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**MS-763: Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman Collection, 1930-2004.**  
Series B: Correspondence, 1942-1995.

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Friedman, Herbert A. United Jewish Appeal. 1954-1955.

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

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# HOTEL PARAMOUNT

FORTY-SIXTH STREET  
WEST OF BROADWAY

NEW YORK 36, N.Y.

TEL. CIRCLE 6-5500

TELETYPE-N. Y. 1-4710

My Dear Herbert,

Thank you so much for the Bracelet, which I note with gratitude you lost no time in despatching. May I take this opportunity Herbert, of telling you, how delighted I was to meet you - and how very much I appreciate the kindly way in which you received me. It is an added source of pride to me that there are young vital men like yourself prepared to devote themselves to the cause of my beloved country. My work, when I return to my Negro, will be made easier by the knowledge that we are supported by people such as yourself. But there are not enough of you.

You will be glad to know that my success still continues and that I have some 2 million dollars to my credit in 5 weeks. The repercussions however are somewhat disturbing as although I came here for only 2 months I have now been told that I shall be kept here at least until June. I long for my wife and daughter - and my thoughts are with them, and my beautiful city of Ashkelon. However, I'm trying the application of the Latin proverb "IN ARDUIS FIDELIS" - though frankly, I'm meeting with little success. On the other hand - it is a comfort to me that I'm serving Israel's fiscal development and when one considers that the only



21 FLOORS - 1000 GUESTS  
EVERY ROOM WITH BATH-RADIO  
CIRCULATING ICE WATER

AN Abbell HOTEL



True sovereignty for Israel is - economic independence -  
 I must be grateful for the opportunity of being able to assist  
 Herbert - I'm so shocked, dismayed and utterly displeased  
 at the appalling ignorance of American Jewry to Israel's affairs.  
 God Almighty are only the Hittites of this world capable of  
 arousing us Jews from our apathy & decadence? Can we  
 really discharge our obligations - moral, spiritual - and material -  
 with a cheque of no significance in the overall picture  
 of American Jewry's financial status. It has taken us  
 4 years to raise 180 million dollars - Shame I say - Shame!  
 Shame again. This should be a yearly sum at least. The  
 more I ponder it - the more angry I become. Can they  
 (American Jewry) not see that Israel's strength is their strength.  
 Israel's dignity - their dignity - and Israel's failures - their failures.  
 Do they not realize that we are fighting against time. That  
 we must of needs achieve in 30 years - what America  
 has achieved in 300? They even think that the Arabs are  
 our true enemy. Fools - blind stupid fools. We can  
 take care of the Arabs - we've proved that. The Negro is  
 our enemy - 60% of Israel's State lands desert &  
 waste - and yet with vast potentialities - & mineral  
 wealth. American capital is the only weapon to fight this  
 enemy. Oh ye of little faith. Does Israel's prophecy  
 אֲרָמֹס דְּמִנְהָא מִדְּבָרָא - "The desert shall flourish & blossom  
 as the rose" mean nothing to them. And they accuse us

# HOTEL PARAMOUNT

FORTY-SIXTH STREET  
WEST OF BROADWAY

**New York 30, N.Y.**

TEL. CIRCLE 6-5500

in Israel of being secular!! God what irony. TELETYPE-N. Y. 1-4710

Herbert I tell you this - it is men like you - the tiny handful that must awake them - and arouse them. In trying, in my own small way to do my share - but there must be more of us. We are not enough. Remember Solomon & Gomerah - God wanted just 10 men.

Give up the UJA Herbert - and join forces with me. Help me in my fight to awaken American Jewry to Israel's REAL & URGENT need, economic independence - dignity & pride. I could go on & on Herbert - but I'm tired - let me see you again - and talk with you again. Perhaps we are 2 of the 10? Do not answer me immediately Herbert - think first - and think well. When you arrive at a conclusion your letter will find me

C/o STATE OF ISRAEL BONDS,  
215 FOURTH AVENUE,  
NEW YORK.



21 FLOORS-1000 GUESTS  
EVERY ROOM WITH BATH-RADIO  
CIRCULATING ICE WATER

AN **Abbell** HOTEL

and in the interim, with my greetings to your wife, know me to

Yours most sincerely.

*S. Robert Abbell*



# United ISRAEL Appeal

REPRESENTING THE  
KEREN HAYESOD

41 EAST 42ND STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y. MUrray Hill 2-3320

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WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE:  
890 NORTH VERMONT AVENUE  
LOS ANGELES 4, CALIFORNIA  
OLYMPIA 1943  
DR. OTTO SCHIRM, REGIONAL DIRECTOR

March 1, 1955

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
Temple Emanu-El  
2419 E. Kenwood Blvd.  
Milwaukee 11, Wisconsin

Dear Herb:

I trust that you and Mrs. Friedman had a pleasant return trip and that you found everything in good order both at home and at the temple. Needless to tell you that it was a most gratifying experience to have seen you again in action on these few occasions in Los Angeles. Those who heard you at our two meetings have great hopes for a reinvigorated and more dynamic UJA campaign in 1956.

In connection with the UJA - Bond relationship, I am sure that you are as disturbed as we are about the Detroit controversy. Here in Los Angeles the feeling is still running high as a result of Dr. Biran's first appearance for Bonds, and we can only hope that something will be done on the highest level to eliminate these frictions which are so harmful to both efforts and to the overall cause of Israel.

Finally, may I say that I am eagerly looking forward to being on your team and working closely with you for a most successful UJA campaign. Incidentally, if you feel that you could utilize my services on your forthcoming trip to Europe, North Africa and Israel this summer, I would be happy to accompany you and make myself available for as long a period as necessary. You probably do not know that I lived in Belgium for almost ten years and that French is practically my second mother tongue, which might be helpful to you during the first part of your trip.

In addition, I know my way around in Israel, having visited there several times. Should you be interested in my offer, I am sure that I could easily get a leave of absence for this purpose.

With kindest personal regards to you and Mrs. Friedman and best wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,



DR. OTTO SCHIRN  
Western Regional Director

OS/ek

AMERICAN JEWISH  
ARCHIVES



זכר אלה יעקב וישראל



*Joe in Miami*  
*Miami folder*

MEMORANDUM

February 16, 1955

TO: Rabbi Herbert A. Freedman  
FROM: Otto Schirn

As soon as the Jewish community of Los Angeles learned that Dr. Avraham Biran would soon arrive here as the newly appointed Consul General of Israel for the eleven Western States, leaders of the Jewish Community Council and the American Zionist Council decided to sponsor a community-wide welcome and reception for him. The date for this event was fixed for Thursday, March 3rd, and cleared with Moshe Alon, the Acting Consul of Israel in Los Angeles.

In the meantime, we learned that the Israel Bond Organization had scheduled for March 13th a dinner reception in honor of Dr. Biran for the purpose of solicitation of bond purchases. This date had been cleared not with Mr. Alon, but directly with Dr. Biran in Israel by Mr. Henry Montor in New York. We also learned that when apprized of this situation, Mr. Alon made strong representations to the Israel Government authorities, pointing out that it would make for bad public relations in the Jewish community if Dr. Biran were to speak on behalf of the Israel Bond Drive so shortly after his arrival and at the height of the Jewish Welfare Fund Campaign in Los Angeles.

These representations were to no avail. On the contrary, last week Mr. Alon received instructions from the Israel Embassy in Washington to withdraw his approval and clearance from the community reception set for March 3rd and to request that this event, as well as any other event in honor of Dr. Biran taking place prior to March 13th be cancelled immediately.

We are now faced with the situation that Dr. Biran's first public appearance as Israel Consul General in Los Angeles will be at the Bond Solicitation Dinner on March 13th, a fact which has already aroused a great deal of uneasiness in Welfare Fund and UJA circles in Los Angeles, as well as with all those who are concerned with Israel's public relations problems.

Cordial regards.

failure of faith in Israel & take any def. stand  
Bel. & U. Y. ~~being~~ will, incidentally not only  
remotely but point them to compact us with  
date which could be cancelled. If not only  
not cancelled but another Sunday is 28. &  
not also but. Unlike cancelled situation  
created just not able to carry out responsibilities  
in face of many obstacles, would have been  
to ~~relieve~~ ~~the~~ ~~situation~~ already  
doing ~~have~~ ~~associates~~ share my feelings





failure of part in Israel to find any def. stand  
Bel. x. U. Y. present and, immediately not only  
representing but present then & compare us with  
data which could be cancelled. If we only  
not cancel but let another Sanjagalis & SA. &  
rather also had. Under cancelled situation  
could put not able to carry out responsibilities  
in face of many obstacles, would force me  
to resign it. This situation already  
doing harm. Associates share my feelings.





# BERNARD DISTRIBUTING CO.

WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTORS

STATE AT WATER STREET

PEORIA 2, ILLINOIS

December 17, 1954

Rabbi Herbert Friedman  
2419 E. Kenwood Blvd.  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Dear Herb:

AMERICAN JEWISH

Attached hereto are two sets of figures. Page one is the receipts and allocations of the UJA through December 15, 1954. Page two is the status of funds of the United Israel Appeal through December 14, 1954.

One thing you can be sure of--these figures are correct.

If you examine these figures you will realize the small amount of cash which the United Israel Appeal has received so far this year.

I become petrified when I think what Israel has to look forward to in 1955, under the present climate.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

JBV:cl



## UNITED JEWISH APPEAL

CASH RECEIPTS AND ALLOCATIONS

## Cash Receipts - All campaigns

1/1 - 12/15/54	\$44,844,949.00 *
1/1 - 12/15/53	60,158,630.00

## Allocations - All campaigns

1/1 - 12/15/54	\$41,377,764.00 **
1/1 - 12/15/53	58,074,365.00

* Total	\$44,844,949.00
Community Credits	12,851,822.00
<u>CASH</u>	<u>31,993,127.00</u>

**Total	41,377,764.00
Community Credits	12,851,822.00
Cash	<u>\$28,525,942.00</u>

1954  
UNITED ISRAEL APPEAL

STATUS OF FUNDS

December 14, 1954

CASH RECEIVED TODAY	General Funds	\$335,000.00
BANK BALANCES		56,979.31
UJA REFUNDING PROJECT - Cash	\$62,200,000.00	
Less Credits - 12-10-54	12,763,435.39	49,436,564.61
DUE TO JNF		3,750.00
ALLOCATED TODAY - PFF - General Funds		300,000.00
RECEIVED FROM UJA - 12/1-12/14/54		968,877.77 *
<p>*Incl. \$194,000. - Ampal Bonds  71,377.77 Israel Bonds  <u>265,377.77</u></p>		
RECEIVED FROM UJA - 1/1-12/14/54		26,897,984.73
General Funds	\$14,134,549.34*	
Credits-12/10	12,763,435.39	
	<u>\$26,897,984.73</u>	
<p>*Incl. \$2,526,940.43-Israel Bonds  194,000.00-Ampal Bonds  <u>\$2,720,940.43</u>  440,404.84 Amidar Funds  79,388.79 Direct Contrib.  <u>\$3,240,734.06</u></p>		



HOTEL WILLIAM PENN

*Pittsburgh's Welcome to the World*



AMERICAN JEWISH  
ARCHIVES

RABBI HERBERT A. FRIEDMAN,

TEMPLE EMANU-EL,

MILWAUKEE.

Wisconsin

NOTICE

Letters mailed in hotel envelopes, if not delivered, are sent to the Dead Letter Office unless the writer gives a return address.

If not delivered in  days, return to

*S. Robert Atkinson*  
*State of Israel Bonds*  
*215 Fourth Ave.*  
*N. Y.*



8/1/55

# HOTEL WILLIAM PENN

*Pittsburgh's Welcome to the World*

Herbert my friend,

I'm already back on the road and now that I've got myself straightened on VJA, as a result of my talk with Levi Eshtkol, my perspective is back in equilibrium. You can be assured that I will do all I can as long as I'm in the country to ensure that people understand the importance of VJA in the work that Eshtkol says "can only be done by the free Dollar".

Any time Herbert I can be of service to you don't hesitate to call on me. I will do a doubly fine job for you - having run off at a tangent - though believe me - it was only through lack of briefing on my own government's part - as I was thrown into this Bond business without so much as a word of preparation.

Do write to me Herbert and know me to be

Most sincerely yours.

Robert M. Harris

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN  
UNION

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

## DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LT=Low Level Terrain

VLT = Imt Victory Ltr

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RABBI HERBERT FRIEDMAN =

:TEMPLE EMANUEL MILW=

IGNORE CONTENTS MY LETTER STOP FOLLOWING MEEING WITH  
ESHKOL PLEDGE MY FULL SUPPORT TO YOURSELF AND UJA  
PLEASE WRITE=

ROBERT ABRAHAMI =

$$=UJA=$$

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE



# UN Stand On Israel Hit As Unjust

## Arabs Aggressors, Resident of Border Area Charges Here

A former British army officer who has lived amidst growing border tension for four years expressed angry criticism here yesterday of a recent United Nations condemnation of his country, Israel, for "brutal aggressions" in the Gaza strip of Palestine.

S. Robert Abrahami took the Israeli-Egyptian armistice commission to task for blaming Israel without fully considering that "if we killed 38 Arabs, the same number of Jews was killed before then."

### Assails Arming of Egypt

"It is always Israel that is called the aggressor, never the Arab states," he declared. "The Egyptians continue to flout international law right in your faces, and still you go on arming them."

Mr. Abrahami, here in behalf of the Israel bond sale, describes himself as the "most qualified man in the United States at this moment to comment on this current situation."

He left the British army to join Haganah, Israel's army, and became a citizen of the new nation. Four years ago he founded and was the first resident of the village of Ashkelon, four miles from the Gaza border.

There he is general manager of the Israeli government's Yuval-Gad, world's largest producer of pre-stressed concrete-and-steel irrigation pipe. It is this plant that is supplying all the pipe for construction of the vast system of irrigating the arid Negev.

So far, 110 miles of pipeline has been laid, and part of the land has been reclaimed. Peanuts and gladioli are grown there with sufficient success to be exported in large quantities. A thousand miles of pipeline work remains to be done.

"Two or three times a week our pipelines are blown up," Mr. Abrahami said. "This is not the work of poor Arab refugees. It is a military maneuver. It is apparent that professional saboteurs are employed."

Just before he left Israel for this country, he said, two of his factory workers were killed in a raid. A delegation representing 1,000 plant employees "came to me to lead them to make a reprisal. They were in a very ugly mood."

### Blames Oil Interests

"I told them I had signed a contract with the army. The army was not to make pipe; I was not to fight Arabs. The Israel army is perfectly competent, able and even willing to repel any attacks at our border and the Arabs know it."

Mr. Abrahami blamed certain oil interests for helping to perpetuate Arab leaders "who wallow in luxury, while the Arab people wallow in filth, ignorance and disease."

He said the United Nations attitude seems to be that "we Jews should not be militant—that we are supposed to go to a synagogue and pray, but not fight." Angrily he added:

"For 2,000 years, the Jews have been spat upon, pushed about from place to place, shot at and trampled on. We in Israel do not intend to let that happen again."

"I can promise you that for every Jew that is shot, an Arab will be shot."

## Theft of Grocer's Safe Fruitless

Two men yesterday went to a lot of trouble to steal a safe from a Sligo, Pa., grocery store. But their trouble was in vain.

They broke through a rear door to the store, unbolted the heavy safe from the floor, and carried it outside to their vehicle.

A half block from the store, a surprised by-stander remarked their vehicle was a bit undersized, whereupon the thieves dumped the safe and ran. Left behind was the vehicle—a red coaster wagon.



## Next Year

HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

December 17, 1941

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES IN 1956:

I am writing this letter as an act of faith in the destiny of our country. I desire to make a request which I make in full confidence that will achieve a glorious victory in the war we are waging to preserve our democratic way of life.

My request is that you consider the case of a young American youth of goodly heritage, Colin P. Kelly, III — for appointment as a Cadet at the United States Military Academy at West Point. I make this appeal in behalf of this youth as a token of the Nation's appreciation of the heroic services of his father who met death in line of duty at the outset of the struggle which was thrust upon us by the perfidy of a professed friend.

In the conviction that the service and sacrifice of Captain Colin P. Kelly, Jr. will be long remembered, I ask for this consideration in behalf of Colin P. Kelly, III.

*Franklin D. Roosevelt*

DR's letter written 10 days after Pearl Harbor.

### Making Desert Bloom

## Israeli 'Crusader' Here on Bond Tour

### Manages Factory in Troubled Area

An Israeli crusader—with an Oxford accent, wearing an Oxford gray suit, an "old school" tie and weskit and carrying a diplomat-type brief case—was in Pittsburgh today.

He is S. Robert Abrahami, 36-year-old industrial manager at Ashkelon, Israel, about 65 miles south of Tel Aviv in the strife-ridden Gaza strip.

Mr. Abrahami is a native of England, an Oxford University graduate and former major in the British Army. But now he's an Israeli citizen with the goal of turning Israeli deserts into a blooming paradise.

#### Where Salome Danced

Ashkelon, his home, is where Salome danced. But the rhythms there now come from the Yuval-Gad industrial plant which Mr. Abrahami manages.

This plant has some 1000 workers making pre-stressed concrete irrigation pipes—the key to making the deserts of Israel bloom.

Mr. Abrahami, on a speaking tour in behalf of the Israel Bond Drive, was the guest at the IBD Women's Division luncheon in Webster Hall Hotel. Mrs. Nathan Katz was luncheon chairman.

While in Pittsburgh, Mr. Abrahami called on Mayor David L. Lawrence who visited irrigation pipe plant in Ashkelon last year.

#### 60 Per Cent Arid

In an interview, Mr. Abrahami pointed out that 60 per cent of Israel is desert country.

"Yet, with irrigation," he said "we are growing things out of the sand. And only last year, Israel exported seven million dollars worth of desert-grown peanuts, and two million dollars worth of bulbs."

Concerning the latter, he said "We are now competing with Holland." It is the economic irony of a country that works night and day to keep water out having competition in bulb trade with a country that must pump water in.

Mr. Abrahami said that right after World War I, the population of Israel was a half million.

"Today, Israel's population is 1,750,000. And desert irrigation means that 4,000,000 more persons can live and work in the Negev (desert)."

He said that the industrial and agricultural growth of Israel "is not a miracle" but came from "tenacity, guts and hard work."



S. ROBERT ABRAHAM I  
Irrigating Israel.

### Busy Stork Gets Police Escort Here

Pittsburgh police cleared the way twice early today for a stork going places in a hurry.

Cruising patrolmen saw Andrew Meyers, of 41 Aljeon St., Library, run a red light on Route 51 at Maytide Street.

They forced him to the curb a few blocks further on.

"My wife's going to have a baby," Mr. Meyers shouted desperately.

Without further ado the policemen provided an escort to St. Joseph's Hospital, South Side.

Mrs. Virginia Meyers had a 7 lb. 9 oz. boy at 4:27 a. m.

A short while later, Lawrenceville police raced Mrs. Mary Wawzensky, of 3529 Butler St., to St. Francis General Hospital, where she soon became the mother of a 5 lb. 9 oz. girl.

Everybody's fine, thank you.

A RECORD 27 million cases of green and wax beans were canned in the United States in 1954.

## U.N. Blames Egypt Raid On Israel

### Arab States Form Unified Command

"Brush Fire at Gaza," an editorial, Page 2, Sec. 2.

CAIRO, Egypt, March 7 (UP) — Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Syria counted today on the condemnation of Israel for "brutal aggression" to help swing still-hesitant Jordan and Lebanon into their pact against the Jewish nation.

The United Nations Mixed Armistice Commission blamed Israel in a stormy session yesterday for last Monday's "prearranged and planned attack" against an Egyptian outpost which cost 42 Egyptian and eight Israeli lives.

At about the same time Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Syria announced in a joint communique they had agreed to form a unified command for their armed forces to repel any attack on any one of them.

#### Protests Studied

They also announced, they would sign no other pact such as the one between Iraq and Turkey.

The mixed Armistice Commission met again today to consider a backlog of Egyptian and Israel complaints on border incidents occurring before last Monday.

[In Jerusalem Maj. Gen. E. L. M. Burns, chief truce supervisor, said he did not think the situation in the Middle East was serious.

[He made the statement in commenting on doubts expressed in the United Nations he should return to New York now because of the "seriousness" of the situation.]

[Israeli police announced the arrest of four men in connection with Saturday's Jordanian complaint against five killings which occurred Friday.]

Israel announced it would appeal the Mixed Armistice Commission's findings to the U. N. special truce commission, the supervisory body headed by General Burns.

#### Stalling Charged

Lt. Col. Salah Gohar, head of the three-man Egyptian delegation to the Mixed Armistice Commission, immediately accused the Israelis of trying to stall Security Council proceedings.

He said Israel had boycotted the Burns group since Feb. 7 in protest against Egypt's hanging of two Jews convicted of spying for Israel.

The Mixed Armistice Commission, with three Israelis and three Egyptians, found the Israeli attack two miles inside Egyptian territory was "ordered" by authorities.

## 3 Buried Alive In Sewer Cave-In

### Rescue Efforts Pushed at Reading

READING, Pa., March 7 (UP) — Three men were buried under tons of soggy earth today when the rain-soaked walls of a sewer excavation collapsed as they were installing a sewer pipe at the Sylvania Homes housing project.

One of the men was rescued about two hours after the cave-in and a second was partially freed a short time later.

The third man remained buried, but fellow workmen believed they heard faint cries for help.

The first man rescued was identified at Reading Hospital as Joseph Piacine, 28, of Pottsville. The second man, whose head was uncovered by dozens of rescuers working frantically, was identified tentatively as Francis Wilson, also of Pottsville.

The man still buried in the excavation was not identified immediately.

The cave-in occurred while the men were working about 18 feet below the street level.

## Ford Foundation Plans Huge Grant



# Israeli Army Cited As Capable on Defense

Plant Chief Here  
Sees No Shooting  
War With Arabs

By LEONARD MENDLOWITZ

The Israel Army is fully competent, able and willing to repel any Egyptian or Arabian attack at any time, according to S. Robert Abrahami, general manager of the Yuval-Gad plant at Ashkelon, just four miles from Gaza, the current trouble spot in the Near East. Abrahami, now on an extended tour of America, declared:

"Because the Egyptians and Arabs realize our army is so determined to defend every blade of grass and every grain of sand in Israel, I doubt that there will be a shooting war in spite of all these border incidents."

Abrahami, a native of London, and a graduate of Oxford, served in the British Army at Dunkirk before joining the Israeli Army with a rank of major, and later the Haganah. He now operates the world's largest pre-stressed concrete line company, which already has laid 110 miles of irrigation pipe to reclaim much of Israel's wastelands.

## HARD WORK AHEAD

He disclosed that Israel still has more than 1,000 miles to go in its conquest of the neglected lands, and that only through "tenacity, guts and hard work" will it be completed. He said that professional enemy saboteurs manage to blow up parts of these lines two or three times a week, and it is obvious that the sabotage is a military plot.

The irrigation project has paid off so well that in 1954, Israel exported \$7,000,000 in peanuts grown in the sand; \$2,000,000 in gladioli and \$1,250,000 in "heavy" water used in atomic experiments in France.

Abrahami judges himself to be the most qualified person in America to discuss the recent headline-making incidents in Gaza. He asserted:

"We look upon these border incidents as part and parcel of our daily life, and we are dismayed by the attention and distortion they receive in the press."

"The days are gone when Jews allowed themselves to be spat upon and humiliated. If a Jew in Israel dies today, it will be either because of old age or fighting with a gun in his hand."

## NAMED AGGRESSOR

Charging that "whenever Israel is involved, Israel always is accused of being the aggressor," Abrahami stormed:

"The United Nations complained about Egypt violating every international precept when it seized the Suez Canal, yet nobody charged Egypt with being an aggressor. Israel is the only true democracy in the East, and the only thing we threaten is the feudal way of life of the Arabian millionaires who make the Rockefeller look like paupers."

He said that the United States, "instead of coddling these bloody degenerates should make them sit down at a conference to talk peace, open up the Suez Canal and allow the Arabs to be shown a democratic way of life. It is the only solution to the problems of the Middle East."

Abrahami fumed:

"How long are we expected to follow a policy of restraint while our people are being shot in the back? Just before I came to America last December, two of my plant workers were murdered. For every Jew who gets shot, an Arab will be shot, too."

Abrahami conferred this afternoon with Mayor Lawrence whom he met last year in Israel, and he also addressed the Women's Division of Bonds for Israel in Webster Hall.



S. ROBERT ABRAHAMI... points to trouble spot...  
Sun-Telegraph Photo by Paul Hunter

## Driver Halted After Four Blocks

# Injured Boy Clings To Bumper of Auto

AMBRIDGE, Pa., March 7.—Struck by a car yesterday on his way to church, a six-year-old district boy clung desperately to a bumper for four blocks until the driver was flagged down.

The child, Domenic Strano, of 846 Duss Ave., was detained in Sewickley Valley Hospital with a possible fractured pelvis and ankle injuries.

Police said Charles C. Persson, of 1412 Merchant St., Alliquippa, struck the boy with his car in the 800 block of Duss Ave. and continued on unaware of the accident.

Robert Sobonya, an attendant at the Hess Service Station, at Sixth St. and Duss Ave., saw the boy's plight as Persson's car went by.

## ATTRACTED BY SCREAMS

He jumped in his own car and started after Persson. Meanwhile, Michael Bercik and his son, Michael Jr., of 1132 Duss Ave., were walking in the 400 block of Duss Ave. on their way to church.

Hearing a child screaming, they turned around and saw Persson's car approaching with Domenic riding on the front bumper. The Berciks dashed

into the street and stopped the bewildered driver.

Domenic fell from his perch and rolled under the car.

The Berciks said one of his legs was pinned under a wheel. With the help of Sobonya, they freed the boy and rushed him to the hospital in Sobonya's car.

## Gas Station Robbed Of Register, \$100

A fast-working thief grabbed a \$300 cash register from the Kress Service Station, 901 Penn Ave., Wilkinsburg, last night while the owner, George W. Kress, and a helper, Norman Stout, were working in the grease pit. Kress said the register contained \$100.

Win \$5,000 Cash! Play the "Laff 'n' Win" game in the daily and Sunday Sun-Tele.

**Gimbels**  
AMPLE PARKING ACROSS THE STREET AT  
THE NEW MELLON SQUARE GARAGE





## THE EDITOR'S CHAIR

I HAVE a long letter from Henry Montor in answer to my editorial on his challenge to the U. S. Jewish community on the sale of bonds. The letter is so long that I don't know what to do with it. Yet what is discussed is of real importance to the Jewish community, not alone that part of it concerned with fund-raising or bond-selling. So I'm going to usurp the necessary space to print it in entirety.

One more point: the more discussion and comment on the make-up and direction and obligations of our Jewish community, the more helpful it will be.

### DEAR MR. COHEN:

This may be your first letter-to-the-editor from Rome, where I am now engaged in discussions with the Italian Government for the possible licensing of the sale of State of Israel Bonds in Italy. Your Jan. 28 issue publishes an editorial dealing with Bonds which I would like to analyze. Your own continuously sympathetic and helpful attitude toward Israel Bonds requires that I deal with the questions you raise in the same calm spirit in which you propose them.

The alleged conflict between various financial activities competing for public attention should be seen in some historic perspective.

For about a generation now, the Jewish Welfare Funds of America have regarded themselves, and have been, the central instrument of their respective communities for the raising of philanthropic monies. In a few communities, Welfare Funds had a natural origin, based on the view that maximum effort of manpower and maximum response of money could be obtained if one central collection agency were established. But in a majority of the communities, the growth of the Welfare Fund was directly attributable to the activities of the Joint Distribution Committee and the United Palestine Appeal. The growing needs of both these vital institutions and the rising competition between them, as their requirements increased, reflected themselves in local tensions. Advocates of both causes decided it would be for their mutual advantage if a combined campaign

were conducted. This happened in many communities, where the title of United Jewish Appeal, Combined Jewish Appeal or Welfare Fund was adopted. Anyone who cares to examine the constitutional structure of the Philadelphia Allied Jewish Appeal, for example, will discover that the original officers were to be named equally by the JDC and UPA. The basic and, in some instances only, purpose of many of these mergers was to raise funds for the JDC and UPA.

AS TIME went on, pressures increased in each community for the inclusion of other causes. Yielding to these pressures seemed more scientific fund-raising but it also eased group and personal relationships. A generation or even a decade ago, many Welfare Funds gave anywhere up to 90 per cent of their total net receipts to the national United Jewish Appeal (the name which the JDC and UPA first took on formally in 1935 for a two-year interval and re-created, permanently, in 1939).

Today, an entirely different picture exists. Most communities publish annual reports of Welfare Fund operations. It may require accounting experience to read some of them accurately. The ratio of funds now distributed to the United Jewish Appeal differs sharply from that of the past. One community gives 40 per cent of its income to the United Jewish Appeal. Emphasis is not placed on the fact, however, that this ratio applies to a net, from which the cost of raising the funds and administering the community structure and the allowance for shrinkage in collections are deducted. There is a wide range between cities in allocations to the United Jewish Appeal. It would be fascinating to see a certified account of the dollar that is raised and that goes to the United Jewish Appeal.

When we speak of the United Jewish Appeal today, we are speaking of an instrument devoted in largest measure to the requirements of Israel, for even the Joint Distribution Committee does the largest part of its work in Israel and, as everyone knows, does it magnificently.

THE PURPOSE of this seemingly irrelevant historic background is to judge the financial needs of Israel today.

Why is it that the officers of the State of Israel Bond Organization in the United States (and elsewhere) are pressing for continuous efforts to sell Israel Bonds? Why do they take the position that there is no conflict whatsoever, either in objectives or in activities, between Israel Bonds and United Jewish Appeal, on the one hand, or Israel Bonds and Welfare Funds, on the other?

The American Jewish community has rendered—and continues to render—extraordinary service to Israel but there is sometimes a tendency to confuse present activities with the cumulative total of achievements.

What goes on in some minds is reflected in the February issue of *Mademoiselle Magazine*, which publishes an article on travel in Israel by Mary Parker. One paragraph in that article says Israel is being supported by the United States Government, through grants and loans, estimated at some \$385 million, through United Jewish Appeal, reported at \$435 million, through Israel Bonds, listed at \$161 million. It concludes with the statement that of German reparations of \$812 million due to Israel, about \$700 million has already been paid. And that, says the reporter, explains

why the Arabs are so angry at the United States.

IT IS THIS same type of muddy thinking which animates much of the comment on Israel's current financial affairs. It did good in 1949 when the Export-Import Bank loaned Israel \$100 million, but why create the impression that this is an annual entry in Israel's account books? It is true that the United Jewish Appeal was given \$148 million by the American Jewish community in 1948, but is it not more to the point that in 1954, that contribution was down to \$48 million. In 1952 there was a \$72 million grant-in-aid, but in 1954-55, the figure has not yet actually been announced, although there have been rumors of a \$40 million grant, of which half may be an outright grant and the other half a long-term loan.



Publicity men render a fine social purpose in clarifying their work to the public but, occasionally, to overcome the blase attitude of editors, they try to create attractive figure patterns to get into the papers. Thus, it is not enough to report what an organization has raised in the particular year. There must be a figure of what that particular organization raised in the last five, ten or even twenty-five years, depending on how jaded the publicity man thinks the editor is. Or else a "new blueprint" is devised, which shows that in the next two or five or twenty years, Israel or some other activity will require \$1 billion or some similarly enticing sum, which might justify a half-column story. The general public (the Jewish public, that is) is left with the impression that a sea of money surrounds Israel (for example) and not a blockaded sea. What DOES Israel do with ALL that money; is the inevitable, cynical reaction of the Jewish public.

The Arabs know better. They keep accurate account of UJA income, Bond income, grant-in-aid income for Israel. That is why their advisers keep saying to impatient war-mongers: "Be calm. The flow of money is going steadily downward, regardless of the publicity stories. Israel will be at our mercy without our having to waste a single bullet."

**THERE ARE** certain premises which must be taken into account for any serious analysis of your editorial.

(1) The philanthropic income for Israel from the United States

has gone down to a shocking extent. This is true both on the quantitative and qualitative levels. The total philanthropic money for Israel in 1955 will be less than one-third of what it was in 1948. At the very same time, the savings and the income of the American Jewish community have more than doubled in the interim.

(2) Philanthropic contributions in the United States are deductible from taxes, from 20 to 30 per cent of the gross income, depending on whether it is general or religious and educational philanthropy. Every contribution to a Welfare Fund (and to the United Jewish Appeal) is deductible from income taxes. Purchases of State of Israel Bonds by individuals must come from their own income and are not tax-deductible.

(3) In 1955, the State of Israel is entering its seventh birthday. It does so with enormous strength, in the agricultural, industrial and military areas. But it represents an economy closely approaching the 2 million population figure. It must create and expand its productive facilities. It must have more and better factories, more electric power, more irrigation. It must increase its agricultural production in order to cut down on its imports.

Who is to supply this money? A large part of it is coming from the Israelis themselves. But their ability to maintain and enlarge their productive plant is being unnecessarily curtailed by the vast amounts that must go into maintenance of adequate armaments (for which both the Arabs and the Western powers may jointly examine their consciences). The economy of Israel is also being strengthened by reparations from Germany. It is truly ironic that not much more is coming from all the LIVING Jews of the world than is being bequeathed in annual installments to Israel by the millions of dead Jews.

**IT SEEMS** continuously forgotten as to why the Prime Minister of Israel projected a Bond Issue in September, 1950. In the first place, it was becoming clear even then that there was a steady, downward trend in philanthropic contributions (unjustified though that was and is). It was essential, therefore, for Israel to find other channels of money, even to the extent of borrowing on a large scale. In the second place, the Prime Minister emphasized that the existence of a self-respecting nation required that it should not be pauperized and

that it should learn to guard the expenditure of every penny because the money was its own.

There is NO central organism of American Jewry which plans the activities of the American Jewish community. Some say this is good; some declare it evil. The fact remains. The Welfare Fund raises money solely for philanthropic purposes. Its effectiveness even in this field requires the most thorough-going re-examination instead of the unctuous self-esteem in which so many now anoint themselves. But the Welfare Fund is NOT the custodian, either by choice or capacity, for ALL fund-raising programs in the American Jewish community.

It does not raise money for synagogues and rarely for Jewish community centers, hospitals, old aged homes and other social service enterprises. With respect to Israel Bonds, the Welfare Funds hastened to say, from the very beginning of that enterprise: Bonds are not our business; we are exclusively concerned with philanthropic money. Out of that arose the cute semantic term of "free" money. With the same twist of semantics, it could easily be pointed out that the ONLY money which the State of Israel has as its own, "free" disposal is the income from Israel Bonds.

But what Israel needs today is not a competitive exercise in semantics but an honest study of the sources and extent of its income in the United States, where some 6 million Jews have their comfortable residence—the overwhelming majority of them having a profound concern with the fate of Israel, if only people will talk sense and facts to them, instead of dishing out the old coffee grounds.

**A WELFARE FUND** pledge is made once each year, in anticipation of the income of an individual in that particular year, taking into account the relevance of that pledge to the tax deduction one may take in his annual tax report. If a large income is anticipated, a large pledge may be made—if the individual is properly generous. If a weak year is anticipated, the pledge suffers.

A purchase of an Israel Bond has no relationship whatever to that type of reasoning. A purchase may take place in January or May or December. A mortgage may be paid up; another bond or security may mature; a windfall may occur in another area of one's financial activities. Or one may convert a small or large part of a savings account or other liquid asset to such a purchase. The current income has no bearing on the decision to purchase a Bond, except for certain psychological effects. That is why the Israel Bond organization points out that Bonds must be offered for sale throughout the year, since the purchase is subject to an individual's financial status currently and not on a projected income basis.



There is another reason why the Israel Bond organization suggests that Bonds should be continuously available for sale: the paucity of manpower in some cases requires a stretched-out effort. If all responsible, voluntary leadership recognized the indispensable importance of Israel Bonds to Israel's economy, then a concentrated, community-wide effort by them could achieve an effective result in a much briefer period of time. In many communities, however, a small band of infinitely devoted men and women—not always the most affluent or 'socially significant'—give of their time, energy and resources with truly consecrated spirit. Because of the smallness of their numbers, it takes much longer for them to do an adequate job. Even then, they cannot begin to cover the community. That is a tragic loss, considering how many Jews in every community would like to purchase Israel Bonds if they could be approached and considering the good uses to which Israel needs to put this money.

**LET'S BE SPECIFIC**, for illustrative purposes. Cleveland, O., has between 90,000 and 100,000 Jews. It is a community which prides itself, properly, on its long pro-Israel history and its distinguished Zionist leadership. Its Welfare Fund does one of the very best jobs in the nation. Yet, in the year 1954, this vast Jewish community—one of the very wealthiest in the nation—provided only 1,437 purchasers of State of Israel Bonds. Perhaps it might be said: well, subdue all Israel Bond activity in one part of the year and then, in the other half, there will be united activity to make up for the losses. In the spring of 1954, for example, the total income—for six months (of LOANS, not gifts)—was about \$200,000. In deference to the Welfare Fund, there was the proverbial quiet of the tomb. But in the last six months of the year, what happened to that proffered, pledged, promised community aid? The income in the latter half was exactly \$387,250! Remember, this is not money contributed, but money loaned—interest being paid at the rate of 4 per cent per annum, and the principal subject to redemption in United States dollars. What price not operating in the spring months! What price eliminating

all activity during Welfare Fund time! What price love of Israel!

Your editorial of Jan. 28 raised some mighty interesting questions. My suggestion for continuous Israel Bond sales was NOT a strategic move, but one based on four years of experience and one prompted by the desire to enable American Jewry to meet its self-imposed wish to strengthen Israel's economy.

Writing to you in the city where one walks under the Arch of Titus from time to time, one is tempted to become solemn and to remember how once long ago, a Jewish State suffered from the inability of its leaders to realize what makes a State strong.

HENRY MONTOR





December 17, 1954

Rabbi Herbert Friedman  
2419 E. Kenwood Blvd.  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Dear Herb:

Attached hereto are two sets of figures. Page one is the receipts and allocations of the UJA through December 15, 1954. Page two is the status of funds of the United Israel Appeal through December 14, 1954.

One thing you can be sure of---these figures are correct.

If you examine these figures you will realize the small amount of cash which the United Israel Appeal has received so far this year.

I become petrified when I think what Israel has to look forward to in 1955, under the present climate.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

Julian (signed)

JEV:cl

## UNITED JEWISH APPEAL

CASH RECEIPTS AND ALLOCATIONS

## Cash Receipts - All campaigns

1/1-12/15/54	\$44,844,949.00*
1/1-12/15/53	60,158,630.00

## Allocations - All campaigns

1/1-12/15/54	\$41,377,764.00**
1/1-12/15-53	58,074,365.00

*Total	\$44,844,949.00
Community Credits	12,851,822.00
<u>CASH</u>	<u>31,993,127.00</u>

**Total	41,377,764.00
Community Credits	12,851,822.00
	<u>28,525,942.00</u>



1954  
UNITED ISRAEL APPEAL

STATUS OF FUNDS

December 14, 1954

CASH RECEIVED TODAY General Funds \$335,000.00

BANK BALANCES 56,979.31

UJA REFUNDING PROJECT -Cash \$62,200,000.00  
Less Credits - 12-10-54 12,763,435.39 49,436,564.61

DUE TO JNF 3,750.00

ALLOCATED TODAY -FFF- General Funds 300,000.00

RECEIVED FROM UJA - 12/1- 12/14/54 968,877.77\*

Incl. \$194,000. - Ampal Bonds  
71,377.77 Israel Bonds  
265,377.77

RECEIVED FROM UJA - 1/1-12/14/54 26,897,984.73  
General Funds \$14,134,549.34\*  
Credits -12/10 12,763,435.39  
\$26,897,984.73

\*Incl. \$2,526,940.43 - Israel Bonds  
194,000.00 - Ampal Bonds  
\$2,720,940.43  
440,404.84 Amidar Funds  
79,388.79 Direct Contrib.  
\$3,240,734.06