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## Senator Daniel Inouye of Hawaii Dead at 88



File photo: Senator Inouye at Agudath Israel mission in Washington. Seen to his left (back) is Rabbi Chaim Dovid Zwiebel.



File photo: Senator Inouye with Mr. Abe Biderman (L) and Mr. Ezra Friedlander (R).

**WASHINGTON** (AP/Hamodia) – The office of Sen. Daniel Inouye says the Medal of Honor recipient and 50-year veteran of the Senate died Monday of respiratory complications at a Washington-area hospital.

The 88-year-old Inouye was the longest serving senator and was president pro tempore of the Senate, third in the line presidential succession. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid announced Inouye's death on the Senate floor.

Sen. Inouye fought in World War II and led a platoon that attacked German soldiers in France and Italy. He earned numerous medals, including the Bronze Star, Purple Heart with cluster and other medals and citations.

Inouye lost an arm and suffered gunshot wounds to his stomach, spending 20 months in army hospitals. He learned about the Holocaust from another soldier who had been in Germany, and he began to study Jewish history. He had considered converting to Judaism, but his mother dissuaded him.

On a trip to Israel earlier this

year, Inouye addressed an audience in Yerushalayim, saying, "We in the U.S. are deeply concerned with the activities in Iran. If the Iranians should ever develop a nuclear device or bomb, that could mean the end of the world as we know it in the Middle East. It would have an impact on all countries, not just Israel. As a result, our position is that if you attack Israel, you are attacking the United States."

While discussing the bond between Israel and the United States on that visit, Senator Inouye said that "if one looks at most of this world, especially the Middle East, one country stands out as a foundation of stability and as a pillar of democracy. And at a time like this, when you have revolution in Yemen, Bahrain, Syria, Egypt, Tunisia and Jordan, thank G-d we have Israel."

The National Council of Young Israel offered condolences on the loss of the senator. In a statement issued today, they said "A well-renowned and well-respected public servant, Senator Inouye served this nation with dignity, honor, and grace for more than a half-centu-

ry. "Senator Inouye was one of Israel's best friends in the Senate and was resolute in his belief that it is in America's best interests to maintain an unbreakable bond with the Jewish State," the NCYI statement read. "His connection to Israel, which began when he sold Israel bonds in Hawaii more than sixty years ago, was enduring and genuine..."

"As one of the leaders of the Jerusalem Embassy Act of 1995 to move the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem and recognize a united Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, Senator Inouye was at the forefront of an issue that is critical to the future of the Jewish people and the State of Israel. Senator Inouye's immeasurable contributions to the well-being of Israel are legendary, and we were extremely fortunate to have such a staunch ally in our corner for so many years.

"Senator Inouye was a true partner of Israel and the Jewish people, and we will be forever grateful to him for his longstanding and steadfast support. May his memory be a blessing to us all."