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with an Israel without Israelis. Some Arabs would accept (after another sneak war without an eternal vigilance by the Israelis), to use whatever Israelis remaining, to once again make bricks out of straw for them. It would seem then that neither the defeatists or the Arabs have learned two facts of life, namely, it cannot and will not happen.

Samuel H. Schwalb

Hamizrachi Women

Dear Editor:

In answer to the letter of Rochelle Charles in the May issue of **The Jewish Week**, I am delighted to inform you that there is a Religious Women's Organization, the Hapoel Hamizrachi Women, which is involved in the total life of Israel on every level and which cares about all of the children everywhere through its unique system of nurseries, kindergartens, day care centers, vocational training schools throughout the length and breadth of Israel.

This organization is affiliated with the National Religious Women's Organization in Israel. It is also part of a world movement known as Emuna with similar ideals and ideologies composed of tens of thousands of Religious Zionist women in many countries throughout the world.

We have influenced thousands of children who have played a vital part in the religious Zionist character of the States.

We invite Rochelle Charles and all who feel the same as she does to join our organization. Call (212) 564-9045, and information will be sent to you.

Sara Ain Flascher

Chevrona Chapter

Hapoel Hamizrachi Women's Org.

Resents Carter dicta

Dear Editor:

Your statement in the current issue of **The Jewish Week** was well put when you said that "the Jews of America must remember . . . that their support belongs to all the people of Israel, not to any one party or combination of parties." Why, oh why, are the American Jewish leaders so silent when Carter makes false statements at a press conference to the effect that Israel must permit a Palestinian State in the West Bank; compensate the Arabs for properties in Israel-held territory, etc. Only Ambassador Simcha Dinitz after his conference with Vance denied that Carter's statements are resolutions of the U.N. Security Council. Why didn't the Conference of Major Organizations speak up? Why didn't we hear from the articulate presidents of the American Jewish Congress, the Board of Rabbis, the Zionist organizations who speak so "beautifully" at conferences? Does this once again show the ineffective quality of our Jewish leadership. Even one of our favorite columnists in **The Jewish Week** declared this week on Page 17 that Carter "will undoubtedly put the 'squeeze' on the Jews with regard to the Palestinians, the West Bank and the Golan Heights. (sic!)" But, please Mr. Carter save Jerusalem for the Jews! This is reminiscent of Rabbi Jochanan ben Zacai's plea to the Roman emperor in the First Century. "You may take all of the state — but leave the city of Yavneh!"

It appears that only Menahem Beigin shows "Ahavat Yisrael" and "Ahavat Eretz Israel!" To be sure his position will soften in due time —

brethren in Israel.

American Jewry take

positions clear to

more and

bulwark against Arab designs for the destruction of Israel, be they outright wars or "Palestinian"-guised subversion, it is Israel's national will to assert sovereignty over that territory in the Middle East which is legally and historically the Jewish homeland of Eretz Yisrael. That is the basic reality which is the first step toward achieving the peace of Jerusalem.

Let not American Jewry fear an unpromising Israel. Israel has shown us that they desire strong and firm leadership to guide them at this time. The drift of the past ten years will soon be countered and a misinformed public will be set right. Jerusalem's Peace depends on our own combined inner resolve. We dare not weaken that truth which is our might.

Yisrael Winkelman Medad

Outraged by pressure

Dear Editor:

The silence of the organized American Jewish community continues, in the face of explicit pressure on Israel by the American government.

But now President Carter wants even more. Using the election in Israel as a pretext, he expects "Jewish Americans" to join him in putting pressure on the Israelis when Menachem Beigin visits here. (Carter Press Conference, May 26.)

Where are the cries of outrage from the American Jewish leaders? Where is the large-scale mobilization of the American Jewish community which is now required? Where is the call for public demonstrations by Jews against the immoral policies of appeasement by our own government?

Are we so intimidated by our own government, or so convinced of our own political impotence, that we can do nothing more than sit in silence, and regard that as an act of courage or of prudence?

Our enemies still want to destroy us, and their chances of succeeding are stronger now than at any time since the Holocaust.

Isn't now the time for the American Jewish community to act?

It still may not be too late.

Rabbi Hillel A. Cohen

Subservience to Saudis

Dear Editor:

The Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister appeared on ABC television yesterday (Sunday). As usual, the interviewers treated him as if they were subjects of that absolute monarchy, rather than free American citizens and representatives of a craft which is supposed to ascertain and promulgate the truth at all costs. They were very concerned about an oil embargo — perhaps they thought one would be declared on the spot if they displeased His Excellency.

If one doesn't believe that truth is an absolute value, there are practical reasons for objecting to this kind of conduct. I list a few:

— It destroys the networks' pretensions to the First Amendment protections.

— It helps mislead the American public about the true nature of the Saudi government, the problem of peace in the Middle East, and the economic and ethical problems created by acts of the oil cartel.

— It aggravates the Saudis' already oppressive self-righteousness.

Arthur H. Kahn

Please return to Carl Helmy, Thanks



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WEEK ENDING: 5/18/77

Editor: W.A. "John" Johnson

Vol. 3, No. 30

U.S. FORCES IN TROUBLE

The Soviet Union could cross the Iron Curtain today and conquer Western Europe in 2 weeks, barreling over an underequipped, undermanned, and ill-trained United States force, said Gen. (Ret.) Lewis W. Walt, the man who led the first U.S. Marines into combat in Viet Nam.

In an interview on the state of the United States' military forces, Walt, known as "the marines' marine," said the country's military leaders are not telling Congress and the people the truth about the poor conditions of America's armed forces.

Walt, who says he has been on the front lines as much as any living marine, retired in 1971 with a reputation among his troops as the general who walked, talked, and fought with them on the front lines of three wars.

He is now a consultant to the Army and Navy, is briefed regularly by the Pentagon, and is privy to classified documents. But Walt says he came to his conclusion about U.S. military capabilities by "talking to the troops, seeing what their job is, and their capabilities to do it."

Following is an edited transcript of The Chicago Tribune's interview with Walt:

Q. Do you think the all-volunteer concept and the so-called total force concept of the U.S. armed forces is working?

A. No. And the thing that hurts us the most in the long run is the National Guard and the reserves. They are literally -- I hate to use the word shambles -- a total disaster because of a lack of training, a lack of materiel, and, most of all, a lack of people. We're just not getting enough people. The reserves are so important and they're so cheap, at one-fifth the cost of regular forces.

Q. The reserve and National Guard are supposed to be the backup part of the total force, but do you think the active Volunteer Force concept is working?

A. No. Definitely not. I think it is so wrong for our services to try to fool the public. Doggone it. Some of the higher-ups don't care for me for this reason, but why don't they come out and tell the truth? How can they expect to get their backing? How can they expect to get Congress' backing?

Q. What is the truth, as you see it?

A. First of all we're not getting the kind of people in the armed forces we need. At the time when we got to the all-volunteer forces, weapons sophistication increased and sophistication of personnel went down.

Q. But the services say their GIs are smarter and better trained than ever.

A. That's not true. I have been to those bases and have been measuring the troops and talking to them, seeing what their jobs are, for 4 years. They don't have the capabilities. We're putting 60¢ on a dollar into recruiting, bonuses, nice barracks, and conveniences. And discipline is going down. They're not training them the way they used to. I'm telling you what the generals are telling me. The people who know.

Q. Do you think the American troops are ready to defend an attack, for instance, in Western Europe?

A. In my best opinion -- and I've made a study of the Western Europe situation -- the Soviet Union has the military capability to take Western Europe in 14 days. I don't think they will now, because of China. But with the lack of vehicles and the lack of tanks we have there, our capabilities to defend are extremely limited. We are terribly out-numbered and, in fact, we don't have enough trucks over there to carry the ammunition up to the guns. Furthermore, I saw all the Russian vehicles captured by the Israelis and I was amazed. All of their battle vehicles were prepared to fight on an atomic battlefield or a chemical battlefield. (The general said Soviet tanks, amphibious vehicles, and armored personnel carriers, have a ventilation and life support system to protect troops in the event of such battles.) We have nothing like that. We are not prepared to fight on an atomic or a chemical battlefield.

Q. Do you think the combat-ready divisions in the states could get to Europe in time to help?

A. Of course not. I've been very close to Reforger (Operation Reforger, an annual NATO maneuver in which an American division is airlifted to Germany) and in my estimation it has never proven to me it could stop a Soviet attack.

Q. Why do you think people are ignoring your warnings?

A. People think that when the time comes we'll be alerted and be able to build up in Europe. Well, we won't have time to get built up. The world is too small now. The advantage the Soviets have is that they maneuver on the western border all the time with 135 divisions. They could mass on one front and break right through. Furthermore, they control the seas. We couldn't resupply or reinforce.

Q. Is a draft the solution? And how could the draft be brought back in the present political climate?

A. In the first place, if you had a draft, what would it amount to? With the President's amnesty they would say "if they got away with it, why can't I?" The country has to talk up the military to our young people instead of talking it down. This is what killed the all-volunteer concept, the attitude of the American people since Viet Nam. The only way it will work is to turn the people around.

Q. Do you think people would join the reserves out of a sense of patriotism?

A. I think so. I've got a lot of faith in the young people of today, if they are given proper leadership.

Q. What are your thoughts about unions and the military?

A. I don't think it would be a good thing for the military. But I can understand the people who are looking toward it as a possible solution to some of the problems they are having in the military.....

Q. How is morale in the armed forces?

A. Not good. And Mr. Carter's declaration of amnesty will undoubtedly lower the morale, fighting spirit, and dependability of men in our fighting forces. Why should they risk their lives when others have found a way out? I believe that what he has done to placate a few thousand disloyal, unpatriotic, infidel law breakers, as a result of bad advice and pressure from pressure groups, has done a great irreparable damage

to our country now and in the future. (Chicago Tribune, 5/9/77, sec 1, p. 4)

DIGEST OPINION: It's been some time since we allowed our lead article to exceed 2 pages. But the comments of General Walt are astounding. He flatly says "We can't defend Europe." He says the Soviets control the seas so we can't resupply or reinforce. The air-lift-to-Europe-idea is no good, he says. The Digest has pointed out in previous articles that it would take a minimum of 24 hours for our NATO forces to get permission to shoot back at the Soviets if they did start something. And in at least one instance, it would take some 14 hours to get to the ammunition bunker to get the ammo needed once permission was received to "fire at will!" Was Gen. Walt contacted by the major TV networks to offer his analysis of our situation? Did the New York Times or Washington Post interview the man? And General Walt did not mention the survey taken at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. Recruits were asked a number of questions and their answers were published in a report titled "Basic Airmen's Values and Perceptions of Society -- 1976." Asked whether, given a choice, they would evacuate a base under attack or stay and fight, only 49% of the recruits said they would fight. The other 51% either said they would run or they weren't sure what they would do. And 37% said they wouldn't have joined the service at all if the country were at war! Now, add all of the above to the present fouled up energy situation and what have you got? One heck of a mess! And it gets worse daily thanks to ineptness in Washington at the highest levels. Or maybe it's not ineptness. Maybe this is the way they want it. In order to merge our government into a One World Government, we would have to be backed into such a corner that this solution would be the only way out! Is this possible? And the final kicker is the rampant political instability in France, Italy, Spain, Portugal. When push comes to shove, the Italian Reds have already said they would back the USSR. If France slides into a communist coalition government following the spring elections, where does that leave the West? These are questions deserving of answers from the highest Washington officials. But silence is what we're treated to. The TV networks are too busy with other projects to concern themselves with our very survival. Businessmen are scrambling to sell the Communists anything they want. Labor is concerned only with higher wages and more benefits. Politicians want only to be re-elected. That small group of informed and concerned Americans that know what's happening are ignored by nearly everyone except others like themselves. Based on the current speed with which things are moving, we would give the West no more than 5 years before it's in trouble "eyeball deep." The U.S. included.

JIMMY CARTER, CONSERVATIVE?: The Digest has noted a low-keyed campaign taking off to label President Carter a "fiscal conservative." The press is slipping this "accusation" into news stories; "conservative" spokesmen like Barry Goldwater are "talking it up." And the whole thing is being bought by the public. Even "liberal" Congressmen and labor leaders are charging Carter with being a "fiscal conservative," much to their dismay. He gets big press on moving his entourage from an expensive hotel to one a little cheaper (15%) and you'd think he'd saved the country millions. It's all phony. We believe it's "programmed" to fit the mood of the country, which is largely conservative. It's style, not substance. Anyone who wants some perspective on Carter should read "Jimmy Carter, Jimmy Carter," by friend Gary Allen ('76 Press, PO Box 2686, Seal Beach, CA 90740 \$1.00). You'll not be among those fooled by this campaign.

GUN CONTROL THOTS: "Firearms stand next in importance to the Constitution itself. They are the American people's liberty teeth and keystone under independence...From the hour the Pilgrims landed, to the present day, events, occurrences and tendencies prove that to ensure peace, security and happiness, the rifle and the pistol are equally indispensable...The very atmosphere of firearms anywhere and everywhere restrains evil interference -- they deserve a place of honor with all that's good..." (Statement attributed to George Washington, quoted in quarterly magazine, The Vigilante, Spring Issue, 1977, \$2.00, p.6, PO Box 31085, Phoenix, AZ 85046)

DIGEST NOTE: Those of you interested in personal security would do well to send for a copy of this magazine. All manner of self protection, from cane fighting to Posse Comitatus, are discussed in this issue. It's a unique publication of which there is nothing else like. There's an especially good evaluation of "tear gas" devices starting on page 18. The writers test everything they write about. A most unusual and useful magazine.

TRILATERALIST TO CHINA: According to President Carter, he hasn't any timetable for establishing full relations with China but expects eventually to name United Auto Workers President Leonard Woodcock as the first U.S. ambassador. Woodcock would become the 18th Trilateral Commission Member appointed to high office by the President, himself a founding member. This Commission, designed to improve relations and cooperation between Japan, the U.S. and Europe, is a spin-off from the Council on Foreign Relations. David Rockefeller plays an all-important role in both and personally selected Jimmy Carter to be a member of the TC. Can you imagine the hue and cry that would have been raised if a president had appointed 18 members of the John Birch Society to positions of such high trust as Vice-President, Secretary of State, Secretary of Defense, Secretary of Treasury, Disarmament Negotiator, National Security Advisor, and so on? To whom does Jimmy Carter owe his loyalty? The American people or David Rockefeller? By the way, to keep Red China "on the line," we still have exchanged Ambassadors with Free China and have refused to accept the credentials of their Ambassador to the U.S. Cute?

LEROI JONES PROMOTES REVOLUTION: LeRoi Jones, the black playwright and agitator who now goes by the name of Imamu Amiri Baraka, was recently in San Francisco to address a group of artists. Baraka declared: "All art is political...All art is propaganda...It is time for the artists and writers and intellectuals in the U.S. to choose sides openly and fiercely and begin to struggle with no holds barred, to carry the revolution to the end..." Jones (Baraka) wrote the scatological plays "The Toilet" and "The Dutchman." (The Review Of The News, 5/11/77, p.41)

BUDGET TARGETS SET FOR GOV.: A compromise budget of \$461 billion was passed by the Senate 5/13 and awaits House approval. The non-binding target budget for fiscal year 1978 (beginning Oct. 1) carries a federal deficit of \$64.7 billion, the second highest in history, topped only by 1976, and nearly \$7 billion more than Carter's latest estimate. (Phx Gaz, 5/13/77, fnt pg)

ECONOMIC STIMULATION BILLS SIGNED: President Carter signed a bill 5/13 authorizing \$20 billion for general economic stimulation and a \$4 billion public works bill, calling the legislation "a major move in the right direction." (Phx Gaz, 5/13/77, fnt pg)

DIGEST OPINION: The above two items should remove any doubt that inflation is to be our lot by next year. Serious inflation.

BUSINESS INVENTORIES, MARCH: Business inventories increased 0.9% in March. The Commerce Department said total business inventories -- stocks on shelves and in warehouses ready for sale -- increased \$2.8 billion during March compared with a revised \$2 billion gain in February. The March statistics, broken down, showed that inventories increased \$715 million at the manufacturing level, \$557 million at wholesale and \$1.519 billion at the retail level. The retail increase was the second largest on record, topped only by the \$1.564 billion climb in Oct. 1975 (Phx Gaz 5/16/77, p. D-6)

DIGEST OPINION: This was reported by much of the press as "good news." However, we at the Digest look at it from another viewpoint. It is commonly accepted the consumer spending spree is about to run out of steam. Even U.S. News & World Report concurs with this view (5/23/77 issue). What we believe has happened is that retail stocks built up due to earlier ordering by the stores while at the same time sales have slacked off. This leaves the retailer with an inventory overhang. If the consumer suddenly tightens up now, some retail stores will be in a world of hurt. Additionally, the Federal Reserve Bank is openly wondering why people are holding so much cash, estimated at \$50 BILLION! As stated by U.S. News: "Nobody is sure why the hoarders want to stash funds where they draw no interest." Could it be lack of faith in the banking system? We have openly asked in previous issues if consumers have been on a buying stampede to beat what they deeply feel will be higher prices in the months ahead. If this is the case and if the businessman has misjudged (or been mislead), he's going to get hung with excess inventory and you'll see sales to beat all sales popping up everywhere. With the savings rate at an 8 year low and retail sales lagging and businesses not expanding and prices rising, it looks like the inflationary/depression is going to be with us for many months. Statistics may show things looking pretty good, but bedrock strength is simply lacking. For these and other reasons we are not too pleased with this latest increase in business inventories.

BERLIN, NEW HOT SPOT?: Last week, at the bottom of p. 6, the Digest ran this brief item: "If the Soviets bother West Berlin, 'detente would be seriously threatened,' according to President Carter, Prime Minister Callaghan and Premier Giscard d'Estaing. In other words, we won't like it but we'll live with it. A disastrous statement, in the Digest's opinion." Well, it's starting. While the world press directs our attention at southern Africa, the Communist Party newspaper Pravda on 5/15 rejected the western position that Berlin must remain a four-sector city administered by the U.S., France, Britain and the U.S.S.R. The Pravda article, commenting on a communique issued by the western powers last week, said there were no longer 4 sectors of Berlin, as was the case under post-WW II agreements among the 4 Allied countries. Pravda says East Berlin is the capital "of the sovereign state of the German Democratic Republic (East Germany)," and "Such is the reality and to try to ignore it is a vain waste of time." The story appeared in Arizona Republic, 5/16/77, p. A-4. Nowhere else did we read it. Like a slight-of-hand artist, the press has all eyes turned on southern Africa (which deserves our close attention) but potentially serious events are quietly taking place in Europe. About the time things start getting too hot in southern Africa, the "Berlin button" will be pushed, we'll start watching that "crisis" and things will move quietly ahead in southern Africa. And when the Berlin "crisis" simmers down, the Mid East will flare up or Panama will erupt or, because of our ineptness, the oil producing nations will cut us off. Diversionary tactics. The Soviets are very good at it.

ROMANIAN CHANGES: In a striking change of policy, Romania has decided to give workers higher take-home pay but at the cost of slowing down the growth of social services. Production of consumer goods will be boosted to meet the resulting growth in purchasing power. The new policy was first mentioned briefly in a speech by President Nicolae Ceausescu. He said that it was "abnormal" for spending on social services to rise faster than wages, so priorities were to be reversed. He declared: "We must let the people themselves run their affairs and we should not believe that we are better able to manage things for them." (London Financial Times, 4/20/77)

DIGEST OPINION: Ludwig von Mises' ghost must be whispering in Ceausescu's ear. When he's through there, perhaps he could visit Washington.

AIRPLANE DISASTER TERRORIST CAUSED: Antonio Cubillo, leader of the Movement for Self-determination and Independence of the Canaries (MPAIC), has a headquarters in Algiers, and it was one of his Algerian-trained teams that bombed the Las Palmas airport on March 27th. This in turn diverted a KLM 747 and Pan Am 747 to Tenerife, where the two planes collided, killing nearly 600 people. Cubillo's motive for selecting the Las Palmas airport as a target was to strike at the tourist industry on the island and keep hitting until Spain grants independence. (The Review Of The News, 5/11/77, p.44-45)

DIGEST OPINION: H. du B. wrote this for the quoted source and had previously spoken of it in his own H. du B. Reports. We thought surely some national publication would pick it up, but such was not the case. A story this big and it goes unreported by TV and the print giants. Why? The death toll has now reached 583!

SOUTH AFRICA TO GET WARNING: Vice President Walter F. Mondale flew to Europe 5/14 with a stark warning for Prime Minister John Vorster: South Africa must modify its system of racial apartheid or face U.S. hostility. White House officials say Mondale will bang no tables and make no demands, but merely will convey the U.S. assessment of the situation that confronts the West in Africa now. In essence, the message is that white supremacy has had its day and there will be a parting of the ways between the U.S. and the South African republic unless there are early and visible signs of fundamental changes in its racial system. (Phx Gaz, 5/14/77, fnt pg)

DIGEST OPINION: Will we tell the USSR to modify its system? Or Cuba? Or Vietnam? Or do we limit our interference into other countries affairs to our allies only? All the evidence points to the latter. Strange.

BRAZIL/URUGUAY TROUBLES BREWING?: A recent official map issued by the Brazilian Government failed to depict Uruguay as a separate country; instead it had been merged into Brazilian territory. (Defense & Foreign Affairs Weekly Report on Strategic Latin American Affairs, 5/13/77, Suite 602, 2030 M St. NW, Washington, DC 20036 \$150)

DIGEST OPINION: This kind of "mistake" can cause monumental diplomatic troubles in that part of the world. Uruguay doubtlessly has some strong feelings about being "absorbed" by Brazil. Where will it all end?

BOLIVIA WANTS WHITES FROM RHODESIA & SOUTH AFRICA: Bolivia has submitted a request to the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration that they be included in the plans for massive migration of white settlers from Rhodesia and South Africa. (D&FAWRSLAA, op cit)

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

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Cable Address: COJOGRA

A united American Jewish community will remain committed to support the policies of the democratically-elected government of Israel, the head of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations said Friday, (June 3).

Reporting on a meeting held earlier today attended by representatives of all 32 of the Conference's constituent member-organizations, Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler declared:

"The sense of unity and identification that binds American Jews to the people of Israel was expressed at our meeting by speaker after speaker, representing the broadest spectrum of American Jewish life.

"There was broad recognition that the indissoluble links between our two communities are independent of the political party or the political leader that forms the Government of Israel.

"American Jews support Israel's cause -- and we will continue to do so -- because we are part of the Jewish people, because we share Israel's goal of peace for all the countries of the Middle East, and because a strong and secure Israel is essential to the security of our own country."

Rabbi Schindler said he was "deeply encouraged" by his meetings in Israel earlier this week with Menachem Begin, leader of the Likud Party in Israel who has been asked to form a government by President Ephraim Katzir, and by the response by Presidents Conference member-organizations to his report of those conversations.

"The Prime Minister-designate," Rabbi Schindler said, "is a man of peace, a man of integrity, a man of profound devotion to the Jewish people and to their security. To call him an 'extremist' and P.L.O. terrorist chief Arafat and Syrian President Assad 'moderates' -- as American news media have done within the past two weeks -- is a slander of an honorable and distinguished personality, a profound disservice to the truth and a grave danger to the cause of peace."

Rabbi Schindler said he was disturbed by speculation in the press that American Jews were "divided" over whether to support the new government and that efforts might be made to drive a wedge between American Jews and Israel as part of an effort to pressure the government of Israel into accepting an American-imposed peace plan.

"I do not know whether any such effort is being planned or is under way," Rabbi Schindler said, "but it will without question be rejected by American Jews and the organizations that represent them."

"This great Jewish community," he said, "is bound to the people Israel by age-old ties of faith, of history, of destiny, ties that cannot and will not be sundered by any political pressure."

TKB

Rabbi Schindler said it was his view that the present period of "interregnum" -- between the formal resignation of the Rabin government and the formation of a new government by Mr. Begin -- was "a time when it was particularly important to make clear to American friends of Israel in the Administration, in Congress, in the labor movement, among black and Christian leaders, academicians and other groups -- the enduring policy of all Israeli governments: a policy that seeks peace with justice for all the peoples of the Middle East.

"This policy remains constant no matter who heads the government of Israel," Rabbi Schindler said. "It will be the goal of Mr. Begin as it has been the goal of all of his predecessors.

"It is not Israel's policy but the refusal of the Arab world to reconcile itself to the legitimacy of the Jewish State and the right of its citizens to live in dignity that has prevented a settlement of the Arab-Israel conflict.

"Mr. Begin made clear to me that he is a man of peace and that he will continue to follow a policy that seeks peace with Israel's neighbors. And he is supremely confident that he will be able to persuade President Carter of the fundamental principles on which a peace must be based."

Rabbi Schindler said he felt "some concern" over what appeared to be a "shift" in American policy from one that began with a call for honest negotiations between the parties leading toward a full-fledged peace and that seems recently to have developed into a specific set of guidelines that include specific concessions by Israel.

"No mediator can help the parties to a dispute reach agreement if he comes to the negotiations with a plan in hand that both sides are expected to accept," Rabbi Schindler said.

3 June 1977

June 8, 1977

Mr. Bert E. Rosenstock
Serint Trading, Ltd.
12 Westchester Avenue
White Plains, N.Y. 10601

Dear Mr. Rosenstock:

Thank you for your recent letter. I appreciate your taking the time to share your concerns with me.

In regard to the recent Elections in Israel, I enclose herewith a copy of a Statement issued by the Presidents' Conference.

With kindest greetings, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler
Chairman

Encl.

Berint Trading Ltd.

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May 30, 1977

Rabbi Alexander Schindler,
President,
CON. OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS
515 Park Avenue
New York, NY

Dear Rabbi Schindler:

The New York Times reported on your meeting with Andrew Young. It was most interesting and revealing of Mr. Young's attitude, to compare his suggestion to you to treat the UNESCO with 'love', with the suggestion he made to African leaders on his recent trip, to use economic force to achieve their goals.

It seems quite obvious to me, and presumably also to Jewish leaders, that the method suggested to African leaders was more in accord with Mr. Young's true feelings, while the suggestion to the Jewish leaders was no doubt more an attempt to keep Jewish leaders 'in line' than to help the Jewish cause. It is in fact rather insulting, I would say, to suggest 'love' as a political force in the world.

I think one should also keep in mind that Mr. Lowenstein, who no doubt agrees with Mr. Young, has extensive experience in domestic politics of one sort or another, but has done very little (to my knowledge) that indicates his awareness of and accord with the needs of the Jewish community in the United States.

One further point, Rabbi Schindler, relating to the recent Israeli elections. I do not know what the views of Jewish leaders are on this subject, but I hope that they will refrain from criticizing the new government, before and as it takes office, while the new leaders begin to formulate policy. The New York Times may be 'shocked' or entertain similar sentiments, but the Jewish leaders will, I hope, find some uplift of soul and greater potential for future peace, through a new and strong voice in the Israeli leadership.

Sincerely,



Bert E. Rosenstock

BER/lm

cc Solon

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

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Cable Address: COJOGRA

June 3, 1977

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members associated with the Conference of Presidents of Major
American Jewish Organizations

FROM: Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler, Chairman

Enclosed please find a statement of consensus which was issued following
the meeting of the Presidents Conference which took place today, Friday,
June 3, 1977.

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
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
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

Statement by
RABBI ALEXANDER M. SCHINDLER, CHAIRMAN
Conference of Presidents
of Major American Jewish Organizations
ON THE ELECTIONS IN ISRAEL

The people of Israel have chosen a new Parliament in a democratic expression of the nation's will. We congratulate the country's leaders and pledge to them the support and commitment that the American Jewish community has given since the day the Jewish State was born.

American Jews have never sought to speak for the government of Israel, but rather for the welfare of its people and its security as a nation. As new leaders take the helm we renew the sense of unity and identification that form the indissoluble ties that bind American Jewry with the people of Israel.

X X X

5/18/77



DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR ISRAEL

STATE OF ISRAEL BONDS

215 PARK AVENUE SOUTH

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10003

From the Office of
SAMUEL ROTHBERG
GENERAL CHAIRMAN

May 25, 1977

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler, Chairman
Conference of Presidents of Major American
Jewish Organizations
515 Park Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10022

Dear Alex:

I thought that your statement said everything that could
and should be said about the results of the election in
Israel.

Accordingly, we sent copies together with the enclosed
letter to our community chairmen and top national officers
around the country.

With warmest personal regards to you and to Rhea.

Sincerely,


Sam Rothberg

SR/mf1

DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR ISRAEL

STATE OF ISRAEL BONDS

215 PARK AVENUE SOUTH

NEW YORK, N.Y. 10003



From the Office of
SAMUEL ROTHBERG
GENERAL CHAIRMAN

May 20, 1977

In the past several days we have received a number of inquiries and comments from various parts of the country about the results of last Tuesday's elections in Israel.

I can think of no better way of answering those queries than by sending you the enclosed copy of a statement by Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler, Chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

In terms of our program, nothing has changed except the need to do more and to work harder to strengthen the economy of Israel in this transition period.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Sam Rothberg', written over a faint circular stamp.
Sam Rothberg

SR/mfl
enc.

June 6, 1977

Rabbi David Polish
Beth Emet The Free Synagogue
1200 Lee Street
Evanston, Illinois 60202

Dear David:

I agree with you on the "two-fold process" which you recommend in your letter of May 31st. This is precisely why I went to Israel a few days after the election.

My meeting with the Presidents' Conference immediately upon my return and all subsequent actions, such as tomorrow's trip to the State Department and White House and a possible larger meeting with Carter, are designed to serve your first purpose (note the enclosed press release in behalf of the Presidents' Conference).

On your second point, I made this request of Begin and returned from him rather optimistic concerning his willingness to listen to the Jewish people as a whole. There is a much greater sense of peoplehood which emanates from him than ever did from Rabin. This is, of course, for your eyes only but I will be glad to discuss it with you at greater length when we meet.

Looking forward to seeing you soon and with warmest regards from house to house, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

Encl.

RABBI DAVID POLISH
BETH EMET THE FREE SYNAGOGUE

1200 LEE STREET
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS
60202

May 31, 1977
14 Sivan 5737

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

Shalom, Alex,

I am sure that it is no "chiddush" to you that not only Israel but American Jewry will be subjected to increasing political pressure by the present Administration. Carter's reference to American Jews in a recent statement is disturbing. While many of us are distressed by the results of the election in Israel, the essential policy of the American Administration toward Israel has not changed, but has only gained an added opportunity for pressing Israel and American Jewry without offering anything substantive in return.

I would urge that a two-fold process be undertaken. The first would involve a demonstration by American Jewry that it intends to stand by Israel's right to hold fast as long as there are no clear indications of Arab readiness to accept Israel as a sovereign State. The need for such a demonstration is based on two factors: first, the real danger of polarizing American Jewry, and second, the possibility, as hinted in a statement by Carter, that the Administration may take a hand in that polarization.

Second, there should be an equally strong indication to Israeli leadership that more intensive consultation and collaboration between them and us in the political area is required. The implementation of this process clearly requires careful study but I am persuaded that literally day by day conditions are moving us toward that necessity.

Thanks for your suggestion about including part of the Reform Commentary on the Jerusalem Platform in my report to the CCAR. I will attempt to do so either by condensing it or citing a portion of it.

Best wishes.

Shalom,



RABBI DAVID POLISH

1800 Pacific Avenue
San Francisco CA 94109

June 1, 1977

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

Dear Rabbi Schindler:

I was talking with your niece Miriam this afternoon, since we work together at the same mental health clinic. We happened to discuss Israel, and she suggested I write you, otherwise I would not presume to do so.

Although I am a very secularized Jew, I do hope for Israel's well-being and would be prepared to write to Washington in that regard, should American policy change or show signs to that effect.

However, I feel the new Israeli Government should be told that the American Jewish community-----or at least large segments of it-----will not support Israel regardless of whatever policy she chooses to pursue. I believe that at least the appearance of a willingness to compromise is essential (and perhaps the reality may be, also). The picture given by the new Government is exactly opposite to that picture, at least as it appears in the US (including the Prime Minister's television appearance).

Miriam said to tell you she sends her love.

With best wishes for your valuable work for peace, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Martin Hoffman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Martin" and the last name "Hoffman" clearly distinguishable. It is written over a faint, circular background stamp that features a menorah and Hebrew text.

Martin Hoffman, M.D.

June 7, 1977

Dr. Martin Hoffman
1800 Pacific Avenue
San Francisco, CA. 94109

Dear Dr. Hoffman:

First of all, my love to Miriam and my best to you.

I have just returned from a journey to Israel where I had a chance to meet Mr. Begin and where, of course, I gave him a frank assessment of the American Jewish community in all of its multi-faceted splendor.

I must tell you quite frankly that I returned from several meetings with Mr. Begin and his associates much assured. He does have some strong views, to be sure, but he is not the kind of reckless extremist which the media has portrayed him to be (these are the same media people, mind you, who call Assad and even Arafat "Arab moderates"). I cannot guarantee the future, of course, but I do have the conviction that Mr. Begin can make an effective transition from the leader of the party to be the leader of a nation and a people, with all that this transformation implies.

In any event, so it seems to me, we American Jews have a two-fold duty now; (A) to give Mr. Begin an opportunity to form his government, to evolve his policies and to present them to the American Jewish community, to his own people and indeed to the world. (B) it is our obligation to make certain that in the period of interregnum there will be no erosion of support for Israel on the American scene

With every good wish and warmest greetings, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

NNNN

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TELAVIVYAFO 39 20/5 1050

ALEXANDER SCHINDLER
838 ⁵TH AVENUE
NEWYORKNY 10021

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

CONFIRMATION COPY

MAY 20 1 01 PM '77

THANK YOU MISTER PRESIDENT DEAR FRIEND ALEXANDER FOR A
HEARWARMING CABLE DEEPLY MOVED BY ITS CONTENTS SAME
PRAYER YOU BESTOWED UPON ME I HAVE IN MY HEART
YOURS IN FRIENDSHIP AND RESPECT

MENACHEM BEGIN

COL 838 6TH 10021



Rabbi David Polish

minority report

Moment of Jerusalem's reunification a memory that cannot be taken away

A meditation on the 10th anniversary of the unification of Jerusalem.

We will never forget how 10 years ago the people of Israel and Jews from all over the world came streaming up Judea's hills, in buses, trucks, on foot, toward Jerusalem. Toward a Jerusalem which had been torn in half, the old mother sector ravaged, the young daughter sector isolated. We converged at the Kotel and walked jubilant wherever our feet would take us in a liberated and united Jerusalem. That moment is ours forever, in the same category with other miraculous moments in our history. The memory of that moment will not be torn from us, nor will that city in its fullness ever be torn from us again.

On this 10th anniversary we confront those who would have us negotiate, not borders or territory, but the existence of the State of Israel. At every sign of a conciliatory attitude toward Israel, we should be receptive; but for every indication of destructive hidden agenda, we should be on guard. The world is being conditioned to see Israel as an obstacle to a peace which reasonable Arab nations are being denied. Except primarily in this country, only the duties of Israel are being urgently put forward, while no mention of equivalent Arab duties are suggested. For our refusal to relinquish land without peace we are branded as intransigent. Among many, Arab refusal to abandon destructive designs against Israel, is met with understanding, compassion and empty rhetoric. We are the intransigents. They are the moderates, because they do not press for Israel's dismemberment for five years.

If it is intransigent to refuse to budge unless there is a clear signal of acceptance of our rights to national sovereignty and security, then we are intransigent. This intransigent people will not bargain away its right to live. Those moderates have yet to say an unambiguous word, not whispered in the ears of senators but in the hearing of the world, that they want to live at peace with a sovereign State of Israel.

The justice of our position may at last have impressed the leadership of this nation. Nevertheless, in the times ahead, the pressures upon us could increase. Every effort could be made to lure us into a vulnerable position. Every effort could be made to divide us from Israel and to

divide us from one another in this country. This is a danger greater than the division of Jerusalem in 1948. Now is a time for internal conflict to subside. Let there be no war of the Jews for the rejoicing of our adversaries.

Now is a time for American Jewry to declare its solidarity with our fellow Jews in Israel. Now is the time to let it be known that this people, which passionately wants peace, will not be seduced out of its defenses by entrapment, by coercion, by counsels for imposing a peace which can only be a prescription for disaster both for the Middle-East and the world. Now is the time for a demonstration of our solidarity and for the creation of a national structure which will make that solidarity work — morally and politically, involving the greatest, not the least number of American Jews.

Yes, there are divided counsels among us, as there are in Israel, and what free people does not live amid divided counsels. But from one end of the spectrum to the other, we are united on this proposition — no real peace, no concessions. Without peace, not an inch.

We are united on yet another score — our conviction that Israel and the Jewish people will emerge through these treacherous and morally distressing times into an era of unchallenged freedom and sovereignty, that however difficult the pangs, peace will be born in the Middle East, that a resurrected and morally strengthened Jewish people will enter upon a new age in its own land, and none shall make them afraid.

This is our faith and this is our declaration to a world which must come some day to recognize that its own security is bound up with the security of Israel, that its own peace is joined to the peace of Israel. This is our urgent message, and this is our commitment, that "for the sake of Zion we will not be still and for the sake of Jerusalem we will not be silent, until her triumph go forth as brightness and her salvation as a burning torch."

Yadin sues for libel

JERUSALEM (JCNS) — Uri Avneri, the editor of the weekly magazine *Haolam Hazeh*, and a former Knesset member, and Yigal Laviv, a reporter, are being sued for libel by Prof. Yigael Yadin, the archaeologist, who heads the new political party, the Democratic Movement for Change. Prof. Yadin's action is over an article in the magazine.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

May 7, 1977

Dear Alex:

I want to say belatedly how enormously I appreciated your arranging the highly useful session with the Conference of Presidents in New York, and your gracious hospitality at dinner thereafter. I found the session helpful in the extreme, and I particularly enjoyed the separate talks with you. I do hope that we can stay in close touch in the months ahead.

I am off on Tuesday. Wish me luck!

With warmest personal regards,

Sincerely,



Samuel W. Lewis

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

ראש הממשלה
THE PRIME MINISTER

Jerusalem, April 26, 1977

Av
YH

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

Dear Rabbi Schindler,

It was most kind of you to write to me and I wish you to know that I greatly appreciate your expressions of encouragement and support.

I consider the national challenges ahead to be too great to permit abdication from public life and, therefore, I feel duty-bound to continue my public involvement albeit inevitably at a lower key.

Again, my gratitude for your generous remarks and may I add that I have greatly valued our association.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

Y. Rabin
Yitzhak Rabin

April 14, 1977

His Excellency Yitzhak Rabin
Prime Minister of Israel
Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Mr. Rabin:

There is little one can say at a time like this. Words bring scant comfort.

I do want you to know, though, that I am deeply saddened by the events of the past days. My heart goes out to you.

You have every reason to be proud of what you have accomplished. Your services to Israel, the nation and the people, were manifold and largely of inestimable worth. The judgment of history will bear this out.

I am satisfied that you are enabled and have the strength to remain in the political arena. Your knowledge and your understanding should not be lost to our cause.

My very best wishes.

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

April 22, 1977

His Excellency the American Ambassador
to Israel, Samuel Lewis
U.S. Department of State
Washington, D.C.

Dear Ambassador Lewis: ¹

There have been so many changes in arrangements for your meeting with the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, I want to be sure you have the necessary and correct information.

This session will be held on Wednesday, April 27 at 4:30 p.m. at 515 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y.

The Presidents' Conference has a few agenda items to be discussed and we will do so following your presentation. I am looking forward to having dinner with you later that evening. I hope that it will be convenient to meet at 7:00 p.m. Please let me know what hotel you will be staying at so I can make dinner reservations at a restaurant convenient to the hotel.

Looking forward to seeing you on Wednesday and with kindest regards,
I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

December 1, 1976

Mrs. Frank G. Opton
150 East 69th Street, #8-F
New York, New York 10021

Dear Mrs. Opton:

Thank you for your letter of November 23th and for sharing your thoughts with me.

I must frankly admit that I share some of your concerns. The New York Times advertisement for the Presidents' Conference was prepared and placed during my absence from the country. Thus, as you can appreciate, I could not make my views known to the group which was delegated this responsibility. I would have deleted some of the wording which caused you distress.

This does not at all mean that I do not share the main argumentation. I am absolutely convinced that the U.N. is frightfully stacked against Israel. Regretfully, it is not a court in which this land will ever have a fair hearing. Abba Eban once said that if the Arab nations moved a resolution stating that the world is flat it would be carried by a majority vote in the United Nations. But this would not mean that the world is indeed flat. In the same vein, the passage of recent U.N. resolutions against Israel do not mean that Israel is solely responsible for the various situations extant.

While I feel strongly regarding Israel and the United Nations, I still feel strongly that we must everr continue to hope that the U.N. will become the organization the world had hoped it to be and we must continue to work towards that end.

Kindest greetings.

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

MRS. FRANK G. OPTON
150 EAST 69TH STREET, APT. 8-F
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10021

Nov. 28, 1976

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler
515 Park Ave.
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Rabbi Schindler :

I am outraged about the advertisement in today's New York Times. The attack against the United Nations appeals to the lowest hate instincts of the readers and forces me to regard it as political pornography. The ad also plays on ignorance and uncritical acceptance of innuendos and therefore, must be regarded as demagogic. I suggest that no clergyman should associate himself with such publicity.

I am a NGO (non-governmental organization) volunteer representative at the UN, representing the Unitarian Universalist Women of the United States and Canada.

All students of the UN know that the organization suffers from the inadequacies, prejudices and predilections of its members. We also know, that if a membership organization is operated democratically, the majority controls. If that is a farce, our own governmental system is a farce. I am aware that the theory of democracy is under attack, and that a substantial number of people prefer an authoritarian form of government. I, too, deplore the Arab-Soviet Axis but I do not believe it can be disrupted by scurrilous advertisements in the N.Y. Times. The question is, do you and your organization prefer an undemocratic form of organization for the UN and do you think that Israel would fare better under a non-democratic system.

Or else, would you want to abolish the worldwide organization of the UN or restrict membership to those who agree with the view which you (and I) favor? So far, nobody has even proposed another system of international organization. I also note that Israel (1) has not proposed to resign from the UN (2) has not objected to the UN peacekeeping activities on the Golan Heights and on the Sinai Peninsula. Israel has participated in and benefited from numerous UN activities and these were not a "farce". I recall the praises from Mr. Abba Eban. It is shameful that the many positive accomplishments of the UN are ignored by zealots who should know better.

MRS. FRANK G. OPTON
150 EAST 69TH STREET, APT. 8-F
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10021

2

I will now turn to some of the specifics which are used as justification for the advertisement.

Item Racism : I am married to a man of Jewish ancestry. We have four children. I need not protest that anti-Semitism is anathema to me. However, I know, that it would be most difficult for me to marry my husband in Israel, and that neither I nor my children would be regarded as equal to the Jews, if we were living in Israel. The distinction is purely racial. I therefore find it defensible to speak of Israel racism, even though the word is odious in light of events elsewhere. It may be a debatable term, but the hysterical reaction to the word is wholly unjustified. Besides, the fact that a temporary majority of the UN membership has complained of racism in Israel in no way excuses the attack on the UN organization as such.

Item UNESCO : The trouble started when Israel declined to comply with the request to discontinue archaeological activities in the conquered territory. It is wholly immaterial whether, as the ad implies, the excavations were "educational". Dictators of all ages have said and sometimes even proved that their imposed activities were beneficent. I can find no fault with those who object to this kind of mentality.

Item the American Taxpayer : Your pocket book appeal is, of course, a favorite political weapon. It is also an unethical below the belt hucksterism, especially as it is obviously designed to foster the notion that the UN lives off the American taxpayers who support the UN. On a per capita basis, the American taxpayer is Nr. 14, far behind the Scandinavian countries, the Lowlands, not to speak of four Arab countries. The fact is also, that the UN is good business for the USA and especially New York, where much of the money of the UN and its staff is spent.

The UN organization is managed by a staff of devoted international civil servants who have not displayed any bias and are striving to bring about international peace ~~in the face~~ in the face of the intractability of stiff-necked partisans, including your organization. The ad does not bespeak the ethos and the rationality which I have been taught is essential to Jewish tradition. It is an unfortunate lapse and I call upon you to send an apology to Secretary General Kurt Waldheim.

Sincerely,

Eva K. Opton.



October 28, 1976

Minister Hanan Bar-On
Embassy of Israel
Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear Hanan:

Yes, I had seen Allon's address to the U.N. General Assembly. But I much appreciate your sending a copy to me with your own comments, they were of much interest.

I'm also pleased to have another copy of the address for sharing with members of my staff.

With warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

EMBASSY OF ISRAEL
WASHINGTON, D. C.

שגרירות ישראל
ושינגטון

PERSONAL

October 15, 1976

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

Dear Alex,

I am certain that you have already seen Allon's recent speech to the U.N. General Assembly. Nevertheless, I take the liberty of letting you have another copy in order to draw your attention in particular to the paragraphs dealing with the arms race in the Middle East. I believe that this is particularly timely in view of the rather unbridled attacks against the recent decision by the President to authorize the release of some rather important items of armaments, items which had been under discussion for many months.

I believe that Israel's proposal for the moderation of the arms race, which has been repeated for years, is the real answer to some of the substance of the accusations levelled against us. In other words, as long as there is no balanced and mutual reduction of the imports of armaments into the area, there is no choice but to keep up Israel's deterrent strength.

Passing to another matter in Allon's speech,

*Thank him -
Tell him I would
seen it, &
Cous, but
Appreciate
Add. Time
copy for distribution*

EMBASSY OF ISRAEL
WASHINGTON, D. C.

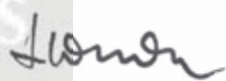
שגרירות ישראל
ושינגטון

- 2 -

I believe also that his words on racism and
apartheid are significant.

With the kindest and warmest regards.

Yours,



Hanan Bar-On



CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

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

21 October 1976

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
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

Mr. Kalman Seigel, Editor
Letters to the Editor
New York Times
229 West 43rd Street
New York, New York 10036

To The Editor:

Publication by the Commerce Department of the names of U.S. companies that comply with the Arab boycott fails to meet the need for strong legislation that makes the Arab boycott in this country unlawful.

We need a law that protects American companies from Arab pressure to stop trading with Israel. We need a law that protects American companies from Arab pressure to stop trading with other U.S. companies that trade with Israel. Such legislation should become a top priority of the next Congress and Administration, no matter who is elected President.

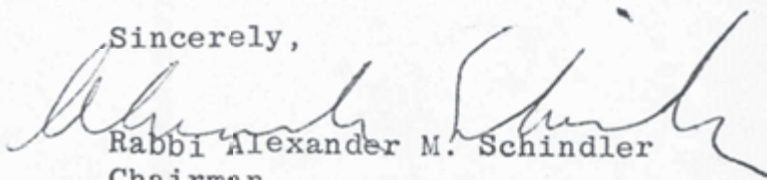
Without such laws, the Arab states will remain free to exploit American industry as a weapon in their economic war against Israel, America's friend and ally in the Middle East.

Without such laws, the quality of citizenship of American Jews and all who support or trade with Israel will continue to be under growing Arab attack.

Without such laws, U.S. corporations will face ever-increasing Arab demands to choose between profit and principle -- the profit of lucrative Arab business versus the principle of free trade and equal opportunity.

Strong anti-boycott legislation is necessary not only to guard against the importation into American life of foreign discrimination. Tough laws against the boycott are needed by U.S. companies to shield them from Arab pressure that would distort their business judgements and twist their business decisions to accommodate the Arab world's continuing aim of destroying the State of Israel.

Sincerely,


Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler
Chairman

PERSONAL

October 1, 1976

Ambassador Simcha Dinitz
Embassy of Israel
Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear Simcha:

Thank you for your kind personal note in regard to my ZOA speech. I understood the inference which might be drawn from that one phrase; I only object to the headline which accused me of denouncing the Israel Government as "treating Jews like milk cows, that they want their money and nothing else." That was not exactly what I said.

If you must know, I felt abused by Golda's remarks about me in Maariv last Friday, where she said something to the effect that "Schiniler will not succeed in alienating American Jews from Israel." That was an unkind cut. I think you know what I feel and what I tried to do and it hurts especially because only the day before my 13 year old cried and when I asked him why he said, "I have no father, you are going away again." And where do you think I was going, to alienate Jews from Israel? But there was a compensating blessing too, for on Tuesday of last week, with David's assent, I intervened with Nicolae in behalf of a Romanian Jew who long had been refused a visa or even an appointment with Rosen. On Friday, ~~erw~~ Rosh Hashonah, Nicolae called up to tell me that he had received his visa that every day!

Golda's remarks were a low blow on several counts but I am not going to even write her a personal note, never mind a public letter. I have too much respect for what she has done and for her age.

On a more official matter, I enclose herewith a letter from one of our Houston congregants which makes an interesting suggestion. If you agree, please forward it to the Israel Ambassador to Mexico, maybe your good colleague can do something along these lines. In this connection and in regard to Argentinian Jewry, I asked our man in Washington -- Rabbi David Saperstein of the Reform Jewish Religious Action Center -- to begin quiet conversations with legislators toward the end of readying appropriate immigration legislation should it be needed in a hurry.

Ambassador Simcha Dinitz

Page -2-

October 1, 1976

Simcha, again my thanks for your comments. I want you to know that I deeply value your friendship. Rhea joins me in sending warmest regards to you and Vivian and we reciprocate your good wishes for a Gemer Tov.

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler



Encl.

bcc: Yehuda Hellman



INC. OF TEXAS

6867 Wynnwood Drive, Houston, Texas 77008 • Phone 713-869-8371

September 27, 1976

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

Dear Rabbi Schindler:

Thank you for your letter of September 23rd, verifying the conversation that I had with Al Vorspan concerning the relationship between the American Jewish community and the Government of Mexico. I certainly concur that at the present time patience is indicated.

I do, however, feel that there are some things which, in the absence of effectiveness on the part of ADL, that the UAHC should begin working on immediately. I have discussed this point with Ted Freedman at ADL and belabored it for the last seven (7) years concerning Jewery in Latin America. I think that it is imperative, not only for the self-survival of the Jews in Mexico, but in particular for the Jews of Argentine, that PR in Mexico be immediately implemented. There is no question in my mind that should an exodus occur from Argentina that the doors must be kept opened, as this is the natural country to which the Spanish-speaking Jews of Argentina would want to immigrate.

I believe that the UAHC, through the reform synagogues can do a much more effective job than outside agencies, such as ADL. The case could be strengthened considerably, should you be able to get the cooperation of the heads of the conservative and orthodox movements in New York City, so that together, through the synagogues, an education and course of action by the Jews of Mexico could be initiated. I think at the present time, where there is tremendous concern and fear in the minds and hearts of the Jews of Mexico, that you and your colleagues could make the point much more emphatically than during times of non-strife. Therefore, I feel the time is now -- not three months from now, after things are quiet, for the Jewish communities of Latin America to recognize that, in many cases, they are their own worst enemies and are to a certain extent, sealing their own fate.

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler
September 27, 1976
Page Two

The Jews of Mexico City have "ghettoized" themselves, not only physically, but emotionally. They are not actively involved enough in the total betterment of the Mexican society through organizations, such as Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions Club, women's auxiliaries for Catholic charities and hospitals, etc., etc. Yes, there is some involvement - - And, yes, it is difficult in the Mexican political society to be accepted, even if a person wants, but that situation parallels the American scene thirty years ago, and I do feel that through the synagogues and through the Rabbis, that this point of getting more involved in the total social welfare of Mexico, as opposed to just the Jewish issues, is a strong point in raising the profile of the Jews in Mexico among their fellow citizens. ADL has been unable to get this point across beyond a few leaders. It is now up to the Rabbis and synagogues.

Two weeks ago, there was a large editorial in the Guadalajara newspaper, blaming the Jews for the economic ills of Mexico and this seems to be spreading. We are encountering some of it in Houston and San Antonio from some of the more radical Chicano leadership. I think this current anti-Semitism wave is a much more important issue to stem today, than the question of how Mexico votes on the subject of Zionism and I am deeply concerned that it be nipped in the bud.

To you and your family, I wish a year of health, happiness and fulfillment.

Sincerely,

Sanford Lack
Sanford Lack

SLe

CC - Mr. Ted Freedman, ADL, 315 Lexington, New York, New York 10016
Rabbi Robert I. Kahn, Temple Emanu El, 1500 Sunset, Houston
Mr. Al Vorspan, UAHC, 838 Fifth Ave., New York, New York 10021
Mr. Tom Newman, ADL, 4211 Southwest Freeway, Houston 77029

EMBASSY OF ISRAEL
WASHINGTON, D.C.

שגרירות ישראל

ושינמון

Answer

PERSONAL

28 September 1976

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

Dear Alex:

Thank you for your letter of September 14th with which you enclosed your address to the ZOA. As I was not present at the meeting, I have read your remarks with great interest.

With regard to that section which you say was treated critically by the Israel press, I can only offer to you the following comment for what it is worth:

I agree with you on the first part of this paragraph where you said that you were "employing a metaphor which may not be too elegant..." I also agree with you that Israel does not need or, for that matter, wish to have a cow as her companion. Where I think the source of the misunderstanding lies is by the inference that might be drawn from your remark that Israel believes that the American Jewish community is a cow to be milked, or that the American Jewish community considers itself to be so.

In all my long association with American Jewry I have found it to be Jewry with a heart, Jewry with a mind, Jewry capable of independent thought as well

EMBASSY OF ISRAEL
WASHINGTON, D.C.

שגרירות ישראל
ושינגטון

PERSONAL

28 September 1976

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler,
page 2.

as united action. I don't think anyone of us thinks
of American Jewry in different terms and that, I am
sure, includes you, too.

Thank you very much for sharing your thoughts
with me.

אמן תמיד אלה

Sincerely,



Simcha Dinitz
Ambassador

September 14, 1976

His Excellency, The Israel Ambassador
Simcha Dinitz
Embassy of Israel
1621 22nd St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear Simcha:

Yehuda Hellman tells me there has been a negative press reaction in Israel to my address at the ZOA. I'm at a loss to see how anything I said could be construed as being critical of Israel. I enclose a copy of my remarks for your perusal, if you can tell me where I am critical I'd like to know!

With warmest regards from house to house, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

Encl.

TELEGRAM -- September 27, 1976 - Telephone for Immediate Delivery

President Gerald R. Ford
The White House
Washington, D.C.

The organized Jewish community urgently requests your Administration to take all possible measures to assure the final adoption of the anti-boycott legislation now before Congress. Economic blackmail must be resisted; America cannot sell its moral principles for oil money. It must not become the instrument for furthering the foreign policy aims of nations whose purposes are inimical to ours. The Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations asks your personal intervention to that end.

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler
Chairman

cc: Rick Brown (Accounting)

Joan -
cc: JTA
Innocent Pres
PC Pool
cc: Times
AP
UPI
Reuter
Foreign Desk
Deputy Dir

Statement - Telegram

let to WH.

— I yld. Act B

I read to John

John

Call on

JTA

Memo -

all Israel Com.

Foreign Des

Post

Call

Times ✓

AP ✓

UP ✓

Reuters ✓

From the desk of:

RABBI ALEXANDER M. SCHINDLER

The organizaed American Jewish community

requests your admision to take all measure wha
urgently asks you to take leadership in assuring the fina

for
final adoption of anti-boycott legislation *before Congress*

George
Blackmail must be resisted; America cannot sell

its moral principles for oil money. It must

not become the instrument for furthering

the foreign policy aims of nations whose

purposes are inimical to ours. The

Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish

Organizations asks your personal intervention

to that end.

אמת מארה"ב

רביי אלכסנדר שינדלר, יושב ראש
„מזכרון הנשיאים" של הארגונים היהודיים
דיום בארה"ב, השמיע בליל שבת בקורת
נוקבת על ישראל, הממקדת את כל
פעולותיה בתפוצות בתחום של גיוס
כספים, עד שיהודים אמריקניים מקבלים
את ההרגשה שהם „פרה חולבת".

לדעת שינדלר יש לתת ליהודי אמריקה
את הזכות למתוח בקורת על עמדותיה
של ישראל ולהביע דעות עצמאיות, שכן
„השמעת האמת היא הצורה הנעלה ביותר
של מתן תמיכה לישראל".

יש לשער שרביי שינדלר לא התכוון
לעצם הזכות להשמיע דעות עצמאיות
ודברי בקורת. היא שמורה ליהודים בת-
פוצות כדבר המובן מאליו (ולא מעטים
מהם משתמשים בה כדי לומר „אמתות"
שקשה לתגדירן כצורה הנעלה ביותר של
מתן תמיכה לישראל). כוונתו היתה, ככל
הנראה, שדעתם של יהודי התפוצות צרי-
כה להיות בעלת משקל, שהיא צרי-
כה להשפיע על ההחלטות המתקבלות
בישראל.

זו תביעה שתעורר, מן הסתם, מחלוקת
חריפה; אך כדי שאפשר יהיה להתייחס
אליה, צריך להציג תחילה את השאלה
— אילו דרכים קיימות כדי לברר מה
דעתם של יהודי אמריקה בשאלה נתונה?
האם השקפותיהם של ראשי הארגונים
היהודים צליכות להתקבל באופן אוטומטי
כמשקפות את דעתם של המוני היהודים
בארה"ב?

לישראל יש פרלמנט, ויש מכשירים
שבאמצעותם מתנהל הוויכוח הציבורי. בין
שהחלטות המתקבלות באן טובות ובין
שאינן טובות, הן משקפות את דעתו ו-
רצונו של רוב הציבור. מי שרוצה פי
ההחלטות הללו יושפע מהלכי הרוח
השוררים ביהדות אמריקה, צריך לדאוג
קודם כל לכלים שבאמצעותם ניתן למדוד
כצורה יעילה ואמינה את התפלגות הדו-
קות בקרב הציבור היהודי שמעבר לים.

הנגיד הספרדי הודח בשל הנולצתו לקשור קשרים עם ישראל

**אנשים
ומעשים**

נגיד הבנק הממלכתי של ספרד, לואיס קורונל דה פלמה, הרוזן תרזאדה, שביקר לפני שבועות אחדים בארץ, כאורחו של משה זנבר, נגיד בנק ישראל שוחרר מתפקידו. ובמקומו נתמנה חוזה מריה לופז, כלכלן שאינו מומחה לבנקאות.

"טיימס" הלונדוני המוסר על כך מוסיף, כי הרוזן תרזאדה הודח ממשרתו כנגיד הבנק, על שהעיר בפומבי בעת ביקורו נתל-אביב, כי על ספרד לקשור יחסים דיפלומטיים עם ישראל. וזה עורר את חמת הערבים, אשר ספרד מקיימת אתם יחסים כלכליים הדוקים. הרוזן תרזאדה נתמנה כמנהל הראשי של בנק החסכון.

★

„מאחר שהטלוויזיה בישראל גרועה“



ד"ר יוראם קסלר

ד"ר יוראם קסלר, הנשיא לשעבר של „בני ברית“ שהשתקע לפני שנה בישראל הציג את הישגיו שמהם דיניין בהופעתו ב"ועידת „בני ברית“ בוואשינגטון וסיפר, כי שהותו בישראל הפכה אותו לגנן פוליטי. שמעתי כאן בוועידה את נאומיהם של קאטר, פורד וקיסניגר ושום דבר מדבריהם לא שכנע אותו שיטנה מידינה ערבית כלשהי שמוכנה ב"אמת ותמים להשלים עם קיומה של ישראל כמדינה עצמאית במזרח-התיכון. והפחות משכנע מכולם היה קיסניגר — הוסיף יוראם קסלר. האורח מישראל אף התלוצץ ואמר לצירי הוועידה: 2500 הצירים שלכם אינם מהווים בישראל אסיפה גדולה, מאחר שהטלוויזיה בישראל היא כה גרועה, הרי פרט לערבים שבהם מופיע קוגאק, אפשר בישראל להקהיל קהל יותר גדול..."

★

„אפילו לא לדמשק“



שמחה דיניץ

רק לפני שנתיים נתקבל יאסר עראפאת בתשואות סוערות ב"א"ם, כיום מסרבים לתת לו כניסה אפילו בסוריה — במלים אלה הגדיר השגריר שמחה דיניין ב"נאום בוואשינגטון את התמורה הגדולה שחלה במעמדו של אש"ף. והוסיף: לפני חדשים אחדים תבע האס"ף אסאד נשיא סוריה בתוקף „שעראפאת יוזמן לוועידת ז'נבה, היום אסאד אינו מתיר את כניסתו אפילו לדמשק..."

★

„לא כפוליטיקאים הקשישים“



ח"כ אחוד אולמרט



ח"כ יוסי שרית

אחרי חילופי הדברים החריפים שהושמעו בין חברי הכנסת יוסי שרית ואחוד אולמרט בפרשת מיינון של המבקר הפנימי של הכנסת, היו שחשבו ששיתוף הפעולה בין שני הח"כים הצעירים בעלי הדעות המנוגדות בא לקיצו, ולא היא. גם יוסי שרית מן המערך וגם אחוד אולמרט מהליכוד הודיעו לסופר „מעריב“ כי הם התפייסו, ושלא כפוליטיקאים הקשישים — הם יוכיחו ש"יונה" ו"גנץ" יכולים לשתף-פעולה, ובקרוב ישימו מעו מחדש על שיתוף זה, בחישיפת עיוותים ופגמים.

★

„לא אצלנו“



גיימס קאלהאן

גיימס קאלהאן ראש ממשלת בריטניה נשאל על-ידי עורך „מיגוון“ של מפלגת העבודה ב"ישראל לדעתו על השביתות ב"שירותים הציבוריים בישראל וב"השביתה ב"שירותים אלה. בתשובתו אמר ראש ממשלת בריטניה:

קאלהאן: לא הייתי רוצה להביע דעה על המצב בישראל. ב"בריטניה הנהיגה ממשלת הלייבור מדיניות של שיתוף פעולה והשכנה שלום תעשייתי ביחסי עבודה במקום עימותים וסכסוכים. מדיניות זו כלולה במה שאנו קוראים „האמנה החברתית“. והיא מחייבת את הממשלה לשתף את שני הצדדים במשק, בתוכניותיה לעתיד. הוכחה להצלחת מדיניות זו היא העובדה, ש"השעיור הנוכחי של סכסוכי עבודה הוא הנמוך ביותר בעשור האחרון.

ראיון זה של ראש ממשלת בריטניה עומד להתפרסם ב"מיגוון" השבוע, בעת שעל בריטניה מאיימת שביתת הימאים, וארגוני הימאים הישראליים הביעו נכונותם לתמוך בעמיתיהם השובתים בבריטניה.

★

אנו לא פרה חולבת



אלכסנדר שינדלר

אלכסנדר שינדלר, יו"ר ועידת הנשלאים של הארגונים היהודיים באמריקה טען בנאומו בליל שבת בוועידת ציוני אמריקה בניו-יורק, כי ישראל, או לפחות ישראלים רבים, מתייחסים אל יהודי אמריקה כאל פרה חולבת, שצריכה לתת חלב. והוא הוסיף ואמר: ואם אין זו המדיניות של ישראל קיימת אצל חלק מיהודי אמריקה ההרגשה שמתייחסים אליהם כאל פרות ש"צריך לחלוב, לוקחים מהם את חלב מוציאם אותם מפעם למרעה, אך אם יש ראל רוצה בשותף למאבקה היא זקוקה לאיש עם מה שבה עצמאית ולא לפרה."

בוועידה זו של ציוני אמריקה הופיעו סגניהם של פורד וקארטר במירון לנשיאות (הסינאטורים דול ומנדיל) בעוד שפורד וקארטר הופיעו בוועידת „בני ברית“ בוואשינגטון. לוועידה בניו-יורק הוזמן אלוף (מיל.) אריאל שרון.

2555

7287 175 UN 414

ALLIANCE ANGLAIS



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ON THE FOLLOWING DATE: 11-11-61
11-11-61 - 11-11-61"

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ἈΝΑΛΟΓΗ ΖΕΥΣΙ,

■ "לֹא עָשִׂיתִי כְּדִבְרֵי יְהוָה"

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DATE 08-01-2001 BY 60322 UCBAW

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למחלקת המחקר והפיתוח

COLLAPSE

'Israel treating U.S. Jews like milk cows'

By MALKA RABINOWITZ

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

NEW YORK. — Rabbi Alexander Schindler, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations, criticized Israel on Friday night for its concentration on the fund-raising function of American Jewry.

"Some American Jews," said Schindler, "have the feeling that they are cows to be milked, walked around a bit for some exercise and then let off to pasture."

Addressing delegates to a convention of the Zionist Organization of America here, Schindler said that "cows have their limitations."

"When I am in trouble, I do not want a cow. I want a man with the capacity for independent thought. Truth is the highest form of support for Israel."

Given the strong basic support of American Jewry for Israel, it was a healthy, perhaps even required development that there was criticism of Israel policy.

In an address on Saturday evening, ZOA leader Jacques Torczyner pointed to a power struggle in the American Jewish community in which "the fund-raisers" were seeking to establish dominance "without a democratic base."

B-G University honour for K

Jerusalem Post Reporter

BEERSHEBA. — The Ben-Gurion University of the Negev will make U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger an Honorary Fellow at a dinner in New York on September 20, the university announced yesterday.

Kissinger has agreed to attend the dinner and receive the award from the university president, Yosef Tekoah. Kissinger was chosen for the honour for his contributions to "academic and diplomatic endeavours and to the security of the State of Israel," the university said.



MOSHE DAYAN'S

"Story of My Life"

reveals
never-before-
published details
of his career as a
soldier-politician
and his private
life.

Serialization
of this
important
autobiography
continues tomorrow

Sept 12, 1976
Pg 1

September 22, 1976

Dear Dick:

Your note and the clippings just arrived and I am grateful for your thoughtfulness. I also want you to know that I fully agree with your comments.

By now I trust you have the full text of my address, it was sent to you via airmail express, and that you can see how hopelessly I was misquoted in the thrust of my message. To some extent, the ZOA is responsible for this since their thrust is anti-government so that the platform hurt - but the big problem for me is the press which feeds on discord.

You also should know that the full text of my speech was sent to Dan Patir, as well as Rath of the Jerusalem Post which did me the most dirt.

I'll be interested in hearing from you after you've read my text.

A bit belated, but nonetheless heartfelt, mazal tov on your 50th! I'm sorry Rhea and I couldn't share in the simcha, it would have been such a joy for us both.

Rhea and the kids join in sending fondest regards to you and the family and our best wishes for a beautiful, happy and healthy New Year.

Affectionately,

Alexander M. Schindler

Rabbi Righard G. Hirsch
13 King David Street
Jerusalem, ISRAEL

PERSONAL

האיגוד העולמי ליהדות מתקדמת
WORLD UNION FOR PROGRESSIVE JUDAISM

13 King David Street
Jerusalem, Israel

טל. 234-748, 232-444

רח' המלך דוד 13
ירושלים

Office of Executive Director

לשכת המזכיר הכללי

September 14, 1976

Dear Alex,

You have undoubtedly already heard about the storm you kicked up with your talk at the ZOA. Enclosed are the clippings from the Jerusalem Post & Maariv.

It is difficult for me to believe that the newspaper account is accurate. It must have been taken out of context or have been inaccurately quoted. As it stands, it is not the kind of statement that in your capacity as Chairman of the President's Conference you should want to be associated with. If I am correct, then you should get off letters to the Israeli press sending the full text and underlining the related statement (or have Yehudah Hellman do so on your behalf).

On the other hand, if you did make the statement as quoted, then I urge you to think through carefully the implications. Be aware that the Israeli press (and the American as well) are hungry for news of dissent. Any criticism of policy or any interpersonal rivalry is blown way out of proportion. (Marilyn Oxa in the Washington Post - the business with Ben Ari in the Israeli press)

The subject of Israel-Arab relations is especially sensitive. You have already declared your position that the long range needs of Israel

are best served by an American Jewish community making independent judgments. You have made your point, and for the most part it has been accepted. 11"? Quit while you're ahead. Our experience ~~with~~ the Religious Action Center and social action in general is that people question your right to speak only when they disagree with what you say. The more you speak on generalities on "rights" and "truth," the more likely are you to be considered a critic rather than a supporter of Israeli policy. You can't win - at least not as Chairman of the President's Conference. The President's Conference is not an ideological commission like the AJC Committee's Task Force on Israeli-Diaspora relations nor even the AZF's Commission on Zionist ideology. Those are nice parlor-room debating societies. The President's conference is a vital instrument of American Jewry for supporting the cause of Israel on specific, often life-and-death, issues.

Hence, my advice, which I hope you will not consider gratuitous: so long as you serve as Chairman of the President's Conference, concentrate on the specifics and eschew the philosophizing as much as possible. I recognize that the above is really the subject for an extended conversation. This is just a starter.

Best wishes & all for a

Rich

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
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.
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Jewish Women
National Council of
Young Israel
National Federation of
Temple Sisterhoods
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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

August 27, 1976

Mr. Josef Almogi
World Zionist Organization
P.O. Box 92
Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Mr. Almogi:

I was both astonished and disturbed to read the article, "American Jews and Israel," in the 1976 Number 1 issue of Forum, published by the World Zionist Organization. It is the kind of reportage which one might expect to be published in a Third World journal--replete with half-truths, inaccuracies, misinterpretations and essentially anti-Zionist material of a kind that one certainly does not expect to see in a magazine bearing the imprimatur of the W.Z.O.

Particularly troubling is the author's treatment of the so-called "Israel Task Force" of the NJCRAC and CJFWF, which is described as representing "recognition on the part of the fundraisers that developing beneficial pro-Israel alliances and promoting a pro-Israel public opinion climate is a specialized skill best handled by experts in the field of community relations."

I was startled to learn--as I am sure you would be on reading the article--that "the bulk of pro-Israel community relations activities are conducted not by the Zionist bodies but by the officially non-Zionist and pro-Israel American Jewish community relations agencies."

You may wish to consult Charlotte Jacobson on the accuracy of this statement. But even that is not necessary. The author reveals his own ignorance--and anti-Zionist bias--in asserting that "relatively few" American Jews (he places the number at 480,000) "are members of officially Zionist organizations." The fact is that this figure is far greater than the membership of the non-Zionist community relations agencies whom he regards as the major proponents of pro-Israel sentiment in the U.S. The further fact is that 480,000 "members" equals 480,000 families--nearly one out of three Jewish families in the country. Not a "relatively few" number at all! But in his eagerness to

justify ignoring the Zionist movement, the author must dismiss all Zionist pro-Israel activity and argue that "indirect" pro-Israel political activity is "conducted largely by the voluntary, mass-membership and tax-exempt local and national Jewish 'community relations' agencies."

That Hadassah has a far larger "mass membership" than any of the community relations agencies the author mentions is not revealed to the unsuspecting reader, nor that the activities of the American Zionist Federation are also "tax exempt," nor that the Zionist movement is vigorously engaged in political action for Israel.

The author is so eager to vaunt the various programs of the "Israel Task Force" that he commits a series of breaches of security. We are told, for example, that "a national speakers bureau to coordinate the appearance of pro-Israel speakers across the country was set up (at a cost of \$150,000) as an independent agency with no ostensible Jewish identification, so as not to impugn its credibility in the general community." There is a description of another project to prepare interpretive material on Israel for Washington-based columnists, commentators and reporters (\$30,000). There is also a description of efforts "to introduce the news of Israel" into "specialized trade and technical publications."

Is it necessary for a Zionist magazine to publish such facts and thus reveal strategy and tactics to the Arab League, the Senator Abourezks and the enemies of Israel wherever they may be?

Finally, I must tell you, in all candor, that I am offended by the author's description of the Presidents Conference. What is particularly infuriating is to read the author's comments on the admitted fact that the Presidents Conference "to a certain extent has been recognized by successive Administrations as... official spokesman for American Jewry on Israel and related matters."

One would have thought that any objective observer writing on the subject of "American Jews and Israel" might underscore the significance of this historic development, both for American Jewry and for Israel. Instead, the author dismisses the very idea of it. "The reality of the situation," he writes, "is somewhat different from appearances."

In other words, the "successive Administrations" that have been foolish enough to regard the Conference of Presidents as the "official spokesman for American Jewry" ought now to withdraw that recognition. Perhaps after reading such a statement in an official W.Z.O. publication, the Arabists in the State Department may be emboldened to propose a change in policy. If the Presidents Conference does not represent American Jewry, why should the President and the Secretary of State bother to meet with it? Far from being the authentic voice of American Jewry on issues affecting the security and dignity of Jews abroad, according to the author, the Presidents Conference serves merely as "an occasional forum for discussion--particularly convenient for visiting Israeli dignitaries who wish to address 'the American Jewish Community' at one fell swoop--and as an

occasional spokesman in rare cases of unity."

Is American Jewish unity so "rare" as to make the Presidents Conference only an "occasional" spokesman? You and I know better. And is the "diverse" composition of the Presidents Conference a drawback that operates "to preclude any meaningful functional role?" Or is not the Presidents Conference able to speak for American Jewry--and has not the Presidents Conference been recognized by "successive Administrations"--precisely because it is so diverse and so broadly representative? The broad range of ideologies and function among the constituent organizations of the Presidents Conference lies at the heart of its strength and significance; when the Presidents Conference speaks, it speaks for all American Jewry. That is why it is regarded correctly as the authentic voice of the largest and richest Jewish community in the world. And it is this recognition that is so resented by the "Professor of Jewish Studies and Political Science" who is published by the W.Z.O. to "examine the political relationship of the American Jewish community to Israel."

It is intriguing to note that the author bases his assessments exclusively on interviews with "many staff members of the various community relations agencies" comprising the Israel Task Force. He sought no interviews with leaders of the Presidents Conference, or of the Zionist organizations, or any of the many other major organizations whose membership encompasses the bulk of American Jewry. Did the good doctor really expect an objective assessment from those who are subjectively involved? As a CCNY alumnus, I am particularly pained by such shoddy methodology. Meritocracy clearly has seen its day, not just when it comes to admissions but on the faculty level too.

I will not fatigue you by listing the many other errors of fact and interpretation to which unwary readers of the Forum have been exposed in this article. Suffice it to say that they are innumerable. It is disheartening and puzzling that the WZO should give them currency.

I am aware that the magazine includes the standard disclaimer that "the views presented in the articles are those of the authors' only." But I do not regard this as absolving the editors or Forum of responsibility for publishing material that is damaging--indeed, dangerous--to the cause of Israel.

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

AMS:arf

cc: Mrs. Charlotte Jacobson
Mr. Zvi Yaron
Mr. A. Schenker

bcc: Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

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

August 11, 1976

Mrs. Max N. Matzkin
National President
Hadassah
New York, N.Y. 10019

Dear Rose:

First of all, do not be "saddened" by having to write as you did. Why should a letter taking issue with what I said sadden you? I certainly am not in any sense offended by it, all the more so because I respect your judgments much, I always have and even in this instance you are just and wise in some of the points you make.

Let me deal with the various points you raise ad seriatim:

- 1/ Sorry I gave you 150,000 more members than you have, ascribe it to a rabbinic proneness to hyperbole which is exceedingly difficult to shake. I don't have the San Francisco interview before me -- as a matter of fact, I rarely do more than scan these clippings, not wanting to be annoyed by the usual garble -- but as I recall it the question to which I responded was the following, "Are the presidents of the Presidents' Conference really representative of organized American Jewry?" and my response was that we are, I am elected, David Blumberg is elected, and you, of course, are an added shining example.
- 2/ You are right on the National Conference on Soviet Jewry question and I was clearly under a misapprehension. I checked this matter now fully and the formation was not quite the way I was given to understand it was. On the other hand, I stand by my conviction that a separate organization for this and other like efforts merely serves further to fragmentize the American Jewish community and that the entire Soviet Jewry issue should be handled by one of the umbrella organizations, to wit the Presidents' Conference.
- 3/ On the matter of Vietnam you will have to take my word for it. The UAHC, as you know, was the Jewish organization most closely identified with the anti-war movement. At that time I was Vice President and I give you my word that I received call after call and messenger after messenger enjoining us to tone down our public statements if not to eliminate them entirely since "those guns which face America in Vietnam are the guns which will face us in Israel." There were times when in response to these pleas and just for the sake of "Sholom Bayis," Al Vorspan and I marched into Maurice to plead with him to cooperate. True, neither Rabin nor anyone else of that rank ever said this to me directly, but their ministers did and certainly gave the impression that they were not speaking for themselves.

but not at the expense of our
When will the leaders of America
the offensive and make their position
President Carter who is becoming
more autocratic and more "even-handed" than
any of our previous presidents.

Dr. Solomon Colodner

Back to '48 partition

Dear Editor:

I found Rabbi Rackman's article of May 29th extremely disturbing. His reliance on President Carter has now been overtaken by the President's press conference of May 27th. His statements there indicate that we are, in effect, back to the 1947 Partition Resolution. Here Rabbi Rackman discusses Jerusalem as a birthday present (!), while Carter is essentially at square one, questioning Israel's establishment.

Rabbi Rackman's line of thought — "that Israeli Jews . . . not become obsessed with the notion of sovereignty . . . facts, not abstract concepts" — is even more remarkable in the light of current events. I trust that a Ramat Gan perspective rather than that of New York will convince Rabbi Rackman that if there is any

Mrs. Max N. Matzkin
August 11, 1976
Page -2-

4/ I really do think that there was a kind of worshipful attitude toward Golda on the American Jewish scene which led most among us to give her unquestioned obeisance. But you are right, it is probably wiser if I do not say so publicly and I won't in the future, but I still believe it. The feet of clay did not become too widely apparent until 1973 and while there were undoubtedly some who had doubts before then, those doubts were not voiced.

5/ I, too, am tired of all this discussion about dissent and I must tell you that I am getting clobbered from both sides. On the one hand people say I am really a messenger for Breira and on the other hand people say that what I am trying to do is to exercise censorship on the American Jewish community. Obviously, neither is the case. It may be true for others but I for one do not use words like "open discussion" and "dissent" as a code word for Breira. Joe Sternstein and Jacques Torczyner have had as much say in the conduct of the Presidents' Conference, if not more, than they did in any prior administration. When I say open discussion, I mean open discussion for everyone.

6/ In regard to the CCAR resolution, let me assure you at once that I had absolutely nothing to do with it, I did not even participate in the debate nor in a special meeting which was convened past midnight one night to discuss the subject at greater length. As I understand it, the final version was a kind of "amalgam" designed to compromise a number of forces, the doves on the one hand and the hawks on the other. The doves wanted to have the Social Action resolution, which you will recall, affirmed and the hawks and centrists would have none of it. Moreover, in his final address Arthur Lelyveld came down pretty heavy on the "critics of Israel," so much so that the press misrepresented him as having labeled them treasonous if not more. This led to the insistence on the reaffirmation of a free discussion. What I am really trying to say is that most of the problems were internal CCAR rather than external Israel vis a vis the American Jewish community.

I think that I have pretty much covered everything you raised. Again, let me say how deeply I appreciate your constructive comments.

Good luck with your convention and warmest regards.

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

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Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

HADASSAH

THE WOMEN'S ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA, INC. • 50 WEST 58th STREET, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10019 • (212) 355-7900

August 5, 1976

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

Dear Alex:

The combination of your interview in the San Francisco Jewish Bulletin and the resolutions passed at the Central Conference of American Rabbis leads me to write the kind of letter which I did not believe I would ever have occasion to send to you.

Let me first deal with the interview. I thank you for your free gift to Hadassah of an additional 150,000 members, but our membership still has attained only the glorious number of 350,000. And while it is true that I won a contested election, I did not have to "fight my way up the ladder."

I think the issue of dissent has taken on the aspect of an attempt to muzzle people's opinions. The question is what does dissent represent? Dissent, according to the dictionary means, "to differ in belief or opinion or to reject the doctrine of an established church." Dissent need not necessarily be only on the part of BREIRA, JDL, or - in Israel - the group which calls itself Gush Emunim.

There is a great difference of opinion in Israel on how to achieve peace and security, just as there is a difference of opinion in this country on how we can help Israel to achieve that peace and security. However, to make it appear that dissent in the Jewish community is a virtue only because it is dissent and therefore must be respected, is doing ourselves a disservice.

I could disagree with you about whether or not American Jewry should have a say in Israel's policy decisions. But when you say publicly that Israel told us that we should not oppose the Vietnam War, I think you will have to document for me who the "they" are, when it was told to us, and why you feel it necessary to make a statement such as this, undocumented, in a public newspaper. Your facts about the formation of the National Council for Soviet Jewry are incorrect. Golda Meir had little or nothing to do with its formation, even though she was the Foreign Minister.

..... continued



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H A D A S S A H

Rabbi Alexander Schindler, President
Union of American Hebrew Congregations

- 2 -

August 5, 1976

Your facts about the formation of the National Council for Soviet Jewry are incorrect. Golda Meir had little or nothing to do with its formation, even though she was the Foreign Minister.

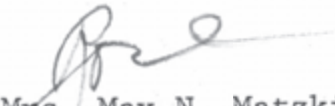
I believe that you do yourself and Israel a disservice when you say that "everything Golda wanted, Golda got," etc. There were many who questioned what was happening both in Israel and in the Jewish communities during the years between 1967 and 1973. I am not nervous about you, Alex, as you claim some Zionists are. But I think you do yourself and the Presidents' Conference an injustice with this kind of flip statement.

As you know, I am a member of a Reform congregation, and no one was happier than I when I began to see the acceptance of Zionist ideology by all bodies within the Reform Movement, whether members of the Reform Movement were members of Zionist organizations, or not. However, I consider it horrendous that the CCAR has adopted the kind of resolutions which were reported in the press.

I am particularly distressed to find that the Central Conference of American Rabbis passed a resolution in which it called for the encouragement of a full discussion in the North American Jewish community for alternatives, and to support forums for every subject including options for the solution of the "Palestine" problem. The implication seems to be that there is presently, no place or opportunity for such discussions. That resolution ends with a statement that dissent is not disloyal and then reaffirms commitment to and support for open discussion on ways to bring about a secure peace for Israel. It strengthens my opinion that the word "dissent" has now become a new synonym for BREIRA and that it is not simply a question of who dissents from prevailing opinion but that dissent for the sake of dissent shall now become a glorious achievement.

I am saddened, Alex, by having to write this, but I feel that I must, if only because I respect your ability, your integrity, and your ability to be a leader.

Sincerely,


Mrs. Max N. Matzkin
National President

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

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NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022

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Cable Address: COJOGRA

"DISSENT IN THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMUNITY -- ISSUES AND RESPONSIBILITIES"

(Summary of a discussion ---- June 15, 1976)

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler, chairman, opened the discussion, explaining that the meeting had been called because of a growing interest in the subject and a general feeling that it would be useful to explore both the areas of dissent of American Jews from Israel's policies and the responsibilities that necessarily accompany expressions of dissent.

Rabbi Eugene Borowitz of Hebrew Union College, editor of Sh'ma, and a member of Breira, made the opening presentation.

Dissenters feel that the Jewish "Establishment" has manifested a monolithic attitude of defensiveness on the West Bank issue, Rabbi Borowitz said. They believe that the establishment does not encourage open discussion and very rarely allows for genuine debate. Because most organizations want something from the State of Israel -- money, program assistance, or the kovod of being publicly associated with the State of Israel and its leaders -- the inevitable result is a muffling of dissent, he said.

In support of this argument, Dr. Borowitz noted that all Jewish magazines of over 10,000 circulation are organizationally controlled and that most Anglo-Jewish newspapers are part of the Federation-UJA structure and that large-scale community gatherings do not provide for debates on policy alternatives or possibilities.

Rabbi Borowitz said a variety of tactics were used to discredit dissenters, including personal attacks on their professional and Jewish credentials and guilt by association -- the use of the sneer and epithets such as "self-hating Jew," "Marxist fellow-traveller," "neo-Nazi," etc. Ultimately, Dr. Borowitz argued, issues are never discussed -- only the personalities involved. Yet, in his view, dissent was not only morally desirable, but in fact a particularly Jewish virtue.

Dr. Borowitz contended that because of a commonly-held view that "the Jewish people needs a united front in order to survive," no issue can be debated since every debate is bad for Israel. Increasing numbers of dissenters believe, however, that a perpetual united front is "bad politics." Moreover, American Jewish dissenters did not invent the issues; they are only raising issues that first arose in Israel. Meanwhile, if and when the Israeli government changes its composition or its policies, the American Jewish

community would be unprepared because of a lack of informed public discussion of issues.

Dr. Borowitz expressed the view that the American Jewish community tended either to over-react or to react over-zealously to "cues" from Israel. An example cited was the Mexican situation, where he said the reaction was such that not even the Israelis were happy. In addition, he said, a stricture on public dissent was particularly difficult because the boundaries between what is public and what is private becomes blurred. Suppressing public debate and holding private debates "within the club," he added, leaves the vast majority of the Jewish community ill-informed and uneducated.

A vacuum exists and, as in nature, groups spring up to fill it, Dr. Borowitz observed. As the Jewish Defense League filled a vacuum for a while -- albeit not by methods or tactics approved of by most of organized Jewry -- so, to, were new groups springing up unlikely to abide by the rules set up by the organized community. The very nature of dissent presupposed that, unless co-opted by the community, dissenters could not "abide by the rules" because they were already marginal to the community. The question was, with the minority growing larger and more vocal, what could be done to stimulate proper debate?

Rabbi Fabian Schonfeld, immediate past president of the Rabbinical Council of American, made the second presentation.

Rabbi Schonfeld held that such events as the Salute to Israel Parade and the Soviet Jewry Solidarity Day march represented, with their enormous crowds, the "gut feelings" of the vast majority of American Jews. Dissent in the Jewish community, he said, did not mean the same as it did with respect to Vietnam. To the Jews, dissent conjured up memories of Auschwitz. As a result, Rabbi Schonfeld said, dissent was appropriate only when it did not help the enemies of the Jewish people.

We live in a time of unprecedented danger for the Jewish people, Rabbi Schonfeld went on to say. To the extent that Israel survived, we would. Israel's security was ours. Therefore, while we had a right and an obligation to speak out and voice our criticisms of Israel, the ultimate decisions could be made only by the Israelis themselves.

Rabbi Schonfeld said he was concerned not so much by what the dissenters were saying as by where they were saying it -- in the pages of the New York Times and the Washington Post. And he charged dissenters with behaving as they did because, as he put it, they had not forgiven either the State of Israel or Prime Minister Rabin for having supported former President Nixon.

Rabbi Schonfeld concluded by asserting the belief that dissent was valuable so long as it was not made public. He recalled that the Sinai Pact divided the Presidents Conference but that for public consumption a consensus had been hammered out. We must, therefore, iron out our differences beforehand so as not to give aid and comfort to our enemies.

During the discussion that followed the two opening presentations, Rabbi Louis Bernstein (RZA) expressed the view that the "so-called" dissenters were trying to force Israel into showing her hand before peace negotiations were undertaken, thereby abetting Israel's enemies.

Rabbi Sol Roth (RCA) argued that dissent could and should be encouraged when the issue was not one of survival but that a united front must be presented when the issue was one of survival.

Harold Grubard (LZA) supported Rabbi Schonfeld's contention that the ultimate responsibility was on the heads of the Israelis and that American Jews, living in the United States, could not presume to decide what the major or minor issues concerning survival were.

Rabbi Amiel Wohl (CCAR) held that the real problem was not the issue of dissent from Israel's policies but how to mobilize support for them, and that the major issue confronting the Jewish community today was how to build a real Zionist movement and a real ideology of commitment in the Jewish community.

Mrs. Rose Halperin agreed with Rabbi Wohl that the really important question was how to educate the Jewish community affirmatively rather than negatively. On the issue at hand, the real question was how and when dissent was expressed. Why, she asked, were the dissenters so anxious to publicly express their views?

Rabbi Israel Miller expressed the view that while the dissenters did love Israel they were misguided and, because of their lack of judgement, could be dangerous! "Be wise but be careful of your words," he suggested. He noted that Breira was not the only dissenting group and that we were not a monolithic community. American Jews had a right and an obligation to a point of view; however, in being supportive of Israel, we acted most effectively when we arrived at a consensus.

Rabbi Emanuel Holzer (RCA) expressed the opinion that Dr. Borowitz' argument was a straw man. He endorsed Rabbi Miller's argument that the guiding principle in the Jewish community was consensus and that it was not a monolith.

Rabbi Joseph Glaser (CCAR) agreed with Dr. Borowitz that there was a vacuum in the American Jewish community. But he voiced concern about "going public," noting the pitfalls involved. Items in the Anglo-Jewish press -- ads, news releases, notices -- intended for "internal" consumption were often picked up by the daily press. The Breira ad which helped trigger the present concern with dissent had appeared in the Jerusalem Post and was timed to coincide with the anti-Kadum rally held in Tel Aviv. Unhappily, it was then picked up by the New York Times as a straight news story. Where then does "internal" dissent leave off and "public" dissent begin? Rabbi Glaser felt that with a minimal United Nations and a weak and frightened Europe, the only guarantee of Israel's survival was the

United States. The Jewish people was therefore in great danger. Consequently, if the minority failed to win adherents to its views within the Jewish community and went outside -- e.g., Washington -- they were not only being irresponsible but were indulging in a tyranny of the minority.

Following the free discussion, Dr. Borowitz rose to deliver his final remarks. He had not suggested, he said, that we in the American Jewish community should make decisions for Israel but that we make them for ourselves. For that we needed an informed, educated American Jewry, something we did not now have. The pity of it was that once the Israeli government made a decision, it counted on us for support. But American Jews, not having been involved in the process, were left bewildered.

Agreeing with Rabbi Miller that on major matters there was a need for unity and an instrumentality such as the Presidents Conference, he called upon the Conference to help set up guidelines for appropriate dissent in the American Jewish community to be directed to the organized Jewish community. These guidelines, he said, should be directed at exploring three questions: When can one dissent? On what can one dissent? How can one dissent?

Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, president of the American Jewish Congress, was called on by Rabbi Schindler to summarize and weave together the varying strands of the discussion.

Rabbi Hertzberg prefaced his remarks with what he called "two factual observations" -- first, that the vast majority of American Jews were to the right of Jewish leadership on issues concerning Israel. In the minds of the majority, unfailing support of Israel was The Religion.

As an example, Rabbi Hertzberg cited the case of the tourism boycott against Mexico instituted by Jewish organizations after that country's vote in support of the U.N. General Assembly resolution condemning Zionism. When the organizations decided to reinstitute Mexican tourism, their members simply refused to follow.

Rabbi Hertzberg's second observation was that abuses of consensus and pressures on the consensus stem not only from the left but from the right as well. He noted, for example, that the whole issue of Kadum was brought to the attention of the press by the fact of the settlement itself -- in direct opposition to government policy -- and the march through the West Bank. The left wing became involved only after the debate was initiated by the right.

The difficulty was that no one had yet adequately defined the meaning of "community" -- and the American Jewish community in particular. If we accepted the community of Ben-Gurion, where the Galut is peripheral, the American Jewish community was simply a "claque" existing only to shout "hurray" to all that the State of Israel does. If, however, we believe that Jews are "One People," then we in the American Jewish community have the right and responsibility to help decide the future course of Jewish life.

The difficulty arises when we realize that the Jewish community is neither centered in Jerusalem nor multi-polar. In Rabbi Hertzberg's mind, the community could be defined, for want of a better term, as "a community of not-quiteness" -- not quite parity between Jerusalem and the Golah and not quite non-parity.

Given this imprecise condition, what is our role? Rabbi Hertzberg expressed the view that we must constantly make clear to Jerusalem what are the real issues and events in the American Jewish community. While Israel has its own agenda, there is also an agenda in Kansas City -- and it may not always agree with the one in Jerusalem. It is our duty, therefore, to make the Israelis listen to and understand what Kansas City is concerned about.

At the same time, there are dangers to dissent. Thus, in the 1956-57 Suez crisis, the U.S. Secretary of State took advantage of deep divisions within the American Jewish community to achieve certain political goals he perceived to be the needs of American foreign policy but that seriously damaged Israel's position.

Regardless of the code words one uses, Rabbi Hertzberg continued, be it "survival," "defense," "security," etc., what Israel does and how it acts has a powerful effect on American Jewish life. Therefore, the American Jewish community has the right and obligation to have its own opinions and to dissent if necessary from Israel's positions -- bearing in mind, however, that one must be willing to pay the price of that dissent.

What Rabbi Hertzberg did find objectionable were those dissenters who used outside power or influence to impose their perception of "What's good for the Jews" on the Jews. Thus, he continued, the real problem was not with those Jews who dissent within the American Jewish community but with those, marginal to the community, who take their arguments and disagreements with the community to the general American public. This "messirah" goes beyond the acceptable boundaries of debate. Alluding inter alia to Kurt Lewin's concept of identity, Rabbi Hertzberg pointed to the danger represented by prominent Jews who are looked upon by the general public as Jewish leaders by virtue of their positions within the general community and who seek to impose the "tyranny of the minority" upon the majority of the Jewish community by their manipulation of the American press and American policy-makers to gain coverage for their dissenting views on Israel. Here it was no longer a question of seeking to influence Israeli policy through legitimate dissent but rather of influencing American policy toward Israel through public criticism that attacked Israel's position and thereby weakening the Jewish State.

Rabbi Hertzberg felt that those who felt strongly about the right to dissent should do so -- but to "fight the good fight" meant to fight from within and to be willing to take the lumps which are the inevitable result of dissent. (He saw no reason why the Jewish "Establishment" had to make it easy for dissenters by supporting their publications or paying for their opinions.)

Rabbi Hertzberg concluded by asserting that the issue of dissent within the American Jewish community might best be approached by asking two questions: (1) What is community? and (2) What are the sources of power?



submitted by Joanne Jahr
20 July 1976

July 29, 1976

Mr. Ben L. Kaufman
Cincinnati Inquirer
617 Vine Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Dear Ben:

I just returned from Israel and your column of July 17th was called to my attention. I do think that your statement, at least in its tone and with its reference to "censorship of public Jewish debate," misrepresents the consensus of the Presidents' Conference.

I am writing these lines not for the sake of eliciting any kind of correction from you. It is more of a personal note because I want you to understand what our position is.

To begin with, I think you must see our statement in its proper context of an American Jewish community which, up to 1973 at least, gave unquestioned allegiance to the policies as they were unannounced by the Israeli government. Whatever Golda wanted, Golda got. In 1973, all that was changed and the idols of old proved to have feet of clay. While there was no erosion of support for Israel among American Jews, there was some erosion of confidence. Questions concerning the wisdom of this or that Israeli governmental policy began to be heard here as they did in Israel. In Israel, these dissenting voices were freely heard and could not be stifled. On the American scene the Israeli establishment, mostly domestic, strove to do so.

Seen in this context, our call for a full and free discussion of all views concerning Israel represents in effect a declaration of independence, asserting the right as well as the responsibility of the American Jewish community to assert its own views and to give the full opportunity for the expression of divergence.

Concomitant with these rights and responsibilities comes the duty to communicate these views in all their patterned divergence to the Israeli leadership and I am in the process of establishing the means for such a communication which I hope will obtain not only on the national level, but on every level of the American Jewish community in its contacts with Israel.

Now to the issue of "public" dissent. Quite obviously, once these matters are debated among Jewish organizations and on various Jewish platforms throughout the country, divergences cannot be kept secret. They are public property and no attempt has been made or is being made or will be made (at least insofar as I am concerned) to prevent their public disclosure. Obviously some of these divergences may give "aid and comfort" to the enemy but that is the price of freedom and I choose the honey even with its sting.

I draw the line only on that kind of public criticism whose sole intent it is to garner U.S. public support or even U.S. governmental support for a particular ideological position. This, it seems to me, constitutes "Messira" which our tradition has always eschewed.

Three further comments in this connection:

- a) I include in both my freedom and my strictures the right and the left. Criticism of Israeli governmental policy does not only come from the Bereira. When the JDL stages public demonstrations, it does not seek to make its views known either to the Jewish community or to the Israel leadership; it addresses itself solely to U.S. public opinion. In other words, my use of the word "open discussion" is not a code word to encourage criticism from the left alone, and the established leadership of the right will be able to testify that, under my administration as chairman of the Presidents' Conference, they have had more ample opportunity for the expression of their view than they've ever had before.
- b) Those differences which obtain in the American community are not anywhere as wide as they are portrayed to be in the press. The terms "dove" and "hawk" are misapplied once transferred from the Viet Nam experience to the Middle East situation. No Jewish hawk argues for the leveling of Damascus or for the mining of the Alexandria harbor; nor does a Jewish dove propose that we abandon Israel altogether. What separates the two are the risks that should be taken for peace.
- c) One of the matters which troubles me greatly, especially concerning that criticism of Israeli policy which comes from the left and with which I would normally sympathize, is that there is not even a shadow of a response from the Arab side, no indication whatsoever that any kind of a give on Israel's side will elicit a responsive give in the Arab world. Here is Israel's problem in its quintessence.

I hope that my lines will give you some idea on where I stand and why I was offended by your designation of our actions as "censorship" writing further that "Christians will be angered" by our action. I really do not know or understand how this can be a consequence.

Again, let me tell you this is a personal letter which seeks no reaction or retraction, merely a better understanding on your part of our position.

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

cc: Mr. Albert Vorspan

TURN

P.S. Your charge that I "delivered Reform Judaism" to the WZO "as the price" for the chairmanship of the Presidents' Conference is also in serious error.

The recommendation to do so emanated from the South African delegation to the World Union. It received fervent support from every other constituency and anyone involved will be able to tell you that I was one of the last holdouts -- not for ideological reasons but rather for practical political considerations.

The move to join the WZO was proposed in 1969 or 1970. It was approved by all other elements of the Reform Jewish community before the Union gave its assent in 1974. I was made chairman of the Presidents' Conference in 1976.



CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE

NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022

PLaza 2-1616

Cable Address: COJOGRA

July 29, 1976

Mr. Richard Ostling
Religion Editor
Time Magazine
Time Life Building
New York, NY 10022

Dear Mr. Ostling:

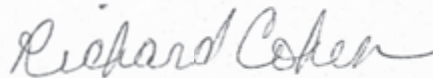
In accordance with our conversation, I enclose a news release issued on June 17, 1976, at a news conference called by Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler, Chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

The material summarizes a meeting called by the Presidents Conference on June 15, 1976. The subject of "dissent" within the Jewish Community may be found on pages two and three.

If you wish to speak with Rabbi Schindler further on the subject, may I suggest that you call him at his office at the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, of which he is president, at (212) 249-0100. Should you wish to reach him over the weekend his home number is (203) 227-0232.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely,



Richard Cohen
Press Officer

RC:jd
Enc.

cc: Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE

NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022

PLaza 2-1616

Cable Address: COJOGRA

Contact: Richard Cohen

For Immediate Release

NEW YORK, June 17 -- The chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations today called on the Ford Administration and "all candidates for the Presidency" to adopt a Middle East strategy that would emphasize "the kind of peace which the Arab states must accept and the method by which agreement on that peace is to be reached."

At a news conference prior to his departure for meetings in Israel, Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler declared: "The debate on how best to reduce tensions in the Middle East has centered in recent months on the extent of territorial concessions that Israel must make.

"It is time that the makers of our country's Middle East policy -- and those who hope to make it -- recognize that if there is to be a just and lasting peace in the Middle East three essential conditions must be met:

"They are: (1) Economic and cultural relations -- the free movement of goods and people; (2) Diplomatic relations between Israel and her Arab neighbors; (3) Secure borders as the guarantee of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all the nations in the area."

Rabbi Schindler added that "American policy must be based on recognition that these goals can be reached only in direct negotiations between the parties -- not by any imposed settlement."

He continued: "Direct negotiations between the parties are not merely more conducive to the establishment of normal, friendly international relations; they are symbolic of that act of mutual recognition which is the essential pre-requisite

(MORE)

to a Middle East peace."

Rabbi Schindler said that "The focus of discussion must shift from the return of territories to the nature of peace, from a one-sided demand for Israeli concessions to the insistence that the Arab states take steps now -- not a generation from now -- to normalize their relations with the Jewish state and to make clear they have abandoned their refusal to accept Israel's sovereignty.

"We intend to make this approach known to the Presidential candidates of both major parties," the Presidents Conference leader declared.

Yehuda Hellman, executive director of the Presidents Conference, said both the Republican and Democratic nominees for the Presidency would make formal addresses to the Presidents Conference following their respective party conventions. He recalled that in 1972 Richard Nixon and George McGovern had accepted invitations from the Presidents Conference to speak.

On Jewish "Dissent"

On the question of "dissent" within the Jewish community, Rabbi Schindler disclosed details of a special meeting on the subject called by the Conference of Presidents Tuesday (June 15).

At that meeting Rabbi Eugene Borowitz of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion spoke in favor of a policy that would encourage dissent from and criticism of Israeli policies. Rabbi Fabian Schonfeld, former president of the Rabbinical Council of America, argued against that position. Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, president of the American Jewish Congress, summarized the arguments and expressed the consensus of the discussion that followed the opening presentations.

"The overwhelming opinion of the more than 100 representatives who attended," Rabbi Schindler said, "was to support free expression of the widest variety of views and opinions on Israel's policies -- provided that such views were voiced

within the Jewish community.

"American Jews have not only the right but the responsibility to express their views to their organizations so that these views may in turn be communicated to the government and people of Israel," Rabbi Schindler said in describing the consensus of the Presidents Conference meeting. "But when Jewish dissent 'goes public' -- that is, when criticism of Israel's policies is expressed in the daily press or in the halls of government," Rabbi Schindler said, "it was the near-unanimous opinion that the result is to give aid and comfort to the enemy and to weaken that Jewish unity which is essential for the security of the Jewish state, and, indeed, of the Jewish community of America."

Rabbi Schindler opened the news conference by deploring the "senseless murder" or the American ambassador to Lebanon, Francis E. Meloy, Jr., and his economic counselor, Robert O. Waring, yesterday.

"This act of blind violence is still another example of the Arab terror that decent people everywhere abhor, but that governments appear unwilling to eradicate," Rabbi Schindler said. He disclosed that he had sent a message of condolence to Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger to be transmitted to the families of the two murdered American diplomats.

Rabbi Schindler will attend several international Jewish gatherings in Israel, including the meeting of the World Conference of Jewish Organizations (COJO) in Jerusalem June 30 to July 2.

June 17, 1976

Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg
Temple Emanuel
147 Tenaflly Road
Englewood, N.J. 07631

Dear Arthur:

Your summary and wrap-up of our Presidents' Conference discussion was absolutely brilliant! You left me with nothing to say -- a very rare event indeed. You are one sharp, bright Galitzianer.

Arthur, I am deeply grateful to you, as I know all of those who heard you at the meeting are. You put the discussion into perspective, you made some very important and cogent points and your summary was masterful.

Know that I consider myself brilliant in having invited you to summarize the discussion.

With heartfelt thanks and every good wish for a rewarding and refreshing summer, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler
Chairman

June 17, 1976

Rabbi Fabian Schonfeld
Young Israel of New Garden Hills
150-05 70th Street
Kew Garden Hills, N.Y.

Dear Fabian:

You gave an extremely fine presentation at the meeting of the Presidents' Conference. For myself personally and for the Conference I want to express heartfelt appreciation to you.

The topic at hand is a most difficult one and a very important one. While minds may not have been changed, I do believe a measure of understanding developed among those of varying views. That in itself is salutary, as is the opportunity to have a frank and open discussion on an important issue.

With repeated thanks and every good wish for a rewarding and relaxing summer, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler
Chairman

June 10, 1976

Rabbi Fabian Schonfeld
Young Israel of Kew Garden Hills
150-05 70th Street
Kew Garden Hills, N.Y.

Dear Fabian:

I am delighted that you have accepted responsibility for being one of the two initial discussants at the Presidents' Conference meeting on "Dissent and the American Jewish Community - Issues and Responsibilities." I understand that you had something of a dry run at the Synagogue Council last night and that is to the good, it will mean that you will come to our meeting a little better "untergegartlet."

The title is broad and in its sub-title the word issues is included. I certainly do not want you to omit their discussion from your presentation, especially since I am personally pledged to the idea of an open discussion of issues around the table of the Presidents' Conference. Nonetheless, I do want to emphasize that I do not begin to believe that we can have an up and down vote or even approach a consensus on the issues level. Therefore, the focus of the discussion as I will conduct it and as I want to see it develop will be not as much on the issues as on the process of dissent as we ought to encourage it on the American Jewish scene. Accordingly, I would be very much beholden to you if a sub-portion of your remarks were to be devoted to this particular issue. Moreover, there are two levels of the process which must be considered. The first is whether there should be open discussion or not because there is assuredly no unanimity of opinion on that score either. Secondly, there is the question of the proper means of expression of these divergency of views, shall it be public or private and if so how and when and to whom. Finally, there is the question of establishing the means of communication to Israeli leaders which will assure that these divergent views, whatever they are, reach a listening ear.

If you have any questions at all in this connection please don't hesitate to call me. I look forward to seeing you on the 15th. With warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler
Chairman

June 7, 1977

Dr. Werner J. Cahnman
67-71 Yellowstone Boulevard
Forest Hills, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Cahnman:

I regret the delay in contacting you in regard to your letter of May 29th. It was received while I was in Israel and awaited me on my return to my office just this day.

Your analysis intrigues me and you will be interested in knowing that it received some confirmation from the conversations which I had with Prime Minister-Elect Begin.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

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City College
The City University
of New York

May 29, 77

Rabbi Alexander Schindler
Union of American Hebrew Congregations
838 Fifth Ave, New York, N. Y. 10021

Dear Rabbi Schindler =

The encl. letter to the Ed. of the N.Y.T. might
interest you. The discussion must be kept alive
now, after the foreseeable earthquake has occurred.

I shall be with Ambassador W. on June 7. In
case you should have returned from Israel prior
to that date, I would be happy to hear from you,
perhaps over the phone. (212-268-2099).

With all good wishes,

Sincerely,

Werner Glattman.

To the Editor: Regarding the Mideast, we observe a remarkable convergence between Arafat and Begin. Both want the whole undivided Palestine, or Israel. Indeed, the whole country is a unit and is felt to be a unit. But neither the Arafat nor the Begin plan will work because passions run too high to make a genuine sharing possible. However, it may be to the good that the discussion has reached the point where a variety of options begins to emerge. Among them is the option of Federation, by which I mean the creation of two states, an Israeli state and an Arab-Palestinian state, including Jordan. These states, whose internal organization must be left to themselves, would be politically separate, but economically linked through specifically concluded treaties. A Palestinian/Arab ought to be free to live and work and acquire property in Israel and a Jew ought to be able to do the same in the Arab state. The Jew will have to be given the chance to retain Israeli citizenship, even if he resides outside the State of Israel and an Arab may have the equivalent opportunity, if he resides in Israel. Both Arab and Jew will then be able to settle anywhere in the country without foregoing the protection of their respective governments. There will have to be federal authorities, to adjudicate controversial cases and mutually agreed sanctions for any violation of the elaborate arrangements which will become necessary. There might be a federal district in Jerusalem, although Israeli sovereignty in a unified city is to be maintained. The acceptance of principles of this kind will not mean peace, but the start of peace negotiations. It ought to be understood on all sides that peace itself is a proposition which will take a long time to be consummated.

New York, May 29, 1977
Werner J. Cahnman
Professor Emeritus
Rutgers University

June 7, 1977

Mr. John B. Massen, Director
Northern California Division, UNA-USA
152 St. Francis Boulevard
Daly City, California 94015

Dear Mr. Massen:

Please forgive the delay in responding to your letter of May 28. I have just returned from a visit to Israel and this was my first opportunity to review your letter and respond.

I thank you for sharing the various materials with me and I want you to know I am intrigued by your proposal. I am taking the liberty of sharing all the materials you provided with Mr. Albert Vorspan, Vice President of the UAHC and Director of the Commission on Social Action of the Reform Movement. He will be contacting you directly and will discuss your proposal at greater length once he has had an opportunity to study the information.

With appreciation for your efforts and with every good wish, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

cc: Mr. A. Vorspan

May 24, 1977

Mr. Falik Gorenstein
Gevat Eshkol
Kfar Saba, Israel

Dear Mr. Gorenstein:

Your letter saddens me deeply. I am especially distressed for there is no assistance I can offer to help solve your problems and make life a bit easier for you and Mrs. Gorenstein. I do regret this very much.

Your situation is one which must be handled internally in Israel by those in authority. Unfortunately, my hands are tied in such a situation and I simply cannot be of aid.

With regret and every good wish, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

cc: Mr. I. Agatstein

REBBY Yeshai SCHINDLER NEW - YORK U. S. A.

From: FALIC GORENSTEIN - GEVAT ESHKOL -
KFAR SABA, ISRAEL.

Dear Rabby Schindler !

I am begging you for help even though I am not sure that you would be able to assist me.

My family (my wife, my son, and I) arrived to Israel from the Soviet Union on Dec. 13. 1972. An apartment was assigned to us as soon as we landed at the Israel Airport.

At that time we did not have any knowledge concerning our places of employment. Consequently, our present situation is as follows: We live in Gevat - Eshkol (Kfar Saba); My wife works in Bnei Brak, and I work in Eruvit. Bnei Brak is pretty far away from Kfar Saba, and my wife has to spend about 2½ hours every day just commuting to and from work, which is very difficult for her.

I have repeatedly asked the authorities to assign us an apartment that would be closer to my wife's place of employment but my appeals produced no results. Moreover, the last letter of refusal I have received, clearly stated that I am not a newcomer anymore and therefore I am no longer entitled to any benefits. I could never imagine that after 21 years of my fighting for Freedom in Russia I would find myself in exile, I would become a slave totally dependent from the appart.

1/

I tried everything I could in Israel and I got nowhere.

Appealing to you for help is the last chance I have.

With deep respect,

Farik Gorenstein

Dear Rabbi Schindler!

KFAR - SABA, March 20, 1977.

Translated by Agatstein Edie
6962 Milbrook Park Drive, Ap. 2 B
Baltimore, Md. 21215 U.S.A.

Mr. Farik Gorenstein is about 62 years old, and

Mrs. Fania Gorenstein is about 60 years old.

I. Agatstein

E. J. Agatstein

I have repeatedly asked the authorities to assign me an apartment that would be closer to my wife's place of employment. Moreover, the last letter of refusal I have received, clearly stated that I am not a non-combatant and therefore I am no longer entitled to any benefits. I could never imagine that after 21 years of my fighting for freedom in Russia I would find myself in exile, I would become a slave totally dependent from the apartment.

Указание Раби Митгм
ей Корнштейн Фанк
Прозвонивший Тебой Эмман 69/9 Корар Саба
Израиль

Я к вам обращаюсь не зная обстоятельств ни вы
мне чем помочь, дело в следующем
Я Корнштейн Фанк мой отец Фанк и сын
прибыл в Израиль из России 13/11/1978. Я
предоставлен квартиру мне в виде моей кварти-
ры в Тебой Эмман. Корар Саба ма не знает где
квартира и где будет работать, в итоге отец работ-
ет в городе Бней Брак а я в Эрулай, в итоге ма
работает в двойном тоне как только же мои
заработки я не могу содержать семью, а мои отец
приходится ехать на работу и с работы 2 1/2 часа
что отец выражает на ее здоровье на мои
просьбы к властям Израиль помочь мне в итоге
к квартире поближе к работе отца, я получил
отказ а в последнем отказе мне сообщили что
я уже не один человек это срок прошел, это был
отец Иегудин, я никак не мог себе представить
что после 17 лет Голды за все в России и 21 отказ.
Я работаю в семье в Израиль как чужим в
Родов квартиру, а что помочь ни у израильтян
властей не хватает доброй воли, так что
не удивительно что тысячи в России прохит
миллионами не удивительно что евреи из России
не едут в Израиль а Соединенные Штаты, я не
безнадежен для вас если вы меня в Израиль

Baltimore den 28. III. 1977.

Lieber Max und Familie,
Sende dich diesen Brief
mit der Bitte, die Adresse
des Rabby Schindler (Präsident der
Jüdischen Gemeinde) New-York -
ausfindig zu machen und ihn
einzu schicken. Das sind unsere
Bekannte aus Gernowitz, und in Israel
plant man sie mit der Wohnung, und
die sind alt und krank.

Mit vielen Dank!

Beste Wünsche für den
Osterfeiertagen!

Vielleicht Edi, Betty, Kinder

מחלקת
מנהל ממשל

תל אביב

הממשלה מודיעה כי היא מתכוונת להקים
ועדה לחקר המצב הכלכלי והחברתי
בארץ, ובה יהיו נמנים אנשי הממשלה
ועובדי הממשלה, וכן אנשי חוץ.

המנהל הכללי, מנהל

המנהל

1.11.72 ביום חתימת המסמך 26.11.72 מיום חתימת המסמך:

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CALL AND ORDER

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE

NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022

PLaza 2-1616

Cable Address: COJOGRA

April 19, 1977

TO: Presidents and Executive Directors
FROM: Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler, Chairman
Yehuda Hellman, Executive Director

The Presidents Conference' meeting with Samuel Lewis, Ambassador to Israel from the United States, which will take place on Wednesday, April 27, at 4:30, has been moved to the penthouse meeting room at 515 Park Avenue, New York City.

Each organization is invited to send either its president or its executive director to the meeting. If you have not already done so, please let us have the name of your representative, so that appropriate accreditation can be arranged.

April 26, 1977

Mr. E. Peter Goldring
4560 Prairie Avenue
Miami Beach, Fla. 33140

Dear Peter:

It was good hearing from you and I deeply appreciate your taking the time to write and share your concerns with me. Your comments and the various materials are of interest and I am grateful for your thoughtfulness.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

March 29, 1977

Dr. Alex M. Schindler
Union of American Hebrew Congregation
838 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10021

Dear Dr. Schindler:

I had the pleasure of meeting you on Thursday of last week, right after your lecture at Temple Emanuel, when I handed you a copy of a letter written to Prime Minister Rabin.

During the last few years I have written more than a dozen letters regarding the policy which Israel should take to be able to withstand the pressure of the Arab onslaught. It is my contention that first and above all the policy of Israel should be friendship toward the Arabs in general, preaching it and organizing friendship manifestations toward the Arab population in general. Such a move is especially important toward the Palestinian Arabs, who are in so-called "occupied territory", and create leadership of friendly Arabs who should be committed to an Israeli-Arab friendship.

There are many ways to create such an Arab leadership, and no way should be left untried in order to have this kind of nucleus who would be willing to accept Israel, not only their existence but also their friendship and protection.

If such a leadership is created an independent Palestine would be possible and would then have a Friendship Pact with Israel and be able to be independent by having the protection of Israel and not be devoured by the neighboring Arab countries like Syria or Jordan. There is no reason why Israel should throw the West Bank or Gaza into the lap of Jordan and then by revolution Jordan become a PLO country, creating a threat to the existence of Israel.

If we can create a friendly Palestine, which is of course very difficult, if we can do it by any means, then a solution would be that we have the borders guaranteed, like creating Israeli military bases in the independent Palestine on the borders of Jordan and Syria, in order to protect them from being annexed.

If we would take a concensus today in the West Bank and Gaza asking for a plebescite where three questions will be put to the voters on the following basis:

1. Would you like to be annexed to Jordan?
2. Would you like to have an independent Palestine with friendship toward Israel?
3. Would you like to keep the status-quo as it is now?

If and when we have such a nucleus of Arabs who would preach friendship toward Israel, we could get the majority of the people in the West Bank and in Gaza to vote for Proposition #2.

We should also advise the population that the people not voting are voting for status-quo.

Nevertheless, the first and most important part of this plan would be that we should create the friendship of certain Arab leadership, which could be 50 names, who would get the protection of the Israeli Army.

Russia did it in Czecho-Slovakia, and the world was crying rape for four months and then everybody accepted it. We did it in Santa Domingo and Chile and just lately Cuba did it for Russia in Angola.

We are in the West Bank and we are in Gaza, and there is no reason why we should not be able to do it.

However, all my calls for this idea are without echo. If you wish, I would send you copies of my letters with hundreds of arguments for this project in order to convince you of the possibility of such project. You being in the position you are, I am sure your voice won't go unheard if you feel that this plan has merit, and would like to hear from you regarding the above.

I am also enclosing the statement made by Rabin, which I referred to in my letter which I gave you. I was introduced to you by Dr. Lehrman, who is a very close friend of ours.

Thank you very much for the attention given to me, and wishing you a Happy Passover,

With best regards,

Respectfully yours,

E. Peter Goldring

EPG:al
enc.

cc: Rabbi Irving Lehrman



JOSEPH M. DREXLER and PETER GOLDRING

Drexler, Goldring Step Up To Chair Heritage Dinner

Yeshiva University will hold its annual Heritage Award dinner Tuesday, March 22, at Temple Emanu-El on Miami Beach, it was announced by Joseph M. Drexler and Peter Goldring, chairmen.

The dinner will be in honor of Louis Berkowitz, a Master Builder of Yeshiva University, who will be presented with the Heritage Award, the highest accolade for voluntary leadership to be bestowed by America's oldest center of higher learning founded under Jewish auspices.

Dr. Norman Lamm, the newly elected president of Yeshiva University, will be the guest speaker.

Among Yeshiva University's fourteen graduate and undergraduate schools are the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, the newly established Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law and the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological

Serving as cochairmen of the dinner are Rabbi Max A. Lipschitz, Judge Steven D. Robinson and Commissioner Barry D. Schreiber. Among the associate chairmen are Moses J. Grundweg, Robert C. Josefsberg, Herbert S. Shapiro, Joseph L. Sharpe and Leonard Zilbert.

Peter Goldring has served as chairman of the Florida Friends of Yeshiva University for the past three years. He is well-known in communal and philanthropic circles through his work for the Greater Miami Jewish Federation and many other charitable causes.

Joseph M. Drexler, honorary chairman of the dinner, is a fellow of the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law and is a founder of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University. His philanthropies cover the gamut of Jewish life.

Syrian Troops Try to Calm

From Herald Wire Services

BEIRUT — Syria poured fresh troops into Lebanon today to quell a rash of killings in the mountain villages southeast of here avenging the assassination Wednesday of Moslem leftist leader Kamal Jumblatt.

At least 200 Christians have been killed over the past two days by members of Jumblatt's Druze sect. Syrian officials fear the killings could plunge Lebanon back into civil war.

According to Maronite officials here, at least 7,000 Christian villagers have fled from their villages near Jumblatt's home in the mountain town of Mukhtara.

Tough Syrian troops in battle dress, supported by tanks and artillery, moved into the Chouf today to secure the villages. According to reports here, at least 40 persons were arrested.

Despite the violence against the Christians, there is no evidence that they had anything to do with the machine gun killings of Jumblatt.

Israel Leader Fears Shift in U.S. Policy

TEL AVIV — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin warned Friday that there is a danger of a pro-Palestini-



WORLD BRIEFS

an shift in U.S. Middle East policy and a possible "unprecedented fight" with Washington over demarcation of borders in the region in a final settlement.

"There is a grave danger of erosion in the positions of the U.S. administration, public and Congress on the issues of the Palestine Liberation Organization and a Palestinian state," Rabin said in an interview in the newspaper Ma'ariv. "We shall have to mount an information campaign to expose the real face of the PLO," he said.

Terming "very serious" Carter's call for a near-total Israeli withdrawal from captured Arab territory in a final Middle East settlement, Rabin said Israel faced "an unprecedented fight with the Americans on this score."

PLO Chief Denied Negotiating Powers

CAIRO — Supporters of Pales-

tinian guerrilla chief Yasir Arafat have withdrawn a proposal to give him sweeping powers to negotiate with Israel, Palestine Liberation Organization sources said Friday.

The sources, members of the PLO's parliament-in-exile meeting here, said every guerrilla faction except Arafat's Al Fatah opposed the plan. One source said Zuheir Mohsen, leader of the Syrian-controlled Saiqa guerrilla group, had threatened to resign from the PLO executive committee if the Palestine National Council (parliament) passed the proposal.

The measure also would have let Arafat choose the PLO leadership.

President of Congo Seriously Wounded

KINSHASA, Zaire — President Marien Ngouabi of the Congo was seriously wounded by shots fired in his living quarters in Brazzaville Friday, according to reports reaching Zaire and Paris.

Diplomatic sources in Paris said reports from the Congo said the shots were fired by a young infantry lieutenant and that the president was seriously wounded.



April 25, 1977

Mrs. Magda Ben Mose
Givat Ada
Harhave 7 - 37808
Israel

Dear Mrs. Ben Mose:

Many thanks for your kind letter. I am grateful to you for sharing with me your appreciation of my activities in behalf of Klal Yisroel and the activities of the Conference of Presidents' of Major American Jewish Organizations. I assure you we all seek to do our very best to secure peace and security for Israel and for the Jewish people; we look upon our activities as of a service of the heart.

While you write that you are not young, from the wealth of facts and figures and quotations you share it is obvious that you are indeed young in heart and spirit and mind. The concerns you voice are shared by many and I thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts with me.

Alas, I fear I am unable to assist you in your request to appear on television to take your concerns to the people. Unfortunately, I have no connections which might help you gain this wish.

With repeated thanks and every good wish, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

Mr. Rabi Alexander Schindler
President of Jewish Organisations
838, 5th Avenue, New-York, N.Y. U.S.A.

Magda Ben Mose
Givat Ada,
Harhava 4, code 34808
Israel
14.4. 1974.

Dear Sir,

I have read very much in the newspapers about the activities of your organisations, and in special, about your activities, and I think, as many other Israeli citizens, that you and your organisations, today more than ever, have a very great, but extremely difficult, mission to fulfill; you are doing more, than any other Jewish community, any time in the history.

I was born in Hungary; in 1944, my father, mother, and hundreds from my family, were deported by the Germans, and murdered in Auschwitz, as other 600.000 people, too, Hungarian Jews.

I was lucky, if it can be called luck, that they've not killed me but I was a slave in a concentration camp, and after the war, I have found myself, homeless, penniless, very sick and very hungry, even, in post-war Europe. And a very antisemitic Europe, as ever, until today. Afterwards, I came to Israel. There are in Israel, one million refugees from the Arabic countrys and, at least six-seven hundred thousand refugees from Eastern Europe and Russia.

A great rabi in Hungary, Chatam Sofer from Pressburg, in the nineteenth century, told once:

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The Jews were taken away, as prisoners of war, by the Roman. I consider myself, a prisoner of war, even now. And so are all the Jews, until they can go back, to Zion." How true! I have read from Lion Feuchtwanger, "The Jewish War" in which book is described, how the Jews in Rome, which were Roman citizens, have collected every day money, to buy free some Jewish slaves (if not all of them, of course) which were to be thrown to the lions in the circus, in the next days! - Now, not all of the slave-owners were that inhuman, and not all the emperors were Nero! - But the Jews never were again entirely free! It seems as if the human history were some kind of Sleeping Beauty, or not even Beauty, because the Crusaders, the Pogroms, Inquisitions, Auschwitz, Siberia, shows, that the Circus is open, the Lions are hungry, (and other ugly beasts) and the Emperors, whoever they ~~may~~ might be, couldn't care less.

I have read also, in the newspapers, that the million, or so, Jews, from the Moslem countrys, now living in Israel, will coordinate their claims, with the help of the Israeli Knesseth, maybe, because now, ^{with} the propaganda of the Palestinian refugees, which is well-organized, and contains all the old Antisemitic slogans, everybody seems to forget, that there were nearly two million refugees, now settled in Israel, who suffered more in this century, as any other nation, and more unjustly. The mufti of Jerusalem, a very good friend of Hitler, gave him the horrible idea of Auschwitz and genocide, which boomeranged, made homeless the East European Jews, who in vain asked all the countrys, to let them in, to escape death. After the holocaust, the world opinion was, that the least, what they can do, is to allow the Jews, to have a land, their very own.

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I am from a family of writers and intellectuals, I know, as most people, what power propaganda can have. And what propaganda the petro-dollars can buy. But I remember one article of Ilia Ehrenburg, written in March, 1945. "The armies against Germany aren't fighting alone. With them goes another army, the unjustly murdered millions, among them so many defenseless children, women, old people; in gas chambers, in their homes, on the streets, unborn children, babies in their mother's arms."

I have read in a Hebrew newspaper, that in the "Bildzeitung", a German newspaper, not so long ago, somebody wrote: "We make Safari, hunting and killing animals, so we made 'Safari', hunting and killing the Jews; and we have paid for our pleasure. So what?" I am sure, no German would dare ever, to write: "We have hunted French, or English, or Polish people; we have paid, it was a pleasure. So what?!" - and underwrite his name. No German newspaper, in their right mind, would dare to publish it; no German government would tolerate it; and even less, the French or English, etc. people. They would have some answers to "So what?" I wanted only to give one example, about the mentality of the German public, and government, today. I would like to give some answers, too. For a long time, I have thought about it. I am unknown, powerless, my intention might be good, necessary, etc. but I couldn't find the way, to the public, even if only to the Jewish public. If you think so, Sir, please, be so kind, and help me, to speak in the television, as Ilia Ehrenburg wrote "in the name of the another army". In 1948, I wrote a book, about my life, as a slave in ~~Germany~~ ^{Germany}, it was published in a newspaper, so I have material. I wish, it weren't true, as the Arabs, and neo-nazis say, nowadays.

I am not so brilliant, as Poe "In the Maelstrom," as Golshenytin in "One day in the life of Iwan Demisrowic" but my case, couldn't be more just, clear, and tragic. I always hear: The holocaust, is such a thing, that can't be explained in words. Why not? As Shakespeare said in "Macbeth" when the Prince Malcolm doesn't want, that is, says, that doesn't want, to become a King: "I am cruel, greedy, unjust, merciless; am I worthy to rule?" "To rule?" - answers Macduff - "Not even, to breathe!"

I am not young; and my life is, as a feeble candlelight; maybe, I can't be, for a long time, a living witness; and a living reproach, as well, for the monstrosity of the world's behavior, against the Jews, now and in the past. I hope, not so much, in the future.
"World enough for two!"

Thank you very much, you, and the American Jews, are the only ones, who really understand, and help, us. And, hoping for your understanding and help, thank you in advance.
Yours faithfully,

Magda Ben Mose.

P.S. I think, it would be necessary, to remember and to emphasise, that: We, the 400.000 ex-D.P.-s, have lost, first, many of our children, in Auschwitz, then, the same men and women, grown-up sons, from their second wife and husbands, in the recent years and wars of Israel; now the same vampires (East Germany, Hungary, Idi Amin, the Arabs, etc.) are asking, in the U.N., night and day, for the

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remaining children's blood.
Or the petrol will be more expensive.
There was a family in one kibboutz.
First, Arabs killed the husband, then,
the only son died in a war; then, the
grandson, an only son; and we are
called racists! Not the Germans.
Not the Russian.
Not the Imperialists. Not the Russian.
Somehow, our blood, seems cheaper to
be, as anybody else's.

Yours faithfully,
Magda Ben Chose