The Eventual Triumph of Freedom: The Power of Rhetoric in Creating and Shaping America’s Special Relationship with Israel, 1998 - 2006

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July 21, 2014
Inspiration And Origins Of The Project

“No matter what anybody tells you – words and ideas can change the world.”

John Keating (Robin Williams), Dead Poet’s Society (1989)
Thesis And Overview Of Project

Strategic and coincidental uses of rhetoric, which led to a deepening of official and unofficial ties between the United States and Israel

Also contributed to the both nation-states’ continued alienation from other key actors in the Middle East.

Historical summary, brief literature review, analysis
Pre-1948 And The Creation Of The State Of Israel
This Government has been informed that a Jewish state has been proclaimed in Palestine, and recognition has been requested by the Government thereof.

The United States recognizes the provisional government as the de facto authority of the new Jewish state of Israel.

Approved, May 14, 1948.

Harry Truman
Peace Treaties
Governor Bush Visits Israel, 1998
Camp David, Summer 2000
Early 2001 – Sharon Elected; Visits Washington
September 11, 2001
2002 – “A Man Of Peace”
The Road Map
2003 – Refocus On The Middle East
2004– Withdrawal From Gaza Announced
2004 – Election
2004 – Yasser Arafat Dies
2005 – Sharon Visits Crawford
2006 And Beyond
Conclusions

The power of rhetoric in creating and maintaining personal and diplomatic relationships cannot be understated – it may be instrumental in creating a reality that does not exist (yet).

Intentional and unintentional rhetoric impacted the relationship between President Bush and Prime Minister Sharon – it strengthened the personal relationship between the two men and the diplomatic relationship between their two respective countries. However, it also alienated both countries from the rest of the Middle East.
Thank You

• George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum – Archivists, docents, and volunteers

• Carina Morgan, Volunteer Program Coordinator
  • Linda Massey – volunteer mentor

• Colonel Lawrence Wilkerson – William & Mary faculty sponsor

• Dr. John McGlennon – William & Mary Government Department chair
Any questions?
The End!

Thank you for coming!