



## Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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### **MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.**

Series I: General Correspondence, 1914-1969, undated.

Sub-series A: Alphabetical, 1914-1965, undated.

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American Committee for Anti-Nazi Literature, 1936.



FRANZ BOAS

New York Columbia University

TEL. UNIVERSITY 4-3200

NEW YORK,

June 1, 1936

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

The decline of culture in Nazi Germany, accomplished by the suppression of free speech, assemblage and discussion, by the regimentation of education and all intellectual and political life, in threatening to destroy in one decade what has taken centuries of effort to build. For us who hold precious the progress of civilization, this reversion of mankind to the jungle-pit appears as an incalculable calamity. It seems, therefore, that the very least we can do in defense of our common humanity is to reaffirm our faith in free intelligence against brute force.

To this end the AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR ANTI-NAZI LITERATURE is being founded; to wage a campaign of education and enlightenment against the Nazis. It plans to hold an educational exhibit in New York and in other large cities of anti-Nazi literature, in memory of the burning of books by the Nazis. Steps are also being taken to establish an anti-Nazi archive to serve scholars, writers, students, and educators. Organized educational activities will be carried on in American colleges and universities; lectures and symposia will be given. Moreover, as the centre for its educational activities, it will supply through subscription, copies of underground anti-Nazi literature now being courageously disseminated in Germany by all progressive elements regardless of party, class, or religious faith.

We feel that we need your assistance in this important educational venture. We should like you to lend your name and valuable influence as a sponsor of this Committee.

We need not assure you that we anticipate with pleasure a prompt indication of your support.

Yours sincerely,

*Franz Boas*

Franz Boas  
Chairman

FB/jg



June 16, 1936

Mr. Frank Boaz,  
Columbia University,  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Boaz:

Let me thank you for your letter of June 1. I shall be very pleased to serve on the American Committee for Anti-Nazi Literature which you are organizing. It seems to me that this is a tremendously important thing to do at the present time.

With all good wishes, permit me to remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



*American Committee for Anti-Nazi Literature*

~~100~~ FIFTH AVENUE, ROOM ~~1512~~ 71

NEW YORK CITY

ALgonquin 4-4771

Chairman: PROF. FRANZ BOAS

Treasurer: PROF. JULIUS LIPS

Secretary: LEO W. SCHWARZ

*Advisers on Anti-Nazi Literature*

PRINCE HUBERTUS ZU LOEWENSTEIN  
(German Catholic Leader)

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(Former Minister of Justice in Prussia)

June 30, 1936

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Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
E. 105th St. at Ansel Road.  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I was very glad to have your acceptance as a sponsor of our Committee. I would have written you much sooner but a slight illness forced me to remain at home during the past weeks.

I shall have our secretary write you from time to time about the progress of our work. I trust that if there is any way in which you can be of further service to the Committee you will not hesitate to communicate with me.

Thank you many times for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

*Franz Boas*

Franz Boas  
Chairman

FB:AS