



RABBI MOSHE HAUER
Executive Vice President

October 10, 2023

President Joseph Biden
The White House
Washington, DC

Mr. President:

I must express appreciation and admiration for your remarkable words today voicing your unambiguous condemnation of the inexcusable and barbaric acts of Hamas to the cheers of Gazans, as well as your clear and unequivocal support of Israel and its right to defend itself.

I received a note today from a friend. He noted that this week was the 80th anniversary of the Rabbis March on Washington, an unusual event involving 400 rabbis who sought unsuccessfully to meet FDR during the Holocaust with the goal of urging the president and his administration to act to stop the horrors of the Holocaust. This friend's father and my wife Mindi's father were friends with the shared history of having been Holocaust refugees from Austria and he suggested pointedly that they both would have urged us to repeat that march on Washington today.

I did not agree.

My friend's anguish is absolutely justified, as we the Jewish people experienced this week brutal horrors of a kind we have not seen since those horrific days our parents escaped together. Our fathers would certainly want us to galvanize every rabbi, every Jew, and every person with a human heart to respond to this barbarism.

But if they would have heard President Biden's remarks today, what they would have urged us to do would have been to march to Washington – even on foot – to express our appreciation for the strong and clear support of the President of the United States, for both his words and his actions.

Mr. President, you said what needs to be said and you know and are ready to do what needs to be done. You have displayed badly needed moral clarity. We do not need to march on Washington to demand action. We do need to thank you and to sincerely pray for your success in leading the world to sanity and to true humanity.

God bless you.

Rabbi Moshe Hauer
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