MS-763: Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman Collection, 1930-2004.

Series F: Life in Israel, 1956-1983.

Box Folder 12

Israel Bonds. 1971-1972.

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



Bonds

מלון המלך דוד ירושלים

February 1, 1972

Mr. Paul Zuckerman 27651 Fairway Hills Dr. Franklin, Mich, U.S.A.

Dear Paul:

When you read the enclosed statement by the Prime Minister of Israel, you will understand the critical situation and the urgent needs facing Israel in 1972.

I am writing to you from Jerusalem where we have just completed a top level conference that was convened by Prime Minister Golda Meir to plan the sale of \$450 million in Israel Bonds this year.

The launching of this extraordinary campaign will take place in Miami from February 24th through February 27th. General Haim Bar-Lev, who served as Israel's Chief of Staff for the past four years will be our special guest.

The Prime Minister's statement contains the best reasons why you should buy much more in Bonds this year. After you have decided on your 1972 purchase, please make an additional purchase to help provide jobs for the greatly increased flow of Jews from Soviet Russia. It takes an investment of \$20,000 to create a job for one immigrant.

Please let me hear from you. Either I, Ira Guilden, Ray Perelman, Leo Bernstein, or one of the members of the committee will be in touch with you from the Inaugural Conference headquarters in Miami about your 1972 commitment.

With many thanks and warm personal greetings from united Jerusalem, I am

Bincerely yours,

Sem Rothberg General Chairman, State of Israel Bonds

SR/em

By Her Excellency

PRIME MINISTER GOLDA MEIR

The basic problem, whether it is in our military position or in our internal social and economic situation, or in our policy of unlimited immigration can be summed up in one question that is often asked even by our best friends: How long can the people of Israel continue to do the impossible? How long can we continue to perform miracles in defending our homes and our homeland from aggressors who outnumber us ten and twenty to one -- supported and militarily equipped by the Soviet Union? How long can we go on -- on a war footing draining our resources to preserve our defensive strength and still be able to develop our economy and to provide adequate social, economic and educational services for our population?

One of the great historical developments -- a miracle which followed in a chain reaction the miracle of the six day war -- was the great reawakening of the Jewish spirit in Soviet Russia. Who can say which required a greater amount of courage -- to fight in the front lines in the Sinai or for Russian Jews to publicly demand their right to be Jews and join us in Israel. I need not tell you what this entails in the Soviet regime.

Some of us believe that the heroism that was displayed in Israel in 1967 found its match in the bravery of the Jews of Russia since 1967. It is not only the Jewish people who have been deeply stirred by this remarkably courageous stand. But all mankind has watched with surprise and admiration this action on the part of the men and women who not so long ago were described as Jews of Silence. They are not silent any longer. They are coming to Israel in growing numbers and we welcome them with joy in our hearts.

There are also other Jews just as brave, just as undaunted, living in backward Asian and African Moslem countries under the most ruthless regimes, facing great dangers in order to come to Israel, and happily, they too are coming.

This, of course, means that we must furnish them with adequate housing, with proper jobs, so that their hopes for a life of freedom among their own people will be realized. This immigration and the immigration from the Western countries and America represent a great and promising new chapter in the history of Israel. But they come at a time of the greatest financial stress for us. They come at a time when we cannot without the fullest cooperation of Jews all over the world, find the resources to help them establish economic and social roots that will enable them to make their fullest contribution to our growth and development as self-sustaining citizens of Israel.

If I were to sum up in one sentence what the reason for the birth of the State of Israel was, and the justification for our continuing struggle for its existence and independence -- I would say the right of every Jew to come and live in this State.

Can we belie the very purpose of our existence by telling all these Jews to wait until we have peace and are relieved of our terrible defense burden and then we will be able to absorb them? To give them housing -- create jobs, etc? And what about those who came 15 years ago and are not yet thoroughly absorbed? What shall we say when a soldier who has fought in the war returns to civilian life and asks that he be given the same chance as others to become a productive and self-supporting member of society?

Where shall we cut? Shall we spend less for arms and planes and put the country's security into jeopardy? Shall we tell the Russian Jews not to come? Shall we tell our deprived sector to forget about improved housing conditions or better economic and social opportunities which they have been waiting for, for years? Shall we stop the development of the economy? Shall we stop building new industries? Shall we cut down on irrigation projects and the establishment of new settlements and development towns? Should we decide that the impossible has really become impossible?

I don't know what we would have done without Israel Bonds. I don't know what we would have done without Bonds twenty years ago. And I don't know what we would have done without Bonds in 1967 and in the years which have followed. Let me say that Israel needs Bond money more today than ever before because our problems are greater than ever before whether they are political, military or economic. We have a job to do that cannot be postponed. We can never say that we are not ready to defend ourselves or that we are not ready to meet our obligations to our people at home and in other parts of the world.

We must always be ready, and I know that you, too, will be ready, as you have been in the past, to understand our needs, to sympathize with our difficulties and to provide the means to help us achieve the goal of creating a free people who will live in peace in a secure homeland.

In any hour of great trial we cannot forget that we can rely on you one hundred percent as our most important and most constant and dedicated ally.

State of Israel Bonds

215 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10003 OREGON 7-9650





LEO BERNSTEIN

Executive Vice President

October 27, 1971

Rabbi Herbert Friedman c/o Jewish Agency Box 92 Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Herb:

I am indeed most pleased to advise you that George Shapiro has accepted General Chairmanship for 1972.

We will not make the official announcement in Boston until December 18. I am sure you will want to drop him a congratulatory note.

Your help was most invaluable. I know we can now look forward to 1972 being the best Bond year ever in Boston.

Warmest regards.

Sincerely,

Leo Bernstein

LB:hji

State of Israel Bonds

215 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10003 OREGON 7-9650



LEO BERNSTEIN

Executive Vice President

October 7, 1971

Rabbi Herbert Friedman
c/o Jewish Agency
Box 92
Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Herb:

My deepest thanks for your call to George Shapiro.

There has been some further discussion with him, and at the moment, our Manager feels that the chances of his accepting are 80%.

Regardless of what he finally does, I do want you to know your quick and effective response is most warmly appreciated.

Warmest personal regards.

Sincerely,

Leo Bernstein

LB:hej

State of Israel Bonds

215 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10003 OREGON 7-9650



LEO BERNSTEIN

Executive Vice President

September 27, 1971

Rabbi Herbert Friedman c/o Jewish Agency Box 92 Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Herb:

I am calling on you for your help in obtaining a Chairman for Boston. We want and need George Shapiro, whom I believe you know quite well and who, we understand has great friendship, affection and respect for you.

Mr. Shapiro has an understanding of the need for Bonds. He has accepted occasional leadership in the past, purchases Bonds each year, and will be the guest of honor at a Bond dinner on November 9.

Bernie Garber, our Chairman, and Elliot Sugarman, our Manager, have spoken to Mr. Shapiro and invited him to assume the Chairmanship for 1972. The request is presently under consideration.

What seems to be holding him back is that his wife is not well, and he is presently President of Kehillath Israel for an additional year.

He has all the qualities we need. A call from you may be the decisive factor.

Time is of the essence, and I look forward to hearing from you by telephone or cable, regarding the results of your call. His telephone numbers are: Business 617 542-8656, Home 617 277-6711.

Warmest regards and L'Shanah Tova.

called les + reported

Sincerely,

Leo Bernstein

LB:hei

State of Israel Bonds

215 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10003 OREGON 7-9650



February 14, 1972

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
Executive Vice-Chairman
United Jewish Appeal
15 Ibn Gavirol
Jerusalem, Israel FRICAN FEWISH

Dear Rabbi Friedman:

This will acknowledge your letter of February 8th addressed to Mr. Leo Bernstein, concerning a letter to Gerry Colburn. The copy of the letter was not enclosed and we would appreciate receiving it so that your letter together with the enclosure to which you referred can be forwarded to Mr. Bernstein who, at this time, is in Miami in connection with the Bond Conference.

Regards,

Sincerely,

Florrie Chiat

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State of Israel Bonds

215 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10003 OREGON 7-9650



LEO BERNSTEIN

Executive Vice President

February 4, 1972

Rabbi Herbert Friedman
% United Jewish Appeal
P.O. Box 92
Jerusalem, Israel. ERICAN IEWISH
Dear Herb:

As you may know by now Gerry Colburn has agreed to be the Man of the Year at the Israel Bond dinner in Milwaukee this June. We are, of course, very much encouraged by this development and have very high hopes for what it will do for the Milwaukee campaign.

I know it would mean a great deal to Mr. Colburn to hear from you about this and I have taken the liberty of preparing the attached draft which you can adapt to your own style. I would very much appreciate it if you would write to Mr. Colburn and have a copy sent to me.

With thanks and best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

Leo Bernstein

LB: amw

15 Ibn Gavirol Jerusalem Tel: 66921

February 8th, 1972

Mr. Gerald S. Colburn 200 W, Indian Creek Court Milwaukee, Wisc. 53217

Dear Cerry:

I was very pleased to hear from Sam Rothberg that you will be Guest of Honor at the major Israel Bond dinner in Milwaukee this June.

I don't have to tell you how highly I think of you and how much you deserve every honor that comes your way. Your willingness to accept this testimonial is very much a step in the right direction because it will help to mobilize the community in a unified effort for Bonds. It will also serve as a model for the kind of cooperation that can be achieved between the two major sources of financial strength for Israel, especially in the face of today's critical needs.

As you may know I had the privilege of participating last year in several Federation-sponsored Bond dinners and came away from each one with a very warm feeling about the spirit of oneness on that occasion.

With renewed congratulations and best wishes for a successful and memorable meeting, I am

Sincerely,

Herbert A. Friedman Executive Vice-Chairman 02-60487

15 Ibn Gaverol Jerusalem Tel: 66921

February 8th, 1972

Mr. Leo Bernstein State of Israel Bonds 215 Park Avenue South New York, N.Y. 10003

Dear Leo,

I have your note concerning a letter to Gerry Colburn, and I have sent him the enclosed letter. It is based essentially on your draft, with some personal additions.

He is an excellent man and when I see him again I will encourage him further.

Sincerely,

Herbert A. Friedman Executive Vice-Chairman

HAF: AMG