



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
39

Box
14

Folder
956

Jewish Agency, "S", 1948-1949.

COPY

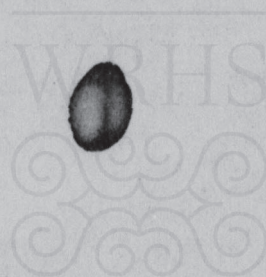
TELAVIV

SEPTEMBER 12, 1948

NLT DR SILVER NEWYORK

WILL RETURN NEWYORK TWENTYSECOND CONFIDENTLY EXPECT BE IN TIME FOR
DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENTS WITHIN AMERICAN SECTION EXECUTIVE REGARDS

JOSEPH SCHECHTMAN



A. H. SAKIER
LIFE INSURANCE
217 BROADWAY, NEW YORK CITY

CORTLANDT 7-3870

September 20, 1948

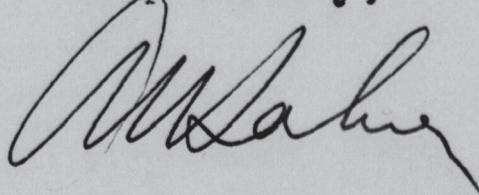
Dear Rabbi Silver:

I was happy to see that you, at least, of our Zionist leaders, did not join in the masochistic chorus of self-abasement set up by our spokesmen in their desire to impress the world with their indignation against the murderers of Bernadotte.

But why do you not go the whole way? After all, you speak for all of us, and we need to be spoken for courageously. Why did you not say, for instance, 'Yes, if it was Jews who killed Bernadotte, then we are sorry indeed. We are sorry that a devoted husband and father was torn from his family in the prime of his life, no matter who killed him. But we cannot accept responsibility for the actions of men whom the persistent denial of justice has rendered desperate. The train of events which culminated in Bernadotte's killing was set in inexorable motion on that afternoon of November 29, 1947 when, five minutes after the UN Resolution on the Partition of Palestine was voted, Faris El-Khoury, spokesman of the Arab members of the UN, got up and announced that he and his followers would cancel out that resolution by murder and massacre - and he was unrebuked and unchallenged. That was the moment when, though not yet assigned to his mission in Palestine, his death warrant was signed and countersigned. We love our people. We will not abandon even those abandoned and desperate young men (if it really was they) who thought that in the absence of all other just methods, they were doing right to kill their enemy.'

I know that I am not particularly 'kasher' in Zionist ranks. But that is of no consequence at this moment and in this connection.

Respectfully,



התנהלה העולמית של ברית הצה"ר
משרד לארצות אמריקה

SIONISTAS REVISIONISTAS

Ejecutive Mundial

Oficina Central para el Hemisferio Occidental

ZIONISTS-REVISIONISTS

World Executive

Headquarters for the Western Hemisphere

NEW YORK 16, N. Y., U. S. A.

104 EAST 40th STREET

Suite 8 E

October 26, 1948

Dr. Israel Goldstein
Chairman, United Palestine Appeal
41 East 42nd Street
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Goldstein:

Dr. Joseph Schechtman informed us that in view of the proposed changes in the composition of the management of the U.P.A., he again raised, at the last meeting of the Zionist World Executive, the longpending question of an allocation of an appropriate share of the U.P.A. funds for Revisionist settlement activities and economic functions in Israel. To his suggestion that, should the new changes in the composition of the U.P.A. take place and non-Zionist representatives join the U.P.A. Board before an agreement is reached about our participation, it might later be even more difficult to secure our share, Mr. Emanuel Neumann agreed that this was "a fair assumption". But to Dr. Schechtman's assertion that the present state of discrimination against us is most unfair, you stated: "You have always the alternative of making a separate campaign".

We are greatly surprised and shocked that such advice should come from you.

We came to this country as a delegation representing the Revisionist movement and the Tel-Hai Fund (its economic and financial instrument), with the task of enlisting material help from American Jewry in order to assist the settlement of the many thousands of our members and the members of our youth organizations there, and those who are now in the process of being repatriated to Israel from the D.P. camps and various European countries. For this purpose our delegation will be strengthened in the near future; Mr. Zvi Segal, member of the Provisional Parliament of Israel, and Major Yitshaq Berman, of the Israeli Army, are to join us shortly.

In coming to this country, our aim and desire was to act in concert and full understanding with the leadership of the World Zionist Movement in America and to enlist material support through the unified channels

of the U.P.A. We felt quite sure that, after our president, Mr. Meir Grossman, was elected to his important position in the World Zionist Executive in Israel, Dr. Joseph Schechtman as our representative of the World Executive in New York, and in view of the radical changes which have occurred in the Zionist Movement since the establishment of the State of Israel, a new era of common effort, good will and mutual help would start, and the former discrimination against our movement would be a matter of the past. We believed that, in view of the new situation, the funds raised from American Jewry and donated voluntarily for our needy brethren coming to and living in Israel, would be directed also through the channels of the Revisionist Party, as they have until now been to a considerable extent directed through the channels of the General Zionists (\$500,000 appropriation) and the Mizrachi (\$750,000 appropriation). We sincerely hoped that the era of discrimination and separation had been liquidated.

And now, you, member and treasurer of the Zionist World Executive, Chairman of the U.P.A., calmly suggest that instead of joining forces and creating a pattern of Zionist cooperation, we should as an "alternative" to this patriotic offer, make our own "separate campaign". We are sure that, if it should be publicized, such a statement as yours would provoke shock and bewilderment in all Zionist ranks and considerably handicap the integration of the Zionist forces all over the world. We refuse to believe that this advice of yours is a deliberate and a definite one. We would appreciate having your statement clarifying your position.

We feel obliged to stress that should we be compelled to resort to a separate campaign, we would be entitled to explain to Jewish public opinion the reasons which forced us to do so. Moreover, we will ask of you and your colleagues confirmation in writing that our separate campaign was undertaken after our efforts to reach an agreement with the U.P.A. had failed and that this was the only alternative left us. We are confident that such a statement would prevent the U.P.A. machinery from interfering with our efforts, exactly as we can faithfully promise you that we shall maintain the utmost loyalty towards the endeavors of the U.P.A.

We trust that you will give your immediate consideration to this letter, and awaiting your early reply, we remain

Yours truly,

ISRAELI DELEGATION IN U.S.A.

Zvi Kolitz

Miron Szeskin

Itschak Hameiry

Haiyim Lubinski

Ayala Lubinski

ההנהלה העולמית של ברית הצה"ר
משרד לארצות אמריקה

SIONISTAS REVISIONISTAS

Ejecutive Mundial

Oficina Central para el Hemisferio Occidental

ZIONISTS-REVISIONISTS

World Executive

Headquarters for the Western Hemisphere

NEW YORK 16, N. Y., U. S. A.

104 EAST 40th STREET
Suite 8 E

October 27, 1948

Dr. Israel Goldstein
Chairman, United Palestine Appeal
41 East 42nd Street
New York, New York

Dear Dr. Goldstein:

Further to our letter addressed to you yesterday, we draw your attention to the following:

Our delegation has formed an American Committee to sponsor help for the National Sick Fund in Israel, which serves all Jews irrespective of party or trade affiliations, and which is financially backed by the Tel-Hai Fund.

The Pittsburgh branch of this Committee is sponsoring a concert to be held on November 14, 1948. The proceeds of this concert are earmarked for the National Sick Fund.

Much to our surprise the General Zionists, the Labor Zionist Movement, and the Mizrahi Organization of Pittsburgh published in the Pittsburgh Jewish Criterion of October 22nd, 1948, the following cable:

NEWYORK

OCTOBER 20, 1948

"YOUR INQUIRY REGARDING NATIONAL SICK FUND WAS REFERRED TO ME. WHEN THE PROBLEM FIRST AROSE WE INQUIRED OF JEWISH AGENCY IN PALESTINE WHICH IN CABLED REPLY DECLARED THAT IT OPPOSES SEPARATE FUND RAISING NATIONAL SICK FUND FOR WHICH NO AUTHORIZATION OR CONSENT GIVEN AND WHICH WAS NOT EVEN DISCUSSED WITH THEM. THEY FURTHER DECLARED THAT THERE WAS NO JUSTIFICATION IN THE SLOGANS USED BY NATIONAL SICK FUND AND URGED THAT SINCE SUCH FUND RAISING EFFORTS SERIOUSLY INTERFERE CENTRAL EFFORTS TO PROVIDE NEEDS IN ISRAEL WE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ELIMINATE SUCH INTERFERENCE. LETTER FOLLOWS -

HARRY SEEVE
UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL
41 EAST 42nd STREET "

We fully repudiate the allegations made therein. We are ready to refute them and prove that the material and funds obtained for the National Sick Fund are being sent to Israel, and that the slogans used by us are true to facts.

We are sorry to state that this announcement of the U.P.A. once again proves the traditional biased and unfair attitude of the U.P.A. towards our movement. While we are subject to most unfair attacks against every attempt of fund raising for real and vital needs of our Israeli institutions, we have still to learn that the U.P.A. came out even with the slightest protest against the new campaign launched by the Histadruth for \$1,500,000 to combat the invented by them infantile paralysis epidemic in Israel, or against their \$10,000,000 campaign for the "rehabilitation and social welfare of new immigrants to Israel" (see N.Y. Times of October 8, 1948).

It looks as if in spite of our being an integral part of the World Zionist Organization, we are to be further discriminated, besmeared and hampered by institutions, from whom we are entitled to expect understanding, fairness, and a minimum of loyalty. As we mentioned in our yesterday's letter, we are anxious to see an integrated Zionist work and movement, and are ready for full collaboration and mutual help. But how long can we stand this underhanded method? On one hand you persistently refuse us our well-deserved right to share in the funds of the U.P.A., advising us to "have a campaign of our own," and on the other hand, when we are acting along these lines, the organization you head and its beneficiaries do not hesitate to block our way in getting necessary assistance for our members and our Israeli institutions by hostile and unwarranted statements.

We submit that this situation is untenable. We urgently request you to state the U.P.A. policy towards us: either an understanding can be reached, integrating us and our work in the U.P.A. frame, or, if this is refused, and the only other way: - separate fund-raising is left to us -

- a) to revoke publicly the statement made in the Pittsburgh paper;
- b) to give us an assurance that no similar occurrences will be repeated and that our efforts to provide for our Israeli needs will not be sabotaged;

c) to give us a written statement to the effect that, since we have no allocation from the U.P.A. funds, we are entitled to conduct our own campaigns.

Awaiting your early reply, we remain

Truly yours,

On behalf of the
Israeli Delegation in the U.S.A.

HL:EL

H. Lubinski



ההנהלה העולמית של ברית הצה"ר
משרד לארצות אמריקה

SIONISTAS REVISIONISTAS

Ejecutive Mundial

Oficina Central para el Hemisferio Occidental

ZIONISTS-REVISIONISTS

World Executive

Headquarters for the Western Hemisphere

NEW YORK 16, N. Y., U. S. A.

104 EAST 40th STREET

October 28, 1948

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

I take the liberty of enclosing the two letters which our Israeli Delegation has addressed to Dr. Israel Goldstein. I trust that in view of the anticipated discussion regarding our participation on the U.P.A., which is scheduled to take place at the next meeting of the World Zionist Executive, on Monday, November 1st, you will be interested in the enclosed letters.

Sincerely yours,

J. Schechtman

Dr. Joseph Schechtman
President

JS:RL
ENC.

UNITED ZIONISTS-REVISIONISTS OF AMERICA

55 WEST 42nd STREET — NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

November 2, 1948

Dr. Joseph Schechtman
President

Col. Morris J. Mendelsohn
Chairman, Executive Board

Leo Wolfson
Chairman, Administrative Committee

Joseph Beder
Chairman, National Council

B. Epstein
Director, Political Department

Adolph Lieblich
Treasurer

Dr. Harry Levi
National Executive Director

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
Jewish Agency for Palestine
16 East 66th Street
New York City

Dear Dr. Silver:

As I told you yesterday, I am leaving tomorrow for Brazil and hope to be back in two weeks' time.

I do not know whether the personnel for the American Section is going to be engaged within the next two weeks. Should this be the case, I am taking the liberty of enclosing curricula of two leading Revisionist personalities, Dr. Harry C. Schnur and Ing. Miron Szeskin, who would be willing to take up responsible positions within the American section. In doing so, I am following the suggestion made by you a few weeks ago.

I am confident that you will give serious consideration to the candidacy of these two gentlemen, and will communicate with them directly if and when the question of personnel comes up.

With best personal wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

J. Schechtman
Dr. Joseph Schechtman

Dr. Harry C. SCHNUR

72-81 Yellowstone Boulevard, Forest Hills, L.I.
BOulevard 3-4530

Born 1907, Berlin. Joined Zionist Youth Organisation "Blau-Weiss" in 1917 ; active Zionist ever since. Studied law, economics and languages and graduated as Doctor of Law in 1929 (~~in~~ Leipzig).

Has been active as writer and political journalist, also as translator (into English) of literary and political works. Edited "Centraal-Blad voor Israelieten" and "Joodsche Vrijheid" (Amsterdam, Holland); edited "Jewish Standard (London). Also correspondent for Jewish papers in S. Africa, French North Africa, Holland etc. Publications: Teuton Torturers, an analysis of German antisemitism; Jewish Humour; ^{*)} Daumier, etc. Articles reproduced in "Readers Digest" and other magazines. Writes and speaks English, German, French, Dutch (Flemish); has working knowledge of Spanish, modern Greek.

Effective English speaker and stylist; experienced debater.

Business experience: Spent several years as assistant editor with English firm of book publishers (Alliance Press, London). Experienced in office management. At present holds \$9,000 executive position with a New York tobacco firm.

Scheduled for publication in November, 1948, simultaneously in London and New York: Mystic Rebels, Four Historical-Biographic studies in religious mysticism (Publishers Beechhurst Press, New York, and Godfrey and Stevens, London)

Miron Szeskin - 45 years old

c/o Tel Hai Fund, 675 Eighth Avenue, New York

Graduated University in Berlin (mechanical engineer)
Studied Colombia University (economical science)

Owner of one of largest paper mills in Poland;
Vice-President of European Syndicate of Paper and Carboard;
Consul General of the Central American Republics in Poland.
Former President of Revisionist movement in Poland;
Former member of Actions Committee;

Veteran of World War II - rank of major

Head of military office Municipality Tel-Aviv

Delegate from Palestine to South American for the Tel-Hai Fund, where
spent about two years/from Mexico to Argentina;
in all countries

Since 1948 head of Financial Department (Tel-Hai Fund) for the Western
Hemisphere Head Office, New York.

Speaks Hebrew, English, Jewish, French, German, Russian, Polish, Spanish

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

C
O
P
Y

DEWEY D. STONE
53 ARLINGTON STREET
BROCKTON 8, MASSACHUSETTS

December 26, 1948

The American Section of the
Jewish Agency:

Dear Friends:

I have been confined all week-end with a bad cold, and fearful that it may prevent my personal appearance at the meeting on Monday evening I would like to make the following statement which I hope you will take into consideration when discussing the U.P.A. problem referred to you by the U.P.A. board last Wednesday.

In order to avoid an unreasonably long letter I must avoid saying here much that I would have said by way of background material if I were talking to you instead of writing. I understand and hope that Mr. Rosenberg will speak to you, and I am sure he will fully cover the subject.

After much personal and telephonic discussion it is my firm belief that the final agreement between the U.P.A. and the committee of contributors called for the settlement of the problem of the five resigned employees of the U.P.A. by Mr. Rosenberg as the sole arbiter as to the terms and basis on which they would be reemployed. My understanding of this fact is unequivocal. I definitely discussed the matter with Mr. Weisman, the chairman of the U.P.A., and had his acceptance of this arrangement before I informed the Council Committee and the negotiators for the committee of contributors that this arrangement for the handling of this problem of the five former employees was agreeable to the U.P.A.

I now feel very strongly that regardless of our feelings as to the decision of Mr. Rosenberg in regard to the five men we, of the U.P.A., cannot morally refuse to accept his decision in the spirit of our agreement. Any other action at this time would, in my humble opinion, destroy the last hope of a successful, united U.P.A. and U.J.A. for 1949.

After my conversation with Dr. Neumann on Wednesday evening I can understand that he may not have clearly understood the arrangements agreed to with Mr. Rosenberg. This is regrettable, but should not influence your action at this critical juncture. I find it impossible to understand how Mr. Weisman can say that he did not clearly understand that Mr. Rosenberg - the other council members - the committee of contributors, negotiators and I all understood very specifically that Mr. Rosenberg was to be the sole arbiter of this matter. I hope after my conversation with him the other day refreshing his memory regarding our several discussions on this very point, and his further talks with Mr. Rosenberg, that he will recall the facts and report an agreement with me on these facts.

I sincerely urge, therefore, that you will advise the U.P.A. to accept the decision of Mr. Rosenberg. He has rendered a great sacrificial service to U.P.A. in a most difficult role of peace maker. I hope we will show our proper appreciation.

With kindest regards to all, I am

Sincerely,

/Sgd/ Dewey Stone

I. I. SCHWARZBART

MEMBER, EXECUTIVE WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

1834 BROADWAY

NEW YORK 23, N. Y.

OFFICE TELEPHONE
CIRCLE 7-2917

CABLE ADDRESS: WORLDGROSS NEW YORK

HOME TELEPHONE
RIVERSIDE 9-8485

February 10, 1949.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Chairman
Jewish Agency Executive, American Branch.

Dear Dr. Silver:

I should like to suggest that the Jewish Agency Branch in America call a solemn meeting of members and deputy members of the Actions Committee residing in the United States and of those residing outside the States but ^{who} are here temporarily on a visit, on the occasion of the opening of the first Jewish parliament in Jewish history. This, as you know, will take place in Jerusalem on Monday, February 13.

I deem it appropriate that on such an occasion a celebration devoted to this historic event should take place. I think that members of the Zionist Emergency Council which officially represents all Zionist groups, should also be invited and so should, in my opinion, representatives of leading Jewish organizations in New York and of the press.

All members of the Executive are, according to the constitution of the Jewish Agency, also members of the Actions Committee. I understand that the members of the Executive who met here from abroad, are scheduled to leave today. Should, however, this not be the case and Mr. Berl Locker be here longer, then it might be considered whether such a meeting should not be called jointly by both co-chairmen of the Executive.

However, I have in mind a chiefly American Jewish celebration.

I feel that such a celebration should not be set for Monday next, the day of the opening session of the Israeli Parliament in Jerusalem so as not to detract from the impression of the event itself on the general public. The celebration, as proposed by me, should be timed for afterwards and be an appreciation of the historic fact.

However, the announcement of such a celebration, if agreed upon, should be made immediately.

Very sincerely yours,

Dr. I. Schwarzbart.

IS:nk

I just learn that you left already for Cleveland.

SECOURS NATIONAL JUIF

נאציאנאל יידישע פאלקס-הילף

Affilié à la Fédération des Sociétés Juives de France

Siège Social: 47, Rue de Chabrol, PARIS-X* — Tél.: Pro. 97-34

REFERENCE

PARIS, le 16 February

194 9

Président: M. TOPIOL
Vice-Présidents: B. GMACH
" " B. PRZEDBORSKI
Secrétaire Général: R. ROZENBLUM
Trésorier: A. SZWERTAK
Membres du Comité:
M. DEIFT (NANCY)
O. EWENCZYK (PARIS)
A. HELLER (PARIS)
A. HENRYKOWSKI (PARIS)
A. LUKSENBURG (PARIS)
L. MAYER (BORDEAUX)
Dr. REICH (LYON)
M. WEISS (GRENOBLE)
M. ZEIDSZUR (PARIS)

Dr Aba Bilel SILVER, President
Jewish Agency of America
105 Temple Street
CLEVELAND, Ohio

Dear Friend,

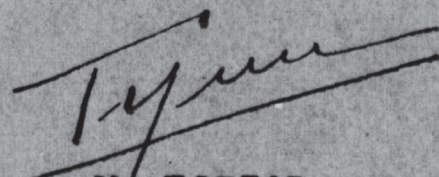
The FOLKSHILF, which is the social relief of the Zionist Organization of France (General Zionists) has the pleasure to invite you to the inauguration of its second Children Home, in Brunoy, near Paris.

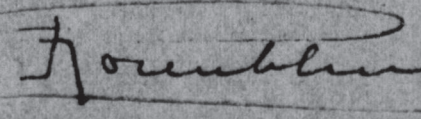
Our first Home, created two years ago, in Villette d'Anthon (Isère), which is bearing the name of the Dr Israel GOLDSTEIN, has shown our wonderful work by sending till now two hundred and forty two children, well prepared to ISRAEL.

Because of the actual tragic situation of our brothers from North Africa and the rescue which has also been enterprised for thousands of European orphéans we have succeeded, in spite of all our financial and other difficulties, to create this second Children Home where they are well-being and getting some proper education for their emigration to ISRAEL.

Awaiting the honour and the pleasure to see you, we send you our very best regards and we remain, dear Friend,

Sincerely yours,


M. TOPIOL
President


R. ROZENBLUM
General Secretary

April 11, 1949

Mr. Joseph B. Schechtman
Jewish Agency for Palestine
16 East 66th Street
New York, New York

My dear Dr. Schechtman:

Permit me to thank you for your thoughtfulness in sending me a copy of your book, "Population Transfers in Asia." I know that I shall read this timely volume with much interest and profit.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:rlh

With the compliments of

Joseph B. Schechtman

Population Transfers in Asia