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Personal Letter

From

RABBI HERBERT A. FRIEDMAN
Executive Vice-Chairman, United Jewish Appeal

1290 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N. Y. 10019

CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLICATION

15 February 1965

Dear Friend,

In the four months that have passed since I wrote to you last, a year has ended, many facts are available for assessment, and a new campaign has begun with even greater tasks to be accomplished.

It would be well and prudent for us to take stock of our successes, to derive just satisfaction and enjoyment from them, while at the same time we should look carefully at our problems and weigh seriously the difficulties which beset us.

In terms of the progress that we have made, there are many, many areas in which we can take deep joy and genuine satisfaction. Not the least of these is the fact that the OPEN IMMIGRATION POLICY has worked for all these years - that the Jews in the State of Israel, and we the Jews outside of the State of Israel have found within ourselves the joint strength and capacity to make of that policy not simply a vain and empty boast but a reality. The open door to Haifa and to Lydda, kept open by the strength of the people who man the ramparts there, and kept open by the generosity of you here, has resulted in the bringing of the population of Israel to the figure of two and a half million now - with three million soon to be achieved. Norway and Switzerland have only four million people - and these are firm and established states. No one questions their viability - their existence - their perpetual existence.

There is another success, on the ECONOMIC FRONT - full employment in Israel today for those people with skills and ability, with enough education and literacy to work. There is continuous growth in the gross national product - ten, eleven percent increase year after year after year. There is a continuous rise in the national income so that the average family income is on the way up to a respectable figure, comparable to many West European countries. There is substantial progress made in regard to setting examples for other countries in the world which are at this point less well

developed even than Israel. When President Johnson sent a greeting a few weeks ago to the Zionist Congress in Israel, through a friend of his from Texas, Jim Novy, he used the phrase "Israel is the most imitated nation by the new countries of Africa and Asia." It is really tremendous, in terms of pride, to have earned that kind of accolade from the President of the United States, given sincerely.

Progress has also been made in the REBUILDING OF EUROPEAN JEWISH COMMUNITIES which were shattered twenty years ago, to the extent that that same group of a dozen Western European communities found the capacity within themselves last year to go out and raise a half million dollars on behalf of Algerian Jews who have been living in France in such destitution. It is thrilling and almost unbelievable that they should have been restored to the point where they now can begin to assume some responsibilities for other Jews. It was not much money - a half million dollars - nevertheless the fact that they did it is a brand new thing on our international horizon.

Thus our story is not just a continuous and endless saga of woe and worry and tragedy and pain and tears. There have been achieved these very substantial successes - and from them we can take authentic pleasure. Enjoying them, however, does not mean that we may be blind to the problems that exist simultaneous with the successes.

Uppermost in all our minds is the dangerous threat of JORDAN WATER DIVERSION. The engineering and construction work on the Israel National Water Carrier scheme was completed during 1964. The plan was to draw water from the plentiful sources in the north and send it to the dry Negev in the far south. The amount of water to be drawn was agreed upon under the Johnston plan, whereby Israel was to take the smaller share - 40%, while the Arab countries were to have the larger share.

At a recent Arab prime ministers conference in Cairo it was decided to divert water upstream by means of dams and tunnels, to be built in Lebanon, so that the water would never enter the Jordan system. Part would be diverted to flow eventually into the Mediterranean and be wasted; part would be side-tracked to flow into Syria.

The Lebanese were at first reluctant to agree that the diversionary

projects should be situated on their territory, for they feared Israel's reaction. Under pressure from Cairo, they capitulated. President Charles Helou of Lebanon is due to arrive in Paris for an official visit on May 5. At that time it is presumed he will seek assurances from President de Gaulle that France will oppose any Israeli military action against Lebanon in the event that actual diversion of the Jordan River tributaries takes place. Thus it is not known whether actual construction of dams and tunnels will begin now or await the outcome of that forthcoming state visit.

Meanwhile Prime Minister Eshkol and Deputy Defense Minister Peres have both made it perfectly clear that denial to Israel of her share of the water was to be regarded most seriously. Peres warned of "punitive action by the injured party" and Eshkol said "any attempt to prevent Israel from utilizing her just share of the Jordan River system in accordance with the Johnston plan will be considered as if it were an encroachment on our borders."

We must wait to see what developments will occur, but while waiting, time marches on, and all other problems must be faced simultaneously, especially the economic and financial.

On the economic front, in the face of all the progress that has been made, let no one forget that there was a GAP IN THE BALANCE OF TRADE payments last year of \$530 million. Israel imported \$1,195,000,000 worth of goods and exported \$665,000,000 worth of goods. It is really great that she exported enough to pay for more than half the imports. That export figure represents tremendous progress over the condition fifteen years ago. But consumption also has increased - imports have gone up. So even if the Israeli economy does sell enough abroad to pay for half the needs, the other half is still over a half billion dollars annually - and that is a large gap.

In the face of the prosperity, there are POCKETS OF POVERTY in Israel, to be found mainly in the new development towns; and this is not paradoxical. The same thing is true in the United States. This is the biggest, richest country in the world and yet the President of these United States felt it incumbent to declare war on poverty. Whether in the Appalachia region, embracing 12 states, or anywhere else in America, there are pockets of poverty within the prosperity which must be stamped out.

In Israel these pockets exist mainly in the new areas called "development towns." There are 21 localities designated as such - and these are the places where the new immigrants of the past few years have largely been concentrated. Within these small towns, struggling to develop a proper economic basis, are to be found large numbers of social welfare cases, aged, handicapped, blind, illiterate and unskilled. They represent an enormous burden - and in order to solve all the problems, many resources are required: more social workers; more schools, particularly vocational; more sheltered workshops; more money. When we speak of the scores of thousands of immigrants in Israel who are not fully absorbed and integrated into a meaningful way of life, these are the people to whom we refer.

It is not right, nor can it be permitted to last very long, that there should be thousands of men, heads of large families with an average of six children in many cases, earning \$40-45 per month on the emergency relief projects which are the only jobs they are currently able to obtain. These men must be strengthened, physically and mentally, so that they can fill regular jobs in the economy.

There is another thing meant by the term ABSORPTION, aside from job retraining and improvement. An important part of the whole process of absorbing new immigrants is the housing and schooling given them. Mr. Louis Pincus, the treasurer of the Jewish Agency, which employs UJA funds for immigrant absorption, gave a detailed report on this recently, the essence of which is as follows:

Of the 250,000 immigrants who came during the last four year period, over 92% were destitute. There were times when the number of social cases among them reached as high as 34%.

More than a third of this total was under the age of 16, so that during the past four years the State of Israel had to find schools and teachers at primary level for nearly 100,000 children in addition to the natural growth of the existing population.

Four years ago, 40,000 persons were living in ma'abarot. Today, despite the best intentions of liquidating these temporary quarters, there are still 13,000 people living in them.

There are 30,000 families (perhaps as many as 150,000 people) living in one room flats of no more than 300 square feet, horribly overcrowded, with the social consequences growing more acute from day to day. More than 40% of the total immigration has consisted of families ranging from 5 to 16 persons. The size of the flats, limited by cost, is not nearly adequate for these families.

Because of a lack of reserve housing for each day's new arrivals, hundreds of immigrant families, in recent months, were required to enter half-finished houses, in some cases lacking elementary sanitary facilities.

Over 70% of the housing supplied to new immigrants was done by the Israel government at the expense of the Israel taxpayer because the Jewish Agency, operating with philanthropic funds, simply did not have the money to pay a larger proportion.

Mr. Pincus concluded:

"It is my considered view that we will not face the practical necessities without a tremendous upsurge of income from the Jewries that can give. Do not delude yourselves that the Israel taxpayer can increase the burden that already rests on him for this work. He will not be able to do it."

There is still another problem, perhaps the most serious of all, which has to do with the LOSS OF GERMAN MONEY. As you know the West German government entered into an agreement in 1952, which was to last for 12 years, until the end of 1964, whereby two fixed sums were to be paid. One amount, to the total of \$720 million was to be paid to the State of Israel, in the form of goods such as steel, copper, ships, railroad engines, telephone equipment, etc. The other amount, to the total of \$120 million, was to be paid to an international organization outside of Israel which took the name Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany - or Claims Conference, for short. There were 23 member organizations from all over the world who formed this Conference. The primary purposes for which the funds were to be used included the relief, rehabilitation and resettlement of Jewish victims of

Nazi persecution, and the reconstruction of Jewish communities and cultural institutions that underwent devastation at Nazi hands. The Claims Conference board each year entrusted the JDC with approximately \$7 million to be used for the above-stated purpose. In other words, the JDC was judged by all these international Jewish bodies to be the very best instrument in existence to carry out the relief intended. It was indeed a tribute to this wonderful organization. Of the total JDC annual budget of almost \$30 million, one-fourth was this German money.

The twelve years have passed, the West German government has kept to its schedule of payments scrupulously, and now this sum is no longer available. All of you who sit on the boards of hospitals, centers, old age homes, or any other type of institution, know how difficult it is to cut an ongoing budget one or three or five percent. And all of you know the pressure of trying to find extra money to meet such an unwelcome situation. Just imagine how you would feel if you sat on the board of the JDC and had to contemplate a 25% cut in operations. Messrs. Edward Warburg, Moe Leavitt and Charles Jordan went through that agonizing process as they tried to prepare the 1965 budget. I have rarely seen men go through such soul searching. Every decision was sheer hell. Should they cut lunch money for children in schools - relief money in Eastern Europe - hospital bed money in Israel? Slowly they made the decisions and trimmed the cloth, knowing that each decision would cause much human suffering, unless the missing money could somehow be replaced.

There is only one place from which it can come and that is from increased contributions. We must break through the PLATEAU OF FUND RAISING on which we seem to have become stabilized. Mr. Max Fisher, the new hard-working general chairman, has been visiting many communities, urging that American Jews raise more money and rise above previous norms.

The United Jewish Appeal has received, in the course of the last five campaigns - 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963 and 1964 - sums of money ranging between \$60 million and \$63 million. There has been a \$3 million up or down fluctuation - maximum five percent - and some years the fluctuation has been as little as a quarter million. That means we have been on a steady plateau. Does this mean that we are peaked out? My personal opinion is that we have been doing a very,

very excellent job - when one thinks of the sustaining power required to maintain this campaign for a quarter of a century and more. This is by far a better job than any other group does in the United States. And we must give all honor and all glory to the people in the communities who have kept it going with patience, hard work, and dedication.

The fact of the matter, however, is that while the UJA has been receiving \$60 million a year, the total program has been costing closer to \$90-100 million. A great debt has now accumulated which required liquidation or certainly not expansion. And, in order not to expand the debt any further in 1965, it is mandatory for us to break through this plateau and try to raise some more money.

Now, as this 1965 campaign is beginning, all of us must keep the tasks clearly in mind:

1. Maintain the immigration.
2. Improve the process of absorption.
3. Reduce the pockets of poverty.
4. Realize the dangers in the water problem.
5. Keep rebuilding the European communities.
6. Support the residual communities in Moslem lands.
7. Make up for the loss of German money.
8. Break through the plateau of fund raising.

If we want to, we can accomplish these objectives.

We are attempting to guarantee the survival of the 13 million people on the face of this globe who are called Jews. That's all we are - 13 million out of 3 billion. When the State of Israel is guaranteed of survival, when every other Jew living anywhere else on the face of this earth is living in a condition of freedom and our physical position is secure, we will then be able to do even better with the moral question of bringing our message to the rest of the human race. Let us build well and securely for our own people and at the same time we will be building well and securely for all mankind.

Sincerely yours,

Herbert A. Friedman

Herbert A. Friedman

Personal Letter

From

RABBI HERBERT A. FRIEDMAN
Executive Vice-Chairman, United Jewish Appeal

1290 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N. Y. 10019

PERSONAL - NOT FOR PUBLICATION

29 September 1965

Dear friend,

There are two matters of concern which prompt me to write this letter. The first has to do with immigration to Israel and other places. The second has to do with the absorption of the North African-Asian immigrants into Israel.

AMERICAN JEWISH

Regarding the first, immigration, you will recall that I have written you from time to time giving the facts and figures on this subject. These private letters are the vehicle for disseminating this information. For the past several years we have not publicly revealed these facts. In these letters to you, I have always tried to be accurate and specific, and shall continue to be.

During the past four years 1961-1964, inclusive, there have been the following movements of Jews: to Israel - 225,500, and to all other countries, including the United States - 32,300. The Israel-bound individuals were cared for by the Jewish Agency (with very valuable contributions being made along the route by the JDC); and the immigrants bound for other free countries were assisted by the UHS. For the purpose of this letter, the total migration is what counts, for UJA funds are allocated to all the organizations involved.

For the current year 1965 we estimate the final year-end figures will be: to Israel - 38,500; to other countries - 11,700. Thus, adding the past four years to this year's estimate, we have a total for the five year period 1961-1965 of 308,000. This represents the longest sustained period of high immigration since the first 19 months of the existence of the State of Israel. And in all of the campaign literature, produced by the national UJA or the local Welfare Fund-Federation, this proud and exciting fact has constantly been held before your eyes as a challenge to your continued generosity in both work and money.

There appears to be developing a feeling that perhaps the immigration is dropping off. One of my reasons for writing this letter is to state that this is not true. I have given you in the paragraph above our estimate for 1965. Let us look at the future. It is our estimate that the next five years 1966-1970, inclusive, will involve a total of 260,000 Jews

who will require assisted migration in order to attain the religious, economic, social and political freedom they desire and we desire for them. I would hardly call this a diminution of need or a lessening of urgency. The total figures anticipated for the next five years may be slightly less than those of the past five, but the difference is so small as hardly to be a basis for the feeling that any drastic change has occurred.

Our projections for the future are based on 200,000 who will go to Israel and another 60,000 to all other free countries. This latter figure includes a small average annual increase coming to the United States, due to the liberalization of the immigration law which Congress has passed. The Israel-bound projection is conservative, since it is based upon a total Jewish population in those countries from which migration is taking place of 470,000.

To summarize this point, at least one quarter of a million Jews still require the rescue operation to be implemented for their personal salvation. That is a tremendous number and our job is nowhere near finished. The same energy, enthusiasm and devotion to the life-saving task are required in the immediate few years ahead, as we have shown in the past.

| | <u>1961-1965</u> | <u>1966-1970</u> |
|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| To Israel | 264,000 | 200,000 |
| To Other Free Countries | <u>44,000</u> | <u>60,000</u> |
| Total | 308,000 | 260,000 |

The second matter of concern deals with the problem of absorbing these immigrants, especially the North African and Asian groups, into the Israeli society. Some people have had a tendency to say that those Jews who come out of the Moslem cultural milieu will never be able to adjust to the tempo of modern western Israel and that they will drag the country down to a Levantine level. Unfortunately, this point of view has been given support by a recent article in a national magazine entitled "Prejudice in Israel," whose sensational opening sentence read "Israel is a testament to the inability of men to live together."

The article was a hodge-podge of fact and opinion which failed to crystallize around any specific point of view and misled the innocent reader into believing that there was hatred and hostility and active discrimination in Israel on the part of the European Jew against the North African Jew. There was even the hint, implication or suggestion that the government, while officially considering and treating all citizens as equals, nevertheless was worried and afraid of this "pajama-wearing" Asian-African majority.

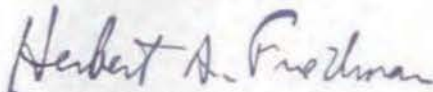
The real facts of the matter are that the full absorption of these groups is a very difficult task which must be handled with great skill, more and better trained social workers, more schools, youth centers, sports facilities, adult education, and just about everything else which more money will buy. Large numbers of immigrants from certain backward areas in Moslem countries are illiterate, and until they can learn to read and write and count, they will always remain in the unskilled labor pool at the bottom of the economic ladder. They are not discriminated against - they are disadvantaged - and everything humanly possible must be done to lift them, culturally and economically.

More than a quarter million of these immigrants have been assigned to the new development towns. A careful study of these places has just been completed and we shall shortly be publishing a booklet, entitled "Israel's Frontier Towns." You will be receiving a copy and I urge you to read it. The purpose of this pamphlet will be to show you exactly what the problems of absorption are, what is being done about them, what remains to be done - and all of this analysis is designed to enlist your sympathetic understanding and help.

It does no good to write sensational headlines on top of confusing articles. It does great good to diagnose a problem and try to find a cure for it. There is very definitely a cure which can bridge the gap between the two segments of the Israeli population. The cure is the same which has been propounded in the United States - namely, more education, better jobs, better housing, more skills, better health, meaningful youth programs and the people and money to administer and execute these blueprints which will ultimately create a better society. To this aim the Jews of the United States, through the United Jewish Appeal, must dedicate themselves.

This is the time of the year when we as Jews think our deepest thoughts and experience our deepest emotions. The destiny of our people, the meaning of our faith, the value of our ethics, the purpose of our existence are all re-emphasized and re-analyzed in the prayers and sermons of this High Holy Day period. One of the strongest affirmations ever made by any people is found in the ringing declaration "Remember us unto life, O King, who delightest in life, and inscribe us in the book of life." This wonderful phrase sums up Judaism's optimistic outlook on human existence and places upon each one of us the responsibility of aiding fellow-man and fellow-Jew in his search for the better life. In so doing we shall achieve immortality for ourselves.

Sincerely yours,



Herbert A. Friedman

HAF:gb

Personal Letter

From

RABBI HERBERT A. FRIEDMAN

Executive Vice-Chairman, United Jewish Appeal

1290 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N. Y. 10019

PERSONAL - NOT FOR PUBLICATION

27 December 1965

Dear Friend,

History...drama...excitement...and a sense of great things accomplished... these are some of the words that best describe the extraordinary United Jewish Appeal Annual National Conference, held in New York the weekend of December 9-12.

Practically everyone who took part in this wonderful and stirring occasion feels it was the finest UJA Conference in many years. Accordingly, I hasten to write to you about it to give you something of its flavor and results. Trying to summarize all that happened, I think it can be said that the Conference did four things:

1. It gave the 1966 campaign a powerful "lift-off" in the form of advance contributions. Thursday evening, December 9, some 185 key contributors from communities across the country pledged a total of nearly \$6,000,000 in larger gifts of \$10,000 or more, at the earliest Inaugural occasion ever sponsored by UJA. The amount contributed represented a healthy 11 percent increase over gifts from the same people last year.

2. It spelled out clearly the major overseas responsibilities of American Jews for 1966, and set a minimum -- but obtainable -- goal for meeting them: -- \$73,420,000. This is approximately 20 percent higher than the amount received by UJA in 1965.

3. It vividly recalled Hitler's monstrous challenge to Western civilization, along with his threat to Jewish survival, and the world-shaking events and great men who ended both. In doing so, the Conference reminded us poignantly of the Nazi slaughter of 6,000,000 Jews, and the historic and courageous response which Jews the world over, particularly American Jewry, have given to that tragedy by helping to bring about the greatest Jewish revival in history.

4. Finally, the Conference offered a tremendous demonstration of unity; the creative unity of UJA and local communities, which make for successful campaigning; the inspiring unity of the American Jewish community with other free Jewish communities throughout the world, in our common effort to lift up our fellow Jews from the low point to which they were reduced by war and Hitler.

What gave the Conference its high note of drama and glamour, was its theme -- a commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of V-E Day. As Max Fisher, our General Chairman declared: "There is not one of us here tonight -- for whom V-E day is not a pivotal day in our lives -- no matter how old we were when it occurred. We could not be meeting as free men in the Western world, if it had not come to pass." At the closing banquet session, Saturday night, December 11, we honored some of the Allied Generals who delivered Europe from Nazi bondage and freed the remnant of our captive fellow Jews from Hitler's concentration camps.

Three great Liberators were chosen to be honored at the gathering -- General Pierre Koenig, Commander of the heroic French resistance forces; Field Marshal Lord Alexander of Great Britain, the Supreme Allied Commander in the Mediterranean; and General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Commander of all the Allied Expeditionary Forces. General Eisenhower was prevented from attending, owing to the heart attack he suffered on November 9. But his wartime deputy, and close friend, General Lucius D. Clay - one of the great Liberators in his own right - ably represented the former Supreme Commander. And earlier that day, Field Marshal Alexander, General Koenig, and Max Fisher, flew to Washington to call on General Eisenhower, in Walter Reed Army Hospital and to bring to the Conference his regrets at not being able to be present.

The highspot of the Saturday night gathering was the presentation to the war-time leaders of a special UJA Liberation medal, conceived for the occasion - which bore the likenesses of Generals Koenig, Alexander and Eisenhower -- and these words from Ecclesiasticus: "THEY WERE HONORED IN THEIR GENERATION AND WERE THE GLORY OF THEIR TIMES." The more than 2,000 persons in the room, an audience which included a U.S. Senator, two Israel Ambassadors, leading UJA officers, outstanding Jewish leaders from overseas, the Presidents of many of the major American Jewish bodies, and four former Advisors on Jewish Affairs to the U.S. Military Governor of Occupied Germany -- rose applauding and remained cheering with each presentation.

In Field Marshal Alexander they saw the man who had to direct the bitter evacuation of the British forces from Dunkirk in the summer of 1940, and who five years later on May 2, 1945, received the unconditional surrender of a German army of a million men.

In General Koenig they saw a soldier who refused to believe that France was finished when the Germans occupied his country, and led the fight of the Free French Forces and the heroic French resistance to victory.

And in General Clay they saw a man endowed with great humanity and understanding, who gave meaning to General Eisenhower's policy that the Jewish Displaced Persons be given every possible assistance in re-establishing themselves. It was General Clay who took the historic step of recognizing the Central Committee of Liberated Jews of Germany in the U.S. Zone of Occupation, thereby putting into effect self-government among the DP's. As he told us "From that point on, the recovery in the camps was rapid, and amazing."

Ambassador Avraham Harman closed the evening by bringing to the various Generals special greetings from Israel. To General Alexander he delivered the greetings of the men of the Palestine Brigade who had fought under his command; to General Koenig he brought greetings of the men of the Israel Defense Army of today who use French equipment; and to General Clay, he brought the thanks of all those citizens of Israel who carry blue numbers tattooed on their arms and who were liberated and cared for by the American forces.

Let me try to recapture something of the spirit of another outstanding session of the Conference -- the Inaugural Gifts Dinner at the Waldorf Astoria Thursday evening, December 9. For this occasion there came together more than 200 of the most prominent Jewish community leaders in the country, and some of the greatest leaders of the world Jewish scene.

These last included, in alphabetical order:

Mr. Samuel Bronfman, President of the Canadian Jewish Congress, and one of the most prominent Jewish leaders in the Western world.

Baron Guy de Rothschild, head of the House of Rothschild and the French Jewish community.

Dr. Gregorio Faigon, Vice-President of DAIA of Argentina.

Dr. Israel Goldstein, President of the World Keren Hayesod.

Dr. Edel Horwitz, President of the Zionist Federation of South Africa.

Djamshid Kashfi, member of the Iranian Parliament and representative of the Shah.

Dr. Astorre Mayer, President, Standing Conference on European Jewish Community Services, and

Mr. Israel M. Sieff, Chairman of the Board of Marks and Spencer, and Britain's outstanding Jewish leader.

Our speakers for the Thursday night occasion included Baron Rothschild and Mr. Sieff, along with the distinguished United States Senator, Jacob K. Javits of New York. A fourth speaker was to have been Jacob Blaustein of Baltimore -- noted for his outstanding leadership in arranging the payment of German Reparations to the victims of Nazism. Unfortunately, he was kept from attending by the death of his mother, at the age of 95.

All of the speakers struck a very high note as they urged continued understanding and support of the work which still lies ahead of American Jews.

With great eloquence, Baron Rothschild, President of the Fonds Social Juif Unifie, told how the French Jewish community, shattered by the war and Hitler, began the difficult process of rebuilding after Liberation. He described his

return to liberated Paris, in 1944, as a Captain in the Free French Forces, and attending Rosh Hashanah Services in the famed Great Synagogue. "I looked about me, and saw that so many I had known, the people I had grown up with, were gone -- deported by the Nazis." And then he told how French Jewry, with the help of the UJA through the JDC, had rebuilt itself. He indicated that, but for the crisis which struck France as 150,000 North African Jewish refugees came pouring into the country from 1961 on, the French Jewish community would be able to meet all its problems without help.

Equally eloquent, and moving, was the address by Mr. Sieff. The man who guided the late Dr. Chaim Weizmann to the British leaders who eventually issued the Balfour Declaration, had this to say about the meaning of our work: "The phrase 'all Jews are brothers,' is not an idle slogan. It has in its purpose something of a deep meaning. We lean on it. In unity we are strong -- strong enough as history has shown, to withstand the direct whip-lash of evil fate. We survive because we can never be alone, nor suffer alone and our ideals continue to rise because always the peak of Mount Zion is before our eyes."

AMERICAN JEWISH

The address of Jacob Blaustein underscored the point that UJA's chief beneficiaries -- the Jewish Agency and the JDC -- have now lost \$17 million annually, following the end of German reparations payments. Only increased and full support of UJA by American Jews can make up this serious loss of needed funds, Mr. Blaustein declared.

Following the speeches, Mr. Fisher, Joseph Meyerhoff, Jack Weiler and Edward Ginsberg called the Roll of Honor, and the men called responded, as I have noted, with gifts which amounted to nearly \$6,000,000, exclusive of gifts by a number of Canadian guests. This represented an average increase of 11 percent from the same contributors.

With UJA Honorary Chairman Dewey D. Stone in the chair, Louis A. Pincus, the acting Chairman and Treasurer of the Jewish Agency for Israel, told how Israel expects another 200,000 immigrants in the next five years. He also told how the need to speed the absorption of some 200,000 earlier immigrants, largely from Moslem lands, in some 21 development towns, has reached the crisis stage. His speech made a deep impression on the delegates for he gave them a full sense of the social problems involved in trying to absorb so many people. He spoke of the dangers of an Israel divided within itself.

Charles Jordan, Director-General of the JDC -- and his associates -- told how 413,000 people in 30 lands still must have the urgent help of the Joint Distribution Committee. The UJA Women's Division, of which Mrs. Jack Karp is National Chairman, the UJA Young Leader's Cabinet, headed by Joseph H. Kanter, its retiring Chairman, and its new Chairman Leonard Bell, and the UJA Rabbinical Advisory Council, of which Rabbi David I. Golovensky is Chairman, all had important sessions.

An International Symposium, presided over by Dr. Israel Goldstein, provided our overseas guests a chance to speak about their own communities. Phillip Stollman, Chairman of the new UJA National Council of Congregations presided

at a dinner in which he described the aims of this new effort. Young men and women of college age, members of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations, mapped out plans for increased campus activity for UJA.

Three major work sessions included a meeting of the 1966 Community Campaign Chairmen, presided over by UJA National Chairman Edward Ginsberg; a Sunday morning meeting with Executive Directors and a special session on problems of migration and training, chaired by Melvin Dubinsky, UJA National Chairman.

I wish it were possible to list all of the many men and women who contributed so much to making this Conference the outstanding one it was. But it just is not possible, and I ask the forgiveness of those whose names I have omitted.

Finally, one event of the Conference struck a sad note: Edward M. M. Warburg's stepping down as Chairman of the JDC, after a quarter of a century of outstanding leadership. Louis Broide, a long-proven and able leader, was elected to serve in his place.

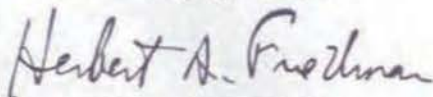
AMERICAN JEWISH

Mr. Warburg's extraordinary record of service -- as the leader of the JDC -- as a General Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal (1951-1954) -- and as a leader of the UJA of Greater New York -- will never be forgotten. If American Jews can say that we helped to save and rebuild millions of Jewish lives during the last two decades -- which we can -- we must also add that our gigantic achievements could not have been possible without the extraordinary contribution of leadership which Mr. Warburg gave our cause.

And so -- after months of planning, of close and excellent cooperation with community leaders and executives, and of intensive staff work, the Conference was held and more than lived up to our high hopes for it. Many people worked hard to make this Conference and the Inaugural Dinner which preceded it the great successes they were - but no one worked harder than our General Chairman, Max Fisher, and to him go the thanks of all. He made the top-level contacts which brought to New York the outstanding personalities; he chaired most of the sessions with the warmth and dignity which have created thousands of friends for himself and the UJA; he made scores of telephone calls; he enthused all with his leadership and conviction.

More than 2,000 people came, relived history, took stock of the future, and returned home to their communities refreshed and re-inspired. Now, each of us faces the job of giving substance and meaning to the Conference by mounting successful campaigns on the local level. This, I am sure, you will want to do with all the power and ability at your command.

Sincerely yours,



Herbert A. Friedman

HAF:lmk

P.S. You will want to read what Fortune Magazine has to say about UJA in its January issue -- Page 149.