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

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

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Ben Gurion, David, 1949-1950.

SENDER IS AWAITING A SPEEDY

answer

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1201

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RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER, THE TEMPLE

=EAST 105 ST AND ANSEL RD=

WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR STATEMENT BENGURION ATTACK

TODAY TIMES PLEASE WIRE COLLECT GREETINGS=

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FRANK COHEN
521 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

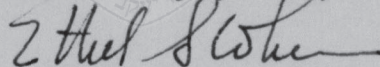
December 20, 1949.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple
Euclid Avenue,
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Frank asked that I send you a copy of his second letter to Mr. Sharett. He is now in California and has not seen your letter acknowledging the copy of his first in connection with the matter of the internationalization of Jerusalem. I shall call it to his attention. I am certain he will be interested to find ^{your} confirmation of his approach to the behaviour of our Israeli friends in relation to the role of the American Jew to Israel.

Sincerely yours,



Ethel S. Cohen

ESC:ao

FRANK COHEN
521 FIFTH AVE.
NEW YORK, N.Y.

December 19, 1949

Mr. Moshe Sharett
Israel Consulate
11 East 70th Street
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Sharett:

Having raised criticism it is only fair I offer a suggestion.

1. I believe your approach to the U.N. Resolution should be, not a negative one such as seems to be the adopted line, namely, "TRY AND DO IT", try to implement your resolution, "WE DARE YOU TO DO IT, WE DEFY YOU TO DO IT", "YOU ARE IMPOTENT", etc., for you may wake up one morning and find that your challenge may be accepted by Russia to keep its finger in the trusteeship pie, may offer to supply the needed soldiers. Also, to take the lead from the United States and show up the helplessness of England, they may offer \$4,000,000.00 balance to carry out the budget. At any rate, you dare not take the chance of goading the U.N. on to "show you" or compelling U.N. members to close ranks to save face. You are not dealing with "orphan" Arabs in a white Christian atmosphere. You have a wily determined organization, the best in the world, namely, the Vatican lined up against you. That is the strength of the opposition but at the same time, its weakness and that is where I'd attack.
2. I believe your best attack is to uncover and concentrate and pound away on the Vatican influence. "Vatican as power behind resolution", "Vatican as ruling U.N. behind the scenes", "Vatican as super state", "Unholy alliance of Communism and Catholicism", "New partnership of Stalin behind the curtain and the Pope behind the scenes". "Is the Pope to rule U.N.". "I invite the Vatican as a member of U.N.", etc.

The United States, England, etc., are Christian countries which have never given up the fear of Papal rule. The Baptists and other Protestants are continually battling the Pope idea. Only recently Cardinal Spellman had to beat a hasty retreat on an old question of separation of Church and State. That line will hold good for Church and U.N. I would present a resolution nominating Vatican State as a member of U.N. It will be objected to by the Pope. It would be rejected by U.N., if not withdrawn by the Pope. Your argument "it is better and proper to give them voice in U.N. since they already exert the power to have Vatican sneak behind

December 19, 1949

the scenes.

Vatican long ago stated anything Communist Russia favors can not be good and they are automatically against it. How come on U.N. resolution they combine.

This I believe will break the combination. My experience with Latins is that while they profess to be Catholics, they fear the church politically. They do not want the Pope for their President. Witness Mexico, Cuba, Uruguay, etc. It should not be difficult to wean the ~~Latins~~ ^{governments} away from the church.

3. Concentrate on the small states. In '47, I realized that the U.N. was not a big nation affair. I was dumbfounded when I realized that on a vote, little Haiti voting NO equaled United States and England voting YES. Change some NOs to YES. Abstain some NOs. Believe me this effort is less costly in time, effort, expense, than the preparations for defiance.
4. Call on ALL U.S. Jewry and Latin Jewry for a conference of delegates to decide the question as to what shall be the relations of Israel towards U.S. Jewry, etc. ^{and} How to implement it.

You may decide that you want to go on your own and to "hell" with the rest of us. You may continue to act that way though you speak differently. Remember, I am not saying what shall be the relationship or responsibilities of U.S. Jewry to Israel, but the reverse. Of course, that means a recognition that U.S. Jewry also helped create and build Israel. It means a recognition that Jews outside Israel who spent their lives fighting for Zionism, are just as vitally interested as the Jews who came to Israel for refuge, even though the latter have a vote and the former have been told to keep away and mind our own business, except to give money (Sic).

5. Employ good public relationships counsel to carry through a program of education and propaganda on this whole question of Jerusalem even at the risk of offending vested interests. I'll be glad to recommend someone, if you wish.

Mr. Moshe Sharett

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December 19, 1949

6. You have to plan NOW for the next U.N. Assembly meeting. You have to educate the public NOW and prepare the delegates for the next session.

I am firmly convinced that this is the way to undo the harm. I am also convinced that you can have the backing of ALL U.S. Jewry and non-Catholic Christian world.

Hope you do not mind my writing, but I am vitally interested, almost physically sick over the situation.

With regards and respect,

Frank Cohen

FC:ht

Corrected by ESC.
letter by Mr. Cohen
to California

Typed from handwritten
on airplane flight

American Correspondent

M. Z. FRANK

1652 POPHAM AVENUE, BRONX 53, N. Y., TRemont 2-5240

January 18, 1950

Dear Dr. Silver:

Judging by your reply to my letter of January 10, I doubt whether I should have written it. Perhaps I ought to explain.

It was not my intention to suggest that it was your place to make any ~~overtures~~ overtures. I merely tried to appeal to you, in the light of facts known to me, not to treat any ~~overcoming~~ ^{move} from the other side with undue suspicion.

The reported editorial in Davar, ^{to} my mind, does not prove anything. Mapai is not as well-knit as the Emergency Council was under your leadership or as the ZOA. Yet even there, it would not be fair to judge your attitude by the pronouncements of Frisch who, for four years went up and down the Jewish world ~~speaking~~ speaking in your name and whom you endorsed as President of the ZOA. Let me ~~xxxx~~ assure you, he got you into plenty of trouble long before you backed him. When you were in Palestine after the UN decision, I felt it my duty to explain to the readers of Haaretz that you were not responsible for Frisch. The effect of that article was twofold: a) Ben-Gurion stormed into Joseph's house ~~xxxxxx~~ shouting that Frank made it his business in life to defend Silver (That's what Joseph wrote to his wife who was then staying at our house); b) when you came back and met me at a press conference in the Agency, you would not shake hands with me but rebuked me for something I wrote in that very same article.

Last February, in Jerusalem, after one of the sessions in the Knesseth, ~~xxxxxx~~ Ben-Gurion passed hard by me, looked up, recognized me and gave me a sour look and an unfriendly nod. *When Frisch read my article in Haaretz, he blew the top off*

In each of the two European wars of our generation, Switzerland and Sweden had their uses for both sides. I am trying to see of what use I can be in this intestine Zionist war. In one thing, I can see a difference: unlike Sweden and Switzerland, I did not make any money on my neutrality.

I looked through all the copies of Davar in my office, from December 5 to 18th and failed to find that editorial. I had my doubts when I read the despatch in the Morning Journal: it ~~xxxxx~~ emanated from the most unreliable journalist in Jewry, Nirenberger. *A subsequent, more careful check-up, up to January 4, failed to reveal any such reference in Davar.*

During my conversation with Locker at his house in Tel-Aviv last winter, I found it necessary at one point to remind him that I came not as a representative of Silver but as a Jew and a Zionist who is pained by the development. May I remind you now that I do not represent anybody and anything ~~except~~ except my own judgment and my own conscience. I happen to be close enough to both sides to see that neither side has a monopoly on either virtues or nonsense.

I only hope I haven't loused up your intention to invite Liebenstein to speak at your temple. *The rest we shall have to leave to fate,*

Cordially yours M Z Frank

B. Burton

January 24, 1950

Mr. M. Z. Frank
1652 Popham Avenue
Bronx 53, New York

My dear Mr. Frank:

I received your letter of January 18th. I would suggest that you re-read my letter to you quite objectively, seeing in it only what is written there. You will then realize that there is no reason for your being unhappy about it.

Incidentally, I invited Mr. Liebenstein before I received your letter, and I am happy that Mr. Liebenstein has accepted to come to us on March 2nd.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er

JOSEPH W. GREENLEAF

312 HAWTHORNE TERRACE

MT. VERNON, N.Y.

4/9/50

Dear Mr. Silver,

I overlooked telling you on Friday that Liebenstein had informed me that one gentleman in the U.S. had been extremely active, sending cables to friends of B.G. in Israel, urging and pleading with them to use their influence with B.G. for the purpose of recalling Liebenstein to Israel. His reason? The sin of his (Liebenstein) helping to create a pro Zion and pro Silver atmosphere in the U.S.

I first learned this from M3 Frank who had gotten it from Liebenstein. M3 was quite convinced the man was Barney Juckman. But just before Liebenstein left for the coast I had lunch with him and definitely ascertained that the man who had been cabling so, frantically about the Liebenstein Menace was and is Nahum Goldman!! (over, please)

Leibenstein's optimism about your receiving
the B.G. invitation ^{about 4/15/50.} was not only prompted
by the success he felt E.W. would have
with the Premier but also by the fact
that he had been advised that N. Goldman's
many attempts had been thwarted
by B.G. himself.

I'll have the script for the May 11th
affair on Monday or Tuesday. You'll hear
from me about it.

My very best to Mrs Silver and the Boys.

Cordially.

Joe