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Structure and Scope Committee, 1962-1978.

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American Jewish Archives website.

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

May 15, 1978

Yehuda Hellman

Be sure to circulate the Glaser Scope report to our constituency. This matter has to be resolved before the election meeting.

אגוד הרבנים המתקדמים

CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS

790 MADISON AVENUE • NEW YORK, N.Y. 10021 • (212) 734-7166

Office of the Executive Vice President

May 11, 1978

Dr. Judah Shapiro
302 West 86 Street
New York, New York 10024

Dear Judah:

Attached are minutes of the meeting of the Presidents Conference Committee on Scope and Structure held on 5 May 1978.

We had a first reading of the report at the May 10th meeting of the Presidents Conference and I can report to you that the plenum found itself in general acceptance with most of the provisions but were apprehensive about the requirement that a candidate for the chairmanship of the Presidents Conference be a sitting president of his own organization for the entire year of his chairmanship. They understood, of course, the intent, but some people complained that this would knock out a lot of good people and would have the further effect of pressuring the Presidents Conference into accepting as chairman unknown quantities. They felt that it would be better if someone had an opportunity to "show his or her stuff" for at least a few months around the table of the Presidents Conference before such a person's candidacy could be seriously considered. The Scope Committee will be meeting again on the 25th of May to reconsider that one aspect of its report and then the recommendation of the Committee will be sent out to all of the constituent organizations for study, following which there will be a full meeting of the Presidents Conference plenum for final approval of these recommendations. Please note that the matter of the Executive Committee is not intended to be a concern of your present nominating committee.

I send this report to you, with the above commentary, because I feel that it can provide you with some guidance in your current deliberations. Although it is not the official policy of the full Presidents Conference yet, it is the recommendation of the Committee on Scope and Structure which as you can see from the minutes, is a very representative group and, I believe, one of high quality.

All good wishes.

Shalom,

JBG/s

Rabbi Joseph B. Glaser

OFFICERS:

Ely E. Pilchik, President
Short Hills, N.J.

Joseph B. Glaser, Executive Vice President
New York, N.Y.

Jerome R. Malino, Vice President
Danbury, Conn.

Alfred Wolf, Treasurer
Los Angeles, Cal.

Sidney H. Brooks, Recording Secretary
Omaha, Neb.

Jordan Pearlson, Financial Secretary
Toronto, Canada

Sidney L. Regner, Executive Vice President Emeritus
New York, N.Y.

Elliot L. Stevens, Administrative Secretary
New York, N.Y.

cc: Rabbi Alexander Schindler, Mr. Yehuda Hellman

June 27, 1978

Mr. Theodore Mann
Presidents' Conference
515 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10022

Dear Ted:

I am turning over the enclosed correspondence to you. I feel it properly comes under your jurisdiction with your new post.

With every good wish and warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

אגוד הרבנים המתקדמים

CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS

790 MADISON AVENUE • NEW YORK, N.Y. 10021 • (212) 734-7166

Office of the Executive Vice President

March 15, 1978

Dr. Judah Shapiro
302 West 86 Street
New York, New York 10024

Dear Judah:

Enclosed is the final report of the Presidents Conference Committee on Scope, of which I am chairman. You received it once before when it was distributed to the Conference last year.

I send it to you because your Nominating Committee appears to be taking up some of the substance of our recommendations, and should be guided thereby, inasmuch as this report was adopted by the Conference.

I will be happy to advise you further if need be.

All good wishes.

Shalom,

Rabbi Joseph B. Glaser

JBG/s

cc: Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler
Mr. Yehuda Hellman

OFFICERS:

Ely E. Pilchik, *President*
Short Hills, N.J.
Joseph B. Glaser, *Executive Vice President*
New York, N.Y.

Jerome R. Malino, *Vice President*
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Omaha, Neb.
Jordan Pearlson, *Financial Secretary*
Toronto, Canada

Sidney L. Regner, *Executive Vice President Emeritus*
New York, N.Y.
Elliot L. Stevens, *Administrative Secretary*
New York, N.Y.

June 17, 1944

Balfour Brickner, SAC

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אגוד הרבנים המתקדמים

CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS

790 MADISON AVENUE • NEW YORK, N.Y. 10021 • (212) 734-7166

Office of the Executive Vice President

May 9, 1978

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler, Chairman
Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations
838 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10021

Dear Alex:

The Presidents Conference Committee on Scope and Structure met on 5 May, 1978.

Present were Al Chernin, Arnie Forster, Jane Evans (for Eleanor Schwartz), Phil Baum, Faye Schenk, Israel Miller (supposed to substitute for Faye Schenk but she was able at the last minute to attend), Yehuda Hellman and myself, as chairman.

The committee decided that, in order to be in rhythm with the reality of the Jewish year, the chairmanship term should be from July 1st to June 30th. We are recommending that this go into effect this July 1st.

With regard to eligibility for the chairmanship, the committee decided that a candidate for the chairmanship must be a sitting president for all of his first term as chairman of the Presidents Conference, and a sitting president in order to be reelected for the chairmanship of the Presidents Conference on the date of his reelection.

The committee further recommended that on such occasions that the Nominating Committee does not have a majority candidate, it is to bring in to the plenum all candidates being considered.

The committee further recommends that an executive committee be elected by the fall of this year. We recommend that the new chairman of the Presidents Conference appoint a new Nominating Committee to present to the plenum a slate of four executive committee members. The Nominating Committee should take into consideration the varied nature of the constituency of the Presidents Conference in selecting nominees for the executive committee.

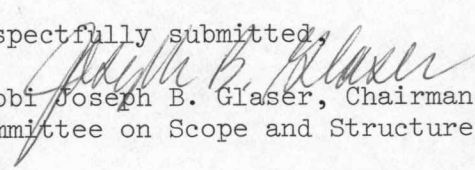
Another meeting of the Committee on Scope and Structure will be called soon to discuss the relationship of organizations not belonging to the Presidents Conference.

JBG/s

cc: Yehuda Hellman

Committee on Scope and Structure

Respectfully submitted,


Rabbi Joseph B. Glaser, Chairman
Committee on Scope and Structure

OFFICERS:

Ely E. Pilchik, President

Short Hills, N.J.

Joseph B. Glaser, Executive Vice President
New York, N.Y.

Jerome R. Malino, Vice President

Danbury, Conn.

Alfred Wolf, Treasurer
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Sidney H. Brooks, Recording Secretary

Omaha, Neb.

Jordan Pearson, Financial Secretary
Toronto, Canada

Sidney L. Regner, Executive Vice President Emeritus

New York, N.Y.

Elliott L. Stevens, Administrative Secretary
New York, N.Y.

PROPOSAL TO DEFINE THE DELIBERATIVE PROCESSES OF THE
CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

The need for a more efficient and comprehensive deliberative process is evident. The major focus of the Presidents Conference must be on peace in the Middle East. We should also strive continually to minimize public conflicts between and among our constituent agencies in these matters, albeit with full understanding of the autonomy of each and ^{of} their responsibility to advocate their own duly arrived at policies both internally and in the councils of the Presidents Conference.

The Conference of Presidents deals with matters concerning the security of Jewish communities abroad and peace in the Middle East. The Conference should impress upon its member organizations their responsibility to transmit to their membership, on all levels, the deliberations and recommendations of the Conference. We should spell out as specifically as possible what our functions are, where we should act in advocacy, where publicly, where privately, where we do nothing and what the impact of that would be. We must avoid dissipating what effective influence we have and, where cases are not overwhelming, must decide whether or not we can afford to lose fights.

We must clarify our role vis-a-vis the exchange of views with Israeli leaders. Certain issues require two-way consultation and, when public relations are involved, perhaps no issue should be considered outside the pale. In this function, the dynamics would be private and would not involve "telling Israel what to do." Israel must make the ultimate decisions regarding its own policies. Israeli leaders in all areas of Israeli life can only benefit from consultation with the Presidents Conference which is here on the scene. A similar relationship must be established with Jewish communities abroad.

We commend the chairman of the Presidents Conference for appointing a cabinet of agency heads (including non-Presidents Conference members). The cabinet will formulate with the chairman policy and action proposals, thereby enabling the Presidents Conference to hear clear presentations of the issues and to decide on well-defined optional solutions, with a minimum of time spent.

To facilitate this process, task forces on specific subjects should be established. The task forces, which should be comprised of members of the Conference (including presidents or executive directors or the ~~one~~ permanent delegates ^{of the} from each constituent organization, plus staff, ~~and~~ knowledgeable ^{lay leaders} thereof, and experts), should meet to gather and organize the necessary background information crucial to decision-making. Each task force should have a chairman and it would be prudent to have a vice-chairman in the event of the absence of the chairman.

In all cases, it is our intention to utilize, not to supplant, existing machinery within the Jewish community. The Presidents Conference has no interest in performing on-going, functional activities which would in any way duplicate or compete with the established functions of the constituent agencies. The Conference should act where collective action is needed.

The issues before the Presidents Conference would appear to fall into the following major categories: (a) security of Jewish communities abroad; (b) foreign policy and Arab relationships; (c) energy, oil and boycott; (d) the United Nations and international affairs.

אגוד הרבנים המתקדמים

CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS

790 MADISON AVENUE • NEW YORK, N.Y. 10021 • (212) 734-7166

Office of the Executive Vice President

April 25, 1977

Handwritten:
Hillel
for the
meeting

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

Dear Alex and Yehuda:

The work of the SCOPE Committee is now completed, in terms of the initial stage of our assignment, namely, the finalization of the "Proposal To Define The Deliberative Processes of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations."

We have gone through some seven meetings of the committee, have presented a final draft to the plenum a few months ago, as you will recall, and achieved at that time a general, broad consensus as to the statement as it was at that time.

Since then we have had another two meetings of the committee, to absorb some of the comments which were made at the plenum meeting, and to rethink some of the points raised by Yehuda Hellman who also met with us in the latter stages.

After close consultation with Yehuda, I present now to you the very final draft of the proposal, which incorporates all of the major points upon which there has been agreement, but refines the statement in such a way that any possible public relations problems are obviated.

It is clear to our committee that, in order to implement the recommendations in the attached document, the budget and staff facilities of the Presidents' Conference must be increased.

We also feel that the Presidents' Conference should schedule monthly meetings on a regular basis so that the work of the task forces can be reported and policies can be developed in connection with the work of the task forces, as well as an opportunity to be provided for a general review of policies and preparations for impending developments. Naturally, if there is no appropriate agenda for any particular monthly meeting, it can always be cancelled;

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Cleveland, Ohio

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New York, N.Y.

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EXECUTIVE BOARD: Laszio Berkowitz, Falls Church, Va. • Marc Brownstein, Newington, Ct. • Hillel Cohn, San Bernardino, Ca. • Michael S. Eisenstat, Coral Gables, Fl. • Floyd S. Fierman, El Paso, Tx. • Alfred Gottschalk, Cincinnati, Oh. • Martin I. Hinchin, Alexandria, La. • Richard G. Hirsch, Jerusalem, Israel • Walter Jacob, Pittsburgh, Pa. • Robert I. Kahn, Houston, Tx. • Robert L. Katz, Cincinnati, Oh. • Nathan M. Landman, Wright-Patterson AFB, Oh. • William J. Leffler, Lexington, Ky. • Robert L. Lehman, New York, N.Y. • Simeon J. Maslin, Chicago, Ill. • W. Gunther Plaut, Toronto, Canada • Murray I. Rothman, Newton, Mass. • Alexander M. Schindler, New York, N.Y. • Richard F. Steinbrink, Philadelphia, Pa. • Jack Stern, Jr., Scarsdale, N.Y. • Malcolm H. Stern, New York, N.Y. • Frank N. Sundheim, Tampa, Fl. • Moses Cyrus Weiler, Jerusalem, Israel • Leonard Winograd, McKeesport, Pa.

*Ex-officio

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler
Mr. Yehuda Hellman

April 25, 1977

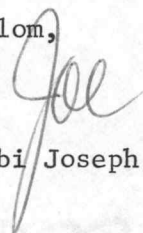
however, as a matter of principle, we feel that the monthly meeting schedule should be established.

We now leave it to the Chairman and the Executive Director to implement these recommendations, by establishing the meeting schedule by appointing the task forces and doing whatever else you feel is necessary to implement the recommendations contained herein.

The Committee on Scope is not looking for additional work, but we stand ready to assist the two of you in carrying out your responsibilities whenever you call upon us.

With warmest good wishes.

Shalom,



Rabbi Joseph B. Glaser

JBG/s

Enclosure

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

Meeting of April 21, 1967-- New York
with the participation of Senator Edward Kennedy

-- a summary --

In opening the meeting, Dr. Joachim Prinz stated that Senator Edward Kennedy, Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Refugees and Escapees, had visited a number of Middle Eastern countries, including Israel, in late November and early December 1966.

He said, too, that the Senator had been invited to come before the table of the Presidents Conference to share with us not only impressions gleaned from that visit, but his ideas on how peace and stability might be realized in that area of the world.

Dr. Prinz went on to stress the need for the Jewish community to hear and discuss "new thinking" on this problem. "I am one," he noted, "who believes that a Jewish debate has not as yet taken place. Very often we just tend to cling to certain notions and principles."

Turning to the Senator, Dr. Prinz pointed out that the American Jewish community is not monolithic in its views. Around this table, he said, there are 21 major American Jewish organizations, each of which has formulated its own positions. He stressed, too, that American Jewry is "profoundly committed" to the existence of the State of Israel. Our identification with Israel, he continued, is part -and- parcel of the identification we have for Jewry everywhere in the world. "We are concerned because we are a people--one people," he told the Senator.

Dr. Prinz went on to note that our own government is cognizant of the fact that American Jewry had a right--and even a duty--to be friends to the State of Israel. Moreover, he noted, we are in turn cognizant of our government's commitment to the territorial integrity of Near East states and to the principle of maintaining a balance of power in that troubled sector of the world.

Senator Kennedy then took the floor. He said that he knows we are "deeply concerned with problems relating to peace, security and growth" in the Near East and with our government's policy in that area. He then spoke of his positive impressions of Israel and of the forest dedicated to the late President Kennedy.

Senator Kennedy then went on to state that a lasting and significant peace in the Near East involves "moving the question of peace from the back burner to the front burner."

While not too optimistic whether the time is propitious (noting the fall visit of DeGaulle to the Kremlin), the Senator nonetheless thought it important to demonstrate to the Russians that it is in their interests as well to "at least cooperate in a much more significant degree" in striving for peace in the Middle East.

Essential, too, in our quest for peace, the Senator continued, is "getting some kind of dialogue going." Today no lines of communication exist between Israel and the Arabs. (Here the Senator noted with satisfaction that Israel university students were translating student newspapers into Arabic.)

The Senator said, too, that efforts should be made to enlist the aid of mutually respected persons that could "move back and forth" between Israel and other Near East countries.

In answer to a question raised by Rabbi Jay Kaufman on initial steps to be undertaken, the Senator stated that Israel "the most sophisticated" of Near East nations, "bearing a considerable amount of responsibility" on the refugee problem should provide the initiative in the area of land compensation and the reunification of refugee families -- "a few thousands a year."

Mrs. Charlotte Jacobson then pointed out that the Senator had emphasized that Russia was a key to Near East peace. Too, she noted, it is not feasible to solve the refugee problem under threats of continued warfare. The attainment of peace is the greater objective, she stated -- thus, can we not through a third party get a peace dialogue on Near East issues going between the USA and the USSR?

The Senator replied that any efforts in the direction of peace would be helpful. Our main concern with the Soviet Union involves the armaments race in the Near East. Here is where we must see if we have common grounds with them, he pointed out.

Mrs. Rose Halprin then took the floor to state that there is considerable unanimity in the American Jewish community on the refugee question. When we speak of reunification of families, she stated, we must remember it is not a question of ~~one~~ thousand refugees but of tens of thousands. Threatened at her borders, Israel has cogent reasons not to endanger the security of her people by a return of refugees en masse.

In reply, Senator Kennedy stated that he was aware that Israel accepts the principle of compensation as part of a total settlement. However, he asked, cannot we even start considering this question prior to the time of a comprehensive settlement?

—Too, he stressed, I do not wish my remarks to be interpreted as an "open door" policy for refugees. It is completely understandable why this is not possible.

But after witnessing the frustrations of Arab students--the sons of refugees who feel so strongly on being denied the opportunity to return--I must raise the question whether additional flexibility is possible, and whether this is an area which we can together further examine.

In answer to a question raised by Dr. Prinz, the Senator said that he had a "useful and important" exchange with both Prime Minister Eshkol and Foreign Minister Eban while in Israel.

Mr. Henry Rapaport asked the Senator, in lieu of Soviet cooperation, are we left with no leverage now for a peaceful solution?

Senator Kennedy stated that the United States should commit itself to a dramatic Middle East development program that would bring prosperity to the total region and to its people.

It is "shocking" he said to talk about \$3- $\frac{1}{2}$ billion for foreign aid when our gross national product will soar to the trillions in the 70s.

Here the Senator called upon Jewish, Protestant and Catholic groups across the country to marshall support for a meaningful foreign aid program.

The Senator went on to note that--with the exception of the southern sections--Arab refugees were economically integrated in Jordan. We ought to look for additional ways here, too, he stated for providing assistance for fundamental training.

Rabbi Israel Klavan asked the Senator whether he had reason to believe that any initiative on the part of Israel would be favorably received by the Arab leaders.

In reply, the Senator stated that he personally had received no indication (nor did he believe he would be the person that would be approached) that Arab leaders would be responsive to initiatives from Israel.

In reply to another question by the Rabbi, the Senator stated that the question of refugees was also a political question from the viewpoint of Arab nationalists. I think, too, he stated that for a considerable time we shall be confronted with the problem of violent Arab nationalism and terrorism. And we cannot close our eyes to its existence.

Mr. Julian Freeman took the floor to comment that "Sometimes we face Middle East problems from too close a perspective. We tend to see it largely as a clash of interests between Israel and her neighbors. But the larger clash--certainly with the greatest casualties--is of Arab nations versus Arab nations--the "have-nots" coveting the resources of their neighbor.

Dr. Nahum Goldmann asked Senator Kennedy whether "time works for Israel" with the younger Arab generation. Some say it does, he noted; others disagree.

In reply, the Senator said that the situation varies from country to country. However, he related, "I came back distressed" by the attitude of the young, particularly those in the universities, the sons of refugees. Rarely have I seen such impassioned feelings and such embitterment.

Perhaps we have to let time work out this problem. At the same time, the Senator emphasized, we must continue to reiterate our strong commitment to Israel and its borders -- so that there can be no question as to Israel's continued existence. With this, he hoped, could come a change of attitude.

Pres. Conf. - Scope

October 13, 1970

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath

Al Vorspan

The Policy Committee meeting of the Presidents Conference met yesterday, October 12th, and I represented you.

The sole issue on the agenda was the question of the American Conference on Soviet Jewry -- should or should it not be brought under the umbrella of the Presidents Conference, and if so, how?

Theoretically, it should be part and parcel of the Presidents Conference but because of the latter's administrative weakness I opted for the continuance of the status quo -- strongly supported by Jordan Band and Schachter, the present head of the Conference on Soviet Jewry. All other voices -- Wexler, Stein, etc. -- had been brainwashed by Hellman. Be that as it may, no decisions were made and we scored a victory of sorts by having this matter referred to a committee -- and an uninstructed committee to boot! -- which will explore the ramifications of the proposed move in all their fullness. (According to the leading authority on the American Jewish organizational scene - Al Vorspan - the best way to kill a proposal is to have it referred to a committee -- although in this instance the general rule may not apply, since Wexler, i.e. Hellman, will appoint the committee).

Hellman tells me that tomorrow (that is, today), you will be named Conference Vice-Chairman.

MEMORANDUM

Date May 1, 1969From Rabbi Alexander M. SchindlerTo Al Vorspan

Copy for information of _____

Subject _____

I attended the Committee on Scope meeting of the Presidents Conference. It was chaired by Jay Kaufman, and the principle subject on the agenda was the American section of the World Jewish Congress challenge to the Presidents Conference hegemony.

Opinion was fairly well divided. On the one hand, there were those like Hellman, Newman and Bernie Siegel who saw this as a great threat; on the other hand, there were Torciner and Weiss from the Orthodox group who felt that this was only a paper organization and that we are making a mountain out of a molehill.

In the course of the discussion, Bernie Siegel indicated that the Conservative movement is not at all happy with what appears to have been Wolf Kelman's unilateral decision to join the American section of the Congress, and that this decision must be reversed.

I enclose a note which he and I passed to each other, with my question on the top and his answer on the bottom. It may well be of interest to you.

CONFIDENTIAL

September 29, 1964

Rabbi Jay Kaufman

Rabbis Maurice N. Eisendrath; Balfour Brickner, Richard G. Hirsh, Joseph B. Glaser, Robert Marx, Erwin L. Herman

Mr. Albert Vorspan; Rabbis Sanford Seltzer, Jerome Davidson, Charles D. Mintz; Messrs. Paul Kresh & Gunther Lawrence; Rabbi Daniel L. Davis; Mr. Theodore Broido; Rabbis Sol Kaplan & Hebrl Front

In an effort to have the Jewish organizations speak with one voice rather than in the multi-opinioned barrage that has been going on since the appearance of the second draft of the schema on the Jews, The Conference of Jewish Organizations (COJO) called a conference and invited American Jewish organizations, the South American Dia (all inclusive body) and the Canadian Jewish Congress. Maurice and I attended both meetings, the 18th and 25th of September). At the first meeting, it was decided that we would send a statement to all Jewish organizations and to the Jewish press, for internal consumption. 2. prepare a joint strategy for contacting the Church, bolstering those clergy who seek to have a better statement on the Jews, but to do so privately and not in the public press, and 3. decide who was to sign the statement.

Maurice Abram and Marc Tannenbaum were present for the American Jewish Committee, which surprised many of us, but the meeting went along well, reached concord and a fine statement by Abram was read, which became the basis of the subsequent draft for the letter to the Jews.

The Orthodox moved a bit in their position which was for no contact with the Church at all because, 1/ anti-Semitism is a Christian problem, 2. one statement is not any better than the other because both are evangelical, 3. the matter should be considered on a sociological basis, seeking human improvement and not on a theological basis because the Church may be able to share the blame for the delcide but it could not alter its hope and effort to help the Jews accept Jesus. They did agree that confidential efforts, kept out of the public press, to buttress those clergymen who want to have a sensitive and sensible statement on the Jews, should be undertaken.

We also agreed to have the Jewish Agencies in Rome, i.e. World Jewish Congress, B'nai B'rith, American Jewish Committee and the Italian Jewish Community, coordinate activities instead of jockeying for prelates' favor and the attendant publicity and "credit for having influenced the Council."

The second meeting convened with an unhappy mood because a front page article in the Herald Tribune of that day told how Marc Tannenbaum had asked Charles Silver to intervene with Spellman and how he did it. John Slawson, at the second meeting instead of Morris Abram, said he was upset over the leak and said it was without their knowledge and against their wishes. Also immediately after our meeting, Marc Tannenbaum had been sent to Rome.

We worked on the draft to the Jews. It was tough pounding out an agreed upon statement but we finally did. As we were about to leave, Slawson said they would sign the statement but did not feel bound to refrain from making any further statements in addition to this. So, the rest of the Jewish organizations will keep the discipline. Committee will feel free to go ahead on their own. A bitter pill. But that's where we stand now.

MEMORANDUM

CONFIDENTIAL

Date September 29, 1964

From Rabbi Jay Kaufman

To Rabbis Maurice N. Eisendrath; Balfour Brickner, Richard G. Hirsh, Joseph B. Glaser, Robert Marx, Erwin L. Herman

Copy for information of Mr. Albert Vorspan; Rabbis Sanford Seltzer, Jerome Davidson, Charles D. Mintz; Messrs. Paul Kresh & Gunther Lawrence; *SKN-TAB front-SKK*

Subject _____

In an effort to have the Jewish organizations speak with one voice rather than in the multi-opinioned barrage that has been going on since the appearance of the second draft of the schema on the Jews, The Conference of Jewish Organizations (COJO) called a conference and invited American Jewish organizations, the South American Dia (all inclusive body) and the Canadian Jewish Congress. Maurice and I attended both meetings, the 18th and 25th of September). At the first meeting, it was decided that we would send a statement to all Jewish organizations and to the Jewish press, for internal consumption. 2. prepare a joint strategy for contacting the Church, bolstering those clergy who seek to have a better statement on the Jews, but to do so privately and not in the public press, and 3. decide who was to sign the statement.

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We worked on the draft to the Jews. It was tough pounding out an agreed upon statement but we finally did. As we were about to leave, Slawson said they would sign the statement but did not feel bound to refrain from making any further statements in addition to this. So, the rest of the Jewish organizations will keep the discipline. Committee will feel free to go ahead on their own. A bitter pill. But that's where we stand now.

MEMORANDUM

Date September 30, 1964

From Rabbi Jay Kaufman

To Rabbi Balfour Brickner

Copy for information of _____

Subject _____

It is essential that you be present at the subsequent meeting on Friday, October 2nd - COJO. Unfortunately, Maurice and I will be out of town. I have spoken to Maurice and our position is firm. Please abide by it and do not improvise.

We feel that only those organizations willing to refrain from separate statements should be permitted to sign the document. It is only under those ground rules that we would be willing to be bound.

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK 22, NEW YORK

Date: June 18, 1964

MEMORANDUM

To: /Rabbi Balfour Brickner

From: Yehuda Hellman

I want to acknowledge receipt of your memorandum dated June 17th.

I am sorry that you were unable to attend the last meeting of the Presidents Conference which took place on June 16th. The Conference was informed at that time that Mr. George Maislen has agreed to serve as the Chairman of the Steering Committee of the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry for the next six months. In fact, the problem you are raising has already been discussed by the Steering Committee and I think that you have already received an invitation to attend the next meeting of the 24 cosponsoring organizations.

~~It is regrettable that you were unable to attend the last meeting of the Presidents Conference which took place on June 16th. The Conference was informed at that time that Mr. George Maislen has agreed to serve as the Chairman of the Steering Committee of the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry for the next six months. In fact, the problem you are raising has already been discussed by the Steering Committee and I think that you have already received an invitation to attend the next meeting of the 24 cosponsoring organizations.~~

I am taking the liberty of sending Mr. Maislen, Jerry Goodman, and Jack Baker copies of your memorandum of June 17th.

YH:md

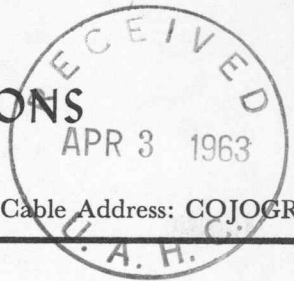
CC: Jerry Goodman, Jack Baker, George Maislen, A. Vorspan, J. Kaufman, Mr. Hirst

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE • NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

Tel.: PL 5-1820

Cable Address: COJOGRA



To: Members Participating in the Presidents Conference
From: Yehuda Hellman

Enclosed please find a short summary of the minutes of the meeting of the Presidents Conference which took place on February 19th. At the request of several of the participants, the minutes are being presented in this very short form. However, if you wish a more detailed account, we will mail it upon request.

March 29, 1963

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS

February 19, 1963

The meeting was opened by Rabbi Irving Miller at 3:30 P.M., and dealt with internal problems in connection with the structure and scope of the Presidents Conference.

The following members participated in the discussion: Rabbi Irving Miller, Rabbi Jay Kaufman, Mr. Julian Freeman, Rabbi Mordechai Kirshblum, Mr. Benjamin Tabachinsky, Mr. Label Katz, Mr. Isaiah Minkoff, Dr. Emanuel Neumann, Mr. Louis Segal, Mr. Lewis Weinstein, Rabbi David Hill and Mrs. Rose Halprin.

At the end of the discussion, Rabbi Jay Kaufman presented the following motion: "I move that this body study its structure and that a special committee be appointed by the Chairman to report back to the full body for action."

Rabbi Irving Miller then said, "...I spoke of criticisms, complaints and suggestions that have been made from time to time with respect to the work of the Conference. I suggest that as a result of all that has taken place and as a result of these criticisms, the time possibly has come for review of the structure and scope of the Conference and for clear confirmation of the direction in which we are going and the routes along which we are travelling. I think that the question of scope should not be removed from the committee. It will only be brought up later. However, it is clearly indicated that domestic problems are not on the agenda." Rabbi Miller concluded by saying that a committee would be appointed and, "Let the committee take a month or two months and then report back to this body."

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

Subsequent to this meeting and in accordance with the motion approved, Rabbi Miller appointed the following members of the Presidents Conference to serve on the Structure Committee:

Chairman	B'nai B'rith
Chairman	Jewish Agency for Israel
Chairman	National Community Relations Advisory Council
Chairman	Union of American Hebrew Congregations
Chairman	Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America
Chairman	United Synagogue of America
Chairman	Zionist Organization of America

The first meeting of the committee took place on March 15th. The next meeting has been scheduled for April 30th. If you wish to submit any data or memoranda, please address same to Rabbi Jay Kaufman, Chairman, Structure Committee, c/o Presidents Conference, 515 Park Avenue, New York 22, New York.

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE • NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

Tel.: PL 5-1820

Cable Address: COJOGRA

October 7, 1963

To: Members Associated in the Conference of Presidents

From: Yehuda Hellman

The following is a summary of the minutes of the Presidents' Conference Meeting of September 25th, 1963.

Conference of Presidents

September 25, 1963

Rabbi Irving Miller opened the meeting by wishing a Happy New Year to the members present. He welcomed Rabbi Maurice Eisendrath, President of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, who, due to tragic circumstances, was unable to participate in the work of the Conference during the previous year.

The Chairman then called on Rabbi Jay Kaufman, Chairman of the Committee on Structure and Scope, for a report on the recommendations of the Committee.

Rabbi Kaufman expressed a sense of gratification at the achievements of the committee. He stated that the members of the committee met with great regularity and spent long hours working together. They were able to overcome strong disagreements which prevailed previously. Rabbi Kaufman suggested that the report be discussed point by point and then turned to the section of the report entitled PURPOSE AND SCOPE (Item II):

The primary purpose of the Presidents' Conference shall continue to be, as it has been, American - Israel relations. However, as problems affecting Jews in foreign countries arise from time to time, the Conference may place such problems on the agenda for consideration and action.

Rabbi Kaufman commented that members of the committee felt that the scope of the Presidents' Conference should not be restricted to political problems, only on the "government to government" level, but that the Conference should also concern itself with broader issues on a "people to people" level,

In the discussion that followed, Mr. Will Maslow suggested that the paragraph dealing with the scope of the Conference should specify, "...problems of great importance in exceptional circumstances." so that unnecessary overlapping might be avoided as these matters are often within the jurisdiction and competence of other organizations such as the American Section of the World Jewish Congress, the NCRAC and the American groups of COJO.

Rabbi Eisendrath suggested that any matter of importance could be placed on agenda so that the whole conference might be informed of what is being done by the agencies involved. If the Conference learns that a situation is being adequately coped with, the Conference could rest and be satisfied and if there was a need for cooperative action, the Conference would be in a position to so decide. Rabbi Eisendrath thus suggested that the wording of Item II, (PURPOSE AND SCOPE) remain the same.

Rabbi Kirshblum, Mr. Segal and Mr. Minkoff also expressed the opinion that it would be up to the Conference to use common sense to determine whether, from the point of view of competence, the Conference could undertake action.

Rabbi Miller pointed out that when the Conference originated there had already been other organizations in existence dealing with American-Israel relations and the idea was for the Conference to pool information in this area and to achieve a sense of unity on important matters. The intention in this paragraph on scope, is to do likewise in other areas. He suggested that the wording of this paragraph remain as is. He called the attention of the Conference to the fact that the report would later refer to a "Steering Committee" (Item IX) . He suggested that the Chairman would always be in a position to consult the Steering Committee on such matters.

Mr. Maslow expressed his agreement with Rabbi Miller's position and the paragraph concerning Structure and Scope (Item II) was approved.

Rabbi Kaufman then turned to MEMBERSHIP (Item III).

The Presidents' Conference shall continue to study its membership. For the present, it is the recommendation of this Committee that the Central Conference of American Rabbis, the Rabbinical Assembly, the Rabbinical Council of America and the American Jewish Committee be invited to join.

Rabbi Miller commented that there is always room for re-evaluation of the composition of this body. There are other groups today that ought to be represented, and invitations or at least "soundings out" ought to be conducted in a tactful way with the presidents of these organizations. They should be invited to join.

No objection was raised and Item III (Membership) was approved.

Rabbi Kaufman turned to BUDGET (Item IV):

A Budget Committee shall be appointed to study the budget of the Conference and pursue the ways and means of financing it.

Rabbi Kaufman said he wished to bring the following background information to the attention of the Conference. There were a number of questions at the time the committee was in action concerning the role of the Jewish Agency. Half of the budget according to one set of bookkeeping comes from the Jewish Agency. It was felt by the committee that this should be corrected. The committee believes that a budget committee should be appointed to study this recommendation in detail. During the committee's deliberations, Dr. Neumann informed us that the Jewish Agency was in the midst of a reappraisal of its relationships with other organizations. He did not know what the future policy would be. As a consequence, the Structure Committee recommended, rather than proposing a solution, that a committee on budget be appointed to study this point in detail and report back to the Conference.

Rabbi Miller then stated that this was a pressing matter and informed the Conference that he planned to appoint a committee on budget as soon as approval was given to these recommendations. He also stated that the committee should report back to the Conference with a solution to the entire fiscal problem.

After a discussion in which Mr. Will Maslow, Rabbi Kaufman and Mr. Label Katz participated, Mrs. Halprin said that the Agency was not over-eager to pay this disproportionate share of the budget. She expressed the opinion that irrespective of anything else, it would be a healthy thing for the Conference to review its budget and for each organization to pay its proportionate share. Mr. Minkoff commented that the Committee had in mind, while making its recommendations, only a fiscal point of view. He added that the Budget Committee should take into consideration the fact that facilities and staff of the Conference are also being shared by COJO.

Rabbi Miller then declared Item IV (BUDGET) approved.

Rabbi Kaufman turned to Item V (PLACE):

Meetings of the Presidents' Conference may be held at varied sites, e.g., at a conveniently situated hotel or at the offices of our member organizations. The site of the headquarters shall be considered in the light of our financial capabilities.

In the ensuing discussion, the following members participated: Rabbi Miller, Mr. Maslow, Rabbi Kaufman, Mrs. Halprin, Dr. Eisendrath and Mr. Segal. Mr. Phillip Bernstein moved the following amendment to the last sentence, which was unanimously approved:

"...The site of the headquarters shall be considered in the light of our financial capabilities and the best interests of the Presidents' Conference."

Rabbi Kaufman continued with Item VI (UNANIMITY):

When there is a unanimous agreement in the Presidents' Conference, a statement may be made public or a public action taken in the name of the Conference.

Lacking unanimity, the dissenting member or members may, at their option, consent to one of the following procedures:

- 1) Permit the majority position to be made public in the name of the Conference, omitting the names of those members not subscribing to it.
- 2) Permit the majority position to be made public by the Conference as a releasing agent, in the names only of those members subscribing to it, and with the dissents or abstentions of the non-participating members explicitly noted, should they so desire.

- 3) Permit the facilities of the Conference to be used to make public the position of the majority, in their names only, and without the use of the name of the Conference (i.e., on blank stationery.).
- 4) In matters of procedural nature, a majority vote shall be required for implementation. If a question arises as to whether a matter is of substance or procedure, a 75% majority would be required to decide its nature.

After a discussion, paragraph four of Item VI (UNANIMITY) was amended as follows:

- "4) In matters of a procedural nature, a majority vote shall be required for implementation. If a question arises as to whether a matter is of substance or procedure, a 75% majority of those present and voting would be required to decide its nature."

Miss Hannah Stein stated that she felt that the provisions covering dissension were not stated clearly enough. Mr. Maslow answered that these provisions concerning unanimity were operating successfully for the groups associated in the NCRAC for fifteen years and there was no reason why the Presidents' Conference could not adopt such a pattern.

Rabbi Kaufman then continued with Item VII (REPRESENTATION):

The hope is expressed by the Committee that we become a Conference of Organizations. Constituent agencies are requested to explore this recommendation within their councils. However, until unanimity is obtained we shall continue as a Conference of Presidents. The Committee also takes notes that the present participation is as follows:

The President of each of the organizations participating in the Presidents' Conference is invited to participate in the plenary meetings of the Presidents' Conference. Each President is requested to nominate a permanent alternate delegate to the Presidents' Conference.

All Executive Directors of organizations are also at all times invited to the meetings of the Presidents' Conference. Each President is at liberty to come accompanied by his alternate delegate or his Executive Director or by both. No delegation to the Conference should consist of more than three representatives at one time.

Rabbi Kaufman then underlined that several organizations had contacted him since the report was circulated informing him that their delegations would have to include more than three people. When the committee reached its decision to limit the delegations it was because we were disturbed that sometimes delegations of seven or eight people were appearing at the Conference and this seemed to the committee to be excessive. Rabbi Kaufman said that he would like to recommend that each organization submit the names of all their delegates. It should be a small list of names and once we have the names, those delegates can attend. If this last modification can be accepted, it would be satisfactory.

Rabbi Miller added that if an organization has four delegates no one will object. He suggested that the first phrase in Paragraph two (Item VII) be eliminated and the following substituted: "The Presidents making up the Presidents' Conference shall participate in the meeting."

The amended Paragraph two in full reads as follows:

"The Presidents making up the Presidents' Conference shall participate in the meetings. Each President is requested to nominate a permanent alternate delegate to the Presidents' Conference."

Item VII was approved.

Rabbi Kaufman proceeded to read TENURE OF CHAIRMAN (ITEM VIII) which was unanimously approved.

"The chairman of the Presidents' Conference shall be elected for a one year term. Re-election to a second one-year term is permitted."

Rabbi Kaufman then continued with ITEM IX (STEERING COMMITTEE)?

"A Steering Committee on the presidential level shall be named on a rotating basis from year-to-year to consult and to advise the chairman on day-to-day matters of the Conference between meetings of the Conference, and within the framework of the principles laid down by the Conference itself."

This item was unanimously adopted.

Rabbi Kaufman concluded his report with the submission of ITEM X (TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE):

"A committee on the professional level shall be named to concern itself with technical problems such as the drafting of statements, research, the Arab Boycott, etc.,. Presidents may name to this committee persons other than the executive directors of their organizations."

This final item was also unanimously approved.

Miss Stein then informed the body that the President of the National Council does not sit in the Presidents' Conference ad personum but as a representative of the National Council. Therefore, it will be necessary for these recommendations to be submitted to their National Board before the Council's representative can cast a vote. The National Board of her organization will meet in October and make their decision at that time.

Mr. Bisgyer noted that there were some procedural matters of the Conference which he believed should be improved. He did not wish to press the issue now but felt that these matters should be taken up at some future date.

Rabbi Miller answered Mr. Bisgyer that a discussion of procedural matters can be brought up at any time and that Mr. Bisgyer's suggestions would be welcomed whenever he might offer them.

Rabbi Miller thanked Rabbi Kaufman for a job well done and said that he hoped this document adopted here today would facilitate the work of the Conference. He concluded the meeting by announcing that he had two statements to make. He first informed the Conference that his term as chairman would be expiring next month and that it was not his intention to deliver a "Farewell Address", but he wanted to inform the Conference of his intention to designate a Nominating Committee within the next few days. He advised the Conference that he planned to request Mr. George Maislen to chair the Nominating Committee, and, Mr. Label Katz to chair the Finance and Budget Committee.

Rabbi Miller concluded that he did not believe there would be a meeting of the Conference in October unless a special situation arises. However, a meeting will certainly be held in November and we have been notified that Mr. Talbot or a panel of State Department experts will participate at this meeting.

The morning session was adjourned at 12:30 P.M. when the Foreign Minister of Israel, Mrs. Golda Meir, was entertained at a luncheon by the members of the Conference. An informal question and answer period followed and the meeting adjourned at 3:00 P.M.

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE • NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

Tel.: PL 5-1820

Cable Address: COJOGRA

To: Members participating in the Presidents Conference

From: Yehuda Hellman

Enclosed please find a short summary of minutes of the Presidents Conference which took place on November 26th and of the Conference which took place on December 12th.

In view of the nature of the discussions which took place it was decided by the Chairman, at the request of many of the Presidents, that the minutes of these meetings not be circulated beyond the attached texts.

January 3, 1963

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE • NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

Tel.: PL 5-1820

Cable Address: COJOGRA

December 28, 1962

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

To: Members participating in the Presidents Conference

From: Yehuda Hellman

I would like to bring to your attention the following exchange of cables:

H.E. DAVID BEN GURION, JERUSALEM, ISRAEL

DECEMBER 24, 1962

PRESIDENTS CONFERENCE DEEPLY DISTURBED BY PRESS REPORTS THAT AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE NOW DISCUSSING WITH YOU AT YOUR INVITATION ARAB REFUGEE PROBLEM AND POSITION OF MINORITIES IN ISRAEL AND OTHER MATTERS STOP WE RESPECTFULLY CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT THE PRESIDENTS CONFERENCE SUCCEEDED IN UNITING OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF AMERICAN JEWRY ON AMERICAN-ISRAEL RELATIONS ON THE BASIS OF COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITY AND DISCIPLINE STOP WE VIEW WITH GRAVE CONCERN ANY DEVELOPMENTS JEPEORDIZING THIS UNITY AND ARE CALLING SPECIAL MEETING OF CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS THIS SITUATION REGARDS

IRVING MILLER
LABEL KATZ

IRVING MILLER, LABEL KATZ, PRESIDENTS CONFERENCE, 515 PARK AVE., NYC
DECEMBER 26, 1962

PRIME MINISTER ASKS ME ADVISE YOU THAT AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE HAS LIKE MANY JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS OVERSEAS HAS STANDING INVITATION TO SEND GROUPS HERE SUCH AS STUDY MISSIONS, DELEGATIONS OR FOR CONFERENCES STOP SUCH VISITS INTEGRAL PART OUR DESIRE TO CREATE DIRECT PERSONAL LINKS WITH JEWISH COMMUNITIES OUTSIDE ISRAEL STOP AT MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER NEITHER ARAB REFUGEE PROBLEM NOR MINORITIES ISSUE RAISED STOP DISCUSSION CENTERED UPON JEWISH LIFE, JEWISH EDUCATION, HEBREW LANGUAGE AND ISRAEL.

THERE WILL BE NO JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED.

AS PRIME MINISTER HAS TOLD YOU ON NUMBER OCCASIONS HE HAS GREAT REGARD FOR VITAL ROLE PRESIDENTS CONFERENCE FILLS STOP HOPE THIS CABLE CLARIFIES ANY MISUNDERSTANDINGS WHICH MAY HAVE ARISEN FROM PRESS REPORTS
CORDIALLY

TEDDY KOLLEK

December 21, 1962

Mr. Yehuda Hellman
Presidents Conference
515 Park Avenue
New York 22, New York

Dear Yehuda:

Here are the seven points we agreed to discuss at the next meeting of our friends who are involved in the Presidents Conference. We agreed that you would open the discussion of each with a presentation.

- 1/ Shall the activities of the Presidents Conference be enlarged, within the scope of American-Israel relations? How? Would such new activity impinge upon the present program of the Zionist constituents? Shall we move beyond Israel-American relations?
- 2/ How can we disseminate detailed, difficult to procure information to the constituents on the various aspects of Israeli involvements? How can we have a swift interchange of agency statements, programs and information?
- 3/ How can the decision making procedures of the Presidents Conference be improved, eliminating the sense of non-participation which stems from the leadership, seeking to impose arrived at decisions and not soliciting counsel nor permitting a consensus to rise from the group. One of the factors preventing such give and take results from the non-observance of the president and executive restrictions on attendance.
- 4/ Was the Conference created with the intent of maintaining a parity between Zionist and non-Zionist membership? Is there such parity now?
- 5/ Re-examine concept of the rotating chairman versus the present two-year term practice.

Mr. Yehuda Hellman
December 21, 1962
Page -2-

6/ What exactly are the areas to be dealt with by the Conference?
What other areas might be dealt with on an ad hoc basis?

7/ The American Jewish Committee.

With warmest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Rabbi Jay Kaufman

JK/ejm

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS

NOVEMBER 26, 1962

Rabbi Miller opened the meeting at 12:15 P.M., announcing that he had purposely refrained from inviting any outsider from attending this meeting. He reviewed the two previous meetings of the Presidents Conference at which the Presidents Conference had been addressed respectively by Mrs. Meir and then by Secretary Talbott. Rabbi Miller also reviewed developments since the last meeting of the Conference with Secretary Talbott. He then read to the Conference a letter which he had addressed to Secretary Talbott after the previous meeting of the Conference. After that Secretary Talbott invited Rabbi Miller to call on him in Washington. Rabbi Miller asked Mrs. Halprin, Commander London, Mr. Label Katz and Rabbi Bernstein to join him (Rabbi Bernstein could not attend.) The delegation, accompanied by Mr. Hellman, met with the Secretary on November 20th. Despite the fact that the delegation met with Mr. Talbott at the height of the Sino-Indian border crisis, the meeting lasted for over two hours.

After his introductory remarks, Rabbi Miller welcomed Mr. George Maislen, President of the United Synagogue.

In the discussion that followed Rabbi Miller's report, the following individuals participated: Mrs. Halprin, Mr. London, Mrs. Jacobson, Dr. Freund, Rabbi Kirshblum, Mr. Segal, Rabbi Bernstein, Mr. Minkoff, Rabbi Nussbaum, Mr. Cruso, Dr. Goldmann, Mr. Maslow, Mr. Segal, Mr. Bisgyer, Miss Stein and Dr. Neumann.

Rabbi Bernstein then moved that the Conference adopt the following four point motion:

- 1) Appointment of a committee to follow developments closely and empowered to act if necessary.
- 2) That appropriate representation to the President be made informing him of the position of the Presidents Conference.
- 3) That a letter be sent to Secretary Talbott restating the Conference's unanimous position in connection with the Johnson report.
- 4) That the organizations be encouraged to distribute the fact sheet on the Arab refugee problem as prepared by the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee.

Mr. Forster made the following amendment that in the event that the U.S. position is made clear, in favor of the Johnson report, through the United Nations or any other channel, the chairman of the Conference should be empowered to go ahead in full gear, taking a public position in accord with the view of the Conference.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 P.M.

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CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS

DECEMBER 12, 1962

The Presidents Conference was called to order on December 12th at 12:55 P.M. by Rabbi Irving Miller. Rabbi Miller explained that the meeting was called in order to discuss the situation, to bring the members up to date and for a general exchange of views. He explained that there were things which could not be communicated in writing and that time was of importance. The U.S. position was pronounced yesterday, the Israel delegation takes the floor tomorrow, and the U.S. resolution will be introduced on Friday.

Rabbi Miller then reviewed in detail all the steps that had been taken since the last meeting of the Presidents Conference. He praised the position taken by Mr. Rowan at the United Nations and then suggested that the Conference take no public position as far as the pending Brazzoville resolution was concerned.

Rabbi Miller explained that what he was saying was not for publication. There was something said publicly last week by one of our constituents which should not have been in the press. It should not have been handled in that way. Generally speaking, you know that the Presidents Conference never opened its meetings to the press.

In the discussion that followed, the following members took the floor: Dr. Weisman, Mr. Forster, Mr. Freeman, Mr. Baum, Mrs. Halprin, Mrs. David, Mr. Segal and Mr. Tabachinsky.

Rabbi Miller concluded the meeting with the following words: "I do not want to create the impression that a great victory has been achieved. What we have reported today is against the background of what happened two weeks ago. (He was very glad for the change.) All of us know the difficulties.

"At the moment, at least, our attack centered on the Johnson proposals and in this respect, we have achieved success. (He hoped that what he had asked for would be heeded.) This is testimony to the maturity of Jewish organizations. We should know when to keep quiet and when to speak. There is value in discipline and acting in an organized fashion."

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 P.M.

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CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE • NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

Tel.: PL 5-1820

Cable Address: COJOGRA

October 8, 1963

MEMO

To: Members associated in the Conference of Presidents.

From: Yehuda Hellman.

Following, please find the Recommendations of the Committee on Structure and Scope as amended and approved by the Conference of Presidents at their meeting of September 25, 1963.

We have already sent you previously, the minutes of that meeting, however, I feel that it will be useful for you to have the decisions only, as a separate document.

The sub-committee that had presented these recommendations was composed as follows:

Rabbi Jay Kaufman, Chairman
Dr. Max Nussbaum
Mr. Lewis H. Weinstein
Mr. Label Katz
Mr. George Maislin
Mr. Moses Feurstein
Dr. Emanuel Neumann

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON STRUCTURE AND SCOPE
AS AMENDED AT THE SEPTEMBER 25, 1963, CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS

I. Preamble:

Mindful of the critical role which the Presidents' Conference has come to play in the areas of its endeavor, your committee On Structure and Scope has striven to create a more detailed and viable pattern of operation. Over the years, lacks in procedural machinery have become apparent, lapses in memory have made aspects of the Conference's precedents vague. In order to enable the Conference to serve its purpose with greater facility and precision, your Committee offers a series of ten proposals.

Much has been left unsaid and undone. The language is chaste. It was not the Committee's intent to solve all problems or to meet every contingency. Instead, provision has been made for standing committees to probe more deeply and to posit in great detail, recommendations for procedures in specific areas of activity.

However, the Committee has concerned itself with and offers recommendations for every lacuna of the Conference's structure and has dealt with every irritant brought to its attention. It is the feeling of the Committee that the recommendations that follow will allow for the smooth and free-flowing function of the Conference in a manner calculated to permit the fullest benefits to derive from the splendid cooperative process which the Presidents' Conference represents.

Your committee has met with great frequency and over long hours and respectfully presents its recommendations to you for action.

II. Purpose and Scope:

The primary purpose of the Presidents Conference shall continue to be, as it has been, American-Israel relations. However, as problems affecting Jews in foreign countries arise from time to time, the Conference may place such problems on the agenda for consideration and action.

III Membership:

The Presidents Conference shall continue to study its membership. For the present, it is the recommendation of this committee that the Presidents of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, The Rabbinical Assembly, the Rabbinical Council of America and the American Jewish Committee be invited to join.

IV. Budget:

A Budget Committee shall be appointed to study the budget of the Conference and pursue the ways and means of financing it.

V. Place:

Meetings of the Presidents Conference may be held at varied sites, e.g., at a conveniently situated hotel or at the offices of our-member organizations. The site of the headquarters shall be considered in the light of our financial capabilities and the best interests of the Presidents Conference.

VI. Unanimity:

When there is a unanimous agreement in the Presidents Conference, a statement may be made public or a bpucli action taken in the name of the Conference.

Lacking unanimity, the dissenting member or members may, at their option, consent to one of the following procedures:

- 1) Permit the majority position to be made public in the name of the Conference, omitting the names of those members not subscribing to it.
- 2) Permit the majority position to be made public by the Conference as a releasing agent, in the names only of those members subscribing to it, and with the dissents or abstentions of the nonparticipating members explicitly noted, should they so desire.
- 3) Permit the facilities of the Conference to be used to make public the position of the majority, in their names only, and without the use of the name of the Conference (i.e., on blank stationery.)
- 4) In matters of a procedural nature, a majority vote shall be required for implementation. If a question arises as to whether a matter is of substance or procedure, a 75% majority of those present and voting would be required to decide its nature.

VII. Representation: Desideratum

The hope is expressed by the Committee that we become a Conference of Organizations. Constituent agencies are requested to explore this recommendation within their councils. However, until unanimity is obtained, we shall continue as a Conference of Presidents.

The Committee also takes note that the present participation is* as follows:

The Presidents making up the Presidents Conference shall participate in the meetings. Each President is requested to nominate a permanent alternate delegate to the Presidents Conference.

All Executive Directors of organizations are also at all times invited to the meetings of the Presidents Conference. Each President is at liberty to come accompanied by his alternate delegate or his executive director or by both. No delegation to the Conference should consist of more than three representatives at one time.

VIII. Tenure of Chairman:

The chairman of the Presidents Conference shall be elected for a one-year term. Re-election to a second one-year term is permitted.

IX. Steering Committee:

A Steering Committee on the presidential level shall be named on a rotating basis from year to year to consult and to advise the Chairman on day-to-day matters of the Conference between meetings of the Conference, and within the framework of the principles laid down by the Conference itself.

X. Technical Subcommittee:

A committee on the professional level shall be named to concern itself with technical problems, such as the drafting of statements, research, the Arab Boycott, etc. Members may name to this committee persons other than the Executive Directors of their organizations.

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE

NEW YORK 22, NEW YORK

Tel.: PL 5-9316-7-8

Date:

September 17, 1965

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of Committee on Scope and Relations with International Organizations

From: Yehuda Hellman

Enclosed please find part one of the report submitted by Dr. Joseph Karasick and Mr. George Maislin to the members of the Committee.

This report is a result of their mission to Strasbourg and deals with the historical background of the issue before the Committee.

Part two of their report will be submitted orally at the meeting of the Committee. It will contain a review of the Strasbourg Meeting itself and they will offer their recommendations.

Please be reminded that the meeting will begin at 12:00 P.M. and will last at least until 3:00 P.M.

The Committee on Scope and International Relations of the Presidents' Conference recommended to the Presidents' Conference on September 25, 1963, that the Conference enlarge its scope to include international areas of concern, in addition to those involving Israel. This recommendation was approved by the Conference.

At a subsequent meeting of the Committee on Scope and International Relations, held on April 6, 1965, and in view of the enlarged program of the Conference, the problem of how this new relationship of international involvement should be structured was discussed.

A number of suggestions were made, among them the possible affiliation with the World Jewish Congress or with COJO as well as with other international Jewish bodies. The Committee felt that all of the suggestions made should be fully explored and that a sub-committee should elicit views of representative bodies in other countries.

At a subsequent meeting of the Committee on Scope and International Relations held on June 29th, 1965, it was decided that members of the Committee would attend international Jewish meetings as part of its study. It was reported that Dr. Nahum Goldman, on behalf of the World Jewish Congress, invited the Presidents' Conference to send two of its members to the forthcoming meeting of the Executive of the World Jewish Congress in Strasbourg on July 11-16, 1965. The Committee accepted the invitation and asked Rabbi Joseph Karasick, a Vice-President of the Union of Orthodox

Jewish Congregations, and Mr. George Maislen, President of the United Synagogue of America, in their capacity as members of the Presidents' Conference to attend as invitees. This report therefore, is made by Rabbi Joseph Karasick and Mr. George Maislen who attended the meeting in Strasbourg.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

History has taught us that "Jewish destiny is indivisible" and that we are "our brother's keeper". Recognizing the validity of this concept, we should strive to achieve the establishment of a democratically structured world organization functioning with some degree of cohesion.

This should be our ultimate goal despite the difficulties involved in the creation of an organization which will attempt to speak for world Jewry.

In modern times there have been several attempts to create such a world organization. These attempts for some reason or another, have fallen short of their goal. To give but a few brief examples, we can cite:

I - B'NAI B'RITH

In 1843, B'nai B'rith was founded as an International Fraternal Order and as early as 1851, interventions on behalf of Jewry in other countries were recorded. In the one hundred and twenty two years of its existence, B'nai B'rith has always been conscious of its international commitment in one form or another.

When the United Nations was created in 1945, B'nai B'rith together with the Board of Deputies of British Jews and the Executive Council of South African Jewry acquired official NGO (Non-Governmental status) at the United Nations and in 1958 B'nai B'rith moved further in this direction. In that year, B'nai B'rith together with the World Jewish Congress, established the World Conference of Jewish Organizations known as COJO. In 1959, the International Council of B'nai B'rith was founded in Jerusalem and the international work of B'nai B'rith was further streamlined in the direction of more specialization and more intensive cooperation with other national and international organizations within the framework of COJO. The international President of B'nai B'rith has acted since 1960 also as co-Chairman of COJO.

II - THE ALLIANCE ISRAELITE UNIVERSELLE

In 1860, the Alliance Israelite Universelle was founded in France under the impact of the famous Damascus blood libel case against the Jews of Damascus in that year. The Alliance Israelite Universelle had for its goal the establishment of world Jewish organizations, but its success was only limited. The Alliance Israelite Universelle, however, has performed a great historic task of bringing French culture and modern schools to a large number of Jews in the Middle East, especially in North Africa. French has largely become the vernacular of Jews in Moslem countries because of the work of the Alliance. As a result, the intellectual elite of North African Jewry is more Westernized and more modern in outlook than many other Jewish communities in the world.

In 1945, the Alliance combined with the American Jewish Committee and the Anglo Jewish Association in order to acquire NGO status at the United Nations and the three have acted jointly as an International Organization, vis a vis the U.N. During the days of the Nazi occupation of France, the Alliance Israelite Universelle combined with Jewish organizations in France and created a representative Jewish organization in that country known as CRIF. In 1958, the Alliance, via CRIF became a co-founding member of COJO (The World Conference of Jewish Organizations).

III - THE WORLD ZIONIST ORGANIZATION

The World Zionist Organization formed in 1897 as a result of the call to the Zionist Congress in Basel, which had a specific and well defined goal. The establishment of a Jewish national homeland in Palestine and effectively carried on its program from 1897 to 1948. The leaders of the World Zionist Organization at the present time, recognize that changes must now be introduced into the structure of the organization to make it a more "adequate instrument for the Post-State era". A study for this purpose is currently being made. The fact that this has not yet been accomplished is unfortunate but does not justify any exaggerated criticism of the World Zionist Organization while it is struggling with its re-organizational problems. The activities of the World Zionist Organization are today quite limited and well defined.

IV - AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS

The American Jewish Congress came into being towards the end of the First World War (1918) and together with representatives from other countries

formed a committee of delegates in order to jointly support the Zionist aims at the Peace Conference and also in order to represent and defend Jewish minority rights in Eastern Europe at the Peace Conference in Versailles. The American Jewish Congress of those days was founded and led by Brandeis, Marshall, Wise and others. The aim of the original American Jewish Congress was clearly defined and adhoc in purpose. When these aims were achieved, the American Congress of 1918 was pro-rogued. The faction which originally advocated the creation of a permanent congress, met afterwards and started a new congress. They were aiming at the establishment of a permanent representative body of American Jewry. However, with time it became one of many Jewish organizations on the American scene. The present organization known as the American Jewish Congress is not to be confused with the original American Jewish Congress.

V-WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

In 1936, at the time of the onslaught of the Nazis, the World Jewish Congress came into being. This organization was an outgrowth of the Committee of Delegates which continued after the Versailles Peace Conference to operate on a very limited basis in Europe. The World Jewish Congress had for its goal the representation of the Jews in the world and was more particularly defined in its Constitution adopted in 1959 which provides:

"The World Jewish Congress is organized to assure the survival, and to foster the unity of the Jewish people; and to that end:

- (1) To co-ordinate the efforts of its affiliated organizations with respect to the political, economic, social and cultural problems of the Jewish people;
- (2) To ~~secure~~ the rights, status and interests of Jews and Jewish communities and to defend them wherever they are denied, violated or imperilled;
- (3) To encourage and assist the creative development of Jewish social and cultural life throughout the world;
- (4) To represent and act on behalf of its affiliated organizations before governmental, inter-governmental and other international authorities with respect to matters which concern the Jewish people as a whole.

The World Jewish Congress strives to co-operate with all peoples on the basis of universal ideals of peace, freedom and justice."

At the present time, 61 representative Jewish organizations are affiliated with the World Jewish Congress.

In 1953, the World Jewish Congress attempted to redouble its efforts on behalf of the world Jewish unity and issued an invitation to those national organizations who were not members to join the World Jewish Congress. These efforts continued until 1958, when under the joint leadership of B'nai B'rith and the World Jewish Congress, a Conference of World Organizations

was called to a meeting in Rome. It must be pointed out here that the World Jewish Congress is a functioning organization , as distinguished from a co-ordinating body, and this was one of the reasons why some of the national Jewish organizations refused to join. It was for this reason that a companion organization was formed in Rome, known as the Conference of Jewish Organizations (COJO). Although comprehensive in membership, COJO was a co-ordinating body and therefore attracted to its membership many of the national Jewish organizations that refused to join the World Jewish Congress because it was a functioning organization.

The organization of the World Jewish Congress functions in many parts of the world through groups called "Sections" whenever the national bodies in those countries have for one reason or another not affiliated with the World Jewish Congress. This is true with respect to England, France, Sweden and the United States.

On the American scene, however, the situation was somewhat different because there was no national representative Jewish organization, such as the present Presidents' Conference, which could possibly have associated itself with the World Jewish Congress. In order therefore, for the World Jewish Congress to project some relationship on the American scene, the "American Section" of the World Jewish Congress was formed on May 14, 1962.

The World Jewish Congress operated on the U.S. scene through the American Jewish Congress as its sole affiliate. On May 14, 1962, an American section of the World Jewish Congress was established and the following organizations affiliated with the American section of WJC:

American Jewish Congress
B'nai Zion
Farband- Labor Zionist Order
Federation for Labor Israel
Labor Zionist Organization of America
Mizrachi-Hapoel Hamizrachi
Mizrachi Women's Organization of America
Pioneer Women
Poale Agudath Israel of America
United Labor Zionist Party
United Zionists-Revisionists of America
Zionist Organization of America

The following are the purposes of the American Section of the World Jewish Congress:

1. To represent American Jewish views within the World Jewish Congress and its governing bodies.
2. To represent, explain and implement in the United States the principles and policies of the World Jewish Congress as defined in its Constitution and in the resolutions of its Plenary Assemblies.
3. To seek the support of American public opinion for these policies
4. To secure the affiliation of all national Jewish bodies which are prepared to accept the principles and purposes of the World Jewish Congress.

The present Constitution of the World Jewish Congress adopted in Stockholm in August of 1959, refers to the Plenary Assembly as the supreme authority of the World Jewish Congress which meets every 4th year. The Constitution

states that there shall be a President, a Chairman and Co-Chairman of the branches of the Executive Committee, a Chairman of the Budget Committee, a Treasurer and one or more co-Treasurers.

It also provides that the officers, other than the co-chairman of the Executive Committee, shall be elected at the Plenary Assembly, The Constitution, however, is completely devoid of provisions dealing with how these officers shall be elected and makes no provision for a democratic manner of operation.

VI AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE

During World War II, (1943), the American Jewish Conference convened under the leadership of Henry Monsky, the International President of B'nai B'rith, to proclaim and promote the idea of a Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine.

The main purpose of the American Jewish Conference of 1943 was the same as the purpose of the American Jewish Congress of 1918. In both cases, the aim was primarily Zionistic. They dealt with the problems of Jewry in other countries as a secondary aim. The American Jewish Conference was closed in 1947 by its last President, Mr. Louis Slipsky, over the protest of a minority who thought to continue the activities of the American Jewish Conference.

VII PRESIDENTS CONFERENCE

The Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations convened on March 5th or 6th, 1953 at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C.

The Presidents' Conference was founded in order to combine Zionist with non-Zionist support for the cause of Israel.

The original name Presidents' Conference was designed to emphasize that this would be a primary responsibility for the top lay-leadership of the seventeen organizations who had agreed to meet from time to time in order to decide and act jointly in support of Israel whenever desirable. These leaders met under the chairmanship of Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Chairman of the American Section of the Jewish Agency in an informal way and only occasionally.

In May of 1959, when President of B'nai Brith, Phil Klotznick was elected as the Chairman of the Conference of Presidents, the procedures of the Conference were then more formalized and the Conference became more active and its meetings assumed a more formal character.

In April 1960, a special sub-committee of the Presidents' Conference, under the chairmanship of Mr. Label Katz, the first formal procedures governing Presidents' Conference rules and regulations was adopted. These rules and regulations are essentially the same which are governing the procedures of the Presidents' Conference at the present time.

In the course of time, four more organizations joined the Presidents' Conference:

1. Central Conference of American Rabbis
2. National Council of Young Israel
3. Rabbinical Assembly
4. Rabbinical Council of America

On September 25, 1963, the Conference decided to enlarge its scope to include international areas of concern in addition to those involving Israel.

VIII. Dr. Nahum Goldmann

Dr. Nahum Goldmann, the President of the World Zionist Organization, is also President of the World Jewish Congress and COJO and was one of the founders of the original Presidents' Conference. He also played an important role in organizing the American Jewish Conference of 1943 in association with Monsky, Wise and Lipsky. When the Presidents' Conference came into being through the efforts of Dr. Goldmann, it was greatly influenced by his personal leadership during its formative years but it can be said that today the Presidents' Conference has grown into a strong sovereign body of organizations fully democratically constituted.

We cannot let this opportunity pass without paying high tribute to the historic achievements and outstanding leadership of Dr. Goldmann over a long period of years and to his service to world Jewry. There has been some justifiable, as well as unjustifiable criticism in some quarters of Dr. Goldmann, which is the hazard of all leadership. We must however, separate the cult of personality from the aims, from the goals and from

the achievements of every organization. No organization can continue to remain in the shadow of an individual, but must reflect the complete involvement of a democratic structure and needs to provide for future leadership.

IX. Meeting at Strasbourg

The meeting in Strasbourg from July 11th to July 16th was a most interesting and inspiring experience.

The following representatives from the following countries attended and participated in the deliberations and illustrate the broad spectrum of interest and involvement of responsible persons and leadership of over 41 countries. (see list of attendees attached herewith)

The work of the World Jewish Congress concerns itself with four commissions.

1. Commission on Budget and Finance

2. Organizational Commission
3. Political Commission
4. Cultural Commission

The agenda at the Strasbourg meeting revolved about debates of the above mentioned four commissions.

1. The debate of the Budget and Finance Commission is not germane to our present report.

2. The debate of the Organizational Committee was most important for the future of the World Jewish Congress, in that it was felt by leading participating executives of the World Jewish Congress that the organization must recognize the need of active leadership from all parts of the world and must include at the uppermost level a broad spectrum of leadership. World Jewish Congress must take into consideration the problem of succession and preparation for future leadership.

As a result, far reaching resolutions were adopted with respect to the organization and leadership structure of the World Jewish Congress. This reorganization should provide in the future for a

broader base of leadership in World Jewish Congress. Many of the participants in deliberating on reorganization showed great concern about these points.

3. The Political debate concerned itself primarily with the problems of the Status of Jews in Soviet Russia; Anti-Jewish feelings and manifestations in South America; present day Germany and the Jewish Community; Statute of Limitations and Prosecution of War Crimes; Status of Jewry in Eastern Europe; Status of Jewry in Arab Countries.

Many participants in this debate from various countries gave oral reports concerning the manner in which they treated these issues in their own communities, manner of protest employed by them ; results they were able to obtain; many suggestions and recommendations for future actions.

The participants in this debate were well versed and fully knowledgeable in their subject matter. There were many indications ~~that the~~ contacts established by the World Jewish Congress and its representatives throughout the years in many countries have stood them in good stead in attempting to solve and ameliorate

many of the problems facing the Jewish communities throughout the world.

4. Cultural Debate - Concern over the poverty of Jewish culture in all of its dimensions consumed a major part of the debate and deliberations. While the term "Jewish Culture" is an elastic phrase with many connotations, meanings, and shades, the fact remains that one of the major problems facing World Jewry is Jewish Cultural survival in its broadest sense. This includes the **furtherance** of Jewish values, traditions, and loyalties.

Dr. Goldman repeated at the conclusion of the Conference that the program of the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture will concern itself primarily with this major issue.

X. Conclusions and Recommendations

It is our opinion that a liason committee be set up initially between the Presidents' Conference and the World Jewish Congress. This Committee should consist of four members of the Presidents' Conference and four members of the World Jewish Congress which will periodically, and, if necessary, in cases of emergency meet

more frequently in order to exchange information and prevent overlapping of efforts and make recommendations as to the procedure to be taken in the face of any given situation.

Since practically all the members of the American Section of the World Jewish Congress are represented in one form or another in the Presidents' Conference, in our opinion there would be no need for the continuence of the American Section as a seperate entity because it could only add confusion and duplication of efforts.

The format of the liason committee herein recommended should not preclude the Presidents Conference from establishing other such liason committees with other world organizations. We are not ~~unmindful~~ of the fact that the World Jewish Congress aside from its relationship with the American Section of the World Jewish Congress maintains an office in New York in order to carry out some phases of its program vis a vis relations to the United Nations, O.A.S., etc., which does not relate itself to specific problems of the American scene.

Necessarily in connection with the formation of the liason committee herein recommended a clearer modus operandi would have

to be established with the World Jewish Congress in connection with their work on the American scene, and many problems related to this matter would have to be resolved.

We once again refer to the statement that we made at the outset of our remarks that "Jewish Destiny is Indivisible", and warrants the creation of a World Jewish Body.

How this principle can be translated into administrative and organizational terms is a challenge that thus far has not been met

A World Jewish Body, as we have said with some degree of decisiveness and cohesion, is in our opinion a **reasonable** ultimate goal. The word "ultimate" needs underscoring if the mistakes of the past are to be avoided. We must proceed by stages from loose co-operation to close co-ordination.

Jewish organizations and Jewish public opinion will have to be educated gradually and patiently to accept the central idea and the modifications in institutional sovereignties. It therefore behooves the Presidents' Conference as the most representative body on the American Jewish scene to assume the leadership in this great effort.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE WORLD EXECUTIVE
MEETING

Strasbourg

July 11 - 16, 1965

Dr. Nahum Goldmann - President

Argentina

Goldman, Dr. Moises	Chairman, WJC South American Executive
Davidovich, Dr. Noe	Treasurer, WJC South American Executive and of United Jewish Appeal Argentine
Goldenberg, Dr. Israel	President, Delegacion de Asociaciones Israelitas Argentinas (DAIA)
Kestelman, Dr. Jose	Assistant Secretary (DAIA)
Muchnik, Dr. Meir	Secretary general, Latin American Fed- eration of Liberal Zionist Party
Swarsenski, Dr. Hardi	Member of the Board, DAIA
Turkow, Marc	Executive Director, South American Executive
Ventura, Jose S.	Member, South American Executive

Australia

Goldstein, Harry S.	Hon. Secretary, Executive Council of Australian Jewry
Leibler, Isi	Executive Member, Victorian Jewish Board of Deputies

Austria

Feldsberg, Dr. Ernst	President, Federation of Jewish Communities of Austria
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Brazil

Nigri, Tufic	Vice-President, Confederacao Israelita do Brasil; President of the Federation of Jewish Societies, Rio de Janeiro
Winterstein, Dr. Vojtech	Executive Director, Confederacao Israelita do Brasil

Canada

Becker, Lavy

Chairman, National Executive Committee,
Canadian Jewish Congress

Levin, David, Q.C.

Regional Chairman, Canadian Jewish
Congress

Central America

Mizrachi, Moises

Treasurer, Federation of Jewish Communi-
ties of Central America and Panama; Pre-
sident of the Sephardi Community of Panama

Central Africa
(Rhodesia-Zambia)

Abrahamson, Hon. A. E.

President, Central African Jewish Board
of Deputies

Chile

Sinay, Gil

President,Comite Representativo de la
Colectividad Israelita de Chile

Eire

Isaacson, Julius

General Secretary, Jewish Representative
Council of Ireland

France

Bulawko, Henri

Representative of Mapam in France

Dreyfus, Andre

Administrative Director, WJC Paris Office

x Haddad, Charles

President of the Sephardi community
Marseille

Kaplan, Armand

Executive Director, WJC Paris Office;
Secretary general, WJC French Secion

Lambert, David Me

Member, Central Committee of Federation
of Leagues for Human Rights

x Lazarus, Jacques

General Secretary, Association of Jews
of Algerian origin

Modiano, Dr. Vidal

President, Comite Representatif des
Israelites de France (CRIF)

x	Neher, Prof. Andre	President, WJC French Section
	Orfus, Jacques	Senior Vice-Chairman, Federation sioniste de France
x	Reich, Dr. J.	Vice-President, Consistoire de Lyon
	Sinay, Me Robert	Batonnier at the Court of Appeal, Colmar
	Touati, Emile	Member of the Board, Association of Jews of Algerian origin

Germany

van Dam, Dr. Hendrick	Secretary General, Central Council of Jews of Germany
Nachmann, Mr.	Representative, Central Council of Jews of Germany

Great Britain

x	Sieff, Israel M.	Vice President WJC, Chairman WJC European Executive
	Reading, Eva	Co-Chairman, WJC European Executive President WJC British Section
	Bornstein, Aba	Member Board of Deputies, Member World Secretariat, Mizrahi
	Brassloff, Dr. F.L.	Legal Adviser, WJC European Executive
	Easterman, A.L.	Director, WJC International Affairs Dept., London
	Halevy, Jacob	Chairman, WJC British Section, Member Board of Deputies
	Levenberg, Dr. S.	Representative, Jewish Agency, Member Board of Deputies
x	Linton, Joseph L.	Ambassador, WJC Consultant on International Affairs
	Miller, Dr. S. A.	Vice-Chairman, WJC British Section
x	Nathani, Isaac	Chairman Mapam, Great Britain
	Roth, Dr. S. J.	Executive Director, WJC European Executive, Secretary General, WJC British Section

Sagall, Dr. Joseph	Co-treasurer, WJC, London
x Steinberg, Dr. Aaron	Director, WJC Cultural Department
Winocur, Jack	Director, Public Relations Office, WJC London

Greece

Sciakys, Moise	Secretary General, Council of Jewish Communities of Greece.
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Iran

x Kermanian, Moussa	Secretary, WJC Committee, Teheran
x Kohen, Yousef	Member, Jewish community Council Teheran

Israel

Tartakower, Prof. Arjeh	Chairman, WJC, Israel Executive
Artzi, Yitzhak	Secretary General, Liberal Party
Benari, Yehuda	Representative, Cheruth Party
Bentov, Mordechai, M.K.	Former Minister, Representative of Mapam
Bernstein, Dr. Leo	Executive Director, WJC Israel
Bernstein, Zvi	Representative, National Religious Party
Cahane, Dr. S.	Director General, Ministry of Religious Affairs, Representative of National Re- ligious Party
Eisenberg, Yitzhak	Representative Liberal Party
Goldstein, Dr. Israel	Hon. Vice President, WJC, Chairman Keren Hayessod
Gross, Itzhak	Representative Poale Agudat Israel
Guez, Mathilde	Representative Mapai
Katzenellenbogen, B.	Representative Liberal Party

Korn, Yitzhak, M. K.	Secretary General, Ihud Olami
x Landau, Dr. M.	Representative Liberal Party
Reiss, Anselm	Representative Mapai
Shaftel, Arie	Representative Mapai
Schweizer, Salomon	Representative Achdut Avoda
Weiler, Dr. M. C.	Member Israel Executive
West, Benjamin	Representative Mapai; Representative Federation of Russian immigrants in Israel

Italy

Becker, Fritz	Director, WJC Rome Office
Piperno, Dr. Sergio	President, Union of Italian Jewish Communities

Luxemburg

x Bulz, Emmanuel	Chief Rabbi of Luxemburg
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Mexico

Berebichez, J. Z.	Secretary General, Comite Central Israelita de Mexico
Laski, Runia	Representative, Comite Central Israelita de Mexico
Kostov, Busia	Representative, Comite Central Israelita de Mexico

Netherlands

Boas, Dr. S.	Judge at the Court of the Hague; Member Permanent Commission of the Nederlands Israelietisch Kerkgenoot- schaap
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New Zealand

x Nathan, Lawrence D.	Chairman, United Synagogues of New Zealand
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Salvador

Joseph, Alfred Representative, Comunidad Israelita
de El Salvador

Weill, Henri Representative, Comunidad Israelita
de El Salvador

Spain

Toledano, Samuel Member Executive Board, Jewish Communi-
ty of Madrid; Representative of Council
of Jewish Communities of Spain

Sweden

Jakobson, Hersch Secretary, WJC Swedish Section

Kaplan, Dr. Bruno Member, Board WJC Swedish Section

Storch, Hillel Member of the WJC Executive Committee
for Sweden

Switzerland

x Guggenheim, Dr. Georg Executive member, Union of Swiss Jewish
Communities

Jabes, Andre Assistant, Coordination Department

Riegner, Dr. Gerhart M. WJC Director of Coordination

U. S. A.

Baum, Phil Director, Commission on International
Affairs, American Jewish Congress

Ginsburg, Marcus Chairman, American Jewish Congress,
Commission on International Affairs

Goldstein, Berte Representative, Pioneer Women

Jacobs, Monty Executive Director, North American
Executive

Katzman, Jacob General Secretary of Farband - Labor
Zionist Order

Lerner, Dr. Nathan Assistant, WJC International Affairs
Department, New York

x	Maslow, Will	Executive Director, American Jewish Congress
	Heller, Shimshon	Executive Director, Poale Agudath Israel of America
	Nussbaum, Dr. Max	Chairman, American Section WJC; President, Zionist Organization of America
	Perlzweig, Dr. Maurice	Director, WJC, International Affairs Department, New York
	Prinz, Dr. Joachim	President, American Jewish Congress, Chairman Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations
	Pulvermann, Wolfgang	Comptroller, WJC, New York
	Schechtman, Dr. Joseph	Chairman, United Zionist Revisionists of America
	Schenker, Avraham	National Chairman, Americans for Progressive Israel
	Sherman, C. Bezalel	Chairman, Administrative Committee WJC American Section

Uruguay

	Wainstein, Jose	Representative, Comite Central Israelita del Uruguay
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Venezuela

	Rosenblat, Samuel Cula	President, Jewish Union of Caracas
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Yugoslavia

x	Stajner, Alexander	Representative, Federation of Jewish Communities of Yugoslavia
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Associate Member - Organizations

WIZO	Jaglom, Raja	Chairman, Executive Committee, World WIZO
	Fischer, Eva	President, WIZO in Belgium
	Raich, Lea	General Secretary, French WIZO

World Confederation
of General Zionists

	Halprin, Rose	Co-Chairman, World Confederation of General Zionists; Member of the Jewish Agency Executive
	Sultanik, Kalman	Executive Director, World Confederation of General Zionists
x	Topiol, Melech	Representative, World Confederation of General Zionists

World Union of Jewish
Students

	Gerstenfeld, Manfred	Chairman, World Union Jewish Students
	Hunter, Mike	Education Officer, World Union Jewish Students
	Amar, Peddy	Treasurer, World Union Jewish Students
	Yehoshua, Abraham	Secretary General, World Union Jewish Students

Observers

<u>Rumania</u>	x	Rosen, Dr. Moses	Chief Rabbi of Rumania; Chairman Federation of Jewish Communities of Rumania
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Jewish Agency

	Lurie, Zvi	Member of the Jewish Agency Ex.
x	Levanon, Chaim	Member of the Jewish Agency Ex.

Invited Guests

	Benveniste, V.	President, Zionist Federation of France
	Goldhagen, Dr. Erich	Director, Institute for East-European Jewish Affairs, Assistant Professor of Politics, Brandeis University
x	Forster, Arnold	Director, Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith
x	Lazare, Lucien	Secretary General, Jewish Community of Strasbourg

Mushkat, Dr. Marian	Professor, Tel Aviv University - Member WJC Advisory Council in Israel
Robinson, Dr. Saul B.	Director, Institut Fuer Bildungsforschung in der Max-Planck Gesellschaft
Simon, Dr. Ernst	Professor at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem
x Weil, Me Rene	President, Jewish Community of Strasbourg
x Weill, Dr. Joseph	President, Jewish Consistory of Bas Rhin

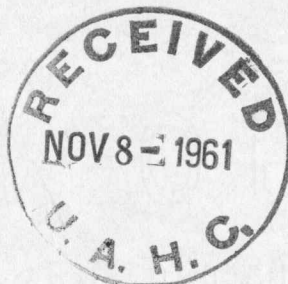
x - Delegates accompanied by their wives

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE • NEW YORK 22, N.Y.

Tel.: PL 5-1820

Cable Address: COJOGRA



TO: Members associated in the Presidents' Conference

FROM: Yehuda Hellman

November 6, 1961

I would like to share with you the context of a letter enclosed herewith which we received from Dr. Sidney Marks. His views are, to a very great extent, typical of the reaction we have received in this office from many members of the Presidents' Conference.

Zionist Organization of
America
145 East 32nd Street
New York 16, New York

November 2, 1961

Mr. Yehuda Hellman
Conference of Presidents
515 Park Avenue
New York City

Dear Yehuda:

I am terribly disturbed about the account in the JTA regarding the announcement of the American Jewish Committee with respects to the Arab boycott.

This "top secret" seems to be only settled among the 18 organizations in the Presidents Conference, but the American Jewish Committee makes public opinion.

I think that this is doing a disservice to our work in the Presidents Conference. We have a great deal to show and we are not showing it. We have many credits to be proud of and to express to our respective memberships throughout the country, and the American Jewish Committee moves into an area which is completely undeserved.

I think that you should bring this matter to the attention of the officers of the Presidents Conference, and insist that the proper notoriety be given to this matter.

I know that I can depend upon your cooperation in these respects.

My kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Sidney Marks
Executive Director

SM/br