



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES
A DIVISION OF HEBREW UNION COLLEGE – JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION

MS-630: Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler Digital Collection, 1961-1996.
Series B: Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, 1962-1996.

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Advisory committee, 1976-1978.

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American Jewish Archives website.

October 17, 1978

Mr. Theodore R. Mann
1711 Rittenhouse Square
Philadelphia, PA. 19103

Dear Ted:

Thank you for your letter of October 10. I really do not know what you mean by your statement that the "hasbara question is moving along." But whatever it means, so long as it does not involve me, and so long as it leaves the final judgment on the hands of the Presidents' Conference, I am satisfied.

With warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

MANN AND UNGAR
PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
1711 RITTENHOUSE SQUARE
PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19103

(215) 732-3120

THEODORE R. MANN

October 10, 1978

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler
Union of American Hebrew Congregations
838 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10021

Dear Alex:

Thanks for your note of October 6. When Rhea told me that you and your son were at a ball game (on the day before Rosh Hashana yet!) I realized that my predecessor was able to fulfil his many obligations in ways that I could only envy but never match.

Alex, the hasbara question is moving along, and I hope to have a formal suggestion in the near future.

Sincerely,

THEODORE R. MANN

TRM:bo

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

Office of the Chairman
1711 Rittenhouse Square
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103
(215) 732-3120

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS:

American Israel Public
Affairs Committee

American Jewish Congress

American Mizrahi Women

American Zionist Federation

Anti-Defamation League

B'nai B'rith

B'nai B'rith Women

Bnai Zion

Central Conference of
American Rabbis

Council of Jewish Federations
and Welfare Funds (observer)

Hadassah

Jewish Labor Committee

Jewish Reconstructionist
Foundation

Jewish War Veterans
of the U.S.A.

Labor Zionist Alliance

Mizrachi-Hapoel Hamizrachi

National Committee for
Labor Israel, Inc.

National Council of
Jewish Women

National Council of
Young Israel

Young Israel

National Federation of
Temple Sisterhoods

National Jewish Community
Relations Advisory Council

National Jewish Welfare Board

North American Jewish
Youth Council

Pioneer Women

The Rabbinical Assembly

Rabbinical Council of America

Union of American Hebrew
Congregations

Union of Orthodox Jewish
Congregations of America

United Synagogue of America

Women's American ORT

Women's League for
Conservative Judaism

World Zionist Organization
American Section, Inc.

Zionist Organization of America

November 27, 1978

Alexander M. Schindler
Union of American Hebrew Congregations
838 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10021

Dear Alex:

I have yours of November 22. I am following up on the idea of the energy program we discussed and I will get back to you on it soon.

I tried to make clear in our discussion that the Jerusalem issue does not lend itself to separate "spokesmanship." It is likely to be the prime issue the Conference will have to deal with in the immediate future. The Prime Minister suggested to me such a role for you, because he rightly wants us to make maximum use of your talents. I told him that such a role would be an abdication of my own responsibilities as spokesman, and that instead I would meet with you to discuss how the Jewish community would be most benefited by Alex Schindler. The energy ideas we discussed provide one very excellent avenue, since I agree with you that the energy problem, as the administration sees it, will underlie administration middle-east policy in the years ahead.

As noted, I will get back to you soon.

Sincerely,

THEODORE R. MANN

TRM:bo

cc Hellman

November 22, 1978

Mr. Theodore R. Mann
1711 Rittenhouse Square
Philadelphia, PA. 19103

Dear Ted:

Thank you for your visit.

As promised, I will give the matter of the Jerusalem spokesmanship some thought. I will get back to you just as soon as I come to a conclusion.

The chairmanship of the Energy program does interest me very much. I would be glad to be involved with it either as head of a special Task Force under the aegis of the President's Conference or if the Union should be asked to spearhead this campaign. As I indicated to you, I am determined to move ahead with this in any event via our Religious Action Center in Washington. I didn't have a chance to tell you but Rabbi David Saperstein, Director of our Religious Action Center and one of the ablest Jewish civil servants, is currently the chairman of the Interreligious Committee on Energy (ICE), which is moving ahead in this field, a position which puts him in a unique position to carry forward the larger program as well.

With warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

June 2, 1976

Mr. Rose Matzkin
Hadassah
50 West 58th Street
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Rose:

I understand the June 15th date for our Presidents' Conference meeting on "Dissent in the American Jewish Community" is not a convenient time for you. I sincerely regret the conflict and the fact that it is simply not possible to reschedule the session for a date prior to June 9th.

With warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler
Chairman

Yehuda Hellman
same letter to Charlotte Jacobson and Faye Schenk

24 May 1976
4:00 p.m.

YH
AMS :

Mrs. Matzkin
Mrs. Schenk
Mrs. Jacobson

All have a prior engagement and would appreciate it if the June 15th meeting on "Dissent in the American Jewish Community" could be moved up to sometime before the 9th of June.

joanne



CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022
Plaza 2-1616
Cable Address: COJOGRA

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS:

American Israel Public
Affairs Committee
American Jewish Congress
American Mizrahi Women's
Organization
American Zionist Federation
Anti-Defamation League
B'nai B'rith
B'nai B'rith Women
Bnai Zion
Central Conference of
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Union of Orthodox Jewish
Congregations of America
United Synagogue of America
Women's American ORT
Women's League for
Conservative Judaism
World-Zionist Organization
American Section, Inc.
Zionist Organization of America

March 10, 1976

12:00

Recovery

Mr. Max M. Fisher
2210 Fisher Building
Detroit, Michigan 48202

Dear Max:

Here is the list for the visit with the President. As I told you, I envisage this very grouping as a more permanent deliberative body to discuss substantive issues on questions relating to the American Jewish community and Israel.

AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

784-2482

- ✓ David M. Blumberg (B'nai B'rith)
- ✓ Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg (American Jewish Congress)
- ✓ Mrs. Charlotte Jacobson (World Zionist Organization)
- ✓ Arthur Levine (United Synagogue)
- ✓ Mrs. Rose Matzkin (Hadassah) →
- ✓ Jacob Sheinkman (Jewish Labor Committee)
- ✓ Rabbi Joseph Sternstein (ZOA)
- ✓ Rabbi Israel Miller (American Zionist Fed.) (past chair.)
- ✓ Ed Sanders (AIPAC)
- ✓ Elmer Winter (American Jewish Committee)
- ✓ Jerold Hoffberger (CJFWF)
- ✓ Frank Lautenberg (UJA)
- ✓ Max M. Fisher
- ✓ Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

Handwritten: Sy Grawlad

In reviewing this list I find that there is really no one from the Orthodox community included. Iz Miller is an Orthodox rabbi but he is seen primarily as the representative of a Zionist Federation. From the Orthodox community we have the following possibilities:

Rabbi Fabian Schonfeld, President of the RCA
Harold Jacobs, President of the UOJCA
Rabbi Louis Bernstein, President of Mizrahi
Herman Rosenbaum, President of Young Israel

Mr. Max M. Fisher
March 10, 1976
Page -2-

i.e. one of the four

Jacobs and Rosenbaum are nice guys but they are not very effective (this judgment is obviously highly confidential). Both Schonfeld and Bernstein are extremely right wing; the former is bright but in a superficial sort of way - really an empty vessel who makes a lot of noise. Bernstein is more thoughtful and articulate. We have to have one of them and I would like your judgment in this matter. My inclination is to go with the more intelligent guy and that is Bernstein, but I don't feel strongly about it one way or another. You decide and let me know.

Rose Matzkin will be leaving the presidency of Hadassah in August. Her successor, I am told, is not so strong but we will face that problem when we get to it.

Should ADL be represented? Sy Graubard is a very intelligent lawyer and more attuned to our thinking. I offer this merely as a suggestion and for your judgment. It certainly isn't necessary to have him present.

Ouch, one thing I almost forgot...must not Yehuda Hellman be at the meeting? I really think so, in all fairness to him.

I do have one personal problem and that is the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the UAHC, a superb attorney and negotiator by the name of Matthew H. Ross. As you can understand, I am giving up an awful lot of my Union time for this effort and Matt has been most receptive. I think that he would love the opportunity to be in the White House but if it is too much it is too much. Once again, in this connection I will accept your judgment.

To sum up then, we are:

- a) agreed on the basic group.
- b) The Orthodox representative has to be chosen out of the four names above.
- c) Yes or no on Sy Graubard
- d) Yes or no on Yehuda Hellman
- e) Yes or no on Matthew Ross.

Mr. Max M. Fisher
March 10, 1976
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It would be well if the meeting with the President was in the afternoon and I will then reserve a suite at the Hay-Adams or another hotel contiguous to The White House, for a full two-hour discussion in the morning to prepare ourselves fully for the meeting with the President and also to organize ourselves briefly for our ongoing deliberations through the months and years ahead, at least through the period of my tenure as chairman of the Presidents' Conference.

If this plan works, we will have achieved de facto what will never be achieved de jure and that is a kind of "upper house" for the American Jewish community.

As soon as you let me know the date and time I will set up the meeting and send appropriate cables to one and all. Of course, I realize that you will want to contact some of the people yourself first, just let me know who and I'll hold the cables to give you a chance to make prior contact.

Have a pleasant visit in Palm Beach. Love and Kisses and many thanks for your contribution to the Reform Jewish Appeal.

Sincerely,



Alexander M. Schindler
Chairman

cc: Palm Beach Apartment

March 10, 1976

Mr. Max M. Fisher
2210 Fisher Building
Detroit, Michigan 48202

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Mrs. Rose Matzkin (Hadassah)
Jacob Sheinkman (Jewish Labor Committee)
Rabbi Joseph Sternstein (ZOA)
Rabbi Israel Miller (American Zionist Fed.) (Ret. M.)
Ed Sanders (AIPAC)
Elmer Winter (American Jewish Committee)
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Max M. Fisher
Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

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Mr. Max M. Fisher
March 10, 1976
Page 02-

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March 10, 1976
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Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler
Chairman

cc: Palm Beach Apartment

DATE: FEBRUARY 27, 1976

TO: ABRAHAM J. BAYER
MALCOLM HOENLEIN
ALBERT D. CHERNIN

FROM: JERRY GOODMAN

As you know the meeting of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union got under way February 24th. By way of followup what do you think of a campaign aimed at the leadership of the American Communist Party, especially the Jewish elements. If you think that there is some merit, then we will prepare a proposal providing the names of the proper individuals to contact. I would appreciate your comments as soon as possible.

bcc: Rabbi Alexander Schindler



PRESIDENTS' CONFERENCE

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DAVID M. BLUMBERG

ARTHUR HERTZBERG

ROSE MATZKIN

CHARLOTTE JACOBSON

JACOB SHEINKMAN

JOSEPH STERNSTEIN

LOU BERNSTEIN



PRESIDENTS ' CONFERENCE

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