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Jewish Agency, Goldstein, Israel, 1948-1949.

C O P Y

THE EXECUTIVE OF
THE ZIONIST ORGANISATION/ THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE
GENEVA OFFICE

July 22, 1948

37, quai Wilson, Geneve (Suisse)

Rabbi Dr. Israel Goldstein
300 Central Park W
New York City

My dear Israel,

I write you today on a matter concerning general Zionists. You may have heard that the general Zionist party in Rumania is in great danger of being dissolved by the Communist regime and quite a number of its leaders like Dr. Benvenisti and others are in danger of being arrested. It is essential to enable them to get out. This is a question of money in order to get the passports and exit-visas. I do not see who can help them unless it is our party and I regard this as a very great moral obligation. I understand that something like 50 000\$ would be necessary in order to enable all the leading men to get out if necessary. The money has not to be sent to Rumania, but kept in America or Switzerland. I know our financial difficulties, but I regard this as an obligation which we have to fulfill. We have to make the money available even if we have to take some of it from our funds for Palestine. We may not have to use it, certainly not the whole amount, but it must be available in case the emergency arises. We can not let our best people in Rumania perish. Please take the matter very seriously and discuss it with Emanuel and the others and let me know what you will do as I am in touch with our Rumanian friends. Don't write to them nor to our Paris office. The whole thing has to be kept strictly secret as their lives may be in immediate danger, if this will be known in Rumania. Benvenisti and the others discussed it with me fully in Montreux and you must leave the contact with them for the time being to me. Please let me have your answer addressed to the Agency office in Geneva: 37, quai Wilson.

How are you? I am happy to have you now as my colleague in the W.J.C. Executive. Are you going to Israel for the meeting of the A.C? I will take a short vacation in Switzerland and will go to the Actions Committee. In September I hope to be in New York for 10 days before I go back to the United Nations Assembly in Paris.

With best regards,

Yours as ever

/s/

Nachum

Nachum Goldmann

MEMORANDUM

7/27/48

✓
To: Dr. A. H. Silver, Mrs. S. Halprin
From: Dr. I. Goldstein

Have you any suggestions with regard to the emergency matter referred to in the enclosed letter from Dr. Nachum Goldmann? Offhand it seems to me that the treasury of the World Zionist organization ought to carry the burden. I do not see how it can possibly be done by the Confederation. Nevertheless, it does impose a responsibility upon us, and I would be grateful to you for any suggestion. Perhaps you would want to discuss it at the meeting of the Agency Executive here if, in your opinion, it warrants being brought up in that forum.

enc.

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WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN
PRESIDENT

1220

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

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CL287 LONG PD WUX NEWYORK NY 6 305P:

DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER THE TEMPLE
EAST 105 ST AT ANSEL RD

REFERENCE REPORTS FORWARDED BY HARRY SEEVE URGENTLY NEED YOUR IMMEDIATE ADVICE SINCE IMPORTANT MEETING ON PALESTINE REFUGEE RELIEF CONTEMPLATED THIS FRIDAY STOP TRIBUNE TIMES STORY TODAY ANNOUNCING PLANNED ORGANIZATION TWENTY AMERICAN GROUPS FOR LONGRANGE RELIEF PROGRAM QUOTE TO PROVIDE FOOD OTHER HELP FOR THE ESTIMATED 360,000 ARAB JEWS LEFT HOMELESS BY FIGHTING PALESTINE UNQUOTE GROUPS INCLUDE OIL COMPANIES CHURCH RELIEF GROUPS KERMIT ROOSEVALT COMMITTEE AND OTHER GROUPS WHOSE ATTITUDE OUR PROGRAM QUESTIONABLE STOP UNFORTUNATELY STORY LISTS UPA ON BASIS ATTENDANCE AS OBSERVER FIRST MEETING AS ONE OF GROUPS STOP MY OPINION OUR PARTICIPATION SEEM LEND ENDORSEMENT TO HIGHLY UNFRIENDLY PROGRAM STOP WOULD YOU ADVISE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OUR DISSOCIATION WITH PLANNED ORGANIZATION AND WHAT REASONS WOULD YOU SUGGEST WE SHOULD GIVE STOP CORDIAL REGARDS

ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN

360,000 UPA

8th November, 1948

Dr. Israel Goldstein
The Jewish Agency for Palestine
16 East 66th Street
New York 21, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Goldstein,

You will be wondering why you have not heard from me for quite some time. The reason is that I have been even busier than usual and, more important, that I have been in rather low spirits because of the general situation here.

It is not so much lack of funds that is worrying me. I have been with the Jewish Agency for nearly 25 years and seen pretty bad times and practically permanent shortage of cash. But believe me, I cannot recall that I ever felt as depressed as today.

What weighs on me so heavily now is the complete lack of understanding I meet with wherever I turn. I feel this not only in my dealings with former members of the Agency Executive who are now Ministers of the Government, but almost in the same measure as far as present members of the Executive are concerned.

The truth is that members of the Executive today simply do not wish to face the facts, unpalatable as they are. They take decisions involving very considerable commitments; pay no heed to my views; and do not care whether or not we shall be able at all to honour such commitments. I really ought to tell you a great deal on this subject, but I doubt whether I shall be able to put it all into writing.

There are, however, a few points on which I should like to be more specific. To begin with, the deplorable but undeniable fact is that the Government does not seem to care in the least how the Agency is to carry on, and where it is to take money from. Ministers simply will not hear of repaying the Government's debts to the Agency. Their one concern is how to squeeze from us some LP 800,000 for Education, hundreds of thousands of pounds for Health, and still more money for other purposes.

On the other hand, our own claims are not recognized. For instance, there is no readiness on the part of the Government to accede to our request to remit customs dues in respect of building materials imported by the Agency for immigrant housing projects. Similarly, we are required to pay import license fees exactly as private merchants. In fact, there is no trace of special consideration for the Agency and its needs.

A most characteristic illustration of this may perhaps be found in the sphere of housing. As you are aware, we have for some months past been accommodating newcomers in deserted Arab towns and villages. Such accommodation requires of course prior outlay for repairs amounting up to LI. 60.- per room, and we have already disbursed some LI. 400,000 for this purpose. When it comes to the ~~disbursement~~ question of rent, however, the Government claims everything for itself. It has already succeeded in collecting tens of thousands of pounds in the form of rent; and yet, when I claim that such payments ought to go to us at least to the extent of the Agency's actual outlay for repairs they will hear nothing of it.

Here is another and even more striking example of the same tendency. In recent months it has been the practice of the Custodian of Deserted (Arab) Property to remove doors and windows from houses in occupied Arab places and keep them in special stores, allegedly for the purpose of preventing damage or theft. When, however, the Agency again needs the material for repairing such houses it is required

to purchase it from the Government. This may seem incredible to you. In fact, I should not have believed it ~~of~~ myself, had I not received first-hand information from the engineers of our Technical Department carrying out the repairs, as well as from Dr. Josephthal who conducted negotiations in this matter with Mr. Kaplan's Deputy.

Or take my negotiations with Mr. Kaplan regarding the transfer of IRO funds from Switzerland. As you know, we had nearly 11,000,000 Swiss Francs in Geneva. Those Francs Kaplan forced me to sell to the Government at a rate of exchange involving a loss of some LI. 150,000 to the Jewish Agency. In the early stages of my negotiations Mr. Kaplan claimed that the Government would not profit by the deal since it intended to place the Francs at the disposal of importers at the same rate of exchange with a view to cheapening imports. Meanwhile, however, it has come to my knowledge that the money in question has been used by Mr. Kaplan to repay debts incurred abroad. The obvious conclusion is that Absorption of Immigrants and Youth Immigration, for which IRO funds were exclusively earmarked, have thereby lost very large sums which went to the Government. I wonder whether this is to be a measure of the Government's general policy with regard to the Jewish Agency. The worst of all is, in my opinion, that members of our own Executive do not help me very much, but rather seem to approve of the Government's attitude.

Moreover, as mentioned above, Mr. Kaplan flatly refuses to pay any debts to the Agency. I know for certain that there were a number of accounts which Mr. Kaplan a couple of months ago, definitely intended to settle. He has now completely reversed his attitude.

I have not had the time, yet fully to clear up all the accounts in question. The following five accounts, however, are already sufficiently clear:

- (1) The LI. 5,000,000 - National Loan (in respect of which we shall have to repay on December 15 a sum of LI. 500,000 in addition to the interest accrued) was contracted in May 1948 in the name of the Jewish Agency for the simple reason that the Government Treasury had not yet been formed. There cannot be the slightest doubt that had there been a fully organized Treasury in existence at the time, the National Loan would have been launched on behalf of the Israel Government. Is it not absurd therefore that Mr. Kaplan should now ask the Agency to foot the bill?
- (2) The situation is similar with regard to the LI. 2,500,000 short-term bank loan which the Agency contracted in February-March 1948 for purposes of security. Mr. Kaplan at the time undertook to repay that loan in monthly instalments of LI. 375,000, and substantial payments have already been effected for the purpose out of Keren Hayesod funds in America. So far from refunding to us such payments, which were of course made for Government purposes, Mr. Kaplan now insists that the Agency should repay the entire loan.
- (3) Provisional accounts show that the Government has collected some LI. 3,500,000, being the Keren Hayesod 25 per cent-share of Joint Campaigns in all countries outside U.S.A. All this money, it should be clearly understood, has been appropriated by the Government, over and above the 50 percent share due to ~~it~~ it under the existing agreement. It has been used to finance food and other imports by the Government.
- (4) As to budgetary commitments incurred by us in the past in respect of future budgets of Departments that have meanwhile been taken over by the Government, it seems obvious that the Government ought to accept responsibility for them in drawing up its own budgets for the Departments concerned. Such commitments add up to several hundreds of thousands of pounds. I can see no valid reason why the Agency should continue to carry that burden.

(5) Regarding the financial position in U.S.A. you will have received full particulars from Mr. Hammer. I myself am still expecting a full statement from him. But even so I understand that Mr. Pozner (Geneva) alone has received something like \$36,000,000 in recent months. These moneys have, of course, been spent on behalf of the Government and ought to be refunded to the Agency.

The above summing-up of our claims from the Government is, as I said before, only very rough and provisional. But even so it will, I hope, give you an idea of the position. If we could at least receive part of the money owed to us, our situation would be eased in some degree and we might be able to meet our obligations. But, as I stressed above, I find neither understanding with the Government nor support on the part of our own Executive. All this I put before last week's joint meeting in Jerusalem of the Agency Executive and the full Israel Cabinet. The one outcome was a decision that you should, upon your arrival in Palestine, enter into negotiations with Mr. Kaplan to clarify the question of the Government's debts to the Jewish Agency.

I asked Mr. Kaplan to advance us in the meantime a sum of LI. 500,000. I suggested, moreover, that the money be made available to us by A.P.B. against a guarantee by the Government Treasury. However, my proposal was turned down by Mr. Kaplan, and this in spite of the fact that the Government is now quite able, in my judgment, to accede to my request with the help of its recently issued Treasury Notes.

I ought perhaps to write also on the housing situation, but lack of time prevents me from doing so today. Besides I assume that you are adequately informed from our exchange of cables.

As for the rest, I trust that the difficulties with the UPA will be overcome before long and that you may be able to report satisfactory progress in the fund-raising effort.

I would take this opportunity of making it clear to you that I see no possibility of work whatsoever, unless we can base our activities on a minimum budget of LI. 18,000,000. This sum is arrived at as follows:-

Absorption of Immigrants	7,000,000	
Housing of Immigrants	4,000,000	
Youth Immigration	2,500,000	(in addition to earmarked income from Hadassa and other sources)
Agricultural Settlement	1,000,000	
Various Department (Immigration abroad, Development of Jerusalem, Economic Department, Middle Eastern Countries, and smaller Departments)	1,500,000	
Debt Service	2,000,000	
Total -	<u>18,000,000</u>	

I understand that you plan to come here only in the second half of December. I fully appreciate, of course, the importance of your presence in the States at this critical juncture. At the same time I should be very glad if you could join us here at the very earliest. This should go a long way towards easing the Agency's difficult position today; for I trust that you will find a way of coming to an arrangement with Mr. Kaplan, notably with regard to the payment of Government debts to the Agency. Wishing you all success in your work in the States, and looking forward to your arrival in Israel, I am, with kindest personal regards,

Yours very sincerely,
s/ D. Bahral

Office of the Rabbi

270 WEST 89TH STREET

Phone: SCHUYLER 4- { 1400
4433

Temple

257 WEST 88TH STREET



CONGREGATION B'NAI JESHURUN

NEW YORK 24, N. Y.

FOUNDED 1825

November 8, 1948

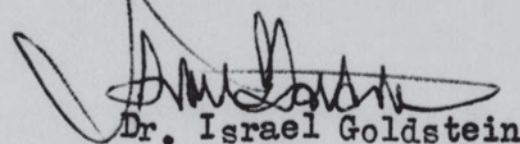
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
E. 105th & Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Your message on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of my ministry meant a great deal to me and I want to thank you profoundly for your courtesy in sending it.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,


Dr. Israel Goldstein

IG:ssp

The Officers and Members of the
ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
and
THE UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL



Cordially invite you to attend a

Farewell Dinner

in honor of

Dr. Israel Goldstein

Treasurer, World Zionist Organization



On the eve of his departure for Israel

WEDNESDAY EVENING
the Seventeenth of November
Nineteen Hundred and Forty Eight
at seven o'clock

s

At the

Hotel Pierre

Fifth Avenue at Sixty-First Street
New York City

s

Dietary Laws Observed

DRESS INFORMAL

Subscription Ten Dollars

R. S. V. P.

הסוכנות היהודית לארץ ישראל
THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE
16 EAST 66TH STREET, NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

RHINELANDER 4-4200

Cable Address JEVAGENCY

November 18, 1948

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

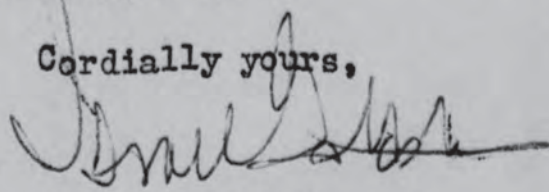
Enclosed is a copy of a letter from Mr. D. Bahral to me. It indicates one aspect of the urgency for my going without any delay. Considerable damage has already been done to the authority of the Jewish Agency partly as a result of my absence from the scene. Another aspect is illustrated by a cable received in connection with the authority for conducting Keren Hayesod campaigns. These matters must be discussed next Tuesday evening at the meeting of the Agency as it will be the last I will attend. As it is, I intended to leave next Tuesday evening but I am willing to wait over an extra day or two in order to participate at this meeting where Locker will be present and we can have a frank exchange of views. In the meantime, it is also possible that the controversy within the UPA will be resolved.

As for the negotiations with the JDC, they will, I am sure, be carried on effectively as in previous years, with/ ^{out} the participation of the Treasurer. You, Neumann, Weisman and Rothenberg can handle the negotiations as has been done before by the authorities of the movement here. One point to bear in mind is that the JDC may be interested in taking over a portion of the work in Israel. I reported to you that when Kaplan talked to Schwartz about it while Kaplan was still the Treasurer of the Agency, and then talked to me about it in Israel, and I in turn consulted some of our people there, we felt, as you and Dr. Neumann felt here, that it would be worth doing provided it represents a substantial commitment on the part of the JDC. By substantial commitment I mean an amount approximating 15 to 20 million dollars. It would spell out, for example taking care of the immigrants for the first two months during which they are maintained in camps. I might say that HIAS and ORT approached this with regard to taking on some phases of the work in Israel, but I stated to them that in fairness to the JDC, I cannot discuss this matter with any other group until we have concluded arrangements with the JDC.

May I take this occasion to thank you for your message to last night's dinner. I appreciate it as an expression of friendship and good will.

Looking forward to seeing you next Monday evening, I am

Cordially yours,


Dr. Israel Goldstein

IG:ssp
enc.
Washington

2210 Massachusetts Ave., N.W.
Washington 8, D. C.

London
77, Great Russell Street
London, W.C. 1

Paris
143, Avenue de Wagram
Paris (17e), France

Jerusalem
Post Office Box 92
Jerusalem, Palestine

Office of the Rabbi
270 WEST 89TH STREET
Phone: SCHUYLER 4- { 1400
 4433

Temple
257 WEST 88TH STREET



CONGREGATION B'NAI JESHURUN
New York 24, N. Y.
FOUNDED 1825

November 20, 1948

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York City

My dear Dr. Silver:

Judge Levinthal has handed me the enclosed which I believe should be of interest to you if you haven't already seen it.

In this connection, may I say that when I was in Chicago two weeks ago Mr. Shainmark, Managing Editor of the Chicago American, came to see me. He pointed out that while the Zionists have done a good job with publicity, they have still a difficult task to perform in the field of public relations, namely, conditioning the public mind for a favorable reception of publicity. He feels that it would be important to have a special committee dealing with these matters under the auspices of the Emergency Council volunteer their services for such a committee. I would strongly urge that this matter be looked into. It is Mr. Shainmark's view, which all of us share, that there is a noticeable trend against us which needs to be dealt with.

Cordially yours,

DR. ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

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

November 24, 1948

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

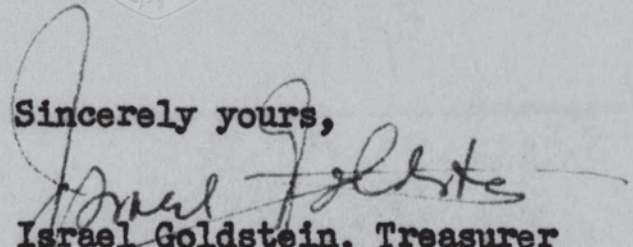
Dear Dr. Silver:

I want to thank you for your cordial good wishes which I received at the Testimonial Dinner held in my honor at the Hotel Pierre on Wednesday evening, November 17, 1948.

It is good to go to my new task with such generous expressions of comradeship.

With Zion's greetings, I am

Sincerely yours,


Israel Goldstein, Treasurer
World Zionist Organization

IG:udh

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הסוכנות היהודית לארץ-ישראל

בתשובה נא לחזכיר:

המשרדים בתל-אביב

המחלקה

מספר

ת.ד. 28 - טלפון 4561

24th December, 1948 תל-אביב

Dr. A.H. Silver,
c/o. American Zionist Emergency Council,
342 Madison Avenue,
New York. U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Silver,

I wrote one letter to Dr. Newman about which, I am sure you are informed; so I shall not repeat.

The purpose of this note is to urge that something be done by the American Government, to remedy a situation at the Athens air-port, which is humiliating.

The situation is that the passengers going to Israel are sometimes compelled to remain in the plane all night, sometimes permitted to leave the plane, locked up in a room, sometimes permitted greater freedom of movement, but at best under annoying restrictions, to which they are subjected, only because they are Jews, going to Israel.

I understand, that the reason given by the Greek government is that they are under pressure from Egypt, where there is a Greek colony, others say, that the pressure is from England.

In any event one would expect that the American Government, which is "the good provider" to Greece, would be in a position to stop this discrimination.

I am sure, that if you will instruct one of your staff to follow up this matter, there will be results.

Since coming here I have been plunged in growing work. My delay in getting here has caused a lag in projects, especially housing projects, which should have been started two months ago.

It is a serious weight on my conscience, how completely inadequate are the facilities in the face of mounting immigration. There are other things which suffered because of my delay. These have to do with the authority of my department, which has been to some extent dissipated. Such losses however, can be recaptured. I have made some progress already, the delay in housing, however, is here to plague us.

I hope to have occasion to write you from time to time, but my problem is now to organise the work, the staff and the procedures. Frankly, I am pessimistic about the prospects due chiefly to the U.P.A.-U.J.A., developments.

I trust that this situation will improve.

Chanuka is around the corner, so I close with cordial Chanuka greetings to you and to your family.

Yours truly

Dr. Israel Goldstein
Israel Goldstein

Jerusalem - 18.1.49

MEMORANDUM

To : Mr. Locker
From: Dr. Goldstein

My experience with meetings of the Executive since I have returned prompts me to make the following suggestions:-

1. We do not get through with the Agenda of the meetings. Last week, for example, we had an agenda of many items and succeeded only in covering two or three. Even with regard to the one outstanding item, namely the U.P.A., we did not get around to discussing one important point raised by Hammer's telegram regarding the handling of the problem of the multiple campaign. This problem was left in the air at a time when a modus operandi has to be provided, since these are pressing problems in the U.S.A. Other important items of the agenda were never reached, and we have to wait a week until they are reached, and by that time, still more items will accumulate. It appears to me that the business of the Executive is bogging down. In the light of the fact that the Executive will probably be leaving shortly for New-York the prospect becomes even more distressing.

My proposal is that the Executive should meet morning, afternoon and evening, until its business has been dealt with.

2. The second observation which I should like to make is that there is a conspicuous lack of information so far as the Executive here in Jerusalem is concerned, regarding the military political situation affecting Israel. It is a strange feeling for me coming from U.S.A. where not only the J.A. Executive is kept apprised of these developments, but even members of the Emergency Council. I quite realise that the Agency Executive here is not in a position to deliberate upon military and political questions, but they certainly ought to receive first hand information. The fact that some members of the Executive are also members of the Government Council does not change the essence of my argument.

I have two alternative proposals:-

(a) That fixed meetings of the Government and the Agency be held once in two weeks, at which the Prime Minister and the Minister of Foreign Affairs can give us the information.

(b) That a rapporteur on behalf of the Government bring to every meeting of the Executive a summary of the situation.

3. During recent months which have confronted the Executive with special difficulties because of the transition period through which it was passing, a number of things have happened which, from the organisation point of view, can only lead to chaos. One distressing phenomenon which I have observed is a tendency on the part of every department

to become a "Melucha" for itself, resulting in inevitable overlapping between departments, inevitable confusion and inefficiency which can only lead to the discredit of the Executive as a whole.

I feel these matters particularly as the Treasurer, because, previously the Treasury itself was a connecting link between all the departments, and insofar as financial matters were concerned, it had a central influence which held all of the work together. In recent months there had developed in Europe a centrifugal tendency which threatens to disperse and dissipate the central control of the Treasury. This may perhaps make one particular department or another feel good, and raise its own sense of importance, but from the standpoint of the Agency Executive and the work as a whole, it can only lead to weakness and confusion. In this one respect I must say that the Agency Executive in America has worked more effectively, namely, that it has worked as a team.

Because we are still in the first few months of our tasks, we can, I believe, afford a good deal of self-criticism. I would strongly urge that we take a few hours to talk over this important problem, and that we do it in the best of good will towards one another.

COPY OF CABLE

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JERUSALEM 75 23 1245 (TRY "COMPALSURV".....)
NLT NEUMANN COMPALSURE (NEUMANN % COMMISSION ON PALESTINE SURVEYS
NEWYORK 521 FIFTH AVE RM 1903)

SUBSTANTIAL OPINION HERE PREPARED BYPASS UPA AND UNDERTAKE
JEVAGENCY PARTNERSHIP CAMPAIGN WITH JDC IF UPA REFUSES JEVAGENCY
DIRECTIVES STOP EYE STILL BELIEVE ASALWAYS THAT MONTOR RETRACTION
APOLOGY PROVIDES DIGNIFIED REASON YOUR WITHDRAWAL OPPOSITION
MAKING UNNECESSARY EXECUTIVES TRIP STOP ALL MEMBERS JERUSALEM
EXECUTIVE COMING EXCEPT DOBKIN BRAGINSKY STOP EYE AM RESISTING
GOING BECAUSE ARRIVED HERE SO LATE AND MY WORK SO DEMANDING
BUT UNANIMOUS PRESSURE ON ME TERRIFIC AND MAY ACCEDE

Israel Golstein

(COPY)

Jerusalem, 15th March, 1949

To : Mr. L. Eshkol

From: Dr. I. Goldstein

AHS
4/4/49
m

I have been giving some thought to the matter of middle-class agricultural colonization.

The main point it seems to me is this, that if people who come here prefer a type of agricultural colonization in which they can maintain the family unit as a private unit, as is done for example in Kfar Bnei Zion, and in which they can farm individually, and in which each farmer can have and work his own plot, while the marketing of the produce can be done cooperatively, it should be possible. If people prefer that such a colony be connected with the private sector of colonization and not with the Merkaz Haklai it should not be made dependent on their possession of £1000 or any other fixed sum.

I have been saying to many people in the U.S.A., especially large contributors to the U.J.A. who have asked questions that in Israel there is freedom of choice in the mode of life that a man wants to live provided that it is a constructive mode of life. I should like to be able to continue saying it. Moreover, as a General Zionist I should like to feel that this point is being given proper consideration by the Agricultural Settlement Department of the Agency.

From that point of view therefore I would strongly urge that Dr. Pinner and his department be given a greater measure of encouragement and support than they have received before.

I have tried to orient myself a little on this problem. I learn that when Dr. Ruppin was in charge of the colonization department he had a deep understanding for this particular form of colonization and gave it his support, and that Mr. Kaplan added to the responsibilities of his department also the care of 'Pardessanut' and the representation of the entire Jewish agricultural interest vis-à-vis the Mandatory Government during the war.

What I would like to have cleared up in my mind is an uneasy feeling that there is resistance to this department on the side of Workers' Colonization.

At the meeting of the Actions Committee there was some talk about making this department not a division of another department but a separate department with a special member of the Executive assigned to it who would be interested in that phase of colonization. Frankly, I was somewhat remiss myself as well as my General Zionist colleagues in that we did not press this point. At the next meeting of the Actions Committee I shall certainly try to rectify that error unless in the meantime my uneasiness on this point is overcome by an improvement in the actual situation. By an improvement I mean administratively as well as budgetwise.

With regard to the administrative problem, it is a matter

Mr. Eshkol - contd.

that needs a separate discussion. With regard to the budget problem the point is that as matters stand now, candidates for colonisation feel that they are given preferential treatment with regard to land and colonisation loans if they agree to settle within the framework of the kibbutz and kevu'tza.

Another point is that whereas previously it was 'hachshara' groups which were the mainspring of new colonisation, now it seems that the agricultural colonisation must be organised within the framework of the 'Merkaz Haklai'.

I repeat again that middle-class agricultural colonisation should be made elastic and real and that financial qualifications for such colonisation should be secondary to the expressed desire of the candidates to live agriculturally along that pattern.

The suggestion that a larger budget might be available for this department if the Treasury would add that additional amount to the agricultural budget does not make any sense to me. I do not want this type of settlement to be placed in a position of some kind of special petitioner. The question is whether this type of colonisation, in view of all the circumstances, is entitled to at least 15% of the agricultural budget, whether it be the ordinary budget which the Agency provides, or the larger budget which will be available as a result of the K.K.L. arrangement with the Government. My view is that 15% is not excessive for this type of colonisation.

I am asking that this entire matter be placed on the agenda of a meeting of the Executive in the near future when we can discuss it prior to the discussion by the Actions Committee.

In the meantime, I shall be glad to go into the matter with you and Mrs. Chorin with the hope that we shall be able to work out some kind of agreeable formula. I realise that written memos are not a satisfactory way of solving matters, but I am writing the memo in order to bring up this question in a formal way.

(-) Dr. I. Goldstein

COPY OF CABLE

March 30, 1949

TO: DR. EMANUEL NEUMANN

MY PROPOSAL POSTPONE AC CARRIED WITH GOLD REPHAEL SHAGRAI
GROSSMAN DOBKIN MYSELF BUT LOCKER NEGATIVE STOP DECISION
POLL ENTIRE EXECUTIVE STOP IF DECISION POSTPONEMENT AGREED
DATE WAS JUNE 20 FOR AC AND 14 FOR EXECUTIVE

(Signed) GOLDSTEIN



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JOSEPH L. EGAN
PRESIDENT

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Via

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HALT SEVERAL ATTEMPTS JOIN MONTOR WITH MORGENTHAU APPEAL BUT FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS
UNPREDICTABLE VIEW TERRIBLE DISAPPOINTMENT NEW YORK EXECUTIVE PERMITTED BAD JDC
AGREEMENT AFTER OFFER FROM HERE HELP NEGOTIATIONS REJECTED STOP RE KMK KUBOWITZKI
SENDING MATERIAL BUT EYE RESENT FAILURE ADHERE AGREEMENT REMIT UPON MY CABLING
OKAY STOP CONTINUATION SITUATION MAKES UNTENABLE MY CONTINUING CHAIRMANSHIP

ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN

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W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

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MOVEMENT THIS MOMENT IMPOST DUTY ON YOU TO BE PRESENT WITH
US STOP PLEASE CABLE REGARDS =

ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN =

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[19497]

Copy.

Dr. Emanuel Neuman
Zionist Organisation of America
41 East 42nd Street
NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

Dear Emanuel,

In an hour I shall be leaving for Israel, after a few days stay here, which I think were useful. The Fund Raising Campaign, in France, was launched Sunday and I was able to participate in it. Pino Ginsburg was appointed by me to replace Johoschua Levy, whom Dobkin was trying hard to push and I took the occasion to talk many things over with Pino, who will have a very responsible post in Europe, as my representative in treasury matters.

Bahral came to make some purchases and together with Hartman, joined in a number of important conferences. Treasury matter have been handled here in disorderly fashion and I hope some order can be brought into the picture.

We spent a portion of Saturday at the United Nations. I cannot help feeling that the team work which was so effective under Dr. Silver's leadership at Lake Success, was not in evidence here. Who can assess the reason for the unfavorable outcome, but my talk with some of the people here, indicated that our friends from Israel, wonderful and gifted as they are, have not learnt the art of lobbying. It should have been possible to avert the present composition of the commission.

While here, we received drastic cables from Zvi Herman, in connection with his department of Klitat Aliya, where they are desperately in need of blankets. Bahral came here to find a supply but he hasn't the funds. He cabled to Hammer for immediate \$ 300000 and another \$ 1.000.000, to be available a few weeks hence. This money must be absolutely provided, otherwise there is going to be really a catastrophe and I may as well go back to the U.S.A., if I have to remain in Israel in the absence of the elementary requirement. Whether we must ask for loan from JDC or get the money in other ways I leave it to you and Dr. Silver, but we have got to have it.

Now a few words about the General Zionist Picture here. I must say that there is an improvement in the way the European office is working. Polakewicz is working out better than was expected by some. He is really trying to hold the balance evenly. They are shortly sending someone to North Africa where there are considerable opportunities for General Zionism.

In the meantime the Shekelaction in France and other countries shows better results than last year. They are of yourse unhappy over the split of the party in Israel and are making it clear to the Hoaved Hazoni people here and in Israel that the split must inevitably destroy the chances of the confederation in Europe and that there must be a reunification after the elections.

Topiol asked me to remind you about ZOE contributions to the 2nd. children home he is establishing here in Paris. He says that he wrote you and never received a reply and therefore feels put out.

Zerubabel is here in Paris and is complaining about Dobkins interference with his work. This habit of Dobkin seems to be assuming comprehensive if not universal proportions. The effort to stop it may prove to be the first common bond among the members of the Executive. I have rarely seen a man who is able to sow more confusion in less time.

There are many other things that I would write about but they can wait. Since we had a cable exchange in connection with the recent UPA controversy there is no point in writing about it. Nachum just came in to say goodbye on his way to the States. He seems to be very eager to get closer to us than he has been before and I believe that it would be all to the good from every point of view. I suspect that he is unhappy about the treatment he is getting from Shertok and others and on the rebound wants to establish closer kinship with his American colleagues.

I trust that JDC negotiations are proceeding rapidly to make up for los t time. If the idea of having JDC take over and even finance a segment of work in Israel is rejected then there is another thought which might be worth considering. It came to my mind in connection with the present crisis regarding blankets. The JDC might want to consider providing every immigrant to Israel with a bed, a mattress and other such elementary needs. These few items themselves spell out about 7 Pounds and therefore would not add up to a very substantial amount. From our point of view the packages could no doubt be increased as to amount to something like 100 Dollars per capita totalling in excess of 12.000.000 per annum if we figure on a rate of 125000 a year, which now seems to be a conservative estimate.

My plane is leaving in an hour and I must hurry to catch it.

Schalom

Dr. Israel Goldstein

Rabbi Israel Goldstein

[Undated]

~~Cong B'nai B'rith~~

United P. O.
#1 2 42nd St

Do not regard any public announcement of
our disavowal with planned organization
advisable. Suggest no further attendance by our
representatives.

~~There may be need~~
consult Tel Aviv

Should Suggest you
K. G. Silver