 10 establish more townships based on skills where we
 11 lack raw material. For us, the Neghiv is where the
 12 frontier was of this country, or, as you used to say,
 13 "Go west, young man, go west." But this is not all.
 14 We are proud to receive each year from 30,000 to
 15 40,000 newcomers. We need more, we want more, but
 16 we must prepare for the day more will come.

17 There are people in this world who
 18 have none of the freedoms you have taken for granted,
 19 but enjoy one freedom, the freedom of Jew hating.
 20 Let it be known that without the United Jewish Appeal,
 21 it might be a hard thing to do and maybe our open
 22 door policy would be closed.

23 May I add a personal note. I have
 24 been soldiering too long not to be able to appreciate
 25 the annonymous efforts of the men and women whom you

1 and I also know, that praise falls indiscriminately
 2 over these workers in too small doses, so I wish to
 3 tell you that you have done well, because you deserve
 4 it.

5 Mark my words. There will come a day
 6 when people will ask you how this Muddled East became
 7 a Middle East and they will say that these people
 8 brought it about.

9 Neither our neighbors nor any other
 10 nation in the world are willing to share our diffic-
 11 ulties with us. We therefore will not be distracted
 12 from our cause for whatever reason, national or
 13 otherwise, because if we give in to Nasser instead of
 14 to the cause of greatness, if we succumb to the day
 15 instead of spending the day hacking our way to the
 16 top of the ridge, if we give in to the opposition, we
 17 can corrode the very foundation of world Jewry, too.

18 Let us brace ourselves to our duties.
 19 Ladies and gentlemen, we lost our first temple to
 20 the Babylonians. We lost our second temple to the
 21 Roman might. Now, after this survival of the 20th
 22 century holocaust, we are building our third temple,
 23 and the State of Israel is our third temple. Its
 24 future depends on what we do now. If we will con-
 25 solidate today, we can reach all the objectives on

051101648

1 our way. You see, for us it is very vital to succeed,
2 and succeed we must, succeed we shall.

3 (Applause.)

4 - - - - -

5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25



0501101649