



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

MS-763: Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman Collection, 1930-2004.

Series H: United Jewish Appeal, 1945-1995.

Subseries 1: Sermons, Speeches and Writings, 1949-1982.

Box

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Folder

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Speech notes. 1957.

For more information on this collection, please see the finding aid on the
American Jewish Archives website.

Vajs (sentenced to 54 years) - Rumania (1)

Jewish life in Rumania today consists of closing the doors + windows + listening to Kol ~~Zan~~ Yisroel. When there is a Jewish holiday, people go to the Israel legation to see the blue-white flag and pay their respects. Most Jews want to leave - 1) traditional anti-semitism, 2) campaign vs. merchants has special economic effect on Jews (this includes legal-aid); 3) no future except in Israel (judge who sentenced him was also judge under fascists - then when now general). In 1949, when doors were open 100,000 came - now more would come if doors open.

Oppenheim - Egypt (2)

you see before you a Jew who has been persecuted. We felt the influence of the Nazi school. If Nasser ever gains sets up camps for Jews, they will not be far from Dachau

Band
Bahr

(1) (3)

arrested as a member of a Zionist
agency - showed document.

(Karno - refat - lived in camps in Siberia)

The Soviets will never break Russian Jewry.

A member of Komsomol said Jews must come to Israel, regardless of what form of govt. It has Jews who were disinterested in Israel, gradually became debilitated.

They would celebrate festivals clandestinely, then sing Hallelukhah in whisper. They reminded selves of Marranos.

Wave of Jewish pride after Sinai. ^{at public} meeting, women said Jews were aggressors. Little boy 10 rose & said not true. A Jewish school on Sinai said nothing publicly - but after went over & embraced the boy.

Jews should continue press Soviet Union to let out Jews. A million would come.

(5)

typ 3 - ...

... after the war ...
... we felt the influence of the ...
... the ...

22 Nov 57 (2)

I. East-West

A. B.B. - wounded Three weeks ago - 71 years old

last Monday night walked into Kremlin, delivered slashing attack on "neutrality" - wouldn't permit drift away from U.S. - This in face of extreme Soviet antagonism

B. Amer was being received in Kremlin at same moment, stated over Russian TV that mutual respect + similarity paved the way for friendship between Soviet + Egypt.

would that U.S. had other allies in Asia + Africa as staunch as Israel - e.g. Korea

(4)
Mrs. Wildstein - (Vilna ghetto - run children's home)
never dreamed I would be able to come
to a free Israel to talk to Americans. This
would have seemed a wild thought as we struggled to live
through Hitler & Stalin.

Horrible story of how all children in home
were killed. She escaped because they thought
she was dead on the pile.

After liberation went back to Vilna to
gather Jewish children again. Was then sent
to Soviet labor camp ^{in far north Siberia} for her pains. Learned
of existence of state of Israel in 1952

Reuben Cohen - (refugee from Poland - in country
ten days)

(5)



(1957)



I. Israel + World Jewry
Jew first, men Israeli

II. Political situation

- a) Israel is indestructible
- b) Arab nations will change
- c) America can't stop Russia

60

Syria is now Russian satellite (not communist)

III. DIFFICULTIES + URGENT TASKS

security
 a) Jews in all other countries have plenty of Goyim. Here no Goyim - and we have to do what Goyim do.



b) we want to fight nature - not Arabs
 Moses chose this country

Jew

History never pampered the
Jewish people - we were
always small country
surrounded by by empires -
and in Diaspora you know
how we wandered.

But we are not inferior
in intellectual & moral qualities
Our ambition here is to
build up the highest civilization
in the world.

Our greatest asset is our youth,
which we never had as good
before - and which doesn't exist
in entire world.

CRISIS IS RESULT OF CONJUNCTION
OF TWO CIRCUMSTANCES - CRISIS IN ISRAEL +
N. AFRICA

(Q - a Zionist took this - Eddie will make the Israel speech)

I. Who are these Jews of North Africa?

- Morocco (Marrakesh) - Jews present before m. was a province of Rome
- St. Augustine comments - Berber conversions
- Djerba - off Tunis - settlement since First Temple - 2500 years ago.
- Spanish refugees came after 1492 - saw tombs in Marrakesh with Hebrew dates early ^{1500s}.

Our ^{Ashkenazic} ancestors in Poland, Russia, Germany were not very much, when these Sephardic Jews were at their height. Their nobility disappeared + the mantle of (new) nobility lies with us - to be the rescuer.

Comment: They have always lived in misery - why get excited now? Because now their turn has come in the convulsions of the post-Hitler period.

II. Present position

- JDC came in 1949 - started program to help - investing two things, help for those who wanted to stay and help for those who wanted to emigrate.

MEDICAL

PRE-SCHOOL

FEEDING

EDUCATION

ASSISTANCE TO
POOR

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

On-going program wonderfully successful.

1. Medical

children healthier - standards improved
trachoma almost entirely wiped
Tinea controlled

2. Etc.

BIG PROBLEM - EMIGRATION - stemming from
^{political} insecurity, ^{physical} fear, economic squeeze

TUNIS - prior to visit of Mender-France (July 54)
offering Arab independence, emigration was
50-60 per month. Today it is 500-600.

MOROCCO 1953 - 2400 emigrants
(Sultan deposed 20 Aug 53 - trouble started)

first 7 months 1954 - ^{only} 1100

3 Aug 54 - Petitjean

last 5 months 1954 - 9000

1955 - 30,000

1956 - 45,000 estimate

Reasons

1. Physical attack
2. Fear of no political status, under Arab hegemony
3. Economic displacement, under Arab "buy Arab" slogan.
(Roads into interior, artisans, merchants)
4. Fear of emigration being closed.
5. Yes - and good reports from Israel.
Clay from Tangiers writes - "The Shabbat
of the rich is enjoyed by everyone here")

Every Effort should be made to get
Equal Rights (it's easy to promise)

Every Effort should be made to improve
programs for well of population

Every Effort should be made to take out
as many as want to go.

① - DON'T LEAVE THEM HOSTAGE IN AN ARAB
STATE WHICH MAY CLOSE THE DOOR ON THEM.
DON'T - PLEASE DON'T -

② - And don't set them up in
fence in Israel

③ - Treat this problem as part of post-Hitler.
PRIVILEGE, DUTY & HONOR to stay with this
problem to meet.