

Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

Featuring collections from the Western Reserve Historical Society and The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

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

Series I: General Correspondence, 1914-1969, undated. Sub-series A: Alphabetical, 1914-1965, undated.

Reel Folder Box 2 58

American Jewish League Against Communism, Inc., 1950-1952.

ESTERN INION

1201

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL=Night Letter

PM 7 32

LC=Deferred Cable

NLT=Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

ers is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

PA6 13

P. SIA519 NL PD=SI NEWYORK NY 18=

REVEREND DOCTOR ABBA HILLELSILVER=

THE TEMPLE CLEVE=

DO YOU REPUDIATE PUBLISHED VERSION OF YOUR OCTOBER 8TH SERMON AS CONTAINED FRONT PAGE NEW YORK MORNING FREIHEIT OCTOBER 12TH AND WHICH APPARENTLY FAVORS APPEASEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNISM. KINDLY REPLY COLLECT. VERY RESPECTFULLY=

AMERICAN JEWISH LEAGUE AGAINST COMMUNISM INC
ALFRED KOHLBERG NATIONAL CHAIRMAN

220 WEST 42ND STREET NEW YORK CITY= ...

A letter to the members of the

American Jewish League Against Communism, Inc.

from the National Chairman

With references to certain erroneous statements concerning the activities of the League; and the actual facts.

New York, Feb. 1951



To the members of the American Jewish League Against Communism, Inc.:

January 30th (Tuesday) the National Community Relations Advisory Council issued the following statement, (as sent us Feb. 6 by Edwin Lukas, of the A. J. C.):

"The undersigned Jewish organizations, representing through their affiliates the overwhelming majority of the organized Jewish Community of the United States, regard as infamous the attack by Rabbi Benjamin Schultz, Director of the American Jewish League Against Communism, on the patriotism and moral character of two great Americans, Secretary of Defense George C. Marshall and Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz.

"Rabbi Schultz has been reported in the newspapers as having referred to Secretary Marshall as a 'fall guy' in a plot to shield pro-red activities and to Admiral Nimitz, recently named Chairman of the President's Commission on Internal Security and Individual Rights as having a 'bad' record 'on tolerance of pro-Communists' and as a foil 'in a deliberate attempt to whitewash an evil, pro-Communist situation.'

"Such irresponsible attacks impair the fight against Communism by creating confusion and distrust at home and by undermining overseas the high confidence earned by Nimitz and Marshall, two of the chief architects in the world-wide fight against totalitarianism.

"These tactics are particularly reprehensible at a time when the preservation of American democracy requires the highest regard for civil rights and liberties as fully as it needs opposition to Communism.

"Rabbi Schultz in no way represents any section of the American Jewish community and the major Jewish organizations repudiate and condemn his repeated resort to vilification and slander of reputable Americans, all on the pretext of combatting Communism.

Signed: THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE
John Slawson, Executive Director

Anti-Defamation League, B'nai B'rith Benj. R. Epstein, Executive Director

JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE U.S.A. Benjamin Kaufman, Executive Director

Union of American Hebrew Congregations Maurice W. Eisendrath, President American Jewish Congress
David N. Petegorsky, Executive Director
Jewish Labor Committee

Jacob Pat, Executive Director

NATIONAL COMMUNITY RELATIONS
ADVISORY COUNCIL
Isaiah M. Minkoff, Executive Director"

The above statement was issued for publication, and was published, in the Jewish press and in other sections of the press. The statement refers to newspaper reports of a speech by Rabbi Schultz, three days previously, before the Women's Patriotic Conference on National Defense in Washington, D. C. Among the other distinguished speakers at the same Conference was Secretary of Defense, George C. Marshall.

What Rabbi Schultz Really Said

You will note that this denunciation of Rabbi Schultz is signed by the employed staff heads of the various organizations, claiming to speak on behalf of their Directorates and all their memberships, that it was issued in great haste two days after the newspaper reports from which they quote a few words. I attach to this letter as a Note the full text of the official transcript of Rabbi Schultz's speech insofar as it in any way mentioned Gen. Marshall and Admiral Nimitz; also Rabbi Schultz's explanation in the speech that he was speaking as a private individual, and not on behalf of AJLAC or any other group.

From this transcript you will see that Rabbi Schultz's statements have been misrepresented and the pseudo-patriotic zeal with which these professional staff members rush to the defense of two great American fighting men is not only based on their neglect to consult the transcript, but is slightly ludicrous.

For their magnificent war records, Gen. Marshall and Admiral Nimitz need no praise from Rabbi Schultz or me, nor defense by the NCRAC. Their effectiveness as students of, and workers against, Communism in the political field is an entirely different matter.

Statement by Admiral Nimitz

Four days after Rabbi Schultz spoke, the N. Y. Herald Tribune published an interview with Admiral Nimitz. Referring to the new President's Commission on Internal Security and Individual Rights, which he heads, the interviewer reports:

"I don't know where this thing will lead," he said. "We will have to pick each other's minds after we get organized . . ." Admiral Nimitz said he was coming to Washington tomorrow to discuss the gathering of a staff for

the Commission with Donald S. Dawson, assistant to the President in the matter of appointments . . . The most important post to be filled on the Commission staff is that of general counsel. Adm. Nimitz said he had "no idea" to whom this appointment would be given and would not have until after he had talked with Mr. Dawson.

"He has been handling this thing all along," the Admiral said. . . .

In the above Admiral Nimitz seems to completely confirm Rabbi Schultz's doubts. The Donald S. Dawson referred to, is Pres. Truman's Administrative Assistant, now receiving publicity in the RFC investigation.

General Marshall's record of political activities against Communism is also a matter of public record, so that statements by either Rabbi Schultz or the NCRAC seem beside the point. Since Dec. 11, 1945, when, he testified, he sat down with Under-Secretary of State, Dean Acheson, and wrote out the still-secret instructions which Pres. Truman signed for his peace mission to form a coalition government in China, Gen. Marshall and Secretary Acheson have been separately, or jointly, in complete control of our Pacific policy; right down to the present day. During these five years China has fallen to Communism; 500 million friends have been made into 500 million enemies; and the Chinese Civil War, which Gen. Marshall was to end, has been turned into a Chinese-American War. 50,000 American casualties speak more loudly than any words of Rabbi Schultz, or the NCRAC, or mine.

National Community Relations Advisory Council (NCRAC) Policy

If this hasty and erroneous public and official denunciation of Rabbi Schultz were an isolated instance, I could end this letter here. Unfortunately, it is only the last of a series of incidents of distorted and untruthful statements by individuals officially representative of the American Jewish Committee, A.D.L., and B'nai B'rith. (I shall not even bother with referring to the American Jewish Congress—they have made their own Communist infiltration public). In fact, this last denunciation is in direct violation of the stated principles of the NCRAC. In a letter dated June 24, 1948, Mr. Isaiah Minkoff, Executive Director of the NCRAC, writing to Rabbi Schultz on another matter, said: "I do not take up the merits of the issue which you raise, since the NCRAC has no mandate from the Jewish community to exercise censorship over the utterance or publications of private individuals." This position was expressed as reason for not disclaiming certain abusive statements in a Jewish publication.

The NCRAC followed the above principles when it refrained from action when Sermons of Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, scoffing at our bloody defense in Korea, and advocating appearement of Communism, were printed in the Communist press, including the front page of The Daily Worker.

Nor did the NCRAC refer to Rabbi Silver's sermon of Dec. 17, 1950, reprinted in the Congressional Record of Jan. 5, 1951 by Senator Taft. In that sermon, referring to President Truman, Rabbi Silver used such phrases as: "his choleric letter writing and emotional outbursts," "overcharged and uncontrolled spirit," "temper, pique and resentment," "language which is not permissible even to a private citizen," "the laughing stock of the world," "the Korean move was inspired by domestic political considerations, connected with an approaching fall election," "Truman does not trust Stalin. Stalin does not trust Truman. Hence the impasse," "There are those in our country who do not want an understanding with Russia . . . There are those who will try to sabotage any possibility of agreement. These are our real enemies."

Fortunately, there is no lese majeste, nor are there any sacred cows in America. Criticism of our leaders, and their replacement, when the majority so decides, are still among our rights. I fully support not only Rabbi Schultz's right to say what he did, I support what he said, and think he put it courteously.

Though I do not agree with Rabbi Silver, I uphold his right to say what he thinks, much as I regret his influence. But, you see, the NCRAC rushes to denounce anti-Communist statements—never pro-Communist statements. According to Mr. Minkoff's statement of their principles, both are none of their concern.

Previous Attacks on AJLAC

Vilification of AJLAC began in a 2-page mimeographed release by ADL in 1948. This was one month after public announcement of our incorporation; while we were in the processes of organization, and before activities in our field had begun. The ADL release was largely an untruthful attack on Rabbi Schultz, particularly concerned with three articles by him in the New York World Telegram, the previous year. These articles exposed infiltration of Communism in religious circles. One was devoted to Protestants, one to Catholics, and one to Jews. While denouncing Rabbi Schultz for his article on Communist infiltration in the Jewish faith and organizations, the ADL concealed the fact that, prior to publication, the article was submitted to them for an expression of opinion; that they suggested about a dozen changes of wording; and that all the changes they suggested were made. Requests by me for a conference with Judge Meier Steinbrink, Chairman of ADL, on this matter, were refused. Judge Steinbrink referred me to the staff, but I did not avail myself of the opportunity for fear that if I revealed to the staff the censoring of the World-Telegram article, it might only result in the discharge of the only anti-Communist they employed.

The campaign of abuse of our League and its Directors continued, mostly by word of mouth, and reached us only indirectly. In 1948 a telephone call to ADL, Los Angeles, brought the same denunciation. When we complained, the ADL apologized in writing and stated that their employees were not authorized to speak in their name.

Late in 1950 employees of the American Jewish Committee called on Rabbi Schultz, hinted our League should close, and a good position could be created for Rabbi Schultz on the AJC staff.

In November 1950, at the All-American Conference to Combat Communism, Edwin Lukas, delegate of the AJC, told me that Rabbi Schultz had approached a Jewish official of the American Legion in Detroit and suggested a boycott of the Israeli Orchestra when it arrived in America, because one of its conductors was Leonard Bernstein, with a long red record. Although I had not heard of the forthcoming visit of the Israeli Orchestra, and, because I am completely unmusical, had not heard of Leonard Bernstein, I was shocked at the implications. Rabbi Schultz, being in the hotel as a member of the Executive Committee of the All-American Conference, I called him immediately; he told me he knew nothing of the matter and did not even know of the forthcoming visit of the Israeli Orchestra. I immediately called the American Legion official in Detroit. He denied the entire story. I then talked to Mr. Lukas, who told me he had repeated the story at the Executive Committee meeting of AJC in Chicago, a few weeks previously, and to Lewis Hines, of the AFL, a member of the Nominating Committee of the All-American Conference, who insisted, in Committee, that Rabbi Schultz not be renominated. Mr. Lukas claimed that his statements were based on a written report of an AJC "investigator" and promised me a copy. Repeated requests finally brought a letter from Mr. Lukas saying that "for security reasons" he could not give me such a copy. A request by Rabbi Schultz for an apology or retraction was evaded.

During the 3 years between the incidents outlined above, there have been innumerable similar incidents, mostly minor, all revealing a determination to destroy the League and its active officials.

Why?

Why This Hostility

There seem to be two principal reasons.

The first is the normal reaction of an entrenched bureaucracy living on millions of dollars raised from the Jewish Communities. Like all of us, they don't like competition.

The second reason is that the large staffs of these organizations contain a certain number of Communist Party members, by their own statements, and a vast majority of either strong or mild sympathizers with Communism. Mr. Lukas told me he had formerly been one of the latter himself.

These Jewish organizations may be regarded as composed of three layers. At the bottom are the great mass of the members, whose function is to supply the numbers that give it weight, and the money. Like most Americans of other faiths, they are opposed to Communism, but on the whole are little informed on it, being busy with their everyday affairs. Like the American public as a whole, they sometimes vaguely wonder whether the charges of Communist influence at the top are true, but feel they can't do anything about it.

Next layer above them is the Directorate, local and national. Largely a self-perpetuating group, their main function is to stir up enthusiasm and raise the do-re-me. Being busy men of affairs, they leave their thinking, wittingly or unwittingly, to the top layer of authority, the paid staff. Here is the informed personnel, working full time, knowing, or thinking they know, what it is all about, and easily convincing the Directors and Executive Committees.

One of the jobs of our League is to bring cases of pro-Communist infiltration in their staffs to the attention of the Directorates and membership of these Jewish organizations. This we have done in many cases, such as Harold Glasser, Director of the Institute of Overseas Studies of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, identified by Elizabeth Bentley as a member of her spy ring; such as Rabbi Benjamin Lowell, Administrative Secretary of Hillel, now featured in the Daily Worker at pro-Communist "peace" meetings with Vito Marcantonio; of Rabbi Herman Pollack, of Brooklyn College Hillel, publicly identified as once a member of the Communist Party, since which he joined the faculty of the School of Jewish Studies, listed as Communist by the Attorney General; of Rabbi Jonah Caplan, Vice-Pres. of the New York Board of Rabbis, whose Communist-front activities have even offended the American Jewish Congress, an all-time record. Another case was our action against the Jewish People's Fraternal Order, of the International Workers Order, which, on our complaint, was thrown out of the N. Y. Public Schools. In this and numerous other moves to clean Communists out of Jewish organizations, and to expose Communist organizations hiding behind Jewish names, we have been strictly alone. The NCRAC was silent.

Likewise, has it been silent as long lists of Communist petitions have been printed in the press and in Congressional hearings with an unfortunate number of Jewish Rabbis and laymen included. Recently, they passed some resolutions opposing Communism. We are happy to applaud this first step in the right direction.

Fighters Against Communism Since 1940

In his column of January 24th, George Sokolsky, one of our Directors, published a list of persons who have been outstanding fighters against Communism since before 1940. In preparing it, he collaborated with Dr. J. B. Matthews and Benjamin Stolberg, both recognized authorities. He listed 95 persons in all. 15 are Jews, a very creditable percentage. 5 are present members of our Board of Directors. Not one except David Dubinsky is officially connected with any of the NCRAC organizations, nor writer for their publications. This is a sad commentary on the confusion and ignorance of the Directorates that permit the pinko staffs to lead them around by the nose.

NCRAC Confusion

Instances of this pinko-control are the NCRAC wire to President Truman last September, urging him to veto the anti-Communist Control Bill (later passed over his veto). ADL, AJ Congress and AJC took similar actions individually. Likewise, AJC's President Jacob Blaustein, Nov. 9, 1950, contrasting "the physical security enjoyed by Jews in Soviet Russia and the pogroms under the Czars," showed ignorance of their own reports and of the tragedies of the Jews in Soviet Russia. In the same statement, Pres. Blaustein says they have not yet decided whether Communist Party members should, or should not, continue to serve as case workers or teachers. Pres. Blaustein rushed to the defense of Jean Muir, saying: ". . . the principle of fair play has been grossly violated, and people have been deprived of their livelihood on no stronger ground than mere accusations hurled by vigilantes." This further exhibits his confusion, for he seems to discredit the Jewish boycotts of "Oliver Twist," of Kirsten Flagstad and others. Boycotts have been long recognized as a proper expression of democratic protest.

I wonder what Pres. Blaustein would think of the instances where B'nai B'rith Lodges, Anglo-Jewish publications and Rabbis have publicly endorsed us, only to write later asking us not to mention it, because of the pressure. Does Pres. Blaustein approve, or condemn, such pressure, and are his actions, likewise, to be explained by it? Where does it originate? Is it entirely at the staff level?

Denouncing our League in the Southern Jewish Weekly, Nov. 3, 1950, Rabbi Samuel Glasner of Georgia Hillel, said: "I refer you not only to our own ADL, but to the AJC, Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, and NCRAC, for their opinion of this organization and its Executive Director."

While vilification of our League, and Rabbi Schultz, and of me, was spread undercover by ADL, AJC and some of the other staffs, I felt it better to attempt to confer with responsible heads of these organizations, even when they refused to see me. I decided to say nothing publicly. Now that the NCRAC has made the issue public, I feel I owe you an explanation.

One of the stock phrases of anti-Semitic rabble-rousers is "all Jews are Communists and all Communists are Jews." One of the favorite phrases of Earl Browder was "Anti-Communism and Anti-Semitism are two different names for the same thing." Paul Robeson publicly thanked the Jewish people for coming to his aid. The anti-Semites, the Communists and the NCRAC all publicly attack Rabbi Schultz. Mrs. Elizabeth Dilling attacked him in her newsletter of March 1949. He spoils her argument that all Jews are Communists. He seems to be bad business to the NCRAC, to the Communists and to Mrs. Dilling.

Jews Against Communism

Which seems to make it unanimous, except, of course, for the vast majority of all Americans, including the vast majority of Americans of the Jewish faith. To them, of all faiths, the Rabbi and the League which stand for uncompromising opposition to the Communist World Conspiracy and all its secret tentacles, represent a hope for leadership from the present horrible mess in which we find ourselves as the result of ten years of Communist appeasement.

Trying to figure out why the AJC have always refused to talk to me, even when urged by some of their top Directorate, I am carried back to 1944 when I started to try to clean up the Institute of Pacific Relations, which had been captured by a Soviet Spy Ring. Some of the Executive Committee urged that I be permitted to come in and talk it all over. They wanted me to prove my case or retract my statements. The majority refused to permit this. I later learned that the majority of their Executive Committee were Communist sympathizers.

I feel that this is not the case in the NCRAC or the AJC or ADL. The only other explanation that makes sense to me is the following story:

Otherwise Perfectly Normal

After two hours of discussion and treatment, a lady on her first visit to a psychoanalyst, was told that he saw nothing wrong with her and wondered why she had come to him at all. She said she had done so at the request of her husband. The psychoanalyst asked her why her husband had insisted that she come to him and she said to him: "Well, it's because I like pies. I like all kinds of pie, but especially cherry pie, which is so nice and red inside." The doctor said, "Is that the only reason?" And she said, "Yes." "Well," he said, "that is nothing at all. I like pie, too, and especially cherry pie." To which the lady replied: "Well, doctor, if you like pie, come over to my house and I will give you a couple of pies. I have four shelves in the bookcase full of pies. I have three trunks full of pies. I have three shelves in the pantry full of pies. I have two bureau drawers full of pies. And I have a new batch of pies right on the kitchen table now."

Maybe, it's just a question of pies. I'm not a psychoanalyst.

With deep appreciation of your support, which we hope to continue to merit,

Very sincerely yours,

ALFRED KOHLBERG, National Chairman

American Jewish League Against Communism, Inc.

TRANSCRIPT OF ALL PORTIONS OF SPEECH OF RABBI SCHULTZ Before

TWENTY-FIFTH WOMEN'S PATRIOTIC CONFERENCE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE

HOTEL STATLER, WASHINGTON, D. C. JANUARY 27, 1951

WHICH IN ANY WAY REFER TO GEN. MARSHALL AND/OR ADM. NIMITZ

Reported by Master Reporting Co., Inc., National Press Bldg., Washington, D. C.

My dear ladies (and I see a couple of gentlemen here so I will say ladies and gentlemen): Somebody in my office sent out a little erroneous publicity. The Joint Committee Against Communism in New York, consisting of all the veterans' organizations and other civic groups of which I have the honor to be Coordinator, represents 2 million persons, but I have another job as Executive Director of the American Jewish League Against Communism, which has a few less members than that, although I know that we represent the majority view of Americans of Jewish faith on the subject of communism.

I hardly know where to begin. My topic is "Communism's Respectable Mask in America." I say I hardly know where to begin because there are so many things that could be said. In this talk I shall mention names, dates, places, and probably lose the good will of a few more people. It seems to be an accumulative process in my life. On the other hand, I think the process is worth while if it contributes at little to the enlightenment of the American people on the greatest danger which they have ever faced in all their history.

It is a privilege for me to be speaking to you because this is my Sabbath and this is as important to me as any religious service, because to serve America and to serve God this morning, to me, is a religious service.

I open the morning with prayer. Every time we pray we think of the unfortunate people behind the Iron Curtain who also would like to pray, Christians and Jews, but who are prevented from doing so in public, for the most part, because they would immediately be under suspicion.

I am speaking on communism's respectable masks in America and I am going to tread on dangerous ground, and I am speaking

only for myself and not for any organization, to give you what, out of painful experience, is my conviction, for what it is worth.

Speaking of names, speaking of infiltration, speaking of respectable masks, we enter the field of politics. I represent a non-political, non-profit organization and I am speaking for myself. How wonderful to have so many witnesses. There is a delicate matter I would like to take up with you because some of the names mentioned have addressed this convention, and they are very sincere people and they are very loyal. I wish to make that blanket statement. Neither of the two gentlemen named in the next two minutes can possibly come under any suspicion of anything but the utmost patriotism personally; but history is history and I have got to recite history because only from the past can we learn how to act and how not to act in the future.

There is a new scheme being used by the present administration, and Democrats as well as Republicans deplore the procommunist whitewash being indulged in by the present administration. There is a new scheme. What is this new scheme? Again, the use of names. What names this time? Respected military names. Who could dare criticize a great military or naval hero? They are being used for the whitewash. Respected military and naval names are deliberately used to cover up the pro-Red guilt of this administration's past.

Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Retired, Chairman of Truman's new Commission on Internal Security and Individual Rights, is being used in a deliberate attempt to whitewash an evil procommunist situation. The Admiral, a naval hero, is sincere and loyal, but Nimitz' record on countenancing of pro-Communists is bad. When the Admiral heads this new Commission, it is designed only to hamper a real security check such as Senator McCarthy would like to make. Nimitz is on the Board of Regents of the

University of California. Last July 21st, in a close 10 to 9 vote of the Regents of the University of California, Nimitz voted to keep the forty professors who refused to take the non-communist oath and at that time the Admiral succeeded; but on August 25th, the Regents reversed themselves 12 to 10 and, while Nimitz was absent, he sent word, according to *The New York Times*, that he would have voted the same way as he did before. Please mark that

On September 9th, when the Regents were appearing in court against the anti-loyalty oath professors, Nimitz publicly announced that the Regents do not represent him as an individual. Therefore, Admiral Nimitz has a definite philosophy on loyalty oaths and investigations and his Commission will reflect it, and that is why he was named Chairman of this so-called respectable and non-political commission.

As a matter of fact, I know that President Truman considered him to be chairman of a board of three last year to whitewash Tydings, but public protest stopped it.

I have a question to ask about this new Commission on Internal Security. There is a list of excellent people there. I have mingled with anti-Communists for many, many years. None of the names on this Commission, all of whom are fine people, is known as an expert on the international communistic conspiracy—and, believe me, the communist conspiracy is a complicated thing to study and you have to know it. Some of the names on this Commission are experts in their own field but I do not have any evidence that they know anything about the communist conspiracy in its respectable masks and how it works.

Where are the real people on this Commission? They are not there. Where is the great and good Carl Baarslag of The American Legion; Tom Sawyer; some of the experts our veterans employ; that great member of the Democratic Party, James Farley, who knows the communist conspiracy; Benjamin Gitlow; George Sokolsky? They are not there. They know. They should be on there.

Of course, a lot will depend on the staff that is hired and you can see the kind of staff that is going to manage this thing, the professionals, by the appointment of Admiral Nimitz as Chairman.

I am going further about the use of great military names as a cover-up of a whitewash, thinking we will never dare to expose them on this topic. General Marshall, our friend, a really fine person, who will live in American history, a great Army man, was also used as a "fall guy" in this military name plot. When he was Chief of Staff (I am telling you the truth now; it is right down here), orientation courses largely followed the Communist Party line in the Army, though Marshall did not realize it, on the subject of China especially. Orientation Fact Sheet No. 28, dated 1944, says (and this was taught to the Army), "When we speak of the Chinese Communists, we should remember that they stand for something very different from what we ordinarily contend when we use the word 'Communist.' Their chief interest is to improve the economic position of China's farmers," and so forth and so on.

Also we find in the same Fact Sheet No. 28, dated 1944, while Marshall was Chief of Staff (he was used though he didn't know anything about it), and I quote: "One of Sun Yat-Sen's most inspiring sayings is the phrase, 'The Revolution is not yet finished'." That was taught to our boys, to the fine flower of our youth.

Again in the weekly orientation bulletin, Army Talk, for November 10, 1945, they suggest a discussion group, a discussion series, on these subjects: "Will the Atom Smash the World?" There is much double-talk here but the most prominently suggested, in black type in the middle of the page—and let me read it to you in full—is, "Suppose Great Britain or the Soviet Union had the secret and we didn't; what would be our reaction if either refused to share the secret?" In other words, this was the "party line" and it was being fed to our boys, and Marshall was Chief of Staff when this sheet was written.

I go further. The instructors, some of them, were members, open members, avowed members of the Communist Party. In this group Simon Gerson, avowed Communist and at present a high official of the New York State Communist Party, was an orientation instructor at Camp Upton, New York. He taught these fact sheets well.

In the year 1946, Marshall went to China and he advocated that Chiang Kai-shek take the Reds into his Government. Much of our youth was thoroughly corrupted in the Army about China and other subjects. They carried this confusion to the American people and, in their confusion, the American people allowed China to be given to Stalin, and there is the story. I fail to get excited about William Z. Foster or Earl Browder. It is the respectable mask that we should get excited about; it is the use of names. It is the use of respected military names also at the present moment.

* * *

Another thing to do, if you want effectively to fight communism—and this is definite; don't misunderstand my motives; this is to strengthen our fight—don't get mixed up with persons who drag in issues of religion and race. That is not only unjust, because there are good and bad in all races and faiths, but it is weakening and confusing, and you are introducing an issue which will just divide us. Don't have any truck with these religious or racial agitators, but work with real expert anti-Communists.

Finally and most important, on the positive side, sell America. Sell America! Why should we be ashamed? It is not fashionable, you say. I ask you, what kind of world are we living in? Why should we be afraid to stand up and say boldly and truly that the United States of America is the best place on earth and is God's country? Because it is. (Applause)

* * *

Ladies and gentlemen, my time has expired but I have one final admonition: Don't be afraid to be against. People say, "Why aren't you for something? Why are you against communism?" I saw an empty lot the other day. They wanted to build a house on it so they were removing the garbage, the wires, the banana peels, the barrel hoops, all kinds of things. They had to get rid of the garbage. That was negative, you say, but, in essence, it was positive because if you don't get rid of the garbage, you can't build a house.

I say to you, first let us get rid of communist confusion, of communist deception, of communist masks, of the communist menace, then you and I and everyone, all faiths united, all peoples of the world together, when this great disease has been eradicated, will unite to build, in the empty space, the great and beautiful house of a finer and a much nobler world. (Applause)

See Editorial, "THEY BADLY NEED FACTS", page 2





JEWS AGAINST COMMUNISM

Published by AMERICAN JEWISH LEAGUE AGAINST COMMUNISM, INC. 220 West 42nd Street, New York 36, N. Y.

Vol. V

AUTUMN, 1952

No. 3

ROY COHN PROMOTED

Congratulations to 25-year-old Roy M. Cohn, who in August was named special aide to U.S. Attorney-General McGranery, to specialize on fighting subversion! Striking with vigor, Cohn at once caused the indictment of Earl Browder. He's only starting.

It was in June, at New York's Astor Hotel, that this League awarded a special plaque to Mr. Cohn for outstanding Americanism and Judaism. He was then a special assistant U.S. Attorney, noted already for his anti-Red feats. The affair was marked by the press's editorial plaudits, and the presence of leading Jurists as our guests. They included Federal Judges Irving R. Kaufman and Gregory F. Noonan, State Supreme Court Justices Irving M. Saypol and Martin M. Frank, and State Appellate Justice Albert Cohn.

Our judgment was vindicated when the Communist press began an attack against us and Mr. Cohn. The big guns were fired by all the crew from the Red monthly Jewish Life to the pinko N.Y. Daily Compass. We felt we were indeed on the right track. Then, as final vindication, came the elevation to Washington of young, dynamic Roy.

We've had many requests for copies of his address responding to our award. Full texts are still available and will be sent on request. But these paragraphs are so significant that they should be pondered by Jews for years to come:

"I take particular pride in the fact that this award comes from your organization. I believe as you do, that there is no religious group in this country which owes more to the United States of America than those who adhere to the Jewish faith. It is in this land, as in no other place in the world, that we have found a home full of good neighbors and abounding in freedom of speech, freedom of thought and freedom of opportunity. Those who would do anything to injure this country and destroy the system under which we live are the particular enemies of Americans who adhere to Judaism.

"No group has a monopoly of the defense of our democratic ways of life. It is a common cause in which we take our stand along with Americans of all religions, races and creeds."

Alfred Kohlberg, our national chairman, who presented the plaque to Cohn, declared that Jews are in the **forefront** of the anti-Red fight.

FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

One November night in 1947, there met at the Manhattan home of Mr. Eugene Lyons a group of determined citizens. Today, we have a national organization with members in 22 states and a Western chapter centered in Los Angeles. AJLAC has been honored by many patriotic groups, but is especially honored by the very character of its original founders. These include Lawrence Fertig, Benjamin Gitlow, Eugene Lyons, Harry Pasternak, Nathan D. Shapiro, George E. Sokolsky, Maurice Tishman, and Alfred Kohlberg, national chairman of the League.

They named Rabbi Benjamin Schultz national executive director. Rabbi Max Merritt is executive director in Los Angeles.

Here's part of the platform, worded five years ago, every bit of which rings alive today:

"We Americans of Jewish faith and tradition have banded together to oppose the menace of Communism. As Jews, we have an especial concern with that menace. Throughout history, the Jews have been the victims of tyranny, even as they are now the first target of totalitarian dictatorship.

"We American Jews have been the most fortunate of all our brethren. The American Revolution set in motion the era of democracy and freedom — during which the emancipation of the Jews everywhere was achieved. The Jews prospered and made signal progress wherever government by law, free enterprise, and civil liberties prevailed. We in the United States have enjoyed opportunities and freedom, and have attained a standard of well-being, unmatched in our history.

"To the blessings of the American Republic we owe not only our present welfare, but our ability to extend to millions of stricken Jews in the Old World the **help** essential to their **survival**, and to hundreds of thousands the means to start life anew.

"Furthermore, Communism, like Fascism and Nazism, is the enemy of **Judaism**, a religion stressing liberty and the **sanctity** of the individual.

"It is our aim and purpose to **expose** and resist every Communist effort to bore from within Jewish, as well as all religious, life. . . . To educate the Jewish public on the extent and danger of Communist infitration in Jewish organizations and institutions. . . . To turn the spotlight of **pitiless publicity** on the at-

(Continued on Page 4)

THEY BADLY NEED FACTS

An editorial by Alfred Kohlberg



ALFRED KOHLBERG

The phony Moscow "peace" offensive is striking painfully near — at the heart of the rabbinate and Jewish laity of America. The Christians are having similar trouble. But we are Jews, and Jews concern us.

On page 3, we reproduce a form letter from Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Maurice Eisendrath to their fellow-rabbis. It asks that the recipients indoctrinate themselves and their flocks. Silver is a world-famous clergyman; Eisendrath, president of the powerful "Union of American Hebrew Congregations." Both are non-Communists. Both have served their people well. But both have now been misled, and are unwittingly spreading an infection.

The Red "peace" cohorts have just finished a meeting at Peiping, which was denounced by Secretary Dean Acheson. Our State Department also blasted as Soviet-inspired the 1949 "peace" conclave at the Waldorf, sponsored, among others, by **Jerome Davis.** He wrote the book the rabbis commend.

Fancy an American book, in darkest 1942, demanding "peace" with the Nazis through "compromise." Imagine it defending Hitler and printing an "impartial" reading list containing both Winston Churchill and Fritz Kuhn.

That's precisely what has happened here. Beneath the thinnest veneer of sweet reasonableness, Jerome Davis's book is a powerful vehicle for the "party line," geared to naive clerics. It defends the infamous Nazi-Soviet Pact of 1939-41, which began a war that saw the Hitlerite slaughter of 6,000,000 Jews. Says the book, "Every imaginable slander has been used against Stalin, the present hero of the Russian people." It claims our boys in Korea "have been killing Koreans and blasting their factories to bits, yet the people of Korea have done no wrong whatever to the people of America." It asserts "Communism . . . has a clear-cut socialistic appeal to the starving masses." And Davis concludes with a recommended reading list containing Red books by propagandists like Anna Louise Strong. Occasionally, an anti-Red Freda Utley is mentioned, but this is only to deceive. The "authors" Frederick Schuman, Lawrence Rosinger, Vyshinsky, Molotov, Marx, Lenin, Stalin, are more prominent; as are booklets by befuddled "do-gooders."

Who Is He?

Who is **Davis**, whose pearls of wisdom are now deposited at our temples' altars? Besides being cited 40 times by the House Un-American Activities Committee, he is a veteran pro-Soviet scribbler. As late as 1947, he wrote a weepy, sympathetic piece on Joseph Stalin. "Stalin was fearless in helping the

workers," he said. "It would be an error to consider the Soviet leader a willful man who believes in forcing his ideas on others. Everything he does reflects the desires and hopes of the masses. . . . He never permits smutty stories to be told in his presence . . ." Davis concludes, ". . . he went out to fight for justice for the people, and he finally became dictator of a country embracing one-sixth of the earth's land surface. No doubt he has serious faults. He loves power; and he may have been ruthless in geeting it. But can we go on to serve God and the common people of America as sincerely and courageously as Stalin did for what he believed was best for his people? . . ."

False History

We warn the rabbis that the book is dishonest and fraudulent. One case is particularly flagrant. On page 90, Davis asserts, "A small handful of zealous Communists headed by Lenin emerged from the prisons of Tsaristic Russia and overthrew the Tsar's tyranny." But that didn't happen. The Revolution came in March, 1917, and it was led by the anti-Bolshevik liberals. Soon Kerensky, a right-wing Socialist, headed the government. In the winter of 1917-18, the Communists defied the democratically-elected parliament, dispersed it at the point of the bayonet, seized power, and have ruled Russia ever since against the will of the people. In brief, the whole statement is a lie. It is meant to be a lie. It discredits the entire book.

How unfortunate that Drs. Silver and Eisendrath were somehow not apprised of these facts before they wrote their letter!

Advice Endorsed?

Sooner or later, the Jewish community, clerical and lay, will have to face the serious problem of high-level infiltration and confusion, of which this book — and the letter — are only symptoms. As we have said, let Christian denominations face their own pro-Red problems. We must worry about the Jews. Surely, Dr. Silver does not believe that America makes war against innocent nations only that our capitalists may reap profits! That is a thesis of this book. Certainly, Dr. Silver would not have Jews join the subversive "American Peace Crusade", listed as Communist by our government, or the equally subversive "Council of American-Soviet Friendship", similarly listed! The book wants them to. Dr. Silver wouldn't agitate for the recognition of Red China while its soldiers kill and torture our boys! The book so agitates.

It is to be regretted that, in their busy lives, it wasn't possible for Rabbis Silver and Eisendrath to look into what they were plugging.

(Continued on Page 4)

PROMOTING ENDURING PEACE

A Religious and Educational Foundation

HONORARY PRESIDENTS

- ANITA McCORMICK BLAINE
DR. ALBERT W. PALMER
PRESIDENT DEAN THORNTON W. MERRIAM DIRECTOR

DIRECTOR
DR. JEROME DAVIS
NATIONAL BOARD
DR. HARRY ELMER BARNES
Cooperstown, N. Y.
EMORY STEVENS BUCKE
Editor, Zions Herald
DR. ALLAN K. CHALMERS
Boston

Boston MRS. ROBERT E. CHANDLER Rowayton, Conn.
ELIZABETH CHRISTMAN
Washington, D. C.
PRES. RUFUS E. CLEMENT
Atlanta University
REV. DONALD B. CLOWARD
New York City

New York City DR. ALBERT BUCKNER COE

Boston DR. HENRY H. CRANE

DR. HENRY H. CRANE
Detroit
DR. ABRAHAM CRONBACH
Cincinnati, Ohio
J. LIONBERGER DAVIS
St. Louis, Mo.
DR. KERMIT EBY
The University of Chicago
PROF. THOMAS I. EMERSON
New Haven, Conn.
DR. HENRY PRATT FAIRCHILD
New York City
IRVING H. FLAMM
Beverly Hills, Calif.
PROF. JOSEPH FLETCHER
Cambridge, Mass.

Cambridge, Mass.
REV. KENNETH R. FORBES
Philadelphia, Penna.
OTTO GEPPERT

Chicago, Ill. RABBI ROBERT E. GOLDBURG

New Haven, Conn.
DR. ROBERT GORDIS, Rabbi
Rockaway Park, N. Y.
REV. EMERSON G. HANGEN
Long Beach, Calif.
E. Y. HARBURG
New York City
DR. JOSEPH F. KING
Oberlin. Ohio

DR. JOSEPH F. KING
Oberlin, Ohio
DR. JOHN A. LAPP
Chicago, Ill.
REV. JOHN LATHROP
Brooklyn, N. Y.
DR. HALFORD LUCCOCK
New Haven, Conn.
THOMAS MANN
Pacific Palisades, Calif.
REV. JACK R. McMICHAEL
New York City
DR. KIRTLEY F. MATHER
Cambridge, Mass.
DR. CLYDE R. MILLER
New York City
DEAN WALTER G. MUELDER
Boston, Mass.

DEAN WALTER G. MUEL
Boston, Mass.
SCOTT NEARING
Jamaica, Vt.
REV. GEORGE L. PAINE
Boston, Mass.
CLARENCE E. PICKETT
Wallingford, Penna.
LUCIUS C. PORTER
Beloit, Wis.
COL. RAYMOND ROBINS
Brooksville, Florida

Brooksville, Florida DEAN LEONARD A. STIDLEY

DEAN LEONARD A. STIDLEY
Oberlin College
CALVIN SUTHERLIN
Hampton, N. H.
PRES. FRENCH W. THOMPSON
Lewisburg, West Virginia
DEAN JOHN R. THOMPSON
University of Chicago
REV. WALTER E. ULRICH
Bridgeport, Neb.

Bridgeport, Neb.
DR. WILLARD UPHAUS
New Haven, Conn.
DR. GOODWIN WATSON
New York City
AUBREY WILLIAMS
Montgomery, Ala.

EDWARD L. YOUNG Boston, Mass.
FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES ENGLAND

Lady Parmoor FINLAND Yrjo Kallinen FRANCE Rev. Henry Roser JAPAN Toyohiko Kagawa Hachiro Yuasa

9

489 OCEAN AVENUE WEST HAVEN, CONN.

June 1, 1952

My dear Friend:

We believe that you will want to read the book which has just come off the press, Peace, War and You by Jerome Davis with an Introduction by Clarence Pickett, Honorary Secretary of the American Friends Service Committee. The enclosed sheet gives interesting comments about the book.

The Foundation, Promoting Enduring Peace, is willing to send you this book immediately, provided that after reading it, if you feel it is valuable, you will make some contribution to them. The money will be used to send the book to other religious leaders. It may interest you to know that Promoting Enduring Peace has distributed over 400,000 leaflets thru religious organizations free of charge.

Perhaps after reading the book some of you will want to call it to the attention of your Congregation.

> Sincerely yours, N. Eisendrath

> > Abba Hillel Silver

(please print) Please send me Peace, War and You

Name . Address

State . City__

JEWS AGAINST COMMUNISM

Published By

American Jewish League Against Communism, Inc. 220 WEST 42nd STREET

NEW YORK 36, N. Y.

Telephone: LOngacre 5-7549

ALFRED KOHLBERG, National Chairman
RABBI BENJAMIN SCHULTZ, Executive Director
HARRY PASTERNAK, Treasurer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bern Dibner Lawrence Fertig Theodore Fine Benjamin Gitlow Hon. Walter H. Hart Herman Kashins

Eugene Lyons

Norman L. Marks Morrie Ryskind Rabbi David S. Savitz Nathan D. Shapiro George E. Sokolsky Maurice Tishman Rabbi Ascher M. Yager

Vol. 5, No. 3

Address



Autumn, 1952

FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

(Continued from Page 1)

tempts of Communist agitators to exploit Jewish grievances for sinister and disloyal ends. . . . To unfold the horrible and long-suppressed truths about the Soviet persecution of Jewish religion and of Hebrew education and culture in Russia. . . . To act as a clearing-house in the fight for freedom and against Communism. . . . To conduct our campaign through the dissemination of literature, by means of public discussions, and in every way designed to educate Jews and Gentiles alike on the challenge which the dark forces of Communism present . . . to civilization everyhere."

AN OFFER

Our booklet, Gregor Aronson's "Soviet Russia and the Jews", lauded by experts, sells everywhere for 50ϕ . But we offer it to YOU for 20ϕ , to strengthen the message of our editorial. Just clip this coupon and send it to our national office.

Name	

AN EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

Jews In Russia

The fact that Drs. Silver and Eisendrath have never waged a sustained fight against the persecution of the Jews in Russia, the brutality of Stalin, the evil of the American Communist Party, and the deception of today's "fronts", reveals again that they need information. They need the factual books and accounts of this League, of the Jewish Labor Committee, the American Federation of Labor, and other responsible Jewish and secular agencies including the Yiddish press.

Had Dr. Silver, brilliant on so many other topics, studied Communism, he would not have preached in Cleveland in 1951 mocking America's efforts in Korea. He said we are much too strict with Russia. Had he read our documented publications on the enmity of Communism toward Judaism, he would not have opened himself to violent attack by the Daily Forward, largest Jewish organ in the world. Appraising his Cleveland sermon, and observing the joy it caused the Daily Worker and the Workers' Yiddish counterpart the Freiheit, the labor-liberal Forward called Silver "the darling of the Communist Press."

And now, both Silver and Eisendrath are victims of Davis's hoax.

It Wasn't Necessary

It should not have come about! As the startling situation is "brought home" to us, we realize that this League has far from completed its work. We must redouble our efforts to educate our busy rabbis, especially. The vast majority of our Jews, in and out of pulpits, are good Jews. They instinctively despise Communism. They love America. They will look increasingly toward the American Jewish League Against Communism, which stands ready to inform them, and hence to strengthen them.

NEWS

We expected to compile in this issue some activities of recent weeks. But frankly, full listings of the exciting public engagements against Communism in which we are involved day by day, would fill several bulletins. Descriptions of our more significant actions will appear in a future issue.

AMERICAN JEWISH LEAGUE AGAINST COMMUNISM, INC. 220 West 42nd Street, New York 36, N. Y.

I want to help your fight. I hereby contribute, and mail \$ ______ to the good work of your League. Put me on your list for all literature.

Name		 	***************************************	
Address		 		
Phone		 		
Profession or Bu	usiness	 	•••••	