



## 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  
3

Box  
1

Folder  
74

American Zionist Committee for Public Affairs, 1955-1956.

# AMERICAN ZIONIST COMMITTEE FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

1737 H STREET N.W. • WASHINGTON 6, D. C. • EXecutive 3-1060

RABBI PHILIP S. BERNSTEIN, Chairman

BEINESH EPSTEIN  
MRS. MOSES P. EPSTEIN  
PAUL L. GOLDMAN

MRS. BENJAMIN GOTTESMAN  
MRS. SAMUEL W. HALPRIN  
RABBI MORDECAI KIRSHBLUM

DR. JUDITH LIEBERMAN  
LOUIS LIPSKY  
HAROLD MANSON  
RABBI IRVING MILLER

AVRAHAM SCHENKER  
LOUIS SEGAL  
MRS. CHAYA SURCHIN

HARRY TORCZYNER  
RALPH WECHSLER  
NATHANIEL ZELIKOW

NATIONAL FINANCE COUNCIL  
CHAIRMEN  
LAWRENCE G. LASKEY  
JOSSELYN M. SHORE  
TREASURER  
ABE S. KAY  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
SYDNEY LUBARR

I. L. KENEN, Executive Director

DECEMBER 9, 1955

DEAR DR. SILVER:

IT IS A HAPPY COINCIDENCE THAT MCKELDIN IS IN YOUR CONGREGATION PULPIT ON SUNDAY AND SO I THOUGHT I SHOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IT BY RUSHING A DRAFT WHICH YOU MAY OFFER TO HIM AND ALSO TO LAUSCHE.

I HAVE NOT HAD MUCH TIME TO WORK ON IT OR TO GET REACTIONS AND REVISIONS FROM EXPERTS, AND IT IS MY IMPRESSION THAT IT COULD BE SHORTENED AND THAT IN PARTS IT SOUNDS TOO MUCH LIKE WHAT WE HAVE WRITTEN BEFORE. ACCORDINGLY, I WOULD URGE YOU TO LOOK AT IT VERY CRITICALLY AND CUT IT AND REVISE IT AS YOU SEE FIT. MCKELDIN HIMSELF MIGHT HAVE SOME IDEAS ON THE SUBJECT.

THE GENERAL IDEA IS TO HAVE 4 GOVERNORS, MCKELDIN, LAUSCHE, HERTER AND HARRIMAN JOIN TOGETHER AS THE ORIGINAL SIGNERS. THEN IT WOULD BE SENT OUT, WITH A LETTER OVER THEIR SIGNATURES, TO THE 44 OTHER GOVERNORS REQUESTING THEIR SIGNATURES. WE WOULD HOPE THAT IT COULD BE MADE PUBLIC JUST BEFORE CONGRESS CONVENES.

IT MAY BE THAT MCKELDIN AND LAUSCHE MIGHT ACT AS THE 2 ORIGINAL SPONSORS WITHOUT WAITING TO GET HERTER AND HARRIMAN. I HAVE SOME RESERVATIONS ABOUT HARRIMAN BECAUSE HE IS SO MUCH A CANDIDATE FOR THE PRESIDENCY, WHILE I KNOW HERTER IS NOW SOMEWHERE IN GEORGIA AND MAY DELAY US. I UNDERSTAND, BY THE WAY, THAT HE IS BECOMING A CANDIDATE FOR THE VICE-PRESIDENCY.

MY HOME TELEPHONE NUMBER IS ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA - SOUTH 5-5282. PLEASE CALL ME IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHANGES.

IF LAUSCHE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE MATTER DISCUSSED FURTHER, I WOULD BE HAPPY TO TAKE A PLANE TO COLUMBUS TO MEET HIM. WE HAD A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP BECAUSE HE USED TO COME TO CONSULT ME WHEN HE WAS ASPIRING TO HIGHER OFFICE IN THE OLD DAYS WHEN I WROTE POLITICS,

"THE COMMITTEE CONDUCTS PUBLIC ACTION, BEARING UPON RELATIONS WITH GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITIES, WITH A VIEW TO MAINTAINING AND IMPROVING FRIENDSHIP AND GOOD WILL BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL."



## MEMBERS OF NATIONAL FINANCE COUNCIL

(In Formation)

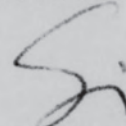
- |                                            |                                           |                                           |                                           |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| HERMAN ABADY<br>Richmond, Va.              | DAVID FRIEDMAN<br>Norfolk, Va.            | JUDGE JOSEPH LERNER<br>Newark, N. J.      | IRVING SCHLUSSEL<br>Detroit, Mich.        |
| HERBERT R. ABELES<br>So. Orange, N. J.     | LEONARD FRIEDMAN<br>Sacramento, Calif.    | MORRIS LESENGER<br>Paterson, N. J.        | NAT SCHOOLER<br>New York, N. Y.           |
| MORRIS ALEXANDER<br>Chicago, Ill.          | L. H. FRISCH<br>Minneapolis, Minn.        | DR. LEON LEVI<br>Indianapolis, Ind.       | CHARLES E. SCHWARTZ<br>Akron, O.          |
| OSCAR ALTSHULER<br>Youngstown, Ohio        | SUGGS GARBER<br>Cleveland, O.             | ALBERT A. LEVIN<br>Cleveland, O.          | DR. JOSEPH J. SCHWARTZ<br>New York, N. Y. |
| JOSEPH ANDELMAN<br>Washington, D. C.       | SAM GENEL<br>Philadelphia, Pa.            | MRS. CHIEF LEVIN<br>Easton, Pa.           | JUDGE SELIG SCHWARTZ<br>Meriden, Conn.    |
| ROBERT ANSON<br>Tulsa, Okla.               | MRS. LOUIS GLASSER<br>Miami Beach, Fla.   | GEORGE M. LEVINSON<br>New Bedford, Mass.  | COL. HARRY SCHWOLSKY<br>Hartford, Conn.   |
| ALADAR APPEL<br>Erie, Pa.                  | BILLY B. GOLDBERG<br>Houston, Tex.        | I. M. LIEBERMAN<br>Jacksonville, Fla.     | LOUIS SEGAL<br>New York, N. Y.            |
| DR. MOSES BARRON<br>Minneapolis, Minn.     | JUDGE JOSEPH GOLDBERG<br>Worcester, Mass. | SEYMOUR LIEBMAN<br>Miami Beach, Fla.      | DR. HERMAN SEIDEL<br>Baltimore, Md.       |
| MORRIS BATZER<br>Atlantic City, N. J.      | SAM GOLDFARB<br>New York, N. Y.           | ISIDORE LIPSCHUTZ<br>New York, N. Y.      | MRS. SHERMAN SHARWELL<br>Columbus, O.     |
| ALLAN BECKER<br>Chicago, Ill.              | DR. NAHUM GOLDMANN<br>New York, N. Y.     | IRVING LOW<br>No. Hudson, N. J.           | WILLIAM SHIPLEY<br>Cleveland, O.          |
| DR. ILIE BERGER<br>Providence, R. I.       | PETER GOLDSTEIN<br>Detroit, Mich.         | SOL LUCKMAN<br>Cincinnati, O.             | WILL SHOCKET<br>Richmond, Va.             |
| MORRIS BERINSTEIN<br>Syracuse, N. Y.       | JULIUS GOODMAN<br>Troy, N. Y.             | DAVID H. LURIE<br>Utica, N. Y.            | BERNARD SHULMAN<br>Chicago, Ill.          |
| RABBI MORTON BERMAN<br>Chicago, Ill.       | HAROLD GREENBERG<br>St. Louis, Mo.        | JACK MANDELL<br>Cleveland, O.             | JOSEPH SHULMAN<br>Paterson, N. J.         |
| JULES BERNFELD<br>Alexandria, Va.          | LOUIS GROSSBERG<br>Washington, D. C.      | FREDRIC MANN<br>Philadelphia, Pa.         | MILTON SILBERMAN<br>Chicago, Ill.         |
| J. B. BERNSTEIN<br>Pittsburgh, Pa.         | ROBERT GURNEY<br>Gastonia, N. C.          | JOSEPH MAZER<br>New York, N. Y.           | DAVID SINDELL<br>Cleveland, O.            |
| LOUIS BERRY<br>Detroit, Mich.              | MRS. SAMUEL W. HALPRIN<br>New York, N. Y. | BEN MEDOFKY<br>Portland, Ore.             | PHILIP SLOMOVITZ<br>Detroit, Mich.        |
| RALPH BLUMBERG<br>New Haven, Conn.         | ADOLF L. HAMBURGER<br>Baltimore, Md.      | MRS. HERMAN MELITZER<br>Hartford, Conn.   | MEYER SOLOMONT<br>Lowell, Mass.           |
| MORRIS BREAKSTONE<br>No. Hudson, N. J.     | M. M. HAMBURGER<br>Houston, Tex.          | JOSEPH MEYERHOFF<br>Baltimore, Md.        | MICHAEL STAVITSKY<br>Newark, N. J.        |
| DANIEL BRENNER<br>Kansas City, Mo.         | PAUL HIMMELFARB<br>Washington, D. C.      | RABBI IRVING MILLER<br>Woodmere, N. Y.    | PHILLIP STOLLMAN<br>Detroit, Mich.        |
| EDDIE CANTOR<br>Los Angeles, Calif.        | A. D. HIRSCH<br>Jersey City, N. J.        | ROBERT R. NATHAN<br>Washington, D. C.     | MOSE SUMNER<br>Baytown, Tex.              |
| RAYMOND CHASAN<br>Jersey City, N. J.       | JOSEPH HOLTZMAN<br>Detroit, Mich.         | HAROLD P. NELSON<br>Portland, Me.         | A. R. SURITZ<br>Rock Hill, S. C.          |
| MAURICE A. CHASE<br>Cincinnati, O.         | LOUIS HURWITZ<br>Sioux Falls, S. D.       | DR. SAMUEL NEWMAN<br>Danville, Va.        | BEN SWIG<br>San Francisco, Calif.         |
| SAM CLAR<br>Oakland, Calif.                | NATHAN JACOBSON<br>Baltimore, Md.         | RABBI MAX NUSSBAUM<br>Los Angeles, Calif. | HARRY SYLK<br>Philadelphia, Pa.           |
| MRS. JOSEPH COHEN<br>New Orleans, La.      | MRS. SIDNEY Q. JANUS<br>Atlanta, Ga.      | MORRIS POLLIN<br>Washington, D. C.        | JOE TALAMO<br>Worcester, Mass.            |
| WILLIAM CORN<br>Atlantic City, N. J.       | NAT KANN<br>Pittsburgh, Pa.               | HARRY POTASKY<br>Dayton, O.               | ISAAC TAYLOR<br>Baltimore, Md.            |
| SIDNEY COVICH<br>Boston, Mass.             | HARRY D. KANTOR<br>Clarksdale, Miss.      | LOUIS RABINOWITZ<br>Charleston, S. C.     | ABE WALDAUER<br>Memphis, Tenn.            |
| SAMUEL H. DAROFF<br>Philadelphia, Pa.      | DR. E. M. KAPLAN<br>Hollywood, Fla.       | LEONARD RATNER<br>Cleveland, O.           | MRS. SOL WALL<br>Brooklyn, N. Y.          |
| MORRIS DeWOSKIN<br>Chicago, Ill.           | SAMUEL KAPLAN<br>New Bedford, Mass.       | SAM RAUCHER<br>Norwich, Conn.             | RALPH WECHSLER<br>Newark, N. J.           |
| MOSE DUBERSTEIN<br>Dayton, O.              | SAM KASLE<br>Toledo, O.                   | ALLEN J. REITER<br>Annapolis, Md.         | RABBI DUDLEY WEINBERG<br>Milwaukee, Wisc. |
| MRS. MOSES P. EPSTEIN<br>New York, N. Y.   | BORIS KATZ<br>Baltimore, Md.              | ZIMEL RESNICK<br>Asbury Park, N. J.       | MORRIS WEINGROD<br>Milwaukee, Wisc.       |
| MAYOR EMANUEL EVANS<br>Durham, N. C.       | JACOB KATZMAN<br>New York, N. Y.          | JUDAH RICHARDS<br>Great Neck, N. Y.       | NORMAN WINESTINE<br>Helena, Mont.         |
| JOSEPH A. FEDER<br>Passaic, N. J.          | LEON KAY<br>Detroit, Mich.                | SAM RIVKIN<br>Davenport, Iowa             | JACK WEISBERG<br>No. Hudson, N. J.        |
| DR. SARA FEDER<br>Columbia, Mo.            | ADOLPH KIESLER<br>Denver, Colo.           | JULIUS ROBINSON<br>Pawtucket, R. I.       | AARON WEISS<br>Paterson, N. J.            |
| HENRY FEFERMAN<br>So. Bend, Ind.           | MILTON KRENSKY<br>Chicago, Ill.           | LOUIS ROCKOFF<br>New Brunswick, N. J.     | BERNARD S. WHITE<br>Washington, D. C.     |
| MORRIS FEINBERG<br>Montgomery, Ala.        | HARRY L. KROLL<br>New Brunswick, N. J.    | SOL ROGERS<br>Baltimore, Md.              | RABBI GERSHON WINER<br>Denver, Colo.      |
| JUDGE SAMUEL W. FISHMAN<br>Burlington, Vt. | MRS. J. H. KULAKOVSKY<br>Omaha, Neb.      | MRS. IRVING ROSS<br>Charleston, W. Va.    | HERMAN YUCHT<br>Paterson, N. J.           |
| FRANK FONOROFF<br>Louisville, Ky.          | MRS. PAUL KUNIAN<br>Minneapolis, Minn.    | LOUIS ROSS<br>Jersey City, N. J.          | PHILIP ZINMAN<br>Camden, N. J.            |
| FRED FORMAN<br>Rochester, N. Y.            | NATHAN KUSS<br>Wilkes Barre, Pa.          | MISS MARY SACHS<br>Harrisburg, Pa.        | OSIAS ZWERDLING<br>Ann Arbor, Mich.       |
| BERNARD FRANK<br>Allentown, Pa.            | MURKAY LANGBAUM<br>Forest Hills, N. Y.    | MORRIS SCHAUER<br>Detroit, Mich.          |                                           |



PAGE 2 -  
DECEMBER 9, 1955

AND WE WERE RATHER FRIENDLY. BUT I COULD DO WITHOUT THE TRIP.

CORDIALLY YOURS,



I. L. KENEN

P.S. I HAVE NEVER DEALT PERSONALLY WITH MCKELDIN AND HE WOULD NOT  
RECOGNIZE MY NAME, BUT I WILL BE AT HIS DISPOSAL TO PROMOTE THE CIRCU-  
LATION OF THE DOCUMENT.

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER  
THE TEMPLE  
ANGELL ROAD & 105TH STREET  
CLEVELAND, OHIO





# CODES OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

# WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

## SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LT = International Letter Telegram

1201

The filing time shown in the date-line on domestic telegrams is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

CTA963 =A533

R AXA343 NL PD= ALEXANDRIA VIR 10=

DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

THE TEMPLE ANSEL ROAD CLEVE=

1955 DEC 10 PM 10 55

: SUGGEST ADDITIONAL SENTENCE IN PARAGRAPH FIVE WHICH  
IN PRESENT FORM MAY BE TOO VAGUE. QUOTE WE REFER, IN  
THIS CONNECTION, TO RECENT DISQUIETING REPORTS OF  
PRESSURE ON ISRAEL TO CEDE TERRITORY TO THE ARAB  
COUNTRIES END QUOTE. ALSO SUGGEST CHANGE FIRST WORD  
SDCOND PARAGRAPH FROM CONSCIOUS TO AWARE. REGARDS=

KENEN=.

SW 1-7755

dec 8 4 17 PM '55

Pa 9/30 mail

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

received by phone (9:15 AM)

Sunday, December 11th

Pd. nite letter

From Alexandria, Virginia

To: Dr. A. H. Silver

SUGGEST ADDITIONAL SENTENCE IN PARAGRAPH FIVE WHICH IN PRESENT  
FORM MAY BE TOO VAGUE. QUOTE - WE REFER, IN THIS CONNECTION  
TO RECENT DISQUIETING REPORTS OF PRESSURE ON ISRAEL TO CEDE  
TERRITORY TO THE ARAB COUNTRIES      END QUOTE.

ALSO SUGGEST CHANGE FIRST WORD SECOND PARAGRAPH FROM CONSCIOUS  
TO AWARE

REGARDS

KENEN



(re meKeldin)



# AMERICAN ZIONIST COMMITTEE FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

1737 H STREET N.W. • WASHINGTON 6, D. C. • EXecutive 3-1060

RABBI PHILIP S. BERNSTEIN, Chairman

BEINESH EPSTEIN  
MRS. MOSES P. EPSTEIN  
PAUL L. GOLDMAN

MRS. BENJAMIN GOTTESMAN  
MRS. SAMUEL W. HALPRIN  
RABBI MORDECAI KIRSHBLUM

DR. JUDITH LIEBERMAN  
LOUIS LIPSKY  
HAROLD MANSON  
RABBI IRVING MILLER

AVRAHAM SCHENKER  
LOUIS SEGAL  
MRS. CHAYA SURCHIN

HARRY TORCZYNER  
RALPH WECHSLER  
NATHANIEL ZELIKOW

NATIONAL FINANCE COUNCIL  
CHAIRMEN  
LAWRENCE G. LASKEY  
JOSSELYN M. SHORE  
TREASURER  
ABE S. KAY  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
SYDNEY LUBARR

I. L. KENEN, Executive Director

December 13, 1955

Dear Dr. Silver:

McKeldin's office promises to give me a revised draft which I will send on to you for submission to Lausche.

Regards.



Cordially yours,

I. L. Kenen

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

ILK:TH

# AMERICAN ZIONIST COMMITTEE FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

1737 H STREET N.W. • WASHINGTON 6, D. C. • EXecutive 3-1060

RABBI PHILIP S. BERNSTEIN, Chairman

BEINESH EPSTEIN  
MRS. MOSES P. EPSTEIN  
PAUL L. GOLDMAN

MRS. BENJAMIN GOTTESMAN  
MRS. SAMUEL W. HALPRIN  
RABBI MORDECAI KIRSHBLUM

DR. JUDITH LIEBERMAN  
LOUIS LIPSKY  
HAROLD MANSON  
RABBI IRVING MILLER

AVRAHAM SCHENKER  
LOUIS SEGAL  
MRS. CHAYA SURCHIN

HARRY TORCZYNER  
RALPH WECHSLER  
NATHANIEL ZELIKOW

NATIONAL FINANCE COUNCIL  
CHAIRMEN  
LAWRENCE G. LASKEY  
JOSSELYN M. SHORE  
TREASURER  
ABE S. KAY  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
SYDNEY LUBARR

I. L. KENEN, Executive Director

December 14, 1955

Dear Dr. Silver:

I just heard from McKeldin that he had okayed the enclosed draft and will sign it whenever we are ready.

Can you now call Lausche and put the matter before him. If necessary, I will fly to Columbus to discuss it further with him if he wants me to. He and I are old friends going back to his early days in politics.

When and if we get Lausche's approval, we will then ask Herter and Harriman to make it a quartet.

Cordially yours,

I. L. Kenen

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

ILK:TH

Enclosures



December 15, 1955

Mr. I. L. Kenen, Executive Director  
American Zionist Committee for Public Affairs  
1737 H Street N.W.  
Washington 6, D.C.

Dear Mr. Kenen:

I received your letter of December 14th.

I called Governor Lausche on the telephone and have sent the draft to him. He left me with the impression that he would consider it very favorably.

I also called his attention to the fact that you are prepared to fly to Columbus to discuss the matter with him further.

Cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl  
Special Del.  
*air mail.*



# AMERICAN ZIONIST COMMITTEE FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

1737 H STREET N.W. • WASHINGTON 6, D. C. • EXecutive 3-1060

RABBI PHILIP S. BERNSTEIN, Chairman

BEINESH EPSTEIN  
MRS. MOSES P. EPSTEIN  
PAUL L. GOLDMAN

MRS. BENJAMIN GOTTESMAN  
MRS. SAMUEL W. HALPRIN  
RABBI MORDECAI KIRSHBLUM

DR. JUDITH LIEBERMAN  
LOUIS LIPSKY  
HAROLD MANSON  
RABBI IRVING MILLER

AVRAHAM SCHENKER  
LOUIS SEGAL  
MRS. CHAYA SURCHIN

HARRY TORCZYNER  
RALPH WECHSLER  
NATHANIEL ZELIKOW

NATIONAL FINANCE COUNCIL  
CHAIRMEN  
LAWRENCE G. LASKEY  
JOSSELYN M. SHORE  
TREASURER  
ABE S. KAY  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
SYDNEY LUBARR

I. L. KENEN, Executive Director

DECEMBER 15, 1955

DEAR FRIEND:

ALTHOUGH THIS IS A MIMEOGRAPHED LETTER, IT IS BEING SENT TO A VERY FEW LEADERS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, AND WE HOPE THAT YOU WILL TREAT IT AS A PERSONAL COMMUNICATION AND ACT UPON IT WITHOUT DELAY.

WITHIN RECENT WEEKS ISRAEL HAS BECOME EXPOSED TO NEW DANGER. WE REFER TO POLITICAL PRESSURE THAT SHE MAKE CONCESSIONS TO THE ARAB STATES. THIS BEGAN WITH PRIME MINISTER EDEN'S ADDRESS IN WHICH HE OFFERED TO ACT AS MEDIATOR AND IN WHICH HE PROPOSED A TERRITORIAL "COMPROMISE" BENEFITTING THE ARAB COUNTRIES.

IT IS FEARED THAT SIMILAR VIEWS ARE HELD BY SOME POLICY MAKERS IN WASHINGTON, AND WHILE THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE HAS DISASSOCIATED ITSELF FROM THE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS PUT FORWARD BY MR. EDEN, ITS DISAGREEMENT MAY HAVE TO DO WITH PARTICULARS RATHER THAN WITH PURPOSE.

THE DANGERS ARE OBVIOUS. THE PRO-ARAB PROPAGANDISTS ARE CREATING THE IMPRESSION THAT THE ARAB STATES ARE NOW READY TO TALK PEACE, BUT THAT ISRAEL IS MUCH TOO RIGID AND REFUSES TO MAKE THE NECESSARY CONCESSIONS. UNDER SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES, ISRAEL WOULD BE CHARGED WITH OBSTRUCTING A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT AND DRIVING THE ARAB STATES FURTHER INTO THE ARMS OF THE SOVIET UNION; NASSER'S APOLOGISTS WOULD SUCCEED IN DIVERTING ATTENTION FROM THE MAJOR CAUSE OF CURRENT TENSION -- THE EGYPTIAN-CZECHOSLOVAKIAN ARMS DEAL -- AND THE ARAB LOBBY WOULD SUCCEED IN ITS EFFORTS TO BLOCK A U.S.-ISRAEL SECURITY PACT.

WE SHOULD NOW APPEAL TO OUR GOVERNMENT NOT TO JOIN IN ANY PLAN TO PUT ISRAEL INTO THE SAME POSITION IN WHICH DEMOCRATIC CZECHOSLOVAKIA FOUND ITSELF IN 1938. ACCORDINGLY, PROMINENT INDIVIDUALS IN YOUR COMMUNITY SHOULD WRITE LETTERS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE QUESTIONING THE EQUITY AND WISDOM OF YIELDING TO ARAB DEMANDS UPON ISRAEL.

"THE COMMITTEE CONDUCTS PUBLIC ACTION, BEARING UPON RELATIONS WITH GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITIES, WITH A VIEW TO MAINTAINING AND IMPROVING FRIENDSHIP AND GOOD WILL BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL."



BEAR IN MIND THAT:

1. THE ARAB STATES HAVE NO LEGAL CLAIM BY VIRTUE OF HISTORY OR ANY UN RESOLUTION TO ANY OF ISRAEL'S TERRITORY, AND A TERRITORIAL CESSION WOULD CONSTITUTE A REWARD FOR THEIR 1948 AGGRESSION AND FOR THEIR PRESENT COLLABORATION WITH THE SOVIET BLOC. PROPOSALS TO LET THE ARAB STATES HAVE PART OF THE NEGEV HAVE BEEN REJECTED BY THE UNITED NATIONS IN THE PAST.

2. THE ANGLO-AMERICAN ALLIANCE RESTS FIRMLY ON THE COMMUNITY OF INTERESTS BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES, OUR COMMON DEVOTION TO THE DEFENSE OF DEMOCRACY AND THE STRENGTHENING OF THE FREE WORLD. BUT WE WILL NOT STRENGTHEN OUR CAUSE IF WE WEAKEN THE ONE DEMOCRATIC COUNTRY IN THE NEAR EAST.

3. OUR CONFIDENCE IN BRITISH FOREIGN POLICY AND ITS ATTITUDE ON ISRAEL AND THE ARAB STATES HAS BEEN SHAKEN IN THE PAST BY SUCH EPISODES AS THE MUNICH DEAL IN 1938, THE PALESTINE WHITE PAPER OF 1939, THE BRITISH REFUSAL TO ACCEPT OR COOPERATE WITH THE UNITED NATIONS DECISION TO ESTABLISH A JEWISH STATE IN 1947 AND THE FACT THAT BRITAIN HAS AN ALLIANCE WITH THE ARAB COUNTRIES AND SUPPLIES THEM WITH ARMS.

4. PROPOSALS TO MUTILATE ISRAEL, TO REDUCE THE SIZE OF ITS TERRITORY AND THUS ENDANGER ITS ECONOMIC VIABILITY, TO SEVER IT BY GIVING THE ARAB STATES A CORRIDOR ACROSS IT -- NONE OF THESE WOULD MAKE FOR PEACE IN THE NEAR EAST. ON THE CONTRARY, THEY WOULD ENCOURAGE THE ARAB STATES TO BELIEVE THAT THEY CAN EXTORT EVEN GREATER CONCESSIONS AND THEY WOULD MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR A WEAKENED ISRAEL TO DEFEND ITSELF FROM SUCH DEMANDS. A TEMPORARY PEACE MAY BE GAINED, BUT IT WOULD NOT LAST VERY LONG. WORLD WAR II BROKE OUT JUST A FEW MONTHS AFTER THE MUNICH CONFERENCE TRUNCATING CZECHOSLOVAKIA HELD OUT THE FALSE PROMISE OF "PEACE IN OUR TIME."

\* \* \*

WE ENCLOSE A COPY OF THE STATEMENT WHICH RABBI PHILIP S. BERNSTEIN, CHAIRMAN OF THIS COMMITTEE, MADE FOLLOWING A MEETING WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE ALLEN HERE LAST MONDAY.

WHILE WE HOPE YOU WILL MAKE USE OF THIS MATERIAL, WE URGE YOU TO FRAME ORIGINAL LETTERS IN ORDER TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT THE LETTERS WHICH REACH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE WILL NOT BE CARBON COPIES OF EACH OTHER.

\* \* \*

YOUR LETTERS SHOULD EMPHASIZE THE NEED FOR POSITIVE ACTION BY OUR GOVERNMENT TO MEET THE DANGER OF SOVIET INFILTRATION INTO THE NEAR EAST AS A RESULT OF THE EGYPTIAN-CZECH ARMS DEAL AND TO PROMOTE STABILITY AND PEACE.



THE TWO PROPOSALS WHICH WE HAVE ASKED THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO CONSIDER ARE:

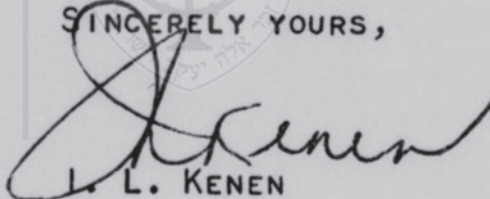
1. TO PERMIT ISRAEL TO ACQUIRE SUFFICIENT DEFENSIVE ARMS TO ENABLE HER TO RESIST ATTACK.
2. TO OFFER ISRAEL A SECURITY TREATY GUARANTEEING THE STATUS QUO.

\* \* \*

THIS WHOLE ISSUE SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE EDITORS OF YOUR NEWSPAPER, EITHER BY REQUESTING THEM TO TAKE AN EDITORIAL POSITION AGAINST NEW APPEASEMENT IN THE NEAR EAST OR BY SENDING YOUR OWN LETTERS TO THE EDITOR. IF YOU ARE IN TOUCH WITH YOUR SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES IN THE COMING WEEKS ON THIS ISSUE, PLEASE MAKE CERTAIN THAT THEY TOO ARE ALERTED TO THE DANGER OF A POLITICAL OFFENSIVE AGAINST ISRAEL'S TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY.

WE THINK A FLOOD OF LETTERS FROM ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE WILL HELP TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT AMERICAN PUBLIC OPINION DOES NOT WELCOME BRITISH EFFORTS TO MAKE THE UNITED STATES A PARTNER IN A NEW PARTITION OF ISRAEL. A FEW LETTERS TO THE BRITISH EMBASSY AND ITS CONSULATES, SIGNED BY PROMINENT COMMUNITY LEADERS, MIGHT ALSO BE HELPFUL.

SINCERELY YOURS,



L. L. KENEN

ENCL.



AMERICAN ZIONIST COMMITTEE  
FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
1737 H. STREET, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

DECEMBER 5, 1955

RABBI PHILIP S. BERNSTEIN, OF ROCHESTER, CHAIRMAN OF THE AMERICAN ZIONIST COMMITTEE FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS, TODAY CALLED ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE GEORGE ALLEN TO EXPRESS THE HOPE THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD NOT YIELD TO THE BLANDISHMENTS OF PEACE PROPOSALS WHICH WOULD DESTROY THE VIABILITY OF ISRAEL.

RABBI BERNSTEIN SAID THAT DURING THE LAST FEW DAYS THERE HAD BEEN A NUMBER OF PROPOSALS, BEGINNING WITH THAT OF PRIME MINISTER ANTHONY EDEN, WHICH, IF ADOPTED, WOULD TRUNCATE OR SEVER ISRAEL, FORCE THE REABSORPTION OF LARGE NUMBERS OF ARAB REFUGEES AND UNDERMINE ISRAEL'S ECONOMY AND SECURITY.

"THE EFFECT OF THESE PROPOSALS IS TO COMPEL ISRAEL TO PAY TRIBUTE TO PREMIER NASSER OF EGYPT AND THUS REWARD NASSER FOR HIS DECISION TO BUY ARMS FROM COMMUNIST CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

"ISRAEL IS A TINY COUNTRY OF ONLY 8,000 SQUARE MILES," RABBI BERNSTEIN SAID. "THE ARAB LANDS ARE TO ISRAEL AS 300 TO 1. ISRAEL NEEDS EVERY INCH OF ITS TERRITORY, NOT ONLY FOR THE ABSORPTION OF THE JEWISH REFUGEES NOW COMING OUT OF THE ARAB LANDS OF NORTH AFRICA BUT ALSO FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF ITS RESOURCES AND ECONOMY. NASSER, WITH 386,198 SQUARE MILES, DOES NOT NEED A PIECE OF THE NEGEV. HE HAS MORE THAN ENOUGH DESERT OF HIS OWN.

"BUT ABOVE ALL, THERE IS NO JUSTIFICATION IN FACT OR MORALITY WHICH WOULD SANCTION ANY PRESSURE ON ISRAEL TO MAKE CONCESSIONS TO HER ARAB NEIGHBORS. SUCH CONCESSIONS WOULD NOT SATISFY ARAB APPETITES; THEY WOULD WHET THEM. SUCH CONCESSIONS WOULD NOT BRING ABOUT A LASTING OR DURABLE PEACE; THEY WOULD BE NOTHING MORE THAN APPEASEMENT, WITH NO MORE LIKELIHOOD OF SUCCESS THAN BRITISH APPEASEMENT OF HITLER AT MUNICH AT THE EXPENSE OF DEMOCRATIC CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN 1938.

"THE LESSON THAT THE DEMOCRACIES LEARNED IN 1938 MUST NOT BE FORGOTTEN. THE PRESENT SITUATION IS FRAUGHT WITH DANGER BECAUSE EGYPT IS OPENING THE NEAR EAST TO COMMUNIST INFILTRATION AND CONSPIRACY. THIS MUST NOT BE OVERLOOKED OR BECLOUDED OR CONCEALED BY THE MIRAGE OF A PEACE OFFENSIVE DESIGNED TO DISGUISE NASSER'S TRUE COUNTENANCE, TO SAVE HIS FACE AND TO EXCULPATE HIM FROM THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR BRINGING ABOUT THE PRESENT CRISIS.

"A FIRM POSITION BY THE UNITED STATES STATE DEPARTMENT, GUARANTEEING THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF ISRAEL AND ANY OTHER NEAR EAST STATE WHICH WANTS TO JOIN IN THE PRESERVATION OF PEACE, IS MUCH MORE LIKELY TO PRODUCE STABILITY AND PEACE THAN THE DUBIOUS TACTICS OF SEEKING TO PURCHASE NASSER'S FAVOR AT ISRAEL'S EXPENSE."



EMBASSY OF ISRAEL  
Washington, D. C.

December 16, 1955

ARAB STATEMENTS -- Then and Now

1. The leaders of the Arab states are demanding that "Israel fulfill the United Nations resolution of 29 November 1947", in which was embodied the detailed plan for partition of Palestine, before they consider any negotiations with Israel towards a peace settlement.
2. Both before and after this resolution was adopted by the U.N. General Assembly these Arab states unanimously and violently attacked it. Through their representatives in the U.N. they warned that "the partition will be a line of fire and blood". They followed up their verbal assault by launching a full-scale war against the new-born State of Israel. "Brazen aggression" was how Trygve Lie, then Secretary-General of the U.N., characterized their action.
3. Having been prevented by Israel in their attempt to subvert the U.N. resolution by force of arms, the Arab leaders are now reverting to that same resolution in their attempts to undermine Israel's security.
4. In the following pages are some of the statements made by Arab leaders on the U.N. resolution of 1947 at that time. Parallel with these are other statements made by Arab leaders in recent weeks (in some cases by the same spokesmen), appealing for the full implementation of the 1947 resolution.
5. A chronology of events preceding and following the U.N. partition resolution of 29 November 1947 is also attached.



ARAB STATEMENTS MADE DURING 1947-1948 PERIOD

ARAB STATEMENTS TODAY

EGYPT

"The General Assembly is not competent to impose any solution in this matter. We will not adopt and we will not implement the proposed recommendation by the

General Assembly."

(Mahmoud Fawzi, now Egyptian Foreign Minister at U.N. General Assembly, November 26, 1947)

"We are technically still at war with Israel. This state of war will exist as long as the U.N. decisions are not enforced....

We insist that the U.N. resolutions form a basis for a settlement. Israel should be made to abide by them. These resolutions were set by the U.N. and not by

Egypt or the Arab States."

(Premier Nasser, in interview by Newsweek, U.S.A., May 23, 1955)

"Israel, though a member of the U.N., has steadfastly refused to implement any of the Assembly's

numerous resolutions."

(Ahmad Khairat Said, Deputy Foreign Minister of Egypt, before Ad Hoc Political Committee, November 17, 1955)

IRAQ

"A report which is totally unacceptable to the Arabs and which needs force for its implementation."

"Iraq does not recognize the validity of this decision and will reserve her freedom of action to prevent its implementation."  
(Dr. Fadhil Jamali, U.N. General Assembly, November 26, 1947)

"The same Powers must see to it that the U.N. resolutions on Palestine are implemented. They must see to it that Israel follows the provisions of these resolutions which are the raison d'etre of Israel itself."  
(Dr. Fadhil Jamali, U.N. General Assembly, September 26, 1955)



THEN

"We will never recognize this proposed partition, and we reserve the right to act accordingly."

(Emir Arslan at U.N. General Assembly, November 26, 1947)

SYRIA

"No solution of the Palestine problem is possible unless the U.N. recommendations are followed."

(Syrian Ambassador to Washington, Farid Zeineddine, in speech to Women's National Democratic Club, Washington, November 14, 1955)

"In dealing with the Palestine issue the General Assembly should bear in mind that...the faith of millions of peace-loving peoples throughout the world depends on the capacity of the member states of the U.N. to abide by the high principles proclaimed in the Charter."

(Mr. Ahmed Shukairy, member of the Syrian delegation to the U.N., before Ad Hoc Political Committee, November 15, 1955)

LEBANON

"This plan .... unjust and inequitable ...a precedent fraught with very serious consequences."

(Kamil Chamoun, Lebanese delegate to U.N., now President of Lebanon, at the U.N. General Assembly, November 26, 1947)

"A real, sincere and determined effort must be made to exert due pressure on the Israeli authorities to abide by the resolutions of the General Assembly.... As Secretary General of the Organization, Mr. Hammarskjold could not and should not, I submit, think of any other basis than the existing resolutions of the General Assembly."

(Mr. Emil Khouri, Lebanese delegate to U.N., October 3, 1955)



THEN

NOW

SAUDI ARABIA

"The Government of Saudi Arabia registers the fact that it does not consider itself bound by the resolution adopted today by the General Assembly. Furthermore, it reserves to itself the full right to act freely in whatever way it deems fit."  
(Emir Faisal, to U.N. General Assembly, November 29, 1947)

"The General Assembly laid the foundation for a general solution to the problem, and its resolution still constitutes the only valid basis for a resettlement of the Palestine question."  
(Aouney W. Dejany, Saudi Arabian delegate to U.N., to Ad Hoc Political Committee, November 18, 1955)

-----  
YEMEN

"We have made it clear that the partition plan is illegal...The plan is unworkable. Because of this injustice and illegality the Arabs do not agree to it."  
(Prince Seif El Islam Abdullah, General Assembly, November 26, 1947)

"The decisions of the U.N. with regard to it (Palestine) have not been enforced... There is no doubt that if the Organization falls short in this mission it will certainly fail in one of the most important of its obligations. The pillars of its moral influence will be shaken and respect for its resolutions will undoubtedly decrease."  
(Tawfig Chamandy, member of Yemenite delegation to U.N. General Assembly, September 26, 1955)

-----  
JORDAN

(Trans-Jordan was not a member of the United Nations at the time of the 1947 debate. Jordanian troops occupied the bulk of the area designated by the 1947 Partition resolution as forming an autonomous Arab State in economic Union with Israel.)

"It is generally recognized that the chief stumbling bloc in the way of achieving a solution to the problem (of Palestine) is the refusal of Israel to abide by U.N. resolutions on the subject."  
(Abdel Monem Rifa'i, Jordan Observer, in speech before Ad Hoc Committee, November 15, 1955)



UNITED NATIONS PARTITION RESOLUTION OF NOVEMBER 29, 1947, AND THE RECORD OF ARAB  
ATTEMPTS TO PREVENT ITS IMPLEMENTATION.

1. The United Nations General Assembly's resolution of November 29, 1947, which the Arabs rejected verbally and went to war to subvert by force, called for the division of the former British Mandated area of Palestine into two parts -- a Jewish State and an Arab State, in economic union.
2. The Arabs rejected the plan out of hand. The Jewish authorities in Palestine accepted it, even though it represented less than their hopes.
3. Ten days after the November 29, 1947 vote in the U.N. General Assembly, the Arab Premiers, meeting in Cairo, formally asserted that they would "do everything possible to bring about the collapse of the U.N. Partition Plan and to encourage opposition to the establishment of a Jewish State."
4. When U.N. Secretary-General Trygve Lie invited the Arab nations to participate in the work of the Palestine Commission established to implement the Partition resolution, the Arab Higher Committee, representing the Arabs of Palestine, cabled that it would "persist in its refusal to recognize the U.N. resolution."
5. On February 24, 1948, the Palestine Commission reported to the U.N. Secretariat that they found it impossible to carry out the terms of the 1947 Partition resolution. They stated that in addition to the Arab attitude, the British authorities had refused every form of cooperation and had rejected every request arising from the resolution.
6. Even before the British withdrawal from Palestine the local Arab population, with the assistance of neighboring Arab governments, waged a guerilla war against the Jewish population. Arab Legion guns began shelling the Jewish outskirts of Jerusalem while the British were still in control of the center of the city.



7. On May 14, 1948 (the day the British Mandate was terminated), the State of Israel was formally established by its Provisional Government. Simultaneously with this, the Arab armies invaded the country across all its land borders. Egyptian aircraft bombed Tel Aviv and other Jewish centers while units of the Egyptian navy went into action at sea. The Arab Legion, the British-trained and officered army of Trans-Jordan, advanced and occupied the area west of the River Jordan designated in the U.N. plan as forming the Arab state. The Old City of Jerusalem, which includes the church of the Holy Sepulchre, the Western Wall, last remnant of the Second Temple, and the Mosque of Omar, was also occupied and held by Arab Legion soldiers. The Arab state of Trans-Jordan changed its name to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Another section of the proposed Arab state, now known as the "Gaza Strip", was attacked and occupied by the Egyptians, who still hold it.

8. Fighting was stopped for almost a month in mid-1948, under a U.N.-imposed truce. It was resumed after the Arabs, still hopeful of destroying Israel by force, wrote to the U.N. Mediator on July 3, 1948:

"Your Excellency will recall that the Partition Plan recommended by the General Assembly of the United Nations last year was categorically rejected by the Arabs."

9. In a Progress Report to the United Nations in September, 1948, the Mediator commented that the Partition resolution "has already been outrun and irrevocably revised by the actual facts of recent Palestine history." In a letter to the Foreign Minister of the Provisional Government of Israel on July 8, 1948, he wrote that Arab opposition to the resolution "has continued unabated" and that any future territorial settlement "should not be rigidly controlled by the territorial arrangements envisaged by the resolution," which he considered was no longer practicable.

10. Instead of waging the victorious war they had anticipated, the Arabs were forced back on all fronts. In an effort to save their armies from complete collapse, they sought a second cease-fire.



11. In separate negotiations between Israel and the four Arab states bordering on the former area of Palestine (Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan, and Syria) a series of Armistice Agreements were drawn up, defining the present borders of Israel. Iraq, which took part in the war against Israel, though having no common frontier with the new State, refused to negotiate. An armistice has still not yet been signed between Israel and Iraq. The Armistice Agreements were endorsed and approved by the United Nations on August 11, 1949. Today, they represent international treaties governing the present relationships between Israel and the Arab states. Under their terms, they can be amended only by mutual consent of the parties concerned.

12. In the U.N. Security Council debate on the Armistice Agreements which opened on August 4, 1949, U. S. Delegate Warren Austin called them "self-executing agreements between the Parties.....They contain provisions which make them, in fact, non-aggression pacts.....I submit that these pledges of non-aggression are a really solid basis for a permanent and lasting peace in Palestine."



# AMERICAN ZIONIST COMMITTEE FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

1737 H STREET N.W. • WASHINGTON 6, D. C. • EXecutive 3-1060

RABBI PHILIP S. BERNSTEIN, Chairman

BEINESH EPSTEIN  
MRS. MOSES P. EPSTEIN  
PAUL L. GOLDMAN

MRS. BENJAMIN GOTTESMAN  
MRS. SAMUEL W. HALPRIN  
RABBI MORDECAI KIRSHBLUM

DR. JUDITH LIEBERMAN  
LOUIS LIPSKY  
HAROLD MANSON  
RABBI IRVING MILLER

AVRAHAM SCHENKER  
LOUIS SEGAL  
MRS. CHAYA SURCHIN

HARRY TORCZYNER  
RALPH WECHSLER  
NATHANIEL ZELIKOW

NATIONAL FINANCE COUNCIL  
CHAIRMEN  
LAWRENCE G. LASKEY  
JOSSELYN M. SHORE  
TREASURER  
ABE S. KAY  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
SYDNEY LUBARR

I. L. KENEN, Executive Director

January 5, 1956

Dear Dr. Silver:

Any word on Lausche? Do you want to prod him  
or shall I call him?

Best regards.

Cordially yours,



ILK:TH

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio



January 12, 1956

Mr. I. L. Kenen, Executive Director  
American Zionist Committee for Public Affairs  
1737 H Street N.W.  
Washington 6, D.C.

Dear Mr. Kenen:

I have just returned from New York to find your note.

I have not heard from Lausche.

I suggest you get in touch with him.

With all good wishes, I remain,

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl





# AMERICAN ZIONIST COMMITTEE FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

1737 H STREET N.W. • WASHINGTON 6, D. C. • EXecutive 3-1060

RABBI PHILIP S. BERNSTEIN, Chairman

BEINESH EPSTEIN  
MRS. MOSES P. EPSTEIN  
PAUL L. GOLDMAN

MRS. BENJAMIN GOTTESMAN  
MRS. SAMUEL W. HALPRIN  
RABBI MORDECAI KIRSHBLUM

DR. JUDITH LIEBERMAN  
LOUIS LIPSKY  
HAROLD MANSON  
RABBI IRVING MILLER

AVRAHAM SCHENKER  
LOUIS SEGAL  
MRS. CHAYA SURCHIN

HARRY TORCZYNER  
RALPH WECHSLER  
NATHANIEL ZELIKOW

I. L. KENEN, Executive Director

## NATIONAL FINANCE COUNCIL

CHAIRMEN  
LAWRENCE G. LASKEY  
JOSSELYN M. SHORE

TREASURER  
ABE S. KAY  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
ARNOLD H. WALLACK

April 18, 1956

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I have just received Harold Manson's memorandum containing the account of your speech published in THE CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER on April 9.

It seems to me that this text or, if no text is available, a reprint of the Plain Dealer story should be circulated here in Washington to our friends on the Hill. I would therefore appreciate it if you would send me the text of the speech itself and the Plain Dealer clipping.

If you or the ZOA are planning to print the speech, then I could use that version.

With best regards,

Cordially,

I. L. Kenen, Executive Director

ILK:myc

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Ansel Road & 105th Street  
Cleveland 6, Ohio

cc: Mr. Harold P. Manson



August 7, 1956

LIST OF DEMOCRATIC MEMBERS OF CONGRESS WHO SIGNED  
PROPOSED NEAR EAST PLANK SUBMITTED TO PLATFORM COMMITTEE

Senate

Paul H. Douglas - Illinois	Herbert H. Lehman - New York
Hubert H. Humphrey - Minnesota	James E. Murray - Montana
Richard L. Neuberger - Oregon	

House

Hugh J. Addonizio - New Jersey	Elmer J. Holland - Pennsylvania
Victor L. Anfuso - New York	Lester Holtzman - New York
Thomas L. Ashley - Ohio	Frank M. Karsten - Missouri
Wayne N. Aspinall - Colorado	Augustine B. Kelley - Pennsylvania
William A. Barrett - Pennsylvania	Edna F. Kelly - New York
John A. Blatnik - Minnesota	Eugene J. Keogh - New York
Edward P. Boland - Massachusetts	Cecil R. King - California
Richard Bolling - Missouri	Michael J. Kirwan - Ohio
Charles A. Boyle - Illinois	Arthur G. Klein - New York
Charles A. Buckley - New York	John C. Kluczynski - Illinois
M. G. Burnside - West Virginia	Coya Knutson - Minnesota
James A. Byrne - Pennsylvania	John Lesinski - Michigan
Clarence Camon - Missouri	Eugene J. McCarthy - Minnesota
Emanuel Celler - New York	Harris B. McDowell - Delaware
Earl Chudoff - Pennsylvania	Torbert H. Macdonald - Massachusetts
Frank M. Clark - Pennsylvania	Thaddeus Machrowicz - Michigan
Irwin D. Davidson - New York	Ray J. Madden - Indiana
James J. Delaney - New York	Don Magnuson - Washington
John J. Dempsey - New Mexico	Lee Metcalf - Montana
Charles C. Diggs, Jr. - Michigan	George P. Miller - California
John D. Dingell - Michigan	Thomas E. Morgan - Pennsylvania
Thomas J. Dodd - Connecticut	Abraham J. Multer - New York
Isidore Dollinger - New York	James C. Murray - Illinois
Harold D. Donohue - Massachusetts	Leo W. O'Brien - New York
Clyde Doyle - California	Thomas J. O'Brien - Illinois
Herman P. Eberharter - Pennsylvania	Barratt O'Hara - Illinois
George H. Fallon - Maryland	Philip J. Philbin - Massachusetts
Antonio M. Fernandez - New Mexico	Melvin Price - Illinois
Daniel J. Flood - Pennsylvania	James M. Quigley - Pennsylvania
John E. Fogarty - Rhode Island	Henry S. Reuss - Wisconsin
Aime J. Forand - Rhode Island	George M. Rhodes - Pennsylvania
Samuel N. Friedel - Maryland	Peter W. Rodino, Jr. - New Jersey
Edward A. Garmatz - Maryland	John J. Rooney - New York
Thomas S. Gordon - Illinois	James Roosevelt - California
Kenneth J. Gray - Illinois	John F. Shelley - California
Edith Green - Oregon	Alfred D. Sieminski - New Jersey
William J. Green, Jr. - Pennsylvania	Leonor K. Sullivan - Missouri
Martha W. Griffiths - Michigan	Frank Thompson, Jr. - New Jersey
Harlan Hagen - California	Charles A. Vanik - Ohio
Wayne L. Hays - Ohio	Roy W. Wier - Minnesota
Don Hayworth - Michigan	Harrison A. Williams - New Jersey
James C. Healey - New York	Sidney R. Yates - Illinois
Chet Holifield - California	Herbert Zelenko - New York



August 15, 1956

PARTIAL LIST OF REPUBLICAN MEMBERS OF CONGRESS ENDORSING  
PROPOSED PLATFORM PLANK PERTAINING TO THE MIDDLE EAST SITUATION

Hugh Scott	Pennsylvania
Kenneth B. Keating	New York
Edmund P. Radwan	New York
Albert P. Morano	Connecticut
James G. Fulton	Pennsylvania
Frank J. Becker	New York
Laurence Curtis	Massachusetts
Marguerite Stitt Church	Illinois
R. Walter Riehlman	New York
T. Millet Hand	New Jersey
Richard H. Poff	Virginia
John F. Baldwin, Jr.	California
Paul Cunningham	Iowa
Clifton Young	Nevada
J. Ernest Wharton	New York
Charles M. Teague	California
Alvin E. O'Konski	Wisconsin
Alvin M. Bentley	Michigan
Gordon Canfield	New Jersey
Albert H. Bosch	New York
Jackson B. Chase	Nebraska
Albert W. Cretella	Connecticut
Francis E. Dorn	New York
Paul A. Fino	New York
Robert W. Kean	New Jersey
Bernard W. Kearney	New York
Henry J. Latham	New York
William E. Miller	New York
Frank C. Osmer, Jr.	New Jersey
Harold C. Ostertag	New York
James T. Patterson	Connecticut
Thomas M. Pelly	Washington
William R. Williams	New York
John P. Saylor	Pennsylvania
Thor C. Tollefson	Washington
Chester B. Merrow	New Hampshire
Edith Nourse Rogers	Massachusetts
Carroll D. Kearns	Pennsylvania
Horace Seely-Brown, Jr.	Connecticut
Donald L. Jackson	California



## EXCERPTS FROM 1956 DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

...In the Middle East, the Eisenhower Administration has dawdled and drifted. The results have been disastrous and still worse threatens. Only the good offices of the United Nations in maintaining peace between Israel and her neighbors conceal the diplomatic incapacities of the Republican Administration. The current crisis over Suez is a consequence of inept and vacillating Republican policy. Our Government's mistakes have placed us in a position in the Middle East which threatens the free world with a loss of power and prestige, potentially more dangerous than any we have suffered in the past decade...

### Peace and Justice in the Middle East

The Democratic Party stands for the maintenance of peace in the Middle East which is essential for the well-being and progress of all its peoples.

We will urge Israel and the Arab states to settle their differences by peaceful means, and to maintain the sanctity of the holy places and permit free access to them.

We will assist Israel to build a sound and viable economy for her people, so that she may fulfill her humanitarian mission of providing shelter and sanctuary for her homeless Jewish refugees while strengthening her national development.

We will assist the Arab states to develop their economic resources and raise the living standard of their people. The plight of the Arab refugees commands our continuing sympathy and concern. We will assist in carrying out large-scale projects for their resettlement in countries where there is room and opportunity for them.

We support the principle of free access to the Suez Canal under suitable international auspices. The present policies of the Eisenhower Administration in the Middle East are unnecessarily increasing the risk that war will break out in this area. To prevent war, to assure peace, we will faithfully carry out our country's pledge under the Tripartite Declaration of 1950 to oppose the use or threat of force and to take such action as may be necessary, in the interest of peace, both within and outside the United Nations to prevent any violation of the frontiers of armistice lines.

The Democratic Party will act to redress the dangerous imbalance of arms in the area created by the shipment of Communist arms to Egypt, by selling or supplying defensive weapons to Israel, and will take such steps, including security guarantees, as may be required to deter aggression and war in the area.

We oppose, as contrary to American principles, the practice of any government which discriminates against American citizens on grounds of race or religion. We will not countenance any arrangement or treaty with any government which by its terms or in its practical application would sanction such practices.



## EXCERPTS FROM 1956 REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

...The Middle East has been strengthened by the defensive unity of the four "northern tier" countries -- Turkey, Iraq, Iran, and Pakistan -- which hold gateways to the vast oil resources upon which depend the industry and military strength of the free world. This was made possible by the liberation of Iran from the grip of the Communist Tudeh Party. Iran has again made its oil reserves available to the world under an equitable settlement negotiated by the United States.

We have maintained, and will maintain friendly relations with all nations in this vital area, seeking to mediate differences among them, and encouraging their legitimate national aspirations...

### The Future

...We shall continue to support the collective security system begun in 1947 and steadily developed on a bipartisan basis. That system has joined the United States with 42 other nations in common defense of freedom. It has created a deterrent to war which cannot be nullified by Soviet veto.

Where needed, we shall help friendly countries maintain such local forces and economic strength as provide a first bulwark against Communist aggression or subversion. We shall reinforce that defense by a military capacity which, operating in accordance with the United Nations Charter, could so punish aggression that it ceases to be a profitable pursuit.

We will continue efforts with friends and allies, to assist the underdeveloped areas of the free world in their efforts to attain greater freedom, independence and self-determination, and to raise their standards of living.

We recognize the existence of a major threat to international peace in the Near East. We support a policy of impartial friendship for the peoples of the Arab states and Israel to promote a peaceful settlement of the causes of tension in that area, including the human problem of the Palestine Arab refugees.

Progress toward a just settlement of the tragic conflict between the Jewish State and the Arab nations in Palestine was upset by the Soviet bloc sale of arms to Arab countries. But prospects of peace have now been reinforced by the mission to Palestine of the United Nations Secretary General upon the initiative of the United States.

We regard the preservation of Israel as an important tenet of American foreign policy. We are determined that the integrity of an independent Jewish State shall be maintained. We shall support the independence of Israel against armed aggression. The best hope for peace in the Middle East lies in the United Nations. We pledge our continued efforts to eliminate the obstacles to a lasting peace in this area...

We approve appropriate action to oppose the imposition by foreign governments of discrimination against United States citizens, based on their religion or race...



# AMERICAN ZIONIST COMMITTEE FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

1737 H STREET N.W. • WASHINGTON 6, D. C. • EXecutive 3-1060

RABBI PHILIP S. BERNSTEIN, Chairman

MRS. MOSES P. EPSTEIN  
PAUL L. GOLDMAN  
MRS. BENJAMIN GOTTESMAN

MRS. SAMUEL W. HALPRIN  
RABBI MORDECAI KIRSHBLUM  
DR. JUDITH LIEDERMAN

LOUIS LIPSKY  
HAROLD MANSON  
RABBI IRVING MILLER  
DR. JOSEPH SCHECHTMAN

AVRAHAM SCHENKER  
LOUIS SEGAL  
MRS. CHAYA SURCHIN

HARRY TORCZYNER  
RALPH WECHSLER  
NATHANIEL ZELIKOW

NATIONAL FINANCE COUNCIL  
CHAIRMAN  
LAWRENCE G. LASKEY  
175 HUNTINGTON AVENUE  
BOSTON 15, MASS.

JOSSELYN M. SHORE  
TREASURER  
ADE S. KAY  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
RITA GROSSMAN

I. L. KENEN, Executive Director

ALLEN LESSER, Director of Information

San Francisco  
California  
August 21, 1956

Dear Friend:

An eight-week campaign involving Congressional and community leaders all over the country culminated here today. Both the Republican and Democratic Parties have joined in a commitment to prevent war in the Near East and to preserve the integrity of Israel.

We enclose the texts of both platform declarations. We do not offer a detailed analysis at this time. But we do believe that these two declarations will have a psychological impact on the Arab world and will make it clear that the U.S. does not intend to let Israel down.

The Democratic plank, adopted at Chicago last Wednesday, urges arms for Israel, accepts virtually all the proposals we submitted and is an impressive blueprint for peace. The Republican plank, which was adopted here today, does not promise arms to Israel but does contain a vigorous pledge to support Israel's independence against armed aggression.

These declarations are important because they show that millions of Americans are interested in the survival of Israel and the attainment of an Arab-Israel peace and that there is bipartisan awareness of the danger in the Near East.

\* \* \*

## DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

Prior to the convention, we submitted platform proposals to "elder statesmen" who were requested by the Democratic National Committee to submit working papers to the convention. A number of our proposals were reflected in the original drafts. But it is no secret that some of the veteran leaders were opposed to explicit foreign policy commitments on Israel, China, Cyprus, etc.

We asked community leaders to discuss the issues with local party leaders and convention delegates. Meanwhile, five Democratic Congressmen -- Representatives Emanuel Celler and Abraham Multer of New York, Thomas J. Dodd of Connecticut, James Roosevelt of California and Mrs.

"THE COMMITTEE CONDUCTS PUBLIC ACTION, BEARING UPON RELATIONS WITH  
GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITIES, WITH A VIEW TO MAINTAINING AND IMPROVING  
FRIENDSHIP AND GOOD WILL BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL."



Edith Green of Oregon -- circulated a proposed plank in the House. Although no intensive effort was made, since a busy Congress was on the eve of adjournment, 91 Congressmen endorsed the statement. (Some veteran friends of Israel withheld endorsement because they were on the Platform Committee).

Congressman Dodd presented this plank to the Platform Committee.

The opposition actually helped our cause. It came from Alfred Lilienthal of the Committee for Security and Justice in the Middle East and Clarence Coleman, head of the American Council for Judaism. The Lilienthal theme was that America had been betrayed by political leaders who had yielded to Zionist "pressure" to serve the interests of a foreign state. It was the type of speech frequently offered by apologists for the Arab position and it was a flagrant insult to members of the Platform Committee who resented it and reacted angrily.

Chairman John W. McCormack, Congressman from Massachusetts, was indignant because Mr. Lilienthal, one of the day's 39 witnesses, outrageously demanded 35 minutes. Jose Benitez, Puerto Rican delegate, was on his feet immediately after Lilienthal finished to affirm Puerto Rico's friendship and admiration for the Jewish people and the people of Israel. Mayor David Lawrence of Pittsburgh denounced Lilienthal as a "mercenary" who had run out on his own people. Robert Short of Minnesota also rebuked Lilienthal for his attack on President Truman.

Mr. Coleman was challenged by McCormack and Celler. Both resented his aspersions against the integrity of political leaders and rejected his thesis that Zionists are guilty of dual nationality.

The Committee was puzzled by Mr. Coleman's appearance because his counsel was entirely negative. Rep. John E. Moss, Jr., of California pressed Coleman for a recommendation and asked him why he appeared. When Coleman replied that his purpose was merely to warn the Platform Committee not to adopt a Near East plank advocated by people invested with "double nationality" and not motivated by the best interests of America, Moss angrily reprimanded Coleman for taking the Committee's time to question the wisdom, judgment and loyalty of members of the Platform Committee and implying that they would do anything not in the interests of the U.S.

\* \* \*

In addition, Lilienthal's testimony was attacked by Dr. Israel Goldstein, President of the American Jewish Congress, who with Julian Freeman testified on behalf of the National Community Relations Advisory Council, to urge a plank attacking discrimination against American Jews by foreign governments; and Robert R. Nathan of Americans for Democratic Action, who also supported arms for Israel.

In later testimony, George F. Meany, President of the AFL-CIO, and Thomas K. Finletter, former Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, advocated arms for Israel.

\* \* \*



Our own testimony was virtually identical at both conventions. We stressed six points in our presentation:

1. Direct negotiations between Israel and the Arab states to achieve a peace settlement on a mutually acceptable basis.
2. Security treaties to guarantee the existing United Nations armistice lines against aggression.
3. Arms to Israel to counter the Communist weapons poised on her frontiers.
4. Continued international aid for the early resettlement of the Arab refugees in Arab countries.
5. Economic development and technical training to raise living standards, stimulate regional cooperation and overcome boycotts and blockades.
6. Opening of the Suez Canal to the shipping of all nations without discrimination.

\* \* \*

One of the most significant points in the Democratic plank, besides its pledge to supply arms to Israel, is the very clear statement on resettlement of Arab refugees:

"We will assist in carrying out large-scale projects for their resettlement in countries where there is room and opportunity for them."

This is the first such statement from either of the principal parties.

\* \* \*

#### REPUBLICAN CONVENTION

Prior to the convention, we submitted proposals to party leaders in Washington and urged community action. Meanwhile, Attorney General Jacob K. Javits and Speaker Oswald Heck of New York secured the support of the New York Delegation for a plank which was then circulated by Representatives Hugh Scott of Pennsylvania, Kenneth Keating and Edmund P. Radwan of New York, James G. Fulton of Pennsylvania and Albert P. Morano of Connecticut in the House during the last week of the Congressional session. Forty members endorsed the proposal, which was presented to the Platform Committee at San Francisco by Messrs. Javits, Heck and Scott.

Others who testified before the Platform Committee to urge arms for Israel included Senator Leverett Saltonstall of Massachusetts and Bernard Katzen of New York.



Unlike the Democratic convention, witnesses were not questioned, and Lilienthal, who delivered an abbreviated version of his Chicago tirade, escaped rebuke, except at the hands of John Gunther of ADA and ourselves. We issued a public statement denouncing Lilienthal's vicious defamation of American statesmen and his contemptible distrust of the democratic process.

\* \* \*

In advance of the hearings, Senator Prescott Bush of Connecticut, Chairman of the Platform Committee, who is publicly on record in favor of arms for Israel; former Assistant Secretary of State Thruston B. Morton, Chairman of the Foreign Policy Subcommittee, and Senator H. Alexander Smith of New Jersey, a member of the Subcommittee, declared that while the platform would put the U.S. on record against aggression, there would be no specific reference to arms for Israel. It was indicated that the platform would reflect State Department attitude.

Nevertheless, two parallel efforts were made to strengthen the plank. On the one hand, a group of Republican Senators who were on the Platform Committee and a substantial number of other delegates impressed upon the Platform Committee the misgivings of their constituents over the current Administration policy.

Simultaneously, we based our appeal -- not on political grounds -- but on the effect of a platform statement on the Near East situation. We addressed an urgent communication to all members of the Platform Committee, calling attention to the newspaper reports that four Israelis had been killed in an ambush near the Egyptian frontier, that Jordan frontier forces were being reinforced and that Arab demonstrators in Beirut were carrying placards: "Palestine After Suez." These reports "deepen our fears that Egypt's Colonel Nasser will attack Israel as soon as he absorbs the Suez. They fortify our conviction that it will serve the cause of peace if the Republican platform declares our country's determination to help preserve peace in the Near East by measures to deter aggression: security treaties to both Israel and the Arab states to guarantee the existing UN armistice lines, defensive weapons to Israel to restore the arms balance which has been upset by Communist shipments to Nasser."

In personal appeals to the Senators and other leading members of the Platform Committee, we stressed the anxiety of American Jews lest the free world permit Nasser to begin where Hitler left off.

\* \* \*

We believe that the Near East plank of the Republican platform was strengthened as a result of this combined effort. While the plank does not expressly promise arms to Israel, it goes to great lengths to affirm America's determination to insure Israel's survival. Furthermore, the plank does not foreclose arms to Israel, since it declares:

"Where needed, we shall help friendly countries maintain such local forces and economic strength as provide a first bulwark against Communist aggression or subversion."



A gratifying feature is the implied recognition that Israel -- not the Arab states -- is the country threatened with aggression. This will do much to overcome Arab propaganda which has sought to distort history and to shift responsibility for tension and aggression in the Middle East from the Arab states to Israel.

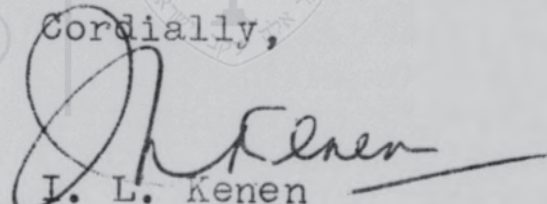
In this connection, we should note the extraordinary activity of the Arab lobby. Every delegate at Chicago (and, we believe, at San Francisco) received a packet from the Arab Information Center, including nine mimeographed statements: "Who's the Trouble Maker in the Holy Land?" -- "'Democracy' in Israel" -- "The Plight of the Arab Refugees" -- "Israel and the Zionist Internationale" -- "Israel's 'Borders'" -- "Territorial Ambitions of Israel" -- "To Set the Record Straight - Zionists, Not Jews" (A release issued by the Embassy of Saudi Arabia) -- "Arab News Digest: Suez Canal" -- "The Suez Canal - Facts and Figures" (Issued by the Egyptian Embassy).

But none of this propaganda found its way into the platforms.

\* \* \*

Within the next few weeks, we shall send you suggestions for activities in the coming months. In the meantime, please be in touch with those members of Congress who supported the arms for Israel planks in both platforms, to express your appreciation for their helpfulness. Please note the names on the enclosed lists.

Cordially,

  
I. L. Kenen

Enclosures