



## 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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Lehman, Herbert, 1957-1958.

HERBERT H. LEHMAN  
41 EAST 57<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

SUITE 2704  
ELDORADO 5-1182

August 12, 1957

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Chairman  
Board of Governors  
Israel Bonds  
19810 Shaker Boulevard  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I have been asked to become Honorary Chairman of the American Committee for the observance of the 10th anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel. I have agreed to accept this responsibility.

I am now writing you to ask you to serve on this Committee as an Honorary Co-Chairman. This will not involve any effort on your part other than that which you might be willing to make because of your own interest in this undertaking. Honorary Co-Chairmen will be members of an Advisory Council.

I hope you will agree to serve. This 10th anniversary will be noted throughout the world, preeminently, of course, in Israel. But the rest of the world, especially the Western world, has a deep spiritual as well as a temporal reason to take appropriate notice of this 10th anniversary of the re-birth of this ancient state, whose roots are common with those of Western civilization itself. As the land of the Bible was the cradle of the spiritual heritage of all of us, it is today the foothold and the focus of the forces of freedom and democracy in the Middle East.

Today, Israel is one of the world's most dynamic symbols of man's capacity to create and build, despite danger and adversity, given the will and the passion for creation -- and for freedom.



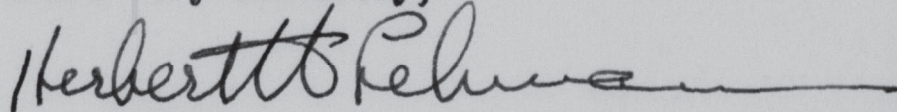
This 10th anniversary observance will be an opportunity to stress the need for peaceful progress, and the factors which make for peace, progress, and justice in the Middle East. It will be an occasion to emphasize the community of interests which bind Arabs and Jews, and Americans, too, in the dynamic search for peace.

America's security interests are involved in the Middle East as never before. And America's special role in the creation of the State of Israel should not be forgotten.

All this is why I have agreed to help organize an American Committee to celebrate Israel's 10th anniversary in the United States. The emphasis will be on the values I have tried to outline in this letter. The program of specific activities to be made part of this observance remains to be worked out. You may have some ideas on this subject. I hope that a meeting of the Advisory Council can be arranged in the Fall, at which ideas for the observance can be discussed.

I do hope you will agree to serve as an Honorary Co-Chairman, and lend the weight of your prestige to this important undertaking.

Yours very sincerely,



Herbert H. Lehman



September 3, 1957

Senator Herbert H. Lehman  
41 East 57th Street  
New York 22, New York

My dear Senator Lehman:

Please pardon the delay in answering your kind letter of August 12th. I have returned, just a few days ago, from Europe.

I shall, of course, be most happy to serve as an Honorary Chairman of the American Committee for the observance of the 10th anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel.

With all good wishes permit me to remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:sl

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

*Co-Chairman*



HERBERT H. LEHMAN  
41 EAST 57<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

SUITE 2704  
ELDORADO 5-1182

September 9, 1957

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
THE TEMPLE  
East 105th Street at Ansel Road  
Cleveland 5, Ohio

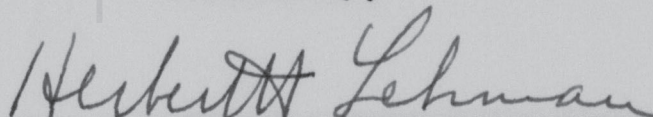
My dear Dr. Silver:

I was very happy to have your letter of  
September 3rd, accepting my invitation to serve  
as an Honorary Co-Chairman of the American Comm-  
ittee for Israel's Tenth Anniversary observation.

I am looking forward to our collaboration.

With best wishes, I remain

Sincerely,

  
Herbert H. Lehman



# DECADE OF ISRAEL TO BE HAILED HERE

**U. S. All-Faiths Committee  
of 458, Led by Lehman,  
to Chart '58 Program**

**By IRVING SPIEGEL**

A committee of 458 Americans of all faiths has been formed to help commemorate in this country next year Israel's tenth anniversary as a nation.

Functions during the year, it was announced yesterday will emphasize "the community of interests which binds Arabs and Israelis and Americans in the dynamic search for peace."

Israel will celebrate her Independence Day on the fourth

day of the Hebrew month of Ijar, on April 24. In the Gregorian calendar that is May 14.

Former Senator Herbert H. Lehman of New York will be general chairman here of the observance group to be known as the American Committee for Israel's Tenth Anniversary Celebration. It has offices at 120 East Fifty-sixth Street.

## American Ties With Israel

In announcing the formation of the committee, Mr. Lehman said:

"America's security interests are involved in the Middle East as never before. America's special role in the creation of Israel should not be forgotten.

"Israel is one of the world's most dynamic symbols of man's capacity to create and build, despite danger and adversity, given the will and the passion for creation—and for freedom.

"The world, especially the

Western World, has a deep spiritual as well as temporal reason to take appropriate notice of this tenth anniversary of the rebirth of this ancient state, whose roots are common with those of Western civilization itself.

"As the Land of the Bible was the cradle of the spiritual heritage of all of us, it is today the foothold and the focus of the forces of freedom and democracy in the Middle East."

## Honorary Co-Chairmen Listed

Associated with Senator Lehman will be sixteen honorary co-chairmen. They are:

Gen. Lucious D. Clay (retired).

Former Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York.

Adlai E. Stevenson.

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Former Senator William L. Benton of Connecticut.

Thornton Wilder, playwright.

John Gunther, writer.

Archibald Mac Leish, poet.  
George Meany, president of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations.

Walter Reuther, president of the United Automobile Workers of America.

Carl Sandburg, poet.

Prof. Reinhold Niebuhr of Union Theological Seminary.

Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam of the Methodist Church's Washington Area.

Msgr. John O'Grady, secretary of the National Conference of Catholic Charities.

Louis Lipsky and Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Zionist leaders.

Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the American Jewish Congress, has been designated as chairman of the over-all committee. In it will be leaders of major American Jewish organizations, religious and secular, Zionist and non-Zionist.

Among its members will be twenty-eight Governors, twenty

six leaders of religious institutions, among them eight Bishops, the head of the Greek Orthodox Church of North and South America and the Presiding Bishop of the Council of Bishops of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Others include twenty-eight writers, among them nine Pulitzer Prize winners; nine scientists, five of them Nobel laureates; thirty-four educators, art leaders, fourteen publishers, among them eight of daily newspapers; a Supreme Court Justice, the president of the American Bar Association and the president of the American Academy of Political Science.



*American Committee*  
*for* ISRAEL'S TENTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

SUITE 1120 • 120 EAST 56TH STREET • NEW YORK 22, N.Y. • PLAZA 1-6550

January 15, 1958

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HERBERT H. LEHMAN

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GENERAL LUCIUS D. CLAY  
HON. THOMAS E. DEWEY  
JOHN GUNTHER  
JOHN HERSEY  
LOUIS LIPSKY  
ARCHIBALD MACLEISH  
GEORGE MEANY  
DR. REINHOLD NIEBUHR  
RT. REV. MSGR. JOHN O'GRADY  
BISHOP G. BROMLEY OXNAM  
WALTER REUTHER  
MRS. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT  
DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER  
CARL SANDBURG  
HON. ADLAI STEVENSON  
DR. CHANNING H. TOBIAS  
THORNTON WILDER

*Chairman*

DR. ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN

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MORRIS W. BERINSTEIN  
ABRAHAM FEINBERG  
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DR. EMANUEL NEUMANN  
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GERARD SWOPE  
MRS. ROBERT A. TAFT

*Vice-Chairmen*

HERBERT R. ABELES  
RABBI THEODORE L. ADAMS  
DR. PHILIP S. BERNSTEIN  
RABBI AARON H. BLUMENTHAL  
MRS. MOISE S. CAHN  
BENJAMIN H. CHASIN  
DR. MAURICE N. EISENDRATH  
IRVING M. ENGEL  
MOSES I. FEUERSTEIN  
DR. MIRIAM FREUND  
ADOLPH HELD  
PHILIP KLUTZNICK  
RABBI IRVING MILLER  
CHARLES ROSENGARTEN  
RABBI JACOB P. RUDIN  
RABBI SOLOMON J. SHARFMAN  
RABBI ISAAC STOLLMAN  
MRS. CHAYA SURCHIN  
DAVID ULLMAN

*Treasurer*

JACK D. WEILER

Dear Dr. Silver:

The formation of the American Committee for Israel's Tenth Anniversary Celebration, of which you are a member, is virtually completed; some 500 truly distinguished Americans now constitute it.

We have been moved to organize this Committee by a desire to utilize the landmark of ten years of nationhood for Israel to advance the cause of peace in the Middle East, a cause with which our own national security is intimately bound up.

Since last I wrote you, the tensions in the Middle East have not abated. Indeed, they have grown apace and are dominated today by the aggressive thrust of Soviet Russia into the area. Increasingly, the Middle East is the world's chief tinderbox, which could touch off an atomic war; the birthplace of civilization could also become the jumping-off place for the destruction of civilization.

We must do what we can to forestall this danger. Here at home, we must turn the spotlight of public attention on the present perils, and mobilize all possible resources of public opinion for programs which will bring to this area peace and stability in a framework of freedom and justice.

To these tasks the Tenth Anniversary Committee is dedicated. I should like very much for all of us who are members of the American Committee to meet to discuss the various plans being projected to advance this cause. I am therefore calling a luncheon meeting to take place on Thursday, February 27th, at 12:30 o'clock, at the Hotel Pierre in New York.

It would give me great pleasure if you could arrange to be present on that occasion as my guest. I have asked Governor W. Averell Harriman, Mr. Ogden Reid, Publisher of the New York Herald Tribune, and Mayor Robert F. Wagner, among others, to address us briefly on the subject matter at hand.

Your early acceptance would be gratifying.

With kind regards,

Yours very sincerely,

*Herbert H. Lehman*  
Herbert H. Lehman



April 3, 1958

Hon. Herbert H. Lehman  
American Committee for  
Israel's 10th Anniversary Celebration  
Suite 1120  
120 East 56th Street  
New York 22, New York

My dear Senator Lehman:

I deeply appreciate your letter of March 30th and your gracious invitation to attend the ceremony at Independence Hall in Philadelphia, marking the 10th Anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel.

It would have given me great pleasure indeed to attend this ceremony, but I will be in Israel at that time, returning the first week in May.

With warmest regards and all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:sl

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

P.S. Please include me among your hosts of friends throughout the nation who rejoiced on the occasion of your 80th birthday. May our Heavenly Father vouchsafe you health and well-being through the oncoming years. You have meant much to all of us.

A.H.S.



*American Committee*  
*for* ISRAEL'S TENTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

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*Tourism and Pilgrimages*

LAWRENCE G. LASKEY

*Co-ordinator Television*

ROBERT M. WEITMAN

*Co-ordinator Motion Pictures*

MAX E. YOUNGSTEIN

March 30th, 1958

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
East 105th Street at Ansel Road  
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

On April 24, at 2:00 P.M., there will be a ceremony at Independence Hall and at Independence Square in Philadelphia, marking the 10th anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel.

Participants in the program will include former President Harry S. Truman and Ambassador Eban and will feature a two-way radio exchange between President Truman and Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion.

The event in Philadelphia is the opening program in a series under the auspices of our Committee to signalize Israel's 10th anniversary and to underscore the community of interests which unites this small democracy with our country and with the free world.

As one who played so important a role in helping to bring about the establishment of Israel, it would be a very great pleasure to have you attend the ceremonies in Philadelphia as our guest. I hope you will tell me that this is possible.

We are arranging for a special train to take those who will be coming from New York to Philadelphia. The City of Philadelphia is giving a luncheon to the national officers of the American Committee and the guests of honor, of whom I hope you will be one. This will take place at 12:00 o'clock at the Hotel Warwick.

It would be most gratifying to know that we shall have the pleasure of participating together in this important celebration.

Very sincerely yours,

Herbert H. Lehman

*Warmest personal  
regards*