

PEACE AND DISARMAMENT - 1959

Our people have ever cherished peace as the highest of human ideals and achievements. The Hebrew word, Shalom, one of the most beautiful in any language for peace, is the traditional greeting of the Jew to his neighbor whether he be Jew or non-Jew. Today, in the nuclear age, peace is more imperative than ever before, if mankind is to survive.

In the spirit of our Jewish faith, we who are women and mothers among our people applaud the President of the United States for taking the initiative in easing international tensions. Fervently do we uphold all wise efforts, including personal meetings among the heads of states, that may decrease tension among the great world powers.

The achievement of a just peace will be a long and arduous search, demanding patience, self-sacrifice and good will among all men and nations. We renew our pledge of sustained interest in, and continuing education about, the United Nations and all its agencies. We recognize that through the UN the member countries have the unremitting task of forging, in the face of most complex and diverse world problems, a just, dynamic, warless community of sovereign states.

We also believe that controlled, universal disarmament, under most carefully developed United Nations' safeguards, will make war less possible. In a suitable political climate such disarmament is an insurance toward securing peace. Thus, we hope that the government of the United States and other nations will continue to explore all proposals of disarmament with patience, earnestness and zeal.

Therefore, we call upon our Sisterhoods and members to study the problems of peace and disarmament, and to strive to do all in their power to bring nearer the blessed day when, in the words of the Bible: "Every man may sit under his vine and his fig tree, and there shall be none to make him afraid."