



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 2: Correspondence, 1947-1982.

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T, General. 1962-1971.

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

Congregation Anshai Emeth

ESTABLISHED 1899

5614 North University Avenue

Peoria, Illinois 61614

673-0774 (309)

TEMPORARY ADDRESS
920 W. MAIN
PEORIA, ILLINOIS

April 11, 1967

Lawrence N. Mahr
Rab

Jack T. Szold
President

Mr. Zangwill Freed and
Mr. Irwin Zeisel
c/o Jewish Community Council
613 Citizens Building
Peoria, Illinois

Dear Zang and Irv,

If I were the Rabbi of your congregation, I am positive that I would "tell you off" properly. Since I am not, all I can do is register my complaint and my deep dissatisfaction.

I was most disappointed and very upset by the "card calling" at the dinner this past Sunday evening. I object to it for a variety of reasons. In the first place I find it to be totally out of keeping with the moral and ethical dictates of our faith. Judaism never has taught that the end justifies the mean. In fact, I believe that a good case could be made for the exact opposite. Further, the procedure, as conducted, violates Judaism's highest teachings with regard to Tzedakah. I would suggest that you look at the writings of Maimonides dealing with this subject. If you cannot find it any place else, it is in volume 2 of the Union Prayer Book on page 117. There you will discover that the highest levels of charity require anonymous giving. Lastly, the Sunday night spectacle completely violated my sensitivities regarding what is classified as proper conduct.

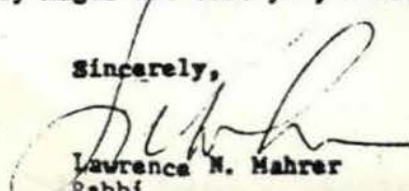
My position on this matter is nothing new to either of you, in that on every opportunity, at every meeting of your board I have always spoken out for a high level of moral conduct as part of our campaign.

A further reason for writing this letter is to indicate to you and to the Community Council that neither Rabbi nor Mrs. Mahrer were happy with nor comfortable in their attendance and participation in Sunday's dinner.

I hope you realize that I was rather upset. I hope you realize, also, that a great number of other people who were present that night, many of them among your most active and generous workers and contributors feel exactly the way I do. They might not tell you, I felt it my obligation to do so.

c.c. Mr. Jack Szold
c.c. Mr. Robert Pritzker

Sincerely,


Lawrence N. Mahrer
Rabbi

May 5, 1967

Rabbi Lawrence Mahrer
Congregation Anshai Emeth
920 West Main Street
Peoria, Illinois

Dear Rabbi Mahrer:

I have before me two documents: One is your letter of April 11, 1967 addressed to Zang Freed and Irvin Zeisel, c/o Jewish Community Council, and the other is a copy of a Resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees, Congregation Anshai Emeth, Thursday, April 13, 1967 -- "Declaration of Rights for Soviet Jewry."

Since your letter was written on Congregation Anshai Emeth stationery and signed by you as Rabbi, with copies to Jack Szold and Robert Pritzker -- both officers of the Congregation -- I am not sure whether in your letter you were expressing your own personal opinion or if the letter was an official expression of Congregation Anshai Emeth. As a member of Anshai Emeth I would appreciate clarification.

With regards to the meeting itself and the manner in which it was conducted, I cannot comment, since I wasn't present. Concerning your disappointment and distress by the "card calling" this is another matter. As a Rabbi one might rightfully assume that your "disappointment and distress" would have been with the poor attendance and lack of voluntary response, rather than the method used. One would think your concern would be for the success of the appeal.

Do you know what it is like to stand up there and wait for a voluntary response? How long the pauses are? How every second of silence seems like hours? Let me assure you Rabbi that very few enjoy this task; that it takes real courage and devotion to do it.

Do you know the urgent need for the maximum funds? Are you aware of the plight of the Jews prior to the establishment of the State of Israel?

Do you know that Israel has taken in 1,250,000 people during this period? Do you know that the Jewish Agency is in debt for hundreds of millions of dollars (yes, hundreds of millions of dollars)? Because people were coming in and sufficient funds just were not available to meet the needs, money had to be borrowed. Thank God they had the credit to borrow these vast sums which still have to be repaid.

Rabbi, do you know how Jews are brought out of certain countries and what it costs to bring them out? Not so many years ago the difference between life and death for some was directly related to the amount of money raised -- today it can be the difference between freedom or hopeless despair.

It is highly unrealistic thirty years after the rise of Hitler and nineteen years after the establishment of the State of Israel, to assume that either of these crucial chapters in the history of the Jewish people would have been met with the standards of charity prescribed by Maimonides. I am sure that if Maimonides had had a crystal ball and could have foreseen the terrible tragedy that was to overtake the Jews a thousand years later, he would have provided for a more liberal interpretation in accordance with the spirit and needs of the times, and not with the inflexible literal concept you quote.

The fact is that no major undertaking on the part of American Jewry, and that includes the present movement for the improvement of the status of Soviet Jewry to have their right to immigrate, would be possible if the principle of self-sacrifice and community consciousness were not mobilized for fund raising on a major scale.

What the Rabbi characterizes as undignified use of any means to achieve a worthy end, has the acceptance and the universal recognition, not only of the leaders of Jewish fund-raising, but of the men and women who are the backbone of such campaigns. They will be the first to admit that without some degree of social and communal pressure their contributions might well be less generous.

My dear Rabbi, you are either very naive or uninformed of the practicalities of Jewish life. I can assure you that the only people embarrassed at the meeting were those who gave inadequately. Experience has told that on a voluntary basis people give very little, that most Jews are just mildly interested, let alone concerned. Why have meetings at all? Why not do this by mail and let people give what they want?

Card calling is exerting the right to ask Jews to stand up and be counted. Is it wrong to embarrass those who decline to recognize their responsibilities as Jews? It seems to me that this has been the theme of many sermons in synagogues from time immemorial.

The present needs are too great to afford the luxury of experimentation with what you call "high level moral conduct as part of the campaign." If you want to experiment, you might start it with your own Congregation, and let us see what you achieve.

The Resolution on Soviet Jewry is an excellent one as far as it goes, but it just doesn't go far enough. A fourth point could be added, or should have been added, as to who is to provide the funds should the Resolution be implemented. It would have been a much stronger Resolution if it would have stated that we are prepared to take care of ten, twenty, thirty, forty or fifty families, or X number of families to find homes, to find jobs, find schools for the children, if and when Jews are permitted to immigrate from the Soviet Union. Otherwise the Resolution is idle words and is meaningless.

I am sending you under separate cover the documented history of Bergen Belsen. You might find it interesting, and after you read it, you can put it in the Congregation Anshai Emeth library.

Sincerely,

Samuel Rothberg



/SR:hej

cc: Jack Szold



**ISRAEL AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS**

COL. PELEG TAMIR

DEPUTY A.O.C. FOR MANPOWER

December 6, 1967

Rabbi Herbert Friedman
United Jewish Appeal
1290 Avenue of the Americas
New York City, N.Y.

Dear Herb,

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

I know you are not going to like this, however it's part of my job.

Motty, my boss, asked me to tell you he is very skeptical about the chances of his coming to the States for you as agreed.

First of all, he says he doubts whether the current situation will allow him to leave Israel for two weeks.

Secondly, he might join the Prime Minister in February and in that case he won't be able to go both in January and February.

Thirdly, and this is my personal opinion, he doesn't like the idea of making speeches in the first place.

I told Moshe Rivlin everything I am writing here; I simply felt a moral obligation to tell you what's cooking.

If there is anything I can do for you, just let me know.

Yours sincerely,

Peleg

Congregation Anshai Emeth

ESTABLISHED 1899

5614 North University Avenue

Peoria, Illinois 61614

673-0774 (309)

TEMPORARY ADDRESS

920 W. MAIN

PEORIA, ILLINOIS

May 10, 1967

Lawrence N. Mahrer
Rabbi

Jack T. Szold
President

Mr. Samuel Rothberg
4739 Grandview Drive
Peoria, Illinois

Dear Mr. Rothberg:

Thank you very much for your letter of May 5 and for sending the book on Bergen-Belsen. It has just arrived, and while I have not had the opportunity to review it thoroughly, it does appear as if it will make a valuable contribution to my own personal knowledge and a significant addition to our congregational library.

I believe that you and I are in complete agreement with regard to the well documented needs which campaigns such as the one recently conducted in Peoria are designed to meet. We would not have any argument on that score. However, we do disagree regarding the approach which the community takes to this kind of fund raising. I don't believe that it will benefit either of us to attempt to discuss this through the mails. I hope that some day we will have the opportunity of discussing it face to face. While the letter to which you refer was written on congregational stationary, rest assured that the opinions stated were not the official opinions of the congregation. I spoke for myself, though I would venture to guess that a significant proportion of the Peoria Jewish Community would agree with the views expressed.

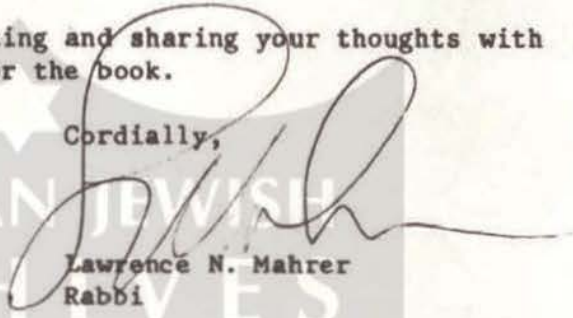
With regard to the resolution adopted by our congregation concerning Soviet Jewry, I must admit that your suggestion is one that had slipped my mind entirely. I think it is very, very important and highly significant. Therefore, should the Jewish Community Council agree to conduct the meeting requested, or should that public meeting be held under other auspices, I will work diligently to have such

Mr. Samuel Rothberg - 2
5-10-67

a pledge included as part of the outcome of the meeting.
I believe that the Peoria Jewish community would be willing
to assume this kind of financial and moral obligation.

Again, thank you for writing and sharing your thoughts with
me and my appreciation for the book.

Cordially,


Lawrence N. Mahrer
Rabbi

LNM/eb



SAMUEL ROTHBERG
4739 GRAND VIEW DRIVE
PEORIA, ILLINOIS 61614

→ ~~HERB~~
RB
20
↓

May 19, 1967

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
United Jewish Appeal
1290 Avenue of the Americas
New York, N. Y. 10019

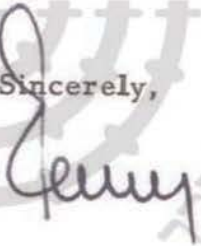
AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

Dear Herb:

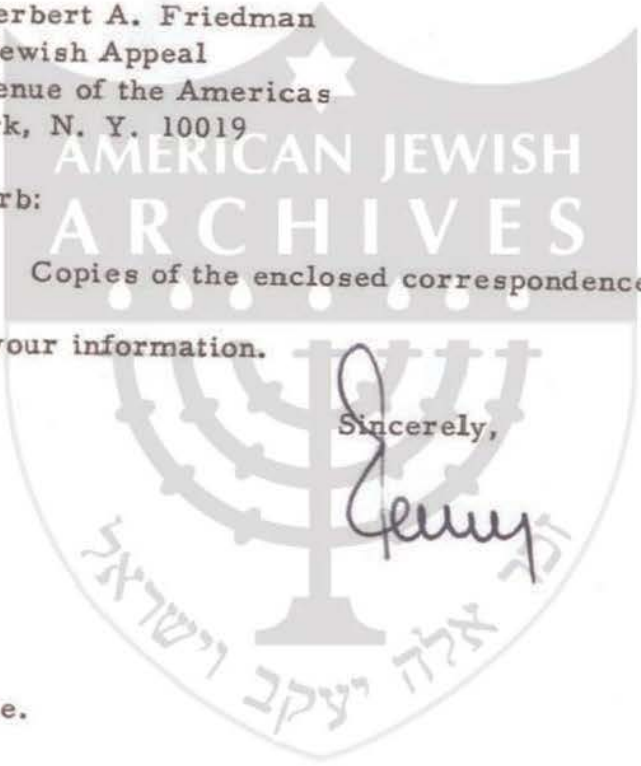
Copies of the enclosed correspondence

are for your information.

Sincerely,



SR-lz
Enclosure.



16 November 1967

General Itzhak Rabin
Israel Armed Forces
Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Itzhak:

It was good to see you in Israel and I look forward to your forthcoming visit to the United States. Please let me know your flight schedule for New York so that we can meet you. As I understand it, you will be arriving in New York on Friday, December 8 due to your speaking in London on Thursday, December 7. We have reserved a suite for you at the Hilton Hotel where our National Conference will take place. If you prefer a different hotel, please let me know.

You will recall when I met you in your office, you indicated that you had a portfolio full of speaking requests from communities and organizations throughout the States. I, of course, did not want to burden you with our needs at that time, except to discuss the meeting in New York City on March 21 with Governor Rockefeller. Everyone here is deeply appreciative of your understanding in agreeing not to speak in New York City prior to the March 21 date.

We have now been deluged by requests for you from communities throughout the country. Recognizing the very limited time you will have, we have really searched our souls so that we could reduce these requests to the very most important fund raising meetings. I therefore hope you will give serious consideration to the following dates:

Milwaukee	March 2
Philadelphia	March 4
Newark	March 28, 31 or April 1
Cleveland	April 25

Present at these meetings will be the very top leadership of each of these cities. I need not tell you that your presence could assure the success of their emergency fund campaign. When you are here in December I suggest that we sit together to discuss these meetings and any questions you may have about your own calendar. We would like to do everything we can to be of help to you.

Warmest regards.

Cordially,

HAF:gb

Herbert A. Friedman

30 November 1967

General Yitzhak Rabin
Ministry of Defense
Jerusalem, Israel

Dear friend,

Just a short note to let you know how pleased we were with the visit of General Peled. He did his job in most excellent fashion, was a very good soldier and did everything that was asked of him, and presented the story of Israel's situation today in strong and clear terms.

I simply wanted you to know that he is one of the best people who have come from Israel to talk to the Jews of the United States. You can be very proud of him.

Looking forward to seeing you, I am,

As ever,

HAF:gb

Herbert A. Friedman

NOVEMBER 9, 1967

SAPIR
MEMROSH
JERUSALEM (ISRAEL)

ELIHU KATZ OF ISRAELI TV AUTHORITY AND M. GUREVICH OF HEBREW UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS INSTITUTE WISH TO SEND TWELVE ISRAELI STUDENTS TO MORSE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER AT BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY TO STUDY IN ORDER PREPARE ISRAELI TV BY APRIL STOP THEY HAVE ASKED ALFRED MORSE OF BOSTON WHO CONTRIBUTED THE MONEY TO BUILD THE CENTER IN FIRST PLACE TO DONATE ANOTHER FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS TO BRANDEIS IN ORDER PAY FOR THESE ISRAELI STUDENTS TOP MORSE IS WONDERFUL FELLOW WHO CONTRIBUTED ALMOST QUARTER MILLION TO REGULAR AND EMERGENCY FUNDS IN 1967 AND ~~1968 STOP~~ IS ~~STILL~~ STRUGGLING WITH HIMSELF REGARDING 1968 stop I DO NOT WANT HIM PRESSURED TO GIVE MONEY TO BRANDEIS FOR THIS PURPOSE ~~AND HAVE RECOMMENDED HIM TO REFUSE STOP~~ ON OTHER HAND HE WOULD BE PROUD TO SEE THE STUDENTS COME TO HIS CENTER AND IS CONVINCED OF ISRAELS NEED FOR TV TO COMBAT ARAB TV STOP MY REQUEST TO YOU IS TO ARRANGE FINANCING OF THESE STUDENTS WITHOUT ASKING MORSE SO THAT HE CAN GIVE MAXIMUM TO ^{REGULAR AND} 1968 EMERGENCY FUND STOP PLEASE LET ME KNOW YOUR ACTION REGARDS

FRIEDMAN

9.18 - File

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1967 NOV 13 PM 4 06

ZCZC RBA289 VIA ITT KIT238 JEC43 1521

JERUSALEM 56 13 1515 ISR GOVT

ETAT

HERBERT FRIEDMAN C/O UJAPPEAL NEWYORK

EYE HAVE REQUESTED ELIHU KATZ HO THANK BRANDEIS

UNIVERSITY FOR THEIR KIND OFFER STATING THAT

ISRAELI TV WILL HOWEVER NOT MAKE USE OF IT

AND IN CASE THE NEED ARRISES TO SEND STUDENTS THIS

WILL BE DONE IN THE ORDINARY WAY

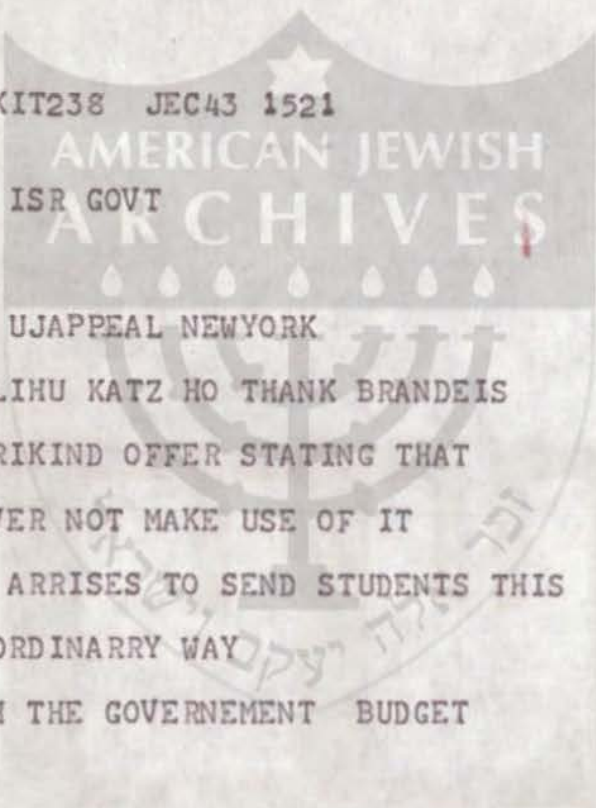
PAYING FOR IT THROUGH THE GOVERNEMENT BUDGET

REGARDS

SAPIR

COL ISR GOVT

NNNN



CE - el mose
11/15/67

1st February 1971

Rabbi Mark Tannenbaum
American Jewish Committee
165 East 56th Street
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Mark:

Here are some buttons for your daughter. The blue one is self-explanatory. Look carefully at the red one to decipher the meaning of the Auschwitz number on the arm.

Our Student Committee wants to distribute the red one in quantity. Some of our adult advisers think it is too radical. You are both old enough and young enough to express an opinion.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Herbert A. Friedman

Mick

15 June 1964

Mr. Milton I. Taubman
613 N. Alpine Drive
Los Angeles, California

Dear Mickey:

I would like very much to have you join us on the Mission this coming October. It is a long time since you have been on one with the whole gang and I think you would enjoy the experience once again.

The entire group is convening in Tel Aviv on 11 October. But several small groups are going off a week earlier to various interesting places such as Persia, Morocco, Vienna, etc. If you were inclined to join one of these sub-mission units and go some place you have not been before, I am sure you would get a big kick out of it.

How does the idea strike you? Please let me hear from you.

As ever,

HAF:gb

Herbert A. Friedman

WESTERN UNION
TELEGRAM

WESTERN UNION
TELEGRAM

WESTERN UNION
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UJA RABI FRIDMAN

165 W 46TH ST

NEWYORK CITY NY

BAIRES CABLED UNABLE CHANGE ARRANGEMENTS AND EXTEND CORDIAL

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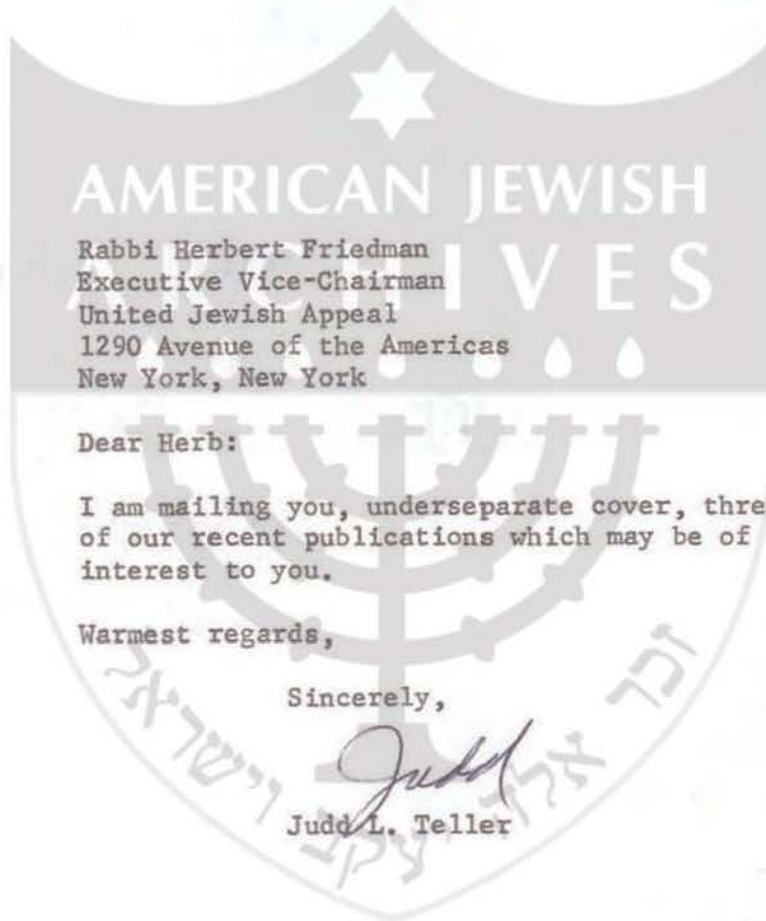
HOWARD J. SAMUELS
Chairman

DR. JUDD L. TELLER
Executive Vice-Chairman

american histadrut
cultural exchange institute

33 EAST 67TH STREET • NEW YORK, N. Y. 10021 • REGENT 4-6010

June 1, 1965



Rabbi Herbert Friedman
Executive Vice-Chairman
United Jewish Appeal
1290 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York

Dear Herb:

I am mailing you, underseparate cover, three
of our recent publications which may be of
interest to you.

Warmest regards,

Sincerely,

Judd
Judd L. Teller

JLT/fc

8 June 1965

Mr. Judd L. Teller
Histadrut Cultural Exchange Institute
33 East 67th Street
New York, N.Y. 10021

Dear Judd:

I have just returned from a trip to the West Coast and found your note with the three publications you sent me.

I have not had a chance to read them as yet, but hope to do so soon.

With many thanks, I am,

Sincerely yours,

HAF:gb

Herbert A. Friedman

19 March 1965

Dr. Jack Tepper
Tepper Clinic
511 McCallie Avenue
Chattanooga, Tenn. 37403

Dear Jack:

I cannot begin to thank you enough, both personally and officially, for your hospitality the other day. It is wonderful that you feel such strong concern and that you backed up your labors with such generosity.

I can only hope that we set some new sights for the community and that this year and in future years both the Center and the Federation will achieve higher goals.

It was a real pleasure to see that your interest in the work was not perfunctory but genuine, and I wish to thank you for it.

Sincerely yours,

HAF:gb

Herbert A. Friedman

Survival
means
sacrifice

United Jewish Appeal

ON BEHALF OF UNITED ISRAEL APPEAL, JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, NEW YORK ASSOCIATION FOR NEW AMERICANS.

1290 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10019
PLAZA 7-1500, CABLE ADDRESS: UJAPPEAL, NEW YORK

26 January 1971

Mr. Laurence A. Tisch
1540 Broadway
New York, New York 10036

Dear Larry:

I. You may recall that I once spoke to you about Jay Phillips of Minneapolis. When I went to solicit him some weeks ago for \$1 million, he spoke with great admiration of your gift in that same amount. He spoke in warm terms of how much he admired such action on your part. I asked you to help with him, and you said you would be glad to do so after the first of the year. By now Phillips has left Minneapolis and is at the Harbour House in Bal Harbour. Before going south he told the UJA committee that he would give \$250,000 for 1971, which is only \$50,000 increase over last year.

I am really surprised. I thought he would make a much larger increase, from the way he spoke. I think it would be very helpful if you could see him, or at least, talk to him on the telephone. If he will not give the \$1 million, he should and could give at least \$500,000. If he does not, there is no chance whatsoever of Minneapolis reaching its goal.

II. Martin Peppercorn tells me that there are two people of Miami Beach whom you agreed to solicit when you go south. They are Morton Hill and Morris S. Burk. Each man should be asked for \$100,000. The following is their giving history:

MORTON HILL

Tel: Res: (305) 757-7619

	<u>Regular Campaign</u>	<u>Emergency Fund</u>	<u>Total</u>
1967	\$ 5,000	\$10,000	\$15,000
1968	5,000	22,000	27,000
1969	15,000	25,000	40,000
1970	20,000	30,000	50,000

26 January 1971

MORRIS S. BURKTel: Bus: (305) 949-3116
Res: (305) 667-0855

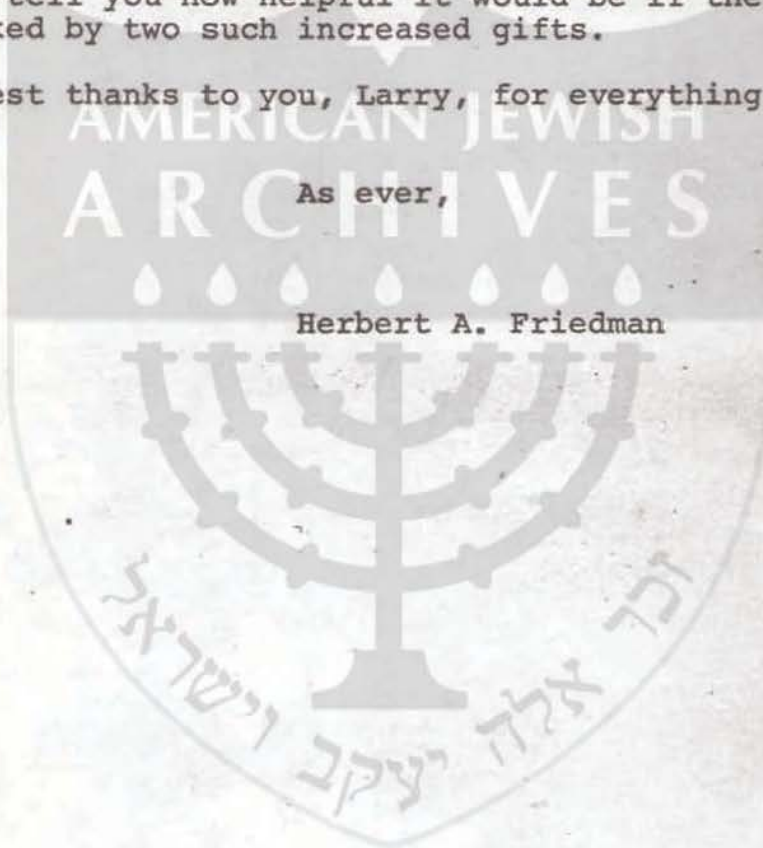
	<u>Regular Campaign</u>	<u>Emergency Fund</u>	<u>Total</u>
1967	---	\$ 2,500	\$2,500
1968	---	---	---
1969	\$10,250	---	10,250
1970	8,000	4,000	12,000

There is a deadline on Hill and Burk. The Big Gifts meeting in Miami Beach is being held at Joe Kanter's house on February 3rd, and we wanted these solicitations to be made before that date, so that the gifts could be announced at that meeting. I don't have to tell you how helpful it would be if the meeting could be sparked by two such increased gifts.

My deepest thanks to you, Larry, for everything you have been doing.

As ever,

Herbert A. Friedman



File

THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR ISRAEL, INC.

515 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

AREA CODE 212
PLAZA 5-7400

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February 20, 1964

GOTTLIEB HAMMER
Executive Vice-Chairman

ISADOR LUBIN
Consultant for Programs
in Israel

MAURICE M. BOUKSTEIN
Counsel

Mrs. Raphael Tourover
1635 Harvard Street, N.W.
Washington 9, D. C.

Dear Denise:

Thank you for your letter of February 18th.

The entire matter of surplus food is complicated by various political factors, both here and in Israel. We have been advised to do nothing about it at the moment and we are biding our time until a change in the climate will enable us to press forward on this front.

Thank you for your interest.

With kind regards.

Cordially,

Gottlieb Hammer
Executive Vice Chairman

cc: Rabbi Herbert Friedman
Dr. Isadore Lubin

GH:mk

21 June 1965

Mr. Sanford M. Treguboff
Jewish Welfare Federation
230 California Street
San Francisco, Calif. 94111

Dear Treg:

When I was at the Budgeting Committee meeting in San Francisco a few weeks ago, one of the members of the committee, a Dr. David (I think was his name), spoke to me about the subject matter contained in this clipping.

I do not know whether this story appeared in the San Francisco paper or not, but in case it did not, would you please do me a favor and send it to Dr. David with my compliments.

I am leaving Thursday for Israel for five weeks and want to wish you a wonderful summer.

All the best,

HAF:gb

Herbert A. Friedman

CC: EWM
ERV
HAF
IL
SL-AF

15 September, 1964

The Honorable Harry S. Truman
The Harry S. Truman Library
Independence, Missouri

Dear Mr. President:

I recall with appreciation your memorable address on the occasion of the 28th Anniversary Conference of the United Jewish Appeal in New York City December 8, 1962. Those of us who were privileged to hear you will long remember the stirring and challenging words.

The purpose of this letter is to ask for an opportunity to meet with you so that I may extend to you an invitation to be the guest of honor at the opening of the Los Angeles campaign for the United Jewish Appeal.

This gathering of the leading members of the Jewish community in Los Angeles, will be held during the latter part of February or early in March, the exact date to be determined by your convenience.

I am leaving for Europe on October 8th and would greatly appreciate being granted an appointment before that date in order that I might explain in person the nature and purpose of the meeting.

Cordially,

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
Executive Vice-Chairman

HAF:NRK

HARRY S TRUMAN
INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI 64050

September 21, 1964

Dear Rabbi Friedman:

I was highly pleased to receive your letter of September 15th inviting me to the opening of the Los Angeles campaign for the United Jewish Appeal.

I sincerely regret that it is necessary for me to decline for the reason that I am in the midst of writing commitments that will take me well into next year, and I am simply out of time to take on anything else. I am, in fact, having to cancel firm engagements already made in order to be able to complete work on a book which I hope to be able to have published next year.

Sincerely yours,

Harry Truman

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
Executive Vice-Chairman
United Jewish Appeal
1290 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10019

HAJ

September 28, 1964

The Honorable Harry S. Truman
The Harry S. Truman Library
Independence, Missouri 64050

Dear Mr. President:

I deeply appreciate your taking time out of your busy
schedule to meet with me on Thursday, October 1, at 10:00 a.m.

I am looking forward to seeing you again.

Kindest regards.

Cordially,

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
Executive Vice-Chairman

HAJ:bcc

cc: Mrs Rose Cowley

SL