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April 4, 1977

Mr. Moshe Rosenbluth
Shivte Israel, 43
Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Mr. Rosenbluth:

Thank you for sharing with me your letter to Dr. Kissinger.
While I do not share your views, I do appreciate your having
taken the time to bring them to my attention.

with kindest good wishes, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

משה רוזנבליט

טו טבת תשל"ז
5.1.1977 ביה ירושלים

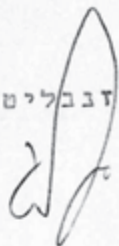
רח' שבטי ישראל 43
טל' 233429

כבוד הרב הגדול
רב הפעלים לטובת עמו,
כש"ת שינדלר
ב. יורק
ר.מ.ב.,

הנני מתכבד בזה, להמציא לכבודו הרם, העתק ממכתב
ששלחתי לד"ר קיסניג'ר.

בכבוד רב,

משה רוזנבליט



Mr. Henry Kissinger
The White House,
Washington, D.C.
U. S. A.

December 10th, 1976.

Dear Mr. Kissinger,

I am a layman, one of the inhabitants of Israel, who lives in Jerusalem, who is involved with the people and one who knows the public opinion.

I would like you to know how the Israeli citizen reacts towards your operations. This, in view of the forthcoming termination of your office, as the politician architect of the United States. My declaration is unbiased, nor directed by any influential party.

Please note, that the conclusion of the people residing in Zion, is that your involvement in the Arab dispute, was always to depress them, break their spirit and hopes, as a consequence of your political pressure. You have, in our opinion, entered the Album of our foes of all times.

You have caused our two retreats from strategical territories and abundance of the oil wells, which resulted in a convenient spring board for our enemies to attack us. You filled the Arab stores with sophisticated ammunition, for our destruction and abolishment. The P.L.O. lifted its head in your "reign". You withheld our total victory, when we had encircled the Third Army and were close to destroying both the First and Third Armies. We have realised, with great sorrow and pain, that you have renounced your nation's interest to those who wish to annihilate us.

According to Jewish conception and ethics, however, man is to be judged by the scale of his merits and as man is only blood and flesh and can err, in view of his luscious desires, or wrong judgement, you cannot be excommunicated, nor can the sign of cane be attached to your forehead forever. You have a chance to amend your ways, you can change your deeds to good ones yet.

Sir, your chance lies in the interval period, between the "change of guards" at the White House, to do good deeds, for the nation you come from. You may, if you comply, go down in the Jewish History, as its benefactor. You may for instance, see to it, that we get an abundance of sophisticated weapons, so that when woe comes unto Jacob, the nation shall be in a position to defend itself and hit back the foe. You may use your influence with the friendly Arabs, mollify their standing and force them to make peace with us. A further alternative for assistance, may be your disclosing to the Leaders of Israel, facts hitherto unknown to them.

And the nation of Israel shall be happy to embrace his lost child and take him back to its bosom. You are our brother and the past shall be forgotten, as is well for a man who has been enlightened by the Lord Almighty, to overcome the momentary pleasures of this world and the imaginary popularity. May God be with you !!

Our sages have said ; there is one who buys the world in one hour. You may be the one.

I have written the above in naivete and sincerity.

Truly yours,

Mr. Moshe Rosenbluth,
Shivte Israel 43,
Jerusalem, Israel

March 11, 1977

His Honor the Mayor Walter Washington
District Building
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mayor Washington:

I want to express sincere commendations and appreciation to you, the D.C. Police Department and employees of the District for the great sensitivity and calm authority displayed by one and all during the recent seige. I thank God that the hostages have been released, that they are safe and sound and returned to their loved ones. I pray that those who suffered injuries will soon be returned to strength and health.

We were honored to have you with us for the Presidents' Conference luncheon in honor of Prime Minister Rabin. In view of the circumstances of the day, I am doubly grateful to you for taking the time to be with us. Some of the people at the luncheon had heard the news reports and your presence was a calming factor.

With every good wish and warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

March 15, 1977

His Excellency The Israeli Ambassador
Ehud Avriel
111 East Wacker Drive - Suite 1308
Chicago, Illinois 60601

Dear Ehud:

It was good seeing you in Washington and I am delighted that you were able to join us at the luncheon in honor of Prime Minister Rabin. Your presence meant a great deal to me and I want to express my appreciation to you for making the trip to Washington.

I also want to convey my heartfelt thanks to you for your efforts in behalf of Kibbutz Yahel. All of us are deeply grateful to you for your support and consideration.

With warmest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

~~THE~~ ALAN LEVINE SAYS:
1) MR. AVRIEL (CHI.) IS REALLY
DOING A JOB FOR US TO
RAISE A SLG. SUM. ^{write letter.}
PLS. GIVE HIM PERSONAL
THANKS WHILE IN DC

2) "IN SPITE OF EVERYTHING,
MENTION TO KLUTZNIK
THAT YOU APP. HIS
EFFORTS ON THE
KIBBUTZ

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CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS J
JAHR
515 PARK AVE
NEW YORK NY 10022

THIS MAILGRAM IS A CONFIRMATION COPY OF THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE:

2127521616 TDMT NEW YORK NY 29 03-07 1133A EST
PMS ISRAELI CONSULATE

ATTN EHUD AVRIEL

CONSUL GENERAL, RDM REPORT DELIVERY BY MAILGRAM, DLR
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CORDIALLY INVITING YOU TO PRESIDENTS CONFERENCE LUNCHEON FOR PRIME
MINISTER RABIN IN WASHINGTON DC WEDNESDAY MARCH 9 1230 PM AT THE
SHOREHAM HOTEL, PALLADIAN ROOM WARM REGARDS

RABBI ALEXANDER M SCHINDLER, CHAIRMAN, CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS
OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS (515 PARK AVE NEW YORK
NY 10022)

11:33 EST

MGMCOMP MGM

nightletter

2/24/77

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin
Jerusalem, Israel

Mazaltov. I look forward to our continued warm relationship.

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler



March 3, 1977

Reverend Robert W. Haney
Minister of Education
The First & Second Church in Boston
64066 Marlborough Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Dear Reverend Haney:

Many thanks for your recent letter. I am grateful to you for your expression of support and friendship.

Your concern for human rights in general and the death of Mrs. Dora Bloch in particular is heartening. I feel that you are a kindred spirit and I am gratified that you continue to speak out for justice and humanity.

With appreciation and every good wish, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

The First and Second Church in Boston¹⁶³⁰

A Unitarian Universalist Church

64-66 Marlborough Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116
Telephone: (617) 267-6730

February 17, 1977

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

Dear Rabbi Schindler:

Your advertisement in The New York Times several months ago caught my attention. Unfortunately, the onset of church holidays and illness was even more efficient in catching my attention. Consequently, this letter is tardy in the extreme.

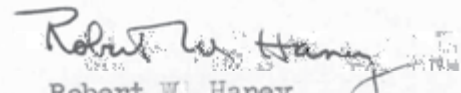
Being a poor, assistant parish parson in a church that does not involve itself in public issues, I am in no position to contribute much of anything to your campaign against the incredible anti-Jewish actions of the General Assembly of the United Nations and of other related international bodies. However, I want very much to express to you my personal regrets at these actions and to assure you that I shall do all that I can to alert the people with whom I deal to the dangers inherent in such actions.

I would call to your attention the enclosed address concerning the case of Mrs. Dora Bloch. It is unfortunate that any person's living and dying should ever become a "case," but so it is with Mrs. Bloch.

Ambassador Herzog has been quick to complain about my characterization of the remarks of Foreign Minister Allon on page 5, but, alas, I cannot alter what the Foreign Minister said, nor should his remarks be thought exceptional. A Jewish state is still a state and is, like all other states, easily tempted to think of its subjects as objects, to be manipulated for reasons-of-state.

Despite all such trivia, I am still very much concerned about Mrs. Bloch and continue an active correspondence in her behalf. Nothing may come of it—indeed, in this insane world, it seems almost certain that nothing will come of it—but, nevertheless, the effort must be made. Without it we are all doomed.

Sincerely,


Robert W. Haney
Minister of Education

THE SECOND DYING OF DORA BLOCH

Text of a sermon delivered at the First and Second Church in Boston on the occasion of United Nations Day, October 24, 1976, by the Reverend Robert W. Haney

It is sometimes said of those of us who walk the liberal pathway in religion--surely the road "less traveled by"¹--that the one belief we generally share is a serious commitment to freedom. Yet anyone who talks extensively with religious liberals will quickly discover that there are other beliefs that we share almost as fervently. One of these is a belief in the worth of the United Nations. Consistent with that belief, we are annually encouraged to observe this date as United Nations Day, a day when we "join together in a common affirmation of the goals of world peace and social justice embodied in the U. N. Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights."² I suppose that many, if not most of us have joined enthusiastically in such observances in the past--and with good reason. The specialized agencies of the United Nations have probably done more for the well-being of the poor, the hungry, and the homeless than any single government has ever done, or could have done, or might even have wanted to do. Throughout its history, the United Nations has often served the needs of great masses of people very well. For its work for them we shall be ever grateful.

But as religious liberals we believe in other things as well as freedom and the worth of the United Nations. We believe in the worth of individual human beings; we believe in the inviolable sanctity of human beings. We believe that people have rights that governments individually and collectively should respect and protect. And we believe that whoever violates those human rights must be called to account.

If we truly wish to honor these beliefs, if we wish to maintain them as central to our system of values, then we must face one fact honestly, clear-headedly, with what Albert Camus liked to call lucidity. We must confront the fact that the United Nations, which claims to honor these same principles, is unwilling to act upon them.

To set the stage for our examining together a particular case-study, I would ask you to reflect on an old myth and its treatment in painting and poetry. You all know, I'm sure, the story of Daedalus and his son, Icarus. You remember the story of their escape from Crete by means of wings ingeniously created to imitate those of birds. Father and son soar into the sky, the first men to rise above the earth in flight.

Far off, far down, some fisherman is watching . . .
Some shepherd rests his weight upon his crook,
Some plowman on the handles of the plowshare,
And all look up, in absolute amazement,
At those air borne above³

But as the enthusiasm of the young Icarus increases, he flies higher, and higher still, until the wax that holds his wings together melts, and he plummets into the sea.

What of the bystanders? In a justly famous painting, Pieter Bruegel the Elder captures the moment when Icarus sinks fearfully into the dark green waters. We see the young man's thrashing legs and glimpse a portion of his hand. But they are small details in a large composition. "On the mirror-smooth sea Bruegel has set a ship with bellying sails, imperturbably following its course"⁴ The plowman, the shepherd, and the fisherman "quietly attend to their work without taking notice of the unfortunate aviator"⁵ A foolhardy but brave young man is dying, and no one notices. So Bruegel portrays the scene.

However, the poet W. H. Auden has chosen to interpret the painting in a different way. In his well-known poem, "Musée des Beaux Arts," he declares that the drowning of Icarus was noticed by the bystanders, but no one cared.

About suffering they were never wrong,
The Old Masters: how well they understood
Its human position; how it takes place
While someone else is eating or opening a window
or just walking dully along

In Brueghel's Icarus, for instance: how everything
turns away
Quite leisurely from the disaster; the ploughman may
Have heard the splash, the forsaken cry,
But for him it was not an important failure; the
sun shone
As it had to on the white legs disappearing into
the green
Water; and the expensive delicate ship that must
have seen
Something amazing, a boy falling out of the sky,
Had somewhere to get to and sailed calmly on.

Of the two interpretations--Bruegel's and Auden's--clearly Auden's is the more disturbing--indeed, terrifying. Surely we have cause to grieve when some calamity befalls a fellow creature while we are otherwise engaged. How much more intense must be our pain, our sense of guilt, when we and those we trust glimpse that calamity and then, for whatever reason, look away.

When you and I awoke on the fourth of July, we found ourselves celebrating not only the two hundredth anniversary of our country's independence, but also the end of another episode in international terrorism--or so we thought. For a week, a group of passengers and crewmembers aboard an Air France jet liner had been held captive in an abandoned, squalid building at Entebbe airport in Uganda. For some of them, the flight had begun in Bahrain, a small island nation in the Persian Gulf; the passengers had transferred to the Air France plane at Tel Aviv, where other travelers had joined them, and the plane had stopped at Athens airport on its way to Paris. But instead of going to France, more than 250 human beings found themselves diverted to Benghazi, Libya, and finally imprisoned at Entebbe, with the full knowledge and co-operation of the President of Uganda, the self-styled Field Marshal Doctor President Idi Amin Dada.⁶ The air-pirates, who claimed a variety of nationalities, also claimed loyalty to the cause of the Palestine Liberation Organization. By July 3, 104 passengers and crewmembers were still being held prisoner; the great majority of them had been singled out by their captors as being Jewish.

In the depth of the night of July 3 and 4, Israeli soldiers landed at Entebbe, freed the captives, slew many of their captors, and transported all the remaining victims of this sordid act of piracy to Israel. All, that is, but one.

On July 5, the Jerusalem Post reported that one passenger had not been rescued. She was a 75-year-old grandmother. Her name was Dora Bloch. On July 3 she had been rushed to the hospital from her prison at Entebbe after choking on some food. She was still hospitalized when the other hostages were freed and flown to Israel. The govern-

ment of Israel expressed concern for her well-being. The government of Uganda testily replied that, at the moment of the Israeli incursion into Ugandan territory, Israel had assumed full responsibility for all hostages, and Uganda was no longer responsible for anyone.

Discovering that Mrs. Bloch held both Israeli and British citizenship, the government of the United Kingdom next expressed concern for her welfare. Uganda declared that she had been returned to Entebbe before the raid. Its foreign minister made the same claim before the Security Council of the United Nations a few days later. And this was a callous, cynical lie.

Addressing the House of Commons on July 7, the British Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs reported that a member of the staff of the British Embassy in Uganda had "visited Mrs. Bloch on the evening of the fourth of July in the hospital [many hours after the completion of the Israeli raid at Entebbe]. She was guarded by two men in plain clothes who indicated that she would shortly be taken to the Imperial Hotel in Kampala. An hour later the same evening the same official took food to the hospital for Mrs. Bloch but was denied entry at the main gate."⁷ Following the public disclosure of his visit, that official was ordered out of the country by President Amin.⁸

Diplomatic sources in Washington reported that Mrs. Bloch had been dragged screaming from her hospital room a few minutes after the visit of the British official. They surmised that she may have choked to death on a gag that had been placed in her mouth to silence her protests.⁹ A refugee from Uganda reported seeing Mrs. Bloch's half-burned body in a forest on July 5. Said Field Marshal Doctor President Idi Amin Dada, "Why are the British talking so much about this lady?"¹⁰

Who was Dora Bloch? The startling fact is that no one ever asked that question seriously at the time. The newspapers and magazines never even agreed on her age. The Jerusalem Post reported that her late husband had been Welsh. She had two sons. One was married, and she was on her way to New York from Israel to be present at the wedding of the other when she was kidnapped to Uganda. What had she done in her life? What did she like to do? How did she feel about this and that? Nobody ever cared to enquire. To the world press, she was unimportant and unworthy of a reporter's time. Ironically, it is a question from President Amin that tells us most about her. During one of his visits to the hostages, he enquired about her occupation. "Oh," she said, "I am just an old mother."¹¹

When Dora Bloch first disappeared, the government of Israel appealed to a number of other governments for assistance in discovering what had happened to her. Similar requests were made to major religious and diplomatic leaders by the Ashkenazi chief rabbi. In late summer, as a mere private citizen, I repeated some of those appeals, both to governments involved in the hijacking, governments representative of the international community at large, religious leaders, and leaders of major international organizations. I was particularly interested in discovering what various governments and world leaders had said or done about Mrs. Bloch's disappearance. The results of all these enquiries have been most instructive.^{11a}

I am sure that I do not need to catalogue for you the fundamental precepts of Judaism and Christianity that pertain to her case. The first reading for this morning's service is representative of the hundreds of appeals for the compassionate and respectful treatment of human beings that resound through the Old and New Testaments. Surely some of the world's religious leaders should have something to say, at least.

From His Holiness Pope Paul VI: Silence

From the President of the World Council of Churches: Silence

Perhaps their silence does not matter very much. Perhaps nothing would have been accomplished by their having said something or done something. The religious leaders of the world do not lead much--or many--anymore.

But it is otherwise with the governments of the world. By the terms of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to which all states subscribe upon becoming members of the United Nations, they are committed to protecting a number of rights that appear to have been violated in the case of Dora Bloch.

Let us listen to some of those rights and to the responses of some of those governments, and the response of the Secretary General of the United Nations.

"Everyone has the right to life, liberty, and security of person." So reads Article 3

From the Ambassadors to the United Nations
of Japan, Kenya, India, Egypt, and the Soviet
Union: Silence

"No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment." So reads Article 5.

From the Ambassadors of Bahrain, Greece,
France: Silence

"Everyone has the right to recognition everywhere as a person before the law." So reads Article 6.

From the Ambassador of Uganda: Silence

"Everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration can be fully realized." So reads Article 28.¹²

After repeated requests; from the Secretary General
of the United Nations: Silence

Dora Bloch was a passenger in international commerce at the time she and others were kidnapped. She disappeared while a prisoner in a country other than her own. There is testimony that she was murdered in that country. The voices of most of the governments of the world assembled as the United Nations are silent, as is the voice of the Secretary General. Their silence is deafening, and it teaches us a very simple lesson. "Everyone" may have "the right to life, liberty, and security of person," etc. but no one should expect the governments of the world or the United Nations itself to do anything at all to protect that right or any other--especially, perhaps, if the victim of injustice is old, female, white, and Jewish.

Most of the people who will talk about the case now believe that Dora Bloch died in Uganda at the order of President Amin. And, symbolically, she is dying a second time--on the banks of the East River in Manhattan.

How can this be? How can the organization of governments that came into being to ensure both peace and justice in the world turn its back on Dora Bloch?

* A general answer can be found, I think, in a recent book by one of the world's leading authorities on international organizations. Professor Leland M. Goodrich has this to say about the place of human rights in the work of the United Nations. "In the field of human rights, the approach of the United Nations has been selective and highly political. While it has succeeded in listing the basic human rights which should be protected and in drafting covenants for their legal protection, its concern with specific instances of violation have been dictated by political considerations and majority votes rather than an interest in securing wide and equal respect for recognized rights."¹³

If we had the time and the insight, I am sure that we could discover the specific political reasons that have inspired the overwhelming majority of the governments of the world and the United Nations itself to turn their backs on Dora Bloch. In general terms, some governments want to maintain friendly relations with President Amin and are willing to ignore whatever he does. Some governments are interested in doing whatever will embarrass, annoy, or insult Israel. And Mr. Kurt Waldheim, the current Secretary General, is a very eager candidate for re-election to that position and is evidently unwilling to antagonize anybody by being fussy about the life and liberties of a Jewish grandmother.

But let it be noted as well that those governments that have worked the hardest to discover what happened to Dora Bloch and to bring her case to the world's attention--the government of Israel and the government of the United Kingdom--have also dealt with her case in a highly political way. Israel relentlessly tried to associate her fate with the probable fate of the other hostages, in order to justify the commando raid at Entebbe.¹⁴ As for the behavior of the United Kingdom, the speed and intensity of its approach to the question of what had happened to Mrs. Bloch were considerably moderated by the government's desire to remain in President Amin's good graces, and thus to protect--albeit ineffectively--the lives and property of the 500 British subjects who had chosen to remain in Uganda.

Politicians and journalists like to think that whenever they have explained some course of action in political terms, they have thereby justified it. That kind of thinking has even acquired a not inconsiderable measure of popularity among private citizens. The result of this practice can only be the undermining of our fundamental humanity.

The practice of justifying action or inaction in terms of political self-interest is based upon the assumption that there are no significant differences between public interests and private ones, national concerns and individual rights. It "altogether denies that there is any private sphere, that individuals have any rights or integrity separate from or beyond politics."¹⁵ But this, of course, is precisely the principle by which terrorists justify their kidnappings and bombings, and tyrants justify their murders. There is a higher law than the laws of politics, and unless we are willing to serve it, we shall be utterly destroyed.

I wish I could close these remarks by bringing the case of Dora Bloch to a happy or at least sure conclusion. Even so, her family and her government continue to hope that somehow it will be possible "to return her body for a proper Jewish funeral and burial in Israel."¹⁶ But to their pleas, to the pleas of all who care about the inviolable sanctity of a human being, there are no responses from those who could act.

But there is something that you and I can do. We can reshape our thinking about those who remain silent. I invite you to ponder again the words of Albert Camus.

[A]11 I ask is that, in the midst of a murderous world, we agree to reflect on murder and to make a choice. After that, we can distinguish those who accept the consequences of being murderers themselves or the accomplices of murderers, and those who refuse to do so with all their force and being. Since this terrible dividing line does actually exist, it will be a gain if it be clearly marked.¹⁷

This may seem like a very modest goal, but we have avoided seeking it for a very long time.¹⁸

Readings

- 1) Isaiah 42:5-7; Exodus 22:21-24; Amos 5:14-15a, 5:21,24
- 2) Albert Camus, "Homage to an Exile," in Resistance, Rebellion, and Death, p. 100; and Neither Victims nor Executioners, pp. 20-21, 55

NOTES

- 1 Robert Frost, "The Road not Taken."
- 2 Undated letter from Robert W. C. Brown, Director of the Unitarian Universalist UN Office.
- 3 Ovid, Metamorphoses, tr. by Rolfe Humphries (Bloomington, 1961), pp. 188-89.
- 4 M. Seidel and R. H. Marijnissen, Bruegel (New York, 1971), p. 75.
- 5 Otto Benesch, The Art of the Renaissance in Northern Europe, rev. ed. (London, 1965), p. 113.
- 6 William Stevenson, 90 Minutes at Entebbe (New York, 1976), p. 108.
- 7 London Press Service, Verbatim Service, 140/76, Wednesday, 7th July 1976. Made available by the United Kingdom Mission to the United Nations.
- 8 The London Times, July 14, 1976, p. 1. See also the Security Council debates between July 9 and 14, summarized in the UN Monthly Chronicle, XIII:8, August-September, 1976, p. 70.
- 9 The New York Times, July 8, 1976, p. 4.
- 10 The Jerusalem Post, July 14, 1976, p. 1.
- 11 Quoted in Newsweek, July 19, 1976, p. 45.
- 11a To the original twelve letters sent to ambassadors, answers were eventually received by me from the permanent UN missions of the United States, the United Kingdom, and Israel. Newspaper reports and private communications supply no evidence of responses to the pleas by Israeli religious and political officials.
- 12 Treaties and Alliances of the World, rev. ed. (New York, 1974), pp. 15-16.
- 13 Leland M. Goodrich, The United Nations in a Changing World (New York, 1974), p. 270.
- 14 See the remarks of Foreign Minister Allon, quoted by Stevenson, op. cit., p. 196.
- 15 Daniel P. Moynihan, "The Totalitarian Terrorists," New York, July 26, 1976, p. 40.
- 16 Personal letter from Tuvia Saar, First Secretary--Press, in the office of the permanent representative of Israel to the United Nation, dated September 30, 1976.
- 17 Albert Camus, Neither Victims nor Executioners (Chicago, 1972), p. 55.
- 18 Paraphrase from Anthony Lewis, "Morality in Foreign Policy," The New York Times, October 21, 1976, p. 39.

GIDEON HAUSNER
CABINET MINISTER

השר גדעון האוזנר

November 19, 1976

Rabbi Dr. Alex and Schindler
6 River Lane,
Westport, Conn, 06880
U. S. A.

Dear Alex,

It was a pleasure to meet you again, this time in New-York. I hope that we will be able to maintain a regular and steady contact, in spite of my party's probable stepping out of the coalition in Israel, in the nearest future.

Thank you ever so much for the most informative and instructive meeting arranged with some leading members of the Presidents' Conference.

With warmest regards for you and for Rhea in which Yehudith joins me,

Cordially,

GIDEON HAUSNER

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE

NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022

PLaza 2-1616

Cable Address: COJOGRA

November 16, 1976

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

Dear Rabbi Schindler:

Please be informed that the Minister of Defense of the State of Israel, The Honorable Shimon Peres, will participate in a special meeting of the Presidents Conference. The meeting will take place at 10:30 A.M. on December 8, 1976, at the Harmonie Club, 4 East 60th Street, New York City, and will last until noon.

Participation in the meeting will be limited to one delegate per organization, preferably the president or the executive director. Please call our office to let us know if you can attend.

Cordially yours,



Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler
Chairman

AMS:arf

cc: Mr. Al Vorspan

bcc: Y. Hellman

November 23, 1976

Mr. Frank Saris
Harmonie Club
4 East 60th Street
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Mr. Saris:

There is a slight change in time for the meeting Rabbi Schindler is having at the Harmonie Club on December 8th. The time has been changed to 11:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. I trust this does not present any problems. All other arrangements as to set-up of the room and serving of tea and coffee remain as outlined in my letter of November 16th.

With thanks for your usual kind cooperation, I am

Sincerely,

Edith J. Miller
Assistant to the President

bcc: Tehuda Hellman

November 16, 1976

Mr. Frank Saris
Harmonie Club
4 East 60th Street
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Mr. Saris:

Rabbi Schindler would like to reserve a private room for a meeting on Wednesday, December 8, 1976 from 10:30 a.m. to 12 Noon. If you could reserve the Board Room, I believe that is where he held a meeting on October 25, it would be much appreciated as he would like to have a conference style meeting around a table rather than a theatre style arrangement.

There will be between 30 and 40 people present at the meeting and I will confirm that number in advance of the session. We would like to have coffee and tea available during the meeting.

The meeting is to be posted as Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

Please don't hesitate to call me if you have any specific questions in regard to this request.

With appreciation and kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Edith J. Miller
Assistant to the President

November 9, 1976

Mr. Herman L. Sainer
Jewish Agency
515 Park Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Hy:

It was thoughtful of you to share with me the item from Harper's on the Middle East and Israel. I am grateful and thank you for thinking of me.

With warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

National Committee on Control and Authorization of Campaigns
of the
Jewish Agency for Israel

Member Organizations

Council of Jewish Federations
and Welfare Funds
Jewish Agency for Israel
Joint Distribution Committee
United Israel Appeal
United Jewish Appeal
United Jewish Appeal of
Greater New York
World Zionist Organization-
American Section

Co-Chairmen

Charlotte Jacobson
Jack D. Weiler

Co-Ordinator

Isadore Hamlin

Staff Consultant

Herman L. Sainer

November 4, 1976

515 Park Avenue

New York, N.Y. 10022

Tel.: PLaza 2-0600

Cable Address JEVAGENCY

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

Dear Alex,

Methinks you'll enjoy the enclosed think-piece from
Harper's for November, on the Middle East and Israel
in the midst thereof.

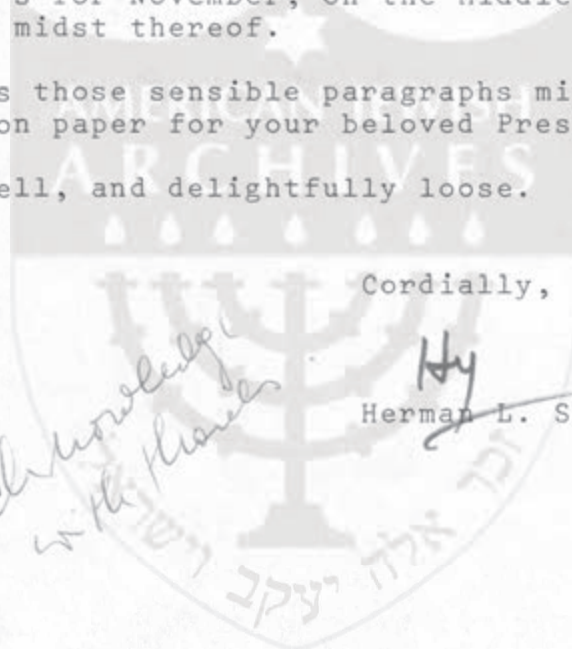
Perhaps those sensible paragraphs might constitute a
position paper for your beloved Presidents Conference?

Stay well, and delightfully loose.

Cordially,


Herman L. Sainer

*acknowledged
with thanks*



October 28, 1976

Professor Zbigniew Brzezinski
Research Institute on Russian Affairs
Columbia University
622 West 113th Street
New York, New York 10025

Dear Professor Brzezinski:

For myself personally, and for the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, I want to express profound gratitude to you. We thank you for having taken time from your very busy schedule to meet with us. It was a great pleasure and privilege to have you in our midst.

You made a great impact on your audience and I know that we all gained new insights from you. Your presentation was thoughtful and lucid, really a superb address.

With repeated thanks and warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK 22, NEW YORK
Tel.: PLaza 2-1616

Date: 22 October 1976

MEMORANDUM

To: EDIE MILLER

From: Joanne Jahr

FYI

The enclosed copy of Ambassador Herzog's speech was sent to Rabbi Schindler by Ambassador Herzog.

I ordered extra copies from the Consulate/Mission -- enough to send out across-the-board to the Presidents Conference and to COJO (World Conference of Jewish Organizations, in which the Presidents Conference is an observer).

To the Presidents Conference people I am simply stamping the front cover "Distributed by the Presidents Conference" as the title is self-explanatory. To the COJO people, I stamped the front cover "Distributed by the World Conference of Jewish Organizations" and enclosed a covering memo (as you can see from the attached sample).

Best wishes.

WORLD CONFERENCE OF JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022

Participating Organizations:

AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS
B'NAI B'RITH
BOARD OF DEPUTIES OF
BRITISH JEWS
CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS
CONSEIL REPRESENTATIF DES
JUIVES DE FRANCE (C.R.I.F.)
DELEGACION DE ASOCIACIONES
ISRAELITAS ARGENTINAS
(D.A.I.A.)
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF
AUSTRALIAN JEWRY
JEWISH LABOR COMMITTEE
SOUTH AFRICAN JEWISH
BOARD OF DEPUTIES
WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS
WORLD ZIONIST ORGANIZATION

22 October 1976

TO: MEMBERS OF COJO
FROM: Yehuda Hellman, Secretary-General

AMERICAN JEWISH

Enclosed please find the text of an address delivered by Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, His Excellency Chaim Herzog, at a meeting of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations on Tuesday, 19 October 1976.

We believe you will find it useful for background purposes in your activities in connection with the United Nations.

Encl.
YH:jj

D

October 26, 1976

Mr. Donald S. Day
Liberty Bank Building
Buffalo, N.Y. 14202

Dear Don:

Thank you for your thoughtfulness in sharing with me the Riesman article. As it happens, I did see his statement but I do appreciate your thinking of me for sometimes such items are not called to my attention. Better duplication than not having any knowledge of such items!

With fond regards from house to house, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

SAPERSTON, WILTSE, DAY & WILSON

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

LIBERTY BANK BUILDING

BUFFALO, N. Y. 14202

WILLARD W. SAPERSTON 1863-1956

DANIEL N. McNAUGHTAN 1869-1952

RICHARD H. WILE 1904-1968

ALFRED M. SAPERSTON	HOWARD T. SAPERSTON
DONALD S. DAY	R. KERFORD WILSON
JOHN L. KIRSCHNER	FRANCIS W. GREUNE
WARREN S. RADLER	MORTON MENDELSON
WELLS E. KNIBLOE	ROGER B. SIMON
LAWRENCE J. GALLICK	HERBERT J. LUSTIG
DONALD P. SHELDON	BRUCE D. DRUCKER
FRANK T. GAGLIONE	WILLIAM LERNER
CLIFFORD R. FULTON, JR.	WARREN B. GELMAN
THOMAS F. SEGALLA	NEIL A. GOLDBERG
GARY L. MUCCI	PHILIP B. ABRAWOWITZ
BRIAN P. FITZGERALD	

HARRY H. WILTSE
OF COUNSEL

AREA 716 856-5400

October 20, 1976

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

Dear Alex:

I received the enclosed reprint in a mailing which was sent to me as President of the United Jewish Federation of Buffalo.

I assume that you have already seen the article but did not know whether you were aware of its widespread distribution.

I know that you have many other more important things on your mind but did feel that I should at least let you know that I had received a copy.

Very best personal regards.

I am looking forward to seeing you in Cleveland early next month.

Cordially,

Donald S. Day

DSD/kk
enc.

JOINING THE JACKALS

by Robert A. Riesman, president, Jewish Federation of Rhode Island

This article was reprinted from the Community Voice, September 15, 1976, published by the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island (reprinted at no cost to the Federation).

What follows is a personal statement. Perhaps I am pre-empting too much space in your newspaper when I express at this length my individual views and concerns. I tell myself that the issues dealt with are issues that engage us all: the survival of the State of Israel, the integrity and communality of American Jewish life.

Some of it makes unattractive reading, as indeed it made for unhappy writing. It is not an agreeable task, to show that statements were made that gave aid and comfort to those who wish ill to Israel and were subsequently disclaimed, to speculate on the motives for making statements and later denying them.

Nowhere do I question the right of anyone to criticize, to dissent, to speak out, however recklessly or irresponsibly. Apart from taking the Name of the Lord in vain or bearing false witness, Judaism has placed a high value on free speech, long before the First Amendment to our Constitution. But the speaker must be prepared to meet with future disbelief, should his words prove untrue.

Rabbi Arthur Lelyveld, a battle-scarred veteran of the civil rights marches of the sixties and a biting critic of the "Jewish establishment," has voiced his anxiety over unbalanced and reckless public criticism of Israel by a small but vocal element in the American Jewish community. "When we join the jackals who are tearing at Israel's body," he warned the Reform rabbinate in his president's message to the annual convention of the Central Conference of American Rabbis this June, "we give aid and comfort . . . to those who would cut aid to Israel and leave her defenseless before murderers and terrorists."

His concerns were well-founded and his words prophetic. Within a month, former Vice President Spiro Agnew, now head of a tax-exempt foundation, Education for Democracy, conducted a nationwide mailing of the foundation's newsletter *Memoranda*, featuring an attack on Israel entitled "Mideast Time Bomb." The most cogent element in the article—otherwise a rehash of the distortions and untruths we have come to expect from Arab propagandists—was a paragraph of quotations, hostile to Israel and supporting Mr. Agnew's position, all attributed to Jewish sources. They read, in full:

Several Jewish organizations in the United States are even more emphatic in their criticism of Israeli imperialism. The Social Action Commission of Reform Judaism has denounced the "irresponsible

practices" and "provocative actions" of the Israeli Government in occupied Arab territories. A new organization, Breira (Hebrew for "Alternative"), sent an open letter to Israeli leaders condemning the "unfortunate killing" of Arabs in Galilee and deploring "violations of civil rights and loss of life" in the West Bank. Rabbi Prinz, chairman of the World Council of Jewish Organizations and a director of Breira, was one of the signers of the open letter. Rabbi Henry Siegman, executive director of the Synagogue Council of America, roundly criticizes Israel for the treatment of the Arabs living in the territories conquered in the 1967 war and is finding American Jews "very receptive" to his position. In short, the Israelis can no longer count on the automatic support of either The United States or the American Jewish community.

The Social Action Commission, Breira, and Rabbi Siegman repudiated the remarks ascribed to them, claiming that they had been misquoted and their positions on Israel distorted. But painful as it is to say, it appears to me that whoever wrote the article in Spiro Agnew's *Memoranda* had reason to regard these quotations as authentic. Even more painful to relate, the disclaimers by our Jewish friends sound unconvincing and, in some cases, disingenuous.

Let us start with the Social Action Commission. Did they say it or didn't they? Does the *Memoranda* quotation above fairly reflect the sense of their resolution or were their statements, as the Commission told the Anti-Defamation League, distorted and taken out of the context of a resolution "that is supportive of Israel"?

The sorry fact is that there was no distortion. As for the context, Rabbi Lelyveld's appraisal follows:

As a Conference, we have affirmed our right to hear every Israeli point of view including those of the "dissidents." We shall not relinquish our right as Jews and supporters of the State of Israel to express our concern, and even our specific criticisms. It goes beyond criticism, however, and becomes irresponsibility when we join the jackals who are tearing at Israel's body, as when we enact one-sided resolutions accusing the government of Israel of provocation when it has been acting with exemplary moderation both in the instance of prayer on the Temple Mount, and in regard to demonstrations in behalf of the right to settle in Judaea and Samaria.

It is one thing to call for negotiations and concessions which will advance the cause of peace. It is another, and to my mind totally inadmissible, for a Jew to give aid and comfort through ill-calculated formulations to those who would cut aid to Israel and leave her defenseless before murderers and terrorists. Such a resolution as that adopted by our own Commission on Social Action shows a lamentable lack of understanding both of Jewish history and of the contemporary history of the Middle East.

The resolution to which Rabbi Lelyveld refers was passed late this April at a media event staged during a meeting in Warrenton, Virginia, of the Commission of Social Action, under the professional leadership of Rabbi Balfour Brickner, who together with his assistant, Rabbi David Saperstein, sits on the executive board of *Breira*. Marjorie Hyer, a staff writer for the *Washington Post*, was invited to the meeting and used the resolution as the keynote for her May 3 nationally syndicated article, "U. S. Jews Beginning to Go Public in Criticism of Israel." Her account of the resolution reads:

mission of Reform Judaism adopted a resolution alleging "irresponsible practices" and "provocative actions" by the Israeli government in dealing with Arabs in the occupied territories.

Specifically, the resolution cited the provocative Passover weekend march through the West Bank by the ultra-rightist religious group, Gush Emunim, which set off demonstrations in which one Arab was killed and at least five injured by Israeli security forces' gunfire; the establishment of new Israeli settlements in the occupied territories and the "politicization of the Temple Mount," a Jerusalem area sacred to both Jews and Moslems.

Rabbi Brickner's comment, as quoted by Ms. Hyer, indicates how "supportive of Israel" was the resolution:

Brickner pointed out that "the rest of the world is bringing out the issue—as well as the fact that some of the things Israel is doing has shocked the American Jewish community."

He cited "the expropriation of Arab lands in the Galilee, the activities of Gush Emunim, the harsh way in which the (Arab) demonstrators (on the West Bank) were dealt with, the deportation of two Arab Israelis (radical candidates for West Bank town offices before the April 12 elections)—these are the kinds of things that are public knowledge and that create tremendous concerns."

Nowhere is the resolution or Rabbi Brickner critical of the Arab role in the Mid-East problem, except for the boycott and petrodollars, and nowhere is there balance. The complaint about the "politicization of the Temple Mount" makes no mention of the fact that, out of respect for the rule of law, the Israeli government let stand the ruling of the local magistrate permitting Jewish access to the Temple Mount for prayer, awaiting a reversal from the Jerusalem District Court. Israel was begrudged the credit as a democracy for holding the West Bank elections, unthinkable in the Arab world: free elections that also enfranchised women, as they were never enfranchised under Jordanian rule; the results accepted by Israel, even though hostile candidates were elected. What ever else we may say about the Agnew hate sheet, we cannot charge that he has "distorted" the statements of the Social Action Commission or of its professional head.

Rabbi Lelyveld continues, "Fortunately, that resolution was appropriately amended by the UAHC Board of Trustees, but not before it had

The last is an understatement. The resolution reinforced other anti-Israel statements accumulated by Ms. Hyer from Jewish sources, which later appeared in the *Memoranda* article. Here is a fuller text of the statement quoted in the Agnew document, Briera's "Open Letter to Israel's Leaders" of April 7, signed by Rabbi Prinz, among others:

"We are grieved by the tragic events of the past weeks in the occupied West Bank and within Israel proper. In particular we mourn the unfortunate killings of six Arab Israeli citizens in the Galilee. We also deplore the violations of civil rights and the loss of life which have taken place in the West Bank."

Once again we find the onesided attack on Israel. Breira would let the Arabs riot in the West Bank towns without Israeli intervention. Such a policy might well have destroyed the lives and property of an overwhelming majority of Arab residents who opposed and abstained from the rioting and whom the government was obliged to protect. In a part of the world where civil rights are otherwise non-existent, and loss of life—or hundreds of lives—a daily occurrence, Breira chooses to castigate Israel and only Israel for what in fairness was a restrained response to a virtually unmanageable situation.

Confronted with the Agnew article, Robert Loeb, executive director of Breira, was quoted by Mary Breasted of the *New York Times* on July 30 as acknowledging that his group was sometimes critical of Israeli "imperialism," though the newsletter "distorted" the views of his organization. Breira later pulled itself together and issued a statement.

"We unequivocally denounce such manipulation of responsible Jewish dissent," it began, and went on to describe the characterization of "imperialism" as "absurd."

Breira first came to the attention of the general Jewish community when it sponsored an advertisement, dated November 4, 1974, signed by prominent rabbis and other Jews, criticizing those who peacefully demonstrated against Arafat's appearance before the United Nations. Breira calls itself a "national Jewish organization representing a growing and increasingly significant voice within the Jewish community calling for an overall peace settlement as the basis for Israeli security." Claiming "nearly 1,000" members as of this spring, it surfaced after the Yom Kippur War, apparently as an offshoot of the Committee on New Alternatives in the Middle East (CONAME), taking on Robert Loeb from the staff of CONAME as executive director of Breira. A number of the CONAME steering committee

positions on its advisory board, and other CONAME affiliates listed as members.

CONAME distinguished itself on October 25, 1973, as a signatory, along with 19 Arab organizations, of a telegram to members of both Houses of Congress, which read, in part: "We the undersigned representatives of millions of American citizens from all over the United States strongly urge you to vote absolutely no arms or advisers to Israel. Prevent the diversion of massive funds from American needs to a foreign state's military expansionism . . . The U. S. Congress, not Israel, repeat not Israel, should decide how American tax dollars should be spent." Six weeks later, CONAME disavowed the use of its name, but *Time* magazine, in a June 23, 1975, article, "Pushing the Arab Cause in America," listed CONAME among the "some 20 organizations" that were "carrying the Arabs' message."

Breira's message is often indistinguishable from the Arabs' message. Rabbi David Sapirstein, a member of the Breira executive board (and of the staff of the Social Action Commission) was quoted in the *Jewish Post and Opinion* of February 16, 1976 as saying that some Israelis believe that Israel should talk to the PLO "if the Arab group first agrees to recognize Israel's right to exist" but that Breira posed "no such precondition." It is Israeli intransigence and lack of "initiatives," according to Breira, that present the major obstacle to peace in the Middle East. Back to the 1967 borders, turn the West Bank over to the PLO and all will be well. According to Rabbi Albert Axelrad, member of the Breira executive board and chaplain and Hillel director of Brandeis University, writing in the *Boston Jewish Advocate* of August 19, 1976, the PLO emerged only after Israel failed to advance "political initiatives" following the 1967 war. This would come as a surprise to Ahmed Shukeiry, who was chosen chairman of the PLO upon its founding in 1964 at the first Palestinian National Congress and endorsed by all the Arab states. It would come as a surprise to the survivors of the PLO's 20th Palestinian Division, two brigades of which were concentrated in the Gaza strip in May of 1967, awaiting Nasser's command to attack Israel. One would think that Breira executive board member, Rabbi Max Ticktin, director, National Department of Field Services and Leadership Training of B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations, would have provided better field service and training in history to his proteges among the many Hillel rabbis who have joined Breira.

The sad fact is that, not only did Breira say what Agnew said it said, but that the entire Agnew article says little about Israel or the Middle East that has not already been

by its staff or executive board members.

Rabbi Siegman has announced that he will press for a libel action against Mr. Agnew, denouncing as "a total fabrication" the statement attributed to him in the excerpt above. The Agnew excerpt was apparently taken from the May 3 *Washington Post* article in which Ms. Hyer characterizes an essay by Rabbi Siegman as "criticizing Israel for its failure, over the past nine years, to come to grips with problems of the territories and people it conquered in the 1967 war." Ms. Hyer goes on to quote Rabbi Siegman:

In discussing the article last week, Siegman half laughed and observed: "I had half expected to become a martyr, you know, for saying those things. I felt it would bring down all kinds of wrath on me. But nothing of the sort has happened. I discovered that people have been very receptive to those ideas."

Since Rabbi Siegman's suit may come before the courts, I do not think it appropriate to comment on whether the "fabrication" is indeed total or whether the issue is one of nuance rather than substance.

Perhaps Spiro Agnew has rendered the American Jewish community—and Israel—a service by showing some American Jews how close they had come to the brink. The shock of recognition, of hearing one's own words used by an enemy of Israel against Israel, may well cause many Breira members to part company with the jackals. Perhaps they will re-evaluate their support of the hard core of Breira who hold "seminars" for members of the United States Congress "to open new perspectives," which translates into undermining American support for Israel and increased pressure on her for unilateral concessions. Perhaps it is time for members of Breira to stop lending their name to communications to Congress, calling for American recognition of the PLO and a Palestinian state.

According to the *Jewish Post and Opinion* of July 9, 1976, Rabbi Prinz has complained of actions taken by Breira officials, without consulting the board. Other eyes have been opened by recent events. Rabbi Axelrad tells how he was shocked by the Palestinian terrorists when all Jewish hostages at Entebbe, including those Jews who proclaimed their anti-Zionism to the hijackers, were separated from those to be released. To his credit, Rabbi Axelrad writes:

... this terrorist action succeeded once and for all in burying the myth that they are solely and strictly anti-Zionist, anti-Israel, but not anti-Jewish, anti-Semitic.

I must confess that for a time I was

and sympathizers who were taken in by this colossal deception. This act, however, exposes the lie and places in the open the fact that at least to these terrorists the enemy is not Israel, the geo-political nation-state, but Israel, the transnational Jewish people. For them, at least, it is clear that anti-Zionism is but a cloak for anti-Semitism.

To those rabbis and intellectuals now trapped in the blind alley of Breira, those who are not basically anti-Israel but whose standards are not met by all actions of the Israeli government, a "breira," an alternative must be found to the shrill, self-righteous, reckless, corrosive Breira. It is incumbent on American Jewish leadership to make good on the pledge of Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Conference of the Presidents of American Jewish Organization, as well as of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, to open discussion of divergent viewpoints and responsible dissent.

For the moment, Israel is enjoying a remission from outside pressure. As the contradictions in the Arab world emerge, Egypt is sending troops west to the Libyan border, while major elements of the Syrian army are engaged in Lebanon. No American demarche is expected until early next year. However, the next few months can bring new challenges to Israel. No one can foretell the outcome of the Lebanese crisis: whether the PLO will survive, and if it does, who will control it and what course it will take. The General Assembly of the UN will soon convene, with Yugoslavia and Cuba leading a renewed assault on Israel. The Libyan representative will preside over the Security Council. A President of the United States will be elected. For American Jewry, this is a time for flexibility, not for rigid doctrinaire formulas; for watchful waiting; but above all for communality, not divisiveness.

We must seek and find what unites us as Jews. In Rabbi Lelyveld's words:

Let us be as fair to our Israeli brethren who have overwhelmingly opted for reconciliation and peace as we are to the as-yet scarcely audible Arab voices calling for recognition and co-existence. A people that has all but died in our time cannot in conscience be asked to barter away the miracle of its rebirth. A people that dwells amid the undeserved enmity of more than half the world cannot win approval by exposing itself to potential destruction. Courting martyrdom and adopting a posture of renunciation do not lead

October 26, 1976

Mr. Peter H. Bergson
58 Haoranim
Kfar Shmaryahu
Israel 46910

Dear Mr. Bergson:

Thank you for your letter of October 11 and for sharing your thoughts and concerns with me.

I, too, would hope we might have an opportunity to discuss these matters personally. While I will be in Israel in November, it will be for but a few days and my schedule is already booked solid. However, I hope that when I am in Israel in January, as I plan to be, we will have a chance to chat.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

58 HAORANIM
KFAR SHMARYAHU
ISRAEL 46910
TEL. (03) 930-625

October 11, 1976

Dear Rabbi Schindler:

The Israeli press has been sniping at you for daring to say some things which are not quite in line with the "Zionist Dogma" of our establishment. In fact, they believe that you, being a "Jew in exile," have no right to say anything at all. You just have the duty to echo what they say here.

I am sure that you realize how much the situation has deteriorated since we last met. Yet, all Israeli parties are already involved in manoeuvres towards the elections that are thirteen months away. We have no independent, countervailing institutions. The academic world and even the press are subservient to the parties. Discussion, such as there is, becomes divided according to party line - and virtually no one speaks to basic national issues.

Many thinking Israelis are deeply concerned, but the sad fact is that we just don't have the wherewithall to extricate ourselves. The structure and leadership which got us into the present mess is incapable of taking the inevitable steps which might save us.

We can survive without financial help from American Jews. I don't think we can survive without their intellectual involvement. That's what makes your courageous initiative of such major importance. It is a ray of hope in an otherwise bleak horizon.

As you know, I believe in the inevitable necessity of separating Judaism as a world religion from the Israeli nation-state. Yet a common Jewish destiny has once again assumed a real meaning after twenty-eight years of screaming "We are one." One cannot simply disengage. The survival of Israel is therefore not merely an emotional concern for American Jews. The future of Israel will determine in a much more practical sense the quality and the way of life of Jews in America. That's why I believe you not only have the right, but the duty of independent analysis to plan a common action between the Jews of America and the people of Israel.

To let the system operate as it did these past twenty-eight years is in my opinion a betrayal of responsibility of American Jewish leaders to their own communities as well as to us here. ^{The} Israeli establishment rules largely with the moral and practical power which is given to it by the Jews of the world, especially the Jews of the United States. This backing, this power, is given to an inept and shallow group of politicians of all parties, without any serious examination on the part of the Jewish leaders as to what is really going on in this country.

Just as your predecessors, Rabbis Wise and Silver and the others, must have been condemned before the "Bet Din Shel Ma'alah" for their crimes of

58 HAORANIM
KFAR SHMARYAHU
ISRAEL 46910
TEL. (03) 930-625

inaction during the destruction of over 80% of the Jews of Europe (and not the deceiving "third of the Jewish people"), the present leadership of American Jews will have to carry the blame for standing idly by once again while Israel, which was established to solve the Jewish problem, becomes the greatest Jewish problem in the world today. Of course, I am not drawing a simple comparison. We don't face physical extermination and we have a powerful defense capability, but we are in a deep crisis of internal disintegration, of confused identity, of political paralysis which leaves the initiative to others.

After some more Israeli concessions there will develop a stalemate which will lead to war of a much greater magnitude than we have ever known before. There is already a dangerous erosion in American-Israeli relations and such a major war may endanger our relations with America to a point which might be fatal for Israel and tragic for the Jews of America.

Please forgive me for inflicting upon you this sad missive, but I feel that events since we first met have justified my warnings. While I am an optimist by nature, I feel compelled to sound this additional warning since we have been losing precious time by tragic passivity and inaction.

I would very much like to meet with you in person. Are you planning any visit here in the near future? I would greatly appreciate hearing from you.

With high regards and every good wish.

Sincerely,

PETER H. BERGSON

PHB:ss

Rabbi Alexander Schindler
New York City

October 14, 1976

Mrs. Bracha Kopstein
53 LaGuardia Street
Tel-Aviv, Israel

Dear Bracha:

Many thanks for your warm good wishes. I reciprocate every good wish to you and your dear ones for the New Year, may it be a year of happiness, good health and shalom.

Your article was excellent and I am very grateful to you. It was a pleasure meeting you and I hope we will have an opportunity to meet again in the future.

With kindest greetings, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

Greetings ! n n e 2 n



S/for
7/10/76

Dear Rabbi Schindler

Our heartiest wishes to you
& yours for a Happy Succoth.

Enclosed is a second copy of
my article about you. I am
worried because I did not get a
line from you in reply to my
letters & article I sent you
two months ago.

I hope you are well. Please
let me hear from you soon.

!msh 11
Bracha Kopstein

P.S. The national
book — our Cradle Songs
Anthology — went into
print and your kind
assistance would be
appreciated very much.

October 7, 1976

Mr. Josef Mochly
P.O. Box 55
Shave Ziyon, Israel

Dear Mr. Mochly:

I appreciate your writing to share with me your thoughts in regard to the press reports of my recent address to the Zionist Organization of America.

As you probably know, a number of people spoke the same evening as I did and some of our comments were mixed up a bit. I must also note that portions of my address were reported out of context and thus changed the entire meaning of what I had to say.

I assure you all that I do I do out of a love of Israel and Klal Yisroel and I speak as I do because of that love. I seek not only frankness between Israel and the Diaspora, but also mutual respect and a relationship of understanding and integrity.

With every good wish for the New Year, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

Shave Ziyon, 19 September 1976
P.O.Box 55, ISRAEL

Rabbi Alexander Schindler
Chairman of the Conference of
Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations
515 Park Avenue,
New York, N.Y.C., N.Y. 10023
U. S. A.

Dear Sir,

I am a jew, with one citizenship: Israel.
I arrived in this country, as a zionist, at the age of eighteen. Today,
thirty nine years after, I am still serving in the army six to eight weeks
every year and I still pay to the State, through taxes direct and indirect
about seventy agorot from every lira.

In the years past, I have - like most others - served in the Irgun against
the British, in the British Army against the Germans, in the 1956, 1967 and
1973 wars against the Arabs. Not to mention the interim small wars, and that
even today, I have guard duties, like everybody else in my village, once
in two weeks.

I am an architect, with professional interests which include material ones.
How much was worth my time investment in US dollars?

I have five children, two right now through their conscription period, one
for three and the other for seven years. How much is the worth of their best
years spent in the army?

And how much is the value of the trepidations six times a day, to hear the
radio news, when your children are there.....somewhere?

I still work ten to fourteen hours a day and from every lira I make the State
demands - through direct and indirect taxes - a minimum of seventy agorot.
How much does this contribution adds to?

I will have to work all my life, as I will not be able to retire, since
my retirement fund I have contributed to the defence fund. Any value?

All the above was not done for my own sake only,but still I have
no milking-cow complex.

I am sure that your metaphore was intended as a hyperbolic argument, well intentioned, an admonition from a wise brother and rabbi. But even so, it is an insult to those dear, sincere personal friends, deeply involved in our lives, I have in your country. It is an insult to me.

The Baron and his family distributed their money, once upon a time, as a well meant, public spirited contribution through PICA, which also administrated the above funds. They were successful in creating a colony, a jewish colony. Internal matters can not be controlled from abroad without putting in jeopardy the whole idea of the Zionist State, growing in its own soil and to its own ideals.

There is a desperate need for money. All the time more and more money. But even the money is not as important as our selfrespect. We make many mistakes, we are arrogant, we need advice and we need the help of everyone. But please treat us as people, normal working people, like you. We are not cowboys and no professional milkmen.

I thank you for your attention and I send to you and your congregation the best wishes for the coming year, SHANA TOVA.

Respectfully yours,



Josef Mochly



'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."

October 5, 1976

Mr. Natan Lerner
World Jewish Congress
123 Yehuda Halevi St.
P.O. Box 14177
Tel-Aviv, Israel

Dear Natan:

It was thoughtful of you to send me a copy of the Golda Meir interview and I thank you for so doing.

I also want to take this opportunity to express my warm good wishes to you and all your loved ones for a happy, healthy and fulfilling New Year.

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

ISRAEL BRANCH

TEL-AVIV, 123, Yehuda Halevi St., Tel. 229139 225525
P.O.B. 14177

Cable Address:

כתבת לסבוקים:

תל-אביב, רחוב יהודה הלוי 123, טלפון 229139 225525
ת.ד. 14177

WORLDGROSS TEL AVIV

הקונגרס היהודי העולמי

ההנהלה הישראלית

1211 GENÈVE
1, RUE DE VAREMBE
TEL.: 34 13 25

NEW-YORK N. Y.
15, EAST 84th STREET
TEL.: TRAFALGAR 9-4500

LONDON W. 1
55, NEW CAVENDISH STREET
TEL.: WELBECK 0335

PARIS 8e
78, AV. CHAMPS-ELYSEES
TEL.: ELYSEES 9463

BUENOS AIRES
PASTEUR 611
TEL.: 47-4582

Tel Aviv, September 27, 1976

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

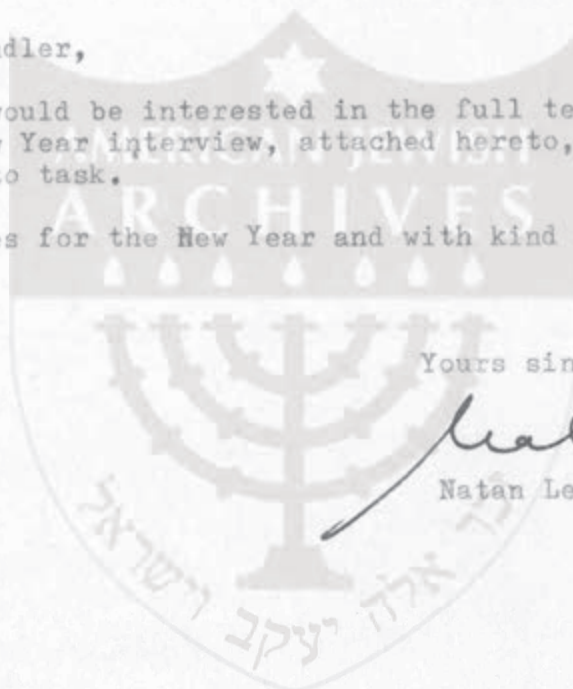
Dear Dr. Schindler,

I thought you would be interested in the full text of
Mrs. Meir's New Year interview, attached hereto, in which
she takes you to task.

With best wishes for the New Year and with kind regards

Yours sincerely


Natan Lerner



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

29th September, 1976

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler,
President - ~~CAAC~~
838 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N.Y. 10021

Dear Alex,

I hope that you, Rhea and the kids are well. Bella joins in extending to you best wishes for a good and creative New Year.

Enclosed is an interview with Golda Meir which was in the Erev Rosh Hashanah issue of Maariv. I am told that Golda also made reference in several oral presentations to "the milk cows".

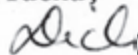
I talked with Moshe Rivlin about it who had told me that he had discussed the matter with you when he was in New York and that he had suggested or was about to suggest to you that you should meet with Golda Meir when you are here. I told him that I thought it would be a good idea and suggested to him that he set it up. You can follow through with Yehuda Hellman there, to make sure that the meeting takes place. *or with Linda - direct*

me
Except for this comment of Golda's, the issue has died down. There are many more important things which concern us.

In the meantime, I received the complete text of your talk and find there a number of matters which one could anticipate would have created some difficulty. Rather than my writing you about them, I will keep the talk here and when you are here in November we can have a brief discussion about certain nuances which raise the hackles of Israelis.

In the meantime we are looking forward to the Conference which I hope will prove to be successful.

Bivracha,



Rabbi Richard G. Hirsch

44.
DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER
AND
MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

סגן ראש הממשלה
ושר החוץ

Jerusalem, September 12, 1976

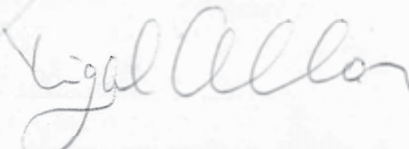
Dear Rabbi Schindler.

I should like to thank you for your letter of September 1st and for your thoughtful concern to find the best suitable modus for my meeting with the Presidents' Conference. I was glad to learn that in the meantime Ambassador Dinitz and you have found a good solution and agreed on the date.

I am looking forward also to have a personal meeting with you. For practical purposes I would suggest that we work-out a date when I shall be in New York.

With my best wishes and warm regards.

Yours sincerely,



Yigal Allon

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

September 1, 1976

Yigal Allon, Foreign Minister
Foreign Office
Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Mr. Allon:

As you are aware, we have been in touch with the office of Ambassador Dinitz in an effort to work out the details of your visit insofar as the Presidents' Conference is concerned. We are holding two dates for you:

Thursday, September 23 - A luncheon meeting and public welcome on your arrival, involving the top leadership of the Presidents' Conference, its allied associates, as well as the press.

Tuesday, October 5 - To have you as the keynote speaker at our projected Conference which will deal essentially with those issues of vital concern to the Jewish community which are likely to come before the United Nations Assembly (suspension, Palestine Report, Zionism, the South African connection, terror, etc.).

Needless to say, we are very eager to have you and we are pleased that you have responded favorably to our invitation. I hope, too, that it will be possible for a brief private meeting with you during your visit, perhaps attendant upon one of the above noted sessions.

I do have some second thoughts concerning the October 5 engagement which did not occur to me when I discussed the matter with Simcha. But since talking to him I learned that your appearance before the U.N. General Assembly is scheduled for October 7. To have a major address from you on October 5 and then again on October 7 might put you in competition with yourself and lead to a disinterest on the part of the press. It is a risk to which I am loathe to expose you. This also puts us in something of a dilemma because we had hoped to have our Conference during that week and it would be unthinkable for us to have you in New York during the Conference and not have you as a featured speaker. I suppose it would be possible for us to postpone our Conference for a week or two or three so that we will not have this problem.

Yigal Allon, Foreign Minister
September 1, 1976
Page -2-

Please don't mis-understand me, we are anxious to have you twice but I feel conscience bound to call the problem of overexposure to your attention. We will, of course, abide most happily with your decision, whatever it may be.

All of us look forward to welcoming you in our midst. And I hope that you will let me know as soon as possible your thinking in regard to the problem I have raised.

With every good wish and warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

cc: Ambassador Simcha Dinitz
Mr. Yehuda Hellman

bcc: Ambassador Chaim Herzog

JEROME ABRAMS, M. D.
~~FRANK J. LAUDONIO, M. D., P. A.~~
DIPLOMATES OF THE AMERICAN BOARD
OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY
190 GREENBROOK ROAD
NORTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY 07060
TELEPHONE 756-8513

May 26, 1977

Dear Rabbi Schindler:

Thank you for your clear and succinct statement (that I received from Sam Rothberg) concerning the Israeli elections.

Permit me to inform you of my rebuttal letter to the May 20th letter to the Editor of the New York Times from Tawfig Hasou of Charlottesville, Virginia.

" The May 20th letter from Tawfig Hasou from Virginia offers the formula for another Middle East State similar to the one Tawfig Hasou has left for the more favorable economic and political climate of the United States. ~~There~~ The Arabs' anger about Begin's election is a farce when the Arabs had treated the previous Israeli officials with boycott, terrorist attacks upon children, and outright refusal to negotiate or recognize. Tawfig forgot to include compensation for 600,000 Jewish refugees from Arab countries. "

Such letters should be sent by individuals as well as by organizations.

All of our efforts for Israel are lost if we do not try harder to create significant North American Aliyah. Since all other methods have failed, the last resort is the creation of North American ghettos in Israel. We are active in a group ~~in~~ that can supply North American doctors (volunteers on a rotational basis to a new area where North Americans can receive the same type of care to which they have become accustomed but at no cost, the type of medical care which is not available in Israel unless at prohibitive cost.

Sincerely,

Jerome Abrams

for

June 21, 1976

Mr. Joseph Vardi, Consul
North American Director
Government of Israel Investment Authority
641 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York 10022

Dear Mr. Vardi:

Your letter of June 2 has just reached our office, unfortunately during Rabbi Schindler's absence from the city and thus I am writing to acknowledge receipt.

Rabbi Schindler is presently on the west coast and will return only in time to depart for a series of meetings in Israel. He is not due back in the office until August. Of course, your letter and the materials enclosed herewith will be given his attention on his return.

With kindest greetings, I am

Sincerely,

Edith J. Miller
Assistant to the President

Committee for Economic Growth of Israel
(CEG-I)

For further information on investments,
please call:

Joseph Vardi - (212) 486-8530

For imports from Israel:

Yeheskel Kassif - (212) 594-5215

For general information:

Elmer L. Winter - (414) 961-1000

Schindler

ישראל

GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL

INVESTMENT AUTHORITY

641 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022

CABLE ADDRESS: MEMISKAL, NEW YORK



June 2, 1976

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

Dear Mr. Schindler:

It was very nice seeing you last week at the Committee for the Economic Growth of Israel national board of director's meeting.

We are very pleased that you have agreed to serve on the national board of directors of the Committee for the Economic Growth of Israel. Your skills and experience will contribute greatly to the effectiveness of the committee.

The task that CEG-I has undertaken is essential to Israel's economic well-being. Israel must greatly increase its exports and much of this increase must come from foreign investment.

The Israel Government both here and in Israel, supports CEG-I in all its efforts. The enclosed article discusses a new mechanism which the Government has created to deal with a particularly serious problem: devaluations. The Ronnel Commission's recommendations provide a realistic solution to that problem.

Please feel free to call me for any information you may require.

Yours sincerely,

Joseph Vardi

Joseph Vardi, Consul
North American Director

enc.

Committee for Economic Growth of Israel (CEG-I)

Elmer L. Winter
Chairman

1 June 1976

Dear Friend:

CEG-I is now officially launched. We had our opening luncheon on May 18 in New York. We reviewed our goals and we are now set to carry out our commitments to Israel, as fully and completely as possible. There is no question that Israel needs our help and I know, from the spirit that our members have demonstrated, we have the organization to deliver the goods to Israel.

Much to my very pleasant surprise, 109 people out of 150 invited have consented to serve on our Board of Directors. Does anyone need any further evidence of a deep interest in Israel on the part of our members.

Now, I ask you to assist Israel in your individual capacity. We need your help, stimulating either your own company or your business associates or your friends to invest in Israel and to buy products made in Israel. You will be surprised at how many people will respond favorably to your asking, "Would you like to have some information about the many advantages that Israel offers to you if you open a plant in Israel?" or "Would you be interested in purchasing Israeli-made goods?" By asking these questions, you will develop leads for the Israel government officials to follow.

There are three people and three telephone numbers on the attached card. I would appreciate your keeping this card in your wallet. These are the people that can handle inquiries.

I rely heavily upon you to help us meet our objectives -- making the economy of Israel a viable one.

Best wishes...always,


Elmer L. Winter

ELW/lis
Enclosure

COMMITTEE
FOR THE
ECONOMIC
GROWTH
OF ISRAEL

CEG-1

FORBES Magazine on March 15, 1976 well described Israel's economic challenge:

"Israel is fighting for survival on two fronts. Victory on the first will be empty without victory on the second.

Even if Israel finally wins its battle for political survival, that alone will not be enough. It must also win its battle for economic survival.

Right now the Israeli economy is not viable. With imports at \$8 billion and exports at \$3.9 billion, its balance-of-payments deficit has soared to \$4 billion – a staggering total for a nation of 3.4 million people."

To meet this challenge, the COMMITTEE FOR THE ECONOMIC GROWTH OF ISRAEL (CEG-I) was created.

CEG-I was formed at the suggestion of Elmer Winter, a concerned American businessman and founder and past president of Manpower, with the active encouragement of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Minister of Commerce and Industry Haim Bar-Lev, Minister of Finance Yehoshua Rabinowitz, the Israel Investment Authority, the Israel Trade Center and the Israeli Manufacturers Association.

CEG-I is an autonomous, voluntary organization of American and Israeli business people who have joined forces to promote exports and investments in Israel.

CEG-I cooperates with both the Israeli and United States Governments, but it is an independent body which speaks only for itself.

CEG-I replaces the Prime Minister's Economic Conference and incorporates the existing structure of the Conference.

THE GOALS OF CEG-I

CEG-I will concentrate on achieving the following goals:

I Development of Investments in Israel

CEG-I seeks to attract additional American manufacturing plants to Israel, especially those which operate primarily for the export market.

II Expansion of Existing Industry

CEG-I seeks to assist Israeli manufacturers in improving production techniques, marketing of products and management skills. CEG-I also seeks to interest American manufacturers in joint ventures, know-how and licensing agreements with Israeli industry.

III Expansion of Imports into the United States of Products "Made in Israel"

CEG-I seeks to increase the sales of products "Made in Israel" in American markets.

THE STRUCTURE OF CEG-I

The work of CEG-I will be carried out as follows:

CEG-I Board of Directors in U.S.

CEG-I will have a Board of Directors consisting of leading American business men and women, academicians and professionals. The Board will develop programs to carry out the previously defined goals. Those people selected to serve on the Board will have special business skills and expertise; some will have direct experience operating a branch of their company in Israel.

CEG-I Board of Directors in Israel

CEG-I will have a Board of Directors consisting of leading Israeli business men and women, academicians and professionals, to assist Americans wishing to invest in Israel or develop export-import relations. The Board will work closely with the Government of Israel to:

- Continuously improve the business climate for American firms doing business in Israel.

- Make certain that all American requests are expeditiously handled.

- Periodically review incentives, tax laws and administrative rules relating to investments in Israel, import of products needed for manufacture in Israel and export of products from Israel.

LOCAL CEG-I BRANCHES IN THE UNITED STATES

The National Office of the CEG-I will establish local CEG-I task forces in 20 major American cities. These task forces will be made up of leading business men and women, and professionals who will carry out the goals of CEG-I in the local community. The members of the task forces will pinpoint and contact local business firms in an effort to interest them in the expansion of their plants to Israel, and to develop relationships leading to the import of Israeli-made products into their community.

The local CEG-I task forces will assist in the development of Trade Missions to Israel, will organize "Israel Weeks," and will provide public relations services.

THE STAFF OF CEG-I

CEG-I will have headquarters in both New York and Israel.

New York

An experienced American businessman will serve as executive director of the New York office of the CEG-I. He will execute the program designed by the Board of Directors in the United States. He will work closely with the Israeli director to make certain that there is an appropriate followup in Israel of projects initiated in the United States.

In addition, one or more experienced Israeli businessmen will be assigned to the CEG-I New York office to provide first-hand information on Israeli business conditions to American businessmen.

Israel

Headquarters of the CEG-I in Israel will employ an American executive director who will be responsible for executing the policies created by the Board of Directors in Israel. He will expedite all requests for action from CEG-I in the United States.

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GOAL I Development of Investments in Israel

CEG-I, on a nation-wide basis will introduce American manufacturers to the potential of manufacturing products in Israel, primarily for the export market. CEG-I will work closely with the Government of Israel Investment Authority in the United States and in Israel to not only develop introductions, but to bring about commitments leading to the opening of plants by American manufacturers in Israel.

Through a well-targeted campaign, CEG-I will first select those fields of industry which have the best potential for success in Israel, and will then try to reach companies in those fields in the United States.

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GOAL II

CEG-I will serve as a catalyst in providing to Israeli manufacturers advice and counsel, financial assistance, as well as in bringing to their attention opportunities for joint ventures, new markets and improved technology. Through an Assistance Program for Israeli Industry, the needs of various companies will be determined and aid will be sought for them in the United States.

CEG-I will also design programs for American management experts to lecture, hold seminars and be available for consultation in Israel.

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GOAL III Expansion of Imports into the United States of Products "Made in Israel"

CEG-I will, throughout America, assist Israeli manufacturers and U.S. distributors in increasing

the sale of products "Made in Israel." CEG-I will cooperate with the Government of Israel Trade Center and Israeli manufacturers in the development and implementation of programs to increase Israel's share of the U.S. market.

CEG-I will work to create a desire on the part of American buyers to purchase products "Made in Israel," through a campaign of advertising and active marketing.

As a first step, CEG-I will call for a marketing study of the problems and opportunities relating to the import of Israeli-made products in the United States.

HOW YOU CAN HELP CEG-I

As a volunteer organization CEG-I welcomes any help that will assist it in meeting its goals. CEG-I needs:

1. \$1-a-Year Men and Women who can serve as Executive Directors of local CEG-I task forces.
2. \$1-a-Year Men and Women who can assist CEG-I in carrying out specific projects, and who can provide administrative assistance and contacts with manufacturers and retailers.
3. Specialists in various industries who can review projects from Israel to determine their applicability to the American market.
4. Specialists with special skills in marketing, management, production, quality control who are available to train personnel in Israel.

WHERE TO GET MORE INFORMATION

Mr. Elmer Winter
5301 North Ironwood Road
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201
(414) 961-1000



EMBASSY OF ISRAEL

OFFICE OF THE ECONOMIC MINISTER

641 LEXINGTON AVENUE NEW YORK 10022 (212) 486-8506

July 28, 1976

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

Dear Rabbi Schindler,

... Enclosed please find a copy of letter to me by Eugene
Blum of Baltimore and my reply.

We deal here with an uncoordinated and independent
initiative to combat the Arab boycott, and, as you will see,
I hesitate very much to encourage it in this form. On the
other hand, good will and initiative should not be discouraged
and therefore you may be interested in contacting him.

Incidentally, my letter includes various activities
that everyone could engage in to strengthen our economy
and you might find it useful to draw the attention of your
members to it.

Sincerely yours,


Ze'ev Sher

Jews Against the
Arab Boycott
Attn. Eugene Blum
6806 Harrowdale Rd.
Baltimore, Md. 21209

July 1, 1976

Mr. Ze'ev Sher
Economic Minister of Israel
to the United States
641 Lexington Avenue
New York City, New York 10022

Dear Mr. Sher:

Enclosed you will find some of the literature and information concerning our effort to help bolster Israel's economic picture.


Basically our concept is a very simple one and does not involve any boycott on our part. We are simply asking Jews to buy from those companies that are aiding the Israeli economy (even though the Arabs don't like the idea).

As per our telephone conversation I would appreciate from your office, as quickly as possible, a letter outlining your concept of how this problem should be handled and what the aims of such a campaign should be.

I would think it necessary that the letter cover the following points: 1) the peril of Israel's economic situation caused by the boycott; 2) the need for some type of action on the part of the Jewish community; 3) that congressional nor state legislation have any effect on the consumer level; and 4) as you suggested, that the action taken should be to encourage new economic ventures into Israel and that local friends of Israel can and should be recognized on a local basis as not to be injured by an action taken on a national level.

Our organization has, as a result of four ads in the Jewish Times, evoked responses from not only the Baltimore area but also from such far away places as Winston-Salem, North Carolina, Atlanta, Georgia, and Orlando, Florida. It seems that the average Jew is anxious to do what he can for Israel on a consumer level.

Sincerely,



Eugene Blum

EB:ln
Enclosure

baltimore JEWISH TIMES

JAABing The Arab Boycott

JAAB, an acronym for Jews Against The Arab Boycott, is an idea that for some three years has been haunting the mind of local public relations executive Gene Blum, a former officer in the Israeli Air Force during the 1948 War for Independence, writer, and lay scholar of economics. The idea became a fledgling organization recently when ten concerned Jews pledged time, talent and financial support to initiate a campaign at a grass roots level.

A simple concept in a complex

economic struggle that is currently raging world wide. JAAB's thrust is to organize and educate Jews about how their buying dollars can benefit Israel. "It's not enough to make contributions to Israel through charitable sources," stresses Blum. "Whether we're aware of it or not, what we buy positively helps Israel and what we buy negatively hurts her." By negatively, he means products from companies that may support Arab interests. By positively, he means products that are on the Arab boycott list. And here is the crux of JAAB: To spend the Jewish buying dollar exclusively in support of Israel.

TIME magazine recently printed an article that highlighted companies on the Arab blacklist. These were companies that are boycotted by the Arabs for doing business with Israel. Laments Gene Blum, "As far as we know, our Jewish organizations haven't begun to fight on a product level as yet. And it may

be safe to say that the average Jew does not know the companies supporting Israel. Our aim is to make this information available and to do everything possible to show that it's profitable to belong to the boycott."

This can be done, JAAB members feel, by concentrating Jewish purchasing power and selling power on selected items manufactured by companies that are proven friends of Israel. And this can be accomplished most successfully by directing emphasis on a few products at a time.

A sad story that Gene Blum tells is about the disappearance from the shelves of Jewish owned supermarkets of many Hudson paper products. "This is a company that heavily supports Israel. They even built a factory in Israel called Israel-American Paper Company. But when they were overtaken by larger manufacturers, the American Jewish community allowed them to slide. By supporting business

that support Israel, we are making every bit as significant a contribution as the one we make through our favorite charity.

"Among the companies we should heavily support are Coca-Cola, Ford, RCA, Zenith, Motorola, Revlon, Helena Rubinstein, Seagrams, and National Brewing."

It is with a product like National Boh or National Premium

JAAB's thrust is to organize and educate Jews about how their buying dollars can benefit Israel.

that Gene Blum hopes to begin the JAAB consumer campaign. "The success of these products," he explains, "in terms of profit growth based on Jewish support, is easily measurable." He recommends that not only do Jews buy the products, they can have their favorite retail outlets promote the products, as well. "And when you attend a social function," he adds, "ask your host to serve them, and if he doesn't, tell him why he should."

"By providing consumer information, by helping Jews to understand how to effectively direct their buying power, and by getting organizations behind promoting purchasing and selling for Israel projects, and by having a JAAB Speaker's Bureau speaker come to your functions, with additional information on the importance of constructive purchasing, you can help strengthen Israel's economic position in today's tough pragmatic business world," says Gene Blum.

Lists and speakers and additional information on the Arab Boycott can be obtained by calling JAAB, Jews Against Arab Boycott at 301-653-1311.

Fighting The Boycott

The Jewish community has been waiting for JAAB. JAAB is the highly appropriate acronym for Jews Against The Arab Boycott, a newly formed organization which seeks to organize and educate Jews about how their buying dollars can benefit Israel, and it has generated an overwhelming response in the two weeks it has been active. Although the group is based in Baltimore, and has solely been publicized in this magazine, calls have come in from such states as North Carolina and Pennsylvania.

"They've asked for speakers, for information on companies they aren't certain about, on how to begin chapters in their areas," reports Gene Blum, a local public relations executive who started JAAB. "B'nai B'rith,

Histadrut, the Baltimore Jewish Council, and the Jewish Identity Center have also contacted us. Many leading businesses want to join the campaign as well."

This past week, JAAB received a copy of the list of 1,500 names on the Arab Boycott, names of companies which do business with Israel. The list is now available through JAAB, as are speakers and additional information on the Boycott.

JAAB has a promising future ahead of it. We congratulate Gene Blum for taking the time and effort to begin the group, and for publishing accurate lists of companies. And we hope the Jewish community will continue to support the efforts of JAAB.

JAAB
JEWS AGAINST ARAB BOYCOTT
301-653-1311

Backlash at the Boycott

As the financial power of the Arab oil states has grown, so has their muscle in world trade. But in using their new strength, some Arab governments have been pursuing a policy that is deeply inimical to the legal and social principles of the industrial democracies. Financial and political capitals were shocked by the revelations last month that Arab bankers in Libya and Kuwait had threatened to pull their money out of major international bond issues unless certain U.S. and European banking houses with Jewish ties were barred from participation. Now the economic issues raised by such tactics are rapidly becoming a major diplomatic concern as well.

During his press conference in Hollywood, Fla., last week, President Ford made the U.S. position clear. "Such discrimination," he said, "is totally contrary to the American tradition and repugnant to American principles." Ford asked the Justice, Commerce, State and Defense departments to investigate, suggesting that the U.S. may take some economic counteractions against those who discriminate.

A day earlier, the Anti-Defamation League of the B'nai B'rith accused a number of private companies and U.S.

agencies of discriminating against Jews, and also provided part of an Arab boycott list that extended beyond the banking community into the ranks of American business. And only a few hours after the President's Florida press conference, Idaho Democrat Frank Church, chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Multinational Corporations, produced a copy of the entire blacklist.

According to the B'nai B'rith, four private firms* and two U.S. Government agencies had violated U.S. civil rights laws by excluding Jews from employment in Arab countries in order to do business or carry out aid programs there. Not all the companies responded immediately to the charges, but those that did so denied them. So did one of the federal agencies: the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, which promotes U.S. trade projects abroad. The other agency, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which manages construction projects in Saudi Arabia for the U.S. Government, acknowledged tacit compliance with the boycott.

Going Along. At a hearing of Senator Church's subcommittee two Army colonels, William L. Durham and Joseph D. Bennett, explained that in deference to Saudi wishes, the Corps of Engineers made a practice of not assigning Jewish personnel to Saudi Arabia and also saw to it that its civilian contractors did the same. But both denied ever having seen the Arab boycott list.

Until last week, few Americans had. At the hearing, Church showed off a copy of the 1970 edition, which he had obtained from the State Department. Published in Damascus, the volume contains the names of 1,500 American companies, individuals and organizations with which the Arabs refuse to do business, supposedly because they are or have been involved with Israel in one way or another. But in many ways the list is baffling. The entries range from giant firms with worldwide presence like RCA and Coca-Cola to local U.S. department stores like Lord & Taylor. Some companies were unaware that they were on the Arabs' enemies list until it was published in the newspapers last week. For example, the American Electric Power Co. turned up on the list, even though the utility holding company has no interests anywhere in the Middle East. The Ford Motor Co. and Xerox Corp., both boycotted since 1966, are only two of many firms that have been trying to have their names removed from the blacklist.

The President's denunciation of Arab discrimination and the Church hearing, both of which took place on

*Ashland Chemical Co., Bendix Field Engineering Corp., Dresser Industries Inc. and International School Services.



Orders.

the same day, were clearly intended as a signal of bipartisan U.S. concern about the boycott. In Cairo, where the Arab boycott committee is currently holding its semiannual review of the blacklist, Mohammed Mahgoub, commissioner general of the boycott office, defended the list as "a legitimate means of legitimate self-defense." At the boycott committee's opening session last week, Mahgoub insisted that companies are listed only if they "play a role in helping Israel's economic, industrial or military efforts."

Legal Tools. Washington has only begun to explore what legal tools are available to combat the boycott. Many antitrust law experts believe that Section 1 of the Sherman Act, which forbids contract combinations or conspiracy in restraint of trade, could be used against, say, an Arab bank that refused to deal with U.S. companies that have ties with Israel; but enforcement would be impossible unless the bank had assets located within the jurisdiction of a U.S. court. Some Justice officials are discussing another approach: a threat of action under civil rights laws against U.S. companies that bow to the blacklist by deliberately excluding Jewish employees from their Arab operations.

Ultimately, the argument that is most likely to force the Arab governments to reconsider their policy of ethnic economic discrimination is that they run the risk of a backlash against the boycott when they begin to invest their oil billions in Western countries in a big way. As President Ford put it bluntly last week: "Foreign businessmen and investors are welcome in the United States when they are willing to conform to the principles of our society."

Who's On the List

The 1,500 entries in the Arab League's eclectic 1970 boycott list include many of the nation's biggest corporations, as well as a wide variety of other firms, foundations, individuals and products. A sampler:

Air Products & Chemicals	Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical
Allstate Insurance	Kaiser Steel
American Bank & Trust Co.	Alfred A. Knopf
Bonwit Teller	Lord & Taylor
Burlington Industries	Miles Laboratories
CBS	Minute Maid
Club Méditerranée	Monsanto
Coca-Cola	Motorola
De Soto	National Brewing
E.J. Korvette	National Steel
Ford Motor	Owens-Illinois
Four Roses	Paul Masson
General Tire	Philadelphia
Genesco	National Corp.
Hartz Mountain	RCA
Pet Foods	Republic Steel
Helena	Revlon
Rubenstein	Seagram
Henri Bendel	Sears, Roebuck
International Paper	S.H. Kress
	Whirlpool
	Witco Chemical
	Xerox
	Zenith Radio

BOYCOTT BACKLASH

Patronize These Friends of Israel

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• HUDSON PAPER PRODUCTS• KODAK CAMERAS AND FILM• NATIONAL BEER, CARLINGS, TUBORG• BARTON'S CANDY• RCA• SEAGRAMS | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• HELENA RUBENSTEIN• FOUR ROSES• MILES LABORATORY PRODUCTS• WHIRLPOOL• ZENITH• REVLOM | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• FORD MOTOR PRODUCTS• HEINEXIN• HARTZ MOUNTAIN PET FOODS• CLUB MEDITERRANEE• MOTOROLA• KAISER ALUMINUM |
|--|--|--|
- ISRAEL WINES AND FOOD PRODUCTS

They are products and firms ON the Arab Boycott List.

AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES
THEY DARE TO DO BUSINESS WITH ISRAEL!

Patronize companies **ON** the Boycott List!
BUY products and **SELL** products on the List!

Now is the time to take firm consumer action. The economic survival of Israel depends on it.

HELP BEAT THE ARAB BOYCOTT

- Arrange for speakers for your organization.
- Arrange for mailing inserts of boycott lists for your organization.
- Arrange committees in your organization to call on merchants, restaurants, hotels, motels, discount houses and supermarkets to carry products and push sales of companies on the Boycott List.
- Tell friends to join the battle against the Arab Boycott.

For further information on how to turn shopping dollars into victory dollars, **OR FOR SPEAKERS, CALL:**

JAAB
JEWS AGAINST ARAB BOYCOTT
301-653-1311

BOYCOTT BACKLASH

What Do These Four Products Have in Common?

- Lincoln Continental Mark IV
- Coca Cola
- National Beer
- RCA

They are products **ON** the Arab Boycott
List.

THEY DARE TO DO BUSINESS WITH ISRAEL!

Patronize companies **ON** the Boycott List!
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301-653-1311



EMBASSY OF ISRAEL

OFFICE OF THE ECONOMIC MINISTER

641 LEXINGTON AVENUE NEW YORK 10022 (212) 486-8506

July 28, 1976

Mr. Eugene Blum
Jews Against the Arab Boycott
6806 Harrowdale Road
Baltimore, Md. 21209

Dear Mr. Blum,

Thank you very much for your letter of July 1, 1976 informing me about JAAB activities, and asking me to outline our concepts of how to help bolster Israel's economic picture.

Clearly, your colleagues and yourself must be congratulated, and we indeed appreciate very much what you are doing. We hope indeed that many other communities will follow your example and get together to assist Israel's economy.

In this area there are two main activities: first, assisting Israel's effort to reduce its current balance of payment deficit and making the US business community more open and ready to buy from Israel and to invest in Israel; second, fighting Arab economic coercion in this country, mainly the Arab boycott.

Jewish activities are carried on in both areas, by individuals, as well as by the various Jewish organizations. On the positive side, i.e. promoting Israeli goods and investments in Israel, the following activities could be undertaken :

- ...
- (a) Think Israel - look for goods produced in Israel and buy them (a catalogue is enclosed) ;
 - (b) Suggest to producers, wholesalers and retailers to use and sell goods produced in Israel ;
 - (c) Use in your home, and encourage your friends and neighbors, to buy and use in their homes goods produced in Israel ;

.../2

July 28, 1976

Mr. Eugene Blum

- (d) Join communal activities aimed to strengthen the economy of Israel, such as CEG-I headed by Elmer Winter (I am sending a copy of this letter to him so he may be able to contact you) ;
- (e) Suggest to businessmen and industrialists to consider Israel as a base of production. In this connection you should emphasize the relative advantages of Israel, such as our association with the European Community, Israel's eligibility for tariff preferences in the US under GSP, highly skilled and sophisticated labor, financial and other incentives for foreign investors and approved investment, and many more. Further information can be obtained from the Trade Commissioner or the Investment Authority in my office, or in the various regional offices (addresses attached) ;
- ...
- (f) Encourage trade and professional organizations in your area to organize businessmen's missions to Israel or open their platforms to speakers on behalf of Israel ;
- (g) Encourage tourism to Israel and fly Israel's national airline, El-Al.
- (h) Continue to assist and solicit others to assist Israel financially by contributing to the UJA or by purchasing Israel Bonds (the local offices will gladly accept your advice or volunteer work).

There are of course many other activities in these area and you and those with whom you cooperate, may choose those most suitable.

Success in the said activities is also success in combatting the Arab Boycott. Israel's economic growth is the best evidence that we repelled the attack the Arabs have launched, in particular because of the financial strength of the Arab oil producing countries, and that they have been defeated.

.../3

July 28, 1976

Mr. Eugene Blum

Our policy in connection with the boycott in the US has been ... explained in my speech in Austin, made sometime ago. This speech is attached. In addition, the various Jewish organizations, in particular the ADL, American Jewish Committee, and American Jewish Congress, are actively engaged in various activities such as promotion of Federal and State legislation, adoption of Anti-Boycott policies by U.S. corporations and businessmen and exposing those complying with the boycott rules. Since all these activities are carried on nationally and as a coordinated effort, it seems adviseable to join them rather than act alone. Furthermore, these actions require more than catches the eye, e.g. why prefer companies which are on the blacklist over those which have excellent business relations with us or even invest in Israel, but for one reason or another are not on the list.

Our target should be to respect and reward all those who oppose the boycott or disregard it, and call on others to follow them. However, as you have seen from my speech, we do not advocate counter boycotting or creating an impression that we encourage or foster it.

You have also asked for guidance concerning the efforts to pass legislation. It would be improper on my part to give such guidance, but I am sure the various organizations, as well as the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, will be able to assist you in that.

May I again thank you for your efforts, and I hope that all of you will find the right way to assist us in our effort to make Israel's economy stronger.

I am at your disposal for any further clarification.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,


Ze'ev Sher

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Meir Yagil, Director

Trade Commission -
Yehekel Kassif, Trade Commissioner

Estate & Legacy Division -
Jacob Danon

ECONOMIC CONSULAR OFFICES -
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GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL POLICY IN THE U.S.
ON THE ARAB BOYCOTT

Ze'ev Sher
Economic Minister
to the U.S. and Canada

Austin, Texas

February 19, 1976

The purpose of this paper is to explain the position the GOI takes in the United States on the various issues that arise here in connection with the Arab Boycott or as a result of it. In particular I would like to concentrate on the policy in relation to the Arab boycott we consider that the U.S. business community and the Administration ought to adopt.

In principle, we agree and hope that all issues will be solved once peace will be achieved in the region. However, as you know, it takes two to make peace and our efforts in this respect have not yet been successful.

It goes without saying that the goal we would like to achieve in this country is the total elimination of any boycotting activity or discriminatory policy toward Israel, the Israeli business community and the Jewish community around the world. Thus, every action we may take, including counter attack, should be considered as an act of self defence in the economic warfare that the Arab states have lodged against us.

Other speakers have discussed the legality - or rather illegality - of complying with Arab economic warfare activities carried on in this country, or even outside this country, but in relation to US citizens or corporations. As far as I am informed, and in our opinion, compliance

by US citizens and residents with Arab boycott rules is illegal, both under international law and under domestic law, as well as immoral and contrary to US tradition and policy. It seems to me almost obvious that US firms, which cooperate with the Arabs in their efforts to boycott Israeli goods as well as businessmen who deal with Israel or in activities designed to damage Israel's economy, will find themselves involved in a legal action of one kind or another, whether anti-trust, violation of civil rights, non-disclosure of material information to shareholders, or under all or some of the statutes that have been referred to by other speakers. It should be noted, however, that in all such events it is not the fact that Israel has been the victim that gives the cause of action, but rather the cause of action is a violation of a legal principle of this country, a damage that has been caused to a person here, or the violation of rights of a person in this country. This would also explain why the Arab Boycott and discriminatory activities are a source of concern and reason for action in this country, in particular US Administration, the Congress and the various organizations concerned with the protection of civil rights and minority liberties.

In other words, warfare activities are carried on, in this country, by official and semi official representatives of the Arab countries, in addition to overt and covert activities undertaken by the Arabs through economic means or by economic coercion, by members of the business community and several US service bodies.

The question may be raised as to what legal right, as distinguished from a moral or political one, we have to request the US to combat the boycott activities including establishing certain policies, implementing domestic laws, and even introducing new legislation, all intended to combat the economic warfare lodged by the Arabs.

I have explicitly emphasized legal rights, since it is obvious that within the friendly relation which exist between Israel and the US one should expect that the US will do whatever feasible to eliminate hostile acts directed against Israel, in the form of participation by some members of the business community in the economic warfare.

The US and Israel agreed in various instances that the policy of the two governments is to oppose restrictive trade practices against countries friendly to either. Such opposition can be achieved only through appropriate steps to be undertaken in this country. We do not, however, rely on the statements alone, but also on a Treaty.

The US-Israel Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation provides in Article VII :

"Nationals and companies of either Party shall be accorded national treatment with respect to engaging in all types of commercial, industrial, financial and other activity for profit (business activities) within the territories of the other Party... "

Permitting the enforcement of boycott rules does limit this right. Article IX grants the right to acquire and dispose any type of property. The boycott limits these rights. Articles XIV and XVI grant MFN treatment to products produced in either country, and the boycott may make Israeli goods least favored. Therefore we have to refer to the remedies provided by the Treaty.

Art. XVIII provides :

" The two parties will, upon the request of either of them, have discussions regarding the actual prospective existence of business practices which may have harmful effects upon commerce between their respective territories; and each will take such measures as it deems appropriate with a view to eliminating such undesirable practices. Business practices which may have harmful effects are those which restrain competition, limit access to markets... and which are engaged in or made effective by one or more private or public commercial enterprises or by combination, agreement, or other arrangement among such enterprises."

The policy of Israel is therefore the one we may raise in such discussion. In order to understand the policy let us first discuss the various factors which may affect our policy -

- (a) The current impact of the boycott on Israel's economy is immaterial insofar as our request to take steps to eliminate it. The overriding principle is that no country friendly to us should permit hostile acts against us within its jurisdiction.

- (b) Since Arab activities, pressures and possible potentials and rewards have created awareness of the issue that may affect the future attitude of the business community, it is necessary that steps to curb possible future developments will be taken as early as possible.
- (c) Israel, as well as the US, are committed to the general principle that world progress can be achieved by a continued reliance on free economic markets, by promotion of a free, cooperative and open order of world trade - and therefore, to continue resistance, in principle, to the application of restrictive trade practices.
- (d) Awareness of the problem, but without proper information on its applicability, possible impact and effect, and the lack of informational and educational effort by the responsible bodies in the US, have created a voluntary boycott and shying away, by US interests, from business opportunities, that Israel has to offer, a matter that is neither justified by reason, nor by fact.
- (e) Progress toward peace in the Middle East will be achieved only by creating the right atmosphere of credibility, trust and recognition by all parties concerned that peaceful coexistence is feasible and practical. Any act, attitude or illusion that creates the impression that, at this stage, no possibility exists

to cooperate, at one and the same time, with the two adversaries in the Middle East, that business identification must be with one of the parties only, is harmful to the effort to achieve peace in our area.

These factors stated above determined our policy to be as follows -

- (a) We believe that ways and means should be found to enhance commercial intercourse between Israel and the Arabs even before a formal peace is established. In fact, economic cooperation and commercial activities have since WW II, in almost all cases, preceded a formal peace between former enemies.
- (b) We oppose the notion that economic activity can be undertaken in one of the camps only. We welcome every party willing to do business with us, whether he has business interests in Arab world or not. We do not believe in counter boycotting of any kind. We do not request as others, that volume or extent of doing business with us should have a size relative to the size and extent of business somewhere else.
- (c) We believe it is necessary to fight boycotting activities advocated, forced or advocated by others. A nation cannot, and should not, tolerate its being considered a pariah and unwanted in a business community or any segment thereof. A country should resist any attempt to be defined as a second rate citizen, with whom you do business in the back alley only.

- (d) We are a sovereign nation entitled to equal treatment. We do not want to be singled out in any way or form. Therefore, we object that within the jurisdiction of friendly nations businessmen should be required, by hostile forces, to submit information not required about other nations.
- (e) It is intolerable that hostile activities by other should be carried out against us by threat or economic coercion. We have to fight this practice and in this connection we oppose our being singled out by any one, in any manner, in connection with business transactions carried on with us, or as a matter of fact, in connection with business transacted with third parties.

We are in full agreement with the US Government that boycotting activities in this country against us are intolerable. The State Department declared in a release of April 2, 1975 that "the US opposes the Arab Boycott. We do not support or condone it in any way".

This declaration is in accordance with the policy embodied in Sec. 3(5) of the Export Administration Act which provides :

- (1) The policy of the US is to oppose boycotts fostered or imposed against other countries friendly to the US, and
- (2) to encourage and request domestic concerns in the export trade to refuse to take any action, including furnishing of information or signing agreements, which has the effect of furthering or supporting such boycotts.

There are, however, more than one opinion on the most appropriate steps to be taken at this time to combat the boycott. In this context I would like to comment on some of the statements forwarded by Administration spokesmen :

The US position is basically that without in any way affecting the friendship between US and Israel (a) the boycott issue can be solved only within the framework of a peace settlement in the ME; (b) steps to be taken now by the US may create confrontation with the Arab world; (c) the interests of the US business community are in the Arab markets, and creating the situation that they could not comply with the Arab boycott rules will jeopardize their competitiveness in the Arab markets.

This position has been demonstrated today in Secretary's Baker speech where he said: "The questions (of the boycott are) intertwined with some of the most vital interests of the US".

These interests include - "The paramount issue of peace... we (the US) do not believe that actions such as the boycott, which increase tension, are in the best interest of any of the countries involved... on the other hand... these interests are not served by precipitous or emotional reactions... which could produce a climate of confrontation... second, one of the issues involved is 'our national security'. Since sixty percent of the known oil reserves are in the Middle East a cut off from those suppliers... could have adverse implications for the US national security".

There is an "enduring friendship for the State of Israel", but there are "important economic considerations". The Arab countries now represent the fastest growing market in the world economy. US exports to the Arab countries more than tripled in the past three years, reaching \$5.3 billion, (and) are expected to exceed 10 bil. \$ before 1980.

This, in the words of Secretary Baker represent jobs... but also "we serve the interests of both sides - both economic and political... to the extent that transfers of superior American technology and products help these countries to develop and raise the living standards of their people. Efforts to expand (the US) commercial relations with the Arab countries, more than just a cynical chase after the Petrodollar..."

With due respect to the honorable speaker, who clearly expounded his bona fide thoughts, I beg to differ -

First, we cannot believe the argument that US foreign and internal policy are so vulnerable. Is it really true that the dependency on Arab oil has made the US subject to coercion by others, so that the US is unable to maintain its way of life? Is it really conceivable that the US has lost its position in the world and at home which makes the US so big and so strong? Is there no world freedom of determination, freedom of choice and equal opportunity? It is hard to believe! And if so, is it really true that only the freedom to seek business opportunity in Israel is jeopardized? Thus, is the price of assurance of oil supply really not

only trading with Israel but, may be, tomorrow, the State of Israel itself and then after tomorrow, the well being of the US and the world?

I am afraid that even the speaker would not like to agree with his argument.

Second, is fighting for better business relationship, where Israeli and Arab business interests may eventually get indirectly together, affecting the chances for peace?

We would think that this should be one of the means to be used toward peace. If today there exists mistrust and hatred, the way to choose is the one which may get people together. We prefer open bridges rather than stonewalling.

Thirdly, it is legitimate to question whether there will really be a confrontation between the Arab world and the US in the event the US takes appropriate steps against the enforcement of the Arab boycott in the US? Undoubtly, Arab Governments just as probably they have done in the past, will express their opposition and present their protest, against future steps, but it is hardly believable that a confrontation which may either weaken the US-Arab relationship or have recognizeable impact on US business will result. Let us look at this very important point with respect to two countries Egypt and Saudi-Arabia

First, Egypt. It is evident from the various discussions taking place on economic cooperation between the US and Egypt that Egypt is interested in US investments, know-how and managerial capabilities. Would Egypt turn its back on all this, if US business, as a rule, does not discriminate against Israel and carries on business with Israel? Of course, they may be able to discriminate against companies which do business with Israel, as long as they are able to find out, when companies are permitted to inform the Egyptian authorities about their relationship with Israel and as long as the US will tolerate this. But should they? Furthermore, clearly when US public monies are involved, the US will be in a position to ascertain that non-discriminatory practices will be adopted.

With regard to Saudi-Arabia the situation seems to be different. Because of their wealth they might have the freedom of choice. However, even here it seems to be otherwise. The implementation of the ambitious development plan of the country, as well as their regrettable arms purchase program, require close connection and access to the US market. Furthermore, in many areas US industry and business are the leaders. Is it reasonable to believe that they will prevent themselves from utilizing this market because of its relationship with Israel? In fact, speakers from that country have said time and again that their national interest to get the best available goods and services will prevail.

Furthermore, it was stated in a joint communique between the US and Saudi-Arabia as follows :

"In reviewing the atmosphere within which economic relations between the two countries have been progressing, the Saudi side reiterated the Saudi Government's position concerning the League of Arab States' boycott of Israel, it reaffirmed that this boycott is a non-violent economic measure which is a product of the absence of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East; that it is not based on any form of discrimination relating to race, color, religion, national origin, sex or age; and that ever since it was started in the late 1940's, this boycott was not - and is not today - intended against the United States. The Saudi side further expressed its hope that the existing and potential economic cooperation between the two countries will not be disrupted by any misinterpretation of the Arab boycott of Israel. The American side was pleased with the reaffirmation of this policy of not discriminating on the basis of race, color, religion, sex and national origin. The American side further noted that President Ford's statement of November 20, 1975 with respect to discrimination and subsequent executive actions were not directed against any particular country. Both sides agreed to make these policies more widely understood and further agreed that any action based on misinterpretation of this policy could hinder cooperation between both countries."

These arguments of course are valid for the other Arab countries as well. Thus, I believe that introducing the relationship with Israel as a factor in the competitiveness of US industry vis-a-vis the rest of the world is not substantiated.

I would like to add that, of course, if participation in boycotting of Israel is permissible, then it becomes part of the competition between US firms - but is this the kind of competition which should be tolerated? It is the kind of competition which is contrary to US tradition and should be eliminated.

What would we like to achieve - We would like to see that US firms are able to do business in all parts of the region. We would like that companies should not be deterred from doing business with us because of their

business interests in the Arab world or because of their hopes to do business there in the future. On the other hand, we hope that companies which are actively engaged in business in Israel today or may be so in the future will not be discriminated against because of this, and no retaliatory steps should be taken for doing business with Israel.

Therefore, all we ask is that US Government should protect US business so that it can maximize its profits and avail itself of all opportunities equally.

This can be achieved in various ways -

First by direct approach to the Governments concerned. This, as far as we know, is being done. The degree of success is evident from declarations made by spokesmen of the Administration.

In another area, we ask the USG to create the situation whereby companies here shall not be able to participate in the implementation of the boycott rules, and among this we include - (a) refraining either explicitly or implied, from doing business with Israel because of considerations not connected with business or economics; (b) answering questions specifically concerning relations with Israel or Israeli firms.

In addition, steps should be taken so that the USG itself and its agencies should not participate, in any way or form, in furthering boycott activities.

We believe that these ends can be achieved in various ways -

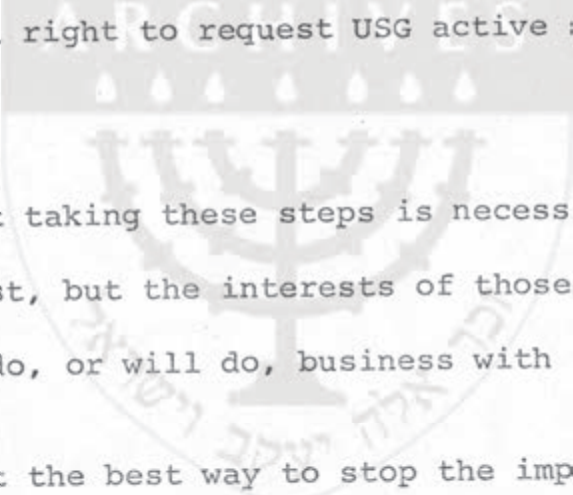
- (a) An educational process through which US business should be told the facts, and should be encouraged to further non-discriminatory policies.
- (b) By introducing legislation that will eliminate the necessity for companies to decide whether to follow boycott practices or not, and make all turn down boycotting requests and reinstate equality.
- (c) By more forcibly protecting the interests of US business through reducing the possibility of foreigners utilizing US advantages, while otherwise discriminating against US business.

We have followed with interest and are appreciative of the many suggestions for legislation and the other legal steps taken or proposed to be taken. However, we believe that simple legislation to the point is the only meaningful solution which eventually will have to be pursued. Otherwise, the complexities of the situation will deter the business community from doing business in the Middle East altogether.

Having said this I cannot close my eyes to other activities undertaken in this country by various civic groups, in particular Jewish, which fight against the boycott. We, of course, support this action and appreciate all the steps that they take, since it serves our purpose and assists in reaching the goals we have set ourselves.

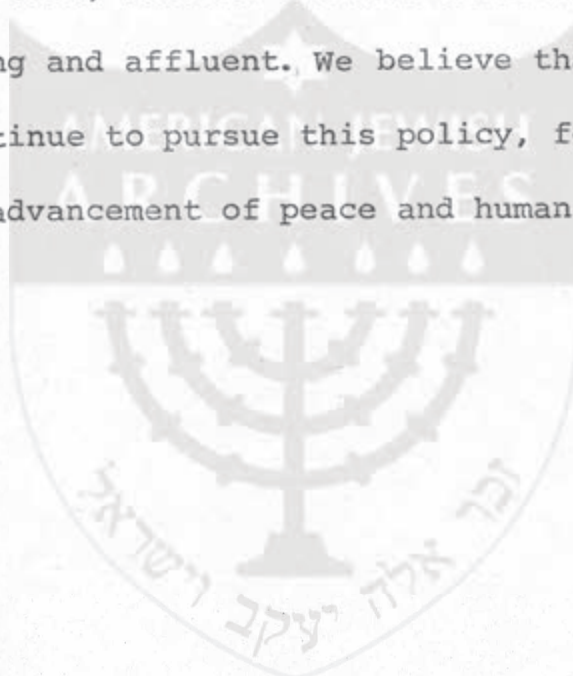
However, it must be understood that the basic philosophy and justification for their activity is much broader than our own, and exceeds our "narrow" interests. Their campaigns are not intended solely to preserve the legitimate interests of Israel, but as American, protect the American tradition of non-discrimination, equality of opportunity and free competition. Therefore, their activity must not necessarily be identified with ours, but should rather be identified with the struggle here to maintain the spirit of the Constitution and American way of life.

To sum up -

- 
- A large, semi-transparent watermark is centered on the page. It features a Star of David at the top, followed by the text "AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES" in a serif font. Below the text is a menorah, and at the bottom, there is Hebrew text: "ארכיון יהודי אמריקני".
- (1) We have a legal right to request USG active steps against the boycott;
 - (2) We believe that taking these steps is necessary not only to protect our own interest, but the interests of those in the US business community who do, or will do, business with us;
 - (3) We believe that the best way to stop the implementation of boycott rules in this country, or by people of this country, is by legislation;
 - (4) According to our assesment, the benefits from adopting this policy are greater and more advantageous than any possible damage from retaliatory steps that might possibly be taken by the Arabs;

- (5) Eventually opposition to the boycott may create new bridges and avenues for communication between the nations of the Middle East and thus assist in bringing the peace we all long for;
- (6) We believe that US firms will only benefit from doing business with us as well as with others and many opportunities are now lost for US business and industry.

American tradition, freedom and non-discriminatory practices made the US so strong and affluent. We believe that it is strong enough today to continue to pursue this policy, for its own benefit, as well as for the advancement of peace and human society.



July 29, 1976

Mr. Eli Ayal
17 Jabotinsky St.
Jerusalem
Israel

Dear Eli:

I finally returned to the states. Yehuda is still gamboling about Europe, although he expects to be back in the states toward the end of this week.

We did enjoy our Israel journey much. The spirit was so different this time round, understandably enough. I hope that it will persist.

Rhea and I found our evening in your home a highlight of our journey. You are both so warm and wonderful and we respond to you in like manner. I hope you feel that. It was certainly thoughtful of you to extend yourself and we are both beholden to you and Miriam.

How did the television show go? Yehuda gave me a positive response but I can never really believe him. He hates to make me feel bad. In any event, for your sake more than mine I hope that it came across well.

Again, my thanks for everything you did and my admiration for what you are.

Affectionately,

Alexander M. Schindler

July 28, 1976

Mr. Don Patir, Press Minister
Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Prime Minister's Office
Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Don:

Just a note to let you know how grateful I
am for all your helpfulness. You were most
thoughtful in every way.

Rhea and I were really unhappy that we couldn't
stay for your party. Yehuda told me how very
beautiful it was. Another time!

My best to you and yours. Hopefully we will be
seeing one another soon. Cordial greetings to
your wife, in which Rhea joins me.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

AMS:tb

July 28, 1976

Mr. Jeffrey Paul
Jewish Chronicle
25 Furnival Street
London, E.C. 4A 1JT

Dear Jeffrey:

Just a note to let you know how nice it was to see you and to have a chance to chat with you. It seems to me, at least, that we are reasonably well attuned to one another.

Hopefully something will transpire along the lines which we discussed for our Presidents Conference journey. If you have some thoughts, write me or Yehuda.

Keep well and warm good wishes.

Cordially,

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

AMS:tb

c.c: Mr. Yehuda Hellman

July 28, 1976

The Honorable Zeev Suffot,
Consul General
Embassy of Israel
2 Palace Green
London, W.8, England

Dear Zeev:

Just a note to tell you how good it was to see you. I found your briefing on British Jewry and its commitment to Israel most constructive.

Of course, I am most grateful to you for your personal courtesies.

Cordially,

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

AMS:tb

June 14, 1976

Mr. Bernard Edelman
22730 N. Nottingham Drive
Birmingham, Mich. 48010

Dear Mr. Edelman:

Your letter of June 9th has just reached me and I hasten to respond. I want to thank you for taking the time to write and share your concerns.

I also want to assure you that the American Jewish community has not given up either its initiative or its determination in seeking proper press perspective as well as coverage for our point of view. As a matter of fact, I would venture to say that we are even more united as a community in this effort than we have ever been before.

As you know, the Presidents' Conference represents all of the major American Jewish organizations. We seek to discuss issues and events and act as a community when it is required for us to do so. Oftentimes, we may act privately rather than publicly to seek prompt and proper attention and action. I assure you, we are doing our utmost in every area of endeavor. You should also know that when matters come to our attention which do not fall within the purview of the Presidents' Conference, those matters are shared with the proper organizations for action.

With kindest greetings, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler, Rabbi
Chairman

Bernard Edelman
22730 N. NOTTINGHAM DRIVE
BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN 48010

June 9, 1976

Conference of Presidents of
Major American Jewish Organizations
515 Park Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10022

Gentlemen:

Jews appear to be losing both the initiative and determination necessary to help put events in their proper perspective. There appears to be a lesser effort at a time when an even greater dedication is required.


I had occasion to write to two national Jewish organizations about important matters and got no response from either.

Spokesmen for Arab views, on the other hand, appear to be taking some initiative and getting more attention.

In recent days headlines such as "Israelis kill Arab boy" and "Israelis kill Arab school girl" have appeared as news headlines by Associated Press. Such headlines do not tell the total story and serve to harm the Israeli image.

There should be a clearing house so that sound ideas can be quickly funneled to the proper organization for prompt action. We have no time to lose.

Cordially yours,



Bernard Edelman

BE:lb

June 14, 1976

Dear Joachim:

Thank you for your note of June 9th. I, too, regret that you are unable to be at the Presidents' Conference meeting tomorrow, for I would much have wanted our leadership to have an opportunity to hear from you. Perhaps at some other time we will have a chance to have you with us.

Undoubtedly, we will be seeing each other in Israel in a few weeks and I look forward to that. In the meantime, Rhea joins me in sending warmest regards from house to house.

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

Rabbi Joachim Prinz
306 Elmwynd Drive
Orange, N.J. 07050

JOACHIM PRINZ

June 9, 1976

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

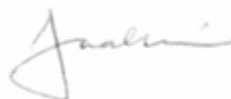
Dear Alex:

I can't tell you how sorry I am that I had to cancel my speaking engagement. For very personal reasons I have to leave on the 14th and had to cancel not merely my meeting with the Presidents Conference but also several important meetings with the World Jewish Congress.

I was very much looking forward to appearing before the Presidents Conference. A public debate of the issues is long overdue, but, unfortunately, if I am ever to appear it will have to be postponed until I return in the fall.

With every good wish for a healthy summer, I
am

Yours,



I for regret etc

May 10, 1976

Mr. Walter P. Stern
Capital Research Company
299 Park Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Wallie:

I'm just back from a week of travel and found the promised copy of the American Jewish Committee memorandum awaiting me. Many thanks for your thoughtfulness in sharing it with me.

It was good meeting with you and I am grateful to you for taking the time from your very busy schedule to chat. It was a most helpful get together.

With repeated thanks and warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

AMERICAN BUSINESS CAN WELL AFFORD TO SAY NO TO BOYCOTT DEMANDS

A Background Memorandum

With petrodollars continuing to flow like oil into the coffers of the Arab oil nations, U.S. companies are vying for business opportunities in Arab lands. Does that mean they have to bow to Arab boycott pressures? Most evidence indicates this does not follow at all.

Acquiescence in the Arab boycott against Israel not only calls for refusal to buy from, sell to or invest in the Jewish state; it also requires a willingness to discriminate against American Jewish manufacturers, suppliers, subcontractors, investors--even against Jewish board members, executives, managers and technological experts. The U.S. Government, the American business community and the many civic and religious groups that keep watch over American policies and practices have all made it clear that they are not prepared to agree to such demands.

The Export Administration Act of 1969 declares it the policy of the U.S. "to oppose restrictive trade practices or boycotts fostered or imposed by foreign countries against other countries friendly to the U.S." The Sherman Anti-Trust Act prohibits restraint of trade. Employment discrimination violates the Federal Civil Rights Law as well as numerous other Federal, state and local statutes. And new laws and regulations are under consideration to tighten restrictions and increase the penalties against companies complying with boycott demands.

To counter this trend, a new series of rumors seem to have been floated by the Arabs and their friends. Anti-boycott requirements, it is said, are costing American companies contracts, investment capital and orders. Is this true? The widely respected Mitchell, Hutchins Inc., in a report issued in August 1975 analyzing OPEC Expenditures: Size, Timing, Nature and Beneficiaries, points out that the largest current OPEC markets are Iran, Venezuela and Indonesia--none of them involved in the boycott. And The New York Times, in a report from Paris dated April 4, 1976, notes that the Netherlands and the United States--special targets of the 1973 Arab oil embargo because of their pro-Israel stance--both increased their exports to the Mideast in 1974 and 1975, while France, its pro-Arab policies notwithstanding, has fallen behind. The same pragmatism marks most of the Arabs' business dealings.

By far the largest Arab purchases in the U.S. involve military weapons, hardware and parts. As of March 1976, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was authorized to subcontract and supervise the building of \$18 billion-worth of military facilities in Saudi Arabia alone. There are 3,000 Saudis studying in the U.S., and many of that country's highest officials were educated here. The Saudis are buying 110 Northrop F-5E jet fighters, and want our tanks, anti-tank missiles and armored personnel carriers. Only American companies can provide the technology for this sophisticated equipment, and the personnel to teach the Arabs how to use and maintain it. A decision to shift this business to other countries because U.S. companies will not bow to the boycott would mean not only scrapping and replacing expensive equipment but retraining pilots, aircraft technicians and artillerymen as well as essential civilian workers--an enormous waste of petrodollars. And in sparsely populated countries like Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, the limited labor supply would make such a switch particularly difficult and unlikely.

Of course, military supplies are not all the Arabs buy. In the next few years they are expected to increase their imports from the West in order to build schools, housing, hospitals and other facilities their countries are now lacking. For these goods and services too, the Arab states are most likely to look to the U.S., for neither Japan nor Europe nor both together have the industrial capacity to meet this high-priority need. "Despite anti-American sentiment in some of the Near and Middle East countries through the past decade, and sharp Japanese and European competition, there is marked preference for American products," Mitchell, Hutchins declares. "U.S. products are often the standard by which all other industrial machinery, transport equipment and consumer durable goods are evaluated." In the two most dynamic markets, Iran and Saudi Arabia, no single supplier is dominant, the study indicates, "but the U.S. has a commanding leading position in both of these countries."

Virtually all the Saudi development plans have been worked out by American experts and are based on contracts with American firms; many are already being implemented. Thus, a shift to other suppliers could cripple expensive projects under way. Indeed, as U.S. News and World Report reported in February 1976, despite their insistence on boycott compliance, the Saudis are worried that some large American firms will avoid business deals that may conflict with American law.

American equity markets also enjoy a special advantage. The Arabs are cautious investors, very much concerned with the diversity, stability and safety of their holdings, and the American capital market is the largest and most liquid in the world, more capable of accommodating big investments than any other. OPEC nations invested about \$1.5 billion in U.S. equities in 1975, up sharply from \$360 million in 1974. There was also a large increase in the flow of Arab money into U.S. Treasury notes, bank certificates of deposit, corporate stocks and bonds, real estate and other instruments.

The dollar, despite its vicissitudes in recent years, remains the most important reserve currency in international finance. As large holders of dollar-denominated securities, it is doubtful that the Arabs would follow a money policy that could do damage to their own wealth. But even if they chose to place their funds in foreign markets, that money would still be available to borrowers here. And realistically, as an Arab banker said in an interview reported in Business Week (March 15, 1976), even if there is no direct contact, a "pro-Israel" bank cannot with any certainty be eliminated from an underwriting: "It's like driving a train. You can choose who is going to run it, but you can't select the passengers."

Further, as Mitchell, Hutchins documents, while OPEC purchases of Western goods and services have increased sharply since 1973, "exports to the oil-producing countries still occupy only a small place in the trading activities of the developed world. [In 1974] exports to OPEC represented only about 5.5 per cent of total OECD exports." If the U.S. maintains its current market share, such OPEC purchases "could represent about 0.7 of 1 per cent of GNP in 1976." Similarly, the \$1.5 billion the Arab states invested in equities here is a minuscule portion of the well over \$800 billion in shares on U.S. stock exchanges.

It is also evident that when the Arab states need American goods, services or know-how they are ready to overlook or evade their own boycott rules. Many American companies--including IBM, TRW, General Electric, Textron, General Telephone and Electronics, Raytheon, McDonnell Douglas, United Aircraft, TWA, Boeing, Hilton, Hertz, Avis--are doing business with both Israel and the Arab world. Ford, Bacon & Davis, a large engineering firm on Algeria's blacklist, was chosen by Saudi Arabia for a new \$4 million contract; and Air Products & Chemical, which is on the Saudi list, is supplying the technology for a big plant in Algeria. Egypt is negotiating with the Ford Motor Company, which has been on the Arab League blacklist since 1966, for a \$150 million joint venture to build diesel engines and assemble trucks and tractors, even though Ford has said it will not stop dealing with Israel.

At the same time, the Administration is clamping down on U.S. companies that violate the law by overt or covert boycott compliance. The Justice Department has filed a civil anti-trust suit against the Bechtel Corporation, a construction company charged with excluding blacklisted subcontractors from its Middle East work. The Government argues that an American company operating under U.S. law may not do harm to other Americans in order to comply with the business conditions set by a foreign state, and that consent to such practices is tantamount to relinquishing this nation's sovereign right to make the laws controlling our commerce.

Thus, it is clear that Arab boycott demands are likely to meet growing resistance on both legal and moral grounds. But there is little danger that American businesses rejecting those demands will suffer for standing firm.

NEWS

FROM THE

COMMITTEE

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE Institute of Human Relations, 165 E. 56 St., New York, N.Y. 10022, PLaza 1-4000

The American Jewish Committee, founded in 1906, is the pioneer human-relations agency in the United States. It protects the civil and religious rights of Jews here and abroad, and advances the cause of improved human relations for all people.

MORTON YARMON, Director of Public Relations

**FOR RELEASE AFTER 12 NOON
TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 1976**

NEW YORK, April 27. . . Three speakers at a news conference of the American Jewish Committee declared here today that the American economy would not be hurt if American business took a strong stand against the Arab boycott.

They were Peter B. Kenen, Professor of International Finance at Princeton University; Dr. Jess N. Hordes, Executive Director, Research Project on Energy and Economic Policy; and Daniel Shapiro, Chairman of the American Jewish Committee's Task Force on Arab Economic Warfare.

Professor Kenen said that despite "rumors that seem to have been floated by the Arabs and their friends," defiance of boycott requirements were not likely to cost American companies contracts, investment capital, or orders.

He pointed to the Netherlands and the United States, which he described as "special targets of the 1973 Arab oil embargo because of their pro-Israel stance," stating that both countries had increased their exports to the Mideast in 1974 and 1975, "while France, its pro-Arab policies notwithstanding, had fallen behind."

"The same pragmatism marks most of the Arabs' business dealings," he continued, arguing that the Arab states apparently were prepared to overlook or evade their own boycott rules when they needed American goods. He added that many companies were doing business with both Israel and the Arab world, among them: IBM, TRW, General Electric, Textron, General Telephone and Electronics, Raytheon, McDonnell Douglas, United Aircraft, TWA, Boeing, Hilton, Hertz and Avis.

Elmer L. Winter, President; Richard Maass, Chairman, Board of Governors; Maynard I. Wishner, Chairman, National Executive Council; Theodore Ellenoff, Chairman, Board of Trustees
Bertram H. Gold, Executive Vice President

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CSAE 1707

Ford, Bacon & David, a large engineering firm on Algeria's blacklist, Professor Kenen said, was chosen by Saudi Arabia for a new \$4 million contract; and Air Products & Chemical, which is on the Saudi list, is supplying the technology for a big plant in Algeria. Egypt is negotiating with the Ford Motor Company, which has been on the Arab League blacklist since 1966, for a \$150 million joint venture to build diesel engines and assemble trucks and tractors, even though Ford said it would not stop dealing with Israel.

By far the largest Arab purchases in the United States involved military weapons, hardware and parts, Professor Kenen said, pointing out that "the Saudis are buying 110 Northrop F-5E jet fighters and want our tanks, anti-tank missiles and armored personnel carriers. Only American companies can provide the technology for this sophisticated equipment, and the personnel to teach the Arabs how to use and maintain it."

Any Arab decision to transfer this business to other countries, Professor Kenen said, would be expensive for the Arabs. Moreover, he added, the lack of skilled labor in countries like Saudi Arabia and Kuwait added to the difficulty of such a move.

Aside from their military purchases, Professor Kenen stated, the Arabs would undoubtedly want to increase their import of materials needed to build schools, housing, hospitals and other structures. Other countries cannot supply all the Arab needs in the quantities desired. On this point he quoted a report by Mitchell, Hutchins, Inc., a leading investment house, to the effect that U.S. products were considered by Middle East countries to be superior to any others.

With regard to Saudi Arabia, Professor Kenen stated that "virtually all the Saudi development plans have been worked out by American experts and are based on contracts with American firms; many are already being implemented. Thus, a shift to other suppliers could cripple expensive projects under way."

American equity markets were also favored in the Middle East, Professor Kenen said, because of their diversity, stability and safety. The American capital market, he said, is more capable than any other of accommodating large investments and OPEC countries

invested about \$1.5 billion in U.S. equities last year, a sharp rise from 1974's \$360 million.

Mr. Shapiro, a member of the New York Bar, stated that the American Jewish Committee did not believe that the only way to do business with the Arabs was to give in to demands that conflict with United States policy, and with Federal, state and local laws against unfair business practices.

"If the American people and the Congress, as they should, find corporate kickbacks and bribery and special favoritism unacceptable," Mr. Shapiro said, "even if it means some business deals are frustrated, we believe they must also find discrimination against Jewish companies, Jewish professionals, Jewish subcontractors equally unacceptable. And we will be supporting measures both national and local that make this position clear to all."

Dr. Hordes said that despite growing evidence of increased Arab boycott requests in the United States, the Ford Administration had opposed Congressional efforts to strengthen anti-boycott legislation.

"Concerned with adverse economic and foreign policy consequences in the Arab world," Dr. Hordes stated, "the Administration has objected to Congress's attempts to insure that implementing provisions reflect stated U.S. policy in opposition to the boycott. Although the Administration has indicated a willingness to act against boycott-induced religious discrimination against American Jews, it has opposed action to protect U.S. firms from the Arabs' secondary boycott against Israel."

The U.S. Government has maintained, Dr. Hordes asserted, that a solution to the secondary boycott must await a political settlement between the parties. In so doing, he said, the United States in effect acquiesces in and in a sense becomes a party to an instrument of Arab pressure against Israel.

4/27/76

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A, COL, EJP, NPE, NPL, NYL, NYS, PCR, REL, URB