



D. A. & Suzanne Sharpe

805 Derting Road East
Aurora, TX 76078-3712

Personal Web Site:
E-Mail addresses:

Home: 817-638-5560
D. A.'s Cell: 817-504-6508
Suzanne's Cell: 817-504-6408

www.dasharpe.com
dasharpe@aol.com
suzanne@dasharpe.com

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Pastor George Pearsons & Staff

Eagle Mountain International Church
14355 Morris Dido Road
Fort Worth, Texas 76192-0001

Dear Pastor George & EMIC Staff friends:

Suzanne and I just returned yesterday from an eight day trip to Washington DC. It was a joint trip to address some family friends' celebratory occasions; to do some personal research in the National Archives and the Library of Congress; *and* to visit our elected officials in Washington to emphasize our thoughts on what our nation's policy toward Israel should be. We thought it may be helpful to each of you to have our report.

We strove to have audiences with our two Texas Senators, John Cornyn and Kay Bailey Hutchison, as well as with our Congresswoman, Kay Granger. Our presentation to each one was much the same.

We reminded them that the United States has a long record of supporting Israel and of being significant in making a difference to the well being and survival of that nation. However, we said that a concern was raised in our thoughts and in the thoughts of a good many people around whom we live and have our being. It has to do with the natural tendency that our foreign policy goals have in finding peace. We said that the Road Map to Peace advocated by our State Department was an ill-conceived plan that is turning into a disaster that will not result in peace, but may very well result in serious harm to Israel. We said that any effort on our part to coerce Israel to give up any land, whether it is the West Bank or any of Jerusalem, was a waste of time in making peace and a terrible detriment to Israel.

We acknowledged that none of our three elected Congressional members were on committees that dealt directly with this aspect of foreign diplomacy. However, we asked that they hear what we say and that they consider giving their support in any vote that would work toward the appropriate treatment of Israel that we had described.

We had a private meeting with Congresswoman Granger. She immediately identified her view with ours and assured us that she would represent that view anytime she had the occasion to vote in that manner. She was very cordial and appreciative toward us at having made the effort to come to her in Washington. She recited the recent occasion we attended in April in Fort Worth for dinner when she was present, which was an

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encouragement that she recognizes us as constituents who she desires to serve. We were very pleased with our visit with her.

Senator Cornyn was in a pinch for time to get over to some called hearings about the time of our appointment and only chatted briefly, including taking the time to have the photographer there to take a portrait of us with him. With all the people around us in that setting, private talk was not practical. Later, one of his staff recognized that our correspondence had mentioned our desire to talk about Israel and that we had not been offered that occasion when we first were there. The following day, they researched their information on me and initiated a phone call to my former employer to see if they had a cell phone number to reach us in DC. Well, they did and the contact was made. Ms. Jane Kiser, a Fort Worth native and one of Senator Cornyn's Legislative Assistants, spent a half hour hearing our message. She acted supportive of what we were asking. She said that she could not make a statement on behalf of the Senator, as he reserves that for himself. However, she assured us that all of what she knew of his views on these matters indicated that he would be very comfortable with our position.

From before our trip, we were aware that Senator Hutchison had a full schedule both of our available days, but advance arrangements had been made for us to meet with Mr. Kimo Hollingworth. He is a recently retired Marine soldier, having served 24 years. He was born in a military family and has lived in many nations of the world. This is one reason Senator Hutchison has him to advise her. Mr. Hollingworth has logged a good deal of time in the Middle East and quickly identified with our views. He is spending a good deal of time tutoring Senator Hutchison on these conditions, and he assures me that his advice to her is entirely in the directions of what we were asking.

We had originally signed on to go to Washington in July under the leadership of Dr. Hagee. However, we subsequently learned that our first Sharpe grandchild was in the hopper and slated to be delivered that same week in July. So, we took advantage of the occasion to come to Washington here in May and to make our private efforts at influence with our elected officials in this way. Frankly, we believe it was God's providence that it developed that way, as all three of these officials do have an acquaintance with us from several years of past relationships, and I believe our advocacy fell on listening years in a way that may have been more effective than we might have had in a larger group in July.

So, that is our report. We do pray God's blessing of these elected officials and friends that they will be led to know God's will in these matters of governance and diplomacy.

Yours in Christ,

D. A. Sharpe