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VIA FAX

MEMORANDUM

May 2, 1990 7 Iyar 5750

From: Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

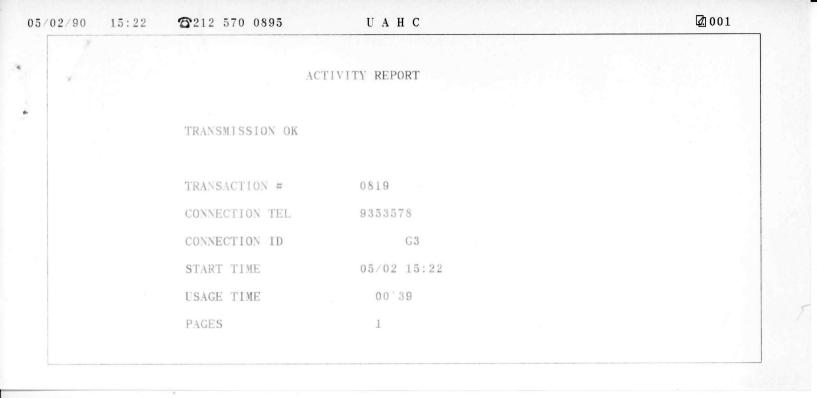
To: Karen Rubenstein, AZF

Unfortunately, I cannot be at tomorrow morning's meeting.

The plan as outlined is satisfactory. I have only one reservation and that relates to paragraph 2 of the section on Implementation and the formation of the Advisory Council. The phrase as you now have it, "...comprised of professionals and laypersons from the formal and informal educational community," is entirely too vague and requires some specificity. What I really want to be certain of is that the religious movements, Orthodoxy, Conservatism and Reform, and their educational personnel are included in the Council. Let us not forget that probably 90% of the Jewish youngsters of America are in the schools and camps and youth groups of these streams and their representation ought to be assured.

I am confident, incidentally, that Louis Bernstein will agree with me fully on this score.

The last sentence of this paragraph 2 is also unclear to me and requires greater specificity. What do you mean when you say that "The Advisory Council shall reflect the parity of the WZO/JAFI partnership? arm regards.



515 Park Avenue

New York, NY 10022

(212) 371-7750



Simon Schwartz

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American Zionist Youth Council

American Jowish League Americans for Progressive Israel AMIT Women Association of Reform Zionists of America

Anct Zion Emunah Women Hadassah Henit Zionists of America Labor Zionist Alliance

Mercaz NA'AMAT USA North American Aliyah Movement Religious Zionists of America Zionist Organization of America Zionist Student Movement

Attiliated Organizations American Sephardi Federation Women's League for Israel Related Agencies

American Zionist Youth Foundation Jewish National Fund

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April 23, 1990

TO: AZF AD HOC COMMITTEE

ON JOINT EDUCATION COMMISSION

FM: SIMON SCHWARTZ, CHAIRMAN

RABBI ISRAEL MILLER, SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

As agreed at our April 18th meeting, a subcommittee prepared a draft document for review and discussion by the full committee.

THe full committee will meet again on:

Thursday, May 3 8:30 AM Ninth Floor Conference Room 515 Park Avenue

Attached is the <u>draft</u> document. Please read it carefully and consider its contents.

We will attempt to incorporate any substantive comments, submitted no later than Friday April 27th, into the draft document which will be presented on May 2. If such comments are not submitted in advance they will, of course, be considered for discussion and comment at the May 2 meeting.

At this meeting we will:

- Attempt to reach a consensus regarding a proposed plan for U.S. implementation of a Joint Authority, in the event that it should be established; and
- 2. Discuss the possiblity of a meeting with our American partners in the education matter, and the possible dates and venue for such a meeting.

Best wishes.

Please call Jacqui Moss at the AZF office to let us know if you will attend the meeting.

DRAFT

Concerning the Implementation In the United States of a Joint Education Authority

Preamble

Recognizing the importance of ensuring the availability of a quality Jewish-Zionist education to this and subsequent generations of Jews, we affirm the decision to establish a framework in the United States for the provision of Jewish-Zionist educational services on behalf of the proposed Joint Authority in Jerusalem. The establishment of this framework serves to affirm our joint commitment to maintain current funding levels as the minimum level of support for Zionist educational endeavors in the United States and, at the same time, to provide, at the highest level of excellence, a more integrated educational system.

We affirm that the basic values guiding this framework in the United States shall be the centrality of Israel, Zionist realization and aliyah, and the goals of Zionism and its ideology as integral components of educational activities; that the WZO shall be entrusted with the implementation of these programs; and that in the U.S. this framework shall recognize and function on the basis of the pluralistic reality of Jewish-Zionist life today.

Goals

With the establishment of the framework we project the ultimate realization of a fully integrated and coordinated educational system which will:

- create simple and effective means to access the full range of Zionist educational programs, services and activities offered by the Joint Authority and the Jewish community;
- 2. provide training, information, and methods of implementation relating to Zionist programs to educational personnel directly responsible for programming;
- 3. ensure the continuous provision of knowledge, programs and activities to individuals throughout their lifetimes in an integrated manner and be accessible to individuals in their home environments and social-settings in their local communities;
- 4. respond to the needs of all Jews at varying levels of affiliation from the casually interested to the fully affiliated with the expressed goal of bringing the former into the ranks of the latter in a thoughtful and professional manner; and
- 5. recognize the need for both formal and informal educational programs at all age levels, and ensure the coordination in the development and implementation of these two modes of education.

In summation, our recognized and stated goal is to provide the highest-quality system of educational programs in order to achieve the values- and character-formation of a Zionist Jew.

Implementation

To achieve these goals we propose the following principles and guidelines as a framework for access, input and implementation of a Zionist educational system.

- 1. The WZO in the United States shall administer this framework from its headquarters in New York.
- 2. An Advisory Council shall be created, comprised of professionals and laypersons from the formal and informal educational community. This Council shall meet 2-3 times each year and shall seek to be fully representative of the entities involved, as users and providers, in Zionist educational programming. The Council shall reflect the parity of the WZO/JAFI partnership.
- 3. The role of the Advisory Council is to assist the Authority's departments in the United States, by providing input on program planning and to monitor the effectiveness and impact of programs. A working committee derived from the Council shall meet on a regular basis.
- 4. The Advisory Council shall have the opportunity to review and comment on all proposed Joint Authority program initiatives which will impact on North America.
- 5. The Advisory Council shall select its own chairperson, who shall be a nationally-recognized individual with clear qualifications as an educator, and someone whose life and accomplishments reflect Zionist values.
- 6. Departments of the WZO shall be encouraged to work with as many agencies and institutions as possible, even beyond those represented in the Advisory Council.
- 7. For the purposes of implementation, until the next World Zionist Congress the WZO in the United States shall select a senior-level educator from its professional staff to serve as the director. The director shall work with the Director-General of the Authority in Jerusalem, the Chair of the Advisory Council and the other professional staff involved in Zionist education.
- 8. As this system will be providing its services at the highest professional level, in a fully integrated manner, and on behalf of the Joint Authority in Jerusalem, it will be the sole address offering Zionist educational services, guidance, resources, and program assistance on behalf of the WZO/JAFI in the United States.
- 9. The professional and lay leadership involved in Jewish-Zionist education should consider establishing programmatic outreach units in various Jewish and/or Zionist agencies and organizations. The units would be staffed by personnel either recommended by the WZO or appointed by the operative agency. The personnel assigned to these units would constitute a regional staff organization, and meet regularly under the auspices and guidance of the framework. These units would operate across as well as within departmental lines.

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February 7, 1995

From: Edith J. Miller

To: Paul Rockfeld

The UAHC agreed to sponsor the attached ad in the New York Times. We said we would contribute \$250. so please let me have a check for that amount payable to the American Zionist Movement and I will forward it to the proper person.

Thanks.

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1995 State of the Union Addre.

A human bomb. The senseless loss of sons and daughters. The desecration of daily life. Terror governing politics.

Once again, Israel has been shaken by terrorists, determined to sabotage the advancing peace process. Their hope as always is to turn public opinion in Israel away from peace, away from the promise of the future.

Today, we raise our voices against a return to the belligerency of the past, against the destruction of the peace process. Let us strengthen our resolve to defy the terrorist organizations and their supporters. They are

inspired by hate, willing to use the most desperate means. But they cannot be allowed to threaten

American Jewish Committee Robert Rifkind, President David Harris, Executive Director

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American Zionist Movement Seymour D. Reich, President Karen Rubinstein, Executive Director

Anti-Defamation League David Strassler, National Chairman Abraham Foxman, Executive Director

B'nai B'rith Tommy Baer, President. Dr. Sidney Clearfield, Executive Director

the lives of innocent people and to take away their dreams of a secure future.

We are confident that the government of Israel is taking whatever steps are necessary to protect its citizens and to defeat those who seek them harm. It is continuing its active pursuit of a lasting peace between Israel and her neighbors. Let us stand together in support of those efforts. Our tradition teaches us: Choose life so that you and your descendants will survive. By choosing peace over, terror, and strength over weakness, we

are choosing life so that Israel's sons and daughters can look forward to a

By choosing peace over terror, and strength over weakness, future without fear. we are choosing life.

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World Jewish Congress Edgar M. Bronfman, President Israel Singer, Secretary General

For more information contact: American Zionist Movement, 110 East 59th Street, New York, N.Y. 10022 (212) 318-6100

"We cannot permit the future to be marred by terror and fear and paralysis"

1995 State of the Union Address

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The government of Israel is taking whatever steps are necessary to protect its citizens and to defeat those who seek them harm. It is continuing its active pursuit of a lasting peace between Israel and her neighbors. Let us stand together in support of those efforts. Our tradition teaches us: Choose life so that you and your descendants will survive. By choosing peace over terror and strength over weakness, we are choosing life — so that Israel's sons and daughters can look forward to a future without fear.

AMERICAN ZIONIST MOVEMENT

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To: Edie Miller, WAHC

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Per our

conversation -

the ad text

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RABBI ALEXANDER M. SCHINDLER • UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS
PRESIDENT 838 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10021-7064 (212)249-0100

April 7, 1933 16 Nisan 5753

Don Adelman, Executive Vice Chairman American Zionist Youth Foundation 110 East 59th Street New York, NY 10022

Dear Don:

Your April 2nd letter detailing the chronology is only partially correct because you do not spell out precisely what your "addition" to my suggestion, relayed via Irwin Meltzer, was. Your counter-suggestion was that it would be O.K. for us to list Congregation Beth Simchat Torah provided we list "a bunch of other temples, too." That was scarcely a compromise. In effect it made a mockery of our proposal.

Please do not try to lay the blame at other peoples doors. The truth of the matter is that Congregation Beth Simchat Torah applied to you by letter in January and did not even have the courtesy of a reply from you by March when a second letter was sent. It was then that Sharon preached her sermon and the matter became public. Had you done what you should have done all of this could have been averted. In other words, your failure to respond for two or three months is the root of the problem.

Certainly I, no less than the sons and daughters of Congregation Beth Simchat Torah want all this resolved amicably. But it cannot be resolved if you consign your fellow Jews to invisibility.

Yours truly,

Alexander M. Schindler

cc: Rabbi Joseph P.Sternstein Rabbi Allen S. Kaplan Norman Schwartz AZYF Officers Rabbi Ammiel Hirsch Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum Rabbi Eric H. Yoffie



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American Zionist Youth Foundation המוסד הציוני האמריקאי לנוער

April 2, 1993

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler President, UAHC 838 Fifth Avenue New York, New York 10021

Dear Alex,

I wish to take this opportunity to express my deep disappointment with the manner in which the UAHC and ARZA related to the sensitive issue which is now before the leadership of the American Zionist Youth Foundation and the Salute to Israel Parade.

I was pleased to speak to you in the morning and understood your deep anguish over the issue of enabling Beth Simchat Torah to march with dignity in the forthcoming Salute to Israel Parade. expressed to you at the time, we have no less are compelled to concern but consider interests of everyone relating to this celebration.

Unity and tolerance has been the hallmark of the Parade since its inception with the focus always importance on the of Israel being centrality to Jewish life.

From the very beginning it has been the ardent desire of the Parade and AZYF's leadership to accommodate the many and varied groups of young people who have participated enthusiastically and draw the largest crowd possible expression of to of commitment Israel. Tens thousands of students march in the Parade exert enormous energies preparing for this annual event.

During our conversation, I indicated to you that I thought you had the basis of a possible solution it required the problem; however, development and please not to publicize this suggestion in order to avoid discouraging some accommodation by all parties. We first learned of the suggestion through the media. In addition, I



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American Zionist Youth Foundation המוסד הציוני האמריקאי לנוער

Letter to Rabbi Schindler

page 2

spoke to Irwin Meltzer that same afternoon and he agreed to convey our addition to your suggestion to Ami Hirsch who would then call me regarding this. Furthermore, I discussed the basis of the suggestion with some groups for whom this has been a painful problem and they appeared receptive. Thus, I was shocked, dismayed and deeply offended by a telephone call I received from the New York Daily News which indicated you had issued a press release revealing the suggestion; this, in spite of the fact that we specifically asked that go public until discussions with all nothing parties involved had been completed. Beyond that, the press release attacked the fidelity of the leadership of the Parade while driving a broad salvo of invective against those relating to the Orthodox movements.

I fail to see anything constructive in such a press release, or its purpose, unless it is intended to antagonize those groups with whom your organization may have legitimate concerns. I can see it serving no useful purpose if the intention was to help resolve the situation in a helpful and positive way.

Indeed, the fact that such a release was written with no small amount of invective was tantamount to destroying the suggestion before it was ever considered seriously. We regret the action and feel it is counterproductive to all we have tried to achieve.

Further, it is incumbent upon us to point out that some of the factual information being conveyed in the release is inaccurate. The opening line which seemed to indicate the refusal of AZYF to allow participation by BST in the Parade is factually inaccurate and known to be that by all The leadership has to this parties concerned. moment *never* refused BST participation in the Indeed all discussions with the parties concerned have been held in a positive manner with no final determination having been reached but rather, the expression of legitimate helpfulness to try to accommodate all legitimate participants in the Parade.



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American Zionist Youth Foundation המוסד הציוני האמריקאי לנוער

Letter to Rabbi Schindler

page 3

To further intimate that the Parade leadership is dominated by extremist orthodox groups is both factually inaccurate and insulting to the variety of backgrounds reflective of the leadership.

We write this letter with deepest regret. No copies will go to the press or be distributed to the public at-large for we have no intention of exacerbating the feelings of the parties involved. We hope to solve the dilemma that is before us. We want to enable the maximum participation in this year's Salute to Israel Parade. We want to maintain solidarity with the State of Israel and fidelity to all participants.

Alex, we need your help in this, and look for positive assistance. We refuse to close the door on any option that will bring accommodation and we will work to the last moment if necessary, to avoid rupture or serious disunity of this event.

In this spirit, we ask that all considerations be discussed straightforwardly and nothing be left undone which may ameliorate the situation. (Certainly the media should not be made partner to these discussions).

I take this opportunity to wish you and yours a happy, sweet Passover, and hope for a resolution in the near future.

With sincere good wishes,

Don Adelman

Executive Vice Chairman

Rabbi J.P. Sternstein

Chairman

Cc: Rabbi Eric H. Yoffie, Norman D. Schwartz, Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum, Rabbi Allen Kaplan, Officers AZYF.



838 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10021-7064 TEL: (212) 249-0100, FAX: (212) 517-7968

ASSOCIATION OF REFORM ZIONISTS OF AMERICA An Affiliate of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations

March 31, 1993 9 Nisan 5753

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Mr. Don Adelman, Executive Vice-Chairman American Zionist Youth Foundation 110 East 59th Street New York, New York 10022

Dear Don:

It is with regret that I heard of the apparent decision of the American Zionist Youth Foundation to deny permission to Congregation Beth Simchat Torah to participate in the "Salute to Israel" parade.

Through our telephone conversations during the last couple of weeks, I conveyed to you our sincere desire to resolve this issue satisfactorily. I also expressed our feeling that the parade is not a religious event but a secular communal salute to Israel. Apparently, the AZYF feels that it cannot even accept the compromise proposal to allow Congregation Beth Simchat Torah to march under its own banner without indicating that it is a Gay and Lesbian synagogue.

Therefore, I hereby notify you that ARZA intends on inviting Congregation Beth Simchat Torah to march in its delegation. On ARZA's banner will be the words: "ARZA proudly marches with Congregation Beth Simchat Torah in salute to Israel."

If you have need of any clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Ammiel Hirsch

AH:dg

cc: Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler,

Rabbi Eric H. Yoffie, Norman D. Schwartz,

Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum

Rabbi Allen Kaplan

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fax transmittal megrio

NEW YORK POST, THURSDAY, APRIL

JEWS IN HOLY WA OVER GAY By RICHARD STEIER A war has erupted between two najor branches of Judaism over gay synagogue's bid to march a next month's Salute to Israel

Parade, The Post has learned. Orthodox Jewish leaders say hey'll boycott the May 9 parade f members of the Greenwich Milage synagogue, Beth Sim-

POST EXCLUSIVE

Torah, are allowed to narch with a banner bearing the emple's name.

But the head of a coalition of ynagogues representing 1.5 milion Reform Jews countered that they won't participate unless a banner identifying the gay congre-

gation is permitted. Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum of Beth Simchat Torah said she was "saddened by the controversy."

She said she was "deeply disappointed" that Orthodox leaders rejected a compromise under which her synagogue's banner would contain no reference to the sexual orientation of most of its congregants.

Everybody knows who they are, so why do they have to anpounce it with a banner?" retorted Rabbi Fabian Schonfeld of Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, an Orthodox synagogue.

!'Most Jewish schools have de-

cided not to march under any circumstances if [Beth Simchat Torah is] allowed to carry a banner," Schonfeld said, referring to the mainly Orthodox students who make up many of the parade marchers.

MARCHERS

"I would have no problem with a gay person marching next to me, but why do they have to flaunt their aberration?"

Reform Rabbi Alexander Schindler, who heads the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, criticized Schonfeld's strict biblical interpretation of homosexuality as an "aberrattion."

The Bible says that one should throw stones at lepers and put adulterers to death; ask him if he's doing that." Schindler said.

"We who were beaten in the streets of Berlin cannot turn away from the victims of gaybashing."

Schindler has invited Beth

"Why do they have to flaunt their aberration?"

RABBI FABIAN SCHONFELD

Simchat Torah to march with the Association of Reform Zionists of America.

If the gay synagogue cannot carry its own banner, Schindler said, his organization will identify Beth Simchat Torah on its banner.

If the parade organizers object, Schindler said, the Reform group will not participate.

Aides to Mayor Dinkins and City Council President Andrew Stein - reluctant to get too deeply involved in the touchy issue - said they hoped a compromise could be worked out.

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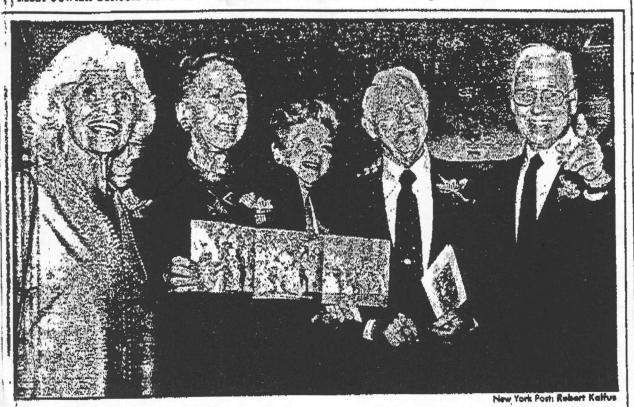
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PRESIDENT • UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS
838 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK, N.Y. 10021 (212) 249-0100

May 18, 1993 27 Iyar 5753

Seymour D. Reich President American Zionist Movement 110 East 59th Street New York, NY 10022

Dear Seymour:

I have your invitation to the Washington Mission on June 8th. Unfortunately, I have to be in Los Angeles at that time. It is an engagement that I accepted several years ago. I hope you understand and in understanding, forgive.

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

AMERICAN ZIONIST MOVEMENT

formerly American Zionist Federation

התנועה הציונית האמריקאית

Seymour D. Reich

Karen J. Rubinstein EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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To:

AZM National Leadership

From:

Seymour D. Reich, President

Karen J. Rubinstein, Executive Director

Date:

May 14, 1993

Re:

MISSION TO WASHINGTON, June 8, 1993.

We would like to invite you to join us on AZM's inaugural one-day leadership mission to Washington on Tuesday, June 8, 1993. This will be the first in a series of missions designed to magnify the presence and impact of the American Zionist community in the nation's capital. There will be an exciting line-up of people and places (see attached itinerary).

Participants will be responsible for their own transportation, both to and from Washington, and between sites in the city. We will be starting our day at 8:30 am. For those of you coming from New York, there is a Delta shuttle leaving LaGuardia at 6:30 am, and a U.S. Air shuttle leaving LaGuardia at 7:00 am. If, however, you wish to spend the previous night in Washington, we can make those arrangements for you.

We will require a registration fee of \$30 from all participants. This is designed to cover the group's costs. A kosher breakfast and lunch is included in the fee.

If you would like to be a part of this intensive tour, please fill out and return the tear-off portion of the itinerary page. (Since time is short, please fax it to us at 212-935-3578).

Hope to see you there!

ITINERARY (subject to change)

8:30 am	General orientation; breakfast briefing with the Ambassador of Israel, Dr. Itamar Rabinovich.
10:00 am	Holocaust Memorial Museum. In addition to touring the Museum, we will be discussing recent controversies that relate to Zionist issues.
1:00 pm	"Working Lunch" at AIPAC. Briefing on current topics of concern, particularly as they impact on Capitol Hill and the Administration. Additional focus on Congressional representatives with whom we will be meeting later in the day.
2:00 pm	Meeting on Capitol Hill with Edward Djerejian, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs.
4:00 pm	Meetings on Capitol Hill with key freshman Congressional representatives.
	Already confirmed: Alcee Hastings (D-FL) Eric Fingerhut (D-OH)
6:00 pm	Return home.
REGISTRATION F	ORM FOR JUNE 8th MISSION TO WASHINGTON
(Please return May 24th).	by fax to AZM office at 935-3578, no later than
Name	
Organization	
Address	
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