

"America and Israel share a special bond.

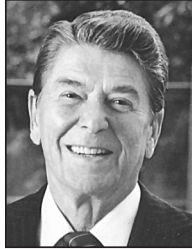
Our relationship is unique among all nations. Like America, Israel is a strong democracy, a symbol of freedom, and an oasis of liberty, a home to the oppressed and persecuted."

BILL CLINTON



"In Israel, free men and women are every day demonstrating the power of courage and faith. Back in 1948 when Israel was founded, pundits claimed the new country could never survive. Today, no one questions that Israel is a land of stability and democracy in a region of tyranny and unrest."

RONALD REAGAN



"My commitment to the security and future of Israel is based upon basic morality as well as enlightened self-interest. Our role in supporting Israel honors our own heritage."

GERALD R. FORD



WHAT ISRAEL MEANS TO ME

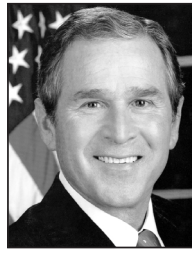
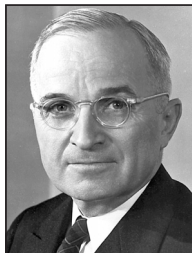
"Israel was not created in order to disappear —Israel will endure and flourish. It is the child of hope and home of the brave. It can neither be broken by adversity nor demoralized by success. It carries the shield of democracy and it honors the sword of freedom."

JOHN F. KENNEDY



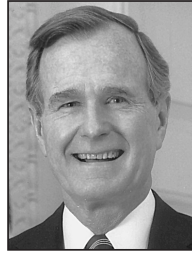
"I had faith in Israel before it was established, I have faith in it now. I believe it has a glorious future before it—not just another sovereign nation, but as an embodiment of the great ideals of our civilization."

HARRY S. TRUMAN



"We will stand up for our friends in the world. And one of the most important friends is the State of Israel. My administration will be steadfast in supporting Israel against terrorism and violence, and in seeking the peace for which all Israelis pray."

GEORGE W. BUSH



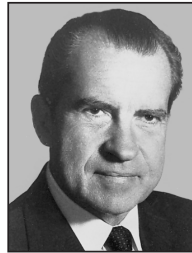
"For more than 40 years, the United States and Israel have enjoyed a friendship built on mutual respect and commitment to democratic principles. Our continuing search for peace in the Middle East begins with a recognition that the ties uniting our two countries can never be broken."

GEORGE BUSH



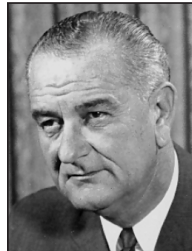
"The survival of Israel is not just a political issue, it is a moral imperative. That is my deeply held belief and it is the belief that is shared by the vast majority of the American people. . . . A strong secure Israel is not just in Israel's interest. It's in the interest of the United States and in the interest of the entire free world."

JIMMY CARTER



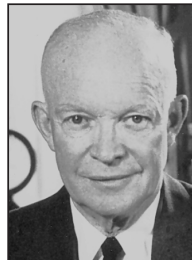
"Americans admire a people who can scratch a desert and produce a garden. The Israelis have shown qualities that Americans identify with: guts, patriotism, idealism, a passion for freedom. I have seen it. I know. I believe that."

RICHARD M. NIXON



"Our society is illuminated by the spiritual insights of the Hebrew prophets. America and Israel have a common love of human freedom, and they have a common faith in a democratic way of life."

LYNDON B. JOHNSON



"Our forces saved the remnant of the Jewish people of Europe for a new life and a new hope in the reborn land of Israel. Along with all men of good will, I salute the young state and wish it well."

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

As Israel marks its 54th birthday, we celebrate the country's special place in the hearts of Americans and in the hearts of America's Presidents. In every Administration, the President has spoken eloquently of the importance of a secure Israel to America's vital national interests.



The American Jewish Committee

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President

David A. Harris
Executive Director

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