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**AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES**

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

Series H: United Jewish Appeal, 1945-1995.

Subseries 2: Correspondence, 1947-1982.

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Morgenthau, Henry, Jr. 1947-1950.

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HENRY MORGENTHAU, JR.

GENERAL CHAIRMAN, UNITED JEWISH APPEAL, 165 WEST 46TH STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

July 30, 1947

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
Temple Emanuel  
1695 Pearl St.  
Denver, Colo.

Dear Rabbi Friedman:

The high generosity and unparalleled effort that have characterized American Jewry's activities in behalf of the United Jewish Appeal to date have demonstrated how seriously the Jews of America regard the necessity of raising \$170,000,000 this year.

As we approach the Fall phase of the campaign, American Jewry enters the most decisive stage of its historic program for the survival and reconstruction of our stricken people overseas. The liquidation of UNRRA and the inadequacy of the funds of IRO make more imperative than ever maximum aid through the United Jewish Appeal.

It is to help fulfill our common responsibility that I am addressing this letter to you and through you to your community for action. It is my earnest recommendation that the High Holiday period in September be dedicated by American Jewry to the United Jewish Appeal. The period is from September 15th to September 24th. These are the most sacred days in the Jewish calendar. They invoke in all Jews a heightened sense of brotherhood with our people.

Because the United Jewish Appeal is dedicated to helping our people live, I am suggesting that throughout the nation the period from September 15th to September 24th be designated as "Ten Days of Remembrance." Regardless of the time when the actual solicitation will take place in Fall campaigns, communities will find stimulation in the deep spiritual significance of the "Ten Days of Remembrance." This period should help establish the properly solemn atmosphere in which a campaign for the survival of our people should be considered. During this period the resources of our communities in terms of communal cooperation and religious atmosphere can be consecrated to meeting the great challenge.

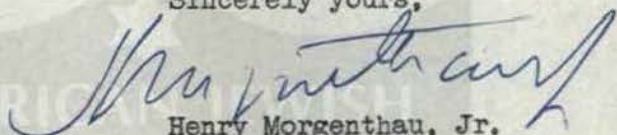
May I urge that you consider this matter carefully with your fellow officers so that the "Ten Days of Remembrance" which will be observed nationally may be coordinated with your own local plans in whatever manner is best suited to your community. It is my belief that through nation-wide observance of the "Ten Days of Remembrance" members of all communities will be brought closer to the tragic problems and needs of our suffering people. As a result, there should be a great

stimulus for the realization of your community's objective in meeting its share of the total responsibility of the Jews of America.

Recent events demonstrate that the \$170,000,000 national goal of the United Jewish Appeal is not the maximum but only a minimum statement of our people's barest needs. We dare not fail to meet these minimum requirements.

It will be appreciated if I may have early word from you regarding your plans. The United Jewish Appeal will want to cooperate with your community in every possible way.

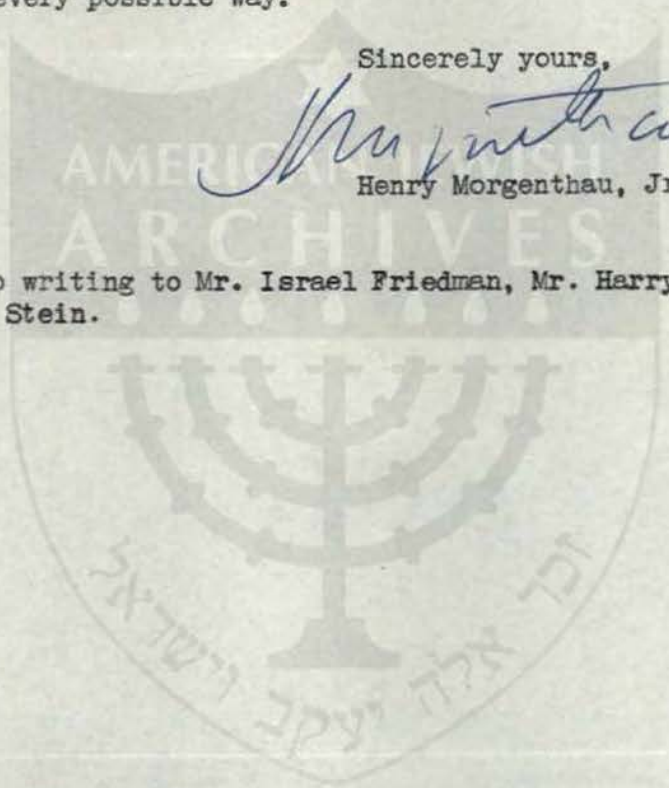
Sincerely yours,



Henry Morgenthau, Jr.

HM:RZF

P.S. I am also writing to Mr. Israel Friedman, Mr. Harry A. Zinn and Mr. David Stein.





HENRY MORGENTHAU, JR.

GENERAL CHAIRMAN, UNITED JEWISH APPEAL, 165 WEST 46TH STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

December 9, 1948

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
Temple Emanuel  
Denver, Colo.

Dear Rabbi Friedman:

As we approach the end of 1948, I want to wish you and yours a very Happy New Year. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to have the opportunity to work with you again through 1948 in behalf of the great causes represented by the United Jewish Appeal. All of us can look back with a real sense of satisfaction to the favorable developments that opened the road for greater Jewish resettlement and recovery, and to our own contribution to these developments through the UJA.

We still have one serious problem, however. We simply do not have sufficient cash to make possible the continued flow of immigration into the new State of Israel. Since the first of the year over 115,000 Jews have reached Israel, 23,000 of them in the month of November alone. The progress of that State has been the greatest satisfaction to all of us. That progress must not be retarded.

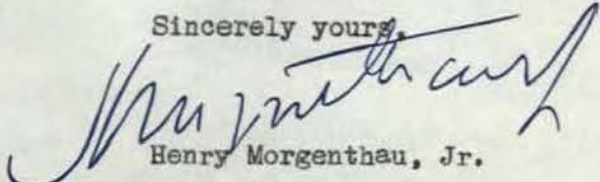
The first immigrants to the United States under the DP Act have arrived, with a substantial number of Jews in each contingent. The responsibility for these Jews has been assumed by the United Service for New Americans. The Joint Distribution Committee and the United Palestine Appeal agencies must sustain their normal programs of relief and resettlement among the remaining survivors of the Hitler era in Europe, North Africa and other lands, as well as in Israel.

It would be tragic indeed if the flow of immigration were to be curtailed or halted by the lack of cash with which to sustain it. The opportunity to solve the problem of the DPs and of other Jews in Europe who need help so desperately constitutes a challenge to our statesmanship which we dare not neglect.

We cannot consider the 1948 campaign finished until all pledges have been converted into cash. You have been deeply devoted and readily responsive to every call for service. It would be immeasurably helpful if you could now use your influence in the community to speed up collections on individual pledges and the remittance of all possible cash to the office of the UJA before December 31st.

With many thanks again for your inspiring cooperation, I am

Sincerely yours,

  
Henry Morgenthau, Jr.

HENRY MORGENTHAU, JR.

GENERAL CHAIRMAN, UNITED JEWISH APPEAL, 165 WEST 46th STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

March 25, 1949

Dear Rabbi Friedman:

I am writing to advise you of one of the most extraordinary projects ever undertaken by the United Jewish Appeal. Beginning on April 3rd the United Jewish Appeal CARAVAN OF HOPE which will consist of seven special railroad cars starting from seven widely scattered cities will begin a tour of approximately 140 cities. Each car will be manned by two Israeli war heroes, a number of community leaders and other outstanding personalities, and will contain interesting exhibits of the work of the UJA agencies all over the world.

THE UJA CARAVAN OF HOPE will be intensely promoted and widely publicized and will involve the participation of local and national Government officials as well as leaders in all fields of endeavor.

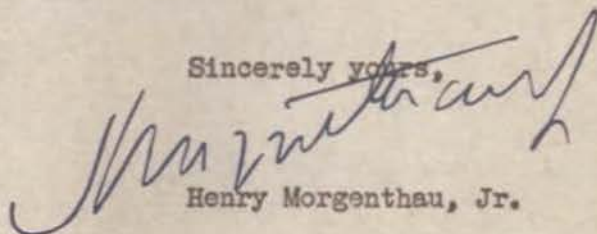
Announcement will be made soon in your community of the date on which the UJA CARAVAN OF HOPE train will arrive.

It is our hope that through this project the entire American community will be aroused to the desperate urgency of closing the DP camps in 1949 and making possible the immigration of at least 250,000 Jewish men, women and children to Israel. Never has there been a more dramatic opportunity for service to our people.

I urge you and your friends in the community to visit the CARAVAN OF HOPE train and to participate in the ceremonies which will take place on its arrival. It will be helpful if in the meantime you will tell your friends about the CARAVAN OF HOPE and cooperate with your local campaign to make the UJA CARAVAN OF HOPE visit to your community an outstanding event.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,



Henry Morgenthau, Jr.



HENRY MORGENTHAU, Jr.

GENERAL CHAIRMAN, UNITED JEWISH APPEAL, 165 WEST 46TH STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

April 22, 1949

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
Temple Emanuel  
Denver, Colo.

Dear Rabbi Friedman:

What kind of people are we American Jews?

I ask myself that question in the face of the deeply disturbing reports that I have been receiving about conditions in Israel. I ask myself what all of us who are termed the leaders of American Jewry are failing to do in order to arouse the whole American Jewish community to an understanding of the gravity of the position in Israel today.

Frequently I am obsessed with the fear that some of our people here may think that the descriptions of the desperate financial plight in Israel are "contrived" merely to arouse a response to the campaign of the United Jewish Appeal. Surely there is enough maturity and economic perception among American Jews to appreciate that a country of the limited resources and the straitened financial conditions of Israel cannot possibly absorb 105,000 Jews within a period of 3½ months without the entire economic structure being shaken to its foundations.

There is before me a cablegram which reports that from April 1st to April 16th, 23,757 Jews entered Israel. The pride

that we should naturally have at this heroic accomplishment is overshadowed by the knowledge that the resources to absorb these people are not being made available by us.

There is also before me a confidential letter from Dr. Israel Goldstein, Treasurer of the Jewish Agency. I do not know why any such communication should be "confidential" to those who, like yourself, must know the true facts if they are to meet the present problem with understanding.

The entry into Israel of about 105,000 Jews in the first 3½ months of 1949 has created problems so staggering in their dimensions that some proper method must be evolved to shock all of us into an appreciation of the magnitude of the financial crisis. In discussing this vast immigration, Dr. Goldstein writes:

"...Already they are obliged to leave new arrivals on the ships for days. As you know, the camps are overfilled. It is possible that in another 2 months we shall not have the money with which to provide food to the people in the camps. Demonstrations are taking place frequently and in many places. This is only the beginning. The complaints and the resentments are levelled at the Agency and the Government. Obviously the Agency and the Government can only do what it is within their financial means to do. The financial means must come from American Jewry. Unless the United Jewish Appeal rises to heights far beyond those



indicated, even in the recently improved response, we must face catastrophe."

These people who are coming into Israel, whether it is through the liquidation of the D.P. camps in Germany, whether it is in flight from the Moslem countries, whether it is in escape from Eastern Europe --- all of these are people who are at least as much our responsibility in America as they are the responsibility of the Jews in Israel. Israel is maintaining itself on an armed footing to protect the gains that it has already made and to assure the security of Israel so that any Jew who wants to enter the country may have the opportunity to do so.

On several occasions my associates and I have sent telegrams to community leaders to stress the urgency of the financial requirements. It is fair to say that most of the communities have understood the desperation which prompted our pressing for action. In a few isolated instances there has been criticism of this method of communication --- as though the UJA did not itself realize how valuable is every dollar in this particular situation. But until there is adequate financial response, we cannot cease our pressure and our appeals --- unless we are to be faithless to the trust placed in us by the Jewish community of America and by the Jews flowing into Israel. WE NEED CASH DESPERATELY NOW. There is no device, no formula, no enterprise which should be ignored in the effort to mobilize such cash.

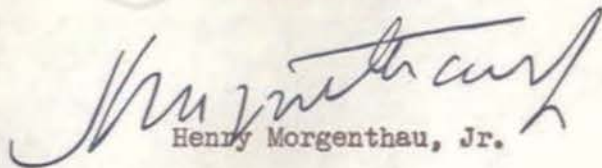


On Wednesday evening, May 4th, there will be a dinner meeting at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City. The President of the State of Israel, Dr. Chaim Weizmann, has invited community leaders to share with him in the celebration of this first anniversary of Israel's statehood. Dr. Weizmann will be leaving for Israel the following day. It is my thought that there could be no greater birthday gift, and no greater demonstration of our own consecration to the purposes animating Israel than for each community to send to that dinner meeting the largest possible check that can be obtained through further and truly courageous borrowing from the banks, or through the most vigorous collection efforts that can be conducted among big and small givers alike.

What kind of people are we American Jews?

I think we are generous and responsive and sensitive. Please tell me what your community and you will do in this present crisis.

Sincerely yours,



Henry Morgenthau, Jr.

# UNITED JEWISH APPEAL

on behalf of *JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL*  
*UNITED SERVICE FOR NEW AMERICANS*



165 West 46th Street, N. Y. 19, N. Y. PLaza 7-1500  
Cable Address, UJAPPEAL, New York

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SHOLEM SONTUP

*(Committees in formation)*

April 29, 1949

Rabbi Herbert Friedman  
Temple Emanuel  
16th & Pearl St.  
Denver, Colo.

Dear Rabbi Friedman:

I have been asked to write to you in connection with your acceptance of Mr. Morgenthau's invitation to the dinner being given in honor of President Weizmann at the Waldorf Astoria, on May 4.

Please let me know by wire if you require hotel reservations in New York in connection with your attendance.

Sincerely yours,

Esther Trebach  
Administrative Assistant

P. S. To defray the expenses, a charge of \$7.50 is being made for the dinner.

ET:da



## Special Memo

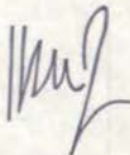
TO: Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

FROM: Henry Morgenthau, Jr.

How urgent is the situation in Israel? Why does the United Jewish Appeal press so constantly and unceasingly for cash?

I feel that both these questions are answered with especial poignancy in a letter which I have received from Mrs. Herbert H. Lehman. She and Governor Lehman have just left Israel after a thorough visit. I thought you would like to share her fresh viewpoint with me and I am, therefore, taking the liberty of sending you a copy.

6/7/49



Haifa, Israel

Dear Mr. Morgenthau:

Within a few hours, Mr. Lehman and I shall bid farewell to this nation and complete our first visit to Israel. We are returning as we came -- aboard an Israeli ship manned by an all Israeli crew.

But that's as far as the similarity of our coming and going to and from Israel holds. We are going back home more fully inspired than ever by the accomplishments of these heroic people who created the State. We shall be returning to the United States more fully convinced that we in America must do more than ever to enable Israel to carry on in its heroic endeavors to absorb the tens of thousands that come in monthly from every corner of the world, by air and by sea.

After seeing the indescribable and miraculous achievements of the men and women, the boys and the girls, of Israel who are here, I am convinced that the State of Israel is here to stay.

I have seen the conditions of the people in the American occupied zone in Germany. Comparing them with the conditions in some of the camps for immigrants we visited here, I am of the opinion that from the standpoint of comfort, the plight of the DP was somewhat better in Germany. However in spite of this the people were unhappy. They wanted to go home -- home to Israel.

Now they are here. But again their life is in the camp. They live in tents and in barracks. They are far from comfortable. The tents are pitifully overcrowded and at this time of year unbearably hot, even when the flaps are raised. In the large barracks, which formerly were used by British soldiers, 85 people -- men, women and children -- live under conditions which would be publicly condemned back home. There is no such thing as privacy. There is no such thing as personal comfort. As one woman in her thirties -- a woman who has spent half of her life wandering from concentration camp to DP camp -- told me, life is just mere existence because, as she put it, "we eat, we sleep, we wait. We are just like animals."

Of course they are happy to be in Israel. Now they are home, they say. Now they will not be molested by hostilities and anti-Semitism. They want to forget the past and to start a new life -- in a home of their own, where they would have a taste of that something which makes life worth living -- that something we take for granted -- a roof over their heads, where family life can go on in privacy and in dignity.



I am impressed by the yearning of these people in the immigration camps to have their own roof and get their own piece of land. They want a chance to become self supporting. They long to be responsible for their food and shelter.

I am convinced of this because I have seen the new immigrants in the abandoned Arab villages. These are for the most part nothing but shambles. The immediate surroundings of these villages are appalling. Indeed, they are dangerous for the mountains of filth present a dangerous health menace. Nevertheless, hundreds have transformed these abandoned village houses into clean and habitable houses. To be sure, they are far from what we would consider as satisfactory in the United States. But it's "home". And that's what these people want. Of course, they should have better houses. Some get them, but the insufficiency of funds makes it impossible for many more to move out of the camps into the villages, and into prefabricated wooden houses being provided through moneys made available by outside Jewry.

This is a land of miracles. To describe its beauty is almost impossible. You have to see it to appreciate it fully. Both Mr. Lehman and I witnessed several battlegrounds which, I believe, will soon become shrines. We spent many hours in Negbah, the Kibbutz where a handful of men and women held out for six months in the face of almost continuous attack by hordes of Arabs from four strategic points, and walked the entire area on which so many gave their lives. We saw the graves of the heroes of Negbah -- graves that have not been fully marked because the survivors have been too busy clearing the shambles and reopening settlement activity. Soon, the people at Negbah hope, the children who were evacuated, and their mothers who followed them during the height of the siege, will be reunited at Negbah. But before the reunion of families takes place, Negbah must be rebuilt. And Negbah is only one of many scores of communities in the same condition; that is where American help is so vital.

There is a striking contrast between the immigration camps, the villages, the war wrecked settlements with agricultural schools visited by my husband and myself. We have always maintained an interest in these schools but never realized fully their beauty, the extent of their programs, the importance they play in the life of Israel's growth and development until we visited them. I am proud that our people have accomplished so much in so little time.

The Negev -- those vast stretches of wasteland -- is changing almost daily. Within a week we witnessed two new settlements (kibbutzim) erected on areas which were nothing but wasteland when we first saw them last Wednesday. Now they are beginning to bustle with activity and soon more miracles will take place and the arid land will be fertile. This important undertaking so vital to Israel also requires funds.



We have been deeply impressed by the determination of the people here to continue welcoming the immigrants and to help them settle here. It is remarkable how people who have given so much of their energies and, yes, of their sons and daughters, can continue to make the sacrifices that are being made daily by the people of Israel.

It was thrilling to be aboard a ship most of whose personnel is made up of people who helped shape the new State. It was inspiring to see the miracles both in the absorption and resettlement of the immigrants and the conversion of the wastelands. But I fervently hope everyone will assume an obligation in seeing to it that the community of Israel does not break under the burden.

We leave Israel happy in the knowledge that American help has been so substantial but thoroughly convinced that more aid is needed now.

If American men and women appreciate what has been accomplished here, if they are -- and I know they are -- eager to see Israel move forward and take its place as a leader among freedom loving nations -- then I know they will want to give all out aid now. The fact that the State exists is not a signal for curtailment of help. Help must be increased.

Both Mr. Lehman and I are impressed with the wholesomeness of the country, the dignity of its leaders, the stoicism of its citizenry, the courage of its soldiers. If we have an opportunity to help, we view this opportunity as a privilege of sharing in the upbuilding of a nation that will be a bulwark for peace in the world.

Sincerely,

(signed) Edith Lehman



HENRY MORGENTHAU, JR.

GENERAL CHAIRMAN, UNITED JEWISH APPEAL, 65 WEST 46TH STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

September 30, 1948.

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
Temple Emanuel  
1595 Pearl St.  
Denver, Colo.

Dear Rabbi Friedman:

As you know, the United Jewish Appeal now faces problems of extraordinary magnitude.

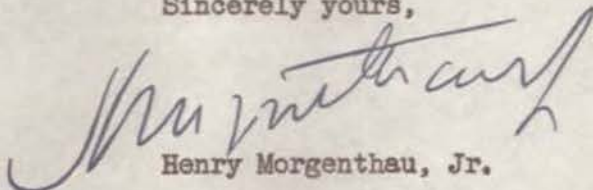
I am sending you herewith the text of a telephone conference that was held yesterday with a number of communities in various parts of the country.

During this conference, Governor Lehman, Rabbi Israel Goldstein, Rabbi Jonah B. Wise, Edwin Rosenberg, Captain Alexander Albala of the Israeli Army and I discussed recent developments in Israel and Europe as they affect the future of large numbers of Jews and the responsibilities of the United Jewish Appeal in the coming months.

It is my earnest hope that, on the basis of the situation as described in the enclosed material, you will bring the pressing needs of the United Jewish Appeal to the attention of the members of your congregation on the Day of Atonement.

I wish to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation for your devoted efforts in behalf of our campaign and to extend my cordial greetings for the New Year.

Sincerely yours,



Henry Morgenthau, Jr.



**SENDER IS AWAITING A SPEEDY**  
**answer**  
 PLEASE GIVE IT TO THE MESSENGER  
 OR TELEPHONE  
**WESTERN UNION**  
7477 D 1848

# WESTERN UNION

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SYMBOLS	
DL	= Day Letter
NL	= Night Letter
LC	= Deferred Cable
NLT	= Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram	

JOSEPH L. EGAN  
 PRESIDENT

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

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1949 NOV 9 PM 4 45

RABBI HERBER A FRIEDMAN TEMPLE EMANUEL

1595 PEARL ST DVR=

PLEAD WITH YOU AND OTHER OFFICERS OF DENVER WELFARE FUND TO COLLECT, TO BORROW, AND THROUGH ANY OTHER DEVICE, MOBILIZE FUNDS TO BE REMITTED IMMEDIATELY TO UNITED JEWISH APPEAL. THIS URGENT APPEAL IS BASED UPON CABLE WHICH I RECEIVED TODAY FROM JERUSALEM SIGNED BY LEVY ESHKOL, TREASURER OF JEWISH AGENCY. HIS HEARTRENDING PLEA WILL UNDOUBTEDLY TOUCH YOU AS IT HAS ME MR. ESHKOL'S CABLE READS AS FOLLOWS QUOTE WITH 92,000 IMMIGRANTS NOW IN CAMPS INCLUDING 65,000 UNDER CANVAS WITH RAINY SEASON APPROACHING AND STREAM OF UTTERLY DESTITUTE IMMIGRANTS FROM ORIENTAL COUNTRY CONTINUING AT STEADY RATE JEWISH AGENCY'S FINANCIAL POSITION BECOMING DAILY MORE CRYING OUT FOR PRESSING DEBTS TODAY ... QUOTE ... FROM USA STOP STRAIN OF CONTINUOUS MAKESHIFT ARRANGEMENTS BECOMING UNBEARABLE STOP UNABLE TO CARRY ON UNLESS SUBSTANTIAL CASH RECEIVED FORTHWITH STOP PLEASE MAKE SUPREME EFFORT TO PREVENT CRISIS FROM BECOMING CATASTROPHE UNQUOTE REGARDLESS OF SPLENDID ACTION YOUR COMMUNITY HAS ALREADY TAKEN TO PROVIDE CASH TO UJA, BEG OF YOU INITIATE NEW STEPS FOR FURTHER FUNDS. PLEASE TELEGRAPH YOUR EXPECTATIONS SO I MAY CABLE JERUSALEM IN TURN=

HENRY MORGENTHAU JR GENERAL CHAIRMAN UNITED JEWISH APPEAL  
 165 WEST 46TH STREET NEW YORK NY=  
ATTORNS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE



December 8, 1950

Hon. Henry Morgenthau, Jr.  
United Jewish Appeal  
165 West 46th Street  
New York 19, New York

My dear Mr. Morgenthau:

I wish to convey to you the sentiments of the Jewish community of Denver, as well as my own personal feelings, in this note of thanks and commendation to you for your service as General Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal for the past four years. We want you to be fully aware of our feelings of gratitude to you for the tremendously inspiring leadership which you have provided during this crucial period.

Your name has lent to this great philanthropic outpouring of the Jewish spirit in America a sense of dignity and prestige which has encouraged every individual to attempt to emulate your understanding of and sympathy with the historic aspirations of our people. In serving as the General Chairman of the UJA, you have given courage and spirit to every Jew to become even further identified with this noble cause.

You have observed well the principle of noblesse oblige. In taking upon yourself the heavy duties of your position, you have set the pattern for others to follow. Because of your unflagging efforts, no one of us has permitted himself to grow weary. History alone, I think, can properly evaluate the service you have rendered to the Jewish people.

With warmest and most cordial expressions of gratitude and appreciation for all you have done, I am

Sincerely yours,

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

F/s