



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

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

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

Reel
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938

Jewish Agency, "H", 1947-1949.

3821 Westside Avenue
Los Angeles 43, California
December 12, 1947

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

Dear Doctor Silver:

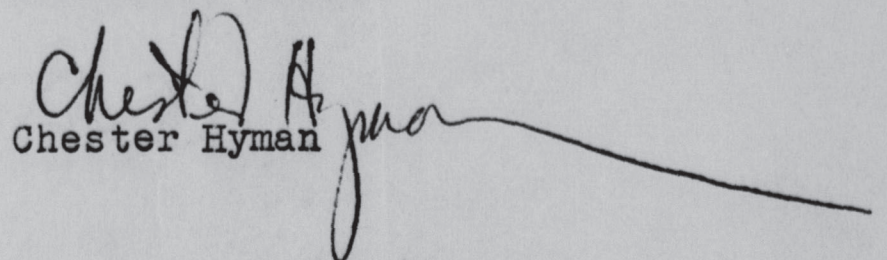
In view of the decision of the United Nations relative to the partition of Palestine, it appears likely that the entire structure and function of political Zionist organizations in the Galuth will undergo revision. It seems doubtful that the World Zionist Congress and the Jewish Agency as now constituted will have either the purpose or the authority they now enjoy.

Under these conditions, certain fundamental changes in the outlook of the individual Jew in the Galuth must be considered, and it is in regard to this new orientation that I write you at this time. I wonder if you would be kind enough to let me have your own opinion on the following specific questions.

1. Is there a valid reason for the continuance of the several independent (and at times conflicting) political Zionist organizations in America? I refer to the so-called "legitimate" groups: The ZOA, Mizrachi, LZOA, etc. To what extent are we in the Galuth morally justified in attempting to direct the life of the Yishuv?
2. What positive, constructive role do you envisage for the American Zionist in the new era of the fourth Jewish State? Obviously, we will be called upon to make financial and technical contributions to the Yishuv. But, are there other areas of mutual benefaction which should be emphasized and exploited? In other words, what is the character of the movement to be which will take the place of the political struggle for the mass of American Zionists?
3. Why are the current shekel campaign and the next World Congress so extremely important? I believe I can answer part of this question myself: we must make a final show of solidarity with the Yishuv. But why the bitter fight in the elections? Why was no attempt made to lay aside the political differences for this last meeting?

I am taking the liberty of sending this same list of questions to a representative group of leaders in American Judaism, and would appreciate your reply. Would you be kind enough to indicate if I may quote from your answer in the event that I decide to summarize the several opinions in a short publication?

Sincerely yours


Chester Hyman

*Palestine Economic Corporation
570 Lexington Ave.
New York, N. Y.*

*Lee Harris
Manager
Palestine Mortgage & Savings Bank Ltd.
P.O.B. 116, Tel-Aviv*

5th September, 1948.

Rabbi A. H. Silver,
Zionist Organisation of America,
New York.

Dear Rabbi Silver,

I am enclosing a copy of a memorandum regarding the establishment of an American Zionist House in Israel.

Mr. Frisch and I saw the house I was thinking of yesterday, and he approves.

To-day I hope to find out if it is available and I will communicate with you and him.

Best personal regards,

Lee Harris

Encl.
LH.RS.

Copy to Mr. E. Neumann.

*Palestine Economic Corporation
570 Lexington Ave.
New York, N. Y.*

*Lee Harris
Manager
Palestine Mortgage & Savings Bank Ltd.
P.O.B. 116, Tel-Aviv*

MEMORANDUM

RE: Establishment of American House in Israel.

It is suggested that an "American House" be established in Tel Aviv to concern itself with visitors to Israel from the North and South American continents.

Such an American House would:

1. VISITORS -

- (a) Contact all visitors on their arrival in the country.
- (b) Assist them in their personal arrangements, viz. hotels, banking arrangements, etc.
- (c) Provide them with information on tours through the country, arrange hospitality in private homes, obtain invitations to official functions, etc.
- (d) Provide them with economic information, arrange contacts with business and industrial leaders, visits to factories, etc.
- (e) Provide a lounge and writing desks, which will be a meeting place for such visitors where they can contact their friends.

2. VOLUNTEERS FROM OVERSEAS -

Right now there is an immediate problem of taking care of the volunteers from the North and South American countries. At present the Palestine Mortgage & Savings Bank Ltd., which is a subsidiary of the Palestine Economic Corporation, New York, has provided office space in its premises for the American and Canadian boys. If a meeting place such as the proposed American House can be established, it would be of great benefit to them. They could receive their mail here, contact their friends, and use it as a centre for recreation.

3. REQUIREMENTS -

- (a) One large lounge room and two small rooms contiguous to it, preferably in Hayarkon Street in the vicinity of the Gat Rimon Hotel.
- (b) One Executive Secretary (male) and one Receptionist, possibly volunteers from the ranks of Americans resident in Tel Aviv.*
- (c) One automobile and office equipment and furniture.

* Note: With the large number of volunteers from overseas at present in Israel additional personnel might be required.

LM.RS.

Palestine Economic Corporation
570 Lexington Ave.
New York, N. Y.

Lee Harris
Manager
Palestine Mortgage & Savings Bank Ltd.
P.O.B. 116, Tel-Aviv

7th September, 1948.

Dr. Emanuel Neumann,
Zionist Organisation of America,
New York.

Copies to: Rabbi Silver ✓
Mr. Frisch

Dear Emanuel,

I understand that the Government has definitely stated that they will discontinue the LP. 5.- a month pocket money which has been paid for the last couple of months to the volunteers from overseas.

The South-Africans are continuing to pay the money to their boys out of their own pocket, which sum they feel will be replaced by funds they will raise in South-Africa.

Mrs. Sacks intends to raise the money for the Canadians, so that they may continue to be paid. I think we should do likewise for the Americans. These boys are strangers here without families and for them to get by on just LP. 2.- a month is asking too much.

Our budget for the month of October would be:-

400 boys @ LP. 5.-	LP. 2,000.-
Welfare and recreation fund, administration, allowance for additional volunteers	<u>500.-</u>
	<u>LP. 2,500.-</u>

As you know, the Bank has already organised the American-Canadian Office in its premises and will be glad to continue the work.

Please let me know at your earliest convenience, and in any case not later than the 20th of the month, ~~that~~ ^{when} the funds will be available.

Best personal regards,

P.S. I will be glad to supply you with a complete list of all the boys and girls who are registered with us and their home addresses.

Encl.
LH.RS.

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

(20)

1201

JOSEPH L. EGAN
PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

1948 DEC 18 PM 3 25

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

Q257 INTL=ZL LONDON VIA WUCABLES 8 18 655P=

LC SILVER TEMPLE=C

CLEVE=

TALKED TO AUBREY=

FANNY=

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 (01) F

1201

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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

CL A048 INTL=ZL LONDON VIA WU CABLES 37 18 ~~22 DEC~~ 18 AM 10 03

LC SILVER TEMPLE=

CLEVE=

INVITED SPEND XMAS HOLLIDAYS CAIRO MEET TOPMAN PURPOSE HELP
PEACE STOP SUGGEST HAROLD JOIN ME AS RELUCTANT ASSUME
RESPONSIBILITY STOP ONLY INTEREST FURTHER PEACE COUNT ON
YOUR UTMOST DISCRETION NO PUBLICITY=
HOLTZMANN CLARIDGES.

CLASS OF SERVICE

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TS-CL198 PD=WUX NEWYORK NY 3 203P=

1949 FEB 3 PM 2 48

:DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER THE TEMPLE=

:105 ST AND ANSEL RD=

WRHS

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

FOLLOWING CABLE JUST RECEIVED FROM GANDER QUOTE JEVAGENCY
NEWYORK FOR SILVER SORRY DELAY ENGINE TROUBLE STOP WE
PROPOSE MEETING FRIDAY MORNING WOULD APPRECIATE PERSONAL
TALK BEFORE REGARDS LOCKER UNQUOTE STOP RECEIVED PHONE CALL
FROM EISENBERG FROM GANDER INFORMING PLANE DUE ARRIVE
NEWYORK THIS EVENING REGARDS=

HAMMER=

JEVAGENCY=

[undated]

AMERICAN-CANADIAN INFORMATION CENTRE

REGISTRATION.

Before you are eligible for any benefits you must register in person at either:

American-Canadian Information Centre,
c/o Palestine Mortgage & Savings Bank Ltd.,
3, Achuzat Bait St., Tel Aviv,
(Right side of building, 3rd floor),
Telephone 4575.

or

Bayside Land Corporation,
2 Herzl Street;
Hadar Hacarmel, Haifa,
Telephone 4228.

OFFICE HOURS: Sunday - Thursday: 10.00 to 12.00 a.m. and
16.00 to 18.00 p.m.
Friday : 10.00 to 12.00 a.m.
Closed on Saturdays.

INCOMING MAIL.

You may use the following address for incoming mail :
c/o Palestine Mortgage & Savings Bank Ltd.,
P.O. Box 116,
Tel Aviv.

CABLE ADDRESS.

The cable address is :
Morbank Telaviv.

CANADIAN MAIL.

Canadians may use the same mail address but must enclose their letters in a second envelope which should be addressed to :

Harold Jaffer,
250 West 57th St.,
New York 19, N.Y.,

which office will forward it to Israel.

OTHER SERVICES.

The office will :

- a) Pay you your monthly "pocket money";
- b) When you have received a "passbook" you may be paid at the Bank's branches as follows :
 - Haifa - 2, Herzl Street, Hadar Hacarmel;
 - Jerusalem - 4, Hassolel Street;
 - Safad - Main road leading to Post Office;
 - Tiberias - Toister Hotel down town.
- c) Check up on whether or not your friends are in town;

- d) Store your luggage.
- e) Safe-keeping of your valuables;
- f) Any personal advice you may need (the Bank has several affiliated companies whose Managers and Directors have long resided in Israel);
- g) Provides shower, towels, rest room, on the roof of this building.

SLEEPING ACCOMMODATION.

The Town Major, whose address is 78 Hayarkon Street, is responsible for providing you with sleeping accommodations and food tickets when on leave.

SOLDIERS' CLUB.

- 1. At the Maxim Bar, 80 Hayarkon St., Tel Aviv.
- 2. At Noah's Ark, 91 " " "

Hospitality will be arranged in homes through the Soldiers' Welfare Committee, 11 Rothschild Blvd.

RESTAURANTS FOR SOLDIERS.

- 1. 19 Ben Yehuda St.
- 2. 12 Dizengoff Circle.
- 3. 25 Herzl St. (Kosher Restaurant)
- 4. 91 Hayarkon St. (Wizo ").

Address of: Post Office : 124 Allenby Road
Telegraph Office : 124 Allenby Road
Parcel Post Office : 48 Yehuda Halevy St..

REFRESHMENTS.

While it is certainly not the policy of this office to encourage men to drink, nevertheless, we wish to draw your attention to the fact that liquor, whiskey and beer by the bottle are unrationed in Israel and can be bought in almost all grocery shops and wine shops. For local brands please consult price list provided in every shop. The price of Calverts, Ceagrams V.O. and Canadian Club is approximately LP. 1.400 per bottle.

LAUNDRY. Arrangements have been made for "Alexander", 26 Ahad Haam St., to do your dry cleaning and washing at reduced prices.

TRANSFER OF MONEY FROM U.S.A.

The proper way to obtain money from the U.S. is to contact the Foreign Exchange Department of any Bank (viz; Anglo-Palestine Bank, corner Herzl St.-Lillienblum St-see Mr. Gross) and they will make the arrangements for you.