

**Senator Frank Lautenberg**  
**AIPAC National Summit 2007**  
**October 28, 2007**

Thanks all of you--AIPAC members, supporters--you're owed a debt of great thanks for the steadfast commitment that you make year after year after year to help Israel's survival as one of America's strongest friends. Israel is a beacon of democracy and a troubled region of despotic tyrannical States determined to take over the world through assassination, murder, and suicide missions. Friends, America needs Israel and all Americans have to be grateful for her ability to defend free people across the globe as well as their own society. Don't forget; America needs Israel.

You here, members of AIPAC, cannot be assaulted by criticism for those who offer no safe alternative to Israel's demise. Thank goodness Israel has the guts and the skill to protect her families, to be productive against a wave of international anti-Semitism, who want her to surrender but we're not going to let that happen. We gather at a crossroad for Israel; the relationship between our country and Israel is excellent but it's challenged as pressure builds from much of the outside world who insists on Israel's concessions in advance of a peace--peace discussion. We're not going to let that happen.

Israel rightfully strikes back in self-defense as she should against terrorists, but the other side, the terrorist side, escapes criticism while Israel earns international vilification. Just look at recent events friends; Israel's bold attack on a suspicious nuclear buildup by the Syrians should earn a major thumbs-up instead of the deafening silence from allies whose own security is at risk.

Israel's insistence that she fight back when attacked by rockets and terror attacks while the rest of the world stands idly by is the correct course. When Israel demands the return of kid--three kidnapped young soldiers, other countries showed little sympathy or cooperation; when Hezbollah or Hamas retreat to a Syrian refuge violently usurping power, where is the UN or other international organizations? They remain silent. Thank goodness that Israel stands firm and refuses to advocate its moral responsibility.

Friends, Iran and its mass--mad President can deny the Holocaust and say that Iran is committed to the completion of the task that Hitler began to rid the world of Jews by destroying Israel; a strong Israel remains the assurance that--that can never happen.

America has the world's leadership responsibility to stand by Israel's side never to relinquish it--America's guarantee that Israel will survive no matter what happens--never, never, never. Thank you.