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MS-630: Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler Digital Collection, 1953-1996.
Series B: Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, 1962-1996.

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Membership, 1963-1978.

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

February 27, 1978

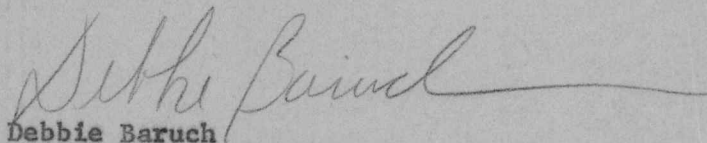
Mr. Richard Maas
President
The American Jewish Committee
165 East 56th Street
New York, NY 10022

Dear Mr. Maas:

Thank you for your recent letter to Rabbi Schindler. Unfortunately, it arrived during his absence in Israel, but on his return late next week, I will surely bring it to his attention.

Please accept this explanation in the interim. I am

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Debbie Baruch", followed by a long horizontal flourish line.

Debbie Baruch
Secretary to the President



THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

Institute of Human Relations • 165 East 56 Street, New York, N.Y. 10022 • 212/751-4000 • Cable Wishcom, N.Y.

February 23, 1978

*file
no answer*

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler
The Union of Hebrew Congregations
838 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10022

Dear Alex:

I have had an opportunity to report to our Board of Governors at its recent meeting your invitation to the American Jewish Committee to participate in the study process you are planning to initiate.

I am glad to report that the Board approved the Committee's participation in that process. At the same time they asked that it be made clear that in authorizing such action there was no implicit commitment to change our present status as observers within the Presidents Conference.

I look forward to seeing you upon my return from a brief vacation.

Cordially,

Richie

Richard Maass
President

RM/pcb

cc: Bertram H. Gold

RICHARD MAASS, President ■
MAYNARD I. WISNER, Chairman, Board of Governors ■ MORTON K. BLAUSTEIN, Chairman, National Executive Council ■ HOWARD I. FRIEDMAN, Chairman, Board of Trustees ■
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January 28, 1978

Mr. Harry S. Taubenfeld, Chairman
United Zionists-Revisionists of America, Inc.
41 East 42nd Street
New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Mr. Taubenfeld:

I am forwarding your letter of January 27 to Yehuda Hellman for handling.

As I have indicated to you in the past, I do not get involved in organizational aspects of day-to-day Presidents' Conference matters. The Executive Director and the Chairperson of the Membership Committee set sessions of that group.

With kindest greetings, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

cc: Yehuda Hellman

January 27, 1978

Mr. Morris Amitay
America-Israel Public Affairs Committee
444 North Capital Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Morrie:

As you may possibly know, the Jewish State legislators of our land have formed a National Association which provides Jewish State representatives and senators from many States with a forum where they can exchange experiences and information. They have a membership of several hundred legislators and they are a source of great potential usefulness to our work.

The current president is Senate President Matthew Feldman of New Jersey, 790 Grange Road, Teaneck, N.J. 07666. The Executive Director is Al Abrams, former Secretary of the New York Senate, who can be reached at the headquarters of the Association, 311 Hackett Boulevard, Albany, N.Y. 12208.

I would appreciate it if you were to assign a member of your staff to brief them regularly on issues - personally or by telephone or letter - in which they are vitally interested and in which they can help further our efforts.

Surely I don't have to tell you how important this group is in its potential, not only for its own sake in the help they can provide with State legislations, but both in contacts which they have with their respective parties and because of the fact that they are a breeding ground for future national leadership.

I'm counting on you to follow through on this.
With warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler
Chairman

cc: Senator Matthew Feldman
Mr. Yehuda Hellman

January 27, 1978

Mr. Albert Chernin
National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council
55 West 42nd Street
New York, New York 10036

Dear Al:

As you may possibly know, the Jewish State legislators of our land have formed a National Association which provides Jewish State representatives and senators from many States with a forum where they can exchange experiences and information. They have a membership of several hundred legislators and they are a source of great potential usefulness to our work.

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I'm counting on you to follow through on this. With warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler
Chairman

cc: Senator Matthew Feldman
Mr. Yehuda Hellman

January 27, 1978

Senator Matthew Feldman
790 Grange Road
Teaneck, N.J. 07666

Dear Senator Feldman:

It was good meeting you and your colleagues
the other day.

Enclosed are copies of my letters to the
America-Israel Public Affairs Committee and
the National Jewish Community Relations Ad-
visory Council. I hope that there will be
follow-up by the organizations for it can
be mutually beneficial to all concerned.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely,

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler
Chairman

Encl.

For adoption by the 50 state legislatures.
To be offered by members of the National Association
of Jewish Legislators through the leadership of each
state legislature.

SUGGESTED RESOLUTION ON THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF
ISRAEL'S ESTABLISHMENT AS A STATE

Whereas, thirty years ago the tiny nation of Israel was born out of the yearning of the Jewish people to return to their ancient homeland, out of the dire necessity to provide a refuge secure against possible reoccurrence of another Holocaust, and out of the sacrifices and hard labor and zeal of great Israeli leaders such as David Ben-Gurion, Golda Meier, Yitzchach Rabin, Menachem Begin, Chaim Weizman, Moshe Dayan and others, and

Whereas, the United States under the leadership of President Harry Truman provided the support that led the United Nations to accept the reality and legality of Israel as the homeland of the Jewish people, and

Whereas, since that historic period of the creation of the state of Israel that nation has been a foremost bastion of strength for democratic ideals, representative government, and democratic practices, and

Whereas, since that historic period Israel has been a strong front-line in the American effort to curb Soviet imperialism in the Middle East, and

Whereas, despite the enormous portions of her national budget and sustenance that has had to be committed to defense, despite the horrendous toll that wars have taken of her sons, Israel has succeeded in raising the standard of living and quality of life of her people beyond that of any other people of the Middle East, and

Whereas, despite the many years during which her enemies have surrounded her with overwhelming ground forces and air forces, Israel has maintained a courageous stance reminiscent of our own history when we were confronted with superior British forces in our colonial period, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the legislature of (insert _____) does hereby salute the State of Israel, pay tribute to its courage, express support for its constancy in fighting for democratic ideals, voice its admiration for its quest for peace despite numerous obstacles and for what it has done to make the desert bloom with fruit and flowers and trees and for what it has done to make the hearts of mankind soar with hope that justice will prevail, that the right can overcome might, that all the children of God can live together in peace.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LEGISLATORS

311 Hackett Boulevard
Albany, New York 12208

WHAT IT IS

The National Association of Jewish Legislators, founded in 1977, is designed as a loose-knit organization of state legislators of Jewish descent, to provide an occasional forum where they may exchange experiences and information, and provide a forum for the Israeli Ambassador to the United States, our own United States Department of State officials and others on matters affecting Israel.

It will serve as a quick referral source for any Jewish legislator seeking information, pro or con, on any issue affecting Jews, and act as a channel of communication between legislators and Jewish national groups, if asked. It is expected to serve as a data bank on issues pertinent to Jewish legislators, and issue from time to time a newsletter.

It is expected to be a strong supporter of Israel. Hopefully it will give Jewish legislators from small states and large states a sense of identity with each other. It will be a voice that will be heard for protection of the human rights of Jews wherever they may be assailed or discriminated against.

WHAT IT IS NOT

It is not a caucus. It doesn't seek power. It will have no "line". It will not take stands on particular legislation or specific bills. It is a non-profit, educational organization. It recognizes that Jewish legislators, represent a diversity of Jewish background, a diversity of constituencies, and often differ on many domestic issues. It will therefore not take stands on issues which divide the Jewish community, whether orthodox, conservative or reform.

WHO ORGANIZED IT

A mid-west legislative leader came to Al Abrams, then Chairman of the National Legislative Conference and said, "Why don't you get the Jewish Legislators together?" The idea lingered in his mind and when he retired as Secretary of the New York Senate, he approached Senate President Matthew Feldman of New Jersey and Senate Majority Leader Joseph Lieberman of Connecticut and New York Assembly Speaker Stanley Steingut to gain their views. They were enthusiastic and agreed to become founders.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS INCLUDE:

Publications:

A newsletter will be issued periodically.
Information on Israeli issues will be sent periodically; informative, analytical.
Periodic issue briefs will provide **pro and con** data.

Conferences:

The organization will meet once a year at the same time and place as the National Conference of State Legislatures.
It will also meet once a year in Washington with the Israeli Ambassador, U.S. State Department officials, and Congressional leaders.

Missions to Israel:

It will help arrange study missions to Israel, provide introductions to Knesset officials, and help in arranging for Knesset officials to visit your state legislature.

Information and Referral:

It will set up a data bank of material so that any member who seeks information on any pertinent issue will have access to such information without charge or will have such information sent to him by relevant Jewish organizations which may already have such data.

CHARTER MEMBER

MEMBERSHIP CARD

National Association of Jewish Legislators
311 Hackett Blvd., Albany, N.Y. 12208

Hon

Dues Paid. 1977

Keep this stub for your record



National Association of Jewish Legislators
311 Hackett Blvd., Albany, N.Y. 12208

Yes, sign me up as a Charter Member. I think I can make the August 2 - 4 meeting in Detroit.....

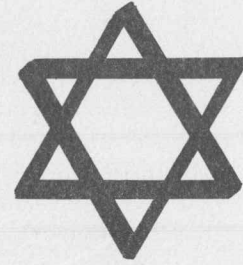
Enclosed please find check for \$5 to help get the organization rolling.....

The best mailing address for me is.

Name

street and number state and zip

() Senate () Assembly



Your

**NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION
OF
JEWISH
LEGISLATORS**

January 25, 1978

Mrs. Toby Willig, President
Hapoel Hamizrachi Womens' Organizations
370 Seventh Avenue - Suite 11 N
New York, New York 10001

Dear Mrs. Willig:

Your letter of January 18 has just come to my attention and I regret that so much time has gone by with no response to your organizations application for membership.

As you know, I have not been involved in the membership process and requests for affiliation are handled by Yehuda Hellman and the Membership Committee. At this time, when my own chairmanship will be coming to an end, I feel it would be improper for me to undertake the responsibilities of the Membership Committee. Thus, I am sending your letter on to Yehuda Hellman and I will ask him to move towards a determination in regard to Hapoel Hamizrachi Womens' Organization's application.

With every good wish and warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler
Chairman

cc: Mr. Yehuda Hellman



AMIZRACHI

WOMENS' ORGANIZATION

370 SEVENTH AVENUE SUITE 11 N NEW YORK, N.Y. 10001 TELEPHONE (212) 564-9045
AFFILIATED WITH NATIONAL RELIGIOUS WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION—N.R.W.O.

National President
Toby Willig

January 18, 1977

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

Dear Rabbi Schindler:

Hapoel Hamizrachi Women's Organization has been applying for membership in the Presidents Conference since June of 1975. I am writing to you now requesting a meeting with yourself and a small committee of our topmost executives to discuss this entire matter.

In May of 1977, we re-submitted all pertinent information as requested by the Presidents Conference. We certainly qualify for full membership. As yet, the Membership Committee has not been convened. It is imperative that we meet to discuss this entire situation which pains us greatly. We are troubled and dismayed that our request for membership goes unanswered.

We read and know of your personal outstanding record as the head of the Presidents Conference for which you have earned the admiration of ourselves and of the American Jewish community at large. We realize how busy you are. Nevertheless, we urgently appeal to you to please set aside a time slot for us. I sincerely hope that I will hear from you shortly.

I express my best wishes for your continued success in your multi-faceted endeavors for all of Israel.

Cordially yours,

Mrs. Toby Willig
National President

TW:ms

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Rivka Friedman
Yetta Weg
Honey Weiss
Ruth Levin

*deceased

November 11, 1977

Mr. Harry S. Taubenfeld
123 Grove Avenue
Cedarhurst, N.Y. 11516

Dear Mr. Taubenfeld:

Your letter of November 8 in regard to the membership application of the UZRA has just reached me. I am forwarding it to Mrs. Charlotte Jacobson, who chairs the Membership Committee of the Presidents' Conference, and am asking her to follow-up on this matter.

With kindest greetings, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler
Chairman

cc: Mrs. Charlotte Jacobson
Yehuda Hellman

November 2, 1977

Ms. Naomi Levine
American Jewish Congress
15 East 84th Street
New York, N.Y. 10028

Dear Naomi:

In response to your query regarding the presence of Mr. Taubenfeld at the recent Presidents' Conference meeting, to the best of my knowledge he was representing the American Zionist Federation. As you can appreciate, we have no control over selection of representatives to meetings by our constituents unless the session is one to which only presidents and executive directors are to be invited. You may be certain he was not invited to represent the Revisionists.

With kindest greetings, I am

Sincerely,

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler
Chairman

cc: Yehuda Hellman

AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS



STEPHEN WISE CONGRESS HOUSE • 15 EAST 84TH STREET • NEW YORK, N. Y. 10028 • (212) 879-4500

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

October 21, 1977

Rabbi Alexander Schindler
Presidents Conference
515 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10022

Dear Alex:

Dick Cohen told me about the attack on you and Rabbi Hertzberg by Beinish Epstein and the charges of "betrayal" by Mr. Taubenfeld of the Revisionists. I have sent the attached letter to Beinish Epstein. But I am more disturbed about the presence at our Presidents Conference table of spokesmen for an organization (the Revisionists) that is not a constituent member. By what right does he sit there? Who authorizes his presence? Who gave him the right to speak?

I would appreciate it if you would call when you have a moment to discuss this with me. I have tried to reach you but I know you are inordinately busy. Perhaps you and Yehuda and I could meet on this, at an appropriate time.

Sincerely,

Naomi

Naomi Levine

enc.

cc: Yehuda Hellman

*sub 7027
NJ/eq.*

October 20, 1977

Mr. Beinish Epstein
Zionist Organization of America
4 East 34th Street
New York, New York 10016

Dear Mr. Epstein:

I was disturbed to hear of your public criticism of Dr. Hertzberg at the President's Conference last week, not only because of what you said but of where you said it.

Dr. Hertzberg does not need me or anyone else to defend his record as a Zionist and his commitment to the State of Israel. Only the most uninformed and ignorant would question his lifelong devotion to and his work on behalf of Israel. Nor does the American Jewish Congress need me to defend its record as an outspoken advocate of the right of Israel to live and survive in peace and security. Even before the state was founded and long before this was a popular American Jewish position, the AJCongress spoke out unequivocally on this issue.

As for our comments on the U.S.-Soviet agreement, may I suggest that you read the enclosed statement which assailed this declaration as a major reversal of U.S. policy that "brings into question the reliability of our country's solemn international obligations." In that statement Dr. Hertzberg declared further:

We deeply regret that the U.S. has now appeared to join with the USSR in a disastrous alteration of the terms of the Geneva Conference that elevates the Palestinians to the status of a party and that confers upon them 'legitimate rights'--'rights' which those who claim to speak for the Palestinians have defined to mean the liquidation of the State of Israel.

Following the issuance of that release Dr. Hertzberg was in touch with the White House criticizing the President and urging that

October 20, 1977

he clarify the U.S.-Soviet statement making clear that the U.S. believes that any Geneva Conference must be bound by UN Resolution 242 and that there would be no imposed peace on Israel. When President Carter included those two points in his UN speech we felt that sound political strategy called for us to acknowledge this acceptance of our posture. We believe in "yelling" when the President or any political figure says or does anything about which we disagree. But it is equally important to acknowledge when he accedes to our wishes and demands. In any event, the AJCongress prides itself in its knowledge and effectiveness as to the utilization of the political process.

As for your bringing this attack before the President's Conference, I believe you did a disservice to the coordinating process. The President's Conference exists in order to bring together diverse views and opinions in American Jewish life and attempt to work out a consensus and agreement so that we can all bring our total strength to bear on behalf of Israel. It is not a forum for divisive, acrimonious personal attacks that do nothing to help the unity of the Jewish community. If you were critical of anything that Dr. Hertzberg or the AJCongress said or did and if you were truly interested in arguing substance and tactic, you should have called me or Dr. Hertzberg for a meeting and then as adults we could have discussed this matter in an intelligent and serious fashion.

I would hope that in the future you would bear this in mind.

Sincerely,

Naomi Levine

enc.

cc: Rabbi A. Schindler



United Zionists - Revisionists Inc.

HERUT U. S. A. — ברית חרות-הצה"ר

41 E 42nd St., New York, N. Y. 10017 • Phone 697-8450 • Cable Revzion

CHAIRMAN:
Harry Taubenfeld

NATIONAL SECRETARY:
Morris Giloni

September 29, 1977

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

Dear Rabbi:

In July, Menahem Begin, the Prime Minister of the State of Israel, spoke before the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

At that time, he stated that there were four points behind which almost all the people of the State of Israel were united. These points are:

- 1 - The need for defensible boundaries.
- 2 - The right for Israel to negotiate its own Peace Treaty with its Arab neighbors.
- 3 - The right for Israel not to negotiate with the P.L.O., whose objective is to abolish the State of Israel.
- 4 - The right of Jews to live anywhere in the world, including Judea and Samaria.

Subsequently, I attended two additional meetings, one where we were greeted by the former Foreign Minister of the State of Israel, Abba Eban, and another meeting last week, when Moshe Dayan gave us a briefing. The one thing that was clear at all these meetings was that there was unanimity on the part of all the speakers as to the importance of the support by American Jews for these positions. It seems odd to me that the Conference of Presidents has not, as yet seen fit to publicly state its position that it supports Menahem Begin and the State of Israel specifically on these four elementary yet crucial points.

Rabbi Schindler

-2-

September 29, 1977

I am, therefore, writing this letter to you, and forwarding copies to all constituent organizations asking that we join together and place an ad in all the major American Newspapers, stating how strongly we support these positions, and calling upon President Carter and all the citizens of the United States to do the same.

Your response and expedient handling of this position would be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,



Harry S. Taubenfeld,
Chairman - UZRA

HST/ay

ההסתדרות הציונית העולמית — אגף אמריקאי
WORLD ZIONIST ORGANIZATION
American Section, Inc.

M E M O R A N D U M

October 3, 1977

TO: Rabbi Alexander Schindler - Mr. Yehuda Hellman
FROM: Mrs. Charlotte Jacobson
SUBJECT: LETTER FROM MR. TAUBENFELD OF THE UNITED ZIONISTS REVISIONISTS OF AMERICA

I received a copy of the letter sent to Rabbi Schindler by Mr. Taubenfeld, the Chairman of the United Zionists Revisionists of America. Frankly, I found this a political ploy for these are the same four points that were the basis of the Rabin Government. We did not issue public statements at that time and I would be opposed to doing it at this time. I think the activities of the Presidents' Conference must represent our own thinking and not that of any Israel Government.

Since I received a copy of the letter, I shall also reply along these lines.

A handwritten signature, likely of Mrs. Charlotte Jacobson, consisting of a stylized 'C' and 'J' intertwined.

September 26, 1977

Rabbi Paul L. Hait, Executive Director
The New York Board of Rabbis, Inc.
10 East 73rd Street
New York, New York 10021

Dear Rabbi Hait:

Your letter of September 20 is being forwarded to the Presidents' Conference office for action as such matters are handled directly by that office. I do know that following your telephone call to this office in July, my assistant, Ms. Miller, notified Yehuda Hellman of your interest in having The New York Board of Rabbis given observer status at the Presidents' Conference.

I also want to note that at the meeting with Foreign Minister Dayan this past Friday Judah Cahn was on the list of invitees and he was indeed present at the session.

With every good wish for the New Year, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

cc: Mr. Yehuda Hellman

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The New York Board of Rabbis, Inc.

Orthodox — Conservative — Reform

10 East 73rd STREET NEW YORK, N.Y. 10021 Telephone TRafalgar 9-8415



Founded 1881

20 September 1977

8 Tishri 5738

Rabbi Harold H. Gordon
Executive Vice President
Director, Chaplaincy Services

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Associate Director

Rabbi Eugene J. Cohen
Coordinator, Brith Milah Board
Chaplain, International Synagogue

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

Dear Rabbi Schindler:

In past years the New York Board of Rabbis enjoyed the privilege of attending meetings of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. However, it now appears that the privilege of attending meetings has been withdrawn from us. While the NYBR is not a national organization, it is a major organization and force in the larger New York metropolitan area, with influence on the national and international Jewish scene as well. I believe that our presence, even as observers, would advance the goals and purposes for which the Conference was established.

The NYBR, therefore, respectfully requests that it be invited to attend future meetings of the Conference of Presidents. We trust that you will favor us with an affirmative reply.

May the New Year hold in store for you and your dear ones good health and fulfillment, and may our brethren in Israel know the blessings of peace.

Sincerely yours,

Paul Hait
Rabbi Paul L. Hait
Executive Director

PLH:ml

y H. Cahn as Deputy

PAST PRESIDENTS

*Rabbi Henry S. Jacobs, 1881-93
*Rabbi Kaufmann Kohler, 1893-1902
*Rabbi H. Pereira Mendes, 1902-06
*Rabbi Joseph Silverman, 1906-07
*Rabbi F. de Sola Mendes, 1908-09
*Rabbi Maurice H. Harris, 1910-11
*Rabbi Bernard Drachman, 1912-13
*Rabbi Rudolph Grossman, 1914-15
*Rabbi David de Sola Pool, 1916-17
*Rabbi Isaac S. Moses, 1918

*Deceased

*Rabbi Moses Hyamson, 1919
*Rabbi Nathan Stern, 1920
*Rabbi Clifton H. Levy, 1921-22
*Rabbi Simon R. Cohen, 1923-24
*Rabbi Israel Goldstein, 1925-26
*Rabbi Barnett A. Elzas, 1927-28
*Rabbi Elias L. Solomon, 1929-30
*Rabbi Harry Weiss, 1931-32
*Rabbi Max Drob, 1933-34
*Rabbi Samuel J. Levinson, 1935-36
*Rabbi Israel Goldfarb, 1937-38

*Rabbi J. X. Cohen, 1939-40
*Rabbi Joseph Sarachek, 1941-42
*Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein, 1943-44
*Rabbi A. M. Heller, 1945-46
*Rabbi Theodore N. Lewis, 1947-48
*Rabbi Simon G. Kramer, 1949-50
*Rabbi Morris M. Goldberg, 1951-52
*Rabbi David J. Seligson, 1953-54
*Rabbi Emanuel Rackman, 1955-56
*Rabbi Joseph Miller, 1957

Rabbi A. Alan Steinbach, 1958
Rabbi David I. Golovensky, 1959-60
Rabbi Harry Halpern, 1961
Rabbi Israel Mowshowitz, 1962-63
*Rabbi Max Schenk, 1964-65
*Rabbi Edward T. Sandrow, 1966-67
Rabbi Gilbert Klaperman, 1968-69
Rabbi Harold I. Saperstein, 1970-71
Rabbi William Berkowitz, 1972-73
Rabbi Sol Roth, 1974-75

September 19, 1977

Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut, President
Canadian Jewish Congress
c/o Holy Blossom Temple
1950 Bathurst Street
Toronto M5P 3K9, Ontario, Canada

Dear Gunther:

I have no objection in principle to having the Canadian Jewish Congress given observer status at the Presidents' Conference. There is a problem, however, which stems from the fact the many of our meetings are called on a last minute basis. This is not because of any lack of planning but is due to the fact that visitors from Israel often make their plans at the last minute and even when plans are made in advance, as with the Dayan visit, the time for a meeting with the Presidents' Conference can not be set until all Washington sessions have been concluded. Thus our session are held on a last minute call or are dictated by crises. This, of course, makes it difficult for anyone coming in from Canada for meetings.

In any event I am sharing your letter and my response with Yehuda Hellman, Executive Director of the Presidents' Conference, for appropriate action.

With fondest regards from our home to your home, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

cc: Mr. Yehuda Hellman



הקונגרס היהודי הקנדי

קאנאדער יידישער קאנגרעס

CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS CONGRÈS JUIF CANADIEN

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

BUREAU DU PRÉSIDENT

Holy Blossom Temple,
1950 Bathurst Street, Toronto M5P 3K9

September 12, 1977

Dear Alex:

I believe that some time ago the question of closer liaison between Canadian Jewish Congress and the Presidents' Conference was raised, and I would like to put it on the table once again. I am thinking of a representative of Congress being invited as an observer to meetings of the Conference -- an arrangement we would be glad to make mutual if that is of interest to you. Quite obviously, Canadian Jewry is greatly influenced by what happens south of the border, and being privy to the thoughts and plans of American leadership would be of great assistance to us.

May I take this occasion to wish you a G'mar tov and God's blessing on your undertakings.

אנא

Cordially,

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler,
Union of American Hebrew Congregations,
838 Fifth Avenue,
NEW YORK CITY, N.Y. 10021

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

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

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS:

American Israel Public
Affairs Committee
American Jewish Congress
American Mizrahi Women's
Organization
American Zionist Federation
Anti-Defamation League
B'nai B'rith
B'nai B'rith Women
Bnai Zion
Central Conference of
American Rabbis
Council of Jewish Federations
and Welfare Funds (observer)
Hadassah
Jewish Labor Committee
Jewish Reconstructionist
Foundation
Jewish War Veterans
of the U.S.A.
Labor Zionist Alliance
Mizrachi-Hapoel Hamizrachi
National Committee for
Labor Israel, Inc.
National Council of
Jewish Women
National Council of
Young Israel
National Federation of
Temple Sisterhoods
National Jewish Community
Relations Advisory Council
National Jewish Welfare Board
North American Jewish
Youth Council
Pioneer Women
The Rabbinical Assembly
Rabbinical Council of America
Union of American Hebrew
Congregations
Union of Orthodox Jewish
Congregations of America
United Synagogue of America
Women's American ORT
Women's League for
Conservative Judaism
World Zionist Organization
American Section, Inc.
Zionist Organization of America

October 26, 1976

Dr. Manuel M. Glazier
National Secretary
American Physicians Fellowship, Inc.
1622 Beacon Street
Brookline, Mass. 02146

Dear Dr. Glazier:

Edith J. Miller, assistant to our chairman, Rabbi Alexander Schindler, has written to you on October 15, in connection with your letter concerning membership in Presidents Conference. Enclosed please find our annual report detailing the activities of the Presidents Conference.

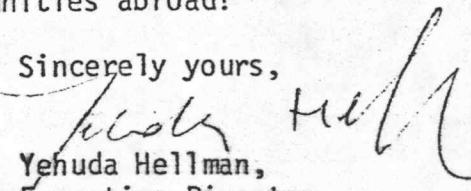
As you can see the Presidents Conference is composed of Major American Jewish Organizations and none of our organizations are professional in their orientation. I doubt very much whether your organization would really qualify for membership in the Presidents Conference.

However, we would be happy to submit your application to the membership committee of the Conference. In the meantime would you kindly drop us a note and let us know
a - Whether your organization is local or national in scope?
If it is national, how many chapters do you have, and in how many states and cities do you function?

b - What is your budget?

c - Do you have a professional staff, and if so, do they deal with problems of Jewish Communities abroad?

Sincerely yours,


Yehuda Hellman,
Executive Director

YH:cm

cc:
Rabbi Alexander Schindler, Chairman
Charlotte Jacobson, Chairwoman, Membership Committee
Edith J. Miller

Edith J. Miller

July 15, 1977

Yehuda Hellman

Just a note to remind you that Rabbi Paul Hait, newly elected Executive Director of the New York Board of Rabbis, called to ask that the NYBR be restored to observer status in the Presidents' Conference. I had told him this was handled through your office.

His phone number is 879-8415.

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022
Plaza 2-1616
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AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS:

American Israel Public
Affairs Committee
American Jewish Congress
American Mizrahi Women
American Zionist Federation
Anti-Defamation League
B'nai B'rith
B'nai B'rith Women
Bnai Zion
Central Conference of
American Rabbis
Council of Jewish Federations
and Welfare Funds (observer)
Hadassah
Jewish Labor Committee
Jewish Reconstructionist
Foundation
Jewish War Veterans
of the U.S.A.
Labor Zionist Alliance
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National Committee for
Labor Israel, Inc.
National Council of
Jewish Women
National Council of
Young Israel
National Federation of
Temple Sisterhoods
National Jewish Community
Relations Advisory Council
National Jewish Welfare Board
North American Jewish
Youth Council
Pioneer Women
The Rabbinical Assembly
Rabbinical Council of America
Union of American Hebrew
Congregations
Union of Orthodox Jewish
Congregations of America
United Synagogue of America
Women's American ORT
Women's League for
Conservative Judaism
World Zionist Organization
American Section, Inc.
Zionist Organization of America

January 20, 1977

Manuel M. Glazier, M.D.
Americans Physicians Fellowship, Inc.
1622 Beacon Street
Brookline, Massachusetts 02146

Dear Dr. Glazier:

Rabbi Schindler has asked me to respond to your letter dated January 17, 1977, concerning membership in the Conference of Presidents.

I am enclosing, once more, a copy of my letter addressed to you and dated October 26, 1976. For your additional information, I am also enclosing a copy of the Annual Report of the Presidents Conference.

Sincerely yours,

Yehuda Hellman
Executive Director

YH:arf

Enclosure

cc: Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

11/8/77
Yehuda - please get this guy off my back
AMERICAN PHYSICIANS FELLOWSHIP, INC.

for the Israel Medical Association

1622 Beacon Street • Brookline, Massachusetts 02146 • 617-232-5382

January 13, 1977

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New York, New York

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*Alvin L. Rich, M.D., Birmingham, Ala.
*Leo G. Rigler, M.D., Los Angeles
*H. J. Roberts, M.D., West Palm Beach
*Samuel A. Robins, M.D., Brookline, Mass.
*Oscar Rogol, M.D., Seymour, Conn.
*Howard Rosen, M.D., New York
*Robert I. Rubinstein, M.D., Brooklyn
*Ariah Schwartz, M.D., Burlingame, Calif.
*Harry Shwachman, M.D., Boston
*Nathan Sidel, M.D., Brookline
*David Silverman, D.O., Cherry Hill, N.J.
*I. Jerome Sobel, M.D., Passaic, N.J.
*Alfred Soffer, M.D., Glenview, Ill.
*Harry Soroff, M.D., Northport, N.Y.
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*I. Alan Ufert, M.D., Houston
*Ludwig Uri, M.D., Beverly Hills
*Samuel Vaisrub, M.D., Wilmette, Ill.
*Bernard Weston, M.D., Southfield
*Herbert L. Zigerman, D.O., Philadelphia
*Benjamin Zolov, M.D., Portland, Me.
*Mrs. Benjamin Zolov, Portland, Me.

*Denotes members of the Executive Committee

Tell him "no"
no professional organizations
Rabbi Alexander Schindler
Conference of the Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations
c/o Union of American Hebrew Congregations
838 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10021

Dear Rabbi Schindler:

As the national secretary of the American Physicians Fellowship, Inc. for the Israel Medical Association, I represent over 8700 physician members - the largest organization of physicians working to improve medicine in Israel in the history of Judaism.

It is regrettable that two previous letters and repeated phone calls to your office in a seven month period have failed to secure an answer to our request pertaining to information about the Presidents' Conference organization.

Our October 13, 1976 letter was answered by your assistant, Ms. Edith Miller, who informed us that she was sharing our letter 'with the Executive Director of the Presidents' Conference, Mr. Yehuda Hellman, and asking him to respond by return mail.' It is exactly three months, and we have had no further communication.

Your public relation propaganda states that your organization is a 'central forum whose purpose it is to make more secure the position of the Jew by sharing information, exchanging views and pursuing cooperation.'

We would appreciate some of that "cooperation" in the form of a prompt reply from either you or Mr. Hellman.

Sincerely yours,

Manuel M. Glazier
Manuel M. Glazier, M.D.
National Secretary

MMG/g

August 21, 1975

Mr. Yehuda Hellman
Presidents' Conference
515 Park Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Yehuda:

We just got a copy of the Presidents' Conference listing of member-organizations with the names of their lay and professional heads. In listing the UAHC I noted you have two staff members listed and no mention of our Chairman.

I write to request that this be corrected. Any UAHC listing should include the name of our Chairman of the Board, Matthew H. Ross. Please also note that Al Vorspan is not Executive Vice-Chairman, he is Vice President of the UAHC.

With warmest regards from house to house, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE

NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022

Plaza 2-1616

Cable Address: COJOGRA

Rabbi Israel Miller, Chairman

Yehuda Hellman, Executive Director

- ✓ 1. AMERICAN ISRAEL PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Colorado Building - Suite 720
1341 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 638-2256

Ed Sanders, Chmn.
Morris Amitay, Exec. Dir.

- ✓ 2. AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS
15 East 84th Street
New York, N.Y. 10028
(212) 879-4500

Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, Pres.
Mrs. Naomi Levine, Exec. Dir.

- ✓ 3. AMERICAN MIZRACHI WOMEN
817 Broadway
New York, N.Y. 10003
(212) 477-4720

Mrs. Louis Schreiber, Pres.
Mr. Judah Klein, Exec. Dir.

- ✓ 4. AMERICAN ZIONIST FEDERATIONS
515 Park Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10022
(212) 371-7750

Mrs. Faye Schenk, Pres.
Dr. Samuel I. Cohen, Exec. Dir.

- ✓ 5. ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE
315 Lexington Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10016
(212) MU 9-7400

Seymour Graubard, Nat'l. Chmn.
Benjamin Epstein, Nat'l. Dir.

6. B'NAI B'RITH
1640 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 393-5284

David M. Blumberg, Pres.
Rabbi Benjamin M. Kahn, Exec. Dir.

7. B'NAI B'RITH WOMEN
1640 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 393-5284

Mrs. Milton T. Smith, Pres.
Miss Miriam Albert, Exec. Dir.

8. B'NAI ZION
136 East 39th Street
New York, N.Y. 10016
(212) 725-1211

Hon. Abraham J. Multer, Chmn.
Herman Z. Quittman, Nat'l. Sec'y.

- ✓ 9. CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN
RABBIS
790 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10021
(212) AG 9-2811

Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld, Pres.
Rabbi Joseph B. Glaser, Exec. V.P.

10. COUNCIL OF JEWISH FEDERATIONS
AND WELFARE FUNDS
315 Park Avenue, South
New York, N.Y. 10010
(212) 673-8200

Raymond Epstein, Pres.
Philip Bernstein, Exec. V.P.

11. HADASSAH
65 East 52nd Street
New York, N.Y. 10022
(212) EL 5-7900

Mrs. Max Matzkin, Pres.
Miss Aline Kaplan, Exec. Dir.

12. JEWISH LABOR COMMITTEE
25 East 78th Street
New York, N.Y. 10021
(212) LE 5-3700

Jacob Sheinkman, Pres.
Emanuel Muravchik, Exec. Dir.

13. JEWISH RECONSTRUCTIONIST FOUNDATION
15 West 86th Street
New York, N.Y. 10024
(212) 787-1500

Rabbi Ira Eisenstein, Pres.
Rabbi Ludwig Nadelmann, Exec. V.P.

14. JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE U.S.A.
1712 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009
(202) CO 5-6280

Judge Paul Ribner, Nat'l. Commndr.
Irwin Robert Ziff, Nat'l. Exec. Dir.

15. LABOR ZIONIST ALLIANCE
575 Sixth Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10011
(212) YU 9-0300

Dr. Judah J. Shapiro, Pres.
Jacob Katzman, Exec. V.P.

16. MIZRACHI-HAPOEL HAMIZRACHI
25 West 26th Street
New York, N.Y. 10010
(212) 689-1414

Dr. Maurice Sage, Pres.
Israel Friedman, Exec. V.P.

17. NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR LABOR
ISRAEL, INC.
33 East 67th Street
New York, N.Y. 10021
(212) 628-1000

Dr. Judah J. Shapiro, Pres.
Bernard B. Jacobson, Exec. V.P.

18. NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN
1 West 47th Street
New York, N.Y. 10036
(212) CI 603175

Mrs. Esther R. Landa, Pres.
Mrs. Rena P. Button, Exec. Dir.

19. NATIONAL COUNCIL OF YOUNG ISRAEL
3 West 16th Street
New York, N.Y. 10011
(212) WA 9-1525

Herman Rosenbaum, Pres.
Rabbi Ephraim Sturm, Exec. V.P.

20. NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE
SISTERHOODS
838 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10021
(212) 249-0100

Mrs. Irving S. Benjamin, Pres.
Miss Jane Evans, Exec. Dir.

21. NATIONAL JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS
ADVISORY COUNCIL
55 West 42nd Street
New York, N.Y. 10036
(212) LO 4-3450

Lewis D. Cole, Chmn.
Al Chernin, Exec. V. Chmn.

22. NATIONAL JEWISH WELFARE BOARD
15 East 26th Street
New York, N.Y. 10010
(212) LE 2-4949

Daniel Rose, Pres.
Herbert Millman, Exec. V.P.

23. NORTH AMERICAN JEWISH YOUTH COUNCIL
515 Park Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10022
(212) 751-6070

Edward Price, Chairman
Ms. Sandee Rovner, Exec. Dir.
24. PIONEER WOMEN
315 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10016
✓ (212) 725-8010

Mrs. Charlotte Stein, Pres.
Mrs. Lucette Hall, Exec. Dir.
25. RABBINICAL ASSEMBLY
3080 Broadway
New York, N.Y. 10027
(212) RI 9-8000

Rabbi Mordecai Waxman, Pres.
Rabbi Wolfe Kelman, Exec. V.P.
26. RABBINICAL COUNCIL OF AMERICA
220 Park Avenue, South
New York, N.Y. 10011
(212) 260-0700

Rabbi Fabian Schonfeld, Pres.
Rabbi Israel Klavan, Exec. V.P.
27. UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS
838 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10021
(212) 249-0100

Rabbi Alexander Schindler, Pres.
Albert Vorspan, Exec. V. Chmn.
28. UNION OF ORTHODOX JEWISH CONGREGATIONS
OF AMERICA
116 East 27th Street
New York, N.Y. 10016
(212) 725-3400

Harold Jacobs, Pres.
Rabbi David Cohen, Exec. Dir.
29. UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF AMERICA
3080 Broadway
New York, N.Y. 10027
(212) RI 9-8000

Arthur Levine, Pres.
Rabbi Bernard Segal, Exec. V.P.
30. WOMEN'S AMERICAN ORT
1250 Broadway
New York, N.Y. 10001
(212) 594-8500

Mrs. Patricia Goldring, Pres.
Mr. Nathan Gould, Exec. Dir.
31. WOMEN'S LEAGUE FOR CONSERVATIVE
JUDAISM
48 East 74th Street
New York, N.Y. 10021
(212) 628-1600

Mrs. Milton Perry, Pres.
Mrs. Harold M. Kamsler, Exec. Dir.
32. WORLD ZIONIST ORGANIZATION --
AMERICAN SECTION, INC.
515 Park Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10022
(212) PL 2-0600

Mrs. Charlotte Jacobson, Chmn.
Isadore Hamlin, Exec.V. Chmn.
33. ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
4 East 34th Street
New York, N.Y. 10016
(212) MU 3-9200

Rabbi Joseph P. Sternstein, Pres.
Leon Ilutovich, Exec. Dir.

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE
165 East 56th Street
New York, N.Y. 10022
(212) PL 1-4000

Elmer L. Winter, Pres.
Bertram H. Gold, Exec. V.P.

SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL OF AMERICA
432 Park Avenue South
New York, N.Y. 10016
(212) MU 6-8670

Rabbi Joseph Lookstein, Pres.
Rabbi Henry Siegman, Exec. V.P.

PRESIDENTS' CONFERENCE - CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

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Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg

David M. Blumberg

Rabbi Joseph B. Glaser

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Rabbi Israel Klavan

Emanuel Muravchik

Daniel Rose

Isaiah Minkoff

Isadore Hamlin

Faye Schenk

October 12, 1973

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

Sylvan Lebow

Harry K. Gutmann; Bernard Hirsh; Morton L. Kemper

In reference to your memo on JCS representation on the Presidents' Conference, I fully agree with you, you are entitled to a place there and I suggest that the very best way of approaching it is to have Mort Kemper send a letter requesting the membership in the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations to the present Chairman, Jacob Stein, with a copy to Yehuda Hellman, the professional of the Conference.

You ought to know that the UAHC has had its problems with the Presidents' Conference. Several times now we were passed by for the chairmanship, a coalition of the Zionists and the Orthodox stopped us every time around. Maurice was ready to withdraw and because of the need not to break unity in these trying times we decided not to boycott but merely to reduce our membership contribution from the required \$6,000 per annum to \$500, which means, of course, that we are not exactly a voice of influence in the Conference right now.

You also ought to know that neither of your counter-parts in the Orthodox and Conservative movements belong to the Conference. You might enhance your own chances by contacting your colleagues and making a concerted effort.

Our weak voice to the contrary, notwithstanding, you can count on our strong vocal support when the matter comes before the Conference itself.

MEMORANDUM

Date October 10, 1973From Sylvan LebowTo Rabbi Alexander Schindler ✓Copy for information of Morton L. Kemper, Bernard Hirsh, Harry K. GutmannSubject JCS REPRESENTATION ON PRESIDENTS CONFERENCE

Because of the significant service it renders to the Jewish community, THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE BROTHERHOODS should be a constituent body of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations.

It would seem that this should have been enterprised previously, particularly when it was arranged recently for THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE SISTERHOODS to be represented.

It is unfortunate that we are cut off from the mainstream of Jewish communication and decision making, particularly in times of crisis, like the present situation in Israel.

Twice before, our JEWISH CHAUTAUQUA SOCIETY was called upon by the Conference to render an important service to the Jewish community and each time we came through with massive accomplishments. The first was when we helped to alert world conscience to the plight of Soviet Jewry by producing "The Price of Silence", a half-hour documentary motion picture starring the late Edward G. Robinson. The second was when we counteracted the Arab League propaganda line branding Israel as the aggressor by producing "Beyond the Mirage" with Lorne Greene, which documents the opportunities for peaceful coexistence and understanding between Arabs and Jews in Israel. These films won several major awards and had hundreds of telecasts and thousands of group showings. "Beyond the Mirage" is still in popular demand and is the No. 1 film on a list of 40 motion pictures about Israel recommended by the State of Israel for showing in English-speaking countries.

Now more than ever, it is essential to maintain better understanding of Jews and Judaism by people of all faiths. This is the task the JEWISH CHAUTAUQUA SOCIETY has been doing so well for the past 80 years. This important function merits recognition by representation on the Conference of Presidents, which it does not presently have. We would appreciate your recommendation and support to accomplish this.

Thanks. *Sylvan*

August 7, 1973

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

Joshua M. Dwork

I didn't know that the Presidents' Conference had raised it dues to \$6,000. and will have to check on it. In the interim, I would send them another \$500. for 1973-74.

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS
OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022

Cable Address: COJOGRA

Plaza 2-1616

Cc. Josh Dwork

July 10, 1973

TO: UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS
Dr. Maurice Eisendrath; Rabbi Alexander Schindler

FROM: Mr. Jacob Stein, chairman

STATEMENT

Your share of the expenses of the Presidents Conference during the
period April 1, 1973, through March 31, 1974\$6,000

Amount received to date\$---

Total amount due\$6,000
1,500*
\$7,500

Kindly remit

* \$1,500 still outstanding for fiscal year 1972-1973

*X 7/1/72 - 6/30/73 - Budget 500 - Paid 1500.
7/1/73 - 6/30/74 " 500 - per AMS*

500 + forget

JS/rb

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS
OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE

NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022

PLaza 2-1616

Cable Address: COJOGRA

April 11, 1973

TO: UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS
Dr. Maurice Eisendrath; Rabbi Alexander Schindler

FROM: Mr. Jacob Stein, chairman

STATEMENT

Your share of the expenses of the Presidents Conference during the
period April 1, 1973 through March 31, 1974.....\$ 6,000

Amount received to date..... --

Total amount due.....\$ 6,000

Kindly remit.

JS:sgs

February 9, 1973

Mr. Jacob Stein
Presidents' Conference
515 Park Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Jack:

I'm enclosing herewith our check for \$500.
to the Presidents' Conference. If we can
arrange to obtain additional funds you may
be sure I will do my best to send them on.
At this time, this is what our allocation
permits in accord with the budget.

With warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler
President-Elect

Encb.

February 6, 1973

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

Joshua M. Dwork

PRESIDENTS' CONFERENCE

In view of your note of the 5th, please issue a check for \$500. from the Contingency Fund for the Presidents' Conference. Send the check to my office for transmittal with a letter of explanation. Thank.s

500
500

February 5, 1973

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

Josh Dwork

Please send a payment of \$1,000. to the Presidents' Conference.
The sum can be taken from the Contingency Fund.

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS
OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

To
AMS

515 PARK AVENUE

NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022

PLaza 2-1616

Cable Address: COJOGRA

February 12, 1973

TO: UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS
Dr. Maurice Eisendrath; Rabbi Alexander Schindler

FROM: Mr. Jacob Stein, chairman

STATEMENT

Your share of the expenses of the Presidents Conference during the
period April 1, 1972, through March 31, 1973.....\$ 3,000

Amount received to date..... 1,000

Total amount due.....\$ 2,000

Kindly remit.

JS:rb

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS
OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE

NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022

PLaza 2-1616

Cable Address: COJOGRA

April 12, 1971

Dr. Maurice Eisendrath
Union of American Hebrew Congregations
838 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10021

Dear **Dr. Eisendrath**:

In accordance with the report rendered by the Budget and Finance Committee at the April 12 meeting of the Presidents Conference, enclosed please find a bill in the amount of \$ **4,000** , representing your fair share of the expenses of the Presidents Conference during the period April 1, 1971, through March 31, 1972.

In light of the great responsibilities placed upon our Conference, we are confident that you will make every effort to remit the above amount as soon as possible, and we therefore thank you in advance for your cooperation.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Dr. William A. Wexler
Chairman of the Presidents Conference

Morton L. London
Chairman of the Budget and
Finance Committee

cc: Rabbi Alex Schindler
Mr. Joshua Dwork

WAW:MLL:rab

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE

NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022

PLaza 2-1616

Cable Address: COJOGRA

TO: **UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS**
Dr. Maurice Eisendrath; Rabbi Alex Schindler; Mr. Joshua Dwork

FROM: Dr. William A. Wexler, Chairman

STATEMENT

Your share of the expenses of the Presidents Conference during the period April 1, 1971, through March 31, 1972.....	\$3,000
Additional amount requested.....	1,000
Amount received to date.....	<u> </u>
Balance.....	\$4,000

Kindly remit.

WAW:rb

April 17, 1970

Rabbi A.M. Schindler

Al Vorspan

There is a special membership committee of the Presidents Conference, and Yehudah Hellman wants me to appoint someone. Whom should we appoint? Professional or layman? And, if so, who?

12/13 Copy to Rabbi R. Guttelsohn

bc: Rabbi Wolf Kelman
Al Vorspan
Rabbi Balfour Brickner
Rabbi M.N. Eisendrath

December 18, 1969

Rabbi Herschel Schacter, Chairman
Conference of Presidents
515 Park Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Herschel,

Wolf Kelman was good enough to send me a copy of his letter in which he voiced his complaint about the nominations procedures of the Presidents Conference. Needless to say, we associate ourselves completely with his views and admire him for expressing the sense of outrage which fills us as well.

Do you really blame us for this sense of outrage? It is an institutional slur, plain and simple, one which we cannot be expected to countenance. Either we are a unified community or we are not. If we are, then its plural character ought to be recognized.

I know that we have had discussions, but I do not for one moment recognize the validity of the problems which have been raised. We are perfectly willing to work with organizations whose views diverge from ours. Other organizations ought to be equally willing to work with men and institutions whose views diverge from theirs.

I just chanced to complete Nahum Goldmann's recently published autobiography. In it he repeats a statement he made to the Presidents Conference not too long ago, to wit, that Maurice Eisendrath together with Phil Klutznick helped him establish the Presidents Conference. Does this count for nothing? And what of our cooperation throughout these years? Has anything ever been denied? Have we not given both material, and in the labors of our professional and lay leaders, everything that was ever asked of us?

Throughout these years, moreover, promises were made of Chairmanships or recently of Vice Chairmanships. If our work is of no avail, are the words of the Presidents Conference's professional and lay leadership of no account either?

In a word, my friend and colleague Hersehel, we have just about had it, and because I know that you are a thoroughly decent human being, you will understand our chagrin and dismay.

Cordially,

Alexander M. Schindler

P.S. Needless to say, all this should not be interpreted to be a reflection on Dr. Wexler and B'nai B'rith. We have nothing but the highest regard for him personally and for the institution which he represents.

cc: Mr. Yehudah Hellman

November 22, 1968

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

Dear Rabbi Schacter,

This will confirm our telephone instructions to
Mr. Hellman's office of this day, wherein we agreed
to the use of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations'
name among the signatories of the UJA Emergency Fund ad.

Sincerely yours,

Alexander M. Schindler

Nahum Goldmann
Philip Klutznick

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

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

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS:

AMERICAN ISRAEL PUBLIC
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS

AMERICAN TRADE UNION
COUNCIL for HISTADRUT

AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

B'NAI B'RITH

CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF
AMERICAN RABBIS

COUNCIL OF JEWISH FEDERATIONS
and WELFARE FUNDS (observer)

HADASSAH

JEWISH AGENCY FOR ISRAEL—
AMERICAN SECTION

JEWISH LABOR COMMITTEE

JEWISH WAR VETERANS
OF THE U.S.A.

LABOR ZIONIST MOVEMENT—
Poale Zion, Farband, Pioneer Women

MIZRACHI-HAPOEL HAMIZRACHI

NATIONAL COMMUNITY RELATIONS
ADVISORY COUNCIL

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF
JEWISH WOMEN

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF
YOUNG ISRAEL

NATIONAL JEWISH WELFARE BOARD

THE RABBINICAL ASSEMBLY

RABBINICAL COUNCIL OF AMERICA

UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW
CONGREGATIONS

UNION OF ORTHODOX JEWISH
CONGREGATIONS OF AMERICA

UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF AMERICA

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

November 15, 1968

*To R.
Schindler*

Rabbi Dr. Maurice N. Eisendrath
President, Union of American
Hebrew Congregation
838 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10021

Dear Rabbi Eisendrath:

You will undoubtedly recall a recent meeting of the Presidents Conference, at which time Rabbi Herbert Friedman asked that we endorse the United Jewish Appeal Emergency Fund campaign. The consensus of all those present was that we do so.

Enclosed you will find the copy of a full-page ad, which UJA has prepared and to which will be affixed the names of all our constituent bodies. I trust that you will approve of this copy and will let me know promptly that we can include the name of your organization among the signatories.

Thank you very much for your prompt attention and cooperation. With warmest good wishes, I remain,

Cordially yours,

Herschel Schacter

Rabbi Herschel Schacter
Chairman

HS:bak

Enc.

cc: Rabbi Alex Schindler, Exec. Dir.

BECAUSE the survival of the People of Israel is our profound concern--

BECAUSE we understand the strain on the People of Israel of holding firm while seeking peace, of enduring guerilla attacks, barrages and urban terrorism--

BECAUSE it has been and continues to be our solemn obligation to meet the burden of the humanitarian needs of our Israeli brethren: the care of new immigrants who will arrive in the tens of thousands in the year ahead; housing, teaching and rehabilitating those who came in years past but are not as yet fully self-sufficient--

BECAUSE the People of the State of Israel, completely overburdened in providing for their own defense in the face of a relentless clamor for their annihilation, can no longer bear a share of the cost of UJA-supported humanitarian programs--

BECAUSE now we must meet this burden in full--

BECAUSE we are resolved that

ISRAEL MUST LIVE

WE, the undersigned organizations, representing the vast majority of American Jewry, pledge full support of our leadership and our members to the humanitarian goals of

THE 1969 ISRAEL EMERGENCY FUND CAMPAIGN
and
REGULAR CAMPAIGN
of
THE UNITED JEWISH APPEAL

"The history and Structure of the French Jewish community

a presentation by Baron Alain de Rothschild, president of the
Consistoire Central Israelite de France et d'Algerio

at the December 11, 1967 meeting of the Conference of
Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations

First I wish to say how much I appreciate the possibility that is being offered me to address this most learned and dedicated body of men who is responsible for the welfare and the development of Jewry not only in this country but practically everywhere in the world.

forget

I cannot/that if in Europe and more particularly in France the Jewish communities have come back to existence and are now flourishing, it is thanks to the most generous and liberal help both financial and spiritual of the American Jewry. May I once again express to you all my most sincere gratitude.

I do not know exactly what you would like to hear from me. I know that quite a number of organizations here have a very good and broad knowledge of the organization, and of the needs of the French communities; some have offices in France and as for U.J.A. or the Joint, I would say that they are practically partners.

Nevertheless, some of you are less conversant and if the French experts here will excuse me I shall try and make a very rapid expose of our situation.

Historically the Jews in France came to full citizenship in 1790, by a decree of the "Convention" the democratic house of representatives of the French revolution.

The French community as a whole was organized by Napoleon and has retained more or less the same status since then. The local communities were organized in local "Consistoire" who were the administrative council of these communities. The members were elected and had an official status. They represented the community vis-a-vis the public authorities and they governed the community and ran the various charities. They nominated their Rabbis.

Heading all the local "Consistoires" there was a "Consistoire Central". There were seated elected representatives of each local Consistoire. The duty of the Consistoire Central was firstly to nominate the Chief Rabbi of France. It was on the top level the political and religious mouth-piece of the Community. It was the Central who discussed with the Government. It was through the Consistoire Cen-

tral that instructions were passed on by the Government to the community. It was also through the Central that relationship was established with the other religious congregations.

Last but not least, it was responsible for the rabbinical school who formed the rabbis and all religious assistants for the local communities.

It is important to know so to understand the official status of the Consistoires that the rabbis were paid by the Government as were the catholic and protestants priests.

This has gone on until now with the exception that in 1905 the state decided to split with the churches of all creed. These then became independant bodies. They had not official status and their priests were no more taken care for by the state.

With this last exception the administrative organization of the Jewish community has remained the same up to today.

Local consistoires administrate the local communities - of which the Consistoire of Paris is by far the most important - and a Consistoire Central, formed by the union of the local ones, nominates the Chief Rabbi, runs the Seminaire and settles the conflicts within or between the communities. Together with the Chief Rabbi, it keeps in touch with the Government on all religious and moral and also political problems. To be absolutely complete I must add that this law of separation between state and church has one exception. In the three "departments" of Alsace and Lorraine that were taken away from France after the 1870 defeat by the Germans, and have been returned after 1918, this law does not apply and in those three "departments" the priests are still paid by the state.

Up to a few years ago, the organized judaism centered around the local Consistoires and the Consistoire Central of France and Algerie. The local charities were independant and went about in an incoherent way, collecting money for their budgets.

About 15 years ago, following the very successful example of U.J.A., the Fonds Social Juif Unifie was founded. After a short period of trial and error, it turned out as the main collecting and distributing organization for social cultural and charitable organizations. It did not collect for the religious need nor for Israel.

Most of the charities joined the Fonds Social - accepting the term of a charter - voluntarily stopping to raise funds, and depending practically entirely on the F.S.J.U. to fulfill their budget. This F.S.J.U. was heavily supported by the claims conference who contributed up to over a half of the money distributed by this organization.

Backed by the technical know-how of fund raising of the U.S., the F.S.J.U. little by little educated the Jewish community to be more generous and when the claims conference went out of being, the French community was more or less able to take care of its social, charitable and cultural needs.

As I mentioned before, the appeal for Israel and other pro Israel organizations conducted separate drives; neither were the Consistoires included in the F.S.J.U. and had to go about it alone to meet their needs.

This they did through the dues paid by their members and by the services rendered to the community - Cashrout, wedding, funeral, leasing of seats in synagogues and voluntary contribution.

The Consistoire Central depended mainly on the contributions of the local communities and voluntary contributions. That is to say that it lead a hand to mouth life mostly because since my cousin Guy resigned his presidency no leadership showed up and no consistent policy was followed.

Such is, the administrative background of the French community.

It might interest you to know a bit of the general aspect of this community.

In number from 250,000 known Jews prior to the war, 150,000 about remained or returned when the war ended. Through five waves of immigration - namely : the dispersed persons and remnants of interned Jews : the Hungarians after Budapest, the Tunisians after the Bizerte, the Egyptians after the Suez campaign of '56, the Algerians after the Evian treaty that put an end to the Algerian rebellion and now the Tunisians and Moroccans who though they are not in immediate danger don't feel secure in these Arab countries and are leaving.

Through these five waves the Jewish population has risen to about 500,000 of which more than half are North African and belong to the medium to low proletariat.

These newly comers settled in the Paris suburbs where new townships were being built. In the provinces they settled in preexisting communities and, in many cases, in places where no communities ever existed. Thus, the pattern of Jewish demography was deeply modified.

How did the existing community cope with these immigrations?

As far as Paris was concerned it was mainly the task of the Paris Consistoire, who being a recognized official body was able to borrow from the state and local authorities; the Paris Consistoire, fearing a split between the two communities that would endanger the very existence of the community as a whole, started a rush program of organizing the new comers in local communities, giving them every facility to find again their identity : synagogues, community centers, classrooms were built, bought or rented - religious leaders were provided - local councils were organized under the Consistoire's auspices. In ten years, 32 new communities came into existence, each with its typical traditional identity but all adhering to the central organization. Ten seats in the Consistoire were created specially for representatives of the North African. Thus, the unity of the community was saved. This program was carried out without the help of the Fonds Social.

As far as the provinces are concerned, it was the responsibility of the Consistoire Central to take care of the problem. Unfortunately its means were more than limited, both in money and man power. Thus, the F.S.J.U. and the Joint came in as partners and helped organize the life of those communities, providing community centers, synagogues; helping the Consistoire to form and send out educators and religious assistants and organize religious life. A few days ago, I accompanied the Chief Rabbi Kaplan in a tour of the South West of France where we inaugurated 3 synagogues centers in two days in places where Jewish life before the arrival of the North Africans has practically disappeared.

What is today the image of the community? I am speaking of the active community of those who manifest themselves in a way or another, who regularly contribute their money, or their time, or worship in synagogues.

In general, apart from the North African elements who are still very attached to their traditional practices and melodies and habits epitomized by the synagogue, the community is rather detached from religion. The prevailing atheist attitude stemming from the pre-revolution philosophers and has been for many synonymous of democracy, has contaminated the French Jewry.

And in opposition to the U.S. where it is a social must to belong to a religious entity, in France such an association is considered somewhat of an oddity.

The belonging to the Jewish community stems more from the opposition and reaction to antisemitism, and respect from the millions of Jews slaughtered during the war, than from the positive attitude of adherence to the Jewish heritage and spirituality.

Nevertheless an increasing number of younger people are clamouring for knowledge of the Jewish spiritual, religious and philosophical values.

For them, university student centers are being organized. The last one in date being the center Edmond Fleg created by the Consistoire de Paris in the Latin quarter and which has a fantastic attendance of intensely interested and dedicated students.

Generally speaking the urgent problems of resettling physically and morally the new comers have overshadowed and monopolized the resources of the community and, thus, the religious needs have found little support from the public or the F.S.J.U.

Paris Consistoire has managed to pull through, but for instance the rabbinical school is leading a hand to mouth life very detrimental to the essential role it should assume in the building up of a learned and consistent body of Rabbis and educators without whom all traditional and religious life is in danger of disappearing.

Nevertheless we have maintained in Paris four day schools and 50 talmude Thoras.

Now what happened since June when it became clear that war was inevitable and that the risk of annihilation of Israel was the aim of Egypt? A unanimous upsurge took place, both amongst the Jewish population as, I must say, amongst the non Jewish population.

As far as the Jewish organizations were concerned, a Coordinating Committee was created, headed by my cousin, Guy. (To this Committee all the organizations, Zionist, political, religious or charitable surrendered all initiative as far as the fund raising, and more important, the propaganda and public relations were concerned.) This Committee headed by the most prominent Jewish citizens and by technicians in the newspaper, radio and television field did marvels, and though as you know, the Government took a neutral position, as did all other nations, the press and radio backed the Israel cause, with the exception of communist papers, and even these, under public pressure had to shift their position.

As far as fund raising, millions were collected in a week or so multiplying more than ten fold the usual contributions.

Following this extraordinary enthusiasm and reawakening to Jewish identity of a great segment of otherwise detached Jews in France, it was decided this fall to perpetuate the coordination committee and, more important, to merge the Fonds Social and what corresponds to United Palestine Appeal into one single fund raising campaign that took the name of Appel Juif Unifie.

It is certain that the June six day war and, maybe more so, the anxiety packed week, prior to the outbreak of fighting proper has brought to the fore, whole new segments of Jewish life. It is up to us to see that they do not sink back to their apathy.

As far as the General's press conference is concerned, I think the public protest of Rabbi Kaplan expressed in a nutshell the emotion and the reaction of the French Jewish population.

As usual it is impossible to understand the motive of such a move and even more impossible to guess what the future policy of the present Government of France towards Israel would be.

One thing I am certain of, it is that however unfortunate the remarks of the head of the State could have been and the use that could be made of them by the always present though small antisemitic portion of the population, the General himself is certainly not antisemitic and no antisemitic action or discrimination is to be feared concerning the French community.

Whatever our feelings may be, however upset we may feel, we must keep a cold head and stay away from hasty action. To even mention nazism in the present context is ludicrous.

As I said, I have not the slightest idea of what are the plans of the Government but there is one thing I am certain of, it is that a boycott by U.S. industry stemming from the General's stand towards Israel or his remarks about the Jews in general could only have an adverse effect.

However slim the possibility of the lifting of the embargo could be, it is certain that a boycott could bring about a change of mind and as far as the Jewish communities are concerned it may be a catastrophe.

If on account of Israel or of the Jews, business falls off in France, there is no doubt that it will be blamed on us and not on the Government and, as far as the community is concerned, it risks to put it in a very difficult and ambiguous position. I am afraid the proposed remedy could be far worse than the ill.

May I end up by giving the reasons of my visit here:
As head of the religious community in France, I came at the invitation of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations to see if in the religious sphere an intimate collaboration between our communities could not be brought about.

As a beginning, we are considering sending over young men at the end of their formation stage so as to study here and get acquainted with the methods that have so well succeeded in the United States.

Let me say again how grateful I am for the marvellous and generous reception I was given here. The will to perpetuate in the world the love of the Thora and the development of its knowledge is everywhere evident and I come back confident that we can depend on your religious communities to help solve our local problems. Again "merci" to all.

December 1967

*To Board House
as is
for your information*

MEMORANDUM

Date December 13, 1967

From Albert Vorspan

To Rabbi Alex Schindler

Copy for information of Rabbi Maurice Eisendrath

Subject PRESIDENTS CONFERENCE

The new chairman of the Presidents Conference is Rabbi Schachter, who is from Mizrachi Hapoel.

There had been a deal to make Henry Rappaport president, but he spoke up a few times at meetings and that soured the Conference on him. Apparently this fellow Schachter hasn't spoken in a few years, and this is a measure of the stature of the Presidents Conference leadership.

February 2, 1970

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath - CONFIDENTIAL

Do you want me to be present at your luncheon with Wexler?

I am not asking for an invitation; on the contrary, it would be easier from my schedule's point of view if I were not to be present. On the other hand, I thought that I could more readily voice the kind of more personal complaints we have than could you.

In a word: I am yours to command.

January 20, 1970

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath

I just had the following telephone call from Yehudah Hellman:

"Please assure Dr. Eisendrath that he will have a central place in Washington, Herschel Schacter is determined to fulfill his promise. We will be in touch with him in all likelihood by tonight or tomorrow."

January 16, 1970

Rabbi Herschel Schacter
Presidents Conference
515 Park Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Herschel,

I enclose for your information a copy of the delegates we expect to have at the Washington meeting on January 25 and 26. As you can see, we made a special effort to get people from those states which you were eager to have representation.

I do want you to know that I appreciate the courtesy of your conversations with me, and especially your expressions of agreement with our essential point as well as the offer of your cooperation, for whose fulfillment I eagerly wait. I know that these institutional problems must be troublesome when other more weighty issues demand your attention, but you cannot have institutions without such problems -- there is no honey without its sting.

Cordial greetings,

Alexander M. Schindler

Encl.

January 13, 1970

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

Earl Morse

Re. the January 11th meeting, your point is well taken. As far as the students are concerned, you ought to know that two women were invited, agreed to come but then at the last minute did not show up.

As for United Synagogue, I tried to set up the meeting. Kelman's presence is crucial, but Kelman is in Israel just now. Just as soon as he returns I will set it up. When I spoke to Kelman he seemed to have cooled considerably on this issue but we will wait and see.

By all means write to Wexler congratulating him. We have nothing against him personally.. he seems to be a gentleman. Our quarrel is strictly institutional.

It is not necessary to write to Jay. I discussed it with Schacter and he agreed to this. I had a lengthy chat with him on this score and he promised to put through this particular issue.

C
O
P
Y

December 6, 1967

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

Earl Morse (CONFIDENTIAL)

I spoke to Al Vorspan concerning the Chairmanship election of the Presidents Conference. He did not know the details but when I told him who cautioned us concerning this matter he said, "Little wonder -- the only reason Rapaport is upset is because he desperately wanted the Chairmanship of the Conference."

I thought you might want to have this little tidbit of information. I asked Al Vorspan to follow up on the matter and he promised to do so. Obviously, if I hear more from him I will let you know.

December 6, 1967

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

Al Vorspan (CONFIDENTIAL)

Please check into the matter of the Presidents Conference chairmanship. I think at least we ought to be on the "in" as far as their decisions are concerned.

November 30, 1964

Mr. Yehuda Hellman
Presidents' Conference
515 Park Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Yehuda:

Unfortunately, I find that it will not be possible for me to attend the Membership Committee meeting on December 2nd. I am, therefore, writing to advise that under no circumstances will we agree to have Women's Auxiliaries admitted as separate units in the Presidents' Conference.

Should an organization wish to have a women's group representative as one of its delegates that will, of course, be satisfactory but we cannot make this an official position because we have many affiliates who would seek representation if we had a delegate from our women's affiliate.

With warmest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Rabbi Jay Kaufman

JK/ejm

May 1, 1964

Mr. Lewis Weinstein
10 Post Office Square
Boston 9, Massachusetts

Dear Lew:

I met with Mrs. Willen of the National Council of Jewish Women on their dues increase, they have been reluctant to the point of refusing to accept. I was much cheered by the attitude at the end of the meeting for I feel it to be more positive.

She expressed a wish for, and others have too, a confidential meeting to discuss direction. I believe you should consider such with the presidents only.

With warmest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Rabbi Jay Kaufman

JK/ejm

RABBI IRVING MILLER
WOODMERE, LONG ISLAND



STUDY
CONGREGATION SONS OF ISRAEL
WOODMERE, LONG ISLAND

December 24, 1963

Rabbi Jay Kaufman
838 Fifth Avenue
New York 21, N. Y.

Dear Jay:

It was most kind of you to write me. I can't tell you how much I appreciate your thoughtfulness as well as the very generous observations you make concerning my Chairmanship of the Presidents' Conference.

At the same time, I should like you to know that if I had some measure of success, it was due in no small part to the support and understanding I received from you and a few others.

At any rate, my thanks again for your kindness.
With warm regards,

Sincerely,

Irving
Irving Miller

IM:d

69- Neptune Ave.
RABBI IRVING MILLER
WOODMERE, LONG ISLAND

Dec. 4, 1963.

Dear Yehuda,

I cannot leave the Chairmanship of the Presidents' Conference without expressing my gratitude to you for the splendid executive direction you provided the Conference during my two years in office.

You manifested at all times sound judgment, an unusual capacity for work, and, above all, a faith in the Conference which expressed itself in your complete, full-time devotion to its affairs. As a result, my efforts as Chairman were rendered more effective and meaningful.

I sincerely trust that the Conference will avail itself of your abilities for many years to come.

With all good wishes
Cordially,

Irving Miller

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE • NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

Tel.: PL 5-1820

Cable Address: COJOGRA

October 14, 1963

TO: Rabbi Irving Miller and Rabbi Jay Kaufman.

From: Mr. Yehuda Hellman, Executive Director.

Rabbi David Hill, the President of the National Council of Young Israel, has written to me to suggest that the following three (3) organizations should also be invited to join the Presidents' Conference:

- 1. Agudath Israel of America**
- 2. The Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States**
- 3. Poalei Agudath Israel**

I would like to quote the following paragraph from Rabbi Hill's letter which speaks for itself:

"These three organizations, in my opinion, represent very strong dynamic roots and play a vital role in the intricate pattern of Jewish life. The fabric of American Jewry would not be complete without including these three major groups. In our experience they are cooperative, helpful and can offer much to our actions."

Sincerely yours,

**Yehuda Hellman,
Executive Director.**

YH:md



UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF AMERICA

3080 BROADWAY, NEW YORK 27, N. Y. • RIVERSIDE 9-8000

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

January 14, 1963




Rabbi Jay Kaufman
Union of American Hebrew Congregations
838 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Jay:

Per our conversation yesterday, I am sending you enclosed herewith a copy of a self-explanatory letter which Mr. Maislen wrote to Rabbi Miller.

My best to you for a pleasant and healthful trip to the West and a safe return home.

Sincerely,


Bernard Segal

BS/ws



UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF AMERICA

3080 BROADWAY, NEW YORK 27, N. Y. • Riverside 9-8000

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Jan. 11, 1963

Rabbi Irving Miller, Chairman
Conference of Presidents of Major
Jewish Organizations
515 Park Avenue
New York 22, New York

Dear Rabbi Miller:

On several occasions, since my election to the Presidency of the United Synagogue in November, 1961, you and I have discussed the possibility of my becoming associated with the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations, of which you are presently the Chairman.

On these occasions, I pointed out to you my specific objections to the present constituency of this organization. I also indicated to you that I have strong feelings regarding the need for a representative Jewish body of the heads of truly representative Major Jewish Organizations on the American scene, which would be concerned with political, cultural, and religious problems of our people, not only in relation to the State of Israel, and our interest in its meaningful survival, but also in relation to Jewish Communities in every other part of the world.

When I met with Mr. Label Katz, yourself and Rabbi Friedman recently, we discussed this matter rather fully, and I was left with the impression that all of you shared my view, but it was felt that rather than to begin a new communal structure for this purpose, the present conference of Presidents could and should be reorganized along the lines we discussed from within, and you urged me to come to the November 26th meeting of the Conference.

I attended the November 26th meeting, and came to the conclusion that it would be an almost hopeless task to undertake to reorganize the Presidents Conference along the lines that we discussed. From my observation of that meeting, it became very clear to me that the present Presidents Conference is merely a subsidiary of the Zionist Organization of America and the Jewish Agency. In this connection, I still adhere unalterably to the statement that I made on this subject in the summer issue of the United Synagogue Review, with which, I am sure you are familiar.

I am strongly of the opinion that if we are to achieve

Rabbi Irving Miller

-2-

Jan. 11, 1963

our purpose of creating a representative American Jewish Body which could really be the authoratative spokesman for the American Jewish Community, we will simply have to start de novo, and not by reorganizing any existing organization.

To this end, I am still ready and eager to lend my wholehearted support and the support of the United Synagogue of America.

Permit me also to say that my unwillingness to become a part of the Presidents Conference, as presently constituted, in no way detracts from my high admiration for your distinguished leadership and the many noble services which you have rendered and continue to render to our community.

With cordial greetings,

Sincerely yours,

GM:GG

cc: Rabbi Bernard Segal

MEMORANDUM

Date January 16, 1963

From Rabbi Jay Kaufman

To Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath - Judge Emil N. Baar

Copy for information of Rabbi Balfour Brickner - Mr. Albert Vorspan

Subject _____

/

The Presidents Conference has become a most successful vehicle for coordinating the activities of all major national Jewish organizations, excepting the American Jewish Committee which insists on "going it alone." There is constant - weekly and often daily - communication between the United States State Department and the office of the Presidents Conference, i.e., with the president (presently Irving Miller) and the executive director (Yehuda Hellman).

Last week I received a call from Mr. Herbert Berman of the Orthodox Union that they were going to leave the Presidents Conference, were going to issue a press release which would indicate not only their departure but that the Presidents Conference no longer represents American Jewry. Their complaint was that the Presidents Conference was too much dominated by Zionist organizations and Nachum Goldmann, that the Conference was but "the tail of the Zionist dog," and that the organizations in it were being investigated by Senator Fullbright for this reason.

I asked that they withhold such an announcement until I return from California but they were unable to. Berman then agreed to further discussion and a meeting between Berman, Rabbi Bernard Segal, executive director of the United Synagogue, and myself. We met on Sunday and Rabbi Segal expressed views similar though not identical with those of Mr. Berman.

After a lengthy and fruitful discussion it was agreed that if a first step could be taken in overhauling the Presidents Conference, they would withhold action. The first step was to be a reconstitution of the Presidents Conference so that the "paper Zionist organizations" which have no constituency evident but which build up the Zionist position would be eliminated. This seemed to be the major consideration, though there were other objections which would be dealt with later.

Conversations with Irving Miller and Yehuda Hellman, and through them with Label Katz, brought agreement that a meeting of the Presidents Conference be called, that the president recommend appointment of a committee to study Structure, Constituency and Scope. Rabbi Segal was pleased with this development. Mr. Berman is out-of-the-city at the Inter-religious Race and Religion Conference in Chicago.

- Judge Emil N. Baar

TO: Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath

January 16, 1963

Page -2-

Label Katz who does agree to such a restructure and reconstituting of the Presidents Conference was, however, outraged at the Orthodox Union's insistence that the Presidents Conference be broken up if they do not get their way and be reconstituted through the NCRAC and the Synagogue Council in the same fashion as the present Joint Advisory Committee. He indicated that such action must definitely postpone the re-affiliation of ADL with the NCRAC.

Again and again voices are being raised requesting that Rabbi Eisendrath accept the Presidency of the Presidents Conference. I expect there will be a strong de marche to achieve this end.

January 16, 1963

Mr. Herbert Berman
235 East 42nd Street
New York, New York

Dear Herbert:

I believe a good first step has been made toward achieving the primary objective which we agreed was essential at our meeting in your home last Sunday. A meeting of the Presidents Conference will be called so that, officially, a committee can be appointed to deal with the Structure, Constituency and Scope of the Presidents Conference.

You were in Chicago at the time and so could not be contacted. I am therefore writing to inform you of developments. Bernie Segal and I indicated our approval of the pattern. There was a question as to whether the committee should be appointed by the president without authorization of the full Presidents Conference but it was decided that it would be best if it could be done at an official meeting. I would expect that you or a designated representative of the Orthodox Union will be on the committee.

There seems to be no objection to the "streamlining" of the constituency of the Presidents Conference. I believe it is important in order to have the objective accomplished, that all of us deal only with this goal and not speak of other objectives or alternate plans. I noted that some expression of opinion had upset people and might well cause this particular process, which seems well on its way, to be impeded, and other damage as well. To that end I think it might be wise if there be no talk of breaking up the Presidents Conference and establishing an organization under the aegis of the NCRAC-SCA. The very delicate negotiations between the NCRAC and the ADL for the latter's re-affiliation are now in progress and such talk will most assuredly end such conversations. This would be most unfortunate. Further, allegations that the second term of the incumbent president was a violation of a promise will serve no purpose and only place obstacles in the road which now seems smooth and which we wish to terminate swiftly.

Mr. Herbert Berman
January 16, 1963
Page -2-

I hope the trip to Chicago indicated a complete recovery from the virus. I enjoyed seeing your lovely house, it's exactly what we have been looking for. You were very fortunate to find it. You are even more fortunate in peopling it with such lovely creatures.

With kindest greetings, I am

Sincerely yours,

Rabbi Jay Kaufman

JK/ejm

Dictated but not read

bc: MNE - AV _ BB

January 16, 1963

Rabbi Bernard Segal
United Synagogue of America
3080 Broadway
New York 27, New York

Dear Bernie:

I believe encouraging progress has been made toward restructuring of the Presidents Conference along the lines which you and Herbert Berman indicated at the meeting at his home last Sunday. Herbert is out-of-the-city at the Inter-religious Race and Religion Conference in Chicago so I don't know what his reaction will be.

It seems certain now that a special meeting of the Presidents Conference will be called, that the president will appoint a committee to study its Structure, Constituency and Scope and that steps will be taken to bring about the desired modifications.

Now is the time for the utmost discretion. As you have observed countless times, any untoward speed or careless reference can ruin a much desired process. For example, Label Katz who heartily approves the objective of the first step, was dismayed to learn of the Orthodox feeling that the Presidents Conference be eliminated and a substitute be created along the lines of the NCRAC-SCA Joint Advisory Committee. Further, he learned of the Orthodox contention that Irving Miller was elected for the second year illegally and contrary to agreement. Since he was chairman of the Nominating Committee, he was understandably upset by the allegation - which both of us, at least, feel is unwarranted.- that he violated a trust. Secondly, he observed that if the Orthodox Union acts high handedly, forces the NCRAC out of the Presidents Conference, that there is every likelihood they will not re-enter the NCRAC. This would be most unfortunate.

I will be away, as you know, but will be back for the meeting of the Presidents Conference. I hope in the interim that you will keep the roiled waters smooth by keeping in touch with Berman and Hellman.

With warmest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Rabbi Jay Kaufman

JK/ejm
Dictated but not read.

Bc MVE - av. 139

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK 22, NEW YORK
Tel.: PL 5-9316-7-8

Date: March 11th, 1965

MEMORANDUM

To: Members Associated in the Conference of Presidents

From: Yehuda Hellman

The following is a short summary of the proceedings of the meeting of the Presidents Conference which took place on February 12, 1965.

Mr. Lewis Weinstein, the Chairman of the Presidents Conference, called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

The first item on the agenda was a report by the Chairman of the Committee on new members, Dr. Joachim Prinz. Dr. Prinz informed the Conference that the Central Conference of American Rabbis and the Rabbinical Assembly have joined the Presidents Conference. He also reported for his Committee that no final recommendation would be made at this time as far as membership of women's organizations in the Presidents Conference is concerned, instead the Committee proposed that women's auxiliary organizations participate in the delegation of their parent organizations in the Presidents Conference.

The second item on the agenda included a report on the situation of South American Jewry. Mr. Marc Turkow, the representative of the World Jewish Congress in South America and one of the leaders of the DAIA (the representative Board of Argentine Jewry) from Buenos Aires reported to the Conference on latest developments in South America and particularly about recent anti-Semitic outbreaks in the Argentine.*

Next on the agenda was a report by Mr. George Maislen, the Chairman of the Committee on the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. Mr. Maislen recommended in the name of his Committee that the participating organizations in the Presidents Conference review their own relationship with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in order that this important instrumentality be strengthened as much as possible by means of subscriptions and grants wherever feasible. Mr. Maislen called the JTA "an essential tool for Jewish leadership in our time". The Conference took note of Mr. Maislen's report.

*Enclosed please find (by courtesy of the World Conference of Jewish Organizations) a statement in connection with these events.

The fourth item on the agenda included a short review and report by the Chairman, Mr. Lewis Weinstein, on his recent trip through various parts of Africa including a visit with the Jewish community of South Africa. Mr. Weinstein returned deeply impressed with the work done by the State of Israel in various African countries. Mr. Weinstein reported that the common people in those countries seemed to appreciate Israel's contribution towards their own welfare.

The Conference then turned to the German question. Mr. Weinstein introduced Dr. Goldmann who gave a detailed report in connection with recent developments in the German question. Dr. Goldmann spoke among others about problems of Reparation and Restitution, presence of German scientists in Egypt and the issue of the extension of the Statute of Limitations. Dr. Goldmann expressed appreciation for the work done by the Presidents Conference in connection with the German problem.

Following Dr. Goldmann's report Dr. Weisman of the Jewish War Veterans reported on behalf of the Presidents Conference Technical Sub-Committee on Germany. The following proposals were made:

- 1) An extensive letter writing campaign be started addressed to the German Embassy in Washington.
- 2) That our case be explained to the leaders of the non-Jewish community - Catholic, Protestant and Negro - in order to secure their support in connection with the extension of the Statute of Limitations and other matters on our agenda.
- 3) The Committee recommended that local meetings take place so that the community be fully informed about the issues involved.
- 4) It was suggested that the Presidents Conference call a press conference to inform public opinion about our position. Dr. Weisman also suggested that the idea of an international Jewish delegation to Bonn be further considered by the Presidents Conference.
- 5) The Sub-Committee proposed that organizations consider the possibility of publishing full page ads in connection with this problem.

Mr. Tabachinsky of the Jewish Labor Committee informed the Conference that his organization would do everything possible to involve the American Labor Movement in this program of action which would also then include direct contacts with the Labor Movement and progressive forces in Germany.

Mr. Lewis Weinstein called on Mr. Label Katz to make a report in the name of the Nominations Committee of the Presidents Conference.

Mr. Katz informed the Conference that he would like to put the name of Dr. Joachim Prinz in nomination as Chairman of the Conference for the next year. He stated that this represented the unanimous choice of his colleagues on the Nominations Committee.

Following the report, Dr. Prinz was elected by acclamation as the Chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations for the coming year.

Dr. Prinz thanked the Conference and pledged his best efforts on behalf of the Conference. He hailed the work of his predecessors and thanked particularly Mr. Lewis Weinstein, the outgoing Chairman. He stressed Mr. Weinstein's accomplishments on behalf of the Conference during the preceding year.

WORLD CONFERENCE OF JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

TO: Organizations Affiliated with the World Conference of Jewish Organizations

FROM: Yehuda Hellman

Please be informed that the North American organizations participating in C.O.J.O. held a special meeting Sunday, February 7th in order to consider recent anti-Semitic developments in the Argentine and other Latin American countries.

The meeting was benefited by the presence of Mr. Mark Turkov, the Director of the World Jewish Congress for Latin American countries, who rendered a detailed report. Mr. Turkov documented conclusively the link between the activities of anti-Jewish terrorist groups and Arab League representatives in the Argentine. The Egyptian general El Masri is now fully in charge of the activities conducted by Chusein Tricki, who was his predecessor in the same office.

Also, reports were given by Dr. Nathan Lerner of the World Jewish Congress and Mr. Philip Katz of B'nai B'rith on their meeting with the Argentine ambassador in Washington, which took place Thursday, February 5th. Dr. Lerner and Mr. Katz had expressed to the Ambassador appreciation of Jewish communities all over the world for the recent police action which lead to the discovery of a Nazi anti-Semitic plot in the Argentine.

The delegation representing C.O.J.O. had also expressed anxiety over the continued activities of terrorist anti-Jewish groups in that country. The Ambassador Dr. Norberto Barrenechea issued to the delegation a determination by the government of President Illia to put an end to any terrorist activities threatening the peaceful coexistence of the Jewish community, which he described as an integral part of the Argentinian democratic society. The delegation had submitted to the Ambassador documents revealing the nature of anti-Semitic and Nazi literature and action in Argentina, as well as their international implications. The Ambassador had promised the delegation that he would transmit to his government the views expressed.

Turkov also told the assembled representatives in the C.O.J.O. meeting that similar documentation was submitted by Argentinian Jewish leaders to the government in Buenos Aires. During his stay in the United States, Turkov has maintained a day to day telephone contact with the leaders of the D.A.I.A.

At the conclusion of the meeting the groups represented (American Jewish Congress, B'nai B'rith, Canadian Jewish Congress, Jewish Labor Committee and World Jewish Congress) approved the following statement which was made public and issued to the press:

"The World Conference of Jewish Organizations (COJO) notes with grave disquiet the increasing activities of international Nazi organizations which, in cooperation with local terrorist groups, have established operational centers in several

February 9, 1965 (cont.)

Latin American countries. The evident purpose of these clandestine activities is to subvert democratic institutions and ordered governments; and in obedience to the evil tradition established by their predecessors in Nazi Germany, to foment and exploit anti-Semitism as a political instrument to further these ends.

"The recent discovery of a secret Nazi conspiracy by Argentine security forces, with evidences of preparation for a campaign of terror and violence against the Jewish community and the assassination of prominent Jewish citizens, has inevitably given rise to anxiety not only in Jewish communities but among friends of democracy everywhere. This discovery underscores the repeated warnings from responsible Jewish sources in Argentina of the mounting danger presented by the activities of these anti-Semitic groups.

"We note with appreciation that the Argentine government has not only adopted legislative measures in the recent past to deal with these subversive activities, but has given urgent instructions to the federal police to apprehend the conspirators and bring them to justice.

"And we draw reassurance from the firm and repeated declarations of responsible members of the Government that they are resolved both to eradicate subversion and terrorism and to protect the security and human rights of all their citizens.

"We are confident that in harmony with the highest ideals of the Argentine national tradition, which has been hospitable to men of all faiths and given them an equal place in the service of the common welfare and national interest, that the Government will press forward with the measures necessary to bring to an end the subversive conspiracies which seek to undermine the rule of law and threaten the equal rights of Argentine citizens."

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS
OF MAJOR
AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS



515 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK 22, NEW YORK
PLaza 5-9316-7-8
Cable Address: COJOGRA

November 25, 1964

Chairman,
AMERICAN ISRAEL PUBLIC AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE

President,
AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS

Chairman
AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

Chairman,
AMERICAN TRADE UNION COUNCIL
FOR HISTADRUT

President,
B'NAI B'RITH

President,
COUNCIL OF JEWISH FEDERATIONS
AND WELFARE FUNDS (observer)

President,
HADASSAH

President,
JEWISH AGENCY FOR ISRAEL—
AMERICAN SECTION

President
JEWISH LABOR COMMITTEE

Commander,
JEWISH WAR VETERANS
OF THE U.S.A.

President
LABOR ZIONIST MOVEMENT

President,
MIZRACHI-HAPOEL HAMIZRACHI

Chairman,
NATIONAL COMMUNITY RELATIONS
ADVISORY COUNCIL

President,
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF
JEWISH WOMEN

President,
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF
YOUNG ISRAEL

President,
UNION OF ORTHODOX JEWISH
CONGREGATIONS OF AMERICA

President,
UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW
CONGREGATIONS

President,
UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF AMERICA

President,
ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

Rabbi Jay Kaufman
Union of American Hebrew Congregations
838 Fifth Avenue
New York 21, N.Y.

Dear Rabbi Kaufman:

I would like to inform you that the meeting of the Member-
ship Committee of the Presidents' Conference originally
scheduled for Monday, November 30th has been postponed.

This meeting will, however, take place on Wednesday,
December 2nd at 10:00 A.M. in the meeting room on the 9th
floor at 515 Park Avenue.

We hope that this change doesn't inconvenience you too
much and that you will be able to attend on Wednesday.

With kindest personal regards.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dr. Joachim Prinz".

Dr. Joachim Prinz

JP/ss

CC: Rabbi B. Brickner
Y. Hellman

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE • NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

Tel.: PL 5-1820

Cable Address: COJOGRA

FOR RELEASE ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1963

LEWIS H. WEINSTEIN, BOSTON ATTORNEY AND CIVIC LEADER ELECTED
CHAIRMAN OF CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH
ORGANIZATIONS.

New York, Dec. 2, 1963 -- Lewis H. Weinstein, Boston Attorney and civic leader, today was elected chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. He was the unanimous choice of the eighteen presidents of Jewish Organizations that comprise the Conference. His name was placed in nomination by George Maislen, president of the United Synagogue of America, on the unanimous recommendation of the nominating committee.

The eighteen organizations whose principal elected officers comprise the Conference are American Israel Public Affairs Committee, American Jewish Congress, American Zionist Council, American Trade Union Council for Histadrut, B'nai B'rith, Hadassah, Jewish Agency for Israel, Jewish Labor Committee, Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A., Labor Zionist Movement, Misrachi Hapoel Misrachi, National Community Relations Advisory Council, National Council of Jewish Women, National Council of Young Israel, Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, Union of American Hebrew Congregations, United Synagogue of America, and Zionist Organization of America. The President of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds participated as an observer.

Mr. Weinstein, who is chairman of the National Community Relations Advisory Council, succeeds Rabbi Irving Miller, president of the American Zionist Council, as Conference chairman. He will be the first chairman to serve in that capacity since the Conference expanded the scope of its concern last September, from American-Israel matters exclusively, to issues affecting Jews in other lands throughout the world. The Conference has been deeply preoccupied since then with the problem of the situation of Jewish life within the Soviet Union to which all the participating Jewish organizations gave a very high priority.

Other predecessors of Mr. Weinstein in the office have been, in order of incumbency, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the Jewish Agency for Israel; Mr. Philip M. Klutznick and Mr. Label A. Katz, respectively former and present president of B'nai B'rith.

In addition to occupying many positions of distinction in American Jewish Organizations and in the Jewish Community of Boston, Mr. Weinstein has been prominent in Boston's civic life and is a Presidential appointee to an important federal agency.

An authority on housing, he was named last Spring by the late President John F. Kennedy to the President's Committee on Equal Opportunity in Housing and as a member of its three-member executive committee. A former assistant corporation counsel of the City of Boston, he has served as general counsel of the Boston Housing Authority and of a number of other municipal housing and redevelopment authorities in Massachusetts. He drafted the first Massachusetts laws outlawing segregation in housing and the state's first urban renewal legislation.

A tireless worker in communal causes, Mr. Weinstein has attained many distinctions both in Jewish life and in the general community. In addition being chairman of the NCRAC, he is a member of the executive of the Jewish Agency for Israel, Inc., he is secretary of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, vice president of the American Association of Jewish Education, a member of the executive committee of the United Jewish Appeal, and a member of the Board of Overseers of the Florence Heller Graduate School of Social Welfare of Brandeis University.

In Greater Boston Jewish activities, Mr. Weinstein is a former vice president of the Associated Jewish Philanthropies and former President of the Hebrew Teachers College and the Jewish Community Council. He is a Trustee of Beth Israel Hospital, a member of the Board of Directors of Temple Mishkan Tefila, and the Hebrew Home for the Aged, and other Jewish Organizations.

Mr. Weinstein is a partner in the Boston law firm of Foley, Hoag, and Eliot. He is on the faculty of the Harvard Law School of which he is a graduate, and of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he lectures on land law in the Graduate Department of Regional and City Planning. An honor graduate of Harvard College, he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and was the recipient of numerous scholarships and prizes.

- MORE -

A member of the Boston Mayor's Committee on Civic Improvement and Delinquency Prevention, Mr. Weinstein was co-chairman - with Father Robert Drinan, Dean of Boston Law School, and Harold Russell - of the Massachusetts Committee on the Tenth Anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights, and, in 1957, he received the National Brotherhood Award of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, in which he has been active as a member of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors of the Northeast Region.

He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Federation of Taxpayers Associations, of the Governing Council of the Boston Bar Association, and educational, cultural and civic groups in Boston.

During World War II, Mr. Weinstein served in the Army, ending two and a half years of service in North Africa, England, Normandy, France, Belgium, Holland, Germany, and Italy, as Chief of the Liaison Section of the European Theater of Operations, on the staff of General Dwight D. Eisenhower. He entered Paris on the Day of Liberation as Liaison Officer to General Charles De Gaulle, and supervised American Liaison activities with all the Allied Forces and with other American headquarters. He is a graduate of the Army General Staff and Command College in Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, and of the school of Military Government in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Mr. Weinstein received various military medals and awards, including the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the French Legion of Honor, the French Croix de Guerre, and citations from British Marshall Montgomery, and Generals Eisenhower and De Gaulle. In a private audience with Pope Pius XII, he was presented with a Vatican Military Medal.

Until recently, Mr. Weinstein served as a Colonel in the Judge Advocate General's Department of the Army Reserve and as Legal Officer of the 357th Civil Affairs Area Headquarters. He is a former chairman of the Armed Forces Advisory Committee of Greater Boston, a member of the Advisory Council of Naval Affairs, and of the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts chapter of the Association of the United States Army.

Mr. Weinstein is married to the former Selma Yeslawsky, a Radcliffe graduate. They have two children, David, 28; and Louise 18. He resides at 56 Varick Road, Waban. His hobbies include music, the theater, and writing. His publications include a play, poems, and numerous legal articles.

December 17, 1963

Rabbi Irving Miller
69 Neptune Avenue
Woodmere, L.I., N.Y.

Dear Irving:

Every two years I disappear between Rosh Hashonah and our Biennial. It is such a mammoth enterprise, attracting three to four thousand delegates, encompassing some five hundred participants in the program, all of whom have to be briefed and trained. As a consequence, I have been unable to be with you in the Presidents' Conference endeavors these last months. While I missed both the pleasure and value I gained from the meetings, even more I regretted my inability to wish you a hearty yoshe koach and express my own personal sense of deep gratitude to you for the superb way in which you led us as our chairman.

At a time when I understand you were plagued with intermittent illness, which I pray has abated, you continued to pour your energies and devotion without stint into the affairs of the Conference. So much skill and time is required not only for the essential tasks but for the incessant placation of organization ego. You spared yourself not at all.

Of greatest importance to the American Jewish community, you gave us such eloquent and dignified leadership, wonderful comprehension of the problems and such sound judgement. Because of your leadership and the confidence you inspired, the Presidents' Conference is now a sound and sturdy vehicle, capable of and performing many exceedingly valuable services for klal yisroel. We are deeply and forever in your debt.

With warmest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Rabbi Jay Kaufman

JK/ejm

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE • NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

Tel.: PL 5-1820

Cable Address: COJOGRA


December 11, 1963

Rabbi Jay Kaufman
Union of American Hebrew Congregations
838 Fifth Avenue
New York 21, New York

Dear Rabbi Kaufman:

I would like to share with you the contents of a letter
which I received from Rabbi Irving Miller dated
December 4th, 1963.

Sincerely yours,


Yehuda Hellman,
Executive Director

YH:md
Enc:letter

November 16, 1973

Edith J. Miller

Joshua M. Dwork

Rabbi Schindler asks that you ask no questions and find \$2,000. to be sent to the Presidents' Conference immediately. This payment is towards our dues. /Please send it directly to the Presidents' Conference, 515 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022.

Thanks muchly.

• September 24, 1973

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

Joshua M. Dwork

Can you arrange to send \$1500. to the Presidents' Conference. They need the funds and our remittance will be most helpful.



B'NAI B'RITH 1640 RHODE ISLAND AVENUE, NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036

DR. WILLIAM A. WEXLER
President

December 31, 1969

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

Dear Alexander:

I deeply appreciate your very thoughtful letter of December 9, both your warm expression of condolence and your generous comments on my election as chairman of the Presidents' Conference.

This new post represents a tremendous challenge and I hope that it will afford me the opportunity to make a genuine contribution to Israel's search for a just peace.

I look forward to working with you in the year ahead.

Sincerely,

Dr. William A. Wexler

WAW/s

November 2, 1977

Mr. Albert J. Abrams
National Association of
Jewish Legislators
311 Hackett Boulevard
Albany, New York 12208

1/25/78
3 36

Dear Mr. Abrams:

I was delighted to receive your letter of October 12 describing the work of the National Association of Jewish Legislators. I am very pleased to learn of your formation and development.

It would be a delight to meet with you to learn more about your group and to discuss avenues of coordination with the Presidents' Conference. My own situation for the next few weeks is most difficult for the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, of which I am president, will be meeting in Biennial Convention in San Francisco from November 18-22, 1977 and I am deeply involved in last minute preparations for this major assembly. Hopefully, we will be able to meet on my return in December.

Should you wish to meet earlier, you might contact the Executive Director of the Presidents' Conference, Yehuda Hellman, and arrange to meet with him at an earlier time in order to discuss organizational cooperation.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler
Chairman

cc: Yehuda Hellman



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LEGISLATORS

311 HACKETT BOULEVARD
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12208

(518) 489-7983

October 12, 1977

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler
Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations
15 Park Ave.
New York, New York

Dear Rabbi Schindler:

During 1977 we organized across America the Jewish legislators who served from coast to coast in their respective states. There are in all a little over 200 Jewish legislators in the U.S. and already over 105 have become members of our new organization. Our members include Jews who are Speakers or Senate Presidents of Missouri, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey and Maryland as well as rank and file members of 34 states including two from Hawaii, one from Alaska and one from the Virgin Islands. This network was set up to accelerate legislation of importance to the Jewish community in our country, and to unite Jewish solons behind Israel.

Our first National convention was held in Detroit on August 4 and had Ambassador Simcha Dinitz as our key speaker and two Canadian Jewish legislators as guests. We are having a regional meeting in St. Thomas this December and are planning to have an orientation session with Secretary of State Vance and Assistant Secretary Atherton in the near future.

I would like to arrange to meet with you to see how our group may coordinate its effort in support of the great work which you are doing. If you will let me know a time convenient to you, I shall be glad to come to New York City to confer with you.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "Albert J. Abrams", is written over the typed name.

Albert J. Abrams

AJA:1