

Although he was not Jewish, Mr. Hoffer championed a strong U.S.-Israel relationship and understood the geopolitical importance of Israel. Furthermore, Mr. Hoffer recognized the moral responsibility of the international community to support the world's only Jewish state in light of worldwide inaction and indifference to the Holocaust, which had occurred just 23 years before this article was written.

[From the Los Angeles Times, May 26, 1968]

ISRAEL'S PECULIAR POSITION

(By Eric Hoffer)

The Jews are a peculiar people; things permitted to other nations are forbidden to the Jews.

Other nations drive out thousands, even millions of people and there is no refugee problem. Russia did it; Poland and Czechoslovakia did it; Turkey threw out a million Greeks, and Algeria a million Frenchmen. Indonesia threw out heavens knows how many Chinese—and no one says a word about refugees. But in the case of Israel the displaced Arabs have become eternal refugees. Everyone insists Israel must take back every single Arab. Arnold Toynbee calls the displacement of the Arabs an atrocity greater than any committed by the Nazis.

Other nations when victorious on the battlefield dictate peace terms. But when Israel is victorious it must sue for peace.

Everyone expects the Jews to be the only real Christians in this world. Other nations when they are defeated survive and recover, but should Israel be defeated, it would be destroyed. Had Nasser triumphed last June he would have wiped Israel off the map, and no one would have lifted a finger to save the Jews. No commitment to the Jews by any government, including our own, is worth the paper it is written on.

There is a cry of outrage all over the world when people die in Vietnam or when two people are executed in Rhodesia. But when Hitler slaughtered Jews, no one remonstrated with him. The Swedes, who are ready to break diplomatic ties with America because of what we do in Vietnam, did not let out a peep when Hitler was slaughtering Jews. They sent Hitler choice iron ore and ball bearings, and serviced his troop trains to Norway.

The Jews are alone in the world. If Israel survives, it will be solely because of Jewish efforts and Jewish resources. Yet at this moment Israel is our only reliable and unconditional ally. We can rely more on Israel than Israel can rely on us. And one has only to imagine what would have happened last summer had the Arabs and their Russian backers won the war to realize how vital the survival of Israel is to America and the West in general.

I have a premonition that will not leave me; as it goes with Israel so it will go with all of us. Should Israel perish, the holocaust will be upon us.

RECOGNIZING DR. JAMES CLARK

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2002

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. James Clark for his years of service in the educational system. Dr. Clark, who retires this year, has served as the Superintendent of the Joliet Township High Schools since July 1, 1996.

Dr. Clark started his career in Marion, IN, where he taught speech, drama, and English.

He has since taught in Harvey and Lockport High Schools. In 1999 Dr. Clark was appointed Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services at the Joliet Township High Schools. In 1996, he received the appointment as Superintendent. Dr. Clark is also an Adjunct Instructor at Aurora University and Governors' State University.

Being a generous person, Dr. Clark is also involved with the community. He is active in Rotary, serves as a member of the Joliet Area American Cancer Society Board of Directors, on the Joliet Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry Board of Directors, as vice-chair of the American Heart Association Heart Walk, and in various professional school administrator organizations.

Dr. Clark and his wife Linda are the proud parents of two sons and one grandson. Dr. Clark is revered throughout the Joliet community. In fact, the city of Joliet declared Monday, May 13, 2002, as "Dr. James H. Clark Day."

Mr. Speaker, I urge this body to identify and recognize others in their own districts whose actions have so greatly benefited and strengthened America's communities.

PERMANENT MARRIAGE PENALTY
RELIEF ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, once again the House is working on behalf of the taxpaying family by voting today on the Permanent Marriage Penalty Relief Act of 2002. This bill would permanently eliminate the destructive marriage penalty taxes that were temporarily enacted by last year's tax relief package. As I think about the 65,000 married couples in my district who will personally benefit from this bill, I am also reminded of the more than 100,000 children who will benefit.

When the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act expires in 2011, my constituents in Kansas who have decided to get married will be forced to pay more taxes simply because they chose to say, "I do." When the government tells married couples they will be punished because of their wedding vows, we are sending a dangerous message to younger generations about the importance of marriage. If Congress fails to make permanent the marriage tax penalty relief, this country will see 21 million married couples suffer because their taxes will be increased.

I am especially concerned that if Congress does not act, many of our low-income married taxpayers will see their Earned Income Credit reduced or completely eliminated. This unfairly discriminates against poorer families who have made a commitment before both God and man to remain faithful in marriage to one another. I am appalled that any member of the United States Congress would support such discrimination against the institution of marriage. Most marriage penalties occur when the spouse earning the higher wage makes between \$20,000 and \$75,000 per year. We are not talking about the rich, we are talking about low and middle class families who are working hard just to make ends meet.

I would also like to remind my colleagues today that with passage of this bill, we will be

further helping low-income taxpayers by preventing Earned Income Credit simplifications from disappearing in 2011. Failure to pass this bill will increase taxes on married couples by \$5.7 billion in 2010 and by \$10.4 billion in 2011.

Mr. Speaker, let's respect the sanctity of matrimony by eliminating these shameful marriage taxes.

TRIBUTE TO JACK TEICH

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2002

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Jack Teich, CEO and Co-Chairman of the Board of the Acme Architectural Company. Mr. Teich was honored this past October at The Friars Foundation Annual International Gala Dinner and Ball, along with legendary writers and lyricists Betty Comden and Adolph Green. It is in the spirit of this occasion that I am pleased to call to the attention of my colleagues the many contributions Mr. Teich has made to his community and the Friars organization, and to congratulate him today.

Mr. Teich, a resident of Harrison, NY, in my district, is the President and CEO of Acme Architectural Products Inc., a leading manufacturer of building products, which has offices and manufacturing plants throughout New York State. His sons Marc and Michael have recently joined their father in the family business.

Mr. Teich is also involved with several philanthropic organizations. He is a member of the Chief Executive Organization and the World Presidents Organization, of which he is Vice-Chairman of the New York chapter. He is also a Trustee of the Pension and Welfare Funds of Local 2947 Carpenters Union, and is active with the Personal Enterprise program with Cornell University. He and his wife Janet are on several charity boards including the Pediatric Cancer Foundation. Janet is also a board member of The Rye Art Institute.

Jack has been active with the Friars Club since 1974, and serves on its Finance Committee. His family has also been and continues to be deeply involved in the Friars Foundation, which gives Performing Arts Scholarship Grants to 12 colleges in New York State to young people studying one of the performing arts.

For his commitment and many contributions to his community and his State, it is my privilege to join the Friars Club in honoring Mr. Jack Teich on this special occasion.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2002

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, because I attended the groundbreaking of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center in my