



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 4: Administrative Files, 1945-1994.

Box	Folder
44	3

North Africa. 1955-1957.

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

HAF

January 6, 1955

REVIEW OF THE ISRAELI PRESS

"Lamerchav" (Achdut Avodah paper) publishes an article by Shimshon Meler, in the Dec. 29th issue, under the title: "Let's Save Moroccan Jewry in Time." Meler writes: "Today it is clear to everybody that life and limb of Moroccan Jews are in direct danger. In a letter just received from Casablanca, it is written: the Jewish masses here understand that there is no future for them in North Africa. They live in constant fear for their physical safety. You can see it sadly expressed in the way they hang pictures of the Sultan over the entrance of their shops, and the Moroccan national flag - in their shop windows. Some community elders and committees continued to advocate integration in Moroccan national life. The Jewish Advisory Board tells everybody to help build ^{the Moroccan} a new state and to bring about its prosperity and growth. But all this gives little reassurance for Jewish existence and safety in this country. The representatives of Israeli institutions (Jewish Agency, etc.) maintained all the time that the French promised solemnly not to stop the Moroccan Aliya, but now there is no certainty of their ability to keep this promise even with the best intentions.

"Most agree that there is only one and one-half years left to save Moroccan Jews by ~~X~~ large-scale Aliya of at least 5,500 per month. In about four-five months the government of Morocco will have ~~XXX~~ almost full powers and rights of a government. Already now certain statements and declarations of national Moroccan leaders are disquieting. You can also hear ~~X~~ often anti-Jewish slogans in the streets. The Sultan

will visit Egypt in the near future and who knows what pressure will be brought to bear upon him. Several Egyptian and Syrian members of Parliament are constantly visiting Morocco. It is clear enough what this may mean to the fate of Moroccan Jewry. All the reasons given for limited and selective immigration - lack of money, shelter and absorptive capacity - cannot withstand criticism. Better bring them over and put them in maabarot than keep most of them in Morocco and endanger their lives. As to Israel's security requirements - one thing is sure: more Jews mean more safety ~~for~~ Israel. More new immigrants in the kibbutzim and noshavin will not hinder but strengthen Israel's defenses. There will, of course, be serious financial difficulties. But, unfortunately, we cannot wait til the day when the cash will be available and the possibility of saving these people will be gone."

The "Devar" correspondent, Uri Oren, now ~~visiting~~ Morocco, also criticizes bitterly the selectivity principle, as applied in Morocco - in a letter published Dec. 30th. "I know," he says, "that to enumerate all the defects and disadvantages of selectivity=Aliya is ^{LIKE} pouring salt on our wounds. But we have no moral right to keep quiet in this case. If something is done to us by others, we may prefer to keep quiet. But if we do things to ourselves, we must see them with open eyes and know everything about them. I was present during a selection of Moroccan candidates by a selection-committee. The man who made the decisions, processed twenty-thirty families an hour. I almost saw in it a light-hearted approach to such a responsible role. He told me; "After you get some experience, you also will be able to decide in a moment." True enough, if the main thing is to find out whether the bread-winner in the family has strong muscles and is able to do ^{heavy} ~~substantial~~ physical work, the

diagnosis may be a rather easy matter. The candidates try, of course, to adjust themselves to the situation in order to pass the examinations. Instead of telling the official that they were white-collar workers, rabbis or teachers, they say: "God be praised, we are still young and strong." I saw a girl there who cried bitterly for three days and did not leave the place, because she did not pass. Another family of six was quite desperate because the father, over fifty, was unable to work physically and, therefore, could not pass as a bread-winner. The oldest son, eighteen, was a slim boy and was frightened to death at the thought that the committee would not find him strong enough. He almost lost his speech and his mother told me: "Of course, he is neither dumb nor sick, but he is a child and he is afraid to flunk." I also saw a family of five where the bread-winner is only thirty, but there are also a father and mother of the bread-winner who were not allowed to pass because the limit for one bread-winner is a family of six, including himself, and not of seven, as in this case. The official explained that there was only one choice, to leave the parents in Morocco, but the young man decided to stay. He later told me with a heavy heart, "I think the Torah meant me when it mentioned in its Commandments: 'Honor your father and your mother.' But it is also written there that if you do 'you will live long on the earth' - and I doubt it very much if the Torah meant Moroccan earth," finished the young Moroccan Jew sadly."

A slashing attack on the selectivity principle and its application in Morocco was published in "Davar" (Dec. 30) by the renowned poet-columnist, Nathan Alterman, in verse form. After quoting at some length from the letters of the Israeli correspondents visiting Morocco, S. Teveth ("Haaretz") and Uri Oren ("Davar") about tragedies resulting from the above principle (several of these letters we quoted in our reports of the

past two weeks). He says in his column, titled, "The Oleh Danino": "It is not the officials dealing in selectivity that are to be pitied for their difficult choice and decision - it is the Olim! The financial aspect of it cannot justify the pain, the disappointment and the degradation of the Olim. We have no right to do it as long as ~~XXXXXXXX~~/Israel lives partially on campaigns, in the name of Aliya. If this 'line' will remain unchanged - the basic principle will be lost, for which Israel fought and may have to fight again."

"Davar" (Dec. 31) in its column of small comments prints a proposal to impose a new tax on large apartments that will be erected in the future. The money will go for liquidating the masbarot. While the government has no money for this purpose and at least 6,000 families will have to stay in tin huts and similar slums, the fact is, that in the period of January-August 1955 in Tel Aviv alone, some 2,300 spacious apartments were built. An apartment for a new Oleh in the government shikun measures only 32 square meters. The above/new private apartments of the old Yishuv are between 70 and 200 square meters. The contrasts in living conditions in the Arab countries cannot serve as an example for new democratic Israel.

Amos Aylon reports in "Haaretz" about two moshavin, Yuval and Margaliot, where fifty percent of their settlers decided to leave for reasons of interference in their way of life. The moshavin existed for about three years, and the Jewish Agency was quite satisfied with the agricultural results of this Kurdish settlers. But their new instructors tried to change radically the patriarchal rule of the elders ^{WITHIN} the settler's families, with the laudable object of democratizing and modernizing life in these two villages. But the results are deplorable;

almost half of the settlers left to live in town and abandon agriculture—because of the above interference. Maybe it would be better to keep the patriarchal order of things in the villages in order to preserve the inner unity of these communities. The Jewish Agency cannot expect to move people around as though they were chess-men. Young and over-eager instructors should be bridled, and made to behave cautiously and not try any bold sociological experiments. This is not a youth movement, and, therefore, advice of sociologists is as necessary as advice of expert economists, to solve the problems of ingathering of exiles and reconstructing a people.

Yair Kotler reports in the same paper of a bitter fight that broke out in Loshav Ahuzam, founded five years ago in ^{A former} ~~an~~ Arab village, not far from Faluja in the south. Four years ago, the Colonization Department of the Agency decided that the Moshav should belong to Haoved Hatzioni. But lately a struggle broke out about religious education, demanded by a minority. Jacob Ofer, from the Jewish Agency in Tel Aviv, explained to the reporter that there is no practical possibility to transfer the religious group to another Moshav, but he emphasized that several teachers in the General School in Ahuzam are religious and another religious teacher will be brought for special religious courses in the afternoon. There is also a synagogue and a Torah in the Moshav. The Hapoel Hamizrachi is determined to make this Moshav its own and would not be satisfied even if the school was to be transferred to the religious branch of State education. It is, therefore, a matter of pure party politics that caused the serious disturbance in Ahuzam.

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

Paris, France

February 19, 1957.

MEMORANDUM

To: New York Office

From: Paris Office

Subj: Bourguiba's visit to Tunisian Jewish Quarter

On Tuesday, February 12, the Prime Minister of Tunisia, Habib Bourguiba, visited the Jewish section of Tunis. According to the Neo Destour French language newspaper of Tunisia, L'Action of February 18:

"It had been said until now that the Jews of Tunisia were reticent with regard to Bourguiba and that the exodus toward other places was continuing at an accelerated rythm.

"How can one then explain the deliriously enthusiastic ovation received by the head of the government?"

One reason, undoubtedly, the paper continued, was President Bourguiba's vigorous intervention with President Nasser against Egyptian discrimination toward Jewish Tunisians in that country.

Bourguiba, in visiting the Jewish institution for children "Nos Petits," made an address in which he attacked ignorance and lack of knowledge which encouraged absurd fanaticism and created a chasm between Tunisian Jews and Moslems. He affirmed that all members of the Tunisian nation would be treated without discrimination. However, continued L'Action:

"But he did not hide, on the other hand, that from the moment that foreign organizations brought a contribution toward the progress of certain local Jewish institutions, this money which came from outside ought to profit all Tunisian children regardless of their religion."

DIR: 1062

July 15, 1955

CONFIDENTIAL

To: Mr. M. W. Beckelman
AJDC PARIS

Re: Political Situation

Dear Mr. Beckelman:

Although we usually write on the political situation whenever the Jewish question is directly involved, I feel, however, that I should write to you today about what has been going on in Casablanca since yesterday.

The attached clippings and the reports in the French press will give you a picture of the events. What is more important, however, is the background of those dramatic days and the danger which the present tension constitutes for the near future. As mentioned, there is nothing specifically "Jewish" to report at this moment, but the situation reached suddenly a stage in which repercussions on the Jews may occur at any moment. Let us only hope that it will not be so.

The last six weeks have been marked in Morocco by a political crisis which has no precedent in the history of this country in the past few years. For many weeks Arab and Jewish shops have been closed and economic life was at a complete standstill. Originally, most of the Arab shops were closed upon orders of the nationalist and terrorist organizations in protest against the French administration. Gradually, the closure became total and the authorities ordered the Arabs to open shop. When this order was not followed the authorities tried to open the shops by force, and after they had not succeeded they ordered a number of Arab merchants to leave Casablanca and go back to their places of origin. In protest against this measure, which by the way was also condemned by the Casablanca Chamber of Commerce representing both French and Moroccan businessmen, the closure of the shops seemed to be definite. After a while, as a result of threats, the Jews, too, were compelled to follow the example of the Arabs and close their shops.

Suddenly the economic standstill was broken by a political event which quickly gained momentum and put almost the entire country in a state of chaos and anarchy. When, as a result of the French Government's investigation on counter-terrorism, 11 Frenchmen, including the Assistant Commissioner of the Casablanca police, were arrested on charges of

/...

To: Mr. M.W. Beckelman, Paris

15-7-1955

organizing of and participating in criminal acts of counter-terrorism, a large section of the French population close to the colons demonstrated against the Paris Government, the French Administration in Rabat and also those liberal French circles which condemn terrorism irrespective of who is responsible for it. As you will remember, the arrest of this group accused of counter-terrorism took place almost immediately after the assassination of Lemaigre-Debreuil, a French notable involved in activities aiming at peace with the Arabs and the inspirer of a newspaper called MAROC PRESSE, which on the one hand condemns counter-terrorism and on the other calls for a peaceful settlement of the Moroccan question. Mendes-France came to the funeral of Lemaigre-Debreuil, and at the airport a group of Frenchmen demonstrated against him, and in the hostile slogans thrown at him were many anti-Semitic references.

The reasoning of those French circles which condemned Government action against counter-terrorism was that while the authorities had never succeeded in discovering Arab terrorists, they easily found the 11 Frenchmen accused of counter-terrorism. The demonstrators called for immediate liberation of those arrested and took such a hostile stand against the Arab population of the city that special measures of protection had to be taken by the police.

It was in such a state of confusion and internal strife in the French colony that the new Resident arrived in Morocco. There was almost general fear that there would be hostile demonstrations against him on the part of many Frenchmen, and the authorities were determined to avoid this at any price as they felt that the prestige of France was at stake.

As a matter of fact, some demonstrations against Grandval in Casablanca cinemas, where a movie on his arrival was shown, did take place. However, unexpectedly during the official entrance of the new Resident to Rabat and Casablanca, he was enthusiastically greeted by both the French and the Arabs. The leaders of the extreme French nationalist movement, called Presence Francaise, issued a statement on the eve of Grandval's arrival calling the French to abstain from any hostile demonstrations against the representative of the Republic, whose attitude on the Moroccan question was not yet known. Apparently this appeal was heeded, and the atmosphere during the first days of the new Resident's official visits was marked by a considerable lessening of tension. Grandval was also successful in his first speeches, which the French with their Latin mentality liked as far as their form and spirit were concerned. The press started talking about the spirit of unity and concord. It seemed for a while that at least with regard to the French colony the prestige of France was saved.

/...

To: Mr. H.W. Beckelman, Paris

15-7-1955

Grandval did not satisfy himself with breaking through to the French colonies but immediately took a number of measures to appease the Arabs too. On the eve of the 14th of July he proclaimed quite a considerable amnesty and freed many Arab nationalists from prison and also cancelled many orders of expulsion. For the first time in the history of the French Protectorate the Resident invited together with the French population the entire Moroccan population in Rabat to come to the Residence for the reception of the 14th of July. According to press reports, this invitation was crowned by success, and not only the pro-French Arab notables but a considerable number of nationalists and just simple people from the street attended the reception. During the whole morning of the 14th of July and in the early afternoon the press and the radio reported on this unusual atmosphere in enthusiastic terms and predicted an extremely favourable climate for subsequent discussions with all sections of the French and Moroccan population.

Unfortunately, this idyllic atmosphere lasted for a few days only. In the evening of July 14, an attentat, second only to the famous one in the Central Market of December 1953, occurred in the heart of the European city of Casablanca. A powerful bomb was thrown between two big cafes situated on one of the busiest squares in the European city. Six people were killed and 35 wounded. Immediately afterwards a series of demonstrations started against the French authorities and the Arabs. Many attempts were made to penetrate into the medinas to take revenge. Those demonstrations, accompanied by a complete closure of European and Arab shops, have not stopped since last night. While I am dictating this letter reports are coming in every minute about new demonstrations and a constant increase of tension in the city. It is even not sure whether our office mail will be posted tonight. Just as an illustration, our office called up Helle Benatar on a current business matter, and we learned from her that a big demonstration is taking place in the Blvd. de Paris and that the windows of her home have been broken and that she was leaving the office immediately to see what had happened.

No wonder that the Jews are scared. They know unfortunately from the experience in the past year that there can be no greater danger for them than anarchy, confusion and riots, which are originally directed against someone else but finally the Jews become the scapegoat. The experience of the last weeks also shows that the Arabs do not miss any opportunity to call upon the Jews ^{for} unified action, and it can also be assumed that should such a call be made the Jews won't be able to refuse. Should such a situation go on for some time, the Jews may not be treated as hitherto as a sure and solid pro-French element, and whatever measures may be taken against the local population the Jews could easily be included in them.

It is extremely difficult today to get in touch with any of the official Jewish leaders and have some information on the situation. What I said in this letter is simple information available from someone who lives in

/...

-3-

To: Mr. M.W. Beckelman, Paris

15-7-1955

Casablanca and observes what is going on. As soon as I have an opportunity to see some of our Jewish friends and obtain from them more details, I shall pass them on to you without delay.

With best personal greetings,

Sincerely yours,

I. Kleinbaum

IK:hr
cc:HK

July 18, 1955

CONFIDENTIAL

DIR: 1063

To: Mr. M.W. Beckelman
AJDC PARIS

Re: Political Situation

This morning we cabled you as follows:

"P85 STAFF ALRIGHT STOP WORK CONTINUING LIMITS
POSSIBLE LETTER FOLLOWS REGARDS"

Since I have last written to you, the situation has considerably deteriorated. You certainly have press reports about the events, and I therefore should only like to summarize them in a few words.

The Casablanca region is under martial law and the whole civil administration has been abolished. A curfew has been imposed on the European city from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. and in the medinas, part of which is the mellah, from 7 p.m. to 5 a.m. In the Arab quarters the situation has been extremely tense in the past four days and riots have not ceased. It can be said that the security of the European city is only maintained due to the presence of the military who have practically isolated the European quarter from the medians. The number of victims is considerable and no-one can give an exact figure. It is difficult at this moment exactly to foresee what may be the implications of the military regime, but it is generally assumed that should the situation not calm down within the next few days, which by the way does not seem to be the case, the measures taken will gradually become more and more acute. It is also the general feeling that the introduction of martial law was the only logical measure, and one regrets that it has not been taken earlier. The police forces, which have for the last two years assumed the responsibility for security and order, have proved to be the most demoralized and inefficient unit one has ever seen in similar conditions. They are gradually replaced by the army which, starting with this morning, has taken over control from all civil authorities.

You know from the papers about the regrettable incident which happened during the funeral of the French victims of the 14th July attentat in respect to the Resident. It should be noted that among the insults such expressions as "Sale Juif", "Grandval au Mellah", "Grandval en Israel" etc. were used.

/...

To: Mr. M.W. Beckelman, Paris

18-7-1955

This is the first reference to the "Jewish aspect" of the situation. The second is related to the fact that some Jewish youth took part in the anti-Arab and anti-Government French demonstrations. There is a lot of talking going on about this incident which was unfortunately revealed by the fact that among the names of Frenchmen reported in the press as wounded during those demonstrations many Jewish names figured.

However, those two references, regrettable as they may be, are not the most important ones. Yesterday evening the Casablanca mellah lived through hours of fear and terror unprecedented in the past. Serious incidents happened in the late afternoon in the old medina, and according to a report from radio Tangiers those incidents started with robbing of Jewish shops by an Arab mob. The Tangiers commentator also added that this robbing was a result of the fact that the Jews participated in anti-Arab demonstrations. Military and police intervened immediately, and later in the evening and early this morning reports said that order had been restored in the old medina. However, it is known that there are a considerable number of wounded Jews, one woman being reported killed, and the representative of the Jewish community (the only one with whom we have been able to get in touch during the last five days) just said that there are a number of seriously wounded Jews among the hospitalized victims of yesterday's riots. Here and there in the new medina or in the European city Jews appear to be the victims of the constant shooting and clashes between the revolting Arab mob and the military or police forces. (Nellie Benatar's son, who is now serving in the French army, happens to be one of the Commanding Officers in the military detachments which protect the medinas. You can imagine in what state Nellie is.)

During the riots last evening some of the Mellah inhabitants tried to leave the quarter and sought shelter with relatives or friends in the European city. Our feeling and that of our friends in the European city is that there is an imminent danger for the Mellah population. You know very well how this quarter is situated from the geographical and ethnical viewpoint. You can also easily imagine what is bound to happen if more serious clashes occur between the Arab population in the old medina and the protecting forces. It should also be taken into account that in the event of a complete isolation, the Mellah population will find itself surrounded by a revolting mob, the hostility of which towards the Jews has never been questioned and was again illustrated last night. We do not want to create panic but we do want to point out the existence of the danger and the possibility of a disaster.

A few other illustrations of the situation: The U.S. Military Forces of the base have invited by radio all U.S. citizens to report at the base and to stay there until further notice. The Casablanca region is out of bounds for the U.S. Military Forces. Several local staff members did not report to work this morning. The reasons for their absence are easily understood. They live in the Mellah and they apparently have difficulties to go out and fear to go back. Here we want to add that we have asked those staff members who live in exposed areas to use their own judgment and not to report to work should they feel that any danger is involved in their movement.

/...

To: Mr. M.W. Babkolman, Paris

18-7-1955

In the OSE garderie, only some 20 children reported this morning out of 300; 160 out of 1000 children came to the Talmud Torah school this morning. There is no answer to our telephone calls to the Ozar Hatorah school. Last night, the rue des Anglais, which borders the Place de Verdun, one of the entrances to the old medina, was closed up by the military and no movements in and out were possible. This is apparently the reason for the closure of the Ozar Hatorah school. We shall try to find out more details during the day.

Now about the placement of the JDC office and the warehouse. As far as the latter is concerned, the events of last evening have shown that it is placed in a dangerous area. Our warehouse is situated off Bld. de Bordeaux which goes into the Place de Verdun, which was last night a theater of military protective operations, and had there yesterday been any necessity for our going to the warehouse this would have been quite impossible. Although we envisage theoretically the possibility of a total or partial transfer of the goods, one should say that the transfer itself constitutes today a greater danger than letting the goods remain on the spot. Egon visited the warehouse early this morning and issued instructions which according to what one can guess and foresee should constitute some measures of security and protection. Anyway, the order was given to close up the warehouse in case anything happens in that area.

As far as our office is concerned, it seems that it should be safe. However, as you know, it is situated very near the Place de Verdun. Yesterday evening we could see from the roof of our building some scenes of the shootings in the Mellah and occasionally bullets whizzed by. Until anything very grave occurs we do not assume that evacuation will be necessary. From the point of view of possible contacts with the Jewish population, the placement of the office is advantageous.

Concerning our work, we continue as usual with of course all the limitations which the situation warrants. The first step we have taken has been to cancel all field trips and unnecessary travelling in town. Visits to the Mellah or to institutions situated in it are out of question. The impossibility to travel will of course hamper the inspection which we had foreseen for summer programs, but you may believe us, this does not appear to be at the present moment too important considering the danger involved. It is also quite possible that most of the summer programs may die down as a result of the tension.

It is interesting and to some extent painful to state that during the last few days whatever contact has taken place with Jewish leaders was at our own initiative. Nobody has approached us. This, of course, indicates the lack of leadership and is a factor which worries us very much in the present circumstances. We plan to make some contacts this morning, merely to find out what the thinking of our friends is and carefully to give them some suggestions. We say carefully because for reasons which you will well understand we do not want to take any action until and unless we are asked to do so by the responsible local leaders.

/...

MEMORANDUM

CONFIDENTIAL

July 18, 1955

To: Mr. M. W. Beckelmann
From: Charles H. Jordan
Re: Morocco - Tunisia

Mr. Shragai was in town but had made plans to leave tomorrow night for Israel and was unable to wait for you, even though he wanted to talk to you about something very important. He asked me to come over to his hotel and gave me the following message for you:

He came to Paris essentially to go to Morocco, but his several telephone conversations with Amos dissuaded him from going through with this plan. He was advised that he would be unable to establish any useful contacts and that he would have to spend most of his time closeted in his hotel room. He therefore didn't see any utility in going through with his trip. At the same time he has been advised that despite the unrest in the Malleh nothing of any serious nature had yet happened to the Jews which would justify any greater concern than we have anyway.

He has also been in touch with the French authorities and he has been told that they would not apply any restrictions to movement of Jews out of Morocco certainly through the end of August. There are now 3500 passport holders. Mr. Shragai has decided, however, that it is an impossibility for Israel to take advantage of the freedom of movement offered and that they will not be able to emigrate more than 2500 before the end of August. He has also come to the conclusion that the French are so preoccupied with their other more important problems that they will hardly invoke restrictions after the end of August. He is willing to gamble on that.

The more important part of his message concerns something entirely different. Mr. Shragai wants you to know that the Jewish Agency has come to the end of its discussions with the French in Israel. Mr. Sharett agrees that there should be no further effort on the part of the Israelis to continue these discussions, but to leave any further initiative with the French. It has, however, become crystal clear that the French will refuse to tolerate selective family emigration from the villages of Tunisia and Morocco which leaves the social and health cases in these countries. They state that they would like the villages to be cleared, but that the village populations would have to be emigrated in their entirety. Mr. Shragai wants to remind you of the fact that he has been consistently opposed to such a scheme for the reason that he was convinced that the State of Israel should not be called upon to assume such a heavy burden as long as the well-to-do Moroccans remain in Morocco in the larger cities and could well be called upon to do their share. Practical experience has shown the French, however - and he refers particularly to Marrakesh - that the assurances given by the Jewish Agency and which are related to the JDC with regard to the selective emigration policy, are not working.

CONFIDENTIAL

To: Mr. M. W. Beckelman

2.

July 18, 1955

Re: Morocco - Tunisia

Mr. Shragai now feels that the time is coming very close when it will become a matter of an either or proposition. He says that this moment has not yet arrived but that the French attitude is stiffening and that sooner or later he expects them to clamp down and to refuse to permit them a village emigration unless it is non-selective. He says that he can't say this is going to happen tomorrow or the next day but his feeling is that the day is almost at hand.

He wants you to give immediate and serious consideration to his point of view that between the Jewish Agency, the Israel Government and the JDC, one cannot refuse to take advantage of the willingness of the French to let the villages be cleared, even if it must be done on a non-selective basis. The future of the Jews in Tunisia and Morocco is very doubtful one and he feels that one can't afford to take any chances. He feels that this may involve a question of looking after between 4-5000 social and health problem cases out of a total of about 40,000 who could be immigrated in the course of a year, beginning with about October 1. He says that he doesn't even talk about the question of cost, but he states unequivocally that Israel would need the technical assistance of JDC to cope with such a problem.

Mr. Shragai realizes that this is not a matter easily settled; that it may take weeks and months for you to study this with the help of your colleagues, but he is anxious for you to get started on a discussion with him about it and he requests you to make suggestions as to how to do it. He is prepared to come back to Paris at your convenience - after the elections - to carry on these discussions here. Or he is perfectly willing, if you so decide, to sit down with Charlie Passman for a thorough preliminary analysis of the problems which would have to be faced in Israel.

Obviously, I expressed no views and simply assured him I would convey the message to you and that he would hear from you directly or through Charlie Passman.

Charles H. Jordan

CHJ:alr

To: Mr. H.W. Beckelman, Paris

18-7-1955

Last Saturday some 500 people left on aliyah by boat from Casablanca. There are at the moment some 800 people in the camp. There will probably be a stoppage of new arrivals for the time being, although some of our friends in the Agency say that 500 people are scheduled to arrive from Fes today. Nothing definite can be said at this moment about forthcoming departures. Theoretically 600 more people are planned to leave Friday next. Repercussions on movements in view of the military regime are not yet known.

In discussions among ourselves we envisaged the following things to be done in case an emergency arises. Of course there can be no question of anything to be done to influence the political situation and the security position. What might be envisaged in case of an emergency is help in cash and in kind and some medical help in addition to the existing facilities. To the extent possible we are trying to be prepared for such an emergency.

We shall appreciate having your comments on our thinking. We shall try to be in touch with you as often as possible.

Sincerely yours,

I. Kleinbaum

IK:hr
cc: SLH
HK

P.S. Upon a check on the spot it has been revealed that the Ozar Hatorah school is closed and telephone communications have been cut off.

By the way, Mr. Ades left early this morning on a field trip near Rabat, it not having been possible to contact him this morning before his departure. We are a bit concerned but hope he will be back safe and sound tonight.

P.P.S. The latest news from the Mellah indicates a considerable increase of tension. I saw Jules this morning and later this afternoon he, Jacques, Raphael, some members of the community and myself will meet. I shall probably be writing to you tomorrow.

July 19, 1955

CONFIDENTIAL

DIR: 1070

To: Mr. M. W. Beckelman
AJDC PARIS

Re: Political Situation

Dear Mr. Beckelman:

While the latest reports about the general situation in town indicate a lessening of tension as far as the main cause of the troubles is concerned, i.e. the French-Arab issue, news about the situation in the mollah still points to an unusual tension, the main feature of which is pressure on the part of those who live in mixed quarters to get out. Although fortunately nothing tragic has so far happened, there is general agreement that there is an imminent danger of grave events, and sporadic acts of violence confirm this assumption.

There were yesterday long talks with the people about whom I wrote to you, and long discussions took place on all possible means and ways of action. You will easily understand that the practical conclusions to which those people came were less spectacular than the measures theoretically discussed. As a result of the deliberations a delegation presented itself early this afternoon before the Military Governor, who was made aware of all the aspects of the security problem in the mollah. According to the reports from our friends, they were well received and the General expressed understanding for their demands. He also promised to take immediately urgent measures to assure more protection of the quarter. However, this did not prevent many Jews, who since yesterday have been constantly molested by their Arab neighbours, to besiege the community building and to ask for immediate action. The community people could not stand this pressure, and although in yesterday's discussions they were all against approaching the authorities with any scheme of evacuation, they were compelled to do so late this afternoon, and a representative of the Region was sent to the community building in order to get first hand reports from the Jews in the mollah. As a result of this investigation it is reported that about an hour ago (about 5 p.m.) evacuation of families from the exposed areas started, will continue until the curfew hour, and will be resumed again tomorrow morning. They are going to be sheltered in the Talmud Torah building and in one of the Alliance schools. The latter is closed as usual for the vacation period and the former was definitely closed yesterday because no children reported. This definitely creates an emergency situation which we will have to handle, and of course advice from you as to the questions put yesterday would be helpful for our operation.

/...

To: Mr. M.W. Beckelman, Paris

19-7-1955

This afternoon some conversations started between the community and the Agency regarding priority to be given to the mellah of Casablanca in general and to the families living in the exposed areas or evacuated in particular. Our opinion is that while there seems to be readiness on the part of our Agency friends to comply with the community demand, such a scheme would not be implemented in full as long as the selective measures dictated from Jerusalem are in force. The decision as to the execution of part of aliyah on the basis of rescue principles is of course up to the Israeli authorities.

From what we know from our Agency friends, the military authorities seem not to contemplate any restrictions in the aliyah movements.

In view of the fact that much publicity has been given to the fact that Jewish youth has participated in the anti-Arab French demonstrations and in looting of Arab shops, a text of a communique was prepared by Jacques in which the Jewish population disassociates itself from such provocative acts, condemns violence in general, expresses sympathy with the families of all victims and confidence in France, in Grandval and the noble traditions of Moroccan hospitality. I have so far not seen this text published, but I assume that it will be in the papers any minute.

Please know that whatever action is reported in this letter has been taken at the full responsibility of the local leaders and upon their own initiative.

We shall continue to keep you informed on any important developments in the present situation. We are also looking forward to your comments.

Greetings from the entire staff. Incidentally, Mr. Ades is back safe.

Sincerely yours,

IK:hr

I. Kleinbaum

P.S. Unless and until the news about the evacuation is published by other sources, we would advise not to give it publicity for the time being.

July 21, 1955

CONFIDENTIAL

DIR: 1075

To: Mr. M.W. Beckelman
AJDC PARIS

Re: Political Situation

Dear Mr. Beckelman:

Many thanks on behalf of the entire staff for your cable. We appreciated your words the more so as during the past week we have felt somewhat isolated and have not been sure whether the evaluation of the situation made on the spot by ourselves involved in the general tension was correct. Please note that the entire staff has reported during those days normally and has shown a great deal of discipline, understanding and self-restraint. I might mention that Mr. Haber got in touch with us immediately the trouble started and he has been kept au courant all the time.

As of yesterday the situation looked better. In the general French-Arab issue there is a definite relaxation, at least for the time being. Life is almost back to normal in the medinas. However, the situation in the mellah, though substantially improved since the day before yesterday when special security measures were taken by the authorities, is still of concern to both those responsible for order and the Jewish community. During the last week the climax of tension in the mellah after the events of Sunday afternoon was reached during the day of Tuesday. As reported previously, hundreds of people living as a definite minority in the Arab quarters of the medina besieged the community office and demanded help and protection. Then the decision was reached about evacuation with the consent of the authorities. Immediately after this decision had been taken, some differences of opinion arose between the military, which did not favour such a move, and the so-called Controle Civile, which is also now under military rule. The latter did see the necessity of a partial evacuation as it could not stand the pressure of the people. These discussions retarded the evacuation for about 24 hours, and in the meantime the tension in the mellah considerably lessened. In spite of this, yesterday evening, some 500 people from the most exposed areas were transferred to the Talmud Torah School.

The authorities and the community try to carry out this evacuation in an orderly fashion and have established a procedure according to which only persons investigated by the community and furnished with/...

To: Mr. M.W. Bookelman, Paris

21-7-1955

with some sort of a pass from the authorities can be admitted to the assembly place. It will have to be seen whether the number of 500 will be stable, increase or gradually decrease. Although some excitement and feeling of insecurity still prevails in certain sections of the mollah, the people who reported this morning to the community and asked for evacuation could not prove any real danger, and most of them have been rejected. At any rate, both the authorities and the community consider the arrangement as provisional and will do their best provided nothing unexpected will happen to dissolve this residual group in the city. Needless to say that this will not be an easy thing to do.

Egon and I visited this morning the Talmud Torah premises and had a meeting on the spot with several members of the community. It was agreed that a social census would immediately be taken of the people, the majority of whom by the way left this morning for their usual business. It is not excluded that among the group there are some very poor people who will definitely constitute a social problem.

Arrangements made so far call for establishing provisional dormitories and feeding as well as medical supervision and baby feeding. We have so far been asked to supply blankets, a number of mattresses, hygiene articles and to complete the Talmud Torah canteen food stock. We have been able to satisfy this demand immediately. For the moment there is no question of cash relief as this will depend on further developments. Should the question come up, we shall certainly handle it in accordance with your advice, namely within the framework of the plans established with the Council of Communities and the local communities, it being understood that the JDC contributes in addition to other local contributions.

One cannot help seeing the link which exists between the fact that a residual group of mollah people has been established in town and the pressure for aliyah. Negotiations are going on between the community and the Jewish Agency regarding priority to be given to the evacuated people. On the other hand, the community does not want to create among the mollah population the impression that the admission to the assembly center in town is a step towards immediate aliyah. What the Agency has so far done is to promise the community that within the frame of selective emigration measures and with the adoption of a more liberal approach priority will be given to those who lost their homes. The community, however, tries to use the present situation for making strong presentations to the government and municipal authorities for an immediate widening of the scope and accelerating the process of the Jewish habitat. They started conversations with the aim of convincing the authorities that even provisional quarters put at the disposal

To: Mr. M. W. Beckelman, Paris

21-7-1955

of the mellah population on the grounds reserved for the Jewish habitat would be a desirable solution in the present circumstances.

Let me say that the picture of these hundreds of people in the Talmud Torah building is one of distress and helplessness. It is undoubtedly significant that for the first time in the long history of the Casablanca mellah some people have been compelled to leave their homes and to be exposed to the most uncertain future. The two weeks old baby which Egon and I saw this morning lying on tarm rags in the middle of the floor of a huge Talmud Torah class, abandoned during the day by its parents and other adults, was a tragic indication of how early Jewish suffering can begin. We have discussed with the community people all possible measures of order, including the use of the kindergarten and Talmud Torah teachers to supervise the children and the babies.

I must further report on an event which happened yesterday afternoon and which is also an indication of an evolution which is going on in the mellah population. Close to one thousand Jewish youth of the mellah demonstrated yesterday in front of the Charles Finzi Center at the Bd. Regiments Coloniaux. They protested against the lack of security and strongly demanded protection for the mellah population. Some reports say that among the slogans immediate aliyah was requested. A great deal of confusion was created by this Jewish demonstration, may be the first in the history of Moroccan Jewry. A rift immediately occurred between the community leaders and those notables who are rather pro-Zionist. The first accused the latter of having organized the demonstration and tried to throw on to them the entire responsibility for the demonstration, which by the way definitely presented a danger under the prevailing conditions. The community leaders, with the help of the authorities, whose behaviour was one of understanding, correctness and humanity, finally succeeded in convincing the youth to disperse and to go back home. However, the heated discussions between the two groups of leaders as to the demonstration itself and the justification for calling in the authorities went on until the curfew hour. This morning, the excitement seems to have died down. A man like Raphael Benazeref points out that the demonstration has definitely been spontaneous. He is proud of the fact that the young generation of the mellah acts differently from the old one. He sees in the demonstration a sign of a deep evolution among the youth and he is convinced that the human attitude of the authorities was dictated by the same feeling.

The community people have told us this morning that the French are inclined to give publicity to the evacuation of the Jews as a special measure of protection. The Jewish leaders, however, feel that such publicity may endanger the Arab-Jewish relations. For our part I would still be inclined to withhold any release until and unless the story is revealed by other sources.

/...

To: Mr. M.W. Beckelman, Paris

21-7-1955

With regard to the reports by France-Presse on the imminent arrival of a Jewish American delegation about which I talked to you over the phone this morning, I think that any discussion is superfluous as to the inadvisability of such a visit at the present moment.

Let us hope that our further communications will be free of any emergency nature, but should anything important happen we shall not fail to advise you immediately.

With kindest regards from all of us,

Sincerely yours,

I. Kleinbaum

IK:hr
cc: HK
SLH

Copy

CONFIDENTIAL

July 25, 1955 ✓

DIR: 1082

To: Mr. M.W. Beckelman
AJDC PARIS

Re: Political Situation

Dear Mr. Beckelman:

One is somewhat hesitant to sum up at this point the recent events and draw conclusions. However, it is safe to say that a very difficult period has passed, and though anxiety and fear still prevail and are bound to continue for some time to come, there is a temporary relaxation in tension.

When one looks back at the recent events and tries to evaluate the feelings of the Jewish community on the one hand and the attitude of the existing leadership on the other, it seems not to be premature to draw a number of conclusions which may be useful in the future. I should like to emphasize that in doing so I am not only expressing a personal opinion, as I rather want to inform you of certain observations made by different persons, observations which sum up to some sort of a collective thinking on the part of people who live in this country but are not directly involved in Jewish community life.

Before touching on the Jewish aspect of the events, something should be said about the general scene as it has always an important bearing on the Jewish question.

The general feeling is that the recent riots have considerably accelerated the crisis in the Moroccan question which has been expected for a long time. Observers here are convinced that life will not become normal again, to the extent it could be called normal in recent years, until and unless some sort of a solution is found. In other words, there is consensus of opinion that it will be impossible this time to avoid a solution, which unfortunately happened so frequently in the past. The speculations rather center on the nature of the solution than on the fact that some radical steps will be taken. The position here seems to be much more complex and confused than in Tunisia before the famous declaration of Mendes-France. The question of the throne with all the reservations made as to its validity and importance abroad is for those who know Moroccan reality a *conditio sine qua non* for any settlement of the problem, even a partial one. There are many indications which point to the fact that pretty soon an attempt will be made to find a compromise. Although it is difficult to know what the nature of such a compromise will be, one is inclined to assume that a Regency Council is envisaged as a first measure which would satisfy the more moderate Arab circles and allow the French to save face. The presence in Morocco of

1... ✓

Si Bakkai and discussions with him are interpreted as a prelude to the installing of a new Moroccan government, the authority of which would be much stronger than that of the present maghzen, which is nothing more than a fiction. It is also expected that Grandval after his consultations with the various sections of the Moroccan population will propose within the next few weeks a program of important reforms. The nature of those reforms is not known, but the general assumption is that they will contain a considerable amount of autonomy as far as the Arabs are concerned.

The rift among the French colony in Morocco and the violent opposition of its majority against Grandval's action and the present attitude of the Government will no doubt be a serious obstacle for any action envisaged by Paris and Rabat and is bound to have serious repercussions in the French Parliament. This factor may also endanger the position of the present French Government, which for the moment seems to have sufficient support in the Chamber. Experts of the Moroccan problem claim that it will not be Grandval and Faure's Government who will bring about a solution of the Moroccan question. They envisage that re-occurrence of disturbances on a much more serious scale is bound to take place, and it will be up to a future government to remedy the situation.

Another difficulty, maybe the greatest one, is the big questionmark as to whether an agreement with the moderate Arab nationalists will be respected by the extremist group which gains strength and influence daily. Recent events in Marrakech are a clear indication that such a fear is justified.

Some observers attach great importance to the success of the Four Power Conference, as a result of which they want to see interest on the part of the Great Powers in a peaceful settlement of the North African problem. The Jews while anxious and desirous to see peace return to this unfortunate country, do not, however, believe that any of the solutions envisaged would be beneficiary to them too.

Here we come to the evaluation of Jewish feelings and the attitude of Jewish leaders which are the main purpose of this report. While for understandable reasons one cannot go into details, which may be completed on another more suitable occasion, I should only like to give the highlights of such an evaluation.

- (1) The recent events have proven once more that the Jewish community in Morocco definitely lacks a generally recognized and authoritative leadership, ready to take action and responsibility in case of an emergency.
- (2) There are a number of people, not necessarily from among the official leadership, who because of their personal qualities and feeling of solidarity are able to act and to be helpful in difficult moments. However, the majority in this group is made up of Jewish personalities who live in Morocco but are not Moroccan citizens. The overwhelming majority of leaders, both Moroccan and non-Moroccan, did not pass the test during the recent disturbances.

- (3) The official leadership does have a certain influence on the older generation but is completely unpopular and even hated by a great part of the young generation. This stems from the fact that the official leadership has never adopted an attitude which can briefly be called "go into the masses".
- (4) The young generation and particularly the intelligentsia has started to organize themselves in groups, disregarding completely the existence and the activities of the official leadership. Among those groups two main trends can be observed: one which points to a closer link with the majority of the French colony (it is assumed that this is a minority trend), and the other, like in Tunisia, striving at common action with the Arabs.
- (5) There seems to be little hope for a possibility of achieving unity of action among all those who pretend to speak on behalf of the Jewish community.
- (6) Although among the poor masses the pressure for aliyah increases from day to day, none of the leading groups has even mentioned aliyah during the recent events as a total or partial solution.
- (7) It is feared that a dangerous division of opinions and actions may soon develop among the Jewish community leaders and those latter groups, making it impossible to arrive at concerted action, if at all such action will take place and is bound to yield some results.
- (8) Such a situation is of great concern to all those who look at those tens of thousands helpless poor people who on many occasions expressed their bitterness and helplessness in recent weeks.

Work in the office has come back to normal. In the Ta'âmud Torah there are today some 800 people, and it will have to be seen, barring unexpected events, what will be the speed of their return to the mellah. We are continuing to give supplies for this emergency, and so far no question of financial assistance on the part of JDC has arisen.

Should anything important happen, we shall not fail to keep you informed.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

I. Kleinbaum

IK:hr
cc: SLH
HK

t.l.c.

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

PASEO CENARRO, 75
TANGIER

TELEPHONE 29-87
CABLES & TELEGRAMS
JOINTFUND - TANGIER

Mr. Herbert Friedman
c/o AJDC
25 Rue de Besancon
TUNIS (Tunisia)

August 1, 1955

No: 875/-

Dear Mr. Friedman,

I do hope you had a pleasant trip to Tunis and that things in Casablanca were not too rough. There was some movement in this quiet international city to-day, at 12.30 when a Moroccan running right in the center of the old city stabbed down various peaceful passers, between whom a few Jews, an Englishman, and a Frenchman, and when the police got him finally, shooting him, 4-5 persons were left behind dead and others wounded (including 2 Jews dead and 3-4 wounded). The whole town went crazy, specially when in the afternoon another "mad" man stabbed a girl of 20, all shops were closed immediately and there were rumours in the air and shouts of "revolution, war, etc". Later people returned to business and one has to await a day or two, to see what really happened, the first "mad" man was killed by the police, when he "tried to escape"

I promised you to write down 3 points, and hope you will get these lines in Tunis:

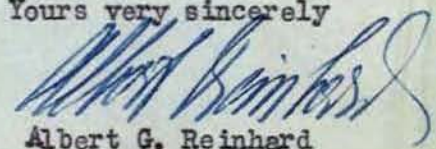
1) One of the problems the Jewish Community in TETUAN would like to resolve as soon as possible, is the question of the HOUSING. The conditions in which the great majority of the Jews live are really deplorable. The Jewish Council thought, that the old premises of the Alliance Israélite (they are moving to a new school) might be adequately arranged to give modern lodgings to some 25 families. Negotiations were started with the Alliance, and Pts 450,000.- were offered to be paid in 15 years. The Alliance accepted the price (which is rather reasonable) but wanted cash. The Jewish Community would be most grateful, if you could intervene with the Alliance, that they accept the payment in instalments as above indicated, the Community not having the funds to pay in another way.

2) Please find enclosed 2 translated copies of letters recently received from students of the "Association d'Aide & l'Enseignement Professionnelle de la Jeunesse Israélite de Tanger," who emigrated to Israel. These pupils had little or no education in schools, and were prepared for an useful job only in the training sections of this Association, subventioned by AJDC. They also learned Hebrew there.

3) You asked the question: "How much more could you use in the Spanish Zone" and my reply was "may be some 10/20 % more that is some \$ 25,000.- per year."

With kindest regards from Mrs. Reinhard, I remain, with best wishes,

Yours very sincerely



Albert G. Reinhard

Enclosures

cc AJDC CASABLANCA

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

PASEO CENARRO. 75

TANGIER

TELEPHONE 29-87

CABLES & TELEGRAMS

JOINTFUND - TANGIER

- 1) letter written by EREBE Mercedes, born in Melilla 1936, living since some 10 years in Tangier, father SCHALOM EREBE, dead, mother Rachel LEVY, 3 brothers and 3 sisters, having left Tangier on the 2.6.55 via Ceuta ss JERUSALEM, a former analphabet, with the "Association d'Aide" etc, since 30.10.1952:

Now: Rechob Asalom, Beit Anteby, Tiberias: 14.7.55.

" To my appreciated teacher Mrs. Esther: I hope that you are in perfect health
" together with your husband. We had a very good time on the boat, and arrived
" well here, my mother, my brothers and I. You know that some of the girls
" were on the boat too. I could not write earlier, as I was very busy sewing.
" I had really no time yet to sit down. You must know, that people have no idea
" how things are here. The Shabat of the rich in Tangier -well that is the
" daily thing here of the poor ones. And there is work and food for everybody,
" 40 times better than in Tangier. What I got formerly during a month,
" I now earn in a week. And there are all good things you might want. Mrs.
" Esther, I am most thankful to you, that you learned me a trade. Which I now
" need. You have no idea how glad my mother is, that I can earn my life and
" help the whole family. We always speak of all of you. Mrs Esther, you must
" not believe people, only when you see things with your proper eyes here. Thank
" Gd, we are much better off here. What a pity we did not go earlier to the
" Saint country. You must know, I now work on a rented machine, but I do hope
" that I will buy one soon, with Gd's help. Mrs. Esther, you must know that
" we went immediately from the ship to Tiberias, where I have family. Other
" girls went much farther, to a place called Neguev. People spoke Hebrew with
" me, and I am feeling happy that I could answer and thanks Gd speak a little.
" Mrs. Esther, my love to Mrs. Lourdes, and all the other teachers. And to the
" girls of my class. And do write soon and receive many kisses, from
" Mercedes".

- 2) letter written by BENGOSI Simon, born 10.8.1939, Tangier, father Elias 52 without any occupation in Tangier, mother Bella Trozman, 2 sisters 3 brothers, left Tangier 2.6.55, now in AKO, Chicun Anidar 161, with the Association since 1954, June, as a macon: written the 13th June 1955:

" My dear friend, I am well, and hope you and your family are well. I had a
" good journey to Israel, 6 days, and we were nicely treated. I do not work
" yet, but friends of mine, who also learned the job with the Professional
" Association, say they immediately got L 7 to start with, per day. That is
" much more I ever earned in my life. I am now painting the house, they gave us.
" my brother Isaac already works. We received 2 rooms, kitchen, shower, WC,
" 12 blankets, and ground. I am glad that I learned the trade, and hope to
" work next week in my profession. Please convey my best regards and thanks to
" the teacher, and to all my friends there. Many of those who learnt the mason-
" ry with Mr. Manuel are here and well off. Please inform the teacher. Hope
" you will write soon, and I will send you a photo of my family, and the place
" we live now. Kindest regards from your friend. Simon."

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

HEADQUARTERS FOR OVERSEAS OPERATIONS

CABLES & TELEGRAMS
JOINTFUND - PARIS

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE
PARIS (VII^e)

TELEPHONE { 87-83
INVALIDES { 87-55
79-37

August 1, 1955.

Rabbi Herbert Friedman
c/o Dr. Giora Josephthal
Jewish Agency for Palestine
P.O. Box 92
Jerusalem

Dear Herbert:

You will recall that you had a hasty look at the enclosed memorandum while you were in my office and asked me to let you have a copy. I am glad to do so herewith.

You are of course free to discuss this with Dr. Josephthal (with whom Mr. Passman will in any event probably be taking this matter up) should you wish to do so.

Sincerely,


M. W. Beckelman

MWB:rk

enclosure

Herbert A. Friedman

Casablanca, August 1, 1955

Dear

Yesterday I dictated a long letter which is being sent to a fairly large group of people, some 600 in number, all over the country. You will receive a copy of it.

This letter is a much more personal one, being sent only to the five of you. In it I will speak much more frankly and openly, because I assume that you will treat this information confidentially. We can discuss it in greater detail when I return.

Some form of Arab independent government is absolutely inevitable and will come soon, in my judgment. I think Grandval is even now preparing a list of concessions which must be made to the Arabs in order to give them a feeling of greater autonomy. Should the French Government in Paris refuse to grant concessions and reforms, I think there will be a series of fierce and bloody outbreaks, which will force the French to do later what they might want to refuse to do now. It is, therefore, everyone's guess that the French will give in quickly. I have spoken with the American Minister at Tangier and the Consuls in Casablanca and Rabat. All three of these senior American officials agree that the French are on the verge of giving in. I am sure they would not want to be quoted. The whole question is as to when this will occur and to which extent the Arabs will be given autonomy. It is not known exactly how far Grandval is prepared to go in giving the right of self government. It is assumed that something will be worked out on the basis of the arrangement in Tunisia, where the Arabs have home rule, which will lead progressively toward eventual complete independence.

Great efforts are being made on the part of the local Jewish Council of Communities, whose Secretary General is a young man by the name of Jacques Dahan, to see what guarantees the Jews can get under the new circumstances of increased Arab autonomy. The Jewish leaders are far from aggressive (I shall have more to say about this later on), but even in their rather timorous manner they feel that they simply must try to obtain some guarantees of equal rights, or else they will be coked.

The pathetic thing is that they are not even sure whether the granting of these rights, if they could be obtained, will amount to anything. If the rights were merely granted by the Arabs, the Jews obviously would have no confidence in them. These rights must therefore be

1...
✓

doubly guaranteed by the French. And even if that very difficult chore were to be worked out, still there exists the feeling that it might simply be a lot of verbiage on paper, with no real substance to it. In other words, a frightened leadership, with no confidence in itself, and with no confidence in Arab justice or French permanence, is trying to get the unjust and/or the transient to guarantee its stability. Even if it succeeds, what does it really have? ✓

Let me talk for a few moments now about the question of the local leadership. This man Dahan seems to me to be a very skilful tight rope walker who accumulates kudos from both the French and the Arabs for the skilful manner in which he commits the Jewish community to neither side. This kind of balancing and juggling is an art in itself, but it simply leaves the Jews successfully suspended in midair. I can certainly understand why he is doing this. On the other hand, such a process provides no moral or inspirational leadership to the masses.

AMERICAN JEWISH

The officials of the Jewish community, without status in this Moslem land, are really afraid to speak out. Their personal safety is at stake, for they are Moroccans and there is no civil law in the land to protect them. Should they criticise the Arabs, they may find themselves in jail. It is hard to believe this, but it is apparently true. There are two or three among them who appear to have some stature. Probably the richest Jew in all Morocco is a man by the name of Raphael Benasereff. He holds no official position in the community, because he is too outspoken. In the days of the rioting he went to the Mellah immediately, as almost no-one else of his status did. He speaks openly and frankly about the facts of life here. Perhaps he can do this because of his great wealth, but even he handles himself very circumspectly. I have had two long talks with him, and he feels that there is only one solution to this problem - i.e. total evacuation.

I had a long talk with Madam Benatar. Two years ago when I spoke with her here, she was more cautious and restrained. She tried to do some of the Dahan type of balancing. Today she is thoroughly and completely committed to a much more activist position. She also urges total evacuation, without too much regard for whether the French or the Arabs will like it or not.

Let me explain what this matter of total evacuation means. It comprises a figure commonly agreed to be 150,000 people from Morocco. This would leave approximately 80,000. It appears to be common opinion that some such number will always remain, to constitute the future permanent population here. This group would consist of those who have the protection of European passports, or sufficient wealth, or properties which have the effect of holding people back from emigration. In other words, no-one contemplates that the total Jewish population down to the last person would move out. The figure of 150,000 includes all of the poorest elements in the mellahs in the various cities; all the exposed people in the distant villages; and even the petit bourgeois and some middle class in the various towns. These are the groupings who will leave .

There is a rapidly increasing sentiment on the part of the people to emigrate. That is understandable, of course, in the face of the recent rioting. Murder and bloodshed always accelerate the desire for escape. But even trying to establish a perspective beyond this immediate mood of terror, I seem to sense that there is a more deeply rooted yearning to get out of this place and go to Israel. There has been no Zionist spade-work done here, and I don't sense any of the European type of idealism involved in aliyah. Yet, on the other hand, there is a growing maturity which causes people to say that they don't want to spend their lives in a land where they are not treated as equals.

If the figure of 150,000 represents the total to be evacuated in some orderly process over some definable period of time, what schedules ought to be arranged? The original figure which Josephthal set of 30,000 will turn out to be true. This encompasses the 12 months from Rosh Hashana 1954 to Rosh Hashana 1955. It is fairly accurate to see now that this will be correct, and the totals will be 24,000 from Morocco and 6,000 from Tunis. If 25,000 a year are to come from Morocco, total evacuation would be a matter of six years, leaving Tunis out for the moment. Should that rate be doubled? Do we honestly have any more than three years in which to do the job? I intend discussing the whole matter with Josephthal in a few weeks.

I want to say in closing that the program of the JDC here is really terrific. First of all, the staff is wonderful and has a way of capturing the confidence of the people. This is terribly important, because, as I said before, the masses do not enjoy any inspiration from their own local leadership. Therefore, the spirit provided by the JDC is all the more necessary. Technically the program is excellent. The prodding and stimulating which the JDC does of other agencies and the municipality results in as much more being accomplished as though the JDC itself were spending extra millions.

I am not so happy with the work of the Jewish Agency, but there is no sense in going into details here. Let me also discuss this with Josephthal.

How shall I try to sum up this whole proposition?

- (1) The country is undoubtedly on the way toward Arab independent rule in some form or other.
- (2) The Jews feel they will have no place under such rule.
- (3) The Jews are nervous, insecure, and also on the move.
- (4) The emigration must be considerably increased in volume and speeded up in time.
- (5) The JDC must be prepared to remain for a long time to work with those who shall stay behind.

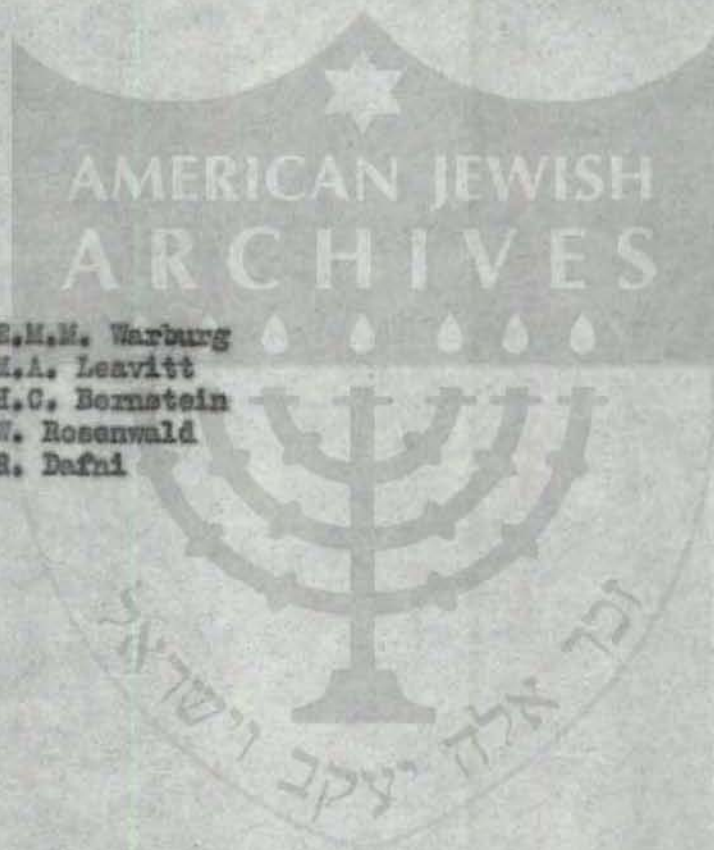
I am sorry if this letter has to be turned out to be burdensome and long, but I wanted to get the main impressions off my chest while they were still fresh. Leaving for Tunis tomorrow.

As ever

Herbert A. Friedman

HAF:hr

To: Mr. E.M.M. Warburg
Mr. M.A. Leavitt
Mr. H.C. Bernstein
Mr. W. Rosenwald
Mr. R. Dafni



Letter # 1 - Casablanca

August 2, 1955

Dear

Casablanca is quiet right now. The city is still under martial law and there is still a curfew in the evening. But there have been no large street riots or demonstrations for the past several days. Individual incidents still occur and there are shootings and bombings each day.

About two weeks ago, when the rioting was at its height, more than a thousand Jews fled to the European city from the Mellah, the Jewish ghetto quarter. They were running from the Arabs. They sought refuge in the Talmud Torah building. I went directly from the airport to see these people. They were really afraid. If we were able to put all of them on a ship to Israel immediately, they would go en masse.

In view of such episodes, the desire to emigrate is increasing. One morning I went down to the port to see a group embark on the "LYAUTEY" for Marseille, for transshipment to Israel. Their baggage was pathetic, tied with thin pieces of string to protect their few belongings. But their faces were eager because the great new adventure was beginning. They were packed in the deepest hold of the ship. My first thought was that this must have been the way my father came to America from Russia fifty years ago in steerage. It was dark and there was much confusion. Children were crying and people were shouting, trying not to lose each other. In the midst of all this I tried to talk to them. I asked one man, who was 43 years old and had ten children, with no occupation at his command, what he hoped to do in Israel. He said he would do any work, even if that meant cleaning lavatories. He wanted to live some place where his children would be safe and where he himself would be treated as a human being. After talking to others, I could see that this was the general feeling.

I have had hours and hours of conferences with people in all spheres of life, including American Consular officials. It has become crystal-clear to me that there is no future for the majority of the Jewish population of Morocco. If I were asked to state the reasons, as simply as possible, I would offer the following four factors: -

(1) Morocco is a theocracy

The Koran governs this land. All non-Moslems are without protection. There are no civil courts and there is no writ of habeas corpus. A Jew has no place in a Moslem theocracy.

over/...

(2) Danger of life

I do not want to say that every Jew is in danger of being murdered, but as one responsible official wrote: "Anarchy, confusion and riots, which are originally directed against someone else, usually include the Jews as scapegoats". There is no danger of a mass pogrom. But there is constant danger of unexpected outbreaks.

(3) Economic displacement

Jews are gradually being squeezed out of the economy and their functions taken over by Arabs. Under an independent Arab government, Jews will find it increasingly impossible to obtain licenses, permits, franchises, which are necessary for doing business.

(4) Existence of the State of Israel

In a camp just outside of Casablanca, where the people wait to go on board the ships, a lovely blond girl of 17, with a spirit of dedication shining from her eyes, said that she saw no reason to waste her life in a country which was not hers. She said that she wanted to join the Israeli army to help defend the land and to build a better life for herself. Her brother, a mechanic aged 25, said that Morocco was not his country. He wanted to go to his country, and even if equal rights were to be given to Jews here, he would not remain. The people feel that Israel is their own and they want to go home.

This boy and girl, like many others I met, are good stock. They are Jews as we are. Their language may be different but the books they study are the same. They know the meaning of Jewish identification and they can be counted upon to struggle for Jewish survival once they are successfully integrated in Israel. I am convinced they are worth saving. I am also convinced that we must increase the tempo of the program which has been developed for them.

The Joint Distribution Committee has done wonders. I really cannot praise it too highly. It teaches, feeds, heals and makes independent. For the first time in Morocco, Jewish youth a few days ago staged a demonstration, in which they raised their voices to the French and Arabs, demanding equal treatment and protection. The JDC had nothing to do with the demonstration, but it was obvious that a new spirit was being born. We Jews of America have reason to be proud if we have in any small measure contributed to this new feeling of independence on their part.

Sincerely yours,

Rabbi, Herbert A. Friedman
Executive Vice-Chairman

P.S. I am writing this in Casablanca but it will be mailed from Paris. We have decided to do this for security reasons. In view of the present tense situation it is perhaps wiser to mail letters to America from Paris rather than from here. I shall write again, either from Tunis or Yugoslavia.

August 2nd, 1955

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
c/o American Joint Distribution Committee
Via Piemonte, 26
Rome, Italy

Dear Herb:

Bill Rosenwald has taken up with me the possibility of giving a certain amount of "publicity" to the dangerous situation of the Jews in North Africa. Bill appreciates that the Israelis, for whatever reasons, do not wish to have the UJA issue press releases and newspaper advertisements on what is happening in North Africa. Bill feels, however, that the UJA could do a lot by direct mail. Letters could be sent, setting forth the situation in North Africa and asking for funds to meet the very urgent needs arising from this situation. The letter can be "hush-hush" in the sense that it would note that this information is of a nature that cannot be played up in the press and that can justify the expense of the mailing.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

Melvin S. Goldstein

MSG:hs

cc: HAY - c/o JDC, Vienna
- c/o Eisenberg, Jerusalem

P.S. Bill suggested that you discuss with the people in Israel the advisability of our sending a "confidential" letter to people about the situation in North Africa.



HOTEL EL MANSOUR

HOTELS SOUS LA MÊME ADMINISTRATION

TANGER EL MINZAH
» HOTEL RIF

EN ESPAGNE

MADRID FENIX
BILBAO CARLTON
EL ESCORIAL... FELIPE II
GRANADA ALHAMBRA PALACE
MALAGA MIRAMAR
SEVILLA MADRID
VALENCIA REINA VICTORIA

AUX ILES CANARIES

SANTA CRUZ DE TENERIFE... MENCEY
PUERTO DE LA CRUZ (TENERIFE)... TAORO
LAS PALMAS (CANARIAS)... PARQUE
» » » SANTA CATALINA

27. AVENUE DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE

TÉLÉGRAMMES : MANSOURHOTEL - TÉLÉPHONE : 650-11

CASABLANCA
August 3, 1955

*First letter
Casa*

Casablanca is quiet right now. The city is still under martial law and there is still a curfew in the evening. But there have been no large street riots or demonstrations for the past several days. Individual incidents still occur and there are shootings and bombings each day.

About two weeks ago, when the rioting was at its height, more than a thousand Jews fled to the European city from the Mellah, the Jewish ghetto quarter. They were running from the Arabs. They sought refuge in the Talmud Torah building. I went directly from the airport to see these people. They were really afraid. If we were able to put all of them on a ship to Israel immediately, they would go en masse.

In view of such episodes, the desire to emigrate is increasing. One morning I went down to the port to see a group embark on the "LYAUTEY" for Marseille, for transshipment to Israel. Their baggage was pathetic, tied with thin pieces of string to protect their few belongings. But their faces were eager because the great new adventure was beginning. They were packed in the deepest hold of the ship. My first thought was that this must have been the way my father came to America from Russia fifty years ago in steerage. It was dark and there was much confusion. Children were crying and people were shouting, trying not to lose each other. In the midst of all this I tried to talk to them. I asked one man, who was 43 years old and had ten children, with no occupation at his command, what he hoped to do in Israel. He said he would do any work, even if that meant cleaning lavatories. He wanted to live some place where his children would be safe and where he himself would be treated as a human being. After talking to others, I could see that this was the general feeling.

I have had hours and hours of conferences with people in all spheres of life, including American Consular officials. It has become crystal-clear to me that there is no future for the majority of the Jewish population of Morocco. If I were asked to state the reasons, as simply as possible, I would offer the following four factors: -

(1) Morocco is a theocracy

The Koran governs this land. All non-Moslems are without protection. There are no civil courts and there is no writ of habeas corpus. A Jew has no place in a Moslem theocracy.

over/...

(2) Danger of life

I do not want to say that every Jew is in danger of being murdered, but as one responsible official wrote: "Anarchy, confusion and riots, which are originally directed against someone else, usually include the Jews as scapegoats". There is no danger of a mass pogrom. But there is constant danger of unexpected outbreaks.

(3) Economic displacement

Jews are gradually being squeezed out of the economy and their functions taken over by Arabs. Under an independent Arab government, Jews will find it increasingly impossible to obtain licenses, permits, franchises, which are necessary for doing business.

(4) Existence of the State of Israel

In a camp just outside of Casablanca, where the people wait to go on board the ships, a lovely blond girl of 17, with a spirit of dedication shining from her eyes, said that she saw no reason to waste her life in a country which was not hers. She said that she wanted to join the Israeli army to help defend the land and to build a better life for herself. Her brother, a mechanic aged 25, said that Morocco was not his country. He wanted to go to his country, and even if equal rights were to be given to Jews here, he would not remain. The people feel that Israel is their own and they want to go home.

This boy and girl, like many others I met, are good stock. They are Jews as we are. Their language may be different but the books they study are the same. They know the meaning of Jewish identification and they can be counted upon to struggle for Jewish survival once they are successfully integrated in Israel. I am convinced they are worth saving. I am also convinced that we must increase the tempo of the program which has been developed for them.

The Joint Distribution Committee has done wonders. I really cannot praise it too highly. It teaches, feeds, heals and makes independent. For the first time in Morocco, Jewish youth a few days ago staged a demonstration, in which they raised their voices to the French and Arabs, demanding equal treatment and protection. The JDC had nothing to do with the demonstration, but it was obvious that a new spirit was being born. We Jews of America have reason to be proud if we have in any small measure contributed to this new feeling of independence on their part.

Sincerely yours,

Herbert A. Friedman

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
Executive Vice-Chairman

P.S. I am writing this in Casablanca but it will be mailed from Paris. We have decided to do this for security reasons. In view of the present tense situation it is perhaps wiser to mail letters to America from Paris rather than from here. I shall write again, either from Tunis or Yugoslavia.

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

HEADQUARTERS FOR OVERSEAS OPERATIONS

CABLES & TELEGRAMS
JOINTFUND - PARIS

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE
PARIS (VII^e)

TELEPHONE { 87-83
INVALIDES { 87-55
79-87

August 10, 1955

Rabbi Herbert Friedman
c/o Dr. Giora Josephthal
Jewish Agency for Palestine
P.O. Box 92
Jerusalem Israel

Dear Herb:

Let me deal first with your second letter about Henry Levy. Immediately upon receiving it I cabled him to say that provided he felt satisfied about the coverage for his post during his absence and would be back in Paris for the country directors conference, JDC would agree to his extending his stay in the United States for the purposes and for the time set forth in your letter. I have just received the following reply:

"Reur 26 informed Friedman prepared undertake limited assignment after discussion with Louis Benett stop Friedman cabled Benett this effect stop arrive New York August 12 will see Benett soonest to arrange itinerary and time schedule then cable you details stop prefer this arrangement for family and job reasons"

Just what this means with respect to the particular dates you had in mind, I do not know but I assume Mr. Levy will work this out with Mr. Benett. In any event, subject to the conditions I have set forth above, any arrangement which you and Henry Levy work out together is satisfactory to me.

I enclose herewith three copies of the statement I have prepared following our discussion in my office on the possible approach that UJA might take in presenting the Moslem countries picture in its campaign. It has grown to be somewhat longer than the oral presentation I made to you because I have incorporated into it suggestions made by some of my colleagues with whom I discussed it as well as certain additional ideas that came to me as a result of the meeting we had here last Friday with the UJA mission of Executive Directors.

I think you will find that in effect you, yourself, have formulated everything I have said in my draft memorandum in the four numbered paragraphs of your August 3rd letter to me. I hope however that the amplified form in which I have put some of these same points may have some utility for your purposes. I am enclosing three copies so that you may share them with other people

...../

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

HEADQUARTERS FOR OVERSEAS OPERATIONS

CABLES & TELEGRAMS
JOINTFUND - PARIS

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE
PARIS (VII^e)

TELEPHONE { 87-83
87-55
INVALIDES { 79-37

- 2 -

August 10, 1955


Rabbi Herbert Friedman

in Israel if you wish, along the lines of our conversation.

Mr. Haber asks me to add that in the light of his own experience during his UJA tour in the United States, he is convinced that there should be no need for abandoning this phase of the program in the UJA campaign presentations even if certain limitations must be put on the manner of that presentation. I agree with him and I believe that properly presented these very limitations may help to create the sense of urgency which is important without at the same time giving rise to the undesirable consequences we are seeking to avoid.

I was sorry to learn of your illness in Zurich and hope that this finds you well, recovered and prepared for the rigors of the Israel phase of your visit.

Sincerely yours,


M. W. Beckelman

MWB:rk

enclosures

See you in October.

MOROCCAN OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION
75-18 WOODSIDE AVENUE
ELMHURST 73, N. Y.
DEFENDER 5-1699

For Immediate release:

Date: August 12, 1955

JEWISH MOROCCANS

In an attempt to discredit the national movement of Morocco, French colonial circles have accused the Moslem population of anti-semitic sentiments towards the Jews. As a matter of fact, no specifically Jewish problem exists in Morocco, where Jewish and Moslem communities have existed side by side for centuries in mutual tolerance, respect and understanding. Both are victims of a colonial regime which has ruled their country since 1912; both are struggling and making sacrifices to bring about their common national aspirations.

There is no justification for the fear that in an independent Morocco the Jews would suffer from discrimination in any form. Jewish Moroccans will be citizens equal both in law and in fact with Moslems. They will enjoy the same rights and will be under the same obligations; their religious liberty will remain untouched.

The greatest service that can be rendered them is to help them do away with the colonial regime which has exploited and repressed them. Morocco is their country, its freedom is their freedom; who helps the Jewish Moroccans helps Moroccan independence.

Ahmed Balafrej
Secretary General of the Istiqlal
Party

2.1

This material is filed with the Department of Justice where the registration statement under the Foreign Agents Registration Act of Moroccan Office of Information and Documentation, 1613 Harvard Dt., Washington, D.C., and 75-18 Woodside Avenue, Elmhurst 73, N.Y. as an agent of the Istiqlal Party of Morocco, is available for public inspection. Registration does not indicate approval or disapproval of this material by the U.S. Government.



ISTIQLAL PARTY OF MOROCCO
(Independence Party)

Moroccan Office of Information and Documentation
75-18 Woodside Avenue
Elmhurst 73, New York
DEfender 5-1699

BACKGROUND ON THE SITUATION OF JEWISH MOROCCANS

The Jews, who found refuge in Morocco from Spanish persecution in the fifteenth century, have never lived in inequality. They have always had complete freedom of worship and independence within their communities regarding courts of justice, police, synagogues, parochial education and the administration of public benefit funds. Never have restrictions of any sort been placed upon them. The right to practice their professions and to engage in commerce, both at home and abroad, was always assured them; at a time when anti-semitism was widespread all over Europe, theirs was a privileged position. Moreover, they were under the special protection of the Sultan, which even today remains the highest distinction a Moroccan can attain. It is noteworthy that Europeans who have wanted to travel freely and with ease in Morocco have disguised themselves as Jews to pass protected and unobserved.

Of extreme significance is the Decree of February 5, 1864, issued by His Majesty Mohammed IV:

"It is our order that all Jews residing in our Empire, regardless of the situation in which the Almighty has placed them, should be treated by our governors, administrators and other subjects in conformity with strict justice; that before our courts of justice they should be on an equal basis with any other person; that not even the slightest injustice may be done them, nor any unmerited treatment accorded them. Neither the authorities nor any other person shall do any harm to Jews, either to their person or their property . . . Because such an injustice is an injustice in the Heavens and we cannot under any circumstances prejudice their rights or those of any other person; our dignity is opposed with all its might to such proceedings. In our eyes, all men have an equal right to ask for justice"

Under the Pétain regime in 1941 and 1942, Jewish Moroccans did not suffer from the discriminatory Nazi laws, the now exiled Sultan, Mohammed

V, being persistently opposed to such proceedings. In turn, the Jewish Moroccans have repeatedly expressed their gratitude for his forceful democratic stand. Jewish Moroccans live side by side with their Moslem countrymen in the same towns, in the same houses, in the same apartments. They are in constant social and commercial contact with each other, carrying on their affairs as true partners.

Colonial propaganda based on the "divide and rule" principle has failed completely to create the myth of Moslem-Jewish animosity in Morocco, just as it has failed to create that of Arab-Berber differences.

Discrimination in Morocco since 1912 is directed against both Jews and Moslems. Neither have civil or political rights, a voice in the government or justice before the law; the French schools and hospitals, although paid for by the Moroccans, are closed to both Moslems and Jews. The administration is impartial in its dislike of Moroccans, whatever their faith; in short, both Jews and Moslems are in the same boat, subject to racial discrimination and colonial repression.

An anti-Jewish campaign was initiated recently by the French colonists, who saw in Pierre Mendès-France and Gilbert Grandval, both of Jewish origin, two forceful and independent men slipping out of their grasp. As reported by the American press, Mr. Grandval was kicked and refused admission to a church by French colonists, who cried: "Dirty Jew, go to your Synagogue!" On the other hand, it is well known that Mr. Grandval was received by the Moroccan population with every mark of sympathy and enthusiasm. Scurrilous tracts against Mendès-France and Grandval have been published and widely distributed by the French colonists, the text of one of which was published by the French newspaper Le Monde (July 23, 1955):

"Europeans of Casablanca:

The renegade Jew, Hirsch-Allendorf, called Grandval, the friend of

Abromivich, called Mendès-France, has come to sell out Morocco as was Tunisia. You have shown them one aspect of your irresistible force ... We ask you to be ready to liberate our second country by force if necessary."

The Jews of Morocco share the same hopes and national aspirations as the Moslems. They stand firm in their advocacy of the return of their Sultan, Mohammed ben Youssef, who, during the darkest and most crucial hours in the history of the Jews and of the world, remained steadfast in their defense. In 1951, when General Juin threatened to depose him, Jewish Moroccans decreed a general prayer on behalf of the Sovereign. Representatives of the Jewish community are among the members of the delegations who have gone to Paris and Rabat to demand the return of the Sultan.

Jewish Moroccans are unswerving in their demands for an end to the colonial regime and the re-establishment of national sovereignty in Morocco. A prominent Jewish Moroccan, Mr. Meyer Toledano, expresses the sentiments of his co-religionists in these terms (Maroc Presse, July 22, 1955):

"The Moroccan Jews have anxiously followed the trend of Moroccan affairs since 1950. They love their country and are grieved to see it troubled. Quiet and apparently indifferent, they are nevertheless disturbed by the daily events between the French and the Moroccans.

"The Moroccan Jews know that their ancestors, exiled from Spain, found refuge in this country in the fifteenth century. They also know that their life in Morocco has been generally untroubled. In comparison with the fate of the Jews in Europe during the Middle Ages, the Moroccan Jews did not suffer because of their faith; in fact, it has been respected by the Moslems . . .

"They also know that in 1940-1942 the Moslems made no attempt to harm them or even to deprive them of their property, refusing to take advantage of the anti-semitic decrees of the Vichy government. The Moslems could have harmed them without fear of punishment . . .

"The banishment of the Sultan in August, 1953, marked, for them, a day of mourning . . .

"Some ill-advised Frenchmen have spread injustice and terror in Morocco these past few years . . .

"The Jews of Morocco are convinced of the necessity of ties between France and Morocco, but they are likewise convinced that the Moroccan people have now come of age and are ready to conduct their own affairs."

Hotel Sacher
Wien I, Philharmonikerstrasse 4

August 12, 1955.

Dear Herb,

From Morocco I flew across North Africa to Tunisia, a country in which 100,000 Jews live amidst 3,500,000 Arabs. There is no mood of tension or terror as exists in Morocco. I would not say there was even any serious physical danger. But there is, nevertheless, a very strong and increasing desire on the part of most of the people to leave the country and emigrate to Israel. In all of last year, 700 left. Now the rate is 700 per month.

Luckily for me, on the day I arrived in Tunis, there happened to be a meeting of the presidents and leaders of all Jewish communities in the country. I had an unusual opportunity to hear a total cross-section of opinion from the largest cities down to the tiniest isolated villages. The Grand Rabbi of the island of Djerba was pointed out and I was eager to speak with him. He has a lovely face, a long white beard, and centuries of rabbinical ancestors. Djerba has been occupied by Jews continuously since the destruction of the first Temple twenty-five hundred years ago. The Grand Rabbi, Shushan Cohen, said he and his people now wanted to leave. This was quite amazing, because they knew they would be destroying a chapter of history if they liquidated the island. And yet he said they did not feel secure about the future and they wanted to go home. For twenty-five hundred years Djerba was still not home.

There are three main reasons why the people want to leave :

1. Fear, insecurity, apprehension about the future, as the Arabs obtain their rights to self-government from the French.
2. Economic squeeze which is resulting from the new slogan "Arabs trade only with Arabs."
3. Good news from Israel, which is trickling back to those whose relatives have already gone ahead and are now reporting back the good tidings about a free life.

The JDC has developed a wonderful program here. Trachoma, tinea, and TB (which I call the Three Terrible T's of North Africa) are slowly being controlled through an extensive medical program. I saw cartons of cheese and butter being distributed, children being fed, teachers being trained, advice being given. It was heartening to know that all this was possible. Those who are emigrating to Israel are going much sounder in body and in spirit as a result of what is being done for them.

over/.....

So, here again in Tunisia, I saw the successful double program of JDC giving assistance inside the country and the Jewish agency helping to emigrate large numbers outside the country - to Israel.

From the hot, backward, poor North African land, I flew northward to Rome and spent a few days discussing the situation of Italian Jewry. There are about 35,000 Jews in Italy of whom 12,000 live in Rome. Roman Jewry is on the whole quite poor and there is an extensive ghetto section in which extreme overcrowding and poverty are apparent. New housing for approximately 400 families is a real necessity.

The JDC works closely with the Union of Italian Jewish Communities and makes its subventions and grants to various organizations through that body. The Union tries to get Italian Jews and the Italian Government to match the help brought in by the JDC from American Jewry. Very often this is successful so that, for instance The ORT schools and the OSE clinics are the beneficiaries of more Italian money than American. This is very good, for it develops a factor of independence on the part of the local agencies and committees. In the long run, the very best we can do for any overseas Jewish community is to help put it on its own feet as quickly as possible.

A new youth center is being constructed in the basement of the Great Synagogue in Rome - and for the first time the young people will have a place where they can hear lectures, enjoy concerts, participate in discussions on Jewish subjects. Such a center, while common in America, is almost unheard of in Europe. From this center there will emanate an influence which will keep alive the Jewish spirit among the next generation.

In line with this, there is a need for a Jewish secondary school in Rome. All education in Italy is Catholic and the Jewish community must create its own schools. So far there are only primary grades. It is obvious that there should be further opportunities for study in Jewish or general subjects. This matter of a secondary school has the Union officers worried because they do not have the funds. And yet they see the need.

The one key question I asked concerned the future of Italian Jewry and I was assured that progress had been made in the last ten years and would continue to be made. There is no doubt that this community will survive and improve, as it works its way, with our help, toward self-support.

Sincerely yours,

Herb

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
Executive Vice-Chairman



August 18, 1955

After finishing in North Africa and Europe, I came to Israel. My last trip was almost two years ago, and I was prepared for changes. But what met the eye was really startling. There are so many new houses, new villages, new gas stations and new people that even an old visitor must catch his breath. Without being able to describe everything happening here, let me say that the strongest single impression is one of new immigrants being made useful and empty land being filled with crops and settlements. The reclaiming of people and land is the story of Israel in one sentence.

Yesterday I visited several hospitals and old folks homes of Malben (the name under which the JDC operates in Israel). Thousands of social cases — chronically ill, paraplegic, sclerotic, cerebral palsied, paralytic — are being slowly nurtured back to maximum rehabilitation. If Malben were not doing this, there would be a crushing burden on the government. Additional thousands of old folks are being enabled to lead dignified lives in pleasant surroundings. At one home in Givat Hashlosha sheltering 500 old people, more than 400 gladly assumed simple chores and duties which keep them busy and earn for them a few pounds of pocket money each month. This gives them a sense of usefulness and self-respect.

There is a perfectly marvelous program of sheltered workshops in which handicapped persons are retrained and employed under constant medical vigilance. I saw hundreds working in carpentry shops and metal shops. Some of the most beautiful furniture in the newest hotel in the country was made in one of these workshops.

In a hospital at Mahane Israel I saw a girl who had come from Iraq four years ago, literally unable to walk and crawling on all fours. Her name is Fortuna, and now, after several operations, good fortune is really beginning to smile on her. She wears heavy orthopedic shoes but at least walks upright. She kept saying "Toda l'Elohim v'toda l'Malben (Thanks to God and thanks to Malben)."

All of this comes under the heading of reclaiming people and making them useful citizens in a new country where every pair of hands is needed. Our money spent in this fashion can really give us great satisfaction.

Today I stood in the midst of a great green field containing a thousand acres of cotton. I have one of the fluffy white pods on the table in front of me as I write. Out there under the hot Negev sun this afternoon, looking at the green and white, so different from the parched brown of previous years, I could only think of the miracle of birth. Give sweet water to thirsty soil, apply dedicated hands, and new life comes forth.

On the way to the Negev, an official of the Jewish Agency Colonization Department explained that he was going to show us something new. He said that food was now plentiful in the land. The new emphasis is on industrial crops. With great enthusiasm he pointed out the really extensive fields of cotton, sorghum, peanuts and sugar beets.

At the end of the journey, deep in the Negev, we stood together at the huge concrete reservoir marking the terminus of the Yarkon-Negev pipeline. It holds a million cubic meters of water. Looking out over the desert surrounding us, he predicted that these industrial crops would soon cover the sand now that the water was available. It was hard to believe, but they have always done the unbelievable in this country.

There is another aspect to the question of filling the Northern Negev with crops and settlements. That is the aspect of security. Empty land is always an invitation to a potential aggressor. The Northern Negev lies uncomfortably close to the Egyptian-held Gaza strip. Once it is filled with people, farm machinery and homes, everyone will realize that it is less vulnerable.

I have had several conversations so far with Mr. Ben-Gurion, Mr. Eshkol and others. Most of these talks have had to do with the question of immigration from North Africa, concerning which I have written to you previously. There is no doubt that a larger immigration is in the offing. There is also no doubt that this will again wreak havoc with Israel's economy. How do you match the human needs of North African Jewry against the economic needs of the State of Israel for stability? In the past Israel has always answered this question by giving priority to human needs. Her leading officials are prepared to do so again, but they are worried.

I have several more days of conferences and visits. Then I shall write again, summing up all my impressions.

Sincerely Yours,

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman,
Executive Vice-Chairman.

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

Office for Morocco

Casablanca

August 23, 1955

DIR:1127

To: Mr. Herbert Katzki
AJDC PARIS

Re: Political Situation - Mazagan

I wrote you yesterday on Mazagan and the developments in that community and indicated that Mr. Laufer and Mr. Feintuch were going to Mazagan to study the situation at first hand. At the same time we sent a truckload of supplies (largely USDA), which arrived while Mr. Feintuch and Mr. Laufer were in the town.

Having now received a more complete report on the developments there, I shall succinctly state the more important items for your general information.

On Saturday afternoon, one house in the Jewish quarter (you know of course that actually there is no mellah as such in Mazagan) was attacked by a few Arabs and burnt. The occupant of this house, a father of 11 children, fled and no harm was inflicted on any member of the family. Shortly thereafter, this group of Arabs proceeded to the Alliance school, where the Aide Scolaire is conducting a summer camp for 100 girls from Casablanca. Apparently aware of what had been happening, the counsellors took the children on the second floor and remained very quietly as the Arabs approached the school. Some damage was perpetrated by the Arabs, however no-one was injured in this incident. Immediately after this incident, the 100 children were evacuated from the Alliance school to the French school, which is located in the European quarter. This is what happened on Saturday afternoon.

As a result, the psychological atmosphere in the Jewish quarter was such that by Saturday evening there began a general evacuation of the Jewish quarter. At the beginning the Jews thought that they would be able to be put up at the Alliance Circle des Anciennes Eleves, but discovered that the place was much too small, inasmuch as 1500 people were involved in need to find shelter. Instead, therefore, of occupying this building, they went to the Controleur Civil and asked for permission to move into the salle de sports municipale. After some delay and hesitation on the part of the Controleur Civil, permission was granted and 1500 people have found shelter in this building since Saturday night.

To: Mr. H. Katzki, Paris

23-8-1955

Of the 3000 Jews in Mazagan, about 2000 live in the Jewish quarter and 1000 in the European section. These figures may not be exact but give you the general picture. Five hundred Jews, who live in the Jewish quarter, were housed by Jews living in the European section, and I am told by Mr. Laufer that in many cases considerable numbers of Jews were taken in by individual families.

On Sunday the real fireworks began. Bands of Arabs, in many cases led by women (this is a repetition of the incidents in the Casablanca mellah of the July 14 days) roamed through the Jewish quarter, pillaging and burning. Although I indicated yesterday that 30 houses were burnt, Mr. Laufer tells me that the information he has is actually 26. The destruction, however, was considerable, and many families have been left absolutely without any possessions of any kind.

It is interesting here to note that during the entire occurrence of both Saturday and Sunday, the French authorities were completely helpless. The local police obviously could not cope, nor did they attempt to, with large mobs of marauding Arabs. The army, on the other hand, was conspicuous by its absence, and both Feintuch and Laufer tell me that on Monday evening, when they were leaving Mazagan (at 5 p.m.) they saw for the first time soldiers entering the city. So that in effect during the entire weekend the Jewish quarter was helpless and unprotected, and perhaps I should here say parenthetically, both from the French and the so-called leaders of the community.

Mr. Laufer and Mr. Feintuch visited the sports hall in which the 1500 people are living and found, as you well may imagine, a very deplorable picture. While our food supplies were most welcome and our representatives were told that the Joint is always first on the spot in case of trouble, they requested blankets as a very important item. During my talk with Mr. Dahan in the morning, he had indicated that blankets were not needed, and only for that reason did I refrain from including blankets in our truckload. We will, however, arrange for a shipment of blankets probably this morning.

Yesterday, a repetition of the Mazagan incident - I believe at this point on a smaller scale - took place in the town of Safi which, as you know, is directly south of Mazagan. I enclose for your information a clipping from the Vigie Marocaine of Yesterday's date, (also of today) which tells you the story, and actually at this point I don't know much more than what is written here.

I hope to have an opportunity to meet Mr. Dahan before he leaves for Aix-Les-Bains and to point out to him that in the future we intend to operate this thing a little bit different than we have done up to now. I am sure you will recall one of Mr. Kleinbaum's earlier letters to Mr. Beckelman on the developments of the July 14 days, in which he pointed out that the JDC took the initiative and called together the leaders, and that actually he found that no-one of the people with whom we work daily in the different organizations had indicated any interest - at least as far as getting in touch with us was concerned. In the case

/....

23-8-1955

To: Mr. H. Katzki, Paris

of Mazagan, the Conseil had not been there, and in fact Mr. Laufer and Mr. Feintuch were the first people to walk into certain areas of the Jewish quarter, as some of the local leaders themselves had been afraid to go there. I intend therefore to say to Mr. Dahan that in the future, while the JDC is willing to be helpful, we will do so only if the Conseil has representatives who go to the trouble spots, make an on the spot study, and then together with us work out plans for assistance. It is not sufficient, it seems to me, for Dahan to sit safely in Rabat, and on the basis of a telephone call from Mazagan to telephone us and then for me, perhaps impulsively, send two of my colleagues into an area where conceivably there could have been trouble. We are willing to take our risks, but I do not think that we should be in the forefront of such events. Fundamentally, it is the Conseil's responsibility, to which we are merely a supplementary arm. This is for your confidential information and obviously not to be repeated, certainly not to any of the Moroccan people whom you know.

As of now, we have not been asked for any funds, but I am sure that this will come too. Here I should again say that we will emphasize to Mr. Dahan that the first and basic responsibility is that of the French authorities, who are after all responsible for the problem.

Samuel L. Haber

SLH:hr

enc.

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

OFFICE FOR MOROCCO

Casablanca

August 26, 1955

DIR: 1139

To: Mr. H. Katzki
AJDC PARIS

RE: Report on recent incidents.

Further to my letters of August 22 and 23 in which I reported to you on the incidents in Mazagan, I wish to bring you up to date on the developments as far as Jewish communities are concerned which were involved in the incidents during the past week. The incidents, so far as we are informed, which involved Jews took place in the communities of Mazagan, Safi, Oued-Zem and Ouezzane.

With the exception of Oued-Zem, in which our reports indicate that three Jews were killed, there were no casualties in any of the other communities. Most of the Jews, including those in Oued-Zem, were removed into the European quarters or safer areas in the mellahs before the actual attacks took place on the Jewish areas.

Mazagan - There is nothing further to report on Mazagan, except that the information which has just reached us indicates that the 1500 Jews who have been lodged in the gymnasium started to return to their quarters late yesterday afternoon. However, a further alarm and fear spread throughout the quarter, and groups began to go back to the gymnasium. We sent to Mazagan, as previously indicated, a substantial amount of USDA and other supplies as well as a quantity of blankets. Furthermore, OSE complied with the request for sending an assistant sociale and a nurse as well as medicaments.

Safi - Some 500 Jews were evacuated from the mellah, and a request directed to us and to the Conseil was followed with a check for Frs. 200,000 from the Conseil and Frs. 100,000 from us, as well as a supply for 300 children of milk, sugar, cheese and other supplies. There was considerable damage to a number of Jewish homes and stores.

Oued-Zem - I have sent Mr. Laufer today on an inspection tour (together with Hal Lehrman) of the areas which were most affected in last week's riots, i.e. Oued-Zem, Khenifra and Khouribga. So far as our information goes, three Jews are dead in Oued-Zem and the entire community of 250 people was removed from the Jewish quarter and housed under military protection. Ten stores were pillaged and seven homes were burnt. I have given to Mr. Laufer two checks, each in the amount of Frs. 100,000, which he can turn over to the community during his visit today on his discretion. The Conseil has sent a check for Frs. 200,000 for immediate relief.

/....

26-8-1955

Mr. H. Katzki

Quezzane - Seventy families comprising 300 Jews who lived in the medina were moved from their homes and brought into the mellah. These Jews had lived in the medina, and the tension which existed indicated the advisability of their immediate removal.

While there were no casualties, we are informed that ten Jewish stores and 15 houses were burnt, and the community telephoned us for immediate assistance in order to relieve the need of these 300 people. We are sending a check this morning of Frs. 100,000 and are awaiting a more complete report on the developments in the town. The President of the community estimates that 50 million francs damage was done to Jewish property. We will keep you informed on further developments.

As you probably know, on Wednesday evening there departed from here a delegation of four people, including Dr. Benzaquen, Mr. Albert Levy (Casablanca), Mr. Benabou (Port Lyautey) and Jacques Dahan for Aix-les-Bains for discussions with the authorities of the Jewish problem in relation to whatever regime may follow as a result of the discussions taking place at Aix.

Samuel L. Haber

SLH:hr

P.S. I talked with Mr. Sam Nahon in the absence of Mr. Dahan, and he informed me that the funds which are being used for the emergency assistance come from an original allocation of ten million francs which were to have been used for the liquidation of the villages.

29th Aug. 1955

Office of the Executive
P. O. Box 92
Jerusalem

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
Executive Vice Chairman
United Jewish Appeal,
New York.

Dear Herb,

I want to give you the initial facts about the large new immigration with which we are faced. To handle this will require great effort and imagination. I want you to do your best.

1. During the past year (August 1954 - August 1955), some 32,000 persons immigrated to Israel, including approximately 18,000 from Morocco and approximately 7,000 from Tunisia, Algeria and Tangiers.

2. In view of recent developments in North Africa, the Jewish Agency have decided to increase the total number of immigrants to 45,000 for the year 5716 (1. Oct. 1955 - 30 Sept. 56). Of these 45,000, at least 40,000 are to come from North Africa, including not less than 36,000 from Morocco (instead of 18,000 last year).

After the disturbances of August 20th we decided we would bring 10,000 Jews from Morocco during the months of October and November 1955.

3. The initial absorption of a family of five requires an amount of \$5,000. Initial absorption comprises: passage to Israel, living accommodation, employment ensuring a minimum livelihood for the immigrant and his family for one year, and minimum educational and health services.

The breakdown of the amount of \$5,000 is as follows:

passage to Israel for the family.....	\$ 650
initial equipment (household effects)	
and health services	\$ 350
housing (provided that half consists	
of wooden structures). This amount includes	
also the most essential public buildings,	
such as synagogue, kindergarten, school, clinic	
and general store...	\$2500
employment	\$1500

Total...	<u>\$5000</u>
----------	---------------

The initial absorption of one person thus requires an amount of \$1,000.

4. The Jewish Agency appeals to American Jewry to place at its disposal the \$1,000 required for initial absorption for each of 45,000 persons i.e. \$45,000,000.

Our income from other sources (Keren Hayesod outside the USA, Heirless Property, Reparations) is not sufficient even to fulfil our obligations to existing settlements, to children being educated in our institutions and for the upkeep of the Ma'abarot. UJA allocations have to cover at least another \$20,000,000 for those purposes, i.e. altogether \$65 million.

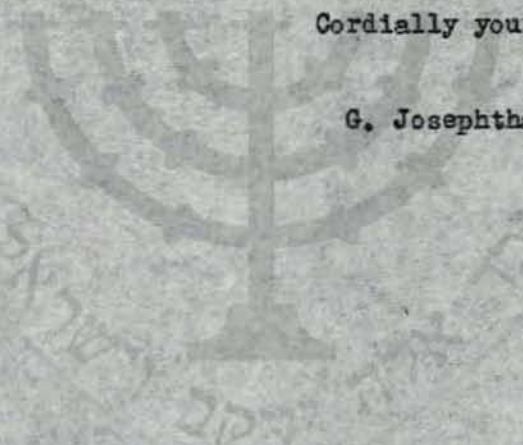
After deduction of administrative and other expenses, the UJA allotment in the U.S. last year was \$50,000,000 divided between the Jewish Agency (2/3, i.e. roughly \$34,000,000) and the AJDC (1/3 i.e. roughly \$16,000,000).

5. A system of quotas should be worked out for all the Jewish communities in the U.S.A and the increases above the present allocations to the Jewish Agency should serve only immigration of North African Jews to Israel, and their absorption here.

With best wishes and kind regards,

Cordially yours,

G. Josephthal



Aug. 29, 1955

Mr. Edward M. Warburg,
President
American Joint Distribution Committee,
270 Madison Ave.
New York

Dear Eddie,

I wish you could have been present at our discussions during the last few weeks on the North African situation, and could have listened to the North African delegates, and to our representatives who came from Morocco just after the riots and massacre of August 20th.

We really felt that we had not done our duty during last year, and even an increased immigration programme of 45,000 immigrants for the coming year will hardly meet the situation. What we did was too little and too late.

The financial problems connected with increased immigration seem to be insurmountable. The country is once more in imminent danger of inflation. And on the other hand we know that we dare not repeat the tent and immigrant camp period, which meant a waste of money and the demoralisation of the immigrants during the initial period after their arrival. In our present political situation we cannot afford to create the additional internal tension and disaffection necessarily connected with the absorption of immigrants in tents and Maabarot. If then we are to provide a more humane and a more productive form of absorption, it means that we must erect houses - at least wooden structures - and to see to the immediate employment or settlement of the newcomers.

This involves a financial burden which cannot be carried by the State and the Jewish Agency from their present sources of income.

During the recent years of close cooperation between the JDC and ourselves, I have come to feel that we are united in our aims, and this gives me the courage to ask you and the JDC once more to share with us the additional burden Israel is forced to take upon herself.

I really feel that at a time when the Jewish Agency has to take a tremendous additional task upon itself, and the JDC programme is not in need of extension, indeed in Europe, may even be declining, we should think together about a new proposal for UJA allocations at least for the next year.

I want to outline to you my proposal and ask you to consider it with an open mind:

1. Up to the present the UJA allocations have been divided as follows: up to an income of \$55,000,000 the JDC received 1/3 and the Jewish Agency 2/3, after deduction of the administrative expenses and the NYANA budget. From sums above \$55,000,000 of UJA income, the JDC receives 12 1/2% and the Jewish Agency 87 1/2%.

My proposal now is that from UJA income up to \$30,000,000 JDC should get 1/3 and the Jewish Agency 2/3. From \$30,000,000 up to \$55,000,000 the JDC should get 12 1/2% and the Agency 87 1/2%. Sums above \$55,000,000 UJA income, should go 100% to the Jewish Agency.

2. As an alternative proposal I would ask you to consider the participation of the JDC in transportation costs from North Africa to the extent of \$6,000,000 during the year 1956.

It is not my intention at all to change, in principle, the distribution of funds between the JDC and the Agency. I simply think that the present emergency situation justifies a reconsideration of the distribution for at least the coming year.

Under the influence of the decision to take 10,000 immigrants from Morocco during October and November this year, I have already sent a cable to Moe Leavitt asking him to delay the reimbursement due to JDC on account of the Refunding Loan until the beginning of 1956.

I just don't know how to handle the present situation if I will be without a substantially increased dollar income in the coming few months.

You know, dear Eddie, that I would not appeal to you if we did not feel moved to proceed to every extremity in this most critical time.

Most cordially yours,

G. Josephthal

P.S. I am asking Herb. Friedman to take this letter with him.

Copy: Moe Leavitt.



מלון מגידו
Hotel Megiddo
בית טכטש בניה. מלון טלשך הוסטל

ח'יפה תל-הרכוסת ת.ר. 2055
HAIFA, MT. CARMEL P.O. B. 2055
טל. 3639 3639 ט.כ.
CABLE ADDRESS: MEGIDHOTEL, HAIFA

Aug. 29, 1955

I had wanted to write this last letter in a calm and orderly fashion. But the headlines from Morocco grew bigger and blacker each day. Virtually the entire population of Israel, from highest official to lowest laborer, has been thinking about the fate of North African Jewry. A great argument is raging. How many new immigrants can be taken in and how quickly? There have been marching demonstrators in the streets almost every day during the past week, urging open immigration.

This overpowering fact of North Africa should always remain at the back of your mind as you consider the following major conclusions:

(1) Technical progress is substantial.

One of the greatest thrills of the entire trip came when I visited a jet plane base somewhere in Israel. The whistling planes circled the countryside in quick, flashing maneuvers, and the ground crews looked skyward with pride. The Commander of the field is a 31-year-old Colonel bearing one of the country's most illustrious names. He has been flying for 14 years, in the RAF and the Israel Air Force. To me the most remarkable fact about the base was that all of his jet pilots were native-born Israelis trained in this country. They were handling hot equipment with the customary cockiness of the Sabra.

This technical progress was obvious not only in the realm of mechanical things such as aircraft but also in the whole field of social planning. The ship-to-settlement program, for example, is perfectly amazing in the skillfulness with which it is executed. Trucks are at the dock at Haifa when the ship carrying new immigrants arrives; within hours the newcomers are at the new settlement in the Lachish (or any other) area where a planning officer is ready with a list of housing assignments; a ten-day stock of food is in the cupboard; all supplies, ranging from beds to a kerosene cooking stove, are already in place; farming implements are waiting to be used. All of this requires coordinated planning of the most advanced kind. I do not think this would have been possible in Israel seven years ago. Today it is accepted as the normal standard of operation.

(2) An inflationary trend is beginning.

Without going into all of the economic details, it is painfully apparent that the country is faced with an inflationary trend. Prices are going up slowly but steadily and therefore wages are going up, even though the government is trying to hold the line. When I expressed concern about this to one of the officials of the American Embassy, he said that the constantly expanding economy of any new country must always be inflationary. It would not necessarily be so serious if there were not this impending new immigration. The counter-inflationary measure is to absorb the new people into the new settlements and make them productive as quickly as possible instead of leaving them for unproductive periods of time in transit camps.

(3) Pressure from North Africa is mounting.

I spoke at the very beginning about marching demonstrators. These parades have been orderly but firm. The slogans shouted in the streets could be heard inside the committee rooms where officials were struggling with the question of absorption and financing. The man on the street, himself a recent immigrant, was pleading for the Jew in a distant land. The man in the committee room was struggling with the financial facts of life. On the streets there were shouts of setting up an "illegal immigration," such as in the old days of British rule. In the offices there were grim smiles at the irony of such suggestions.

This past year 30,000 have been received from North Africa. The government and the Jewish Agency are both in debt on this problem because not enough funds were supplied from abroad. For the year ahead a figure of 45,000 has been tentatively agreed upon. Obviously, if pogrom situations develop, that number will be vastly increased. But even that number represents staggering financial burdens.

(4) Sources of funds must be increased.

Fortyfive thousand new immigrants do not appear to be many when compared to the 750,000 taken in during the past seven years. On the other hand, during those years several new sources of income were developed. The Bond Drive was conceived; Grants-in-Aid were voted by Congress; the German Reparations schedule was evolved. All of these have helped in various ways to set the country on the road to self-sufficiency. A new large immigration now, without a corresponding new source of revenue, represents a terrific problem. There is not a single individual in this country who would close the door in the face of a single Jew in need. Yet this is sheer bravado unless the Jew in America is also willing to share in this problem. We, in the UJA, must face this fact squarely and we simply must rise to this occasion.

The American Ambassador to Israel, the Hon. Edward Lawson, said in our conversation, "The trouble with Israel is that she always manages to do the impossible. Everyone therefore takes the impossible for granted."

The American Foreign Operations Chief, Dr. Lincoln Hale, told me that "if any other government ever had to resettle lots of people, it should come here and hire the leadership. These Israelis can do anything."

The two senior American officials in this country were expressing their admiration for Israel. The words were good to hear, and from them we can draw both pride and challenge.

Sincerely Yours,

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman,
Executive Vice-Chairman

Bulletin No. 271

Moroccan Leaders Pledge Full
Rights for Jews.

Geneva, August 28th. (JTA)

World Jewish Congress officials today concluded a weekend round of negotiations with French and Moroccan leaders at Aix-les-Bains, across the lake from here, on the fate of Moroccan Jews.

During the lengthy consultations, the WJC leaders were given most "equivocal assurances" that in an autonomous Morocco, the Jewish population would receive full rights. The Moroccan leaders, according to a WJC source, said they would give these guarantees in conformity with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The talks between Moslem and Jewish leaders were held in a cordial atmosphere and the Moroccan leaders showed full understanding of Jewish concern that extremism might get out of hand and take a heavy toll of Jewish lives.

Representing the WJC were A. L. Easterman and Dr. Maurice L. Perlzweig, its political directors, Pierre Dreyfus-Schmidt of the Paris Office, and Meyer Toledano of Casablanca. They met with Si Bekkai, a former pasha and French officer, who is tipped as likely candidate to preside over the Regency Council if and when it is formed, and with leaders of the Istiqlal and National Democratic Party.

French Lauded.

Paris:

Action of the French Government in inviting representatives of the Jews of Morocco to participate in the discussions held last week at Aix-les-Bains on the future relationship between France and that country, was hailed on Friday by the European office of the American Jewish Committee as "a major step forward in recognition of the rights of Moroccan Jews to have a voice in helping to determine their future."

By this act, official recognition was given to the fact that, in addition to the Moslem and French populations, there was another sizeable group in Morocco whose vital interests were involved in the negotiations and whose future existence depended on the status it would be granted in any new arrangement between France and Morocco, the statement said.

Bulletin No. 270

"Illegal Immigration" Threat.

Jerusalem:

A threat of "illegal" immigration from North Africa if any limit is placed on the number brought into Israel was voiced during the Actions Committee debate today by Chief Rabbi Fingerhut of Algiers speaking in the name of all North African delegates.

Replying to this threat, Levi Eshkol, in his capacity as director of the Jewish Agency's settlement department, said it was not just a matter of limiting immigration; the plain truth was that to bring in 100,000 Jews required, for the initial costs alone, an expenditure of I£ 150,000,000, and this was apart from settlement costs.

At the moment, Mr. Eshkol added, there were not even sufficient funds to pay the transportation costs. He suggested that 250,000 of the 2,000,000 Shekel holders should be found who were willing to add at least \$100 each to their donations to assist the immigration of North African Jews.

The Slaughterer Waits.

Veteran Zionist Zerubavel called on the Committee not to wait one moment longer before starting the emergency transfer of North African Jews to Israel. "Remember that the slaughterer always stands ready with his knife," Zerubavel warned.

ACTIONS COMMITTEE: SPEAKERS PRESS
FOR EFFORTS TO RESCUE N.AFRICAN JEWRY.

Jerusalem, August 24th. (JTA)

Discussion on Jewish immigration from North Africa was continued at this afternoon's session of the Zionist General Council. Andre Blumel, President of the Zionist Federation of France, drew the Council's attention to the fact that the French Government had on numerous occasions stated that Moroccan Jews would be given protection. While those declarations might be honoured, he said, the situation of Jews there remained perilous and Israel had to do everything in its power to facilitate immigration from North Africa.

Moroccan and Tunisian Jews were threatened, mainly economically, he said. As Jews sided with the French their security could not be effectively guaranteed. He appealed to the Council to remove obstacles in the path of large-scale immigration. "When the new Tunisian Government is formed in a few weeks time it may be that certain technical difficulties will be eliminated in the way of immigration, but let us act today because tomorrow may be too late," he said.

Abraham Harzfeld stirringly appealed to Jews throughout the world and especially to those in Israel to lend their support to increased immigration and not retreat from hardships which such immigration might bring about economically. He praised Dr. Josephthal's statement that the Jewish Agency was resolved by all means to rescue Jews from troubled areas even if this resulted in inflation or harmed Israel's economic system. He concluded with a pledge that the entire Yishuv would tighten its belt to help rescue endangered Jews.

A. Sabah, Vice Chairman of the Zionist Federation of Morocco, said Morocco had already been struggling for fifteen years to achieve independence but that Jews were not permitted to take part in it. Some Moroccan leaders had said that Jews would be permitted to retain in the future their liberties. Others had stated that Jews would be free to leave but would not be permitted to take their possessions with them. Today, however, many Jews had already been deprived of their livelihood and replaced by Arab tradesmen. Jews in Morocco lived in unrest because antagonism which had been smouldering for years had now broken out in full force. Sabah appealed for steps to rescue the lives of 100,000 Moroccan Jews who were ready to come to Israel.

Algeria and Tunis.

S. Narboni, head of the Zionist Federation of Algeria, warned the Council: "We must take greater steps for the immigration of Algerian Jews before there is increased peril."

Chairman of the Zionist Federation of Tunis M. Blitti said there was chaos and disorder in Tunis from which Jews were the first victims - they

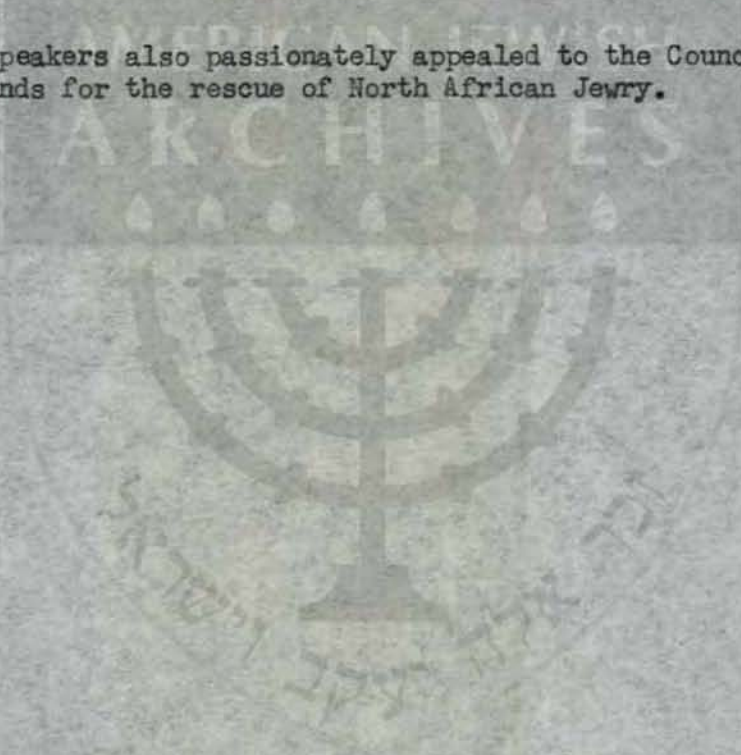
Extract from JTA.
August 25.

suffered economically as did certain important economic associations for Jews. Jewish youth faced the prospect of being barred from active existence and their future seemed hopeless.

Fanaticism and totalitarianism were on the march in the Arab countries, he declared. "We must do our best to take the Jews out even if logistics are against us," he stated. The situation of middle class Jews was especially tragic.

M. Blitti urged the establishment of a special African office within the Jewish Agency and appealed for relaxation of medical standards governing immigration in order to permit a larger measure of rescue.

Other speakers also passionately appealed to the Council for unlimited funds for the rescue of North African Jewry.



1470
North Africa

TRANSLATIONS OF CLIPPINGS RESULTING FROM RABBI FRIEDMAN'S PRESS
CONFERENCE, JERUSALEM, AUGUST, 1955

DAVAR, (Histadrut, really Mapai) August 30, 1955

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL TO INTENSIFY ACTIVITIES
FOR NORTH AFRICAN JEWISH IMMIGRATION

The United Jewish Appeal will intensify its activities in the coming months in order to raise the means for the immigration of North African Jews, it was announced yesterday at a press conference in Jerusalem by the Director of the campaign in the United States, Dr. H. Friedman. He said that in the near future two conferences would be held in America which are to be devoted to this objective.

Dr. Friedman, who is returning today to the United States in order to prepare the campaign, visited Morocco several weeks ago. He stated yesterday that the Moslem uprising is not directed against the Jews, but against the French regime and that there were no "pogroms". The Jews, however, fear that the wrath of the masses may be turned against them. The leaders of the "Istiklal" even indicated their willingness to cooperate with the Jews against the French, whilst the French, on their part also wish to acquire the Jews' goodwill. As usual, the Jewish population is again caught between two camps. Dr. H. Friedman believes that for the time being it is pointless to talk about "rescue immigration", although the situation of the Jews is difficult from the security and political as well as from the economic point of view.

In recent years, the economic position of the Jews has been shaken through objective causes. They were mostly artisans, but meanwhile the Arabs have learned various trades and initiated an economic boycott under the slogan "Arab, buy from Arab!". Handing in the remote villages has ceased to be profitable, because many roads have been built and merchants can easily and quickly reach even the most distant places. The desire for immigration is particularly conspicuous among the poorer classes but is also felt among middle classes.

The activities of the U.J.A. and the Bond Drive will in future be coordinated as to time and place, Dr. Friedman said, and expressed the hope that there will no longer be frictions or disputes between the two funds. The most urgent problem facing the U.J.A. is that of young leadership. The old leaders are now tired after decades of public service and still no younger generation can be seen on the horizon which is prepared to take on itself the burden of this difficult work. Dr. Friedman, who himself is a member of this younger generation, will devote efforts to finding young and fresh public functionaries. The other problem is that of Jewish and Zionist educational work which has to be carried out by the U.J.A. whilst collecting money.

HABOKER, (General Zionists) August 30, 1955

THE APPEAL WILL BE OPENED WITH A SPECIAL CAMPAIGN
FOR THE FINANCING OF NORTH AFRICAN IMMIGRATION

by "Haboker's" Jerusalem correspondent.

The United Jewish Appeal is planning a special campaign for the beginning of October for the immigration of Jews from North Africa, it was stated at a press conference by Rabbi Herbert Friedman, Director of the United Jewish Appeal who is leaving today on his way back to New York.

Thirty-eight year-old Rabbi Friedman, who is considered to be the "discovery" of Dr. Joseph Schwarz, Director of the Development Loan, pointed out that there is now full coordination of activities between the Appeal and the Bond Drive and that there is no reason at all to fear competition which was a commonplace between these two financial bodies. In most American cities "operational seasons" have been divided between the two bodies. He expressed his confidence that the competition, which had previously accompanied operations, is now a thing of the past.

Dwelling on the immigration of the Jews of North Africa the spokesman said he had come to this country via North Africa where he had been "stuck" as a result of the outrages. He said that the tragedy of the Jews there is that they have no position. These are not pogroms; the disturbances are not directed against the Jews. It is a war of the Arab nationalists against the French, but it is the Jews who are hurt. In view of this immigration from there is not a rescue immigration, but nevertheless it is a rescue immigration in a way, because the Jews are the first to be affected, and if they are not removed soon, they may become an even greater problem.

The speaker said further that the economic position of the Jews who were mainly middlemen, small traders and artisans, has been upset. The Arabs have initiated an economic boycott and are taking over occupational fields which have hitherto been held by Jews. The Jews have no economic or political security and there is no other way than to remove them and transfer them to Israel.

Referring to the activities of the Appeal, he pointed out that Israel could help the Appeal by publicising it among tourists from the United States in Israel. Many returning tourists claim that in Israel

different institutions such as the Histadruth, the Keren Hayesod and the Keren Kayemet are operating, but not the Appeal. They do not accept the explanation that the Appeal is the financial instrument of Israel's national institutions. Therefore, he said, it is necessary to give publicity to the Appeal in Israel as well so that the Israel resident should also know that this is a great financial instrument, and that he should be able to explain this to tourists. Rabbi Friedman mentioned the shortage of young forces for work in the United States. The mobilization of young forces of the second and third generations in the United States is one of the internal activities of the Appeal.

LAMERHAV, (Ahdut Avoda) August 30, 1955

DR. FRIEDMAN: NORTH AFRICAN JEWRY CAUGHT BETWEEN TWO CAMPS

Jerusalem, Monday. - Disturbances in North Africa are not directed against the Jews, and there is no reason to talk about pogroms, but it is obvious that these disturbances endanger the position of North Africa's Jews and require us to make efforts for their immigration to Israel. This was stated by Dr. H. Friedman, Deputy Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal at a press conference today.

The Arab nationalist leaders have appealed to the Jews and asked for their help. On the other hand, the French demand of them loyalty to the authorities. The Jews are, therefore, caught between two camps.

Even before this, the economic position of Moroccan Jews had deteriorated, because the Arabs have penetrated into occupations such as artisans and small traders which had been "Jewish occupations". Now, with the outbreak of disturbances, many Jews are trying to sell their property - but can't find buyers at reasonable prices.

Dr. Friedman gave details on his visit to Morocco. He told about 1,000 Jews who had taken refuge in a school where the Joint keeps them supplied with bedding and food.

The U.J.A. will call two conferences in the course of the next month in order to raise funds for financing immigration.

Dr. Friedman reported on the progress made in the work of the U.J.A. and on the good relations prevailing between the Appeal and the Bond Drive.

HAARETZ, (Independent) August 30, 1955

EDUCATION AND MONEY ARE DUTIES OF THE U.J.A.
DR. FRIEDMAN REPORTS ON THE UNITED JEWISH APPEAL

"The chief problems facing the United Jewish Appeal in the United States are two tasks: Educating American Jews to Zionism and Israelism together with the task of collecting their monies for Israel". - This was stated by the Director and Vice-President of the Appeal, Rabbi Dr. H. Friedman, at a press conference held in his honour at the Jerusalem Press Club yesterday. Dr. Friedman reviewed the Appeal's operational methods and stressed the great need for leadership by young forces which are required for the greatest Jewish financial enterprise in the world.

As to relations between the United Jewish Appeal and the Development Bond Drive, he said there is full understanding and harmony between the two bodies and no clashes occur between the two enterprises. Whilst one of them is active among the Jews of a certain congregation or town, the other has no right to be there, and begins its fund raising activities several months after the end of the other body's campaign.

One of the important objectives to which the United Jewish Appeal has now set its sights is the raising of cash for the financing of North African immigration. Within the framework of this effort for the rescue of North African Jews two large conferences will be held in America during the next weeks which will decide on the ways and means of financing.

Rabbi Friedman visited Morocco and Tunisia on his way to Israel about a month ago. He said that it was his impression that the Jews of North Africa are economically ruined, because the Arabs boycott them and their goods.

In reply to a question the Director of the United Jewish Appeal expressed his opposition to the conducting of additional fund raising campaigns by various institutions such as the University, the Technion, the Histadruth and Yeshivoh, parallel to the United Jewish Appeal, because all these appeals make considerably more difficult the work of the U.J.A. which is, in effect, the general Israel appeal. Since 1951, the U.J.A. has raised 261 million dollars for Israel, as compared with 200 million dollars collected by the sale of the Independence and Development Loan Bonds. Also, a total of 11 million dollars worth of Bonds has been donated to the U.J.A.

ZHANIM, (Progressive) August 30, 1955

FINANCING OF JEWISH IMMIGRATION FROM NORTH AFRICA
IS THE CENTRAL TASK OF THE APPEAL

One of the most important tasks which the United Jewish Appeal has now taken as its objective is the raising of cash for the financing of Jewish immigration from North Africa; within the framework of the efforts for the rescue of North African Jewry two large conferences will be held in America within the coming weeks, which are to decide on the methods of financing. This was stated at a press conference yesterday by Dr. H. Friedman, Director and Vice President of the Appeal .

He pointed out that since 1951 the Appeal had collected 261 million dollars for Israel as compared with 200 million dollars raised through the sale of Independence and Development Loan Bonds. Bonds totalling 11 million dollars approximately have been donated to the Appeal, Mr. Friedman stated.

The Director of the United Jewish Appeal expressed his vehement opposition to the conducting of additional campaigns by other institutions such as the University, the Technion, the Histadruth and Yeshivoth alongside the United Jewish Appeal, because such campaigns render very difficult the work of the U.J.A. which is, in effect, the general Israel appeal.

As to relations between the Appeal and the Development Bond Drive, Dr. Friedman pointed out that there was full understanding and harmony between the two bodies without any clashes between the two enterprises; whilst one of them operates among the Jews of a certain congregation or town, the other has no right to be there and begins its fund raising activities several months after the end of other body's campaign.

NORTH AFRICAN JEWS CAUGHT BETWEEN TWO CAMPS

On his way to Israel, about a month ago, Dr. Friedman visited Morocco and Tunisia. He said he had gained the impression that the Jews of North Africa are economically completely ruined, because the Arabs boycott them and their goods. The majority of Jews in these countries are merchants, but the slogan of "Arabs for Arabs" has taken hold among the local Arab population.

Politically, too, the Jews are in a difficult and delicate situation, because the Arabs are asking for their assistance in the war against the French authorities, while, on the other hand, the French appeal to the Jews and request them to collaborate in the suppression of the Arab rebels.

HATZOFEH, (Mizrachi) August 30, 1955

THE APPEAL TRIES TO PROVIDE ZIONIST
EDUCATION WHILST COLLECTING MONIES

The chief problems facing the United Jewish Appeal in the U.S. are two tasks: Education of America's Jews to Zionism and Israelism and the task of collecting monies for Israel. This was stated by the Director and Vice President of the U.J.A., Dr. H. Friedman, at a press conference held in his honour at the Jerusalem Press Club yesterday.

Dr. Friedman reviewed the operational methods of the U.J.A. and stressed the need for leadership by young forces required for the greatest Jewish financial enterprise in the world.

As to the relations between the Appeal and the Independence Loan Bond Drive, Dr. Friedman declared that there is full understanding and harmony between the two bodies with no clashes between two enterprises. Whilst one of them is operating among the Jews of a certain congregation or town, the other one has no right to be there, and begins its financial activities only several months after the end of the former's operations.

MOBILISATION OF MONEY FOR THE IMMIGRATION OF NORTH AFRICAN JEWS

One of the important tasks on which the United Jewish Appeal has now set its sights is the raising of cash for financing the immigration of North Africa's Jews. Within the framework of the efforts to rescue the Jews of North Africa, two large conferences will be convened in America within the next weeks, which are to decide on the ways of financing.

Dr. Friedman visited Morocco and Tunisia on his way to Israel about a month ago. He said he had gained the impression that the Jews of North Africa are completely ruined economically, because the Arabs are boycotting them and their goods.

In reply to a question the Director of the United Jewish Appeal expressed his vehement opposition to the conducting of additional appeals by various institutions such as the University, the Technion, the Histadruth and Yeshivoth alongside the United Appeal, because these campaigns render very difficult the work of the U.J.A. which is, in effect, the general Israel appeal.

Since 1951, the U.J.A. has collected 261 million dollars for Israel as compared with 200 million dollars raised through the sale of Independence and Development Loan Bonds. Also, Bonds of a total value of 11 million dollars approximately have been donated to the Appeal.

AL HAMISHMAR (Mapam) August 30, 1955

U.J.A. WILL WORK FOR FINANCING JEWISH
IMMIGRATION FROM NORTH AFRICA

The Chief problems facing the United Jewish Appeal in the U.S. are two: the education of America's Jews to Zionism and Israelism and the collection of funds for Israel, it was stated by the Director and Vice President of the Appeal, Dr. H. Friedman, at a press conference held in his honour at the local Press Club yesterday.

One of the important tasks on which the United Jewish Appeal has now set its sights, is the raising of cash for the financing of North African Jewish immigration. Within the framework of the effort for the rescue of North Africa's Jews two large conferences will be held in America within the coming weeks, where ways and means of financing are to be decided.

Dr. Friedman visited Morocco and Tunisia on his way to Israel about a month ago and gained the impression that the Jews of North Africa are economically completely ruined. Politically, too, the Jews are in a difficult situation.

HANOUIA (Agudat Yisrael) August 30, 1955

APPEAL DIRECTOR: THERE IS FULL UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN APPEAL AND BOND DRIVE

261 MILLION DOLLARS RAISED BY THE APPEAL SINCE 1951

Jerusalem, Monday. - 261 million dollars have been collected by the United Jewish Appeal since 1951 as compared with 200 million dollars which Israel has received through the sale of Independence and Development Loan Bonds, it was stated today by the Director of the Appeal Dr. H. Friedman, at a press conference in the Jerusalem Press Club.

Dr. Friedman reviewed the operational methods of the Appeal and stressed the need for new forces required for the "greatest Jewish financial enterprise in the world".

As to relations between the Appeal and the Development Bond Drive, Dr. Friedman declared that "there is full understanding and harmony between the two bodies as a result of which there are no clashes between the two drives. Whilst one of them is operating amongst the Jews of a certain congregation or town, the other has no rights to be there and begins its financial activities only several months after the first drive is over". One of the important duties which the United Jewish Appeal has taken as its objective, is the raising of cash for the financing of Jewish immigration from North Africa. Within the framework of the efforts to rescue North Africa's Jews two large conferences will be held in America during the coming weeks, where the ways of financing are to be decided.

Dr. Friedman visited Morocco and Tunisia on his way to Israel about a month ago. He said he had gained the impression that the Jews of North Africa are completely ruined economically because they and their goods are being boycotted by the Arabs.

The majority of Jews in these countries are merchants, but the slogan of "Arabs for Arabs" has taken hold among the Arab population there. Politically, too, the Jews are in a difficult and delicate situation, because the Arabs are asking for their help in their war against the French authorities, whilst the French, on the other hand, appeal to the Jews and request them to collaborate in the suppression of the Arab rebels.

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

M E M O R A N D U M

August 31, 1955

TO: Chapter Chairmen and Area Directors
FROM: John Slawson
SUBJECT: RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN NORTH AFRICA

Violence in North Africa has caused considerable concern here for the safety and future security of some 240,000 Jews in Morocco. Hence, this brief statement may prove helpful in keeping the current situation in true perspective and in making clear why the AJC continues to adhere to the policy adopted about a year ago--a policy of seeking security, equality and dignity for those Jews who wish to remain in North Africa, and, equally important, freedom to emigrate (with their possessions) for those who must leave or desire to leave.

The Current Situation: A few Jews have been among the more than 1,000 people killed in recent North African riots against French control. But now, as in 1954, when Irving M. Engel, Jacob Blaustein and I made an on-the-scene survey, all the factors in that complex strife-laden area must be kept in mind. There is no evidence that violence against the Jews is directed against them as such; or that inescapably, the only solution lies in mass flight; or that all Jews desire to flee. However, many are understandably worried about being made scapegoats if propaganda should fan the religious fanaticism of uneducated Moslem masses. But up to the present time, they have not been singled out as a special target. Nor has the Istiqlal, the Moroccan Independence Party, encouraged anti-Semitism. The head of the Moroccan Office of Information at the United Nations declared August 22 that "almost never have Moroccans attacked Jews as such."

This past week, August 28, also saw Moroccan leaders affirm their assurances, made to the AJC last Fall, that if Morocco becomes independent, Jews would receive full and equal rights, guaranteed in conformity with the UN's Declaration of Human Rights. This most recent statement by the leader of the Istiqlal Party of Morocco declares in part:

"No specifically Jewish problem exists in Morocco, where Jewish and Moslem communities have existed side by side for centuries in mutual tolerance, respect and understanding. Both are victims of a colonial regime which has ruled their country since 1912; both are struggling and making sacrifices to bring about their common national aspirations.

"There is no justification for the fear that in an independent Morocco the Jews would suffer from discrimination in any form. Jewish Moroccans will be citizens equal both in law and in fact with Moslems. They will have the same rights and will be under the same obligations; their religious liberty will remain untouched."

On August 23, Israeli Premier Moshe Sharett, while calling for a "determined or sustained effort to accelerate the pace of immigration" of Jews from North Africa warned against "ill-considered alarmism which might defeat its purpose." In making a similar plea for emergency migration funds, the Executive Vice-chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman, is reported by The New York Times, August 30, to have "deplored exaggerations of the plight of North African Jews" and to have stated that "Jews are not the primary targets of violence."

While the current anti-French violence has undoubtedly increased the desire on the part of North African Jews for emigration, others are striving to assure themselves a secure future in the North African countries as they gain more self-government. Thus, when Jacques Dahan, Secretary General of the Moroccan Jewish communities was invited by French Premier Edgar Faure, August 28, to discuss Franco-Moroccan peace talks, Dahan pledged

his communities' aid in working out a peaceful solution. He welcomed French announcement of democratic reforms and declared: "The Jewish communities of Morocco which owe Morocco so much, are ready to use all their energies and all their faith to guide Morocco toward her national destiny."

The American Jewish Committee can best help to avert further tragic and deplorable events, we believe, by steadfastly pursuing those basic policies adopted by our Executive Board last Fall.

In Tunisia, for example, an agreement was arrived at last Spring setting up an autonomous Tunisian government. Peaceful conditions are prevailing--at least for the present; the rights and equality of Jews there have been assured.

The AJC, in cooperation with Moroccan Jewry and other Jewish organizations wherever feasible, has carried on discussions with high French officials in Paris, Morocco and Washington, D.C.; with the U.S. State Department here and abroad; and with Moslem leaders at the United Nations and in North Africa to achieve the following:

1. Equal rights: To secure equality of economic, social, religious and cultural rights for Jews as for all Moroccan subjects, whatever their religion or race.

2. Freedom of movement: While the objective should be to create conditions that permit Moroccan Jews to live in dignity, those desiring to emigrate should be free to do so, with their property.

3. Political representation: The first step toward equality in an independent Morocco is securing for Jews modern nationality status as citizens of Morocco, rather than as wards of the Sultan. Whether

Morocco continues as a theocratic state, or adopts secular democratic lines, Jews should have a full voice in shaping its policies.

We are sending you the above information so that you may transmit it to your own chapter leadership and to any other persons in the community who may find it helpful or interesting.

JS/pc

FC/AME

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

HEADQUARTERS FOR OVERSEAS OPERATIONS

CABLES & TELEGRAMS
JOINTFUND - PARIS

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE
PARIS (VII*)

TELEPHONE { 87-83
INVALIDES { 87-55
79-37

September 6, 1955

Personal

Rabbi Herbert Friedman
United Jewish Appeal
165 West 46th Street
New York 36, N.Y.

Re Special North Africa meet.

Dear Herb:

I was sorry I missed you both times that you passed through Paris and both Kate and I certainly are looking forward to seeing you in October when you come through. If Elaine is with you, so much the better.

I just wanted to drop you a note, too, with respect to the message Milton Steinberg brought down to me in Casablanca and which you mentioned to me over the telephone, namely, that of finding someone in Casablanca who might be able to come over to New York. You know the problem in Casablanca and the difficulties of finding people who might be "venturesome enough" to come over to New York. You were exposed to this when you had the meeting there the end of July. In thinking about this and trying to come up with some kind of candidate, Sam Haber and I went over all the possibilities. The over-riding point, of course, is that the individual has to be English speaking. Secondly if the individual chosen is a Moroccan, it will take an age before he gets a passport and you were dealing with a date beginning around September 13th. Moreover we doubt whether a Moroccan Jew would be prepared to state that he wants a passport to go to the United States unless he can give a very good reason for going there, which has nothing to do with the UJA. So one has to find someone with a good cover. Then the dates you select come right around the Jewish holidays and Moroccan Jews being constituted as they are want to be en famille for the holidays and not separated. Of course there is the question of the speed with which a Moroccan visa could be issued, but I assume ^{you} would have ways for getting an authorization over to the American Consulate in a big hurry with the waiver of the usual red tape bound up in such a process.

So as Sam and I thought about it we came to the conclusion that what we had to find is someone who is already in possession of a passport which probably would mean a non-Moroccan living in Morocco, who can speak English, who can find an acceptable ostensible reason for going to the United States, who has the courage to do so, who is not afraid

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

HEADQUARTERS FOR OVERSEAS OPERATIONS

CABLES & TELEGRAMS
JOINTFUND - PARIS

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE
PARIS (VII*)

TELEPHONE { 87-83
87-55
INVALIDES { 79-37

- 2 -

September 6, 1955

Rabbi Herbert Friedman

to be away from his family and business interests for a period of time taking into account the drama and events which take place in Casablanca, and who would be willing to waive the scruples about being away for the holidays. This is a fine order to be filled in ten days.

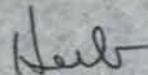
Actually the only possibility we came up with who might even partially fill this bill would be Alphonso Sabah. Unfortunately Sabah's return to Casablanca was delayed and I have just had word from Sam Haber telling me that he will not be back until tomorrow. (Oh yes, I should have mentioned the individual should also be able to make a presentation and have some idea of the overall scene in Morocco likewise). Sam will get hold of Sabah as soon as he gets back and will try to convince him that he has a duty to go over to the United States. I hope he makes out.

I can well imagine the dramatic effect it would have if it would be possible to get somebody of Moroccan Jewry to come over to New York to help on the UJA campaign. Even if it ^{were} ~~was~~ only a question of talking intimately with a few people. You know that and I know that and as a matter of fact, I am sure that Moroccan Jewry intellectually understand it too particularly since their own wellbeing is tied up with the effort. However while Moroccan Jewry would agree with the necessity, intellectually, each of them will say, "who, me!"

As soon as I have any further word to pass along to you, you may be sure that I shall do so. Sam Haber is working on this but I am afraid that the outlook is not too bright.

Kindest greetings to all hands,

Sincerely,


Herbert Katzki

HK:rk

FC/KAE

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

HEADQUARTERS FOR OVERSEAS OPERATIONS

CABLES & TELEGRAMS
JOINTFUND - PARIS

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE
PARIS (VII^e)

TELEPHONE { 87-83
INVALIDES { 87-55
79-37

Personal

September 8, 1955

Rabbi Herbert Friedman
United Jewish Appeal
165 West 46th Street
New York 36, N.Y.

*Re Special Auth
again only.*

Dear Herb:

I am enclosing copy of a self-explanatory letter dated September 7th. which I just received from Sam Haber. The person to whom he refers in his letter without mentioning any names is of course Alphonso Sabah.

There is not any comment that I can add to what Sam writes. Unfortunately what he expresses here is substantially my own feeling as I wrote it to you in my letter of September 6th. This of course does not influence Sam's effort to try to find somebody but I am afraid that one cannot be too sanguine.

I know that Sam is busy trying to fill your need and I do hope that something comes of it. As soon as I have anything from him, I shall of course let you know.

Sincerely,

Herb
Herbert Katzki

HK:rk

enclosure

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

OFFICE FOR MOROCCO

53, BOULEVARD D'ANFA

CASABLANCA

CABLES & TELEGRAMS

JOINTFUND - CASABLANCA

ADDRESS MAIL : P. O. BOX 280

TÉLÉPHONE : 247-17

September 7, 1955
8.30 a.m.

EXPRESS / CONFIDENTIAL

To: Mr. Herbert Katzki
AJDC PARIS

Dear Herb:

Further to my telegram of yesterday I just had a meeting with the person whom we considered for the Friedman project, and just as we suspected he turned it down, giving as reasons that he cannot after this long absence from his work and the office undertake an additional journey. Furthermore, he stated that having just returned, his mind is occupied with many other problems and, in fact, feels that it would be impossible even to think about other problems at the moment. He really asked for a further meeting which I have scheduled for Sunday morning 10 o'clock in order to discuss again this particular undertaking.

I am even more sure now than I was on the trip back from Mazagan that the gentleman in question - or for that matter anyone else around here - will not undertake such trip. He promised, however, to give me a final answer on Sunday and at the same time to indicate perhaps other names. He rejected, however, all of the names we mentioned and also felt that even if they were ready to go they would not be the proper representatives to carry the message to Herb's people.

I think that you should notify Herb of my feeling, and should a change transpire I will immediately notify you, although under no circumstances could the schedule of September 15 to about October 13 be feasible, even if a person should be located.

Sincerely yours,

Samuel L. Haber

SLH:hr

Sent by Morris Laub, JDC -- September 28, 1955

COPY -- h

Translation of a report received from Mr. Ch. ELKAIM, Marrakech, dated September 6, 1955

Re: Report on the "TAMLELT INCIDENT."

On my way from Demnat, I was stopped at Tamlelt by the police. I came out of my car and saw 10 wounded Jews (7 seriously). They were lying on the ground since 10.00 in the morning, and it was 12.00 when I arrived there. No first aid had been given them. Other Jews, seriously wounded, were lying in the fields and in the souk, but the Controleur not only did nothing to bring them with the others, but he ordered some of the wounded men to go and fetch them, though he had his Moroccan guards with him. I saw an Arab in civilian clothes, probably part of the Controleur's train, take one of the wounded Jews by his collar as a vulgar thief and compel him to march in front of him and show him the other victims. In the meantime other gendarmes arrived from El-Kelaa and Sidi Rahal, as well as other Moroccan guards. They brought back 2 seriously injured, stumbling Jews, 2 others came by their own means and finally 2 others still lay unconscious at a hundred meter distance.

There was no shooting against the demonstrators. The souk was completely empty and partly burning but no police or guard cared to approach.

The Controleur had the roads blocked but forgot the road through which I came and through which a hundred or more cyclists were running away. I told the police so, and they sent a controleur-assistant with 6 guards who only had 6 cartridges each, in order to stop the demonstrators. These were a long time gone, the riot was finished since two and a half hours.

Meanwhile the wounded people were still lying on the side of the road, some of them dying, and when some started bemoaning their lot, the guards brutally silenced them in the face of the Controleur and the gendarmes. At half past noon the first aid to the injured started, consisting in alcohol dressings brutally applied on their wounds, while they still lay on the ground. They begged for a drink but nobody made a move. The guards wanted again to compel one of the wounded men to go and fetch some water from a 200 meter distant seguia. A friend of mine whom I found in Tamlelt then sent a workman who was with him to bring a pail of water.

The canteen-keeper of Tamlelt, an ex-policeman in retirement, ex-keeper of a Marrakech brothel, witnessed the riot from the roof of his house. He was armed with rifle and gun, he saw the Jews being hit with bludgeons and hooks but did not make a gesture to scare the demonstrators who were just below his wall. Ten minutes later, nearly all the gendarmes were drinking in his canteen and telling him funny stories.

No ambulance came to take the wounded people. When I came back to Marrakech I inquired, for conscience sake, whether an ambulance had been sent to Tamlelt. Imagine that at 16 hrs. the ambulance service declared they had not been called by that center. They promised me to do the necessary. But finally I learned, later on in the evening, that part of the wounded Jews had been evacuated to Marrakech in a truck on which the authorities packed them like cattle. Others could not support the trip to Marrakech and were directed to El-Kelaa.

2.

The two policemen on duty in Tamlalt who provoked the riot by arresting 2 demonstrators were only armed with a small gun each and only saved themselves by running for their lives to the postoffice and hiding there. It was then that one of the demonstrators cried: "Let us attack the Jews." They rushed at them, pillaged their goods, clubbed them, stole their money and their mules. They cut a telephone pole on the Marrakech road and placed stone barrings.

But the most revolting fact was the authorities lack of efficiency, the indifference, the brutality with which they treated the wounded people and their inability to protect the Jews in that center. It will be the same in other centers, as those Jews have no other means of living than their trade on souk days.

No demonstrator was arrested during the riot. Long afterwards, when some wounded Jews recognized in the streets certain of their Arab attackers, they reported them to the police.

Although some 15 cars passed the road to Marrakech the Controleur did not think it useful to send for ambulances, knowing very well that the telephone pole had been broken.

It is as false as can be that the police forces dispersed the demonstrators, as it was announced in the press; these had disappeared for two hours already before the arrival of the Moroccan guards.

EXTRACT FROM MINUTES OF JDC MEETING IN PARIS
SEPTEMBER 8, 1955

MOROCCO:

Mr. Katzki reports on Morocco which he had visited recently. The general background of events in Morocco is familiar to all from newspaper reports and also from Mr. Kleinbaum's report at a staff meeting in July. The picture which he drew then of the external aspect of Casablanca is pretty much the same today. The streets are deserted, even in the busy hours of the day, one sees no vehicles on the streets, nobody goes to the cinema, the shops and the cafes are empty. Economically life is pretty much at a standstill in the city. The curfew is still on from 11 o'clock in the evening to five in the morning. Mr. Katzki did not visit the medina but in the European section of the city he noted armed men on all the corners, equipped with pistols or carbines or some sort of automatic rifles, very much on the alert. They are there in pairs or in trios and they are pretty well spread out through the European city.

Among the important events which took place since Mr. Kleinbaum's visit here were the riots which occurred August 20, 21 and 22. The principal scenes of these events were Oued-Zem, Khenifra, Ouessane, Khourigba and Mazagan. Of these places where rioting took place, Mazagan, in the opinion of the people with whom Mr. Katzki spoke, is the only place where the movement was a directly anti-Semitic one. There is general agreement among all those with whom Mr. Katzki spoke that in the other areas there is no anti-Semitism involved in the events. They were just general uprisings which involved Arabs against everybody else, that is against any non-Arabs, and in those instances where the Jewish people were caught up some were killed -- fortunately a very small number in the aggregate, probably not more than five or six all-told. The number of people injured is relatively small so far as is known at the time, perhaps not more than eight or ten. These were people who unfortunately happened to be standing at the wrong place at the wrong time and were caught up in the events.

Apparently that was not the case in Mazagan. In meeting with the people of the community Mr. Katzki was told that the Arab movement there has anti-Semitic overtones and that the events which took place there were directly anti-Semitic. Fortunately, before the riots took place in Mazagan, the Jews had evacuated from their homes in the old city itself so that there was no personal injury inflicted on any of the Jewish people. Mazagan was the area where most Jewish buildings were damaged. There are about 25 or 26 Jewish dwellings which were completely destroyed as well as three small shops, and the monetary damage was relatively heavy there. In all the areas, though, the Jews were evacuated in time. In Safi about 500 of the Jews went into one of the military areas where they were sheltered. In Mazagan about 1,500 Jews were taken into the municipal gymnasium and were protected there. In the other areas, Ouessane and Oued-Zem, the Jews were moved out in time to protected areas and thus were saved. In Mazagan itself, by this time, those Jews whose houses were not destroyed have returned to their dwellings or have moved in with relatives or friends who were able to take them in. The day Mr. Katzki was there 106 Jewish people who had no place to go were transferred from the municipal gymnasium to a series of bungalows which are used by the dependents of soldiers in the French Army and which are vacant at the moment, and they are being given

shelter there. In Safi, the 500 Jewish people who were in the protected area up until a few days ago had refused to go home, preferring to wait until September 12th to see what will happen by that time and then they will make their decisions about going back. In some of the smaller towns the Jews have gone back, in others they have remained in the protected areas, but they do not seem to pose any particular problems at the moment apart from one of feeding.

From the point of view of aid, the JDC sent food supplies immediately the needs became known, to Safi and to Mazagan, and has also sent financial aid to all the affected areas. The amounts of money which the JDC sent match equal contributions which are being put up by the Conseil of Communities in Rabat. The Conseil did have a fund which had been accumulating over a period of years, amounting to 10,000,000 francs, which was supposed to be used for an assistance program in the villages which the JDC had been urging upon the Conseil of Communities for a long period of time, but now they have had to make inroads into this fund in order to meet the present emergency.

According to Mr. Katzki's information, in addition to the funds which are made available by JDC and the Conseil of Communities, Government has also made funds available up until now in Mazagan and Ouezzane. By a decree of a few years ago, individuals whose properties are destroyed in rioting are entitled to Government compensation for the reconstruction of destroyed properties. After the recent events appropriate circulars and questionnaires were circulated to the Jews whose properties were lost, in which they are required to give their estimates and underlying material as to the losses which were sustained. These circulars or questionnaires are then examined locally by the municipal authorities. They are then sent up to Rabat for a second examination, after which a decision is taken with respect to payment which, in any event, is limited to 50 per cent of the amount of the accepted loss. In the meanwhile, however, the authorities have made funds available in Mazagan to the extent, according to Mr. Katzki's information, of 1,100,000 francs, and in Ouezzane 915,000 francs, to be distributed as first aid among the most needy of the people who have lost their houses. This kind of assistance is not being given automatically. In the course of the investigation account is taken of whatever other resources the individual might have as, for example, his bank balance or other property, or other sources of income he might have. The authorities will take the viewpoint, it appears, that unless a person's income from which he maintains his family has entirely disappeared as a result of the riots, Government aid for this reconstruction activity will not be forthcoming. Thus, for example, if a man had a shop which was destroyed but it appears that he still has a substantial bank account somewhere, it will be assumed that with this bank account he will be able to set himself up in some kind of business again and earn his living, and that would have an effect upon the settlement which is finally made with respect to the claim which he puts in.

The question arises about the future protective activity which might be undertaken for the Jews in Morocco. It will be recalled that some time ago the viewpoint prevailed that it was the Jews in the small villages in

the Bled who were in the most exposed position, and the intention was at the time to undertake an evacuation program from the villages. Curiously enough, whether it was the July 14 events which took place in Casablanca, or the more recent events on August 20th, the riots did not take place in the Bled at all. They took place either in the largest city of the country or in some of the medium-sized cities, but not in the Bled. One saw the curious phenomenon, therefore, that in Casablanca some of the Jewish population fled to the villages for safety rather than, as one might expect, the other way around. Talking with people, though, the viewpoint seems to prevail that, provided protection is given in the cities themselves, there would seem to be little difference at the moment as to whether the city or the Bled is the best place. One would be as bad as the other, or as good as the other. Consequently, almost everybody is staying where he is at the present time and there is not very much of an inter-city or inter-community movement. If there is a movement, it is not particularly apparent that there are shifts in Jewish population now from point to point, seeking protection from possible future events.

There has been a very substantial increase in pressures for purposes of emigration. The people in Mazagan told the JDC people that they would, in their entirety, be prepared, and indeed wanted, to emigrate to Israel now. In Boujade, too, the Jewish population has asked to be moved out. For the first time the Jews in Casablanca have asked for absolute priority in the selection arrangements for emigration to Israel. In view of this substantial increase in pressure the Jewish Agency people feel that if all who want to move could be moved at once, they probably would have no difficulty in emigrating, say, up to 100,000 people in very short order. Mr. Katzki is not sure that this pressure for emigration is due to a fear for life at the present time, but thinks it is rather a response to the uncertainties of what the future might bring for them as a result of the economic pressures upon the Jews which are bearing down ever harder. Curiously enough, large numbers are pressing from Casablanca. Another pressure area which one cannot explain easily is the Rabat-Sale area. Mazagan has been mentioned. Safi has some pressure, but places like Fes and Meknes -- Fes particularly, which because of the religious atmosphere prevailing in the city had always been regarded as one of the danger centers -- does not have much pressure at all at the moment. Neither does Meknes. Both places seem to be rather quiet, Mr. Katzki was told. There are a number of other areas, though, like Ksar-el-Souk area and the Tefilalet, where up until the time Mr. Katzki left Casablanca it was not possible to visit in order to examine the situation and discuss the question of emigration. The Agency people were not going down there yet, not for any personal reason but because the authorities apparently would not let them go there for those purposes.

On the general overall picture of emigration, Israel apparently has agreed to take between 36,000 and 38,000 emigrants from Morocco to Israel during the coming year. Of this number, they have said that they would be prepared to receive 5,000 a month for October and November and the monthly quota would be somewhat smaller after that. But some technical difficulties in connection with emigration to Israel have arisen now, which is

exactly the wrong time. From some complicated set of circumstances, the immigrants in Marseilles are blocked there. There are 4,000 people in the camp at the present time. It is not clear whether it is a result of a ship or ships being cancelled, but there are so many people in Marseilles that it was necessary to cancel a departure from Casablanca because of lack of space to put new arrivals in Marseilles.

The camp at Casablanca at the present time has a little over 1,000 people. The Jewish Agency representative wants to increase the capacity of the camp and there has been correspondence apparently between the Jewish Agency in Casablanca and Israel on the subject. Most probably in due course the JDC will also be asked to do something about increasing the capacity of the camp. The Agency is continuing its selection criteria for the next little while. They feel that they can do that because of the large number of applicants whom they have and in order to make the best possible attempt for a quick integration in Israel of the people when they arrive.

Referring again to the agreement to take 5,000 people from Morocco for October and November, Mr. Katzki commented that so far as the mechanics of this is concerned, and taking into account the fact that Marseilles is blocked, the 5,000 then would include the movement out of Marseilles of the people who are there. Thus one might estimate that the number going from Casablanca during those two months will perhaps be only 3,500 rather than 5,000. The Jewish Agency people told Mr. Katzki that they do not think the authorities will interpose any objections to a movement of this size.

There has been an increase also in Youth Aliyah activities in Casablanca. In the past it has proven rather difficult to find children who could be put into the Youth Aliyah scheme. Now the Youth Aliyah delegate says that in the past few weeks, in consequence of events, the number of Youth Aliyah children is increasing to such an extent that during the month of August they sent about 95 or 100 children. She expects for the month of September to have about 150 children and feels confident that the tempo of about 150 children a month will continue for some period of time. Though they are finding all the children they want now, there are other problems connected with the Youth Aliyah. The arrangement Aliyah is trying to make to deal with this large number is to move the children in the Youth Aliyah scheme from Casablanca via Marseilles to Israel under certain circumstances and to skip the interim training period in Casbahs which they had been making use of in the past. That is surrounded by a number of conditions but at least that is the direction in which the Youth Aliyah is now going in order to take care of these large numbers of children who will be coming through.

With respect to the general political outlook, Mr. Katzki had no more to report than what was appearing in the press. The Jews were making attempts to find some rapprochement with the Arab political parties to find out whether certain assurances can be secured which would provide the Jews with some equality of status and reasonable freedom of movement and living, and the other things which they want. Negotiations and discussions have been

proceeding on that score and almost everybody is now waiting to see what the results of the discussions at Aix-les-Bains with the Moroccan political parties will produce and what will happen on or about September 12 when the new provisional government, assuming that there is general acceptance of the scheme, will be established.

The economic position, as was mentioned, is far from brilliant. For the first time in his talks with some of the monied people in Casablanca Mr. Katzki was told that the middle class people, and even some of the wealthier ones, are now thinking in terms of emigration from the country. In the past nobody spoke along these lines and the general idea was that only the poorer people would go. This has changed now and the middle and upper classes are thinking in terms of emigration, not necessarily to Israel but perhaps to other countries. It was also pointed out to Mr. Katzki in that connection -- and it is the same phenomenon as was seen in Tunisia -- that one of the stumbling blocks will be the liquidation of their assets and the possibility for taking their possessions with them. Naturally, in whatever discussions will take place for the future, so far as the Jewish people are concerned, one of the requests which will be made and is being made, is that Jewish people, if they want to leave the country, will be permitted to do so and that they will be able to take their goods with them. Whether the request will be granted is not known, but obviously that can have a bearing also on the tempo and the nature of the emigration which will be taking place from Morocco.

So far as JDC's own program is concerned, where Mr. Katzki put the question specifically to individuals the viewpoint seems to be, obviously, that this would not be the time for JDC to make any long-term investments in the country. The suggestion is put forward that for the time being JDC forego long-term objectives and that, perhaps for the next little while, it ought to work more closely with short-term programs in order to see which way the developments go. This idea can have significance for the JDC in a number of ways. JDC has had to deal, for example, with requests for aid which came from some of the Jewish communities or from individuals in the Jewish communities who were affected by the rioting. Mr. Katzki would be inclined to think that as the economic pressures continue and as perhaps more Jewish people are thrown out of work, or perhaps have to close down their shops, there may be increasing appeals to the JDC for assistance for individuals thus affected, or JDC might be asked by the communities to help them meet such needs. In due course the JDC will probably be asked to deal with that kind of problem. This might be for feeding programs. Mr. Katzki feels that pressures which will be put on the communities by its members will be transferred in part to the JDC and it may well be that the JDC will be asked to do something about that.

Concerning the supply program, Mr. Katzki and Mr. Haber, in response to suggestions which had been made, explored the possibility of establishing some kind of an iron food reserve which might be put in a warehouse to have on hand for meeting immediate feeding problems as they arise in emergency situations. Mr. Haber thought the plan had merit and he will try to work one up with his field people when they come back from their holidays. This would involve a few items of nutritive value which would provide ten or

fifteen days feeding arrangements for an assumed number of people in case there are further events such as those which took place during the last few weeks. Mr. Haber will also examine further the possibility of a more extended use of USDA supplies to be made available through the community soup kitchens, a program which has not been undertaken until now but which certainly can have more meaning for the future. Information as to the needs along these lines should be coming forward in a little while.

Another area in which the JDC might be asked to help is in the field of economic aid. It may well be that if the Jewish people will be thrown out of work or are restricted in their economic endeavors, many of them will turn to the Jewish organizations for some kind of economic aid which would enable them either to start a small business activity or in other ways to gain an economic foothold. It would depend upon the circumstances at the time, but it seems fairly certain that in due course the JDC will be asked to deal with such requests as the economic position of the Jews in the country deteriorates.

Discussion was also held in Casablanca about a clothing program for Morocco. Mr. Breen and Mr. Haber had had correspondence on the subject and there was a question as to whether or not the JDC ought to start in with a clothing program for the adult population. Mr. Haber advanced a number of reasons why he felt this was not an activity with which the JDC could become involved at the present time. He put forward a counter-proposal, though, which was to make an experiment in a specific town to be decided upon, where a fixed cash budget would be made available to the community for a clothing project in which purchases would be made locally in the community itself. Mr. Haber feels that he would rather experiment in this way to see what, if anything, can be done and how the plan will work out, rather than to engage in a large-scale clothing program which would look well in the warehouse but which would involve problems of how the distribution should be made, to whom, under what circumstances and under what control. He will think the thing through a little more and we will hear further from him on that kind of an experimental clothing program.

The kindergarten program, for the expansion of which plans had been made, has received a setback due to recent events. Several months previously there had been considerable agitation in Morocco for the establishment of a number of new kindergartens in various towns of the country. There had been discussions in Rabat among some of the community representatives, the Council of Communities and the JDC and a certain financial program had been agreed upon in principle, dependent upon the presentation of fixed projects for consideration and examination. As a matter of fact, Mr. Haber and Mr. Dehan of the Council of Communities had arranged to make a survey trip together through Morocco to examine the areas where the kindergartens were supposed to be established. This was for July 10th and, of course, the trip could not take place then. Too many things have happened since and it does not seem likely that a trip of that kind will be made in the very near future.

One perhaps may draw conclusions about the future of a kindergarten program from what the Mazagan people told the JDC. Mazagan was one of the towns

which had made the strongest plea in the meeting with the Council of Communities for funds for the building of a kindergarten and had succeeded in persuading the Council to grant a substantial amount for such a project. When Mr. Katzki was in Masagan on his recent trip, the Masagan people told him that the kindergarten was the last thing they are thinking of right now. They do not want any kindergarten program; they do not want to do any building, all they want is to get out. We do not know to what extent this viewpoint will prevail in some of the other places which were under consideration for a kindergarten program, but there is no doubt that, if the suggestion that the JDC go slow on long-term investment schemes has any validity, it will apply here, too.

In the medical program, the OSE has taken over a good part of the Aliyah medical examination activity which was the subject of much discussion over the past number of months with the Jewish Agency. In those areas where the OSE has dispensaries they are making the medical examinations. Some of this work is absorbed in OSE's regular program and, where necessary, because of overtime or other such considerations, the additional required amount is being paid for by the Jewish Agency. According to the Jewish Agency people there has been considerable improvement since OSE has taken over this work: it has been much better organized, the costs have been cut by about half and they think there is still room for further reductions in the expenditures. Should there be an increased contingent of emigration from Morocco, Mr. Katzki thought one might expect that, with the consequent increased expenses for these medical examinations the JDC will be asked to deal with a larger amount either through the OSE budget or through whatever arrangement it will be possible to work out to reimburse the Jewish Agency for these expenditures.

This concluded Mr. Katzki's remarks on Morocco and he called for questions.

Dr. Selver noted that in certain areas the Jews seemed to be able to anticipate trouble and were able to evacuate in time. He asked whether Mr. Katzki could account for this.

Mr. Katzki could not account for the phenomenon but described the events in Masagan which confirmed it. On the Saturday evening there was a brush-up between some Jews and some Arabs. On Sunday morning there was similar trouble, just of a limited nature. But the Jews, taking their cue from that, thought it would be a very good idea to start moving and go some place where they could secure protection from the police or the military or any other protective forces that happened to be around. So they organized themselves, left their homes and went into the municipal gymnasium. This movement was based on a hunch and the hunch proved right. It did not take too long after that when riots broke out. There is no mollah in Masagan but the Arabs marched through the old city; they seemed to know which were the Jewish houses and only those were destroyed. In other areas, too, the Jews had an intuition that something was not right and they took off on their own. Mr. Horwitz added that from his own experience in Tunisia he could say that there never was a demonstration or a general strike that was not known throughout the city the day before, or at least several hours before and in a mixed population there are enough people who know each other from having lived together for years for the information to spread.

Mr. Horwitz was interested in the remarks about the middle class and the artisan group which was beginning to think in terms of emigration. Some of them were interested in going to places other than Israel, according to reports from the UHS offices which had been opened in Casablanca and Tangier. The indication in those offices is that registration has increased and the UHS is proceeding to work up the opportunities for visas to Venezuela and Brazil. Of the two places Brazil offers the better opportunity, and experience indicates that this group ought to be able to integrate relatively easily and with relatively less cost to the UHS. Mr. Spaulen of the UHS is in Morocco specifically for the purposes of making a preliminary review of the situation.

In answer to a question about the functioning of the schools Mr. Katzki said that the Talmud Torah in Casablanca is functioning; the Ozar Ha-torah closed down but he believes it has since been reopened. With respect to the schools and the garderie program much will depend on what the position is as of October, which is the time for the re-entry to schools in Morocco. One of the people with whom Mr. Katzki spoke indicated that, even if things should be quiet in October she did not see how in good conscience she could send her child back to the school because she did not know what would happen to her child walking along the street or playing in the playground.

With reference to the dispensary in Marrakech from which the doctors were reported to have left, Mr. Katzki stated that the OSH people had not yet been down there to see what had happened. However, in Casablanca the dispensary was functioning and the street in front of the dispensary was lined as usual with people seeking treatment. The milk station, which is just outside the melleh, had its usual long line of mothers who were there collecting their milk bottles, and alongside, where the food distribution scheme for the sick people is now located, people were coming in regularly to pick up their food. These were activities which Mr. Katzki was able to witness personally. He understands that the dispensary in Fez is working too. He could not say anything about Rabat-Sale since he had not heard anything about it. He thought that the dispensary at Port Lyautey was working too.

The JNG staff is continuing to travel. Mr. Laufer and Mr. Feintuch went down to Mazagan on the Monday after the riots. They were about the first people in there and Mr. Laufer said that when they left at five o'clock in the evening the first French soldiers were just beginning to come in. Mr. Laufer has also been to Gued-Zen and to Khenifra. During the week that Mr. Katzki was in Casablanca Mr. Ades and Miss Grayson went by train to Fez and return. This staff movement is done very carefully and the staff does not go out on the roads if there is any reason to feel that there is danger involved.

Address by Rabbi Herbert Friedman at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York, Inc., held at the offices of Mr. Samuel Leidesdorf, 100 East 42nd Street, New York, N. Y., on Wednesday afternoon, September 28, 1955.

This is the first opportunity I have had to meet with you who are, in a very real sense, the most important constituency the UJA possesses. You are the leaders of the largest Jewish community in the world, and a very heavy sense of responsibility must always weigh on your shoulders.

I therefore take seriously the invitation to come here today, just as I know you extended it seriously -- and, in that serious and statesmanlike framework, I should like to try to tell you some of the things I saw, some of the things I heard, some of the opinions I gathered, from a very intensive recent trip through North Africa and Israel.

There have been almost no visitors from the United States to North Africa since Bastille Day, which, as you know, is on July 14. On the day of the 15th, the first rioting broke out and, from that time until this, Morocco has been under martial law, maintained by French troops, by French Foreign Legionnaires, by native goumiers, all seeking to maintain law and order in a territory which is rapidly losing all semblance of law and order.

The thing which I would like to say in one sentence -- and to say it, I think, without exaggeration -- is that the Jewish world is faced for the first time since 1950-1951 with a genuine emergency situation involving the necessary transmigration of scores of thousands of people.

In 1950-1951, we saw the Iraq expulsion. Some 115,000 Jews were expelled from Iraq and taken to Israel in fifteen months during that period. Since that time, there has been nothing comparable to what is now imminently on the horizon.

Thank God, we have had no international Jewish crises of this magnitude, because these few intervening years have given Israel a chance to catch her breath. In that much desired and very necessary period of stabilization, Israel has done wonders, in the short time at her disposal, to consolidate the economy, to stabilize the inflation, to absorb the earlier groups. Had that breathing spell not been available to her, I have no idea how she could have handled that which is now looming immediately before us. Having had that, however, she had not what I would call a second wind, but a breathing spell in the first wind, to handle what I would like to try to describe to you now.

I have no desire to enter into any polemics with any other national Jewish organizations or leaders whose statements or opinions might conflict with mine. I simply desire to present, factually and objectively, what I saw and believed, and I think it is up to you, in your statesmanlike capacity, to make your judgements as to what is happening with this North African population.

There is a deep and authentic feeling of panic going from the very highest quarters down to the lowest Jew in the most far-flung village -- a panic which results from the critical and unfolding crisis between the Moslems and the French, particularly in Morocco.

I am not talking about Tunisia, which is quiet -- and yet from which 700 Jews a month are now emigrating, with all of its quietness. Nor am I talking about Algeria, which is quiet, and from which almost no Jews are emigrating. I am talking now largely about Morocco -- French and Spanish -- which is in flames.

From the morning of the 15th of July until today, the 28th of September, there has been almost no single day in which there have not been incidents involving death, bloodshed, burning, looting, and the flight of larger or smaller numbers of people. Almost no day has passed without some episode.

On the front pages of the Vigile the French paper there, there is a box score kept every day, giving the number of killed, the number of wounded, the number of displaced, in categories called "European", "Moslem" and "Jew". If you want to know what is happening, take the paper, as I do, and read the front page every day, and look at the box score.

Much of the information which I have at my disposal was garnered from sources which I consider to be absolutely authentic and irreproachable, namely, the Joint Distribution Committee. Their men on the spot, their American and European personnel plus the indigenous personnel upon whom they rely

for information, have been -- in my experience, at least -- the most reliable and sober judges of any local problem.

I have here a letter, a few paragraphs of which, describing a specific incident in microcosm, will give you the whole picture in macrocosm.

This letter is dated September 6 and it comes from Mr. El Kaim one of the leading Jews of Marrakech. He is the man in that city who is entrusted with the responsibility of sending reports to the JDC. He writes:

"On my way from Demnat, I was stopped at Tamlelt by the Police. I came out of my car and saw ten wounded Jews, seven seriously. They were lying on the ground since 10 in the morning, and it was 12 when I arrived there. No first aid had been given them. The canteen keeper of Tamlelt, an ex-policeman in retirement, exkeeper of the Marrakech brothel, witnessed the riot from the roof of his house. He was armed with rifle and gun, he saw the Jews being hit with bludgeons and hooks, but did not make a gesture to scare the demonstrators, who were just below his wall. Ten minutes later, nearly all the gendarmes were drinking in his canteen and telling funny stories."

"The two policemen on duty in Tamlelt, who had provoked the riot by trying to arrest two Moslem demonstrators, were armed only with a small gun each, and, not being able to arrest the demonstrators, they saved themselves only by running for their lives to the post office and hiding there.

"It was then that one of the demonstrators cried: 'Let us attack the Jews'. They rushed at them, pillaged their goods, clubbed them, stole their money and their mules. They cut a telephone pole on the Marrakech road and made off."

These are facts. What comes now is Mr. El Kaim's opinion:

"But the most revolting thing was that the authorities lacked efficiency, and there was indifference, and the brutality with which they treated the wounded people, and their inability to protect the Jews in that center. It will be the same in other centers, as those Jews have no other means of living than their trade on Souk days." (Souk is the Arabic word for "market".)

In other words, the Jews went to the Souk, to the market. That is their normal pursuit of trade. A riot started against the French. Two policemen, inadequately armed, were unable to contain the rioters. They tried to arrest two of them. They failed to do so. The policemen then ran for cover. Once the policemen had run for cover, the mob said: "Let's attack the Jews." The man on the roof, armed, saw the mob attacking the Jews but did nothing about it or was able to do nothing about it.

An important incident? Two rioters -- ten Jews wounded. Nobody killed, thank God. A matter of grave international concern? A matter for people in New York to get excited about?

Some would say: "No, because this is a minor thing." Some would also say: "Let us keep our heads, because this is not a question of the Arabs making a pogrom against the Jews. They were out for the French first; they went to the Jews only second."

Yes, that is true -- perfectly true. If, however, even though it is a case of going for the Jews only second, you wind up after three months with a large number of dead, wounded, and people who are homeless because their shops and houses have been burned, I think you have the background for the feeling which pervades the entire community -- the feeling that they have no security there.

What I have read to you is from Marrakech, dated September 6. I could read to you accounts in this same folder from Casablanca, Mazagan, Oued Zem, Safi, Meknes and other places.

Ladies and gentlemen, in the face of my own tendency to be over-protective of Jewish blood when it is spilled, I have tried to be as restrained as I can be about this. And yet I have the feeling that we are up against a very substantial crisis here, which I think we are entitled to call an emergency.

It is really not so much a matter of what I think; it is really a matter of what the people there think. And the people in North Africa, whether they choose to use the word "emergency" or not, are trying to leave for Israel in very large numbers. There are at the moment 60,000 to 70,000 people who have registered at the office of the Jewish Agency in Casablanca, registered to leave.

There are 4,000 people bottled up in a camp in Marseille, on the southern coast of France, which is being run by the JDC. There are 1,200 to 1,300 people in a camp 40 miles outside of Casablanca which is under the control of the Jewish Agency. The camp is not adequately protected.

There are several thousand people in the various cities I have named who are literally homeless at the moment. Some are housed in school buildings, some are housed in municipal sports stadiums, some are housed in any kind of temporary housing that is available to those who have no place to go back to.

I think the American Jewish community must be made aware of the fact that we are faced with a very large transmigration of people who want out — and I don't think it is for us to say that they should stay.

I told you that Tunisia is quiet. There isn't a riot, there isn't an episode, there isn't a head cracked. On the contrary Habib Bourgiba, the head of the Arab nationalist party in Tunisia, is

friendly to the Jews. But 600 to 700 people a month are going out of Tunisia, month after month. There is a treaty in existence between the Government of Tunisia and the Government of France according to which Tunisia has home rule, and it has just appointed a Jew -- Mr. Albert Bessis, whom I have had the privilege of meeting several times -- to the Cabinet. He is a Jew who is a member of a Tunisian Arab government.

The same Mr. Bessis has told me that the rate of migration from Morocco should by no means be lessened, that the rate of migration from Tunisia should by no means be diminished; that, on the contrary, if it is within the power of the Jewish Agency in Israel and the world Jewish community to increase the rate of emigration, it should be done. This is from the same Mr. Bessis who has assumed a responsible position in the Tunisian Government.

I have no idea of how the current negotiations between the French and the Moroccans will come out. I have a feeling that if the French Cabinet, under Premier Faure, does not solve this before next Tuesday, when the National Assembly reconvenes, there is a very substantial chance that the Government of France may fall on this matter, as the government of Mendes-France fell.

If the Cabinet of Mr. Faure falls on this matter, and the matter is on the floor of the National Assembly, there may be no treaty between France and Morocco giving Morocco her independence. If the Moroccan nationalists fail to achieve their independence, let me predict today that we shall see Jewish blood shed on a scale which will make the episodes of the previous three months look infantile.

If the Government of France can settle this with the

Moroccan nationalists, there will be a period of quietude, the rioting will diminish, the sporadic violent episodes will decrease. I think this will have no relationship whatsoever to the desire on the part of the Jews to get out.

Well, if we are talking about a real emergency and talking about a desire on the part of the people to get out, where do they get out to (if you will pardon the bad grammar)? How is Israel situated today, and what is her attitude toward taking in this potentially large influx?

There has been made a bookkeeping figure of 45,000 North African Jews to be admitted to Israel till next Rosh Hashonah. I call it a bookkeeping figure because it seems to me that it is not related to reality. If it is quiet in Morocco, the figure may be 45,000 or perhaps even less. If it is not quiet in Morocco, it won't be 45,000, and it won't be 50,000, and it won't be 55,000; it will be much more than that.

Israel has made perfectly fabulous progress, as I have said, during these few years of her breathing spell. It is a delight to see what has been accomplished in the country — not just in concrete physical terms, but in terms of the evolution of human development. For instance, the social planning and engineering going on in the country are far superior to what was taking place a few years ago. It is a delight to see the care with which Malben has developed its institutions — and, again, this is that same wonderful JDC — and the manner in which they are taking care of aged and chronically ill and hard-core cases. Social progress has kept pace with technical progress, and all of this is to Israel's credit and something in which we should all take great joy.

I want to tell you very frankly that, faced with this new influx, the people in Israel are very frightened. There is a magnificent courage and heroism on their part, which they have always displayed and which is no less gorgeous now than it always was. But heroism and courage and magnanimity of spirit may still leave people fearful when they look at the cost of this, and they are very frightened as to their capacity to handle a large emigration without a larger response from us.

When I say that they are frightened, that does not mean that they won't do it. They will make every sacrifice under the sun to do it. Already, new taxes have been prepared, and some have been levied, to shift part of the burden of North African absorption on to the shoulders of the Israeli Jews themselves.

Overburdened as they already are with taxes, they are going to pay higher taxes on alcohol, tobacco, building materials and income. In those four categories, the Treasury has prepared and presented to the Parliament bills which will produce an additional revenue of \$17,000,000 -- and this additional burden, directly attributable to the North African problem, will be passed on to the shoulders of the Israeli people.

It therefore seems to me that a principle in equity should be that a ratio ought to be maintained between what they are willing to absorb and take on their shoulders and what we are willing to take on ours.

It is exactly this kind of principle in equity which makes the partnership between them and us so beautiful, so substantial and so continuous. They have never failed to answer an emergency call of Jews anywhere in the world for a home. We, so far, have not failed to answer the call for the money.

The partnership is in terms of those who are willing to share space with those of us who are willing to share wealth. This partnership is an ongoing thing which must be maintained in the face of the new situation.

I would simply like to say that I think it would be the height of folly, having lived through the liquidation of the DP camps, having lived through the transplantation from Iraq and Yemen, having lived through that period when, altogether too briefly, we had an opportunity to take Jews out of Rumania and did so to the tune of 100,000 in 1950 (and then lost the chance -- I hope not forever) -- it would be the height of folly, having lived through several episodes of that sort, for us now to fail when we stand confronted by another Jewish population that needs transplanting.

It would be the height of folly because what we would do, by failing to meet this situation, would be to leave Israel extremely vulnerable, so that all of the stability that we have tried to create there over the course of the years might run down the drain very quickly.

We want desperately to keep Israel stable, and to save the Jews of Morocco. It seems to me that, if we want this desperately enough, there is only one way to do it -- and that is for us to raise those sums of money, inevitably larger than they have been, which will discharge this responsibility.

Thank you very much.

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL

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

165 WEST 46 STREET, N. Y. 36, N. Y. PLAZA 7-1500 CABLE ADDRESS: UJAPPEAL, NEW YORK

October 6, 1955

**SENT TO SAME LIST THAT RECEIVED HAF MAILINGS FROM ISRAEL****(SIMILAR LETTER TO EXPANDED SELECTED LIST OF COMMUNITY LEADERS)**President
EDWARD M. M. WARBURGGeneral Chairman
WILLIAM ROSENWALDNational Chairmen
Representing Agencies
DEWEY D. STONE, UIA
JONAH B. WISE, JDCNational Chairmen
MORRIS W. BERKSTEIN
JOSEPH HOLTZMAN
SOL LUCKMAN
JACK D. WEILERNational Co-Treasurers
I. EDWIN GOLDWASSER
JACOB SINCOFFExecutive Vice-Chairman
HERBERT A. FRIEDMANAssistant Executive Vice-Chairman
LOUIS L. BENNETTNational Women's Division
Honorary Chairmen
MRS. S. ALEXANDER BRAILOVE
MRS. HERBERT H. LEHMAN
MRS. DAVID M. LEVY
MRS. ALBERT PILAVIN
MRS. FELIX M. WARBURGChairman
MRS. HAL HORNENational Campaign Cabinet
Chairman
SAMUEL H. DAROFFChairman for Regions
JOSEPH HOLTZMANNational Cash Chairman
SOL LUCKMANTrade and Industry Chairman
ROBERT W. SCHIFFBig Gifts Chairman
BENJAMIN H. SWIGSpeakers Division Chairman
LOUIS NIZERCabinet Members
RICHARD J. ABEL
HERBERT R. ABELES
NORMAN BERLIN
LOUIS BERRY
HYMAN BRAND
ISADORE BRESLAU
CHARLES BROWN
EDDIE CANTOR
JOSEPH CHERNER
ELI A. COHEN
LLOYD W. DINKELSPIEL
SIMON H. FABIAN
HENRY FEFERMAN
ABRAHAM FEINBERG
FRED FORMAN
REUBEN L. FREEMAN
NORBERT FRIEDMAN
KALMAN S. GOLDENBERG
HAROLD A. GOLDMAN
I. E. GOLDSTEIN
MILTON KAHN
NATHANIEL P. KANN
ABE KASLE
ABE S. KAY
ADOLPH KIESLER
PHILIP M. KLUTZNICK
ALBERT A. LEVIN
HARRY LEVINE
JULIUS LIVINGSTON
PHILIP W. LOWN
HENRY MASLANSKY
JOSEPH M. MAZER
BARNEY MEDINTZ
ARTHUR C. MELAMED
JOSEPH MEYERHOFF
IRVING MILLER
EDWARD D. MITCHELL
MARTIN NADELMAN
IRVING S. NORRIS
JAMES L. PERMUTT
BARNEY RAPAPORT
LEONARD RATNER
EDWIN ROSENBERG
SAMUEL ROTHSBERG
SOL SATINSKY
JOSEPH J. SCHWARTZ
MORRIS SENDEROVITZ, JR.
JOSEPH D. SHANE
WILLIAM M. SHIPLEY
JOSEPH SHULMAN
RUDOLF G. SONNEBORN
JACK STERN
JOSEPH TALAMO
HERMAN P. TAUBMANNational Field Director
M. WILLIAM WEINBERG

This letter is being written to advise you of the latest developments in our effort to meet the growing crisis which confronts the 500,000 Jews of North Africa and, in particular, the 230,000 Jews in Morocco.

Although you received a series of letters this summer from Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman, Executive Vice-Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, in which he kept you vividly abreast of the Jewish plight in Morocco and Tunisia, and the situation in Israel, the fact is that the crisis in North Africa is so fluid that each day brings new situations and new requirements. As a matter of fact, the officers of the UJA are in almost daily consultation with responsible leaders and officials of the Israel Government, the Jewish Agency and the Joint Distribution Committee with reference to both the latest events and the latest needs.

After Rabbi Friedman's return from abroad, the UJA launched a vigorous campaign to raise \$10,000,000 in cash. The main objective of this special effort was, and is, to provide for the movement to Israel during October and November of 10,000 Jews from Morocco. The deadline for this \$10,000,000 cash goal was set for October 13th and I know that your community has been doing everything possible to assure its fulfillment.

The 10,000 men, women and children to be moved in October and November represent only part of those whom it would seem absolutely necessary to move in the next twelve months. That is why the officials of both the Jewish Agency and the Government of Israel have decided that provision must be made to move, and to receive, no less than 45,000 Jews by next Rosh Hashonah.

Nothing reflects so accurately the tenseness of the present difficult situation in North Africa than this projected movement to Israel of 45,000 persons. But one must be prepared for all eventualities. Should the present situation become even more difficult than it is, an even larger rate of emigration would become necessary.

As important, too, as the question of how many North African Jews should be helped to leave for Israel is this question: "Where is the money to come from?"

Here are the figures: To move 45,000 persons to Israel and give them one year's rehabilitative help will cost a minimum of \$45,000,000. This \$45,000,000 requirement is exclusive of the sums that will be required in the next twelve months to meet other vital programs, including the continuing costs of earlier immigrations. Israel has already scheduled new taxes so that its own people can provide some of the funds. It goes without saying that this is a gallant gesture on the part of an already overburdened population. It goes without saying also that American Jewry must act with the same gallantry to provide the balance.

If lives are to be saved, the UJA in 1956 must raise far more millions of dollars than is now considered as UJA's potential for the year.

Later this month, a Study Mission of the UJA will be conferring in Israel with leaders of the Government and the Jewish Agency. Just as soon as the Mission returns from abroad, I shall make a point of communicating with you about the results of its deliberations. Meanwhile I urge you to follow developments in North Africa with the utmost care and attention and to hold yourself ready to offer your fullest possible assistance, as you have always done.

Cordially,

M. Rosenwald



Temple B'rith Kodesh

117 GIBBS STREET
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

October 10, 1955

Rabbi Herbert Friedman
United Jewish Appeal
165 West 46th Street
New York, New York

RECEIVED	
OCT 12 1955	
NOTED BY	REFER TO
DATE	DATE
	HFF
	RL
	GH
ANSWERED 10/18 BA	

Dear Herb

Bill Rosenwald's form letter of the 6th which arrived this morning, reminded me that you said you had some new material on Morocco which I could use in my various addresses locally. I am to speak at the public meeting with Mrs. Roosevelt and then at half a dozen other functions where it is felt I can be useful. So, I would appreciate your arranging to have these items sent to me before your departure. /RL

I have asked Ben Goldstein to have a check drawn to Teddy Kollect which will probably be mailed to you in a day or so.

I am looking forward to talking with you at least by phone before you leave.

All the best.

As ever

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein

PSB:js

October 18, 1955

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein
Temple Brith-Kodesh
117 Gibbs Street
Rochester 5, New York

Dear Rabbi Bernstein:

Just before his departure for Europe the other day, Rabbi Friedman asked me to send on to you the enclosed information on Morocco, being an extract from the minutes of a special JDC meeting in Paris in September. I am sure you appreciate the fact that these notes are very confidential.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Melvin S. Goldstein

MSG:ba

Enclosure 1

FC/FRG
Vigdor
Mintz
Hagy
Lithm

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

HEADQUARTERS FOR OVERSEAS OPERATIONS

CABLES & TELEGRAMS
JOINTFUND - PARIS

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE
PARIS (VII*)

TELEPHONE { 87-83
87-55
INVALIDES } 79-87

18 October 1955

Mr. Melvin Goldstein
United Jewish Appeal
165 West 46th Street
New York 36, N. Y.

Dear Mel:

Late last night at a meeting in Eddie's room the apple-cart was turned over. The meeting for November 18 is cancelled and the whole question of a Special Fund must now be recast.

Present at the meeting were Eddie, Bill, Moe Leavitt and Moe Beckelman, Henry Bernstein, Dewey Stone, Giora and myself.

Moe Leavitt put up a very strong fight against the Special Fund. He insisted that it would destroy the normal 1956 campaign. Perhaps he was worried about the JDC income if the Special Fund went up and the regular campaign went down, because the JDC would not be participating in the Special Fund.

He insisted that without PCB arrangements, which would give us a firm floor for 1956, all contributions made by individuals to the Special Fund would ultimately be deducted from their normal contributions.

I don't want to bore you with all the hours of conversation. Dewey said that the Special Fund should be conducted parallel with the regular campaign on a two-cart basis. Several agreed that all which could be obtained from community reserves would also be deducted from the 1956 allocations, if local campaigns fall behind.

I fought pretty much alone and finally gave in. The way it stands now we will not have the November 18th meeting, but will devote a session of the December meeting (or, Bill thinks we should call a group together on Thursday, the day before the December meeting opens) to a discussion of how to obtain an extra quota of money for North Africa from each community. Perhaps the exact manner of presentation and the technique of raising this Special Fund will become clearer in the days ahead.

At any rate, right now I would appreciate it if you would read this letter to Wajda and Weinberg. The whole PCB structure becomes more important now. Wajda must press for more meetings with communities. By the time I return I would like a clear picture of what can be done during the month of November (now that the November 18th meeting is out of the way) to make firm our arrangements with the major communities. If they stall we should press them.

Please.....

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

HEADQUARTERS FOR OVERSEAS OPERATIONS

CABLES & TELEGRAMS
JOINTFUND - PARIS

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE
PARIS (VII*)

TELEPHONE { 87-83
INVALIDES { 87-55
79-37

- 2 -

to: Mr. Melvin Goldstein

18 October 1955

Please ask Weinberg to exert every additional effort possible to get plus-giving in these fall campaigns, since we must now depend upon the regular campaign to do the extra job we were planning for the Special Fund.

I am writing to Nahum Goldmann, and enclose copy simply for your information. I do not think there is anything you need do about it, unless he asks you.

Besides from this, the JDC Conference is going well. Our mission people have not yet participated in floor discussions, but will probably do so tomorrow morning. Incidentally, the second platoon arrived by EL AL about 4:00 PM Sunday afternoon; roughly 48 hours after the departure from New York.

All the best,

Sincerely yours,

HAF
Herbert A. Friedman
Executive Vice-Chairman UJA

HAF/hk

encl.

AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

HEADQUARTERS FOR OVERSEAS OPERATIONS

CABLES & TELEGRAMS
JOINTFUND - PARIS

119, RUE SAINT-DOMINIQUE
PARIS (VII^e)

TELEPHONE { 87-83
INVALIDES { 87-55
79-37

18 October 1955

Dr. Nahum Goldmann
Jewish Agency for Palestine
16 East 66th Street
New York 21, N. Y.

Dear Nahum:

At a meeting held here last night the November 18th meeting for the launching of a Special Fund was cancelled. Present at the meeting were Eddis, Bill, Moe Leavitt and Moe Beckelman, Henry Bernstein, Dewey Stone, Gloria and myself.

The strongest opposition to the Special Fund was made by Moe Leavitt, who felt that it would destroy the 1956 campaign. I don't want to bore you with all the details of the discussion, but the decision was made to cancel the November meeting and to incorporate in the December annual Conference of the UJA some discussion how to raise extra funds for North Africa. The use of the term Special Fund has not yet been completely discarded, but exactly what is contemplated by the term is not longer clear. In addition to keeping you informed, one of my reasons for writing is to think together with you how the special Zionist effort which you were going to mount should now be handled.

You remember I had a long conversation with Emanuel Neuman and Abraham Goodman. They were going to work among the ZQA bigger givers in order to have something to announce on November 18th.

I do not think that the Zionist movement should lose impetus which it may have started to gain. The difficulty is that if there is no special UJA fund, then Zionist contributions, above and beyond the normal welfare fund contribution of the individual Zionist, can find no receptacle in the UJA framework. Therefore, the welfare funds might start to make trouble if special Zionist gifts are collected outside the welfare fund for North Africa. If the UJA has no Special Fund, Zionist collections lose the protection of such a cover.

I think that, as I said before, I would not like to have the Zionist organizations lose any impetus. Would it be possible for you to maintain the enthusiasm (if it exists) until such time as I come back and we can see more clearly what the possibilities are for working out some other cover? I expect to be home on 31 October and I know you will be in Europe the first week of November, but after your return I would like to hear from you.

Something will undoubtedly be done at our December meeting to create a vehicle by which communities will make extra contributions. I still have the feeling that such a vehicle could also embrace Zionist collections. I simply do not want the idea of hard work on their part

to.....

to: Dr. Nahum Goldmann

18 October 1955

to evaporate between now and then.

Sincerely yours,

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

Herbert A. Friedman
Executive Vice-Chairman UJA

HAF/ik

MELVIN S. GOODSTEIN

MRS. SMART

All Cabinet meeting Nov. 19 - we wish to
have the members of the Adm. Committee present
as well. Note for Friedman should go to
those members of the Adm Com who are not
members of Cabinet inviting them to attend
Cabinet because of special importance this
meeting. Please be certain that Adm Committee
members received invitation to Nov. 18
conference.

(MS)

11/4/55

Done

WESTERN UNION

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

FX-1280

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

Received VIA WESTERN UNION CABLES at 40 Broad St., New York, N. Y. Telephone ^{1953 OCT} HANover 2-2920

6 02

PSX104=ZP EL PARIS 22 19 1056A=

UJAPPEAL NYK= *UJAPPEAL*
UNITED JEWISH APPEAL
165 WEST 46TH ST

Fc/Fue



NOVEMBER EIGHTEENTH MEETING CANCELLED REPEAT CANCELLED
STOP TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTION YOUR END STOP
FRIEDMAN LETTER WITH DETAILS FOLLOWS=

BENNETT=..

1953 OCT 17 10 05

Nov 19

October 21, 1955

Mr. Henry L. Zucker
The Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland
1001 Huron Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Henry:

I have been trying to call you, but I am told that you are out of town, and that is why I am writing this letter.

For your own confidential information, I should like you to know that there will not be a special conference in November on the subject of North African emmigration. You will recall that this was mentioned at the Cabinet meeting and we talked about it for a few minutes. The way things look at the moment the next UJA meeting will be in December.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

Melvin S. Goldstein

MSG:ba

October 21, 1955

Mr. Morris Berinstein
612 Syracuse Kemper Building
Syracuse, New York

Dear Morris:

I tried to call you today but was not able to track you down in either Syracuse or Leroy.

It has been decided to cancel the November 18 meeting for a special North African fund. The decision was taken in Europe and I had a letter from Herb Friedman telling me that this decision was following a meeting attended by Eddie Warburg, Bill Rosenwald, Moe Leavitt, Moe Beckelman, Henry Bernstein, Dewey Stone, Giora Josephthal and Herb. I understand that Moe Leavitt particularly put a very strong fight up against this special fund. He insisted that it would destroy the normal 1956 campaign. There was also the feeling that whatever might be obtained from community reserves would be deducted from 1956 allocations if local 1956 campaigns fall behind.

The way it stands now, according to the word I have from Herb, we will probably devote a session of our December meeting to a discussion of how to obtain extra money for North Africa from each community.

I wanted you to have this information in connection with any plans you might be making.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

Melvin S. Goldstein

MSG:ba



מברק

Handwritten signature

ט 905 ג

Handwritten number 18

בשורה הראשונה של המברק רשומים לפי הסדר: סימן היכר פנימי, מספר סדורי, מספר מקורי, בית הדואר ממנו נשלח המברק, מספר המלים, יום המשלוח, שעת המשלוח, הנראות השרות (אם ישנן כאלה).



H

J865

UI375

UIW QN1160 SQ NY246/4 NEWYORK 42 21 1518

LT RABBI HERBERT FRIEDMAN

KINDOTEL JERUSALEM (ISRAEL)

DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED YOUR DECISION CANCEL SPECIAL CONFERENCE
NOVEMBER 18TH URGE YOU DECIDE ON SOME FORM SPECIAL EFFORT FOR
NORTH AFRICAN IMMIGRATION OTHERWISE ACTIVITIES STARTED BY ZIONIST
GROUPS WILL COLLAPSE PLEASE CABLE YOUR FINAL DECISION REGARDS

GOLDMANN

Handwritten flourish or signature

KKK

FRIEDMAN
CARE EISENBERG
JEVAAGENCY
JERUSALEM (ISRAEL)

October 26, 1955

SUGGEST CABLE ALL CABINET MEMBERS ATTEND SPECIAL CABINET MEETING DINNER NOVEMBER
SEVENTH HEAR REPORT DISCUSS PLANS NOVEMBER EIGHTEENTH ALSO REQUEST THEM ARRANGE
REMAIN OVER FEW DAYS NEWYORK OFFICE PARTICIPATE ARRANGEMENTS PROGRAM AND MAKE CALLS
FOR ATTENDANCE STOP CABINET MEMBERS TO ADVISE OFFICE FULLSTOP QUERY WHAT ABOUT
EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS FOR NOVEMBER SEVENTEENTH FULLSTOP STAFF MEETING TODAY
ATTENDANCE ASSIGNMENTS MADE TRACKS CLEARED REGARDS

MELVIN IRVING

November 2, 1955

NOTE FOR NOVEMBER 18 FILE

At a meeting in Paris attended by Rabbi Friedman, Mr. Warburg, Mr. Leavitt and others, it was agreed that the following persons be assigned to the cities indicated for follow up action regarding contributions to the Special Fund:

Philadelphia	Moses A. Leavitt
Detroit	Rabbi Friedman and Mr. Warburg
Cleveland	Rabbi Friedman and Mr. Warburg
Washington	William Rosenwald
Baltimore	Rabbi Friedman and J. Meyerhoff and possibly Mr. Warburg
Los Angeles	Dewey Stone and Joe Holtzman and possibly Lou Boyar to be included
San Francisco	Mr. S. Treguboff to be approached regarding the best person to be sent.

MSG:ba

cc: E. Vajda
W. Weinberg

XXX

HENRY BEINSTEIN
HOTEL QUISISANA
CAPRI (ITALY)

November 3, 1955

EARLY REACTION TO NOVEMBER EIGHTEENTH MEETING GOOD STOP ATTENDANCE WILL PROBABLY
BE OKAY STOP SOME COMMUNITIES ASKING WHAT THEIR QUOTA FOR SPECIAL FUND WILL BE
STOP WHAT IS POSSIBILITY OF WORKING OUT QUOTA FROM NEWYORK STOP IRVING SUGGESTS
NEWYORK TAKE SEVENMILLION PERMITTING HIM SETUP SCHEDULE REACHING EIGHTEERMILLION FOR
ALL OTHERS STOP CALCULATION BASED ON FACT NEWYORK RAISES APPROXIMATELY TWENTYEIGHT
PERCENT TOTAL RAISED ALL COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT COUNTRY THEREFORE SHOULD ACCEPT
TWENTYEIGHT PERCENT OF TWENTYFIVERMILLION SPECIAL FUND STOP PLEASE WIRE REPLY

FRIEDMAN

HAZ/fc

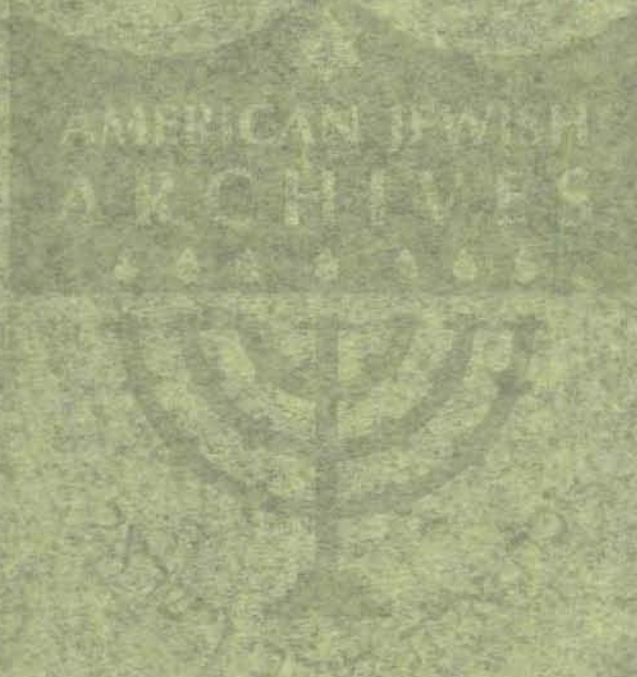
November 3, 1955

Mr. Ray Levy

Melvin S. Goldstein

It was thought that you might be interested in the attached letters received in Tangier from immigrants who went to Israel recently. You might be able to use them in some way.

MS:ba



1. Letter written by Erebe Mercedes, born in Melilla in 1936, lived some ten years in Tangier, father Schalom Erebe, dead, mother Rachel Lewy; 3 brothers and 3 sisters; left Tangier on 2/6/55 via Ceuta S.S. Jerusalem. Since 30/10/52 a former analpha-bet with the "Association d'Aide."

Rechob Asalom, Bait Anteby, Tiberias 14/7/55.

"To Mrs. Esther, my esteemed teacher:

I hope that you and your husband are in perfect health. My mother, borthers and I had a very good time on the boat and arrived here well. Some of the girls were on the boat also. I could not write earlier as I was very busy sewing. I have really had no time for leisure. You should know that people have no idea of how things are here. The Shabat of the rich in Tangier is the daily thing here for the poor. There is work and food for everybody. It is forty times better here than in Tangier. What I earned formerly during a month, I now earn in a week, and all good things are plentiful. Mrs. Esther, I am most grateful to you for teaching me a trade. You have no idea how glad my mother is to know that I can earn my living and help the whole family. We always speak of you. One should not believe what people say, just what can be seen here with one's own eyes. Thank Gd we are much better off here. What a pity it is that we did not go long ago to the "Saint country." I now work on a rented machine, but with Gd's help I do hope that I will buy one soon. We went from the ship immediately to Tiberias, where I have family. Other girls want much farther, to a place called Meguev. People speak Hebrew with me, and I feel happy that I can answer and speak a little. My love to Mrs. Lourdes and all the other teachers, and to the girls of my class. Do write soon. Many kisses from
Mercedes."

2. Letter written by Bengosi Simon, born in Tangier in 1939, father Elias 52 without any occupation in Tangier, mother Bella Trozman, 2 sisters 3 brothers, left Tangier 2/6/55 now in AKO, Chicun Anidar161 with the Association since 1954 of June as a macon: Letter written the 13th of June 1955:

"My dear friend:

I am well, and hope you and your family are in good health. I had a good six-day journey to Israel. We were nicely treated. I do not have work yet, but friends of mine who also learned trades with the Professional Association, say they immediately got L 7 to start with per day. That is much more than I ever earned in my life. I am now painting the house they gave us. My brother Isaac already works. We received 2 rooms, kitchen, shower, WC, 12 blankets and ground. I am glad that I learned a trade, and hope to work next week in my profession. Please convey my best regards and thanks to the teacher and to all my friends there. Many of those who learned the masonry with Mr. Manuel are here and well off. Please inform the teacher. Hope you will write soon, and I will send you a photo of my family and the place we are living in now. Kindest regards from your friend.

Simon"

XXX

AVRAHAM HARMAN
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
JERUSALEM (ISRAEL)

November 5, 1955

WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE KNOWING FLIGHT NUMBER AND WHEN SCHEDULED ARRIVE
NEWYORK BEST REGARDS

FRIEDMAN WAPPEAL

MSG/fo

Commercial Cable and Radio
All America Commercial Cable and Radio
Commercial Cable and Radio

EASTERN STANDARD TIME

1955 NOV 6 AM 8 10

ACR2/TG2989 JMV306

AMERICAN JCB/ISH
JERUSALEM ISRAEL 56 6 1120

FRIEDMANN UJAPPEAL

NY (FRIEDMANN UNITED JEWISH APPEAL 165 WEST 46TH ST N
CABLED SCHWARTZ QUOTE THINK IT MOST IMPORTANT THAT SHARETT
ATTENDS NOVEMBER EIGHTEENTH MEETING UJA OTHERWISE IT WILL SEEM
THAT SPECIAL FUND NOT OF PRIMARY IMPORTANCE STOP PLEASE ARRANGE
HIS SCHEDULE SO HE CAN ADDRESS THIS MEETING UNQUOTE PLEASE
CONTACT SCHWARTZ STOP SHARETT PREPARED ATTEND UJA EIGHTEENTH MEETING
IF SCHWARTZ AGREES REGARDS THEDDY GIORA

RCLE 7-2876
926 SEVENTH AVENUE, N. Y.
CIRCLE 7-2876
926 SEVENTH AVENUE, N. Y.

2

KKK

JOSEPH HAIK KOLIK
JEVAGENCY
JERUSALEM (ISRAEL)

November 7, 1955

THANKS CABLE HAVE ARRANGED SCHWARTZ FOR SHARITT ADDRESS EIGHTEENTH MEETING
REGARDS
FRIDMAN

HAF/gfc

November 9, 1955

*Use
as yellow
copy.*

NOTE FOR FILE
NOVEMBER 18 MEETING

At a meeting today attended by Messrs. Warburg, Friedman, Holtzman, Berin-
stein, Weiler, Goldstein, Bennett and Jacobs the following tentative
program for the November 18 meeting was agreed upon:

Presiding--Mr. Wm. Rosenwald--
Introductory remarks (approx. 5 minutes)

Rabbi Friedman on North Africa
(approximately 15 to 20 minutes)

Moshe Sharett - Presentation of the Crisis
(to 11:15 - 11:30 a.m.)

Mr. Warburg to present the challenge to America
(until about 12:00 noon)

Discussion until about 12:45 p.m.

Sandwich luncheon until 1:30 p.m.

Afternoon

Presiding - Mr. Morris Berinstein
Mr. Berinstein to announce that the meeting
will end at 4 p.m.

Avraham Harmon - first address of the afternoon session
(approximately 20 minutes to 2:00 p.m.)

Samuel Leidesdorf to be called upon by the Chairman as first person to
speak from the floor. Mr. Leidesdorf to endorse the program on behalf
of New York City. (Jack D. Weiler to clear this with Henry Bernstein)

At approximately 2:30 p.m. Mr. Berinstein as Chairman is to appoint a
committee to prepare a resolution and bring it back for discussion.

The meeting is to close at 4:00 p.m.

November 9, 1955

NOTE FOR FILE
NOVEMBER 18 MEETING

At a meeting today attended by Messrs. Warburg, Friedman, Holtzman, Berin-
stein, Weiler, Goldstein, Bennett and Jacobs the following tentative
program for the November 18 meeting was agreed upon:

Presiding--Mr. Wm. Rosenwald--
Introductory remarks (approx. 5 minutes)

Rabbi Friedman on North Africa
(approximately 15 to 20 minutes)

Moshe Sharett - Presentation of the Crisis
(to 11:15 - 11:30 a.m.)

Mr. Warburg to present the challenge to America
(until about 12:00 noon)

Discussion until about 12:45 p.m.

Sandwich luncheon until 1:30 p.m.

Afternoon

Presiding - Mr. Morris Berinstein
Mr. Berinstein to announce that the meeting
will end at 4 p.m.

Avraham Harman - first address of the afternoon session
(approximately 20 minutes to 2:00 p.m.)

Samuel Leidesdorf to be called upon by the Chairman as first person to
speak from the floor. Mr. Leidesdorf to endorse the program on behalf
of New York City. (Jack D. Weiler to clear this with Henry Bernstein)

At approximately 2:30 p.m. Mr. Berinstein as Chairman is to appoint a
committee to prepare a resolution and bring it back for discussion.

The meeting is to close at 4:00 p.m..

Commercial Mackay Radio Cables
American Cable & Radio System
67 BROAD STREET, N. Y. • BOWLING GREEN 9-3800

AL08

FC tryers to get date with Smith

NOV 10 AM 3 56 50

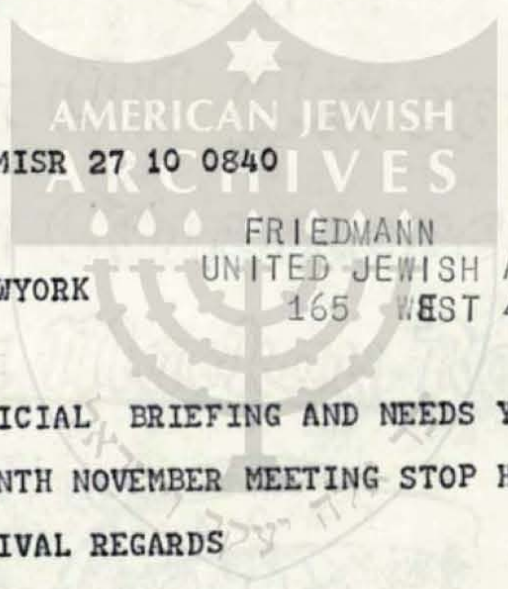
FC
↑

4

(M)

TGB572

JMV202 X3791 JERUSALEMISR 27 10 0840



UJAPPEAL FRIEDMANN NEWYORK

FRIEDMANN
UNITED JEWISH APPEAL
165 WEST 46TH ST /D

MOSHEH GOT ONLY SUPERFICIAL BRIEFING AND NEEDS YOUR DETAILED
BRIEFING ABOUT EIGHTEENTH NOVEMBER MEETING STOP HE AWAITS YOUR
VISIT ATONCE AFTER ARRIVAL REGARDS

GIORA

*T. Monday, Nov. 14
Savoy Place, Suite 1712*

Commercial Mackay Radio Cables
American Cable & Radio System
67 BROAD STREET, N. Y. • BOWLING GREEN 9-3800

November 10, 1955

Messrs. Bennett, Fishbein, Levy, Jacobs and Weinberg

H. S. Goldstein

November 15 Meeting--regret

Attached hereto for your information is a rough draft of a program for the November 15 Meeting worked out yesterday.

HLG:lm

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES



F/PAE

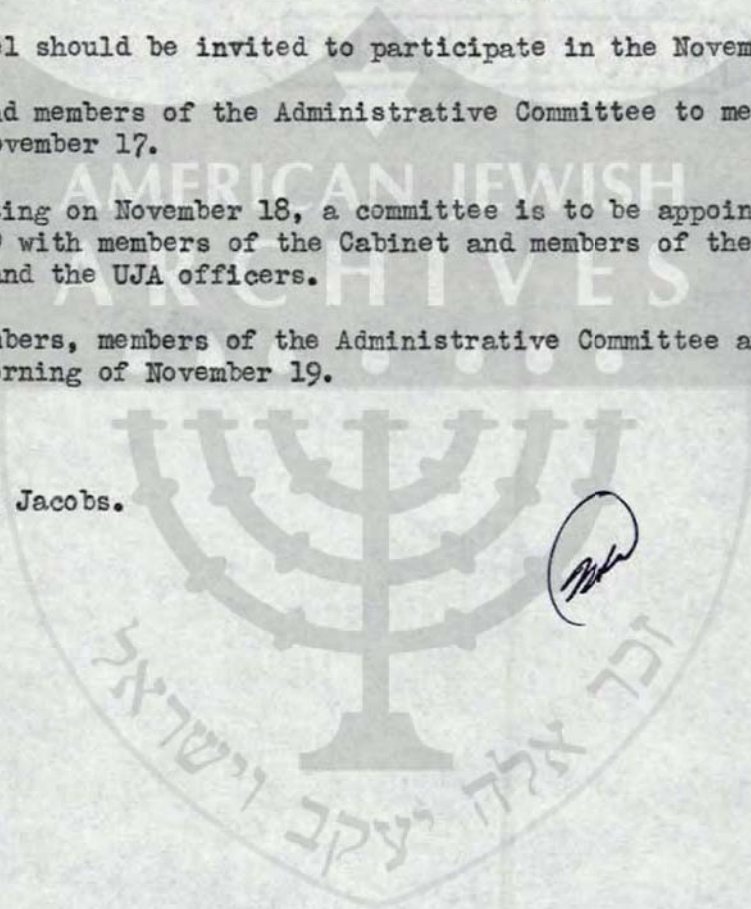
TIC
10/26 31

NOTE FOR FILES

On October 4 at the meeting with Rabbi Friedman on the November 18 conference on the North African Special Fund, the following points were made:

- AW* 1. Irving Engel should be invited to participate in the November 18 meeting.
- AW* 2. Officers and members of the Administrative Committee to meet Thursday evening, November 17.
- AW* 3. At the meeting on November 18, a committee is to be appointed to meet on November 19 with members of the Cabinet and members of the Administrative Committee and the UJA officers.
- AW* 4. Cabinet members, members of the Administrative Committee and officers to meet the morning of November 19.

cc: Mr. Irving Jacobs.



(Handwritten initials)

DAIS
for
NOVEMBER 1958 MEETING

1. Rosenwald, William
2. Warburg, Edward M. H.
3. Friedman, Rabbi Herbert A.
4. Sharrett, Moshe
5. Stone, Dewey D.
6. Berinstein, Morris (afternoon only)
7. Weiler, Jack (morning only)
8. Wise, Rabbi Jonah B.
9. Lehman, Senator Herbert
10. Edna, Abba

IN JEWISH
ARCHIVES



AGENDA

SPECIAL FUND MEETING

WALDORF-ASTORIA HOTEL

NEW YORK CITY

NOVEMBER 18, 1955

Morning Session

10:00 A.M.

10:15 A.M.

10:45 A.M.

11:15 A.M.

11:45 A.M.

12:30

Presiding: William Rosenwald

Mr. Rosenwald

Rabbi Friedman

Mr. Warburg

Discussion

Mr. Sharett

LUNCH

Afternoon Session

Presiding: Morris Berinstein

Discussion

Senator Lehman will speak during the course of the discussion period in the morning.

Ambassador Eban will speak at the close of the afternoon session.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE UNITED JEWISH APPEAL
AT THE WALDORF-ASTORIA HOTEL, NEW YORK CITY, NOVEMBER 18, 1955

Preamble

We, the more than 300 representatives of American Jewish philanthropic and communal organizations, gathered at an extraordinary meeting convened by the United Jewish Appeal at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City, on Friday, November 18, 1955, after hearing a momentous statement from His Excellency Moshe Sharett, Foreign Minister of Israel, and the factual and moving reports from members of the Overseas Study Mission of the United Jewish Appeal, have caused to be drawn up and have adopted the following resolution:

The State of Israel faces its most crucial period since its War of Liberation.

Israel's people are living in a dangerous situation, with no one knowing what new perils tomorrow might bring.

At a time when its future as an independent nation is endangered, Israel refuses to close its ears to the pleas of Jews from North Africa and elsewhere who seek sanctuary within its Holy gates.

Israel has made it a point of conscience to keep its doors open to all Jews clamoring for admission.

Israel, in this hour of peril, is unable to continue to carry the major share of financing this immigration and resettlement program.

The Jews of America recognize a moral obligation and a solemn duty to give fullest possible aid and comfort to the people of Israel - and the Jews of North Africa - in their hour of grave need.

To this end the Jews of America must provide all the funds for immigration to assure a haven of refuge and safety for the Jews who are in need of it, while the people of Israel gird themselves for the arduous tasks that lie ahead. Additional funds will be required.

To carry out the foregoing purposes, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That there be constituted a United Jewish Appeal Special Fund.
2. That the sum of \$25,000,000 be contributed by the Jews of America to this Special Fund.
3. That this Special Fund be in addition to the normal United Jewish Appeal income.
4. That this Special Fund be created now - today - and that contributions to this Fund be accepted immediately.
5. That contributions to this Fund be secured in each community through the machinery of the Jewish Welfare Funds or, where there are no Welfare Funds, through whatever other organized channel exists for this purpose in the community.
6. That contributions by individuals to the Special Fund be made, and accepted, over and above and without reduction of their respective contributions to the campaigns to be conducted in 1956.
7. That, over and above the Special Fund, the Welfare Funds of America agree that the UJA share from the regular Welfare Fund campaigns to be conducted in 1956 in no case be less than the UJA share of the 1955 campaign proceeds.
8. That each Welfare Fund, and where there are no Welfare Funds, each local community accept for itself its fair share of this sum of \$25,000,000 and give its solemn pledge that it will consider it a point of honor and conscience to raise its fair share.

② FILE

Out of town 237
New York City 133
Total 370

A T T E N D A N C E

ALABAMA

Birmingham

Fred W. Nichols

FLORIDA

Miami

Samuel J. Heiman
Benjamin B. Rosenberg, Exec. Dir.

CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles

Julius Bisno, Exec. Secy.
William W. Bruck
Joseph D. Shane

GEORGIA

Atlanta

Benjamin J. Massell
Barney Medintz

San Francisco

Leopold Lerner
Sylvan J. Lisberger
Sanford M. Treguboff, Exec. Secy.

ILLINOIS

Chicago

David Borowitz
Samuel A. Goldsmith, Secy.
Mrs. Benjamin R. Harris
Mrs. Gertrude Harris
Philip M. Klutznick
Abram N. Pritzker
Rabbi Louis L. Mann

COLORADO

Denver

Edward Hirschfeld
Moses M. Katz

Peoria

Samuel Rothberg
Julian B. Venezky

CONNECTICUT

Hartford

Bernard L. Gottlieb, Exec. Dir.
Morris Joseloff
Barney Rapaport
Samuel Roskin

INDIANA

Indianapolis

Lazare L. Goodman
Oscar A. Mintzer, Exec. Dir.

Meriden

Judge Selig Schwartz

South Bend

Henry Feferman

New Haven

Albert Cott
Norman B. Dockman, Exec. Dir.
Arthur Brown
Abe Lapidus
Mrs. Rose Jacobs Levine

KENTUCKY

Louisville

Norbert Friedman
Mrs. Martin M. Perley

Stamford

Louis Lotstein
Morris Perlman

LOUISIANA

New Orleans

Henry Maslansky

Waterbury

Ralph Segalman, Exec. Dir.
David Stein

MARYLAND

Baltimore

Louis J. Fox
Joseph Meyerhoff
Elkan R. Myers
Isadore I. Gollod, Camp. Dir.
Mr. & Mrs. Mose I. Speert

DELAWARE

Wilmington

J. A. Chester
Samuel Keil
Mrs. Milton Kutz
A. Roke Lieberman, Exec. Dir.

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston

Sidney S. Cohen, Exec. Dir.
Milton Kahn
Philip W. Lown
Fred Monosson
Louis P. Smith
Philip Smith
Moses I. Feuerstein
Mrs. Carl Spector
Dewey D. Stone
Benjamin Ulin

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Maurice Bisgyer
Rabbi Isadore Breslau
Joseph Cherner
Leopold V. Freudberg
Charles I. Kaplan
Louis E. Spiegler, Dir.

MASSACHUSETTS (cont'd)Leominster

Harry Levine

Lynn

Eli A. Cohen
 Abraham S. Burg
 Charles Shulman
 Albert M. Stein, Exec. Dir.

New Bedford

Fisher Abramson
 Judge Samuel Barnett
 Selwyn I. Braudy
 Arthur Goldys
 Max M. Margolis

Springfield

Irving M. Cohen
 Simon J. Katz
 Edward Schaffer
 Rabbi Moses Sheinkopf

Taunton

Charles R. Rodgers

Worcester

Jacob Hiatt
 Joseph Talamo

MICHIGANDetroit

Joseph Holtzman
 Abe Kasle
 Isidore Sobeloff, Exec. Dir.

MINNESOTAMinneapolis

Martin M. Cohn, Exec. Secy.

St. Paul

K. S. Goldenberg

MISSOURIKansas City

Hyman Brand
 Benjamin Sosland
 Abe L. Sudran, Exec. Dir.

MONTANAHelena

Mr. & Mrs. Norman Winestine

NEBRASKAOmaha

Hyman Ferer

NEVADALas Vegas

Al Kozloff
 Jacob Kozloff

NEW HAMPSHIREManchester

Abraham Machinist

NEW JERSEYAtlantic City

Morris Batzer
 I. D. Sinderbrand
 Max Palley
 Irving Spivack, Exec. Dir.
 Julius Waldman

Elizabeth

Mrs. S. Alexander Brailove
 Aaron A. Kaufman
 Louis Kousin, Exec. Dir.
 Joseph Weinstein

Englewood

Hyman Greenstein
 Max Grobow
 Harold Meltzer

Jersey City

Louis R. Kagan
 George R. Milstein
 Harry Weinberg

Newark

Herbert R. Abeles
 Louis Kasen
 Herman M. Pekarsky, Exec. Dir.
 Martin Rakitt, Camp. Dir.
 Michael A. Stavitsky
 Louis D. Stern

New Brunswick

David Darwin
 Alex Katchen
 Mrs. Irving Sosin

North Hudson

Murray Gillette
 Judge Abraham Lieberman
 Mrs. Rose Stadtfeld
 Morris Walter

Passaic

Mrs. Irving E. Ehrenfeld
 Aaron D. Endler
 Max Grossman, Exec. Dir.

Perth Amboy

Martin Danzig, Exec. Dir.

Paterson

Philip Dimond
 David Greenberg
 Mrs. Raymond Kramer
 Jack Stern
 Max Stern, Exec. Dir.
 Joseph Shulman

Plainfield

Mrs. Leonard Gidding

Teaneck

David Steinberg

Trenton

Samuel Abrams
 Karl Urken

NEW YORK

Albany

Sydney Abzug, Exec. Dir.
Maurice Freedman

Buffalo

Joseph Markel

Rochester

Hanon Berger
Fred Forman
Irving S. Norry

Schenectady

Alexander Diamond
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Golub
Max H. Hershkowitz
Samuel Weingarten, Exec. Dir.
David Weiss

Syracuse

Morris Berinstein
Samuel H. Greene
Gerald S. Soroker, Exec. Dir.

PENNSYLVANIA

Allentown

George Feldman, Exec. Dir.
Morris Senderowitz, Jr.
Samuel Smith

Philadelphia

Samuel H. Daroff
Samuel Genel
Samuel Melnick, Camp. Dir.
Sol Satinsky
Alex F. Stanton
Harry B. Sylk

Pittsburgh

James D. Bronner, Actg. Exec. Dir.
David Busis
Harold A. Goldstein
Nathaniel P. Kann
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel H. Horelick
Alex Lowenthal
Mr. & Mrs. Louis J. Reizenstein
Charles J. Rosenbloom
Hon. Samuel A. Weiss

Scranton

A. B. Cohen
Irving Harris
George Joel, Exec. Dir.
Harry Klein
Rabbi Simon Shoop

West Chester

Joel Weiss

Wilkes-Barre

Mr. & Mrs. Nathan I. Kuss
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Rifkin
Aaron Weiss

NORTH CAROLINA

Gastonia

Robert J. Gurney

OHIO

Akron

Jerome J. Kaufman

Cincinnati

Herbert R. Bloch, Jr.
Sol Luckman
Maurice J. Sievers, Exec. Dir.

Cleveland

Albert A. Levin
Leonard Ratner
Henry A. Rocker
Maurice H. Saltzman
William M. Shipley
Henry L. Zucker, Exec. Dir.

Columbus

Richard J. Abel
Robert W. Schiff

Dayton

Robert Fitterman, Exec. Dir.
Ralph N. Kopelove
Mr. & Mrs. Philip Sokol
Samuel H. Thal

Toledo

Joseph Cohan

Youngstown

Oscar H. Altschuler
Joseph Ungar

OKLAHOMA

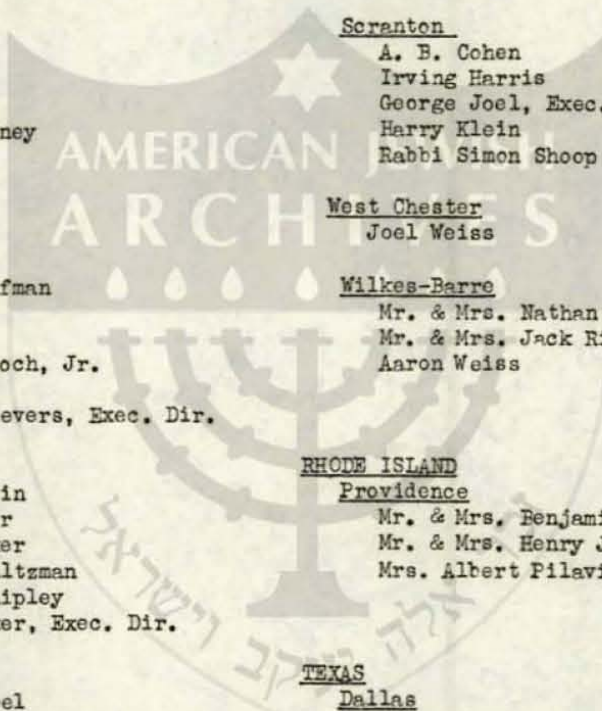
Tulsa

Herman P. Taubman
Milton Taubman

OREGON

Portland

Ben Medofsky



TEXAS

Dallas

Nolan Glazer

Houston

Martin Nadelman

VIRGINIA

Newport News

Franklin O. Blechman

Norfolk

Norman Berlin
Dave Friedman
Morton J. Gaba, Exec. Dir.

Richmond

David Arenstein
Mrs. Jerome S. Meyer
William B. Thalhimer, Jr.
Samuel Z. Troy
Julius Mintzer, Exec. Dir.

WASHINGTON

Seattle

Samuel G. Holcenberg, Exec. Dir.

WISCONSIN

Madison

Sam R. Chechik
Ben Minkoff
Alex Temkin
Laurence A. Weinstein

Milwaukee

Melvin S. Zaret, Exec. Dir.

CANADA

Toronto

Joel Tannenbaum

ISRAEL

Harold Goldenberg
David Hacohen
Jack Sutton

NEW YORK CITY

Rabbi & Mrs. Abba Abrams
Robert Arnov
Zvi Avnor (Consulate)
Mrs. Cilli Abrams (Consulate)

Paul Baerwald
Philip Bernstein (CJFWF)
Samuel Berson
Leo Bernstein (Bonds)
Leo Bernstein (NYC UJA)
Mrs. Francis J. Bloustein
Morris Brecher
Abner Bregman
Benjamin G. Browdy
Alex A. Bernstein
Meyer L. Brown (Farband)
Maurice Boukstein
Henry C. Bernstein
Louis Broido
Paul Bernick (ORT)

Mrs. Harry Cahane
Irwin S. Chanin
Nathan Chanin

Bernard Davidson
Mrs. Alexander Dolowitz
Reuven Dafni
Mrs. Lil Dann (Hadassah)

Irving Engel

Abraham Feinberg
William Feinberg
Miss Carolin Flexner
Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

Mrs. Abraham N. Geller
Morris Ginsberg
Israel Gitenstein
S. P. Goldberg (CJFWF)
Dr. I. Edwin Goldwasser
Sylvan Gotshal

NEW YORK CITY (cont'd)

Charles Gutwirth
Mollie Gladstone
Grace Gray (UIA)
Edward Goodell
Ben Gordon
Saul Goldszweig (NYC UJA)
Dr. Nahum Goldmann
Herman Getzoff (Weizmann Inst.)

Samuel Hausman
Benjamin Harrow
Dr. James G. Heller
Miss Esther Herlitz (Consulate)
Mrs. Walter A. Hirsch
Joseph Hofheimer
Max W. Hollander
Mrs. Hal Horne
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Hofheimer
Mordecai Hacohen
Isaac Hamlin
Mrs. Rose Halprin
Max Helvarg (Bonds)
Gottlieb Hammer
Isadore Hamlin (JA)

Mrs. Henry Ittleson

Mrs. Jaffe (Jewish Day)
Joshua Justman (Consulate)

Albert M. Kahn
Alexander Kahn
Abraham Kamber
Mrs. Ferdinand Kaufmann
Harry Kotofsky
Mrs. S. Kramarsky

Mrs. Rose B. Levenson
Mrs. Joseph Lukashok
Zvi Lurie (Consulate)
Moses A. Leavitt
Mrs. Estelle Liebers (NYC UJA)
Sen. Herbert H. Lehman

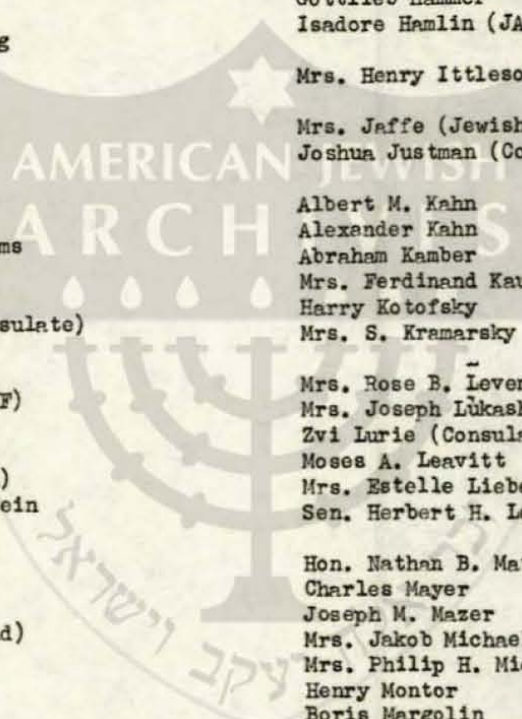
Hon. Nathan B. Math
Charles Mayer
Joseph M. Mazer
Mrs. Jakob Michael
Mrs. Philip H. Michaels
Henry Montor
Boris Margolin
Mrs. Julian B. Mendelschn
Arieh Manor
Rabbi Irving Miller
Dr. Sidney Marks
Ariel Margulies (NYC UJA)

Miss Irene Neumann (JA)
Aaron Nissenson (JDC)
Dr. Emanuel Neumann

Max Ogust
Mrs. A. Louis Oresman
Debra Offenbacher (UIA)
Harry C. Oppenheimer

David Pasmantier
Samuel Poses
Mrs. Joseph M. Proskauer

William Rosenwald
Mrs. H. Herbert Rossman
Dr. Paul Reibefeld
Mrs. William Robinson
Dr. Martin Rosenbluth



NEW YORK CITY (cont'd)

Lawrence Schacht
 James H. Scheuer
 Murray E. Schlein
 Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz
 Louis Segal (Farband)
 Isaac Shalom
 Meir Sherman
 Mrs. Sigmund A. Siegel
 Aaron J. Simon
 Mrs. Burt J. Siris
 Mrs. Sol W. Steinberg
 Herbert B. Sussman
 Florence Schulkind (UIA)
 Harold Steinberg (UIA)
 Abraham Schenker
 Harry Seeve
 Josselyn Shore
 Boris Smolar
 Nathan Schooler
 Mrs. Chaya Surchin (Pioneer Women)
 Simon Segal (AJCom.)
 Hon. Albert D. Schanzer
 Abr. Spivak (NYC WJA)

Jacques Torczyner
 Brig. Gen. Morris C. Troper

Edward M. M. Warburg
 Jack D. Weiler
 Dr. Harold M. Weinberg
 Dr. Jonah B. Wise

Baruch Zuckerman



UNITED JEWISH APPEAL

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

<u>Name</u>	<u>Telephone Numbers</u>
Morris W. Berinstein 612 Syracuse Kemper Building Syracuse, N.Y.	(O) 745797 (H) 3-1354 (Private line) 2-5121 (Hotel)
Samuel H. Daroff H. Daroff & Sons, Inc. Walnut at 23rd St. Philadelphia 3, Pa.	(O) Locust 8-1000 (H) Rittenhouse 6-2368
Abraham Feinberg Julius Kayser & Co. 500 Fifth Avenue New York City, N.Y.	(O) PE 6-3700 (H) Mt. Vernon 8-0840
✓ Benjamin Lazrus Benrus watch Co. Inc. 50 West 44th Street New York City, N.Y.	(O) MU 2-2700 (H) BU 8-6512
Edwin Rosenberg 417 Fifth Avenue New York City, N.Y.	(O) MU 6-4424 (H) New Rochelle 2-5614
Joseph Shulman 386 Straight Street Paterson 3, New Jersey	(O) LE 2-1222 (New York) (H) Mulberry 4-2260 (Paterson) 6
✓ Michael Stavitsky Military Park Building 60 Park Place Newark 2, New Jersey	(O) Market 3-7915 (H) Orange 2-2078
Dewey Stone 53 Arlington Street Brockton, Mass.	(O) Taunton, Mass.: 4-6961 (H) Brockton: 5487
Jack D. Weiler 50 East 42nd Street New York City, N.Y.	(O) MU 7-5187 (H) SC 4-6121

UJA Administration Committee
Page 2

Name

Telephone Numbers

Jonah B. Wise
35 East 62nd Street
New York City, N.Y.

(O) TE 8-5122
(H) SU 7-3026

Ex-Officio

Herbert A. Friedman
United Jewish Appeal
165 West 46th Street
New York 36, N.Y.

(O) PL 7-1500
(H) Westport, Conn: Capital 7-2258

William Rosenwald
122 East 42nd Street
New York City, N.Y.

(O) OX 7-2420
(H) EL 5-3100

Edward M.M. Warburg
United Jewish Appeal
165 West 46th Street
New York City 36, N.Y.

(O) PL 7-1500
(H) RE 7-1213

MSG:
9/29/55

November 19, 1955

JOSEPH TAL
JVA AGENCY
JERUSALEM (ISRAEL)

NOVEMBER EIGHTEENTH MEETING VERY EXCITING SHARETT WONDERFUL ATTENDANCE
EXCELLENT IN QUANTITY AND QUALITY STOP CONFERENCE VOTED TWENTYFIVE MILLION
SPECIAL FUND AND SEVERAL IMPORTANT SPONTANEOUS CONTRIBUTIONS MADE TO IT STOP
AT CABINET MEETING NEXT DAY JOSEPH MAZER ACCEPTED CHAIRMANSHIP SPECIAL FUND
AND ASSIGNMENTS MADE TO VISIT APPROXIMATELY FIFTY COMMUNITIES DURING
COMING MONTH PLAN IMPLEMENTATION EACH COMMUNITY STOP IN MY JUDGMENT PEOPLE
PRESENT REALLY ACCEPTED CONCEPT EXTRA GIVING SPECIAL FUND STOP FEEL SPICAL
FUND SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED AND NEXT THIRTY DAYS WILL GIVE FULLER PICTURE
STOP WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED

FRIEDMAN

MSG

FROM: Joint Distribution Committee
270 Madison Avenue
New York 16, N. Y.
LE-2-5200

Irving R. Dickman
Publicity Director

For Immediate Release

FOUR JEWS KILLED IN AUGUST RIOTS
IN MOROCCO, JDC REPORTS

A summary of reports from the Moroccan headquarters of the Joint Distribution Committee indicates that four Jews were killed in the week of rioting which started August 19.

The reports were made by two JDC staff members who visited Mazagan, Safi, Oued Zem and Ouezzane, the four chief communities in which Jews were involved. They visited the communities on the heels of the rioting and were in fact the first Jewish representatives to come into Mazagan, even preceding the troops sent by the military authorities.

Three of the Jews were killed in the town of Oued Zem and the fourth in the town of Boujad, 22 kilometers away. In addition, four Jews were seriously, and five slightly wounded.

Following is a summary of casualties and destruction by communities:

Mazagan: There are 2,800 Jews in Mazagan, of whom about 2,000 lived in the Jewish quarter and 800 in the European section. When the rioting began, 500 mellah residents were taken in and sheltered by Jews living in the European section and 1,500 moved into the municipal gymnasium. Twenty-six houses in the Jewish quarter were completely burnt and there was much pillaging. JDC immediately sent five tons of food, as well as a large quantity of blankets. At the same time OSE, Jewish medical organization, sent a nursing staff and medical supplies. The government made an emergency grant of 1,100,000 francs.

Safi: Some 500 Jews were evacuated from the mellah. Moroccan Jewish communities sent a check for 200,000 francs and JDC provided an additional 100,000 francs plus a supply of milk, sugar, cheese and other commodities. Considerable damage was done to a number of Jewish homes and stores.

Oued Zem: This was the area most severely affected. It is a small town with no

mellah (Jewish quarter) to speak of. Europeans, Jews and Arabs live next to each other and the Jewish population is only 450. In addition to the three killed, ten stores belonging to Jews were pillaged and seven homes burnt. The Council of Jewish Communities sent a check for 200,000 francs and JDC made another 200,000 francs available for immediate relief. In addition, the civil authorities gave 915,000 francs to ten families whose possessions were entirely destroyed.

In the immediate vicinity of Oued Zen, one Jew was killed in Boujad and ten Jewish houses partially or completely destroyed. Also in the area is the town of Khouribga, where there is no Jewish community but where there were five Jewish families in business. Their shops were ransacked together with stores belonging to Europeans.

Quezzane: Seventy families, comprising 300 Jewish men, women and children who lived in the Arab quarter, were moved into the Jewish quarter for safety. Ten Jewish stores and 15 houses were burnt. JDC immediately sent a check for 100,000 francs for emergency relief. All funds for JDC's overseas programs are provided by the United Jewish Appeal.

9/8/55

NEW THREAT TO JEWISH
POSITION IN TUNISIA.

Tunis, August 8th. (JTA)

Tunisian Moslem leaders have made it clear that they are absolutely opposed to permitting non-Moslems any part in the government or administration of an autonomous Tunisia, as had been proposed by the Neo-Destour Party in their draft constitution.

Neo-Destour leaders are worried about the new campaign against their proposals which is being led by Sheikh Mohamed Djait. If the Moslem leaders had their way, it would mean, in effect, that the equal citizenship rights promised by the nationalists to non-Moslems, and more especially to the Jewish inhabitants, would be seriously endangered.

Speaking, apparently in the name of the Bey, during last week's celebration of the Aid-el-Kebir festival, Sheikh Djait demanded that the constitution make it absolutely clear that only Moslems would be allowed to govern the country.

Jewish leaders here are watching these new developments very closely.

Tie with Egypt ?

Tunis:

Neo-Destour leaders are ready to enter into some sort of limited relationship with the Arab states, and notably with Egypt.

This assurance was given to an Egyptian mission which has spent several weeks here. One of the mission's members said their purpose had been to "make clear to Tunisians the crimes committed by Zionism in Palestine" and to appeal to them for "Arab solidarity."

N.AFRICAN JEWRY FACING IMMINENT
SPIRITUAL AND PHYSICAL DANGER.

Jerusalem, August 7th. (JTA)

The imminent physical and spiritual danger facing North African Jewry was stressed today by Chief Rabbi Fingehut of Algiers in a report to the World Mizrahi Conference. He called for speedy help for the more than 70,000 Jews in Morocco who have registered for immigration into Israel and appealed for non-selective immigration because "we may be unable to accomplish tomorrow what can be accomplished today."

The conference appointed a special committee to discuss immigration from North Africa and is sending a delegation to the Jewish Agency and the Government to urge speedy measures for bringing North African Jews to Israel.

JEWISH OPINION ON PRESENT PROBLEMS

by Meyer Toledano

The Moroccan Jewish community comprises 250,000 persons. What does this important mass of people think of the conflict between a certain part of the French opinion in this country and the Moroccan people?

The official Jewish organizations - delegations to the Government Council, Council of Communities, Committees of the Community - absolutely refuse to answer this question under the pretext that they cannot go into politics. It is obvious that their combined will is to ignore the present problems. Their concern has always been not to "commit themselves" in the eyes of the official authorities with whom they are in close relations. The Inspection of Jewish Institutions and the Direction of Cherifian Affairs, organs of the Central Administration, have had up to now well in hand these Jewish organizations, whose members, with a very few exceptions, act as zealous servants of the established power.

However, the official personalities of Moroccan Judaism, often put into their positions with the support of the Administration, do not represent the masses of Moroccan Jewry. The Moroccan Jewish elite, repugnant to any conformity, has always been active outside those official Jewish organizations. In the absence of political institutions independent of the central power, the elite has devoted all its efforts and resources in favour of free associations aiming at the moral and material improvement of the poorest of this country's Jews. The leading class of Moroccan Jewry, therefore, was never able to devote itself to other tasks than private social ones (habitation, pauperism, scholarization, hygiene in the mellah, etc.). The time has come today for this class to devote itself to general political problems.

Since 1950 the Moroccan Jews have followed with anxiety the developments of Moroccan affairs. They love their country and suffer to see it a prey to all kind of disturbances. Silent and apparently indifferent to the present conflicts, they are in fact most disturbed by the daily tragedies these conflicts raise between French and Moroccans. Both parties press them to take a formal and clear position. But their feelings have been well fixed a long time ago.

The Moroccan Jews know that their ancestors, banished from Spain, found a refuge in this land in the 15th century; that apart from some rare dark periods, their existence in Morocco has not been disturbed; that in comparison with the condition of the Jews in Europe during the Middle Ages, their condition was bearable, considering that they hardly suffered for their faith, which was generally respected by the Moslems; that if thousands of Judeo-Berber warriors, vanquished by the Arab invaders in the 7th century A.C. had to embrace the Moslem faith, such pressure was not especially directed against the Jews but against all vanquished people, whatever their religion; that from 1940 to 1943, in spite of Vichy anti-semitic laws, the Moslems neither made any attempts against Jewish lives

nor tried to deprive them of their wealth, though they could have easily given way to all kind of violent acts.

However, the Moroccan Jews can neither be ungrateful towards France, without which their intellectual and social emancipation could never have taken place. France never opposed their wish for social emancipation. Although they owe their progress mainly to their own efforts, they know very well that they could not have attained their present evolution without the encouragement and the goodwill of France. It is true that France has not always shown concern to free Moroccan Judaism of its anachronistic institutions - institutions which Lyautey, and after him all the other Residents, have maintained. However, it is certain that without France, the values of western civilization, which are in conformity with Jewish values, would never have penetrated Morocco and permitted Jewish life to develop freely along the lines of its aspirations. If the leaders of the Moslem elite agree today that the Moroccan magistrature will be indiscriminately opened to the Jews; that the Moroccan State of tomorrow will have no confessional character and the Jews will de jure and de facto be citizens equal to the Moslems - the Jews are happy to hear such language and extend their congratulations to their Moslem compatriots. However, such language would not have been possible if the latter, in their contacts with the French presence, had not also appreciated the new values from the West.

The Jews of Morocco, therefore, feel an equal affection, and equal gratefulness for their Moslem compatriots and for France. And they have shown quite clearly these feelings. At the outbreak of the 1939 war, thousands of Moroccan Jews had asked to be recruited in the French army; after the June 1940 armistice their most ardent wish was to see North Africa continue the fight, which they were ready to support whole heartedly. The removal of the Sultan in 1953 was for them a day of mourning. And today, in the face of the tragedies that affect so many French and Moslem families, their hearts are heavy and indignant and they appeal to the justice of men.

Certain Frenchman, badly inspired, have during the past years spread injustice and terror and have thus caused the greatest injury to the prestige of France. The Moroccan Jews could not accept that certain French people jeopardize France's mission in Morocco. If they are indignant at the criminal attentats committed against Europeans, they are also revolted to see innocent Maroccans killed or attacked. All Moroccans in this country know that they cannot do without the benefit of the French presence, but they wish to denounce those vices which dishonour France. The Moroccan Jews are more concerned than anybody concerning the prestige of France in this country. This prestige today is shaken. It has to be consolidated. To this end they ask that injustice, corruption and violence be stopped and request that trampled rights be solemnly recognized and reestablished. The sovereignty of the Moroccan people has been slighted in the person of its representative. This act constitutes a very serious point of conscience. The practical details of the solution of the Throne problem, difficult to determine, depend on many factors. However, all Moroccan Jews entirely agree that the greatest injustice committed in this country since 1912 must be made good. Either Morocco is a sovereign country or the Moroccan people is deprived of its rights. They aspire to be a free nation. France, whose mission in this country it is to guide and to enlighten, cannot remain

insensible to this noble patriotism of the Moroccan people.

The Jews of Morocco cannot conceive that this country will not remain tightly linked to France, but they will not admit that certain French people stand in the way of social evolution, of political emancipation of the Moroccan people, or of the right they have in principle to an autonomous administration and to govern their country, within the limits of France's recognized interests.

Perhaps the Moroccans are not, in the immediate future, fully equipped to play in their country the part that normally belongs to a sovereign people. Perhaps they cannot yet, today, take efficiently in hand the government of their country. But at least they are entitled to ask that, here and now, the principle of their sovereignty being recognized and reestablished, political institutions should be created which prepare the advent in this country of a genuine Moroccan democracy, where the interests of each one will have their place and their legitimate guaranty.

The Jews of this country are convinced of the necessity of very close cultural, economic, military and political ties which must continue to exist between France and Morocco; but they are also convinced that the Moroccan people has finally come of age and that it is worthy of assuming its destiny.

(Maroc-Presse 22-7-55)

Saw H. H.

9, 12, 13, 14

Although the JDC Country Director is strictly forbidden from becoming involved in politics of any sort -- a policy which is religiously observed -- there is apparently no rule which the Director General can devise, at least for Morocco, prohibiting politics from entering into the daily life of the Director and some members of his staff. So, although I should like very much to avoid talking politics and to add my interpretation or misinterpretation to those already on the record, it is impossible to ignore recent trends and developments, particularly as these affect the Jewish community as presently constituted or as it may be in the future. For better or for worse therefore, I shall later in my report try to relate as succinctly as possible, the immediate and long run implications, as I see them, of the recent political and economic developments on the Jewish community and particularly as they may affect Israeli emigration. But first a report on the basic programs of the JDC and its various subventioned agencies in Morocco.

MEDICAL CARE:

Last year we reported at length on the many important JDC activities in the health field that are carried out through the OSE which secures its funds almost completely from the JDC. The statistics relating to the thousands of children examined, treated and healed in the 6 dispensaries of this agency, are contained in the tabulations attached to the report which I think you all have. The fact is that there has been a very fundamental change in the lives of the children of Morocco during the 7 years of the work of the OSE. The mass treatment for trachoma has either completely eliminated or reduced to negligible proportions the number of children in the larger cities in danger of losing their eye sight;

/...

the same is true of the horrible disfigurement resulting from the ravages of favus or ringworm of the scalp; the fantastically high death rate of children has been reduced as a result of distribution of formula prepared milk produced in its own milk plant, located in the Casablanca dispensary, and while no real inroads have been made in the field of tuberculosis treatment and control, some steps have been taken in this direction, especially in Casablanca. A new sanatorium, which will provide beds for 100 Jewish tubercular victims, to which the JDC has been a heavy contributor, is to open soon in the city of Ben Ahmed.

Earlier this year, the OSE assumed responsibility for medical examinations for Aliyah candidates, and these examinations are now made in their 6 dispensaries. As a result, substantial reductions in costs have been effected, and a general improvement in the processing of candidates has been noted. It is hoped that OSE will eventually assume responsibility for this program throughout the country.

During the year discussions have been held with the OSE concerning some desirable and fundamental changes in their basic program. It is hoped that it will be possible to change the program into a general family health service operation, instead of its present concern which is largely only with children. Some steps have in fact already been taken in this direction, but a great deal more remains to be done, and we hope that through OSE-Union and our own work with OSE in Morocco, further progress along these lines will be made in the near future. There is also a very real need, especially in the light of the large scale Israeli emigration, for a general

mass health examination of the Jews in the larger communities, as well as the establishment of mobile teams for work in villages and areas not covered at the present time by the OSE.

It is worthwhile again mentioning that the program of the OSE has had a very important by-product effect, in that it has served as an educational force for the Jews of Morocco during the last few years. A visit to a dispensary or to a doctor for the treatment of a sick child, or for the examination of a healthy one, is today accepted as a matter of course and a maternal responsibility, whereas but a few short years ago such thoughts were far from the minds of the women of the ghettos of Morocco, who were accustomed for centuries to rely on witch doctors and medicine men.

In addition to the medical program which is its basic responsibility, the OSE also administers 4 kindergartens and a Social Service Department, which, in the absence of such a function in the Casablanca community, services the welfare requirements of the neediest clients of OSE. The Paul Baerwald School social service consultant has played a vital role in the establishment of this service, which it is hoped will ultimately constitute the basis for such a department in the Casablanca community.

FEEDING:

Of perhaps equal importance with the medical program of the OSE is the large scale feeding program in which almost 30,000 children participate. In over 100 canteens throughout the country, in the schools of the Alliance, the ORT and the various religious organizations,

this JDC subventioned program brings to these thousands of children the only relatively decent meal of the day. In addition to our cash grants, U.S.D.A. contributed supplies consisting of cheese, butter, milk and oil, are distributed to all the canteens and play a substantial role in this program. "Operation Canteen" is closely related to the life saving activities of the medical work of the OSE for, whereas the one prevents and cures illnesses which afflict the Jewish children in such large numbers, the other makes possible a reasonably healthy growth and development of the child.

There can be no question as to the crying need for improvements in this program and we urge this constantly. We have, however, been faced with serious limitations, including lack of a trained nutritionist, the primitive aspect of some of the canteens and the occasional limited vision and interest of some of the organizations or committees engaged in this field. With these objectives and difficulties in mind, the Health Department secured the services of the Chief of the Nutrition Department of the National Institute of Hygiene in Paris, who recently spent two weeks in Morocco, studying this problem with us. As we expected, important nutritional deficiencies were found in the children at all levels and especially in the children living in the villages. The recommendations proposed in this study are now receiving the attention of the JDC staff, and the implementation of as many of them as possible will be made during the present school year. When we are aware of the tragic poverty, the ill health, the general undernourishment and abysmal living conditions of the Jews of Morocco, the need for expansion and improvement of both the feeding and medical programs becomes self evident.

DAY CARE:

There are thousands of children in the Moroccan ghettos who live under horribly miserable conditions which are difficult to describe and impossible to visualize. To see a Moroccan mellah for the first time, is a never to be forgotten experience. It is devastating to see the terrible waste of human life, the dirt, misery, and utter poverty, which characterize the large mass of the Moroccan Jews. To see pre-school children between the ages of 3 and 6 wallowing in the dirt of the mellahs of Morocco, or in the abominable, unhealthy, gloomy rooms of the so-called "chederim", where the children are packed away during the day while the mothers are at work, leaves one feeling sick, ill at ease and not a little ashamed of one's own well-being.

From the very beginning of our work in Morocco, we have strained every effort and resource to relieve this added bit of misery for the pre-school child. We can fortunately attest to some real progress having been made. When we began our work, there was one kindergarten in the entire country, serving a few hundred Jewish children. Today, there are 19, taking care of almost 4,000 of the poorest children, in modern, healthy and professionally operated day care centers. Modern kindergarten methods and practices have been introduced by the Paul Baerwald School consultants and experts on the staff of the JDC. This kindergarten or day care program represents a revolutionary idea in such a primitive country as Morocco. This program has become standard operating procedure in the communities where these centers exist, and new concepts of a child's rights have been injected into the thinking of the community leadership.

/...

A number of communities throughout the country where no kindergartens have as yet been established, have indicated concern for their children, and have requested the JDC and the Council of Communities to assist them in the construction of these facilities and to provide trained kindergarten teachers. This represents an unbelievable growth in the mental development of the leaders of the various communities. I am certain that if a degree of political stability and some economic potential is re-established, we shall witness a substantial expansion of the day care program, so that no Jewish pre-school child need suffer the horrors which are still inflicted on those for whom no day care facilities are available.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS:

In the field of secular education, the Alliance Israelite Universelle has been for many decades the public school system for most of the Jews of Morocco. The importance of this program is reflected in the fact that almost 30,000 Jewish boys and girls attended Alliance schools during the 1954/55 school year. Although the Alliance is largely supported by the French government, the substantial contribution of the JDC towards its budget has made possible the teaching of Hebrew subjects, not normally a part of the French curriculum, and giving the Alliance a Jewish character which it would not otherwise have.

One of the problems which has plagued the Alliance and the responsible Jewish communal leaders has been its inability to absorb all children of school age. It is estimated that approximately 15,000 children throughout the country did not attend school last year

because of lack of sufficient space. However, the large emigration which is now taking place will undoubtedly relieve or totally eliminate the shortage of school space in most of the smaller towns and some of the larger cities of the country. The problem may not, however, be completely resolved in Casablanca due to the increasing influx of Jews into that city from the villages and small towns.

Should the emigration plans for 1956, however, be carried out according to present plans, not only will this shortage be completely eliminated, but it is reasonable to assume that there may very well be a surplus of space in the schools.

In the field of religious education, the Ozar Hatorah and the Lubavitcher constitute the two largest organizations with an enrolment of over 8,000 children. In addition to these two organizations, there are many community and private Talmudei Thora and cheders throughout the country.

It is necessary to mention the Youth Movements, which are almost completely supported by the JDC and which have throughout the years worked with the poorest children of the Moroccan mellahs and are largely to be credited with the development of a young, dedicated and conscious leadership, which may very well play an active and vital role in the uncertain future which lies ahead.

ORT :

In the field of vocational training the two ORT schools in Casablanca, with an enrolment of almost 1,000 boys and girls, is an outstanding program. During the year an additional structure

was added to the boys' school, making possible the organization of 7 new classes and an auditorium for recreational, educational and religious purposes. In addition to these two schools, the ORT has during the past two years gradually developed in Casablanca an apprenticeship program, and at present almost 800 boys and girls are placed in businesses, industries and offices. In the light of the present chaotic and uncertain situation, continued expansion is recommended of the ORT apprenticeship program, since it involves no capital investments and small overhead costs.

Whereas in 1953, and to some extent in 1954, the turnover rate in the two schools was of normal expectancy, the rate for the 1954/55 school year showed a substantial increase, due largely to emigration to Israel. It may be expected that continued large scale emigration during the 1955/56 school year will result in an increased turnover of students.

The ORT program is being re-examined in terms of establishment of short and intensive training programs in addition to the existing three or four year courses in their present schools. These courses for older boys and girls involve placement of apprentices in clothing, shoe and perhaps other factories, who will under ORT instruction learn a simple trade during a few months, and who may subsequently continue their employment in the same factory, thus being better prepared to find employment in Morocco or to be more easily integrated in the economy of Israel. ORT is considering the establishment of short intensified training programs for adults in a number of communities, relating this training as much as possible to the Israeli economy, as well as to potential employment in the Moroccan labour market.

There is also a plan for the establishment in Casablanca of an internat for about 50 or 60 girls from the interior, who up to now have had practically no opportunity for vocational training.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION:

Our efforts to encourage modernization of some of the medieval and primitive methods of assistance to the poor during the year met with little success. Here as in other phases of our activities, we found that insecurity, fear, economic dislocations and uncertainty of the future were hardly conducive to social thinking or planning. A program for the construction of 6 or 7 new kindergartens, to which the communities and the JDC were to have contributed, was put off; various plans for badly needed community programs in Casablanca, including an additional kindergarten, an old age home and a soup kitchen, had to be temporarily shelved, and a project for training of 15 Jewish girls in a French school of social work was only partially completed due to the unstable political situation and the insecurity of the Jewish community.

As the political crisis deepened, differences and internal dissension among the leaders of the Jewish communities became more marked. For the first time serious differences as to the approach to both the French authorities and to the major factions of the independence movement developed, and under these circumstances planning was out of the question. The riots during July and August, exacting their toll of Jewish lives and property damage, resulted in a mass fear among all classes of Moroccan Jews.

A constructive achievement which we can report during the year in terms of community organization, is the establishment for the first time in Casablanca of a combined appeal to raise funds for the various organizations engaged in philanthropic activities. There was a good deal of devoted effort by a number of important Jews, and while the total funds which will be raised in 1955 may not be larger than the amount raised last year in the individual campaigns of the various organizations, the fact that a combined appeal was organized may prove to be -- assuming some degree of stability -- a healthy development in the otherwise sick atmosphere of Casablanca.

Irrespective of whatever developments may take place, and granting that substantial Israeli emigration will continue, we may be sure that for some years to come sizeable Jewish communities will continue to exist in Casablanca, Marrakech, Rabat, Fes, Meknes and perhaps some other cities as well. We must therefore continue to work closely with these communities, to expand our efforts in the wide range of programs now functioning for the children, to bring some succour to the indigent adults, and to continue our efforts in the direction of modernization and improvement of the social services of these large Jewish communities.

ISRAELI EMIGRATION:

The economic and social unrest, which began with the deposition of the Sultan in August 1953 and which has led to a general economic, political and social breakdown during the past two years, affected the Jews, of course, but they were not singled out, nor were there

at the beginning any actions of a specifically anti-Jewish character. On the contrary, it may be said that the terrorist organization or organizations appeared to be most careful about maltreatment of Jews, and only on rare occasions were Jews victims of terrorist acts.

Thus, during the entire year of 1953, only 2,400 Jews left the country for permanent resettlement in Israel, and during the first seven months of 1954, only 1,100 departed.

The first serious anti-Jewish outbreak in a number of years took place on August 3, 1954, in the small town of Petitjean, when seven Jews were brutally murdered. This incident plus the continued deterioration of the economic situation resulted in an almost immediate increase in registration as well as movement to Israel. Thus, as already indicated, although only 1,100 Jews left for Israel during the first seven months of 1954, over 9,000 departed during the last five months of the same year, and during the first nine months of this year up to and including October 15, over 20,000 have departed.

Political and economic developments during the last few months have added to the urgency which is felt by ever increasing numbers to seek a healthier and hopefully more peaceful prospect for themselves and for their children. For many thousands of them, Morocco no longer represents a viable future, and we may expect continued large scale registration and emigration.

During the July riots, serious incidents took place in the mellah of Casablanca, resulting in injury to Jews and considerable property damage, and it is generally believed that a mass attack on the meliah would have taken place, but for the protection afforded by the French

authorities. During the August days, attacks on the Jewish quarters in a number of cities of Morocco were perpetrated, and there is every reason to believe that some of these were premeditated and planned acts. In Mazagan, 1,600 Jews sought shelter in a French gymnasium from rampaging mobs, and 26 of their stores and homes were ransacked and burnt; in Safi, 1,200 Jews in danger of their lives, fled their homes and found shelter in the Alliance school, and here, too, much pillaging and burning of Jewish homes and stores took place; in Oueszane, Oued Zem, Boujad, Khenifra and other towns, some Jews lost their lives, their meager property, and their means for earning a living. In Rabat, the capital city of Morocco, a grenade thrown on September 20 into a cafe largely frequented by Jews, injured 19 Jewish patrons.

In the country market town of Tamelelt, near Marrakech, on September 6, the Jewish section of the market was attacked and 17 Jews were injured, many of them seriously. A few days after this incident, a bomb was thrown in another country market, killing one Jew and injuring another. As one of the aftermaths of these two incidents, Jews fear to go to the markets, and their meager economic existence has been shattered.

These and other related incidents involving the security of Jewish lives and property constitute surely one explanation for the large Israeli emigration this year, and the prospect that the Israeli quota for Morocco for 1956 may very well be insufficient to meet the need.

But the economic situation and prospects of the Jews are a second and perhaps equally compelling reason why the Jews in ever larger and larger numbers may seek to get out. There may not be a hot war against the Jews of Morocco, but a cold terror has struck them.

Incidents such as the attack on the market at Tamelelt freeze them into a cold terror, prevent them from peddling their wares, and in fact condemn them to the choice of hiding in their village holes and starving, or leaving their primitive villages finally and forever.

In our report last year we indicated that the Jews were gradually being forced out and displaced from handicrafts in which they have predominated for centuries, as well as from larger industries and businesses. We must report a sharpening of this development. The numerous anti-Jewish incidents have created a deep psychological fear in the larger cities, in the towns and in the villages, resulting in a virtual stoppage of all economic activity.

There does not appear any reason to expect or to hope for an improvement in the economic status of the Jews. The masses in the mellahs of the larger cities, and in the towns and villages, have always lived out their lives in dirt, degradation, disease and destitution. This is the way they live now and have lived for centuries. If nothing else would call upon us to save as many of the Jews of Morocco as possible, if no future political or economic danger were to face them, then their present degradation alone would compel us to give serious thought to their rescue. The utter hopelessness of their lives, the unimaginable deprivation, the boundlessness of their misery -- all this must be out the deepest concern to Jews throughout the world.

Is there reason to feel then that under a Moroccan government the economic position of the Jews will improve? Recent events may

not be a conclusive answer as to the future of the Jews of Morocco, but in any case they do not afford reasons for optimism. If we cannot dispel our doubts as to the potential for a tolerant attitude and dignified political future for the Jew in such a society, I fear we have even less to hope for his economic well-being. Can we afford to gamble with so uncertain a future, when the stakes for the Jews of Morocco are so high?

No one can prophesy the meaning of the events I have described in terms of how much time there is really left, nor can we be too glib as to the steps to be taken to save as many of the Moroccan Jews as possible. But this, I think, can be said: The larger the numbers we save now, the easier will be the problem in the future. We cannot know the attitude of a Moroccan government, whenever it may come into being, toward Israeli emigration, but I don't believe that it is too difficult to imagine that it may very well be severely curtailed, if not altogether stopped.

Starting out as we did in Morocco some seven years ago, when we found the people at the very bottom of the ladder of economic and physical well-being, we can report a remarkable progress for these tens of thousands who have been the beneficiaries of our activities. The wide-spread existence of trachoma and teigne has, especially in the larger cities, been to a satisfactory extent brought under control; the general health of the children has improved and the death rate has been slashed; the canteens in which almost 30,000 children are fed

have meant a tremendous improvement in their health, their growth and their capacity to survive; the Alliance school system continues to bring secular education to tens of thousands of Jewish children; and the religious organizations, the Ozar Hatorah and the Lubavitcher, continue their work in religious education along the traditional lines of Moroccan Jewry; ORT, in its few years of work in Morocco, has developed a fine program of vocational training, affording opportunities to hundreds of Jewish boys and girls to earn their living in a dignified manner; the youth movements have helped to develop young leaders — these and other programs have vital meaning for us, for Israel and, most of all, for the Jews of Morocco. We must expand these programs for whatever time may be left. We must do all in our power to improve the lot of the Jews so as to make it easier to adjust and to integrate in a life in Israel, or to accept whatever the fates will bring them in Morocco.

One of the most respected and revered men in the Casablanca community, a man in his early 80s, and the inspirer of most of the Jewish welfare committees, recently wrote me, calling the JDC the "providence of Moroccan Jewry". The call upon us in the future, I feel, will be even greater in most respects than it has been in the past, and we must be prepared to meet that test when it comes.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Proposed Statement of UJA Policy with Respect to Fund-raising on the basis of needs of the Jewish Communities in Moslem Countries. (This statement applies to the following countries in descending order of probable priority: Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Iran.)

(1) It is regarded as inevitable that in the long run by far the majority of the present Jewish population of these countries will need to, and will wish to emigrate to Israel.

(a) If relatively long-term stable relationships are established between French and local authorities or independence movements in these countries, then the above process of emigration may be regarded as working itself out during the lifetime of the present generation - i.e. 20 - 25 years.

(b) If on the other hand the situation should deteriorate as, for example, in Morocco, and if the hopes presently centered in the Franco-Tunisian accord should prove to be illusory then the emigration movement might have to be telescoped into ten or in a worse eventuality perhaps even five years.

(2) The proposition set forth in (1)-(a) above is based on what most competent authorities in this area regard as a fact - namely that it is not conceivable that in this generation any autonomous governments set up in these areas shall be secular in their character and prepared to offer full economic, social and political equality of opportunity to all citizens of the country regardless of religion. Throughout the centuries the Jew was always treated as a person without rights or status. He was considered as being outside the guarantees of Koranic law, enjoying the

...../

7

✓
ew

"protection" - whatever that might in practice mean - of the local chieftain or sultan who was simultaneously the religious and secular authority. The only rights (in the western sense) that Jews have gained throughout the centuries have come during the years of French administration.

It must therefore be assumed that despite such influence as western trained leaders in the independence movements of these countries may exert in the direction of secularization, the governments in these countries, as they achieve increasing measures of autonomy moving toward sovereign independence, will for a generation at least reflect the conservative character of the majority of the populations of these countries through institutions operating in fact, if not in law, on the basis of the paramountcy of the Moslem religion and Koranic law. Under these circumstances all non-Moslems may at best be tolerated but can never have equal rights. Viewing the long history of the Jews in Moslem countries there is no reason to be hopeful of their economic social or political future, should the French withdraw - or should they grant autonomy to the Arabs.

For even if the written constitutions should guarantee and actually provide political equality it is regarded as inevitable that the economic development of these countries under autonomous regimes should move in the direction of increasing pre-emption by Moslems of economic positions historically occupied by religious and national minorities and would progressively squeeze members of such minorities out of the economic positions they now occupy. (A parallel for this is to be found in the experience of Jewish communities in Eastern Europe after World War I. where despite formal compliance, in the early years at least, with the minorities' guarantees of the Treaty of Versailles, the economic policies of the

. /

governments of such countries as Poland, Roumania and Hungary pressed increasingly downward the economic position and the standard of living of the Jewish populations of those areas.)

It is assumed therefore that under the best conditions the present marginal economic position of the Jewish populations in Moslem countries will not be improving and will, if anything, tend to grow worse as the present thin layer of economically middle and upper-class Jews is pressed downward by the operation of the economic nationalism described above. On the other hand the increasing stability and growing prosperity and improvement of the standard of living in Israel which is expected to take place during this same period will serve, when added to the emotional and historical attachment to Israel which characterizes the majority of these populations, to attract increasing numbers of emigrants from these countries to Israel. Thus an increasing Arab nationalism and an increasingly stable Israel may be regarded as a push and a pull that exert their force in the same direction - the movement of Jews from Moslem countries to Israel.

(3) The assumption made in (1)-(b) above is self-explanatory and its possible occurrence is demonstrated by recent events in Morocco. The significant point of these and earlier disturbances (e.g. Petitjean, August 3, 1954) is that what starts out as an anti-French demonstration always carries the risk not only of killing Jews who "get in the way" but of assuming an anti-Jewish character. It is therefore in the Israeli national and the Jewish human interest to do everything possible to avoid further development that would lead to its happening. For Jews are literally caught in the middle, between the Arabs who hold century long hatreds for them in any case and who in addition now accuse them of siding with the French, and the French who (thus far

. . . . /

unofficially) charge them with not giving the French wholehearted support and of seeking political alliances with the nationalists. All this bolsters the need for sufficient funds to speed up emigration as rapidly as possible but at the same time emphasizes that the seeking of such funds shall not invoke slogans and public statements that further emphasize and exacerbate the "between hammer and anvil" position of the Jews. This point is developed further below.

(4) On the basis of paragraph (1)-(a) above, it follows therefore that UJA funds should be employed to the maximum extent that their availability can be increased by increased UJA income or by diverting UJA funds from other programs to providing services to Jewish populations in Moslem countries and on behalf of people from Moslem countries in Israel along the following broad lines:

- (a) In Israel, to the preparation of housing and employment facilities and religious educational and welfare services for the maximum number of emigrants from Moslem countries to the end that such emigrants shall be able to enter into the economic process immediately upon their arrival in Israel. This is exemplified by the "ship to village" program of the Jewish Agency.
- (b) In the Moslem countries, through the program of the JDC and of specialized agencies subventioned by the JDC, to expand to the maximum the programs of secular education, religious education, vocational training, medical care, child care, child feeding, youth services and activities, etc. and so far as practicable to extend some of these services to the adult population as well, particularly in the field of economic assistance to maintain and develop Jewish artisanship, for as long as possible to the end

...../

that the human material emigrating from Moslem countries to Israel shall be healthy, well nourished and educationally and vocationally trained for entry into the economic life of Israel immediately upon its arrival.

- (c) Furthermore the expansion of these programs within the Moslem countries has the unquestionable and unqualified advantage of strengthening the capacity of that population (in any event likely to be a substantial number for a long time) who wish to remain or who may have to remain, to earn their own living above the level of their present misery, to grow up healthy, literate and self-reliant to face the developments of the future.
- (5) To the extent that increased funds from UJA make possible speedily increased reception along the above lines of emigrants from Moslem countries to Israel, the danger of having to operate under the terms of assumption (1)-(b) above, is decreased - or at any rate if despite all our hopes and wishes large-scale evacuation from Moslem countries should become compulsory through force of circumstance the number so involved will be the smaller, the greater the number of people it will have been possible before that happens to bring to Israel under the orderly processes of the preceding paragraph.

This approach is also the only answer to the opposite danger - that of a stoppage of the opportunity to emigrate. Arab control of internal policy may mean restriction or prohibition of emigration; or the French may - as was recently the case for a few months - restrict emigration in order to placate Arab feelings or because large scale Jewish emigration could, in their judgment, militate against their own position.

. /

Therefore time is of the essence and we should miss no opportunity to take full advantage of orderly emigration possibilities so long as these still depend on the factor which is within our power - financing.

(6) A special problem which arises at the present time relates to the selective immigration policy of the State of Israel. This selective immigration policy would seem to be fully justified (at least until recent events in Morocco and on the assumption that the status quo ante will shortly be restored) in the light of the considerations set forth above. It is understood however that the application of this policy to the evacuation, based on security considerations, of the entire Jewish population of isolated villages in the interior of Morocco has brought criticism from the French authorities. The latter content, not illogically, that they cannot be expected to acquiesce in the evacuation of the fit and healthy families from these villages while the sick, the aged and the physically un-productive persons are left behind as a charge in one fashion or another on the Moroccan economy. This particular problem will have to be re-evaluated and a solution sought in the light of the security problem in Morocco, the difficulties which an abandonment of the selective immigration procedures in this case would impose upon Israel and the funds which UJA can make available for solving this problem either in Israel or in Morocco.

(7) It would seem that a rational presentation of the foregoing considerations should be effective in obtaining increased contributions to UJA. On the other hand undue emphasis in UJA campaigning on the danger that confronts the Jewish population as a reason for increasing contributions may have an undesirable effect in hastening the very

. /

deterioration in the position of the Jewish population and thereby contributing to create the need for large-scale evacuation which as indicated in Par. 3 it is in everyone's interest to avoid. The striking of a proper balance between presenting the above rationale as a basis for UJA contributions with the necessary atmosphere of urgency on the one hand and avoiding alarmist declarations that can be locally exploited to the disadvantage of the Jewish populations in Moslem countries on the other, is a subject for further analysis.

(8) A final point which has not been mentioned in this presentation but which people in Israel have referred to from time to time is the need of Israel itself for additional population which this source of emigration represents. It has been stated that to make its economy viable and particularly from the security standpoint, Israel requires an additional immigration of at least 500,000 persons within the next ten years. Realistic appraisal indicates that the only feasible source of such numbers is the Jewish communities of the Moslem countries. The extent to which this consideration is valid and if valid the extent to which it can usefully be employed in UJA campaigning, is likewise a subject that requires further analysis.

JEWISH POSITION IN NORTH AFRICA

Because of past historical developments, the current Jewish position in each individual country of North Africa represents a separate problem.

1. MOROCCO Total Jewish population 250,000: 200,000 Moroccans, as such, they are "subjects of the Sultan"; 50,000 French citizens, among whom Algerian Jews are in the majority.

The contemporary Moroccan society is essentially a theocratic one. The community is cemented and kept together by a common creed and not by patriotism or other modern sociological and political considerations. Thus, the French are not mere foreigners but the "roumi" (Christians).

Although from the point of view of international law native Jews must be considered Moroccans, in reality they are "Dhimis", second rate subjects of His Majesty the Sultan of Morocco.

Istiqlal, the most influential nationalist party in Morocco, has always stressed its close ties with the Arab League. During the Israel-Arab war, anti-Jewish propaganda resulted in pogroms. In June, 1948, 43 Jews were killed and 155 were wounded in two small towns - Djeraba and Oujda. More recently, precisely on August 4, 1954, Moslem rioters killed six Jews at Petitjean.

2. TUNISIA The Jewish population totals 100,000: 80,000 Tunisians and 20,000 French citizens (according to other estimates: 75,000 Tunisians and 25,000 French).

The political climate and the political position of Jews in Tunisia differs markedly from that of Morocco. French culture made greater inroads in Tunisia. The Neo-Destour Party (the New-Constitution, the party of Enlightenment) openly propagates a secular state based on political democracy. As far as it is known, the Neo-Destour propaganda has been free from religious and ethnic intolerance. - The party has never committed itself to the policies of the Arab League.

There are almost no restrictions of the civil rights of Jews in Tunisia; they may vote and be elected to local municipal positions. However, certain posts in the Judicial and the administrative branches are entirely closed to Jews.

3. ALGERIA Total Jewish population 140,000. During the last 85 years (since the Cremieux Decree of October 24, 1870) Algerian Jews were French citizens.

(In 1940, Petain's government abrogated the Cremieux decree. It was restored in 1943)

Until November 1, 1954, - the outbreak of armed violence - Algeria was considered the safest of all the North African countries. Administratively, Algeria is part of the French Republic, with the usual sub-division of Departments.

During World War II and immediately after the cessation of hostilities Arab propaganda for political independence gained some strength. However, the Algerian nationalists did not have the mass following of the Neo-Destour or Istiqlal parties. - The French are the main target of Arab propaganda and violence today.

During the last few months the political tension in North Africa continued to mount.

The fall of Pierre Mendes-France's cabinet (2/5/55) precipitated greater activity on the part of the extremist elements within Arab nationalist groups.

The Istiqlal party in Morocco has lately designed its propaganda machinery so as to keep the numerous Istiqlal followers in a constant state of agitation, with resulting occasional acts of physical violence against both the French and the Jews.

Unable to curb the hostile propaganda, which is fed, to some degree, by counter-terrorist reprisals on the part of the "status-Quo" type conservative colonialists - the French authorities are trying to preserve peace and order on the streets of Moroccan and Algerian towns by bringing more troops into North Africa.

However, the very presence of an enlarged police force in North Africa and the announced readiness of the Administration to adapt other extraordinary measures, should the situation deteriorate further, point to the fact that we are witnessing the slow unfolding of a new socio-political drama.

Will it end in a violent clash between the two opposing sides - the Arab nationalists and the French administration?

If history is preparing an affirmative answer to this grave question, then we must expect a civil war; the Arab extremists will have an upper hand in all political

matters, and they will direct the blind passion of their followers against the "unbelievers", the French and the Jews.

Should, however, the present tension recede into amicable negotiation, then it would only be reasonable to expect that Arab moderates would emerge as leaders of their peoples and spare their countries the horrors of a civil war. Right now, Tunisia is reaching the experimental stage of "home rule". Habib Bourguiba, the leader of moderates, has yet to master all Arab forces in his country. Bourguiba's plans for a peaceful transition from dependency to autonomy require complete cooperation between the Tunisians and the French. Moreover, Tunisia is a part of the North African political problem: future development in Morocco and Algeria may influence strongly the outcome of the Tunisian experiment.

The political tension has already affected unfavorably business conditions in Morocco, Tunisia and Algeria. Jewish artisans, laborers, and storekeepers, living on a marginal income, suffer greatly from lack of employment, drastically decreased demand for their services and appreciably reduced trade. The combination of these two important factors - a deep psychological anxiety stemming from ever-present hostility of large Arab groups and the vanishing opportunity of making a living have spurred in Jews the desire to leave their native lands.

There is a marked migration of Algerian Jews to France. Several thousands Moroccan Jews came recently to Marseilles. The migration to France is unorganized; it involves individuals who resettle in the mother-land on their own risk.

The large emigration to Israel is a group-migration which has benefited some 21,000 persons within a 10 month period (August 1, 1954 - May 31, 1955). However, this constantly gaining number of registered persons for immigration to Israel serves as a sensitive reactor of tension, anxiety and human drama.

The Jewish Agency prepared on August 10, 1954, a special memorandum "The Jewish Aspects of the Situation in North Africa". The memo was based upon a study trip to Morocco and Tunisia made by S. Z. Shragai. The latter has estimated that some 40,000 Jews (25,000 from rural areas plus 15,000 from urban districts) will eventually seek emigration to Israel.

In January, 1955, S. Z. Shragai, speaking on "The renewal of Mass Immigration: Opportunities and Problems," stated: "Today over sixty thousand suitable candidates for immigration have registered and we have temporarily discontinued further registration."

On March 7, 1955, Mr. A. Ziegel, Director of the Jewish Agency Absorption Department, declared "at a meeting of absorption officials", that "of the 370,000 Jews living in these countries (Morocco and Tunisia) there is at the moment a potential of 70,000 migrants (Jerusalem Post, 3/8/55)

The drastic increase in registration (from 40,000 as of August 10, 1954 to 70,000 as of March 7, 1955) reflects intentions and active desire to resettle.

The ultimate outcome of North African tension is a matter of mental speculations. Nationalist movements in Asia (India, China, Indonesia, Indochina) did not stop at half-ways. Not all of these were free from foreign influence.

The African nationalist movement is at a starting point. The great Jewish communities and 500,000 individuals would like to remain neutral in the struggle between the Arabs and the French. However, it is a difficult task. Blind nationalist passions and forces of repression do not respect neutrality.

Jewish organizations abroad, above all, the American Jewish community shall try to defend the civil status of North African Jews. But, meanwhile, they must help all those who decided to leave the troubled area, to do so.

HERBERT A. FRIEDMAN

North Africa ^{Oct.} 13, '55
another 20%

Jan -	1900	
Feb -	2358	
March -	2232	
April -	1301	
May -	3065	
June -	1458	
July -	1448	
August -	1210	
Sept -	<u>3103</u>	19070
Oct 2-8	1257	

20327

largest single week
in 1955

HERBERT A. FRIEDMAN

Family of 5

Transp. 650

Supplies 350

House 2500

Employment subsidy
or vocational training 1500

5000 per family

1000 per person

45,000 = 45 million

How provide

Israel 17 million

HERBERT A. FRIEDMAN

~~SECRET~~
Congrats on ^{an anniversary}

- 1) Morocco is far away from Boston, but so was Berlin in 1933.
- 2) Morocco could develop into a very murderous situation. Public statements of caution - private statement of fact.
- 3) It is on the conscience of USA to bring it to attention of US Jewry - what ~~they~~ you want to do is ^{your} ~~their~~ problem. You have always felt the call of conscience.
- 4) Tom Brady's article in NY Times today
"Morocco's Jews Driven by Strife - Pressure of Current Trouble Impels Move to Israel That May Take All."
5. Situation:
 - a) independence movement - terror
 - b) French counter-terror
 - c) Jews in middle.
Brady again - "There is a saying here that when a Moslem and a Frenchman fight, a Jewish head gets broken."
 - d) Talmud Torah - July
 - e) Mazagan - Aug.

6) Reasons for leaving:

- a) Democracy
- b) Danger
- c) Economic
- d) Israel exists

10,000 in
next 60 days

7) Shall we help them leave now as immigrants or take them later as refugees?

8) Shall Israel take them as consumers, needing to be supported, or can we help turn them into producers, by giving enough to set them up for a few years? Can we just dump them at Haifa? Make no sense.

9) Lachish - new settlement - ship to village - it works when money is available.

10) Cotton gin in Gath - one of Philistine by five cities - birthplace of Goliath - at death of Saul, David lamented - "Tell it not in Gath lest the daughters of the Philistines rejoice."
HOW LIFE IN GATH.

- 11) North africans all around Galn.
 People like the Knafso family:
- a) Bernaine - blond - 17 - want army + kibbutz
 - b) Markos - 25 - Diesel mechanic - "I want to live in Israel. Morocco is not my country. Even if equal rights were to be given to Jews I still want to go to Israel."
 - c) Marcelle - 21 - husband Algerian Jew killed at Oran/Algeria. Seamstress - wants to support baby born after husband killed
 - d) Father - baker

This is good stock.

Judaism needs Jews. Every Jew can be a descendant of David.

We are past stage of ~~the~~ social acceptance. We do not have to submit to what history ~~dictates~~ ^{hands} out. We can shape history.

we can prepare ~~make~~ immigrants instead of ^{dealing with} refugees
 make producers instead of consumers.

This is our pride + glory. ~~Judaism~~

HERBERT A. FRIEDMAN

N.Y. Times correspondent - Kenneth Love -

"Israelis recognize their debt for survival to foreign contributions but they are putting into practice their determination to become agriculturally & industrially self sufficient and they have no fear that foreign aid will dry up before they have achieved these goals."

And I have no fear either.
You are not going to shirk from
this task & high duty.

Normal aid for Israel
Extra for rescue of Moroccan Jews.

I Army -

II Inflation

- 1) German money
- 2) wage increases
- 3) drought

III Shift to Settlement Plan working

spread of breakdown

check on the money

Arabs waiting

1500	250
- 65	

1250	

1500	

162	



Shouldn't it end
on a positive note?

Isn't there a good

HERBERT A. FRIEDMAN

I sound an alarm.

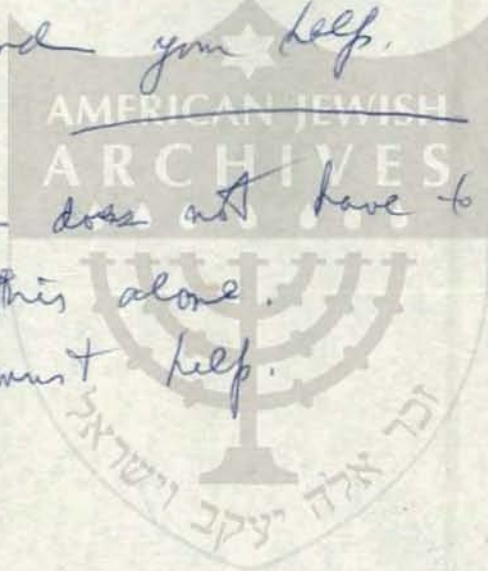
I lay this on your shoulders.

I ~~do~~ beg for your support.

I demand your help.

Israel does not have to handle
this alone.

We must help.



REPUBLICAN PARTY



al

Is it getting off the ground alright?

Sounds good - but I can't tell,

Your gift was wonderful.

→ leaving for Israel

1. Morocco -

- a) describe situation Tambelt
Moroccan
"when Moslem + Frenchman fight,
Jewish head gets broken"
- b) people leaving - 1000 per person
45,000 people

2. Israel -

- a) breathy fell over - new immigrants -
no money - we have slackened
- b) oil will not solve anything yet
- c) war on borders - jet planes
- d) Moscow - Cairo axis

3. On - Going Task of Decade

- a) began with Hitler - will end
when all ^{Jews} are in peace
- b) no right to say enough
- c) we must carry on - no
slackers - increased giving -
we make money - we
should share.

Jack
Freed
going on
mission

MEETING ON NORTH AFRICA

The following is the gist of a conversation I had with Mr. Rosenwald on September 14th, at which time I brought him up to date on the discussion in the office with regard to the advisability of calling a special conference for the organization of a special Moroccan Emigration Fund.

Mr. Rosenwald felt that we ought to start as soon as possible to raise money for this fund. He said that we had the October 13th meeting set up anyway and we certainly were not going to cancel it. He felt the October 13th meeting could be strengthened by means that would not interfere with the Bond Drive or any other organization. The October 13th meeting could be used to get leaders in other communities to discuss primarily the North African situation and we could explain what we had in mind with regard to calling a special conference later on. These people could then return to their communities and do some work in terms of tapping reserves, reopening allocations, etc. although no official fund raising. Mr. Rosenwald felt, however, that there might be some "judicious" solicitation that the Bond Drive may approve of such as arranging to call on people who did not normally give to the UJA for ideological reasons. Mr. Rosenwald felt that the October 13th meeting could be one at which we discuss some plans re the setting up of a meeting in connection with the General Assembly on November 10th.

Mr. Rosenwald felt that this entire problem may be handled in two bites. First meeting on October 13th and then a more important meeting on November 10th in connection with the Council. Mr. Rosenwald said he was afraid that if we wait until November to do anything it will be too late to reopen allocations, etc.

The November meeting, in connection with the General Assembly, would be a UJA - Council meeting to which we would have the right to bring anyone we please. At the same time we would have the advantage of getting people who normally attend the Council meeting.

Mr. Rosenwald said that it might be that the October 13th meeting would kill the November 10th meeting but he didn't think we would have to tell the people too much on the 13th and we could get the ball rolling on the 13th.

Mr. Rosenwald thought that it is terribly important that at the November 10th meeting we bring over a person from Morocco, perhaps a JDC worker, who can tell us something about what happened in the "Sports Stadium" and that sort of thing.

cc HHS
LLP

