



MAYOR'S PRESS OFFICE

CITY OF CHICAGO

Though our brothers and sisters in Israel are far away from us, our hearts and prayers are with them at this perilous time.

In the face of these wholly unacceptable attacks on civilian populations by Hamas, we see once again the full measure of America's commitment to Israel's security and its right to defend itself. And having served two great presidents, I can tell you firsthand, that Israel has no greater friend than President Barack Obama. As he said recently, "There is no country on Earth that would tolerate missiles raining down on its citizens from outside its borders. So we are fully supportive of Israel's right to defend itself." A substantial amount of the financing for the Iron Dome system, which is doing vital work at this moment, was committed under President Obama, showing that friendship and partnership are powerful forces amongst allies.

Having stood by the president's side in times of crisis, I know that he is working with leaders in the region in order to stop the missile attacks into Israeli territory without further escalation.

In moments such as this, we must renew our own faith and do what we can to ensure peace for this generation of children as well as for the next generation. In that effort, on behalf of our brothers and sisters who are still in danger, we have cause to pray, "Oseh shalom bimromav, hu ya'ase shalom aleinu, ve-al kol Israel, ve-imru, amen." (May God who makes peace in the heavens grant peace for all of us and for all of Israel, and we say amen.)