



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
6

Box
2

Folder
131

American Zionist Emergency Council, "M" and "N", 1944-1945.

WEEKLY COVERAGE
28 COMMUNITIES
IN CONNECTICUT
AND WESTERN
MASSACHUSETTS

THE Jewish Ledger

PUBLICATIONS

EXECUTIVE OFFICES
50 TRUMBULL ST.
HARTFORD, CONN.
PHONES
2-5239 — 2-5230

HARTFORD JEWISH LEDGER • NEW HAVEN JEWISH LEDGER • SPRINGFIELD JEWISH LEDGER

RABBI ABRAHAM J. FELDMAN
EDITOR

SAMUEL NEUSNER
PUBLISHER

January 11, 1944

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
East 105th Street and Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

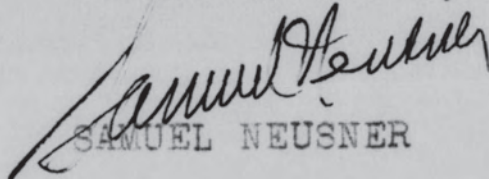
As an active Zionist in our area, I have been very much interested in the recent emergency controversy. As a publisher of the only Jewish paper in the Connecticut Valley, I felt that our people should know what is going on. The result of our activity in the Ledger can be found in the last two or three week's copies of our paper, which have been mailed to you under separate cover. I, of course have been accused of being a Silver follower and I don't deny the accusation because for over a year and a half I have been active in the Emergency Committee and was very influential in getting favorable resolutions passed by veteran's groups throughout Connecticut.

I looked upon you as our political leader and I couldn't understand the steps taken by heads of the Z.O.A. to embarrass you to the extent that you had to resign. I know the temper of the Zionist membership and I know that a majority of them sympathized with the stand you have taken. However, I also know that a long drawn-out fight will eventually hurt the Zionist movement. It's a peculiar thing about our Jews. You don't have to give them many excuses to be refused Zionist membership and it therefore is plain to see that if the controversy between you and the Z.O.A. continues for any length of time, the membership of the Z.O.A. will show a considerable drop and that is something I know you don't want to happen.

I have a feeling that at the next convention of the Z.O.A. there will be a change of administration. The rank and file will remember the injustice done to you and I therefore feel that your fight should be within the movement and not publicized in the press as much as it has been up to date. I'd like to see you visit some of the major districts in the country and speak to the Jewish people directly. It certainly would be easy to pack any auditorium in any community in the country. In fact

I think it is your duty to go to the people direct and tell your story. I know it will have the desired effect. If you think I am right and would like to speak in Hartford within the next month or two, please write me and I'll arrange for a meeting at the Bushnell Memorial which seats 3300 people. I speak only for myself but I know that there are plenty of others that feel as I do. If you feel that there is anything that I can do to help you in our area, please do not hesitate to call on me.

Sincerely yours,


SAMUEL NEUSNER

SN/la



July 3, 1944

The Honorable Joseph W. Martin
House of Representatives of the United States
Washington, D.C.

My dear Congressman Martin:

It was a great pleasure for me to have participated in the program of the Republican Political Convention last Tuesday evening, and to have pronounced the invocation at a session of the Convention over which you presided. It was a very impressive occasion, and in spite of the terrific heat, a very enjoyable one.

I was particularly delighted with the fact that the Republican Platform included such a fine and forthright resolution on Palestine. I want to thank you for the help which you gave to insure the inclusion of this plank. I know, too, that Senator Taft and Governor Dewey were extremely helpful. I need not tell you that all this is tremendously appreciated by our people who see in the establishment of the Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine the sole solution for our untold refugees and for the lack of national status for our people in the council of nations.

We are now hoping that the Palestine Resolution pending in Congress will be acted upon when Congress reconvenes.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

July 6, 1944

Dr. S. Margoshes
The Day
183 E. Broadway
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Margoshes:

May I tell you how much I enjoyed your editorial in Thursday's "The Day." Your frank and forthright editorial comment on the Libya Free Port announcement should help to explode that ghastly hoax by which so many Jews have been beguiled. Why are Jews so naive, so easily taken in by cheap little "ersatz" schemes of rescue, so lavish of praise and hallelujahs for every marrowless bone which is thrown to them, instead of persisting in their demands for the fullest measure of justice and humanity called for by the appalling tragedy of our people, and holding to strict accountability in the court of public opinion of those in authority who could have saved myriads of lives of our people and who chose not to?

Keep up your good work, my dear Dr. Margoshes. There will be plenty of these marrowless bones thrown to the Jews of America, often at the invitation of Jewish groups eager to boast of accomplishments, in the forthcoming pre-election months.

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

JOSEPH W. MARTIN, JR.
14TH DIST. MASSACHUSETTS

Offices of Minority Leader
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

July 7, 1944

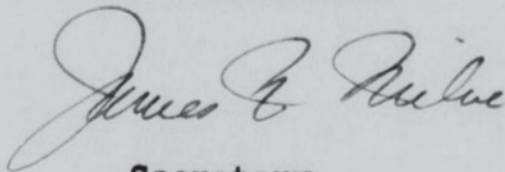
Mr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Mr. Silver:

I am acknowledging your letter of July 3rd
in the absence of Congressman Martin who is at present taking
a short rest.

I shall be glad to bring your letter to the
Congressman's attention at the first opportunity when he
returns to the office.

Sincerely yours,



Secretary

דער טאג



THE NATIONAL JEWISH DAILY

183 EAST BROADWAY, NEW YORK 2
TELEPHONE ORCHARD 4-3300

July 12, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

Many thanks for your very kind note of July 6th, anent my column on Stettinius and his offer of Libya. You are perfectly right about the marrowless bones that are being thrown to us and which are being picked up and widely advertised as the veritable gifts from God by people who should know better. I share with you the fear that as Election Day approaches we may have more of that bone throwing and public jubilation over it. What is to be done? -- that is the great question. There are so many things to consider.

I had lunch the other day with Attorney General Goldstein who told me a great many things he did in connection with the Palestine resolution in the Republican platform. He seems a nice chap and could and should be used for our national purpose, as indeed everybody and everything in public life should be used with the sole idea of victory for our cause in mind. He had a number of suggestions to make, but I referred him to you. Plainly, I told him that I would play along only under your leadership. I understand he will try to approach you personally after the 19th.

I intend to continue along the line of the Stettinius column, that is showing up worthless promises for what they are. I am watching the situation and you can rest assured that I shall not miss an opportunity when it arises. I wonder, in this connection, whether I could print your letter of July 6th. Occasionally, I print letters I receive from important people who comment on my column, just to show who sides with me. May I assume, if I don't hear from you to the contrary, that you have no objection to my printing your letter?

I am returning herewith another letter of yours, addressed to Mrs. Schanfarber, which, by mistake of course, was sent to me. To be sure, this error in putting the wrong letter in the wrong envelope has not led to any scandal, personal or communal, in this particular case, but I can imagine other cases in which it might. So your secretary had better be careful.

With cordial greetings, I am

Sincerely yours,

S. Margoshes

SM:eh
enc:

C
O
P
Y

ISRAEL MEREMINSKI
American Representative of the
H I S T A D R U T
General Federation of Jewish
Labor in Palestine.

510 West 112th Street
New York, N. Y.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
Co-Chairmen, American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York City

My dear Friends:

A.

I am disturbed over the releases issued by the American Zionist Emergency Council, published in the Jewish press, that "Louisiana is the 19th State to urge unrestricted Jewish immigration into Palestine" and "joins in demand for Jewish Commonwealth." I believe that these headlines do not express the real contents of the Louisiana resolution. I have read the release, and nowhere do I find that the State joins the demand for the Jewish Commonwealth.

Manifestly, it is our duty to tell the American people that we are interested in the development of Palestine as a self-governing Jewish Commonwealth. I regard it as most dangerous for our political interest at this time to ask for a Palestine self-governing commonwealth that does not mention the word "Jewish." Even if we do overcome the danger of realizing the third paragraph of the 1939 White Paper, concerning self-government in Palestine, this formulation of developing Palestine as a self-governing commonwealth may be considered to mean a bi-national state or an easy step to partition. Such State Legislature resolutions are not only useless, but very dangerous for our fight for a Jewish Commonwealth. It is not a useful instrument to us when the majority of the State resolutions are not in favor of a Jewish Commonwealth. I am sure you will agree with me that it is better not to have them at all.

The Louisiana resolution came after a similarly worded Palestine resolution was accepted by the recent Republican Convention. The Zionist Emergency Council has not yet indicated this "mistake" or "inaccuracy" to the Republican Party or to Mr. Dewey, and if so, what his answer was. If they have not done so, I would suggest that this be done before the Democratic Convention. I reiterate that this kind of resolution for unrestricted Jewish immigration into Palestine, while favorable from the point of view of Jewish immigration, nevertheless would have the effect of obstructing our attempts for an immediate Jewish Commonwealth.

B.

The last dispatch from Palestine, concerning MacMichael's retirement from his duties as High Commissioner, compels me to repeat and strengthen my request and suggestions made at the last meeting of the Emergency Council,

Dr. Stephen S. Wise and Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver - 2 -

July 12, 1944.

that the Council's Co-Chairmen proceed to London immediately. It is now clearer than before that the two most significant problems which will be decided in London within the next two weeks will be

1. the problem of partition
2. the immediate administration of Palestine.

Even if President Weizmann and the Zionist Executive have not yet invited the Zionist Emergency Council to participate in the clarification of the situation, I am sure that the change of the High Commissioner is of such importance that the presence of the co-chairmen of the American Zionist Emergency Council at the present time, is absolutely necessary.

I trust that you will regard these two problems as very urgent and that you will bring them to the attention of the Zionist Emergency Office.

With my greatest personal respect and mutual Zionist responsibility,

Yours sincerely,

(signed) ISRAEL MEREMINSKI
American Representative
HISTADRUT

IM.sak

Copied
7/13/44
BI

July 17, 1944

Mr. Israel Mereminski
Histadrut
510 West 112th St.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Friend:

Thank you for your kind letter of July 13 with reference to the press release of the American Zionist Emergency Council on the action of the State of Louisiana. I, too, regret that the release stated that the State of Louisiana "joins in demand for Jewish Commonwealth." The resolution of the Louisiana State Legislature contains no such phrase. I am calling this to the attention of our Press department with the admonition not to engage in such generous commentaries or wishful thinking in the future.

It is, of course, highly desirable that all the resolutions which are adopted by non-Jewish bodies -- ministerial associations, state legislatures, municipal councils, etc. should contain the phrase "Jewish Commonwealth" but I am not prepared to say that it is not a useful instrument for us to have resolutions passed which while not mentioning the term "Jewish Commonwealth" nevertheless by calling for unrestricted Jewish immigration and land purchase and the fulfillment in letter and spirit of the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate, help materially in building up a proper "Stimmung" for our propaganda in behalf of the Jewish Commonwealth in the United States. I am not at all prepared to agree with you -- if that is your thought -- that it were better not to have had at all a resolution such as was included in the Republican Party Platform, which is as warm and whole-hearted a Zionist resolution as was ever passed by a major political body representing some twenty-five millions of our citizens. I am only hoping that the Democratic Party will include a plank at least as good as the Republican plank.

As far as the retirement of MacMichael is concerned, and the need of our going to London, this matter will be fully discussed at the forthcoming meeting of the Council next Monday.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

July 21, 1944

The Honorable John W. McCormack
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

My dear Congressman McCormack:

From my friends in Chicago, I learned of the eager and generous support which you gave to the Palestine plank which was introduced in the Democratic Party Platform. I know that as chairman of the Resolutions Committee, your voice carried especial influence. I have, of course, known right along of your great and helpful interest in our cause and that at decisive moments you lent your full support to it. I am writing to you to tell you how profoundly grateful we are for the full measure of support which you have given the movement to build a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine. In the name of the American Zionist Emergency Council and the American Jewish Conference, whose Palestine Commission I have the honor to represent, and personally, I send you this note of profound appreciation and gratitude.

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

July 22, 1944

Dr. Abraham Margulis
33 West 42nd Street
New York 18, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Margulis:

From our mutual friend, Mr. Louis Segal, I learned that you graciously inscribed my name in the Golden Book in appreciation of my participation in the program of the Third Seder of the Histadrut. I need not tell you that I greatly appreciate your very gracious and complimentary act. I shall keep the Golden Book Certificate among my treasured souvenirs.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK



SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA
JUDGES' CHAMBERS.

GEORGE W. MAXEY, CHIEF JUSTICE
JAMES B. DREW, JUSTICE
WILLIAM B. LINN, JUSTICE
HORACE STERN, JUSTICE
MARION D. PATTERSON, JUSTICE
ALLEN M. STEARNE, JUSTICE
HOWARD W. HUGHES, JUSTICE

Scranton, Pa.
August 21, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Silver:

I have your letter of August 14th, expressing your appreciation of my acceptance of the Chairmanship of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Palestine Committee.

No person in the United States has been more shocked by the crimes committed by Hitler and the Nazis against the Jews, Poles, Greeks and Czech-Slovaks and other peoples made subject to his wicked will than I have been. Long before this World War began I advocated both in my writings and in my public addresses both the preparedness and the will on the part of the United States to stay Hitler's hand. The enclosures show how I felt about the world situation in 1939 and 1940. I made similar statements even before 1939. Please return these enclosures to me promptly.

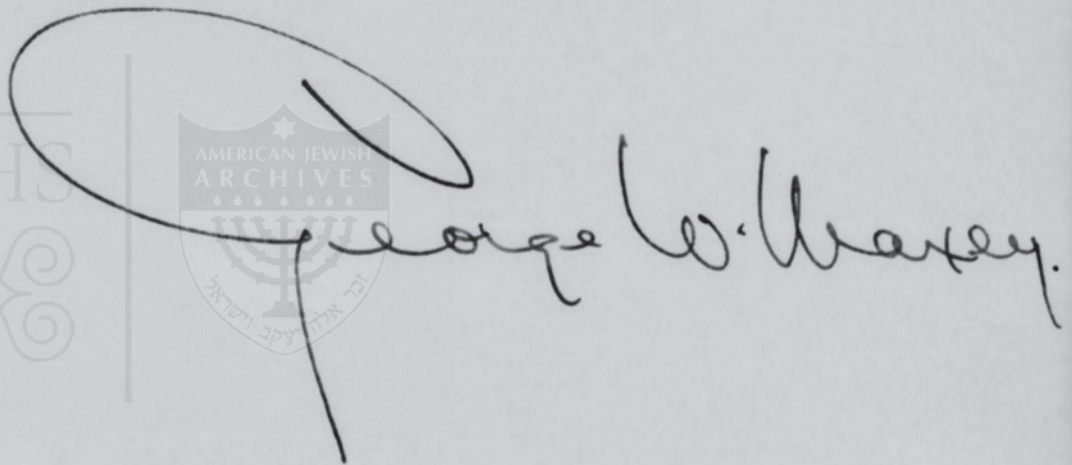
As a young man I read of the barbarities of Genghis Khan and Tamerlane, but I never believed that in the Twentieth Century which we expected to be one of great enlightenment and humanitarianism that atrocities of these medieval conquerors would be equalled or surpassed by the rules of Germany and by the German people who give such scoundrels their support. I have never been given to vindictiveness, but I hope that when this war is over at least 100,000 of the Nazis, including particularly Hitler, Himmler and the Gestapo will be hanged. Such punishment will be totally inadequate for the crimes they have committed, but it is about the best we can do within the limits of civilized usages. Of course, this punishment will not bring back to life the millions of men, women and children who have been murdered by this madman Hitler and those who help him formulate and carry out his sadistic plans.

The establishment of a Jewish National Home in Palestine has brought and will bring some relief to tens of thousands of Jews who have been driven from their homelands. I will count myself fortunate if I will be able to contribute in any way to the relief of the brutally persecuted European Jews.

I have pleasant recollections of hearing you speak in Scranton several years ago.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

George W. Haxey.

WRHS
AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES
זכר אברהם יצחק ושרה

INDEPENDENT
JEWISH PRESS SERVICE, Inc.

207 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY
Telephone ORchard 4-1340

August 24, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

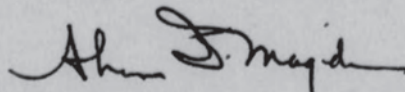
Dear Dr. Silver:

Will it be possible for you to attend an urgent meeting in behalf of the Independent Jewish Press Service on Monday, August 28, 1944, at 12:30 P. M.? The meeting is to be held in Room 707, at 41 East 42 Street.

In order to conserve time for all, a light luncheon will be served during the meeting.

Please let me know by mail or phone (MU 2-4917) whether we may expect you, so that adequate preparations may be made.

Respectfully yours,



Abram S. Magida
Secretary
Committee of Sponsors

ASM:LF

August 25, 1944

Mr. Abram S. Magida
Independent Jewish Press Service, Inc.
207 Fourth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Magida:

I regret that I will not be able
to attend the meeting of the Independent
Jewish Press Service on Monday, August 28.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

August 31, 1944

The Honorable Chief Justice George W. Maxey
Scranton, Pa.

My dear Chief Justice Maxey:

Thank you so much for your
thoughtfulness in sending me a copy of the
article which you wrote and which was
published in the New York Herald Tribune
of October 29, 1939. I read it with keenest
interest. In so many of its passages it is
almost prophetic.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK
Enc.

C
O
P
Y

AHS.

2315 Massachusetts Avenue, Northwest
Washington 8, D. C.

September 4, 1944

Mrs. David M. Sola Pool,
President, Hadassah,
1819 Broadway,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Madam:

I am compelled to draw your attention to a very painful and disgusting matter. Some leaders of Jewish (mainly Zionist) organizations have descended, in their hatred of our ideologies and activities, to the depth of trying to influence governmental officials in this country to take steps of persecution against us, and especially against our chairman, Mr. Peter H. Bergson. The repercussions of this disgraceful act on the part of Zionist bureaucrats are being felt in every endeavor we make on behalf of our martyred people.

I am not talking about the general shameless acts of sabotage in a quasi-ideological or political or tactical field; as, for instance, the endeavors by Rabbi Wise and his associates to kill the rescue resolution in Congress, or his communications to such high-standing officials in the Government as the Honorable Harold L. Ickes, asking them to withdraw their support of the cause of Jewish rescue and casting doubt on our personal honesty and management of finances.

Of these obnoxious acts of Rabbi Wise and other Zionists we have ample proof. (Mr. Bergson has called Rabbi Wise before the Rabbinical Tribunal of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis to answer these charges but, in spite of having been summoned twice Rabbi Wise failed to appear.)

However, I am not referring to this kind of sabotage but to the more direct and nastier kind which constituted one of the most sinister phenomenon in Jewish dispersion - the acts of personal, hidden "mesirah" against individuals. For such steps of "mesirah" there is never complete evidence to substantiate. Their very character consists in being secret, back door and oral. But I am ready to swear, under any oath, that this "mesirah" campaign is a permanent and integral part of Zionist activities in this country.

In order to illustrate my statement, pregnant with such weird implications, it is enough to inform you that against Mr. Bergson all kinds of administrative steps have been taken, such as an effort to deport him from this country. And it is only due to our very influential connections and the sense of justice of the governmental department which dealt with the case that the deportation orders were withdrawn. (Several accounts of the deportation proceedings appeared in the Metropolitan press as well as in the Washington papers, and upon request we shall be glad to send you clippings.)

Although the proceedings of deportation against Mr. Bergson were on the basis that he is a foreigner with no status of permanent residence in the United States, the Selective Service is unprecedentedly zealous to induct him on the basis that he is not a foreigner visiting this country on a mission for a foreign people, but is a permanent resident and, to boot, in spite of the fact that he is thirty-four years old (you certainly know that practically no men over twenty-eight have been inducted for the past six months) and that he is suffering from ulcers, a fact to which five of the most prominent specialist physicians in this field have officially testified.

All this ugly work is being done by Godless Zionist Rabbis and bureaucrats with the hope that if Bergson is eliminated, the whole campaign of rescue of the remnants of our people and the restoration of the Hebrew Nation to dignity and political status will reach a dead end and subside.

I am writing to you about this situation not only to tell you that the Zionists will achieve none of these intentions; that though Mr. Bergson is the leading and pivotal figure of our activities, his temporary elimination from our ranks will not stop our fight but will add to it impetus and enthusiasm if indeed more impetus and enthusiasm can be added.

We are accustomed to having key men of our movement pulled out by force from our ranks. In all the lands of Europe where we have struggled, as well as in Palestine, it was never the cause for failings or even weakening. But I am writing you all this in order to draw your attention to a shameful and dangerous matter of partisan conflict which was practiced by Zionist bureaucrats over there and was not one of the least of the causes which brought about the disaster which has befallen our people. We had hoped that in this country this tradition of "mesirah" was done with.

Since it has been inaugurated also in this country, the detrimental effects upon the general endeavor of every organization, group and trend on behalf of our people will be so great that one cannot foresee the inner decay and outer demoralization. One knows where such obnoxious activities begin but one can never tell where they will end and who they will affect. It is enough to tell you that already the daily parading before government officials of Jewish "mosrim" is the most pathetic sight, which irritates to the utmost even the best friends the Jews have in government circles.

Before these activities on behalf of the Zionist demagogues began, there was definitely a greater respect for everyone who was a representative of a certain point of view and activities on behalf of the Jews. There was, if not an official diplomatic status, at least a certain practical respect for such individuals and groups dealing with Jewish interests.

I am telling you that because of Zionist activities this attitude has deteriorated, and I want to stress most emphatically that I cast no doubt upon the honesty and integrity of any governmental agency or upon the Selective Service, for I am sure that were any one of us in their place and all sorts of Jewish leaders were to come to us, steadily and persistently, to draw attention to the fact that a certain man was dangerous, dishonest, anti-American, Anti-United Nations, we would probably take their word for it. If we still have great friends in the American Government, both in

the Executive and Legislative branches, it is because of the high degree of integrity, ability, understanding and statesmanship of these officials.

In concluding, I should like to remind you that for the four years we have been active in this country, never once have we succumbed to the temptation to resort to polemics and never in all our propaganda, publicity and educational campaigns have we taken the opportunity to answer with one word any of these attacks. This fact, however, should not be understood as an indication that we never will take up the challenge. I beg to assure you that if nothing is undertaken by influential men like yourself to prevent the continuance, at this late hour, of this obnoxious Zionist trend of activities and an end is not put to this "Chilul Hashem", we will have no choice but to expose to the public at large the whole character of the reactionary, ruthless and disgraceful machinery of Zionist bureaucrats.

Being informed of this situation, you will know where and with whom the responsibility lies. I leave the rest to your own imagination and appraisal.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) S. Merlin



SPONSORS

(Partial List)

Louis Adamic
 Tallulah Bankhead
 Cong. George Bender
 Elmer Benson
 Judge Jane M. Bolin
 Joseph Brainin
 Rabbi Barnett R. Brickner
 Van Wyck Brooks
 Jules E. Brulatour
 Cong. Charles A. Buckley
 Prof. Millar Burrows
 Cong. Louis J. Capozzoli
 James B. Carey
 Dr. Emanuel Chapman
 Cong. Emanuel Celler
 Cong. John M. Coffee
 Norman Corwin
 Bishop Wm. R. Cruickshank
 Bishop Ralph S. Cushman
 S. H. Dalrymple
 Cong. Samuel Dickstein
 Cong. James H. Fay
 Lion Feuchtwanger
 Albert J. Fitzgerald
 Father George Ford
 Cong. Robert Grant Furlong
 James W. Gerard
 Clinton S. Golden
 Patrick E. Gorman
 Cong. P. W. Griffiths
 Lillian Hellman
 Mrs. Thomas N. Hepburn
 Bishop Ivan Lee Holt
 Fannie Hurst
 Harold L. Ickes
 Stanley M. Isaacs
 Prof. Howard Mumford Jones
 Dr. Lewis Webster Jones
 Albert E. Kahn
 Cong. Arthur G. Klein
 Serge Koussevitzky
 John A. Lapp
 Kenneth Leslie
 Fritz Mahler
 Thomas Mann
 Cong. Vito Marcantonio
 Frank X. Martel
 Major Raymond Massey
 Philip Murray
 Morris Master
 Bishop G. Ashton Oldham
 Judge Ferdinand Pecora
 Dr. W. W. Peters
 Cong. Philip J. Philbin
 Arthur Upham Pope
 Rev. A. Clayton Powell, Jr.
 Edward G. Robinson
 Cong. George G. Sadowski

NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO COMBAT ANTI-SEMITISM
 535 Fifth Avenue New York 17, N. Y.
 Murray Hill 2-1873

September 5, 1944

Leonard E. Golditch
 Executive Secretary

EMIL TAS
 Treasurer

Dear Friend:

Our Committee, in furtherance of the fight against anti-Semitism in this country and the passage of a Federal bill outlawing anti-Semitism, has undertaken the publication of a bi-weekly newsletter - "Counterattack". Here is the first issue.

Our Committee is non-sectarian, consisting of members from all sections of the country and from all strata of life. We are concerned with the elimination of anti-Semitism from the American scene, understanding that it represents a threat not only to the Jewish people but to all Americans and is, therefore, the problem of all Americans.

We believe "Counterattack" will be indispensable to all civic and public leaders, Christian and Jew alike. It will carry vital and necessary information in the fight against anti-Semitism. We are issuing "Counterattack" at cost, at the nominal charge of \$1.00 a subscription for a year.

We shall welcome your support and we shall be pleased to send subscriptions or sample copies to those persons whom you may designate and who you feel are interested or should be interested in this fight.

It is impossible for Americans to do too much in the fight against anti-Semitism. The danger is that we are not doing enough. We look forward to hearing from you with any suggestions or recommendations with regard to "Counterattack".

Sincerely yours,

(Signed)

ec/hb

Dr. Emmanuel Chapman
 Dr. Emmanuel Chapman
 Chairman, Executive Board

Cong. Thomas E. Scanlon
 Lisa Sergio
 Wm. J. Shieffelin
 Johannes Steel
 Emile Tas
 R. J. Thomas

Carl Van Doren
 Pierre Van Paassen
 Rev. Donald W. Richardson
 Father Paul Ward
 Dr. Mary E. Wooley
 Max Zaritsky

John W. McCormack
12th Dist. Massachusetts

Eugene T. Kinnaly
Secretary

OFFICE OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

House of Representatives U.S.

Washington, D. C.

September 14, 1944

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, 17, N.Y.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I am in receipt of your letter of September 8th signed by you and Rabbi Wise, the contents of which I have read with interest.

My desire is to, in anyway I possibly can, help the unfortunate people of conquered Europe who are being subjected to the most vicious persecution in the history of mankind. This particularly applies to people of Jewish blood in their unfortunate and heartrending plight. I thoroughly agree with you and Dr. Wise in the paramount importance of the establishment of a free and democratic community in Palestine. However, if I can help along any other lines of even a lesser nature that will aid these persecuted persons I am only too glad to do so.

My first interest is the Resolution placing Congress on record as favoring the immediate establishment of the free and democratic community of Palestine; my second interest is to try to get the persecuted Jews of Hungary and Rumania and any place else to a haven of safety; my third interest is a Resolution which you referred to in your letter and which you and Dr. Wise feel is not desirable, or any other Resolution that will help these human beings.

I have repeatedly stated, and I stand on this ground, that the plight of these people, particularly the Jews of Europe is a challenge to decent mankind.

With kind personal regards to you and Dr. Wise,
I am

Sincerely yours

John W. McCormack

AMERICAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE
41 EAST 42nd STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

MEMORANDUM

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver ✓
To Dr. Stephen S. Wise
Messrs. Arthur Lourie, Harry L. Shapiro
and Herman Shulman

Date September 21, 1944

From A. S. Magida

Herewith is copy of a letter received from George L. Warren, Adviser on Refugees and Displaced Persons, Department of State, Washington, D. C., dated September 16th, 1944, addressed to the American Palestine Committee in response to the telegram sent by this Committee to the Hon. Franklin Delano Roosevelt on August 18th, 1944, copy of which is also attached.

ASM:IM
encls



National Conference for Palestine

SPONSORED BY THE UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

41 EAST 42nd STREET

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

NOVEMBER 18-19, 1944
Hotel Stevens, Chicago, Ill.

September 29, 1944

NATIONAL OFFICERS

Honorary Chairmen

ALBERT EINSTEIN
SOLOMON GOLDMAN
HENRY MONSKY
NATHAN STRAUS
HENRIETTA SZOLD

National Chairman

JAMES G. HELLER

National Co-Chairmen

STEPHEN S. WISE
*Chairman,
Administrative Committee*
LOUIS LIPSKY
*Chairman,
Executive Committee*
MRS. MOSES P. EPSTEIN
LEON GELLMAN
ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN
EDMUND I. KAUFMANN
LOUIS E. LEVINTHAL
BERNARD A. ROSENBLATT
MORRIS ROTHENBERG
ABBA HILLEL SILVER
ROBERT SZOLD
DAVID WERTHEIM

Treasurer

CHARLES J. ROSENBLOOM

Associate Treasurers

ABRAHAM GOODMAN
ABRAHAM L. LIEBOVITZ
JACOB SINCOFF

Chairman, National Council

RUDOLF G. SONNEBORN

Vice-Chairmen

BARNETT R. BRICKNER
JOSEPH H. LOOKSTEIN
IRVING MILLER
HARRY A. PINE
CHARLES RESS
BERNARD G. RUDOLPH
LOUIS SEGAL
ELIHU D. STONE
JOE WEINGARTEN
HERMAN L. WEISMAN

Executive Director

HENRY MONTOR

Dear Dr. Silver:

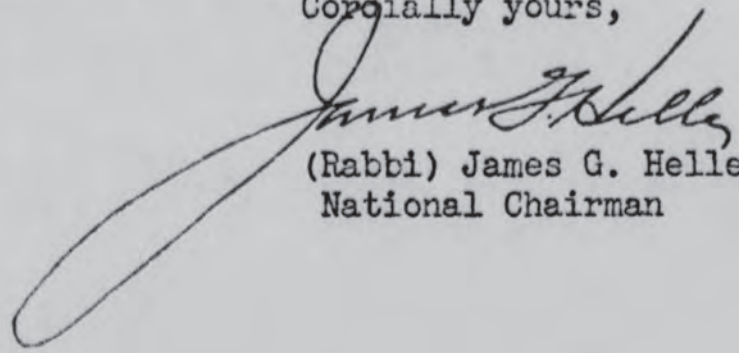
The officers of the United Palestine Appeal earnestly invite you to attend the National Conference for Palestine to be held on November 18 and 19, 1944 at the Hotel Stevens, Chicago, Illinois. As one who has played a large part in providing the resources which have enabled Palestine Jewry to make so notable a contribution to Jewish life in war-time, you will also wish to share in the consideration of the problems that face us on the threshold of peace.

The National Conference for Palestine will bring together leaders of Jewish communities who face the task in the coming year of interpreting the world Jewish scene in relation to their local programs. In this time of transition, new horizons are opening up -- that promise liberation for the Jews who have survived and that point to an unprecedented enlargement of the upbuilding program in Palestine, so that it may promptly begin to receive the masses of Jews who, for long and tragic years, have yearned for its security and freedom.

The National Conference for Palestine will discuss momentous questions affecting the destiny of our people. It is essential that its deliberations have the benefit of the participation of those who, like yourself, carry the burdens of translating resolutions and plans into concrete action. The program of the Conference includes many distinguished personalities. The agenda is also being fashioned with a view of securing a maximum degree of discussion by communal leaders of the issues which they deem most relevant.

We shall be greatly encouraged to know that we may count upon your presence at the Chicago Conference. Please use the convenient enclosed card to notify us of your acceptance of this invitation so that we may plan accordingly.

Cordially yours,


(Rabbi) James G. Heller
National Chairman

JGH:MRB
Enc.



Stenotype

Verbatim Reporting:
Conventions
Conferences
Hearings
Depositions

ROSE MARK ❖ Reporting Service

400 EAST 52nd STREET
NEW YORK CITY

PLaza 3-8717

Oct. 19, 1944

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
Ansel Road Temple,
105th & Ansel Road, Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

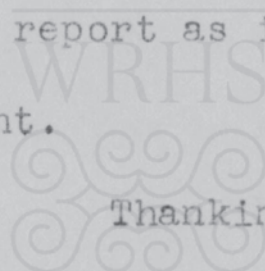
I am sending you herewith the original transcript of your report to the convention, on the work of the Emergency Council; I am also sending you a clean carbon of the report as it was presented to the convention on Sunday night.

Thanking you for the use of the manuscript,

I am

Cordially yours,

Rose Mark



October 20, 1944

The Honorable Henry Morgenthau, Jr.
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Morgenthau:

There is a matter of considerable moment on which I would like to have your judgment and I am wondering whether you would be free to see me sometime on Wednesday, October 25. I am scheduled to be in New York on Tuesday and I would come on to Washington before returning to Cleveland. If you are not free to see me on Wednesday, would you suggest some other time?

I recall with pleasure our last meeting. With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

C
O
P
Y

October 26, 1944

The Honorable Henry Morgenthau, Jr.
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Morgenthau:

Following up our conversation of yesterday, I am enclosing herewith a clipping from The Cleveland Press which appeared ten days ago. This correctly represents my position. Everything else that you have heard is mischievous gossip. I was surprised when you told me how widespread was the impression in Administration circles that I was actively campaigning for Governor Dewey and against the President. Some enemy of mine must have been deliberately spreading this falsehood in order to make my work more difficult.

I came to you because of my high admiration for you and because I regard you, as I have so frequently stated in public, as the finest Jew in Washington. I wanted you to know the facts, and perhaps through you, help to correct the false impression which has been spread.

My position in this campaign is a very simple one, and I have stated it publicly time and again, as recently as last week at the convention of the Zionist Organization of America in Atlantic City. As Executive Chairman of the American Zionist Emergency Council, I cannot publicly take sides in a political campaign without endangering the position of neutrality which our Movement must maintain with reference to the American political scene. Our cause has powerful friends in both political parties. We have succeeded in getting a friendly hearing from both parties because of the absolute non-partisan character of our Movement. I have publicly praised the support which both parties gave our congressional resolutions. I hailed both parties for the planks which they introduced in their platforms. I praised Governor Dewey for the statement which he issued on the Jewish Commonwealth, and I released to the press a most warm message of thanks which I telegraphed to the President on the occasion of his historic pronouncement on October 15th. I obtained the statement of Governor Dewey on October 12th. Dr. Wise and I wrote to the President on September 26th asking for an interview. The interview was granted on October 11th, and to Dr. Wise alone — a blunder or worse, I believe, on the part of someone.

I have been scrupulously impartial. I have not in any way identified myself with the campaign activities of the Republican Party. The leaders of the Republican Party understand my position fully, and I am wondering why the leaders of the Democratic Party fail to understand it. The American Zionist Emergency Council fully approves of this non-partisan line which I have pursued right through the year, ever since I took over the chairmanship, and is severely critical of the action of Zionist leaders who seek to give the impression that the Zionist Movement is somehow identified with one political party in the United States or another.

You and I may differ as to whether such an attitude of neutrality on the part of a movement which embraces both Republicans and Democrats is justified in the present political campaign, but surely you will agree with me that if one feels morally obligated to take a position of neutrality, his action should not be misinterpreted as being violently partisan. Four years ago, when I was not the responsible head of the political activities of the Zionist Movement, of America, I felt free to endorse the candidacy of Mr. Willkie, just as eight years ago, and again twelve years ago I endorsed and advocated the election and re-election of President Roosevelt. Today I feel under the moral restraint not to exploit the responsible position which I occupy to take sides publicly in an election campaign. Perhaps after the strain and tension of these election days are over the soundness and wisdom of this position will be vindicated.

In any case, please be assured of my highest esteem for you, and when you have an opportunity, tell those people who bring you the choice morsels of gossip such as "Dr. Silver wants to be the leader of the Republican Jews of America" that they are talking "shtuss" and arrant nonsense.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

(Signed) Abba Hillel Silver

AHS:BK
Enc.

MEMORANDUM.

The Jewish Deportees in Mauritius.

A. Background.

In November, 1940, several groups of Jewish refugees fleeing in desperation from Hitler Europe, arrived after a harrowing journey through the Mediterranean in Haifa harbor. The Palestine Government announced that it would deport all these refugees forthwith to the island of Mauritius -- a small tropical island in the Indian Ocean, off the east coast of Madagascar. Many of these refugees had already been transferred to the S.S. Patria for deportation when an explosion occurred on board the ship, which sank in Haifa harbor. 257 of the refugees were drowned. Nearly 1,600 others who had not been transferred to the Patria were landed in Palestine and placed in a detention camp near Haifa.

Despite the Patria disaster, the Administration persisted in its determination to deport these Jews whose crime had been to seek safety from persecution and death by entering the Jewish National Home. Early in December the detention camp was surrounded by the police and amid scenes of brutal violence the refugees were carried, beaten and driven into large army lorries, placed on board ship and deported to Mauritius. There they arrived on Christmas Day, 1940. There they have remained ever since.

B. On the Island.

In Mauritius the men were placed in an old stone prison, the cells of which became their home. The women were separated from the men and huts or barracks of corrugated iron were built to receive them. As soon as they arrived an epidemic of typhus broke out and raged for two months. No sooner was this epidemic checked than malaria began to take a heavy toll. The island is infected with other tropical diseases. The climate, particularly in the lowlands where the camp is located, is extremely hot and moist. There is a great scarcity of fresh foods, in particular of fresh vegetables. Avitaminosis and gastro-intestinal diseases are general. Four years of enforced idleness in these conditions has tended to break the spirit and ruin the health of large numbers of the internees. The local administration has sought in some measure to relieve their plight, but the circumstances are such that they have been able to do little. The people are literally rotting away. The population of the camp totalled originally 1,579, comprising 640 Austrians, 294 Czechs, 172 Poles, 151 Danzigers, 84 Germans, and the rest Stateless. Of these by June, 1944, 93 had died.

All efforts to obtain the release of the refugees, many of whom have relatives in Palestine, the United States and elsewhere, have failed. An exception is that of some 90 Czechs and Poles who were allowed to volunteer for the Allied armies. Representations have been made at different times to the British authorities in London, Palestine and Washington and also to the State Department, with a view to revising what is in fact a brutal sentence imposed on innocent people, guilty of nothing save the attempt to avoid death and torture by joining their own people in the home internationally guaranteed them. The time for their release and restoration to a normal existence is long overdue.



AL:CK
10/27/44



THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

October 31, 1944

Personal

My dear Dr. Silver:

I appreciate your taking the trouble to write me a letter on October 26th. I am more than willing to abide by your judgment as to what you should do as the head of the Zionist Emergency Council in connection with the coming election, and I can assure you that how you vote will not influence either the President or myself in the slightest in our attitude towards the organization which you head.

I have always held you in the highest esteem and admire the great work that you are doing. I was honored that you felt free to come in and talk over your personal problem with me, and when the occasion arises, I will inform the President of our conversation.

Again may I assure you that I am available at all times to be of assistance, and I hope that you will continue to drop in to see me whenever the occasion arises.

Yours sincerely,

W. M. Anthony

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,
American Zionist Emergency Council,
East 105th Street at Ansel Road,
Cleveland, Ohio.



C
O
P
Y

OFFICE OF THE MAJORITY LEADER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES U.S.
WASHINGTON, D.C.

John W. McCormack
12th Dist. Mass.

November 1, 1944

Ralph F. Bass, Esq.
23 Hilton St.
Boston 18, Mass.

Dear Mr. Bass:

I have received the book you sent me, which thoughtful action on your part I value very much. You are well aware of my deep interest in the question of Palestine. I was responsible for the real plank in the Democratic Platform.

I shall read and study the book with deep interest.

Sincerely yours,

John W. McCormack

ss
11/6-44



TREASURY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

November 4, 1944

My dear Dr. Silver:

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your personal letter to Secretary Morgenthau, dated November 2. The Secretary will be absent from Washington for several days, but your letter will be brought to his attention upon his return.

Yours sincerely,

N. M. Chauncey.

N. M. Chauncey
Office of the Secretary

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,
American Zionist Emergency Council,
The Temple,
East 105th Street at Ansel Road,
Cleveland, Ohio.



American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, Women's Zionist Organization of America
Mizrachi Organization of America
Poale Zion-Zeire Zion of America
Zionist Organization of America

342 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.
Murray Hill 2-1160

November 15, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

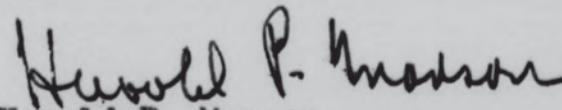
It seems that The New Zionist Organization has been taking lessons in tactics from the Revisionists' own "Peck's bad boy," as the enclosed letter will indicate. This appeal for funds is being given wide circulation and is an obvious attempt to win members and donations by claiming credit for the accomplishments of the American Zionist Emergency Council.

Please let us know whether you want us to take any action on this matter.

I am also enclosing the text of the statement which Ira Hirschmann authorized us to release to the Yiddish and Anglo-Jewish press. We decided against issuing a formal release because of past experiences along these lines; others who have issued statements condemning the Bergson group have been known to back down under pressure from the boys, with the plea that their statement was misinterpreted, (Alfange is the best example). We therefore decided to release Hirschmann's statement to the Yiddish press and the Anglo-Jewish wire services only.

With kindest regards, I am

Cordially yours,


Harold P. Manson
Director of Information

HPM:BP
Encs.

National Conference for Palestine

SPONSORED BY THE UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL



JAMES G. McDONALD

*Former League of Nations High Commissioner
for Refugees.*

*Chairman, President's Advisory Committee on
Political Refugees.*



DR. STEPHEN S. WISE

*Chairman, Administrative Committee
United Palestine Appeal*

Saturday Evening, Nov. 18, at 8:30 P.M.

All Day Sunday, Nov. 19, 1944

**Hotel Stevens
Chicago, Illinois**

A NEW ERA IN THE HISTORY OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE BEGINS



THE YEAR 1944 is the threshold of a new epoch in Jewish history. What will emerge from the carnage and the sorrow of a dozen years of agony will be determined by the governments of the world—and by the Jewish people themselves, in so far as their own destiny is concerned.

The National Conference for Palestine, a platform for all American Jews who have shared in the constructive development of the Jewish National Home in Palestine through the United Palestine Appeal, should bring inspiration and satisfaction for deeds already registered. It will be even more important for the blue-print it will draw of the great tasks still to be assumed by the responsible leaders of American Jewry.

Dr. Nahum Goldmann

Member of the Executive of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, who flew to Palestine and back and who brings to American Jewry an up-to-the-minute account of Palestine Jewry's achievements and hopes.

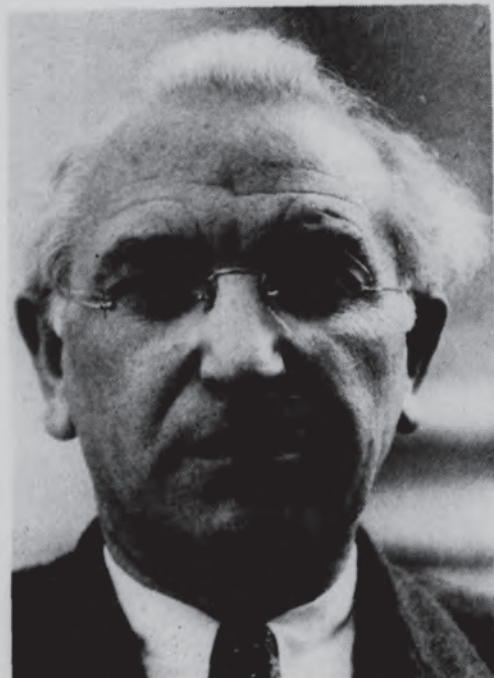
Dr. James G. Heller

*National Chairman, United Palestine Appeal
National Chairman, United Jewish Appeal*

Under his leadership record sums for the upbuilding of the Jewish National Home in Palestine are being raised. He will not only bring to the Conference a record of stewardship but chronicle the spirit of American Jewry in these days as he has felt it in his visits throughout the nation.



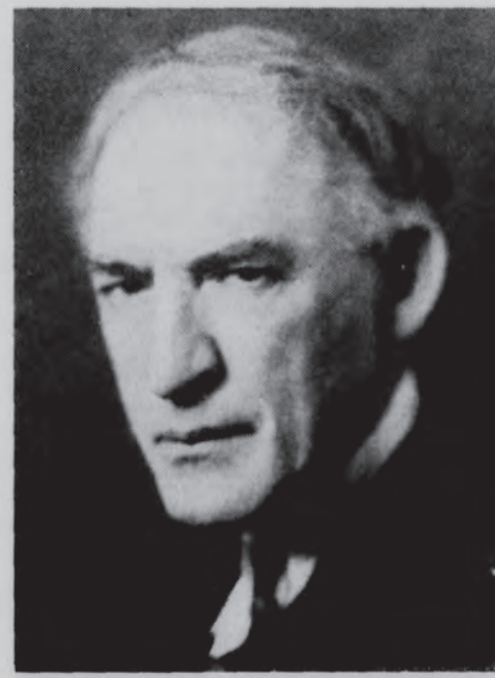
Among Other Participants in the National Conference at Chicago



SOLOMON GOLDMAN



ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN



LOUIS LIPSKY



BERNARD A. ROSENBLATT



MORRIS ROTHENBERG



ABBA HILLEL SILVER

Among Other Conference Participants



HENRY MONSKY



CHARLES J. ROSENBLOOM



RUDOLF G. SONNEBORN



Send reservations for
NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR PALESTINE
TO
UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL
220 SOUTH STATE STREET
CHICAGO 4, ILLINOIS

Mendelsohn

EXCLUSIVE TO THE J.T.A.

PRESS STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 15, 1944.

The responsibility for the shelving of the Palestine resolution by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee must be laid not only to the opposition of the State Department, but also to the ineffective and vacillating manner in which the Zionist Organization in this country has conducted the action on its behalf.

While Dr. Silver made a valiant effort to secure the passage of that resolution, strong elements in the Zionist leadership opposed and sabotaged the move from the very beginning, and others served as messengers of the State Department and the President to Zionist circles rather than as emissaries of the Zionist movement to the State Department and the President.

We charge that this lack of determination and indecision, as well as the contradictory and confusing attitudes expressed by the various Zionist representatives, led to the defeat of the resolution in the Senate Committee when it was of the essence that this body adopt a strong and determined stand against the pressure of the State Department.

In an endeavor to create a semblance of Jewish unity and in the hope that the Zionists would this time overcome their political inertia and defeatism, we have given our moral support to their undertakings on behalf of the resolution and refrained from any interference. Our good intentions, however, were misdirected. Divided as they are between the Weizmann adherents of a do-nothing policy and the supporters of Dr. Silver, the Zionists do not possess the

II

basic prerequisites for successful political action.

Realizing that the political campaign for Zionism in this country must be strengthened and intensified, we declare that the New Zionist Organization will embark upon a campaign stronger than ever before to move the American people and government to take active measures on behalf of a Jewish Palestine.

Col. Morris J. Mendelsohn
President



JACOB MAY, PRESIDENT

NEW YORK OFFICE
ROOM 2606
EMPIRE STATE BLDG.



ESTABLISHED 1889

CABLE ADDRESS
"MAYKNIT" NASHVILLE
CODES USED
A. B. C. 5TH AND 6TH EDITION

GENERAL OFFICES
436 HOUSTON STREET
Nashville 10, Tenn.

Dec. 18, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

While about two weeks have passed since your address was delivered to the American Jewish Conference, I felt that it was still not too late to write you about it because of the very profound impression it made upon me and, I am sure, all those who were fortunate enough to be present. It gave us a picture of our people and particularly our relation to Palestine which was so effectively done that I am confident that those who heard it will always remember it.

The splendid work that you have done throughout the year puts us in your eternal debt and I am convinced that this is generally recognized by American Jewry.

Wishing you every continued success, I am

Sincerely yours,

Mortimer May:IM

December 26, 1944

Mr. Mortimer May
May Hosiery Mills
436 Houston Street
Nashville 10, Tenn.

My dear Friend:

Thank you so much for your kind note of December 18. I deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness in writing to me. I am sorry that I did not have a chance to see you in Pittsburgh and to talk to you. There are so many things that I should like to talk over with you, especially the more recent developments in the American Zionist Emergency Council. Should you have an opportunity someday on your way East to go through Cleveland, I would appreciate it if you would stop over for a few hours so that we can have a long chat together.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

McDonald

JAMES G. McDONALD

22 East 38th Street

New York 16, N. Y.

MUrray Hill 5-5740

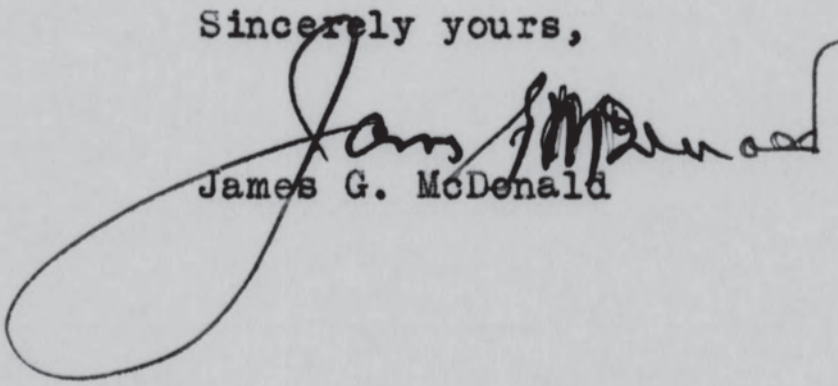
December 28, 1944

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street and Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

When you are next in New York, I should be grateful if I might get your advice on an idea which I have had in mind for some time. If it could be made operative, I think it would serve an educational purpose in the field of your special interest.

Sincerely yours,


James G. McDonald

CLASS OF SERVICE

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

WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter
NL = Night Letter
LC = Deferred Cable
NLT = Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

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

NB 288 NL PD=WUX NEWYORK NY 30
RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER=
EUCLID AVE TEMPLE CLEVE=

DUPLICATE OF TELEPHONED TELEGRAM

AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

STATEMENT IN SUNDAY JEWISH MORNING JOURNAL BY DR. GOLDSTEIN
MAKES IT IMPERATIVE YOU GIVE FULL EXPLANATION YOUR SIDE.
WOULD SUGGEST YOU ENTRUST ME WITH YOUR LENGTHY STATEMENT TO
EMERGENCY COMMITTEE SO THAT I MAY USE IT AS MATERIAL FOR
SERIES OF ARTICLES. NOT NECESSARILY IN YOUR NAME UNLESS
YOU SO DESIRE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO KNOW, IF ONLY FOR PRIVATE
USE. YOUR FUTURE PLANS. WOULD LIKE TO SEE YOU PERSONALLY
WHEN YOU ARE IN NEWYORK=

D L MECKLER EDITOR JEWISH MORNING JOURNAL.

1BQ288

January 5, 1945

Mr. James G. McDonald
22 E. 38th St.
New York 16, N.Y.

My dear Mr. McDonald:

Thank you for your note of December 28. On my next visit to New York I shall be very happy to get in touch with you.

I trust that you are well. With all good wishes for the new year, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

January 8, 1945

My dear Dr. Silver:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter of January 5th.

All of your letters are brought to my attention, but unfortunately the day isn't long enough to do everything I would like to do. The next time you come to Washington, I wish you would come in to see me, and we will try to clear up any questions you may have in your mind.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,
American Zionist Emergency Council,
East 105th Street at Ansel Road,
Cleveland, Ohio.



January 15, 1945

Rabbi S. Newberger, President
Oil City Zionist District
Oil City, Pa.

My dear Rabbi Newberger:

I received your telegram informing me of the resolutions which were adopted by the Oil City, Pa. Zionist District on January 11. May I tell you how profoundly grateful I am for these resolutions and for your thoughtfulness in conveying them to me. It has been most heartening to receive many expressions of confidence and support from so many parts of the country. Particularly gratifying has been the reaction in the Jewish press, which has truly grasped and appraised the issues involved in the controversy.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

list

January 26, 1945

Mr. Samuel Neusner, Publisher
The Jewish Ledger
50 Trumbull St.
Hartford, Conn.

My dear Friend:

Thank you so much for your kind letter, and please pardon the long delay in replying to it. I have been away from the city most of the time, some of it spent in New England -- in Boston and in Providence.

I have enjoyed reading the Jewish Ledger, and I have been heartened by the position which you have taken in relation to the present controversy. The reaction of the Anglo-Jewish press generally, and especially the Yiddish press, has been most gratifying. The communications which have come to me from all parts of the country, from Zionist districts, and from individuals have made me feel proud of the moral integrity of our movement.

I would very much like to come to Hartford for a meeting. Perhaps later on in the year, I might. For the time being, I am heavily booked up with work here and with out-of-town commitments which I made a long time ago.

We are laying the groundwork to see that our point of view is kept before the Zionists of America and that the political line which we have been pursuing, and which in my judgment, will alone yield us any measure of success, is maintained. As our program develops, I shall communicate with you and I shall be most happy to turn to you from time to time for counsel and guidance.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

February 28, 1945

Mr. Mortimer May
May Hosiery Mills
436 Houston Street
Nashville 10, Tenn.

My dear Friend:

Mr. Emanuel Neumann was kind enough to let me see the enclosed address which you delivered at the Southeastern Regional Conference last Fall. I read it with keen pleasure. The report of the progress of our work under your leadership in your Region is most gratifying, and your grasp of the fundamentals of our movement and your devotion to them are fully in keeping with what I have always associated with you.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

March 8, 1945

Rabbi Irving Miller
701 Bolton Road
Far Rockaway, L.I.

My dear Irving:

I was very much interested in the statement of Ibn Saud. I wonder whether I can obtain an exact transcript?

I am enclosing herewith a copy of the Weizmann cable to me.

I should be interested to know about your conversation with Lipsky.

With all good wishes, and looking forward to seeing you on March 21, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK
Enc.

SCANDIA FUR CORP.

Furs & Skins

259 WEST 30th STREET

NEW YORK 1, N. Y.

March 14, 1945

Dr. Hillel Silver,
Cleveland,
Ohio.

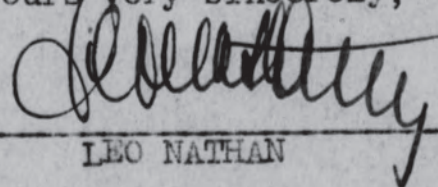
Dear Dr. Silver:

When I received your invitation to dinner for next week I was reminded of a letter I wrote you but never sent for some reason or another. However, I am now enclosing the duplicate for your perusal.

As a former executive member of the Zionist Organization of Denmark and at the time being a member of the Co-Ordinating Committee and the Danish representative on the Advisory Council of the World Jewish Congress, I still think along the same lines and hope to have the pleasure of talking things over with you personally at any time convenient to you.

Wishing you real Chasak Wechemaz, I remain

Yours very sincerely,


LEO NATHAN

LN:SD

ROSE K. MARGOSHES
2277 ANDREWS AVENUE
NEW YORK 53, N. Y.

March 17, 1945

Dear Dr. Silver:

I regret that I shall not be able to be present at your testimonial dinner, since Wednesday I have Yahrzeit after my son, when I do not go out of the house. But I do wish you to know that I am with you and for you and that you can count on me in the valiant struggle you are waging for our country.

S. Margoshes

March 26, 1945

Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr
99 Claremont Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Niebuhr:

May I tell you how deeply I appreciated your thoughtfulness and friendliness in coming to my testimonial dinner last Wednesday evening, and how deeply stirred I was by your message. The manner in which the gathering reacted to your address must have given you to understand how stirred and uplifted the people were by what you said. I wish that you had spoken much longer. You made a major contribution to an evening which will long be cherished by me.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

March 28, 1945

Mr. S. Margoshes
2277 Andrews Avenue
New York 53, N.Y.

My dear Friend:

Thank you so much for your kind note of March 17.
I am sorry that you were unable to attend the dinner meeting,
last Wednesday evening. It was an extraordinarily fine affair
and it warmed my heart.

I know that you have been with me right along and I
appreciate now as always your every ready cooperation and
good will. I trust that I may have the pleasure of seeing
you in the near future.

I send you my warmest greetings and best wishes for
a happy Passover holiday.

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

Leo Nathan

March 29th 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver.
Cleveland.

Dear Dr. Silver.

We are going ahead, that is a profetic expression in which I believe and I was therefore happy to hear your great speech last week in Madison Square Garden.

Last year during a speech you made at the dinner of the War Emergency Committee of the Fur Industry at the Pennsylv. Hotel the wellknown Max Herskowitz who was sitting to my left wrote on a piece of paper that Michael Hollander who was presiding should sign him for 500\$ more on account of your speech. How would he have reacted last week. This is only an occasion I was glad to know about.

I am writing to you to give you my deepest appreciation and have only one wish for you, allow me to be frankly, d'ont get to be a politician be what you are and may God bless you to could lead the jewish people out of exile, which is not possible with todays usually politician activities, but with one plain thought, to go a one way road to Erez Israel that you may could talk from the skopus mountain to the jewish people on earth and they will follow you, one by one because there is more idealism in our people than many believe.

I was suggesting in November to Dr. Goldmann a few concrete possibilities and these are:

1. Unity between all jewish Organisation which are concerned about Palastine through a round table confrence (Frankly and honest)
2. pledge of every individual for loyalty to Commonwealth.
3. make Hachecharahs out of Kibbuzim and free enterprise through out Erez in order to get opportunity and sound economy.
4. Financing through the greatest drive jewish history had: payable in Warbonds which will be exchanged in Commonwealth bonds on a 30 years Basis, by an organisation to be founded or Nationalfond.
5. 10 years immigration and transfer plans.

If there may be an oppotunity for action once in our history, it is now during the struggle of mankind, no Galuth politic fulfilled and of our Millenarism. Broadcast from Jerusalem to the people and there will not be an unimportant expression of an jewish army, there will be an army ready to follow for the reel way, the only way into our future.

Very sincerely yours

Leo Nathan.

April 2, 1945

Mr. Israel Mereminski
510 West 112th St.
New York 25, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Mereminski:

Please pardon the long delay in answering your kind letter. I have been away from the city a good deal of the time and the holidays have also intervened.

I, also, read the statement which appeared in the column, "Strictly Confidential." The information contained there was conveyed to me also by friends whose veracity I cannot question. The question is: is the information correct? If it is incorrect, have you publicly disclaimed it? If it is correct, have you explained in public why you opposed reference in the AFL resolution to the Palestine Resolution in Congress at a time when no official Zionist body had taken a stand against the Resolution when, in fact, all Zionist bodies throughout the country were pressing for its passage?

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

Israel Mereminski American Representative of the Histadrut
General Federation of Jewish Labor in Palestine

510 WEST 112th STREET • MONUMENT 2-5809 • NEW YORK 25, N. Y.

4.11.1945

ד"ר אבא הלל סילבר,
קליבלנד, אוהיו.

ד"ר סילבר היקר:

אני מודה לך מאד בעד מכתבך מ-2 באפריל. אני מקבל ברצון
את הנימוק לאחר בחשובתך. יודע אני כי היית במסעות, ואין
לי כל טענה אליך, חם-ושלום.

מובטחני כי תסכים אתי כי אין אני רשאי או חייב לתת איזו
שהן הודעות בעתונות או להסביר דברים בפומבי לפני
שדברים עלי לא הופיעו בפומבי בעתונות בגלוי שם. בכתבי
אליך בעניין זה ב-13 במרץ, התכוונתי קודם כל לקבל ממך
איזה שהוא דבר ברור שיאמר על אחריותך אתה, או על אחריות
בן-שם אחר. אין לי ספק כי אינך מתכוון שאני אגיב על
המאריקטלי קונפידנשיאל או ~~אולי~~ כנס לזכות עם הידידים שלך,
אשר אתה מתיחס אליהם בודאי בצדק, באמון גמור, אולם
במכתבך-הם נשארים בלי שם.

אני מבטיחך כי במשך 24 שעות לאחר שדברים יהיו מה שיהיו,
בנוגע לפעולתי אני בשם הסתדרות העובדים תפרסמו בעתון,
בשם עד-ראיה ושמיעה בלתי אמצעי, אביא את דברי על הכתב,
ואפרסמם ברבים כי זוהי הדרך היחידה להגבה צבורית במקום
שמישהו מתקיף אותך, במקום לברר אתך דברים.

בכבוד רב,

מקירד,
א. מרמינסקי
ישראל מרמינסקי.

ימ/רה

ישראל מרמינסקי נציג אמריקאי להסתדרות הכללית
של העובדים העברים בארץ ישראל

The New Zionist Organization of America

Incorporated

55 WEST 42nd STREET

NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

VLADIMIR JABOTINSKY
Founder

May 11, 1945

Colonel JOHN H. PATTERSON, D.S.O.
Honorary President

Colonel MORRIS J. MENDELSON
President

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
19810 Shaker Blvd.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Enclosed herewith you will find our booklet containing the political statements made by Senator Owen Brewster, Senator Edwin C. Johnson, William B. Ziff, Louis Bromfield, Congressman Emanuel Celler, and Colonel John Henry Patterson at the thirtieth anniversary dinner of the creation of the Jewish Legions sponsored by our organization.

Those who were present at this Dinner will remember the applause of the guests when the Toastmaster announced that these speeches would be published. And, indeed, the enclosed booklet becomes a very important political document which, we are certain, will contribute greatly to the clarification of the Zionist and Palestine situation and to the furtherance of the cause for which we fight.

This Dinner marked the beginning of a bold and concerted political campaign which our organization undertook in connection with the San Francisco conference. It was accompanied by special radio broadcasts over stations WMCA, WINS and WHN. It was followed by full page political advertisements in the New York Post of April 10th and the Washington Post of May 9th.

To bolster our position in connection with the Peace Conferences, of which San Francisco is only the first, we submitted a Declaration on Jewish aims and demands to thousands of leading Americans for their endorsement and support. Many Senators, Congressmen and other distinguished public figures have already signed this Declaration which will soon be made public.

As for the San Francisco Conference, a strong delegation of the New Zionist Organization, officially recognized and assured cooperation by the State Department, left a few days ago for San Francisco. The dangerous campaign and maneuvers by Arab representatives and the ineffective counter action by various Jewish organizations have made our presence there imperative. The head of our delegation is Professor A. S. Yahuda, an internationally acknowledged authority on Arab problems and a forceful advocate of our cause. We have cabled the heads of all Governments to support our position and some have already in-

continued

1/ Manne Schusky - letter

2/ Passport

3/ How parents should behave -
no comment as children
were down - etc.

4/ Berman - Usher looking for seat
for grandchildren

5/ Eldest 6. Cohen



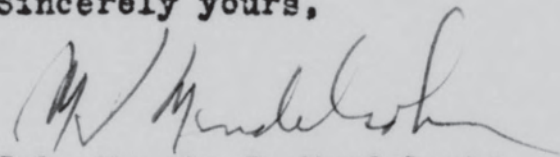
Page Two

structed their delegations accordingly. We are convinced that a clear and unyielding presentation of our demands can and will overcome Arab and anti-Zionist influences.

We are fully aware of the grave responsibilities of this mission as well as the tremendous task ahead of us. We do not fear, nor will we shirk this responsibility. We are certain that with your cooperation - and with that of all our true friends - we shall be able to carry out our plans.

We therefore ask you to extend to us your maximum support. Please send in your contribution immediately so that there will be no interruption in the vital work we are doing.

Sincerely yours,



Col. Morris J. Mendelsohn
President

MJM:RR
Enc.



ZIONIST ASSOCIATION MAURITIUS, POB 1000, MAURITIUS.

June 12th, 1944.

To the Jewish Agency,
77, Great Russell Street,
London, W. C. 1.

Dear friends,

We want to give you an account of the recent developments in our Camp:

In March and April various questions were raised in the British House of Commons, regarding the refugees in Mauritius, and the replies were evasive or very unpromising as to our future. From these answers was to be seen that the responsible quarters do not consider at all our transfer or release, holding our actual position for satisfactory and good.

Great despair and resentment arose in the Camp and it was clear that the statements of the central authorities had been based upon the official reports of the local authorities here, which, as we knew ourselves from first-hand experience, pictures the material and general situation of the camp in very rosy colours.

The first and spontaneous reaction of the Camp was that the hitherto existing "Advisory Committee" resigned as a sign of protest. Thus ended the so-called "co-operation" which had consisted in the existence of representative of the camp, entitled to give advice. This advice, however, could be taken, but needed not to be taken and the whole system was calculated to arouse the impression of autonomy outside and very often also to put the blame upon for camp-use. The advisors, however, could neither make decisions nor have a real influence upon the decisions of the authorities. This system could neither prevent the humiliating restrictions of August last, nor achieve even merely administrative improvements like better food, repair of leaking roofs etc. It must be admitted, of course, that some of the advisors tried their best and achieved even minor results, but on the whole, this system was thoroughly discredited.

Now the Camp elected a new "Executive Committee" the task of which is to work for our freedom and release, without prejudice to the activities of the Zionist Association, of course. This new Committee was not elected for administrative tasks like the former "Advisory Committee" but only for the fight for our freedom which is to be undertaken by purely legal means. The authorities tried to undermine and to weaken the position of this Committee, which however perhaps for this reason grew stronger and stronger in the Camp.

On the other hand, the Colonial Secretary and the Commandant kept negotiating with them, trying also to harness them for purely administrative matters, contrary to their mandate. The Camp requested, on May 14th the Government of Mauritius through this Executive Committee that they might make representations with the British Government for our being transferred from Mauritius, because our state of health is dangerous and the coming fifth summer in the tropics justifies the greatest apprehensions. If this request be granted and these interventions be made, the Camp would be again prepared for a co-operation in all administrative matters, provided, of course, that such a co-operation is a true co-operation, granting us also some rights beside the responsibility. A detailed memorandum was also drawn up containing various legal points and a list of our grievances.

Meanwhile high officials of the Colony could get convinced from personal visits in the Camp how despaired and critical the mood of the camp was, how unbearable our situation after 42 months of imprisonment.

On June 5th, the answer of the Governor of Mauritius was communicated to the Camp: It was bluntly and flatly refusing. It did not deal with any point of our memorandum, it did not concede the intervention with the British Government, and moreover, it refused to deal with the Committee, with whom the authorities had dealt for 2½ months because it has not been "legally constituted. The reaction of the Camp was a

24 hours hunger strike and work-stop as protest against this unyielding and callous attitude.

It is difficult to foresee the further developments. The authorities persist in their absolutely negative attitude to any constitutional efforts for our release, their sole answer being that we have to "co-operate" with the authorities - according to the well known pattern - and then we would get "further amenities". The Camp of course, cannot but insist upon the demand that, in view of the alarming situation the Government here ought not to hinder to assist our efforts for freedom.

At present is a complete deadlock, caused by the uncompromising attitude of the authorities. In the camp, an atmosphere of despair prevails and owing from this tension and the unbearable imprisonment, we are all suffering more or less from a veritable prison-psychosis.

With Zions Greetings,

Yours very faithfully,

Chairman
Bruno Soberski, MD.

Secretary
A. Zwergbaum, LLD.

June 29, 1944

Mr. Meyer Marcus, President
Heights Zionist District
1315 Cleveland Heights Blvd.
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Mr. Marcus:

Rabbi Silver requested me to send you
the enclosed copy of a letter which he wrote to
Mr. Joshua Epstein regarding the radio program of
the ZOA.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

BJK

Secretary to Rabbi Silver



ISRAEL MEREMINSKI

**General Federation of Jewish Labor
in Palestine.**

ישראל, מרמינסקי

נציג אמריקאי

להסתדרות הכללית של העובדים
העברים בארץ ישראל

510 WEST 112th STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y.

MONUMENT 2-5809

אברהם חרם צ"ל מאה. סוף. זר,
דקלול. חיו. צ.

צ"ו סולבז חילזר,

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

ואין צורך בזה וכל דבר-הוא מאלו
דברים שיש להם חשיבות אצל
כך נראה שיש להם חשיבות
אולי זה יאמר ויאלץ ויאלץ
בין קצתו שיש להם חשיבות
אולי זה יאמר שיש להם חשיבות
בשנים הקודמות לזה.

2
 2
 קהל צמחון אל אצמא וס אמסור אסטוט - צעולסטאקס אל צצדו
 Clifford Smith ליד בוויטאיה, אלס עלס ממוליה צעס Intergovernmental Committee
 אדאס אמס אל ביהאסט העלסטום בוויטאיה שחורם אדא נטינג אוולקור
 אלו אמסור אלס אל אלוץ וסא - (באמור - אמאקא אל צקאד וסאמא
 אל הצעס נני העלמא אמוען צעלויזש קומעס, אס העלמא אמועס)
 נצצנס צעיענים מולד, יכ סמור הרי צצד אס אל העלמא
 ואמור: צא, יכ אהב בוויטאיה
 העלמא אמועס ספס צא קאד
 אן נמו מנא יכ

פריצת - מקדשים, נחמה, ופסול זכר בנח הזיוג באווסטות
 אמתותיה ואת בראשונה וכן בראשונה ואחריה היוצת
 שישנה במקום ושלל וכן אחר, ושלל, ואחריה
 מקום. אחרת, כי שטיינברג מן צדד ושלל ופסול
 בקרה, ושלל השלל הוא כי משהו השלל ושלל
 הנעלה של א. אחרת אחרת בשלל אחרת אחרת
 והיוצת ופסול אחרת ושלל אחרת.

מלשחתי, כי בקרבך אל (י) ואם רבוי ווידוא אצל סטטיקוס
אשר יגדל זכר וג' הנקבות - והמשלוח להמלוכה המלך, ואלה השנים
אין (י) מלאות (י) מצא של התנאים הדברים הם המעשים בהתראה
ובמציאות. קצת צום ושלל המשלוחים

לפי שיש חסדים.

C
O
P
Y

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

Washington

October 31, 1944

PERSONAL

My dear Dr. Silver:

I appreciate your taking the trouble to write me a letter on October 26th. I am more than willing to abide by your judgment as to what you should do as the head of the Zionist Emergency Council in connection with the coming election, and I can assure you that how you vote will not influence either the President or myself in the slightest in our attitude towards the organization which you head.

I have always held you in the highest esteem and admire the great work that you are doing. I was honored that you felt free to come in and talk over your personal problem with me, and when the occasion arises, I will inform the President of our conversation.

Again may I assure you that I am available at all times to be of assistance, and I hope that you will continue to drop in to see me whenever the occasion arises.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. Morgenthau Jr.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,
American Zionist Emergency Council,
East 105th Street at Ansel Road,
Cleveland, Ohio

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

WASHINGTON

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



PENALTY FOR POSTAGE DUE TO AVOID

PAYMENT

3300

WRHS



Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,
American Zionist Emergency Council,
East 105th Street at Ansel Road,
Cleveland, Ohio.

PERSONAL