

RELEASE IN FULL

CONFIDENTIAL

March 21, 2010

For: Hillary
From: Sid
Re: AIPAC speech

This memo does not address specific policy initiatives.

What I've written are options. Use what you like, or none at all. Here are some ideas:

1. Hold Bibi's feet to the fire, remind everyone he was at Wye, his key participant event in the peace process, and that it was successful.
2. Reassure all players of our commitment to the process and the solution (whatever the language is).
3. Perhaps most controversial, I would argue something you should do is that, while praising AIPAC, remind it in as subtle but also direct a way as you can that it does not have a monopoly over American Jewish opinion. Bibi is stage managing US Jewish organizations (and neocons, and the religious right, and whomever else he can muster) against the administration. AIPAC itself has become an organ of the Israeli right, specifically Likud. By acknowledging J Street you give them legitimacy, credibility and create room within the American Jewish community for debate supportive of the administration's pursuit of the peace process. Just by mentioning J Street in passing, AIPAC becomes a point on the spectrum, not the controller of the spectrum. I suggest a way how to do this below.

Some language:

1. On US national security interest, Israel's security and the peace process:

The reason the US has always supported Israel since the moment President Harry S. Truman decided to recognize the State of Israel is that it is in the US national security interest and consistent with our values. It is in our interest to support a thriving democracy in the Middle East

Only through the marketplace of ideas will sound policies to help resolve complicated and seemingly intransigent problems be developed. This administration values everybody's views. They are important. You are important. We welcome views across the spectrum, from AIPAC to J Street. All these views are legitimate and must be heard and considered.