



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.

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Jewish Agency, McDonald, James, 1948.



THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

PERSONAL

Mission of the United States
Tel Aviv, Israel
October 26, 1948

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO:

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

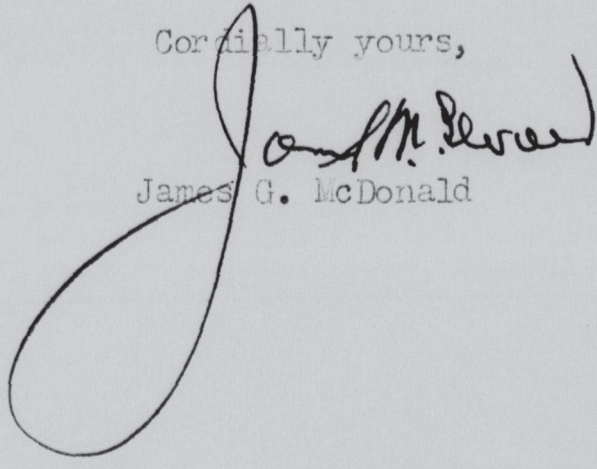
Since you probably do not plan to be back in Israel in the near future, I wonder whether it might not be possible for our mutual friend, Ben Horin, to come out. I know, of course, that he was here not so very long ago. Nonetheless, I would find the opportunity to talk with him, among other things about current problems in the neighboring Arab states, so helpful that it has occurred to me that perhaps you and Dr. Neumann could spare him for the few weeks necessary to make the trip.

I am writing a note also to Dr. Neumann about this possibility.

Although much has happened here since you left, you keep yourself so intimately informed that I shall not undertake to add to your information. The only points which might be new to you are so confidential that they cannot properly be disclosed. Hence my reticence.

With best wishes,

Cordially yours,


James G. McDonald

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL
342 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Silver

Date November 2, 1948

From Eliahu Ben-Horin

Enclosed please find for your files a copy of the
cable I sent today to Mr. McDonald in your name.

Best regards.

C
O
P
Y

NLT

HON JAMES G MCDONALD
USA SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE
TEL AVIV ISRAEL

RECEIVED YOUR PERSONAL LETTER OCTOBER TWENTYSIXTH STOP ASKED OUR
FRIEND GO ISRAEL EARLIEST BEST REGARDS

SILVER

Dear Dr. Silver:

Paris -

Dec 8 -

Since you know Mrs. Harmer I hope you will
offer to support with your U.P.A. colleagues
my suggestion.

The family has gone well - particularly in
the defeat of undesirable proposals. - enclosed
[Signature]

December 7, 1948

Dear Miss Shulkind,

This is the letter I promised you on the phone last week about my
friend Mrs. Yolande Nel-Harmer, recently released from prison in Cairo, who
will, if given the opportunity, be a great success as a supplementary and
"novelty" speaker in your next UPA and UJA campaign.

These are some of the reasons for my confidence:

- 1) Mrs. Harmer, an Egyptian-born Jewess of one of the oldest families, sees the Jewish problem from an angle which will be new to most American Jews.
- 2) An experienced journalist having lived all her life in Egypt-- she is thirty-four--travelled extensively and worked in the neighboring Arab States, she has an intimate knowledge of Arab mentality and policies.
- 3) A woman of exceptional intelligence and charm, she was a favorite with Arab intellectuals including Azzam Pasha, Secretary of the Arab League. It was through Azzam that I first met her, when the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry was in Cairo in February, 1946.
- 4) She is a devoted Jewess, convinced that Israel is the only solution for the problem of tens of thousands of Jews in the Moslem diaspora.
- 5) Her arrest by the Egyptian authorities last spring--shortly after she had been kind to Mrs. McDonald and me when we were in Cairo last spring and following directly after her private conference with Count Bernadotte when he was in Cairo in June--and her subsequent release on the appeal of several foreign Governments, including our own, should make her of special interest for Americans.
- 6) She has personality which will help her to win conviction-- and not merely from men--for her ideas and ideals.

United Palestine Appeal
42nd Street & Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.
Attention: Miss Shulkind

December 7, 1948

Thus you see I am suggesting to you something new, different, and distinctively marketable.

It will be necessary, since Mrs. Harmer is dependent on what she earns, that the UPA and the UJA offer her a contract for a period of at least six months or a year. I do not suggest, nor would she expect, a large honorarium, but rather a guaranteed income--possibly \$1500. a month above travelling expenses. This will be the more necessary because she supports her fourteen year old son, whom she would want to place in an American boarding school.

Mrs. Harmer would be a good "investment" for the campaign because she could be used advantageously not only as a "novelty" speaker supplementing the traditional appeals at large meetings but also on her own at intimate parlor or dinner gatherings. I hope that you and the "higher-ups" in the UPA and the UJA will grasp this opportunity and write Mrs. Harmer promptly a definite offer. Her full name and address is:

Mrs. Yolande Nel-Harmer
189 rue du Faubourg St. Honore
Paris 8

I am sending a copy of this letter to Dr. Silver and to Eddie Warburg.

If Mrs. Harmer goes to the States, I will give her a number of letters of introduction to people with whom she could, I think, have special influence.

Give my love to your husband. Cordially,

James G. McDonald

JGMcd/ev

cc.: Dr. Silver
Mr. Warburg