



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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Lausche, Frank J., 1955-1962.

Lausche
5T-56

December 15, 1955

The Honorable Frank J. Lausche
Governor of Ohio
Columbus, Ohio

My dear Governor Lausche:

I am enclosing herewith the draft of which I spoke to you over the telephone. Please give me your reactions to it.

It would be tremendously helpful if we could bring such a communication to the attention of the President.

As I said to you, Mr. I. L. Kenen is prepared to fly to Columbus from Washington to talk the matter over with you further.

With warmest regards and all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl
Spec. Del. - *air mail*
Enclosure

Dear Mr. President:

The American people are deeply conscious of your dedication to the cause of world peace. In the service of that cause, we believe that you have the understanding and wholehearted support of the great majority of the American people of every party and faith.

Aware of the burden you bear and the high purpose to which you subscribe, we have joined together to submit our views on an issue of international policy, gravely affecting the defense of freedom and the peace of the world.

Within recent months, the Communist conspiracy has entered the Near East with the shipment of weapons to Egypt and with offers of arms and economic aid to other Arab countries. The danger is manifest. The arms shipments to Egypt may embolden the Arab countries to intensify their pressures and demands upon Israel and renew their aggression against that country, whose people stand firmly committed to the cause of freedom.

In this time of crisis, we submit that our Government must use its good offices to promote stability and peaceful settlement in the Near East.

A lasting peace in the Near East will not be attained by the imposition of force by either side or by the intervention of the great powers to dictate arbitrary and one-sided concessions and surrender.

Peace will be attained when and if the parties can be brought together to negotiate a fair and reasonable resolution of their differences at the peace table.

Until such negotiations can be achieved, it is imperative that our Government make certain that the balance of strength is preserved and that aggression is effectively deterred.

In the past, our Government has taken the view that a military balance between Israel and the Arab countries has helped to prevent an outbreak of hostility. That balance has now been upset by the shipment of Communist arms to

Egypt. While opposing an arms race, we must recognize that we can maintain the balance only if Israel is permitted to secure an adequate supply of defensive equipment.

But the supply of arms in itself offers no final solution. To secure a permanent peace in the region it would be most desirable to offer mutual security pacts to Israel and to the Arab countries.

Such a proposal would be consistent with our overall foreign policy, since we now have pacts with forty-four other countries. In our view, it would be a mistake to withhold such a pact until and unless an Arab-Israel agreement is reached or to make the offer of pacts to either side dependent upon acceptance by the other. To make these pacts mutually dependent would be to grant either of the parties a veto power. It is in fact the inability of these nations to reach an agreement on the major issues in dispute which makes it logical and necessary for our country, consistent with our Tripartite declaration of 1950, to strengthen the undertakings offered in that declaration by transforming them into formal treaties. We should guarantee the status quo as a positive step forward to promote agreement.

Mr. President, we believe that the measures that we have outlined here will be conducive to the prevention of war, the resolution of difference and the attainment of peace and that they will have the support of the people of our own country and freedom-loving people all over the world.

Zionist Organization of Chicago

220 SOUTH STATE STREET

CHICAGO 4, ILLINOIS

Telephone WABASH 2-1285

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT:

May 16, 1956

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I am taking this opportunity of writing to you in behalf of the Zionist Organization of Chicago to tell you how thrilled we were to have you in our City, Sunday and how honored we were to have your presence grace our little reception preceding the Bond Dinner. We were all impressed by your talk and stirred by the excellent address given during the Dinner.

There was so much more that we would have liked to have been able to do for you while you were in Chicago, but we did realize that you were fatigued and certainly didn't want to impose more upon your strength than was necessary. Although in Chicago we represent the oldest Zionist group probably in the Country, we suffered to a great extent by our inability to attract the prominent personalities of Zionism to our meetings and functions. That is why when a man of your stature gets into town it becomes a personal experience to each one of us just to see and hear you and a boost to our local Organization when the community realizes that in the Zionist Organization of America we count among our leaders men like you.

I would like to ask a favor of you which we would appreciate receiving, if you have the time to do so. On June 17th, we in Chicago are having our annual local conference which will be culminated in the evening by a fund-raising dinner for American Zionist Fund. It has been several years since we have had an American Zionist Fund affair and it has become apparent to us that we must give this arm of the Zionist Organization of America as much publicity as we can prior to the dinner to acquaint our people with the functions of the American Zionist Fund and its particular projects.

Since Kfar Silver is a project of the American Zionist Fund, we believe that just a note from you with respect to the project itself and what progress you saw when you were in Israel, would be very advantageous to us in our publicity. I would like

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Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver

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to leave it to you to decide just what should be said in such a note but I want to assure you that it would be of inestimable value to us. I trust that in your busy schedule you will find time to give this aid to us.

Once again our deep appreciation for your appearance in Chicago and our best wishes for continued health and activity.

Sincerely yours,

WRHS

Acting President



Leopold Bernson

SB:lp

82 to ma - phoned 12 noon

Telegram

Nov. 8, 1956

THE HONORABLE FRANK J. LAUSCHE
GOVERNOR OF OHIO
COLUMBUS, OHIO

I AM NOT AT ALL SURPRISED AT YOUR AMAZING VICTORY AND I SEND
YOU MY HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS AND ALL GOOD WISHES FOR A
CAREER OF GREAT SERVICE. WARMEST REGARDS

ABBA HILLEL SILVER



THEODORE FRANCIS GREEN, R.I., CHAIRMAN

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FRANK CARLSON, KANS.

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

CARL MARCY, CHIEF OF STAFF
DARRELL ST. CLAIRE, CLERK

June 23, 1959

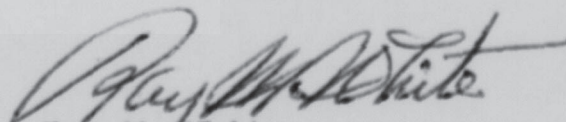
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, Ph.D.
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Rabbi Silver:

I am enclosing herewith a tear sheet from the Congressional Record which contains a reprint of your Sunday morning, May 17th sermon entitled, "A Catholic in the White House?"

Senator Lausche asked me to express to you his appreciation for allowing him to have your sermon reprinted in the Record.

Sincerely yours,


Ray M. White
Administrative Assistant
to Senator Lausche

RMW:bm
Enc.

June 26, 1959

Mr. Ray M. White
Administrative Assistant
to Senator Lausche
United States Senate
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. White:


Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness in sending me a copy of the Congressional Record which contained a reprint of my sermon "A Catholic President in the White House?". Please convey my warmest greetings to Senator Lausche and my thanks to him for having the sermon included in the Congressional Record.

With warmest regards and all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:bfm



NATIONAL TESTIMONIAL COMMITTEE FOR

Ambassador Abba Eban of Israel

1218 SIXTEENTH STREET, N.W. • WASHINGTON 5, D. C. • METROPOLITAN 8-0409

HON. HERBERT H. LEHMAN

Honorary Chairman

HON. JACOB K. JAVITS

Chairman

ROBERT R. NATHAN

Administrative Chairman

January 23, 1959

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street and Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Although it has not been officially announced, it is a matter of general knowledge that Ambassador Abba Eban of Israel will be leaving the United States sometime in the early summer to return home to assume wider responsibilities in the parliamentary and public life of his country. During his tenure of eight years as Ambassador of Israel in Washington and more than ten years as its permanent representative at the United Nations, Ambassador Eban's contributions to American-Israel relations and to international comity and diplomacy in the United Nations have been of historic proportions. By his brilliant articulation of the tradition of his people, he has become a truly memorable figure in hundreds of American communities as well as in the diplomatic world and in the council of nations.

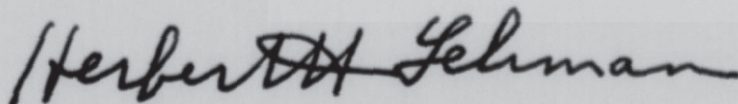
It is, of course, the duty of every ambassador to represent the policies of his government in the country of his accreditation, and Ambassador Eban indeed has been an effective advocate of his country's interests in his dealings with our government and an eloquent voice of Israel in our public forums and in the forum of the United Nations. But Ambassador Eban has done much more than that. He has been an inspired spokesman for the cause of world freedom and for those values and traditions which are common not only to Americans and to the people of Israel but to all people everywhere who cherish freedom and seek the paths of world cooperation toward peace.

Because of the impact he has had upon American understanding of Israel, the Middle East and world events generally and because of our own deep respect and affection for him, which is shared by so many Americans, we have taken the initiative in setting up a national committee to pay tribute to Ambassador Eban on the occasion of his departure from these shores. It will be the committee's intention to arrange several farewell functions in honor of Ambassador Eban, and of the causes which he has served, particularly a dinner in our nation's capital and another at the seat of the United Nations in New York.

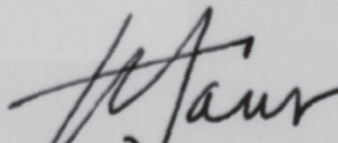
It is the purpose of this note to invite you, as we are inviting a select number of other distinguished Americans in all walks of life, to associate yourself with this undertaking and to add your name to the list of members of this testimonial committee.

We earnestly hope that you will accept this invitation.

Sincerely yours,



Herbert H. Lehman
Honorary Chairman



Jacob K. Javits
Chairman

January 27, 1959

Hon. Herbert H. Lehman
National Testimonial Committee
for Ambassador Abba Eban of Israel
1218 Sixteenth Street, N. W.
Washington 5, D. C.

Dear Senator Lehman:

Dr. Silver is out of the country on a world cruise.
He will return on February 17th and I shall call your letter
of January 23rd to his attention at that time.

With warmest personal regards, I remain

Most cordially yours,

DANIEL JEREMY SILVER

DJS:lg

February 20, 1959

The Honorable Herbert H. Lehman
Honorary Chairman
National Testimonial Committee
for Ambassador Abba Eban of Israel
1218 Sixteenth Street, N.W.
Washington 5, D.C.

Dear Senator Lehman:

Upon my return from abroad, I find your letter of January 23rd inviting me to join the Testimonial Committee in honor of Ambassador Eban. I am, of course, delighted to do so. Ambassador Eban has rendered great and memorable service to the cause of Israel and to our people.

With warmest regards and all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:bfm

THEODORE FRANCIS GREEN, R.I., CHAIRMAN
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FRANK CARLSON, KANS.

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

CARL MARCY, CHIEF OF STAFF
DARRELL ST. CLAIRE, CLERK

July 1, 1959

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, Ph.D.
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Rabbi Silver:

It may be that your attention has already been called to the Friday, June 26th, news release issued by the "Religious News Service" of Washington, which contains numerous quotes from your recent sermon on individual qualifications for the Presidency of the United States.

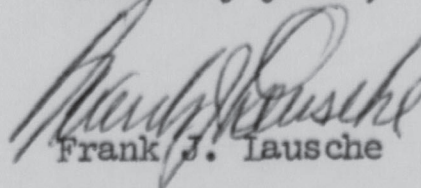
If not, however, I am pleased to inform you that Mr. Glenn Everett, who is the Washington representative for a number of daily newspapers, including the Byron Times, Bowling Green Sentinel, Port Clinton Daily News, Tiffin Advertiser-Tribune, Bellevue Gazette, Willoughby News Herald, Dover Reporter, and others, and who is associated with "The Religious News Service", has provided me with a copy of a portion of the June 26th release, which I am pleased to enclose herewith.

It is my understanding that this news service has a wide circulation throughout our country, and is extensively used by the leading newspapers and other publications.

Again, I am deeply grateful to you for granting me permission to have your most excellent and enlightening sermon printed in the Congressional Record.

Warm personal regards.

Sincerely yours,


Frank J. Lausche

FJL:bmw
Enc.
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DOMESTIC SERVICE

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FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 1959

RABBI'S SERMON ON CANDIDATE'S RELIGION
IN CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

By Religious News Service (6-26-59)

WASHINGTON, D.C. (RNS) -- A sermon by a noted rabbi asserting that the proven patriotism and loyalty of Americans of Catholic faith should remove all objections to election of a Catholic as President has been placed in the Congressional Record by Sen. Frank J. Lausche (D.-O.)

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver of The Temple, Cleveland, O., pointed out that the founding fathers specifically provided in the Constitution that there shall be no religious test required for public office.

"It is clear that the framers of our Constitution did not wish the United States to be a Protestant country, a Catholic country, or a Christian country," he declared. "They did not wish to give preference to any one religious body or to prevent the free exercise of any religion."

"They were not unfriendly to religion -- they believed in God and sought to build their new state upon the highest ethical and moral ideals of religion," he said, "but they also wanted to keep Church and State separate and distinct."

Rabbi Silver declared that Catholic citizens have been elected as governors, congressmen and senators, have been appointed to key judicial posts and have commanded the armed forces. Everywhere they "have served with unimpeachable loyalty and integrity," he said.

"Their religion in no way caused them to subordinate the interests of their government to the interests of their Church."

The rabbi said that it did not disturb him that the Roman Catholic Church claims to be the only true Church for "most religions claim the same thing."

"Just so long as the Church does not employ the power of government to enforce its claim," the lover of religious liberty need have no objection to a Catholic President, Rabbi Silver said.

He suggested that "no responsible Catholic" layman would support such a policy in America today, being mindful of the "unfortunate" experiences of certain European nations.

Rabbi Silver recalled that President William Howard Taft was opposed by some because he was a Unitarian.

"A Unitarian, it was claimed, was not a Christian and this was a Christian country," he observed.

All such fears with respect to candidates have proved groundless down through the years, he said, adding that it proves "a man should be elected to office because of his character, his ability, and the issues which he represents, not because of his religion."

"If we follow the clear light of our Constitution and the example of fine men of all faiths who have faithfully and loyally lived up to its principles," he concluded, "all of us, whatever our religion or race, will be able to move into a more spacious and beautiful day when as brothers we shall eagerly co-operate for the common good of all."

July 6, 1959

The Honorable Frank J. Lausche
United States Senate
Washington, D.C.

My dear Senator Lausche:

Thank you so much for your letter of July first and for the enclosure which I read with a great deal of interest. Evidently my sermon, "A Catholic President in the White House?", which you graciously had placed in the Congressional Record, is receiving considerable attention all over the country judging by the mail which I have been receiving.

I trust that you are well and I do hope to have the pleasure of seeing you in the not too distant future. With warmest regards and all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS :bfm

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C.

November 6, 1962

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
University Circle at Silver Park
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

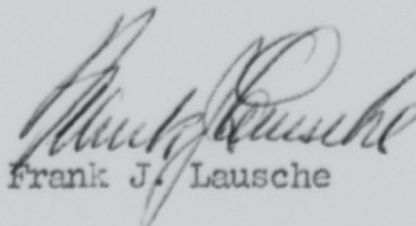
I am very grateful for your message of a few days ago.

I am still in the hospital but feeling much better. The fact is that I am in a state of mind of putting on my clothes and going to the office and engaging in my routine work. The doctors, however, advise against it and suggest that I remain in the hospital for several more days. I have decided to follow their judgment.

This is my first protracted stay in a hospital. It has brought to me a lesson which I had not known before, and that is how comforting, strengthening, and encouraging simple notes of good wishes are to a patient.

Thanks very much.

Sincerely yours,



Frank J. Lausche

FJL:kfc

November 7, 1962

My dear Senator:

Need I tell you how delighted I am at the results of the election yesterday in which you were returned to the United States Senate? The overwhelming endorsement which your fellow-citizens have given you did not surprise me or any of your friends. You richly deserve the confidence and affection in which our people hold you. May you continue to serve our country with your fine heart and mind and may you be given good health to do so.

Mrs. Silver joins me in all good wishes to you and your beloved wife.

Most cordially,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:bfm

The Honorable Frank J. Lausche
c/o the Naval Hospital
Bethesda, Maryland

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D. C.

November 12, 1962

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
University Circle at Silver Park
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Your letter came to me at the Bethesda Naval Hospital as a tonic.

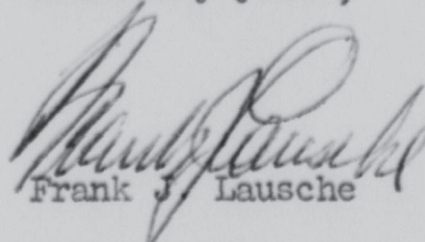
While I always cherish either talking with you or hearing from you, this message was especially welcome because it came in the period of my illness.

I am getting along well and will be out of the hospital by not later than Wednesday, November 14th. I then will be able to return to my normal duties in the office.

Lying in bed, I have prayed, "Lord grant me help." Rabbi, it is not only help that I need in fighting my illness, but also to give me the strength and wisdom that will be needed in the halls of Congress to cope with the dire international and domestic problems confronting us. The wisdom of Solomon would not be adequate to digest the knowledge that is needed to cope with the multitudinous tasks that face the ensuing Congresses.

I will see you at your anniversary. Jane joins me in extending to Mrs. Silver and yourself our best wishes for good health, happiness and contentment.

Sincerely yours,


Frank J. Lausche

FJL:kfc

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