

ברית חרות-הצהר

United Zionists-Revisionists of America

55 West 42nd Street, New York, N. Y. 10036 • Phone: PE 6-0332 • Cable: Revzion

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Senator Tower, Congressman Davis, Ladies and Gentlemen.

The United Zionist-Revisionists of America is a Zionist organization composed of Americans with chapters throughout the country from New York to Miami and Los Angeles. It is a rapidly growing movement which has taken a firm stand on a number of major issues. The aims of our organization are clear. We favor a strong Israel, non-Socialist in organization, with a free economy, and an open social system which can play a significant role in the defense of the interests of the free world in a very much troubled part of the globe.

It is our contention, and we firmly believe that it is clear for all to see, that any weakness in the policy of the free world in the Middle East will have disastrous consequences for all mankind. In that connection we contend that the policy of our government since 1970 has been correct and has served the United States extremely well. It is imperative that the United States not retreat on the international scene, but continue to play the decisive role in the maintenance of peace in the Middle East by foiling Russian aspirations for recolonization in that area of the world. To accomplish that role it is vital that there be a strong Israel and an adequate American military and naval presence in the Mediterranean. The success of American firmness is evident to all who are to view the facts dispassionately. In contrast to the isolationist policy of an earlier period or the appeasement policy of the European powers in the 30's the strong, firm policy of our government in the past two years has resulted in the expulsion of many of the Russians from Egypt and the strengthening of American influence in that region. It is our firm conviction that

this vital area in the Middle East not not be allowed to become a pawn which the communists can use to extract concessions from the United States. Our country is the real bulwark of freedom in that region, and that bulwark is anchored in the existence of a strong, democratic Israel which is tied to us by so many bonds.

It is, therefore, our belief that two principle factors are operative in the Middle East which can secure American interests and the security of the free world. The first of these is the existence of a strong Israel. It is our hope that the Republican Party will include in its platform a strong plank that will make it clear to all that we shall continue to maintain the strength of the State of Israel to resist aggression from any source. We should encourage negotiations between the Arab states and Israel with a view to working out interim agreements on specific points of dispute such as freedom of transit of the Suez Canal for all, when the Egyptians agree to its reopening, and the removal of barriers to the fullest utilization of the human and natural resources of the area. It is obvious to us that the government of the United States has enhanced its own prestige and influence by the success of its policy in the Middle East in the last two years. We have continually called for unconditional negotiations between the parties to the dispute and urged that they begin to approach the problems in a logical fashion that will permit a settlement of the difficulties in stages. Until that time it is of the utmost importance that the cease-fire be maintained under present conditions without any alteration. To insure that there is no outbreak of hostilities until such steps can be taken toward a progressive solution by stages, it is imperative that the deterrent strength of Israel be maintained at maximum efficiency. It is equally important that the economic and scientific development of Israel be encouraged, so that it can play its vital role in absorbing the thousands who enter its gates every year and continue to develop the natural resources of the region.

Israel provides a haven for the persecuted and presents the answer to the horrendous human problem that faced mankind from 1932 to 1948. The economic vitality and scientific advance of Israel allow for the absorption of these thousands seeking refuge, and at the same time serve as a linch pin for American influence in the area. Israel is the most stable country in the immediate region, and as long as it remains strong and firmly tied to the United States by spiritual and moral links as well as by bonds of community of interest American influence will play a most important role. These facts should be recognized in the plank of the Republican Party.

Finally, it is vital to the security of the United States and the freedom of all of our allies that the American presence in the Mediterranean not be weakened. There can be no freedom for the inhabitants of the region, if they are to become subject to the expansionist efforts of the Soviet Union. It must be made crystal clear that the interests of the United States in this region of the world are not on the bargaining table. The Republican Party will, we hope, state forthrightly, that the preservation of freedom in the Mediterranean is a vital American concern and that it is the purpose of the government of the United States to preserve freedom in that region without any intention of bargaining on such matters. Such a declaration on the part of the American Government will serve notice upon the Soviet Union that there is no hope that the United States will grow fatigued or give any sign of diminished energy in protecting its vital interests. It will make it clear that it is not a region in which the Soviets can hope for American concessions and weakness. Such a strong plank in the platform of the Republican Party may well prevent policy mistakes and miscalculations on the part of the Russians and preserve peace in the region.

In the past two years peace has been preserved in the Middle East

because of American policy in support of a strong and stable Israel, as well as by the evident demonstration of American determination to preserve the freedom of the Eastern Mediterranean. Russian bluster and fury has been met with calm and decisiveness by our government. As a result the influence of the Soviets, which grew stronger when our government appeared to waiver, has now grown weaker. They seem to be accepting the fact that not all concessions must be made by the United States and the free world. The Soviet Union must also contribute to the preservation of peace by curbing its insatiable appetite in areas of the world that are vital to the maintenance of freedom for any on this planet.

It is our firm conviction that a strong plank in the platform of the Republican Party indicating unequivocal support for a negotiated peace in the Middle East arrived at stages between the contending parties and combined with strong support for a stable and powerful Israel, which will receive American aid to maintain its strength, as well as a firm declaration that American interests in this region and the American presence are not to be compromised or bargained away will best serve the interests of this country and freedom.