



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
48

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17

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1154

Manson, Harold, 1955-1956.

של ארצות הברית

ההסתדרות הציונית



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

September 7, 1955

PERSONAL

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Although you have never brought up the matter, I have a feeling that you (and Mrs. Silver) would like to be absolutely certain that my conception of my role in relation to your book coincides with your own ideas on the subject. It is this:

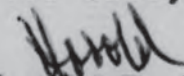
In the case of every book of this type the editorial suggestions of one or more qualified persons are almost essential. I know of no work of this scope, written in our time, which has not gone through such a process. I was pleased when you entrusted your manuscript to my hands, despite the fact that I do not claim to be an "expert" in the field, and am very glad that you have accepted many of my suggestions. That's about it. There is nothing that suggests "collaboration," either in my mind or in anything I have said on the subject. Indeed, I have mentioned the entire matter to very few people (none of them in my present vicinity), and almost invariably for "utilitarian" purposes -- to Lowenthal, for example, because he often reviews books of this type for the Herald-Tribune, and also because you had asked me to ascertain whether it would be wise to entrust him with the editorial work (I decided against this for a number of reasons); to Fanny Holtzmann, because she may prove to be helpful in expediting its acceptance by a top-flight publisher, etc. If she should accomplish something along these lines during the coming month, it will not be because she has been made to feel that you are in need of her "favours," but because I may have succeeded in convincing her that she will gain favor by "doing something that is good for the Jews."

Finally, if anything should ever come to your notice implying a misconception on anyone's part concerning any of the above, you have only to let me know and I will set things straight.

While this letter may not really have been necessary, I wanted to be sure that we will proceed with the project in a thoroughly relaxed fashion. As I told you, the transcription of the first six chapters is in the works and the typist seems to be an intelligent fellow. Chapter VII should go forward to you tomorrow.

With warmest regards,

Ever best,


Harold P. Manson

של ארצות הברית

ההסתדרות הציונית



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

September 9, 1955

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I am enclosing ^{most of} Chapter VII. After you have set down whatever suggested changes you accept on your original copy, please mail it to me and I will turn it over the typist. It might also be worth while to return my copy at the same time, as you had suggested when you were in New York. Please note that I have made whatever punctuation changes I believe to be necessary, in accordance with the uniform style which I tried to establish when I went over the first six chapters before giving them to the typist. Am I to assume that only those punctuation changes which you will transfer to your original copy are to be made on the final manuscript?

On another matter -- I received a telephone call from Harris Levine, who advised me that the school at Kfar Silver will ^{be} open on September 20th, and who wished to have my opinion on the manner in which this should be publicized. At the same time, he informed me that a ceremonial opening of Kfar Silver has been projected, in consultation with you, for the coming Winter, probably in December, and that you are planning to go to Israel at that time -- something which I hear for the first time. I told Levine that, in my opinion, the scope of the publicity in connection with the opening of the school on September 20th should depend on whether you are, in fact, going to be in Israel this Winter and whether there will be a formal ceremony at that time. If this will be the case we should not go all-out now, but plan to organize international news coverage -- with photos, the participation of the U.S. Ambassador, messages from the Presidents of the United States and Israel, etc. -- for December. I doubt that we would be able to bring about ^{two} big news splashes within a four-month period and would prefer to make the most of your visit to Israel, if you have decided to go.

If, on the other hand, Levine was not correct about the December visit, I think that the September 20th opening of the school should be built up as much as possible, and that we should try to get our friends in Israel alert the major American correspondents along with the Israeli press. Simultaneously,

(more)

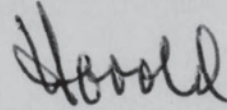
we here should try to get major American newspapers to carry a photograph of you receiving a "presentation" from Kfar Silver, to be published together with the news dispatches emanating from Israel concerning the opening of the school. But, as I have indicated, if the trip to Israel is really in the offing, I would prefer merely the issuance of a press release for September 20th which could, of course, be played up in The American Zionist, etc., but which would not be designed as a big splash for the press generally.

Please let me have your ideas on this subject, so that I can advise Levine, and other colleagues, and our publicity department on how they should proceed.

I received a note from Leon Feuer, who is due to arrive here Tuesday and who seems to have been captivated by Israel.

With warmest regards to Mrs. Silver and yourself,

Ever best,



Harold P. Manson

HPM/br
encl.



1.132. See עמוד 3 א"ה. - refers -



September 19, 1955

Mr. Harold Manson
Zionist Organization of America
145 East 32nd Street
New York 16, New York

My dear Harold:

In going over my manuscript on the chapter "That Death is Better than Life," I found a paragraph there which rightly belongs in the chapter on "Progress." The paragraph to which I refer is the second paragraph on page 323 to the seventh line on the top of page 324.

If you have not yet given the chapter on "Progress" to the typist, I wish that you would include this paragraph ~~in that~~ chapter in a place where it would most fittingly go. I haven't the chapter before me, else I would indicate the place to you.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:rms

air mail

Memorandum

To: Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date: September 21, 1955

From: Harold P. Manson

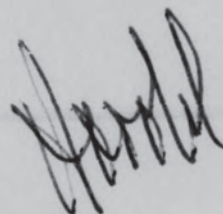
Subject: KFAR SILVER

I was informed today by William Dorfman, Chairman of the ZOA Finance Committee, that in the latest transfer of funds to Israel, 12,000 pounds was allocated for Kfar Silver and that this clears up the ZOA's commitment up to September 1st of this year.

Mr. Dorfman further advised me that he is on the alert to ensure that all future commitments with respect to Kfar Silver will be met promptly on both sides. He gives every indication of meaning what he says.

I thought that you would wish to have this information, in view of past experiences in this connection.

Warmest regards.



HPM/br

September 21, 1955

Mr. Harold Manson
Zionist Organization of America
1145 East Thirty-second Street
New York 16, New York



My dear Harold:

On Page 188 of the manuscript, there is a reference which I have checked. The reference in the text is not correct. It should be (J. Ta'an. II.1; Pes.K. 191a).

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:rms

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

To - Mortimer May

September 27, 1955

From - Harold P. Manson

LEAVE OF ABSENCE AND INTERIM ARRANGEMENT

In accordance with our conversations on this subject, begun in July, I have proceeded with the matter of an interim arrangement for the four-month period when I shall be working on my book on leave of absence from the ZOA.

Following discussions during your absence with Messrs. Goodman and Torczyner, and last week with Dr. Neumann, I was authorized on Friday, by Dr. Neumann to negotiate an interim arrangement with Mr. Beinish Epstein.

This is to advise you that I was able to arrive at an understanding with Mr. Epstein which accords with our conditions regarding salary and other terms of employment. Only one matter remains to be finalized on Mr. Epstein's part -- the question of his taking a leave of absence from his present part-time employment with the Republican Party, so that he will be devoting his full time to the ZOA during my absence. I am to receive word from him concerning this on Friday, but he has already indicated that he expects to meet our requirements in the matter.

On a full-time basis, we finally agreed on a salary of \$600 per month (\$150 per week), which was the ceiling established in my preliminary conversations with various officers of the Organization.

I have promised to be on hand for a week or two in order to help Mr. Epstein to become better acquainted with the work. I therefore plan to begin my leave of absence on Monday, October 17th, which means that I would return to my desk in mid-February.

Assuming that the reply which I am to receive from Mr. Epstein on Friday is satisfactory, I would wish to be authorized to finalize the arrangement at that time.

Warmest regards.

HPM

HPM/br

cc: Dr. Emanuel Neumann
Abraham Goodman
Jacques Torczyner
Harry Torczyner
Rabbi Leon I. Feuer
William K. Dorfman
Dr. Sidney Marks
X

Sept. 29, 1955

Harold Manson

I struck out, as you will note,
a few paragraphs on Pages 274 and 275
and I added something on pages 289,
293, and 295.

AHS

enclosure



של ארצות הברית

ההסתדרות הציונית



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

October 12, 1955

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I suggest that you try to arrange your appointment on Monday for the early afternoon so that we can complete our cross-checking without being overly rushed. I shall, of course, have gone through the manuscript in its entirety before your arrival in New York.

I got four tickets for "Tiger At The Gates" for Monday night. If the advance reports from England and France and from the local critics are correct, it will be a highly stimulating evening.

I shall be at the Commodore at 9 a.m. on Monday morning.

With warmest regards, I am

As ever,

Harold P. Manson

HPM/br

P.S. Neumann has asked me a few times to try to arrange a meeting between yourself and himself when you are next in N.Y. (In reply to a query from him on this today, I merely said that you would probably be in town in the course of the next few weeks for a day or two.) Please advise.

25 Tudor City Place
New York 17, N.Y.
October 18, 1955

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

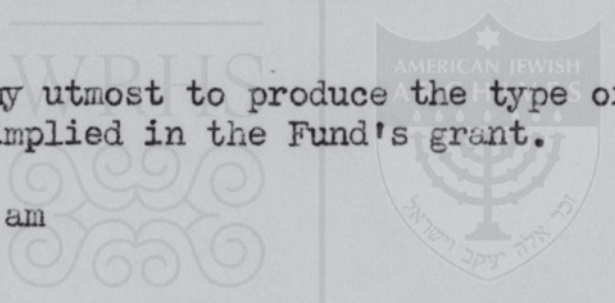
In accordance with our conversations on the matter, I am herewith submitting a request for a grant from the Educational Fund established by the Temple in your name, in order to enable me to write the history of American Zionism's contribution to the creation of the State of Israel.

In view of the magnitude of the task involved and my desire to complete the work as soon as possible, my plan is to take a leave of absence of four months from my position in the Zionist Organization of America, during which I hope to complete all of the research and the organization of the material, and to have the writing of the history well under way. After four months of such concentrated effort I should then be in a position to complete the book by or during the summer of 1956.

I shall, of course, do my utmost to produce the type of book which will fully justify the confidence implied in the Fund's grant.

With warmest regards, I am

Cordially yours,


Harold P. Manson
Harold P. Manson

(Get from Mrs. Baucke)
Check on 1st of each month beginning Nov. 1
for 1250⁰⁰ for period of 4 months.

25 Tudor City Place
New York 17, N.Y.
October 24, 1955

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

As promised, I made special inquiries about the disposition of the check for \$15,000 which you turned over to Hannah Stein in Pittsburgh, and I have been assured that the entire sum is going to Kfar Silver.

At the moment I am engulfed by the mountains of documents, correspondence, etc. which I have already accumulated for my book -- but there is much more that I must track down before I am satisfied that the essential research has been completed. I had hoped to begin the actual writing around the first of November, but now find that this was not realistic, since the organization even of the material collected thus far cannot possibly be finished by then -- despite my present working schedule of about ten or more hours a day.

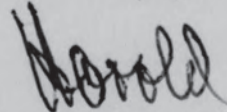
All of today I was digging in the veritable gold mine of material contained in the files of our old Policy Committee which I tracked down in Joe Greenleaf's office, where they have been gathering dust since 1945. Some of the valuable items I found there require amplification which can be provided only by related papers which must be in your own files in Cleveland. A thorough study of your files is obviously a "must," and I hope that we can decide on a convenient time for my coming to Cleveland when we meet here on Sunday or Monday morning.

I still do not intend to wait until all of the research has been completed before I begin the writing, but hope to combine both operations once the basic research has been done -- by mid-November, I hope.

I am informed that next Sunday's dinner is shaping up well. It should provide you with a good platform for an important political address.

Josie sends her love to Mrs. Silver and yourself.

Ever best,



Harold P. Manson

25 Tudor City Place
New York 17, N.Y.
November 1, 1955

Mr. Harry Torczyner
521 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

Dear Harry:

Since I am scheduled to be out of town on a ~~hunting~~ "hunting" expedition, I will probably ~~not~~ attend the Public Affairs Committee meeting on Wednesday. I assume that you are planning to be there.

The question of a mass meeting will very likely come up again. As you know, at the last meeting I argued in favor of Carnegie Hall and against Madison Square Garden -- on the basis of our prior discussion which was related to the situation prevailing at the time. Since, then, however, events have moved very rapidly, and my remarks about our having to build up the proper atmosphere before holding a mass demonstration in the Garden are no longer pertinent. Moreover, the State Department's response -- or, rather, lack of response -- to Israel's legitimate requests has removed all doubts concerning the need for all-out public pressure.

If I am right in believing that you share these views, I urge you to present them on your behalf as well as my own. Needless to say, the best way to ensure a big public response and a politically effective meeting is to have its sponsors invite Dr. Silver to address it.

I am sending copies of this note to Emanuel Neumann, as well as to Mortimer May, Irving Miller and Sidney Marks, who were present at the last meeting in the Herzl Institute.

Keep up the fine work!

Warmest regards.

Cordially,

Harold P. Manson

25 Tudor City Place
New York 17, N.Y.
November 2, 1955

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

If it is still convenient for you, I shall plan to arrive in Cleveland next Monday afternoon, November 7th.

Can your nice Mrs. Sparrow reserve a room for me at a hotel in the vicinity of the Temple?

Warmest regards.

Ever best,

Harold

Harold P. Manson



CJM 452

My office is in New York City

CHARGE TELEGRAM

Nov. 4, 1955 4:52 PM

TO: HAROLD P. MANSON
25 TUDOR CITY PLACE
NEW YORK 17, NEW YORK

DR. SILVER ANTICIPATES YOUR ARRIVAL MONDAY
HOTEL RESERVATION MADE

SOPHIA LEVINE
SECRETARY TO DR. SILVER



CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LT = International Letter Telegram

1201

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

CTA056 SYA041

SY NBO20 NL PD=AR NEW YORK NY 31

1955 NOV 1 AM 1 36

=DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

:THE TEMPLE CLEVE=

MET REUVEN WHO IS DEEPLY INTERESTED IN INDICATED
APPROACH AND SAYS THIS CHECKS WITH HIS OWN EVALUATION
POSSIBLE NEW TRENDS. PROMISED MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION
PRIOR MY TRIP CLEVELAND REGARDS=

:HAROLD=

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

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CTA137 BA349

B UDA320 IPD RX=UD NEW YORK NY 25 / 10 10 PM = 1975 DEC 25 PM 10 01

DR & MRS ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

19810 SHAKER BLVD CLEVE=

THOUGHT YOU'D WISH TO KNOW I'VE CROSSED RUBICAN. DECIDED
MEET DIRECTLY WITH LADY WHO AGREED COOPERATE IN CARRYING
OUT MY PROGRAM. ASSUME WITCH DOCTOR WITH WHOM I'M TO MEET
THURSDAY WILL OFFER NO OBJECTIONS SO HOPE LEAVE FOR WEST
EARLY IN JANUARY WITH DOCUMENTS AND COPY DON QUIXOTE AS
WARNING FOR FUTURE. MEANWHILE THANKS HELPING PREPARATION
MY BAR MITZVAH. IT MUST HAVE BEEN A BORE. HEREAFTER WHEN
CRISIS BRINGS ME CLEVELAND IT WILL BE ON SMALLER MATTERS
LIKE WARS AND TOTTERING GOVERNMENTS. EVER BEST.=

HA ROLD= ILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

January 12, 1956

Dr. + Mrs. Abba Hillel Silver
19810 Shaker Boulevard
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Friends,

Just to let you know that I am now
a resident of the State of Nevada —
until February 23, when the Emancipation
Proclamation is due to be issued.

Within the next day or two I will be
living at:

little White House
901 Walker Ave.
Reno, Nevada

It's a "pension" of sorts — quiet and
more suited to my needs than the hotel,
where the "one-armed bandits" are clanking
24 hours a day.

My lawyer was good enough to arrange
for a cubby-hole of my own at the Washoe
County library, where I am writing this note
and where I hope to make up for time lost
over

on the book.

After I have settled down at the little White House and have decided ~~that~~^{whether} I will remain there throughout the rest of my stay in Reno, I will drop you a note regarding the material at the Temple which Mr. Hull is to forward to me.

The news concerning Israel seems to be getting worse by the hour — and here I am, playing out the last act of a sordid little melodrama in a rôle I never wanted but must discharge as well as I can. Well, the Movement will, I am sure, carry on without me. And there is the book, which has not been receiving its full due — something which I hope to rectify during these coming weeks.

I do hope that all is well with both of you and with the boys.

Best always,

Harold

Little White House (P.O.B. 1531)
901 Walker Ave.
Reno, Nevada
January 18, 1956

Dr. & Mrs. Abba Hillel Silver
19810 Shaker Boulevard
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. & Mrs. Silver -

Just to let you know that I've settled down nicely, that I've managed to establish a work schedule and that I believe I am picking up the old "rhythm" again. My fellow-victims here seem to be quite nice and I am glad that I am not completely isolated. (No need to worry -- the copy of "Don Quixote" is still with me.)

Concerning the research material on the book -- since I am now concentrating on completing the work on the years covered by the large number of documents I brought with me, I believe that it would be best to see that phase of the job through before undertaking the final organization of the material which I had set aside at the Temple. So I shall be grateful if Mr. Hull continues to hold that material for me until I know for certain whether I will be tackling it here or in New York.

Israel is getting a very bad press in these parts, with the news from the Security Council receiving front-page coverage in an area which usually plays down foreign news. I am calling some clippings to the attention of the Israel Office of Information (but I suppose they will shrug this off too).

I made an effort to contact Shiloah before leaving New York, in order to convey my suggestion concerning the utilization of your interventions in certain quarters, but it didn't

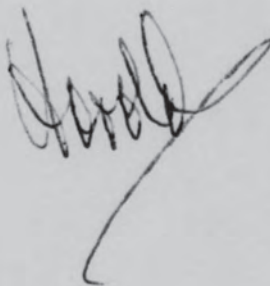
work out. He wasn't around and, as you know, I had to leave on other matters. Perhaps **someone** like Neumann could drop a **hint** along those lines during my sojourn here. (Of course, it's very late in the day for such interventions, though you would know best whether it is too late.)

In the rush of my last week in New York I was also unable to deal with two small matters which I had promised to look into in connection with the Temple's activities. I had promised your librarian that I would see to it that Zionist press releases, etc. are mailed to her from New York; and I told Mrs. Oppenheim that I would have the Israel Consulate provide her with detailed information on Israel arts and crafts -- specifically, a full list of what is available for sale and distribution. I am dealing with these matters by correspondence.

I hope I am right in assuming that everything is moving along as it should at Macmillan.

My warmest regards to both of you and to the boys.

Ever best,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'David', with a long, sweeping flourish extending from the bottom right.

January 20, 1956

Air Mail

Mr. Harold Manson
Little White House
901 Walker Avenue
Reno, Nevada

My dear Harold:

I was glad to hear from you. I have been traveling a great deal — twice to New York within a week — and my correspondence has been delayed.

I am glad that you are settled, if only temporarily and I hope everything will work out all right.

You may be interested to know that I have signed the contract with Macmillan, and the manuscript is going into print. I hope to have the galleys by the middle of March. You will have the opportunity to see the galleys as soon as they are off the press.

I hope you are making substantial progress on your own book. Keep plugging away at it.

We are all well and we send you our best and warmest wishes.

Cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl

January 31, 1956

Mr. Harold Manson
Little White House (P.O.B. 1531)
901 Walker Avenue
Reno, Nevada

My dear Harold:

Just a note of greeting to you. I trust you are well.

I have been extremely busy since I wrote you last. I spent two days in Washington last week and had a long talk with Governor Sherman Adams and some other people.

I hope that it will do some good.

At the moment we are all waiting, of course, to learn what transpired at the Eden conferences.

I trust that you are making steady headway with your book.

I am leaving over the week-end for Miami, to attend the annual rally for the Israeli Bonds. I will be gone just a few days.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl
encl.

P. S. Enclosed you will find your check for \$1250.00.

A.H.S.

Little White House (P.O.B. 1531)
901 Walker Avenue
Reno, Nevada

February 6, 1956

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

Dear Dr. Silver :

Thank you very much for your notes of January 20th and 31st, and for the check which accompanied the latter. Your thoughtfulness -- in the midst of a busy schedule -- and your words of encouragement are, needless to say, deeply appreciated.

I was delighted to learn that the Macmillan contract had been signed and shall look forward to seeing a set of the galley proofs of your book as soon as they are available. I trust that good arrangements are being made in connection with auxiliary matters like the book jacket, ads, promotion, etc.

I am doing my best to make up for the time and energy which were taken away from my project during the past months. While I am not fully satisfied, ~~***~~ I can now report steady progress -- I am able to work for increasingly longer periods at a stretch and my ability to concentrate has been considerably improved. I am definitely winning the battle, but it is at times a battle -- and I had so wished to do this book under the best, rather than the worst, of circumstances. In any case, here's how it stands: the research work and the organization of the material are all but completed -- all that remains to be done on this phase of the project is to organize the documents that I set aside at the Temple and go through the remaining files for 1947-48 (two drawers). This I shall do early in March. I have written first drafts of two chapters and have been setting down extensive notes while proceeding with the organization of the documentary material.

I am still sticking to my self-imposed deadline and shall try to finish the book by the end of the coming summer. I will, of course, snatch whatever time I can from my regular ZOA duties, which I am scheduled to resume at the beginning of March. I shall also try to arrange for another month's leave -- probably during the summer, and at my own expense -- in order to get the job done properly.

I do hope that the Bond Rally in Miami was a great success. I have the impression that you are becoming increasingly immersed in this work -- which is, of course, good for Israel, and I hope also for you.

Harry Shapiro writes that he is anxious to replace Lou Bennett, the Assistant Director of the UJA, who is about to leave, and adds that "in all probability Friedman will have the full say on this." Harry asked whether in my opinion Dr. Silver could be helpful, but I really don't know what to tell him. I believe that Dr. Silver is in the best position to know whether or not he can be of help in the matter.

You can well imagine how anxious I am to know what really transpired at the Eden-Eisenhower conferences, as well as the details of your talks with Adams and others in Washington. But I suppose that all of this will have to wait until I get back to the front. - In the meantime, please convey my love to Mrs. Silver and my warm regards to Daniel and Raphael.

Ever best,

David



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

25 Tudor City Place
New York 17, N.Y.
March 8, 1956

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

1. I don't know whether this is a case of over-generosity on your part or an error in bookkeeping, But I cannot accept the enclosed check for \$1250, which was forwarded to me from Nevada with an accompanying note signed by Miss Levine on behalf of the Temple's Educational Fund.

The Fund's grant to me was for \$5,000 and — unless my figures are wrong — I have received the full amount in four monthly payments of \$1250. I am therefore returning the check to you.

While I am on this subject, I wish to make my conception of the grant a matter of record, particularly in view of the fact that I have not accomplished as much as I had hoped to do on the book during the period of my leave of absence from the ZOA — for reasons that are well known to you. I have every intention of completing the task as soon — and as well — as possible. If it should turn out, however, that I do not achieve what was intended, I would feel obligated to return to the Fund the amount of the grant. I do not believe that such a situation will develop, But I wanted you to know my attitude on the matter.

2. I learned over the telephone from Raphael of your emergency trip to Washington. If I can be of any service or assistance to you in connection with the current crisis, you know that I would come running. I am anxious to be of help — in activities that have meaning, together with those whose efforts count for something...

3. I have sent you a copy of my memorandum to Goodman regarding my situation in the ZOA. Further investigation on my part has confirmed what I intimated during our telephone conversation: it is primarily a matter of the Torczyzers wishing to exercise full control over certain public relations activities which had been under my supervision (and in which, I must admit, I did not permit great men like Goodman and the Torczyzers to play a decisive role). They want to have a man who is personally committed to serve the Torczyzers' political ambitions in a key spot. (Jacques Torczyner is — quite seriously, I understand — organizing support for his own candidacy at the next ZOA Convention.)

Neumann seems to be strongly opposed to the maneuvers against me (perhaps also for reasons of his own — since he and Jacques appear to have parted company), but his former disciples seem to be in the saddle here. May is, as usual, a weak sister who does what "the boys" tell him to do. I am now awaiting a reply to my memorandum,

after which I will have a better idea of what I should do.

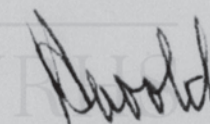
I should make it clear that I have conveyed the above because I know that you are interested, but that I do not wish you to be in any way involved in this type of situation.

4. I conveyed your message regarding the TV-or-radio program, which did not serve to endear me to the "leaders" here. They acted dismayed -- but I gather that a TV program was definitely out in any case, and the radio arrangements, while under way, were not yet finalized. I assume that the program has been cancelled.

5. Do you still plan to leave for Israel on the 20th? And is Mrs. Silver going with you? Do you plan to stop off in New York prior to your departure?

Please convey my love to Mrs. Silver and my warm regards to the boys.

Ever best,



Harold P. Manson



Dear Dr. Silver,

3/13/56

This is the copy of a letter from Harry Torczyner which arrived this afternoon. I am too disgusted to comment on it. Now you can see half right I was about who and what is behind all of this.

COPY

They are clearly trying to make my position here untenable.

Harry Torczyner
Attorney At Law
521 Fifth Avenue
New York 17, N.Y.

March 13, 1956

Mr. Harold P. Manson
Zionist Organization of America
145 East 32nd Street
New York, New York

Dear Harold:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of a copy of your memo of March 7th to Mr. Abraham Goodman.

Not having participated in any of the conversations referred to by you, it would be difficult for me to express an opinion without full knowledge of the facts. I understand that by the way, any personal problem of yours has now been solved.

I wish to limit my remarks to a procedural aspect of the question outlined by you on page 2 of your memo in points "1" and "2".

Insofar as the Commission of Israel for the Middle East is concerned, it is under the active direction of its Chairman. I wish that its affairs be conducted in the same way as since the time I have taken a primary part in its work, namely, that the relations between the Commission and all others be conducted through the Chairman, - the Chairman to receive such professional assistance as is available and as he may wish to receive.

I do not have to add that I have the highest regard for your abilities, but I would not like the proper balance between the role of staff and the role of volunteers to be disturbed.

With warmest personal regards, I am

Cordially yours,

Harry Torczyner



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

April 6, 1956

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
c/o The Temple
East 105th St. at Ansel Rd.
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

It was grand to see you again after so many months, if only for a few moments, and to find you so unmistakably invigorated and inspired by your trip to Israel.

What with Customs officials, Bond representatives, Zionist politicians and newspapermen, I was able to make only passing reference to a few important matters and unable to mention ~~all~~ others altogether. However, it is perhaps best that you get a chance to catch your breath a bit, so I will mention only a few of the more urgent items.

1. On the incorrect impression that was created in "the Jewish street" due to the fact that a few of your published statements seem to have been lifted out of context -- I am having the tape recording of your ZOA House address transcribed and have advised Mr. Barbarash that sizable excerpts of it should appear in the forthcoming number of The American Zionist and also in the form of a feature-release to the English-Jewish press. (This procedure has already been laid down in connection with your Kfar Silver address, which I shortened slightly, and which Mr. Barbarash assures me is in the works.)
2. You will recall the TV program which was initiated during my leave of absence and which didn't come off. There was widespread disappointment among our people throughout the country -- and resentment on the part of those who contributed to the AZF specifically for the TV program -- when it was cancelled, and, at the request of some of the officers of the Organization, I am exploring ways and means of bringing such a venture off. I am now seeking assurance that the required funds will definitely be available before I make any commitments. Assuming that this is the case, will you be able to undertake an appearance on a TV network program -- say, towards the end of April? I know that I need not belabor the point that your return from Israel affords the best possible justification for such a program, since it would give you an opportunity to provide the American people with your own first-hand report. It would certainly strengthen my hands in requesting the budgetary allocation if I could report that you have agreed in principle to make such an appearance.

(more)

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

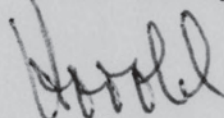
-2-

3. As matters now stand the next ZOA Convention will most likely be held *in Washington* sometime between August 23 and 27. I have been requested to apprise you of this and to urge your attendance at the Convention.

So much for the present.

Please convey my love to Mrs. Silver and my best regards to the boys.

Ever best,



Harold P. Manson

HPM:ha



של ארצות הברית

ההסתדרות הציונית



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

April 9, 1956

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
c/o The Temple
East 105th St. at Ansel Rd.
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Concerning the TV program which has been projected by the ZOA -- today Mr. May requested me to ascertain definitely whether you would be prepared to make such a television appearance, which we would try to schedule for two to three weeks from now. As I indicated previously, this would afford you an opportunity to present to the American people a first-hand report on Israel, as well as whatever comments on the political situation that the situation may require.

The budget for the program, I am informed, is \$15, 000 (ceiling), which represents the amount that was raised by the ZOA when the TV program was first projected -- both the money that was specifically earmarked for TV and the amount brought in under the pressure of the office's TV promotion. Before proceeding to ascertain the kind of TV-time and the number of stations that we can get, I must know whether I can state definitely that you will appear.

The office requires approximately two weeks for promotional work in the Districts between the date that the program is announced and the day of the telecast, so -- assuming that you accept and that we are able to make a good arrangement with a TV network speedily -- it should take place at the end of April or very early in May.

Do let me hear from you on this.

With warmest regards, I am

As ever,

Harold P. Manson

HPM:ha

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

NL=Night Letter

LT=International Letter Telegram

1201

(17)

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

1936 APR 9 AM 11 19

GQ CLAO36 PD AR=FAX NEW YORK NY 9 1051AME=

DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER, THE TEMPLE=

EAST 105 ST AT ANSEL RD=

TRANSCRIPTION TELAVIV SPEECH WOULD BE GREATLY FACILITATED
IF WE HAD YOUR ORIGINAL TEXT TO WHICH WE WOULD ADD
INTERPOLATIONS FROM RECORDING PLEASE SEND AIRMAIL SPECIAL
DELIVERY AS GOING TO PRESS WARMEST REGARDS=

HAROLD MANSON=

April 10, 1956

Mr. Harold Manson
Zionist Organization of America
145 East 32nd Street
New York 16, New York

My dear Harold:

I am sending you the original text of the address which I delivered in Tel Aviv. This text was considerably re-worked and the final version is on the tape recorder which you have.

I would ignore the text which I am sending you herewith and make a complete transcript of the speech as you have it.

With all good wishes I remain,

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl
encl.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

The program and structure of the ZOA's Department of Public Information as presented before the Extraordinary Conference of the National Administrative Council on Saturday evening, August 28, 1954 by Mr. Mortimer May, President of the ZOA, and unanimously adopted by the National Administrative Council.

(This text was circulated to the leadership of the ZOA throughout the country in a memorandum dated August 30, 1954.)

The Zionist Organization of America is determined to give the most vigorous and effective expression to its views on these matters -- to inform and alert its membership and thereby bring the issues involved here into the arena of public opinion. This is the way of a democracy -- and we propose to state the case clearly and fearlessly, confident that we will be supported now, as in the past, by an overwhelming majority of the American people.

To that end, we have undertaken a thorough overhaul of the public relations and information machinery of our Organization. I am happy to announce the establishment of a new Department of Public Information -- a single overall instrumentality for conducting the public relations work of the Z. O. A. under centralized direction and guidance. The need for coordination in this all-important sphere has been apparent for some time -- not only because of the great new tasks which have been created by recent events, but also for the sake of greater efficiency in the conduct of our day-to-day activities. We have therefore integrated the following committees and departments, all of which do public relations work in one form or another, into one Department of Public Information: our Commission on Israel and the Middle East, Press and Publicity, Program and Education and Speakers' Bureau. Each of these divisions will carry out specific functions and tasks as part of the overall course of action that will be charted by the Department of Public Information. Needless to say, the Department will try to work in closest cooperation with the American Zionist Council and the American Zionist Committee for Public Affairs. Indeed, we believe that if we succeed in reactivizing our Z.O.A. membership in the sphere of public relations we will be rendering the most important of services to the Council and the Committee on Public Affairs -- for past experience has established that in this type of work the leadership of the ZOA., on the national and local levels, is indispensable to successful action.

The Department of Public Information will have as its Honorary Chairman--Dr. Abba Hillel Silver. Chairman -- Dr. Leon I. Feuer. Executive Vice-Chairman - Harold P. Manson.

The Vice-Chairmen of the Department are: Rabbi Joseph P. Sternstein, who serves as Chairman for Program and Education; Harry Torczyner, who is Chairman of the Commission on Israel and the Middle East.

Judge Joseph E. Klau and Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg are Vice-Chairmen of the Commission on Israel and the Middle East and of Program and Education, respectively.

Ernest E. Barbarash serves as Director of Press and Publicity, and David E. Hirsch as Director of Program and Education.

3/10/56 Sent to the
Chief officers of
the ZOA.
Hirsch

April 10, 1956

dictated 4/9

Mr. Harold P. Manson
Zionist Organization of America
145 East 32nd Street
New York 16, New York

My dear Harold:

I was glad to see you last Friday at the airport. Sorry that I did not have an opportunity to talk to you at greater length.

With reference to your letter of April 6th in which you raise again the question of the TV program, I am prepared to go ahead with it provided it is of sufficiently large hook-up to warrant the time and energy which will need to be invested in it.

I am sure that you will keep in touch with me before final arrangements are made.

I am enclosing herewith the Plain Dealer report of my address at the Temple yesterday morning on the subject "Embattled Israel".

With warmest regards I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl
air mail:spec.Del.
encl.



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

April 11, 1956

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

Thank you for your note of April 10. In proceeding on the TV matter, I will have in mind your observations on the required scope of the program and will, of course, keep you posted before making any final commitments.

I was very glad to receive the Plain Dealer report of your address of Sunday, April 8. I am taking the liberty of mimeographing it and sending it, with a covering memorandum from myself, to our entire leadership throughout the country. I am also asking Barbarash to incorporate it in the forthcoming number of *The American Zionist*.

I understand that a special meeting of the Public Affairs Committee's Executive, of which I am a member, is being called for next Monday. If anything of special importance is reported there, I will phone you.

Best always,

Harold P. Manson

HPM:ha

של ארצות הברית

ההסתדרות הציונית



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

April 11, 1956

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

I just received the original text of your Tel Aviv address and am still awaiting the completion of the written transcription from the tape recording. I will send you a copy of the final version as soon as I have gone over it.

In glancing through the pages that you sent me, I noticed that whole sections of this text are almost identical with your Kfar Silver text which had been turned over to me by Ilutovich and which I, in turn, have transmitted to Barbarash for publication in The American Zionist's forthcoming report of the dedication ceremonies. Assuming that the same similarity exists between the text on tape and the Kfar Silver text, there will be some confusion if we publish both texts.

Perhaps the Kfar Silver speech was also altered radically. If so, we may have to make changes all around.

I would be grateful for clarification of this matter, so that I may be in a position to guide Barbarash correctly.

With warmest regards, I am

As ever,

Harold P. Manson

HPM; ha

ש"ל ארצות הברית

ההסתדרות הציונית



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

April 17, 1956

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

Following our conversation of today on the TV matter, I spoke with the agent who is dealing with the ABC Network in our behalf and informed him that it is impossible -- for reasons having to do with certain conferences you are likely to have soon in Washington -- to commit ourselves to a definite date at this time.

I was informed that we would therefore have to relinquish the Sunday, April 29th date altogether, since the network was in any case insisting that without a definite commitment on our part today, they would not have sufficient time to line up all of the local stations that would be involved.

As matters now stand, therefore, April 29 is definitely out, and since you would not be in a position to appear on Sunday, May 5 either -- due to your previous commitment in Washington -- the only remaining possibility is Sunday, May 13. This is now being explored by my agent, although he has been given to understand that no definite commitment will be forthcoming from here until the political situation in Washington has been fully clarified.

On the other hand, please bear in mind that should your assessment of the situation warrant a TV appearance by you, this could not be set up overnight, but would in all likelihood involve approximately two weeks of preparation. For this reason it would be wise for us to keep the May 13th date open for as long as the network permits us to do so.

With warmest regards, I am

As ever,

Harold P. Manson

HPM:ha
cc: Dr. Sidney Marks

C O P Y

Copy for Dr. Silver

MORTIMER MAY
KING DAVID HOTEL
JERUSALEM

April 24, 1956

Mr. Harold Manson
Zionist Organization of America
145 East 32 Street
New York City

Dear Harold:

I have your memo of the 18th which arrived today and which concerns the much postponed TV broadcast with Dr. Silver. I have heard quite a bit of criticism because we have not put on a TV program after we had raised money specifically for such a purpose. Dr. Neumann was particularly critical. You are, perhaps, well acquainted with all this and I am sure you are doing everything in your power, but I would like to impress upon you that we owe such an obligation.

Fortunately, the situation at the moment is less intense but nobody yet feels that we have achieved anything like a real peace, here.

Kind regards.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Mortimer May

של ארצות הברית

ההסתדרות הציונית



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

April 26, 1956

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

I received a telephone call today from Beatrice Cohen who, you will surely recall, did such a wonderful job for us in the offices of the Emergency Council.

She told me that, due to a number of unfortunate developments, she is in very serious need of gainful employment. She has been in touch with the New York Bond Office, where she worked for a time following her departure from the Council, and was informed by Phil Chasin, the Director of the New York Bond Campaign, that while her abilities are fully appreciated there is no provision in the current budget for an additional employee. Because her personal situation is truly serious, she asked whether it would not be possible for you to put in a word in her behalf -- with Schwartz or anyone else that might occur to you.

As you know, I normally try to keep you from direct involvement in such matters, but in this case I have a feeling that you would wish to do whatever you can for someone who served us faithfully and well over a period of many years.

With warmest regards, I am

As ever,

Harold P. Manson

HPM:ha

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

April 27, 1956

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

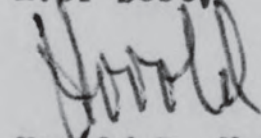
I am grateful to you for having taken the trouble to provide me with the full picture of what transpired in the course of your meeting at the White House yesterday with President Eisenhower and Secretary of State Dulles. You may be sure that in my treatment of this information there will be no indiscretion or cause of embarrassment for you from this quarter. I do believe that, quite apart from what you have relayed to Eban, a full record of this meeting should be prepared while the details are still fresh in your mind. If, as I hope, this may prove to have initiated a turning-point in American policy, it will be good to have a complete record for the future. If you prepare such a memorandum, I would be very happy if you were to let me have a copy.

In this connection -- might it not be a good idea to hold a special meeting of the American Zionist leadership (upon their return from the Congress, of course) at which you could provide a personal briefing, based upon your meeting at the White House yesterday. I am aware that subsequent events might tend to date such a report, which could not be made until a few weeks from now, but you could relate the White House Conference to the situation prevailing at that time. If you think there is merit to this suggestion, I will get in touch with our people in Jerusalem to set this in motion.

I must give a definite answer to the TV people concerning the May 13th date. How do you feel about a TV appearance following your meeting of yesterday? I must be able to provide a definite answer on this matter by Monday at the latest.

Warmest regards.

Ever best,



Harold P. Manson

HPM:ha

April 30, 1956

Mr. Harold P. Manson
Zionist Organization of America
145 East 32nd Street
New York 16, New York

My dear Harold:

Replying to your letter of April 27 I think the T.V. program should be indefinitely postponed and when an emergency arises we will reopen the question.

As far as a special meeting of the American Zionist leadership is concerned -- I do not think that it would in any way contribute to a clarification of the situation.

With all good wishes I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl

של ארצות הברית

ההסתדרות הציונית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

April 30, 1956

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

A few items which I wish to call to your attention:

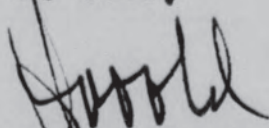
1. A copy of a letter which I received today from Mortimer May in Jerusalem. The most exasperating feature of this TV business, as far as I am concerned, is the manner in which the ZOA's obligations in connection with this venture are now being impressed upon me -- as if I had anything to do with the making of this mess...

In any case, do let me know what your final word on the subject is in the light of your recent explorations in Washington.

2. I am sending you a clipping of the column by that swine, John O'Donnell, which appeared in today's New York Daily News. I wonder whether, in the follow-ups of your meeting of last Thursday, it might not be wise to inquire whether O'Donnell does in fact reflect the Administration's attitude -- whether the "sigh of relief" which the Administration reportedly breathed after the Rosenwald statement was ended when you visited the White House. O'Donnell's whole column reflects the "Zionist pressure" line which seems to be figuring so prominently in Mr. Dulles' thinking these days.
3. I am awaiting your reaction to the matter of my recent telephone conversation with Mr. Bonchik.
4. Harry Torczyner may have occasion to visit Cleveland on Saturday, May 12, and asks whether you would be in town and free to see him if he should be in your community on that date.

Warmest regards.

As ever,



Harold P. Manson

HPM:ha

C O P Y

[Apr. 17, 1956] Dr. Silver

AMERICAN CABLE & RADIO SYSTEM

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 E. 32nd St., N.Y., N.Y.

MACKAY

MORTIMER MAY
KING DAVID HOTEL
JERUSALEM (ISRAEL)

SILVER SUGGESTS LARGE AD MAJOR NEWSPAPERS REFUTING QUOTE ZIONIST PRESSURE
UNQUOTE ISSUE PROMOTED STATE DEPARTMENT STOP URGED ME DRAFT TEXT TO BE
PUBLISHED COUNCIL OR ZOA STOP PLEASE ADVISE AFTER CONSULTATION NEUMANN OTHER
COLLEAGUES STOP SILVERS FEELING FOLLOWING WASHINGTON MEETING TV APPEARANCE
UNTIMELY REGARDS

HAROLD MANSON



Dear Dr. Silver -

Sent this off following our
telephone conversation in order to
ascertain whether funds will
be made available for the publication
of the statement you proposed.
Otherwise, it will be another
boon to the state.

Best regards,
Harold

Airmail to Dr. Silver

Boxed in New York Times of May 9, 1956

MRS. HALPRIN ACTING HEAD OF ZIONIST AGENCY HERE

(Special to The New York Times)

JERUSALEM, May 8 -- Dr. Nahum Goldmann, new president of the World Zionist Organization, said tonight he had appointed Mrs. Rose Halprin acting chairman of the Jewish Agency's Executive in New York until his next visit to the United States in October.

He denied reports he had agreed to rotate the chairmanship between Mrs. Halprin and Dr. Emanuel Neumann.

Dr. Neumann said earlier it was his understanding that the chairmanship would be rotated. But Dr. Goldmann said he had made no such commitment, reserving the right to select any deputy he might choose during absences from the United States.

While in New York Dr. Goldmann himself will take over the chairmanship he held before becoming the World Zionist president.

5/9/56
Just in case you missed
this charming item in
today's Times.

Harold

May 29, 1956

Mr. Harold Manson
Zionist Organization of America
145 East 32nd Street
New York 16, New York

My dear Harold:

When I was in New York I spoke to Mr. Schwartz about Beatrice Cohen. He told me that she had worked there and that they might have work for her provided she would be willing to serve the Bond Organization out in the field. They seem to have, at the present time, more than enough people in the office.

If Bea is interested or is able to do this kind of work I would suggest that she contact Mr. Schwartz again.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl

Dr Silver

Dr. Emanuel Neumann

June 19, 1956

Harold P. Manson

The attached copy of my memo to Unger on the Lasky pamphlet which Silver called to my attention is self-explanatory.

If you know of appropriate material, in the Agency or elsewhere, which can be transmitted to Silver, please let me know. You had mentioned a letter by Warburg and Stroock. Is this available for circulation to UJA contributors who have been propagandized by the Lasky pamphlet?

Warmest regards.

HPM:ha
Encl.



Rabbi Jerome Unger

June 19, 1956

Harold P. Manson

Dr. Silver phoned me from Cleveland to call attention to a booklet entitled "Between Truth and Repose" by Moses Lasky of San Francisco, ~~and~~ with an introduction by Clarence Coleman, which is being privately distributed and whose chief purpose is to discourage contributions to the United Jewish Appeal. One can assume that the procedure which is being followed in Cleveland -- namely, getting this booklet into the hands of big contributors to the UJA -- is being employed by the Council for Judaism elsewhere as well.

Dr. Silver asks whether this pamphlet is being counteracted by the responsible Zionist instrumentalities and/or by the UJA and whether a full refutation of Lasky's pamphlet has been prepared. If not, he asks that a complete and documented reply be sent to him for the benefit of those in his community who have received the pamphlet. Such a reply could be used elsewhere in a similar way.

I am awaiting receipt of the pamphlet, which Dr. Silver is forwarding to me. In the meantime, however I would be grateful for any information that the Council may have, or that it may have obtained from the UJA office on this entire matter.

Please advise.

Warmest regards.

HPM:ha

June 19, 1956

Mr. Harold Manson
Zionist Organization of America
145 East 32nd Street
New York 16, New York

Dear Mr. Manson:

Enclosed is copy of "Between Truth and Repose" about which Dr. Silver spoke with you over the telephone today.

Kind regards.

Sincerely,

Miss Sophia Levine
Secretary to Dr. Silver

/sl
encl.

הסוכנות היהודית לארץ ישראל
THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

MEMORANDUM

June 27, 1956

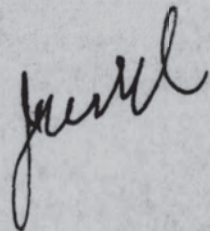
TO: Dr. Emanuel Neumann

FROM: Dr. Judd Teller

SUBJECT:

In connection with Dr. Silver's request and the decision of the Executive last Friday (June 22), I am attaching a copy of Alan Stroock's letter and copies of Rabbi Reichert's statement published in the National Jewish Post.

JT:EL
Enclosures



STROOCK & STROOCK & LAVAN
61 Broadway
New York 6, N.Y.

C O P Y

March 13, 1956

Mr. Moses Lasky
c/o Brobeck, Phleger & Harrison
111 Sutter
San Francisco 4, California

Dear Moses Lasky:

Edward Warburg has sent me a copy of his correspondence with you and of the "Study" to which it relates because you referred him to me as a witness to your integrity and your legal ability "to read a document or to assemble facts". It is for this reason that I had occasion to read the document and that it seems to me incumbent on me to say what I think of it. I have assured Edward Warburg on both counts of the alleged indictment, and he in turn has assured me that he did not intend to charge you "either with deliberate untruths or with ignorance based on lack of a desire to know the truth." When he characterized your "Study" as biased, I think he meant what one lawyer means of another when he says that the other's brief is biased, namely, that its conclusions are reached in advance and the facts are so assembled or interpreted as to attempt to prove what is already believed. In that sense I think there is ample basis for the charge in the case of your paper. The document is a brief -- an argument -- not a "Study" or an "objective effort" as you represent it to be. And far from limiting yourself to "findings of ultimate fact", it is full of "legal conclusions or consequences that flow from the findings." Let a few straws show which way the wind blows:

1. If you weren't trying to prove a conclusion but were merely trying to make a study, you would not have resorted to the time-honored oratorical device of asserting that your discovery of the facts required you to uncover dark and hidden and carefully concealed "original documents." Phrases like: "The trail starts a long time ago", "doubles back" until "the journey has returned across the sea" * * *, "we have tracked down and identified that brooding presence" and "had to explore" and secure and examine copies of a "buried store of information" in a veritable "journey of exploration" in the course of which "numerous facts have been encountered, exhumed and examined", some of which were "only suspected" and others of which have taken on "sharp meaning" pointing to a "vast pyramid of influence and power" -- phrases such as these have the flavor of advocacy, not of objective judgment, when applied to a bibliography composed exclusively of widely-published documents, governmental records open to public view, quotations from broadly circulated books, legislative enactments, international pronouncements and encyclopedias like the American Jewish Year Book. To imply that your "original documents" were as if concealed in a pumpkin, is like persuading a court that to exhume the contents of Corpus Juris is a startling experience in discovery. This is not to say that even

where you confine yourself to facts, they are as well known as they ought to be, nor that it is not useful to assemble them in one document. It is the rhetoric that puts one on his guard that the facts are not presented quite objectively and that the purpose of the paper is not to study but to attack. Moreover, the implications of some of the above phrases, and statements like "The relationship of the WZO to the State stems out of an ideology not easy for an occidental or non-indoctrinated mind to grasp", should have no place in a document presumably designed to be ultimately helpful to the cause of Jews.

2. At several places the paper purports to prove from the Constitution and other pronouncements of the WZO that every member of a Zionist organization "must accept" every decision made by that body. The words "must accept" constitute a legal conclusion, not a statement of fact. I doubt that Louis D. Brandeis or Julian Mack or Judah Magnes, or even Stephen Wise or Abba Hillel Silver, gave up his independence of judgment or decision on the most basic issues of Zionist philosophy or action when they paid their shekel. And the names of dissenters in Zionist ranks are and always have been legion. The WZO has no police, army, navy or courts. It does not even have the power to excommunicate. In the absence of such powers the words "must accept" mean no more than what they do when applied to majority action clauses in the constitutions or by-laws of any other voluntary organization. To say, therefore, "When the voice of WZO declares the duties of Zionists they must obey or cease to be Zionists", is to impute a totalitarian quality to the organization that, whatever its many and grievous faults, is diametrically opposed to its history, and to the actions of its membership. After all, it is composed of Jews.

The point would, of course, be academic if you did not use this theoretical legal conclusion as a stepping stone to a really libelous charge that I wish you had not indulged. To assert that as a matter of law American Zionists "have assumed a duty of obedience and submission to the Jewish Agency", particularly when you later assert that the Agency is an "organ" of the Government of Israel (a point I will discuss below), is to play with words in an irresponsible way. No American Zionist has made any legally binding contract with the WZO or the Agency, and you know it. No American Zionist recognizes or is bound to recognize any legal allegiance to either organization such as would justify the conclusion which you assert. There is nothing in law, morals or custom that binds an American Zionist to "a duty of obedience and submission to the Jewish Agency", any more than, if he is a member, to the International Order of Oddfellows or the Elks. At this point in your paper, if I may say so, you have completely overstepped the mark not only of objective judgment but even of rational debate. I am amazed that you should do so when dealing with a question affecting the very patriotism of your fellow Jews.

3. Your repeated assertion that the Jewish Agency is an "organ" of the Government of Israel rests on the single phrase in the Covenant between the Government of Israel and the Executive of the Jewish Agency which includes among the functions of the Executive "the coordination of the activities in Israel of Jewish institutions and organizations acting within the limits of these functions by means of public funds". To say that this constitutes proof, as a fact not a legal conclusion, that the Agency is an organ of the Government of Israel, is to fail to distinguish judgment from argument. The Covenant defines what are "these functions" within the limits of which the Agency can

operate. Every one of them is a function which either has been or is now being carried on to some extent by private organizations in the United States with respect to related matters of American concern. Not one of them is exclusively a "governmental" function. Moreover, where private organizations in this country engage in similar activities they frequently administer public funds, and there are also private bodies here that coordinate the operations of organizations acting in part "by means of public funds". For example, nearly every private welfare organization in New York gets a large part of its budget from state or city funds, and the activities of private and public organizations are frequently coordinated "within the limits of these functions" by private groups. No one supposes that because delinquent boys are committed by the courts of New York to the care of the Jewish Board of Guardians, and the City pays a substantial part of the cost of their care, that "ipso facto" the Jewish Board of Guardians is an "organ" of the City government. Nor does the Grievance Committee of the Bar Association of the City of New York become an organ of the State because of its powers, delegated by the Legislature, with respect to disbarment proceedings.

There is also no historical foundation for your dangerous conclusion. Historically the Jewish Agency was never considered an "organ" of Britain as the Mandatory Power. Balfour and Churchill would have been astounded by the suggestion that such was the effect of the Balfour Declaration. Nor does the Status Law confer any purely governmental function. Your inference could not be more thinly supported or more clearly derived from a conclusion which, reached in advance, you were determined to maintain.

4. It is not clear to me what you are trying to prove from your reference to the fact that the Agency is registered under the Foreign Agents' Registration Act. Surely this does not make the Agency an "organ" of the State of Israel, even though it is concededly required to register under the terms of that law. Yet you conclude this portion of your paper by saying that contributions to the UJA are "contributions to organs of the Israeli government." Every lawyer who represents a foreign government must register under the Act. Does that make him or his firm an official or organ of the government he represents? If so, he would lose his citizenship. All the facts and documents you refer to are well known to the Treasury Department, but if your legal conclusion were justified, UJA would not have the tax exemption it has been accorded after, to my knowledge, detailed investigation. Here I think you are either misled yourself by the Title of an Act, or you are purposely using the implications of that title to a layman, to make a most unlaywerlike argument.

5. On page 14 of your paper you point out that UJA is controlled 50% by JDC and 50% by American Palestine Appeal, and that JDC "is not a Zionist group." On page 15 you say that UJA is "reactivated annually by an agreement between JDC and UPA." Yet on page 18 you say that United Israel Appeal, and through it WZO, "controls UJA". Obviously there is no legal justification for this whatever on your own statement of the facts. Presumably what you mean is that because United Israel Appeal is the major beneficiary of UJA, the former controls the expenditure of the portion of UJA funds going to it. But that is an entirely different matter. This same trick of turning the beneficiary of funds into the group that controls the giver appears at several points in your paper. It is as if to argue that the recipients of charitable donations control the benefactors. The suggestion would be merely mischievous were it not that having taken that backward somersault you then use the position to take a further jump -- namely, that those who govern UJA or even give to it are in effect in thrall to the WZO and thereby to the Government of Israel. This inference,

March 13, 1956

when applied to men like Edward Warburg, William Rosenwald, Samuel Leidesdorf, and the like, is more than mischievous; it is offensive. What do you suppose would happen as a legal matter -- and that is the position you assume -- if, say, the Communists or the Herut extremists, got control in Israel? Would they "control" the leadership of UJA or its contributors as a matter of law? The fact is, of course, that they would not even control the American leadership of WZO. You have played with legal terms, and in my view rather irresponsibly.

You will note that I have confined the above to the allegedly legal aspects of your paper. There remains the ideological argument. As I believe you know, and as many like-minded with you yourself will attest, I agree with much of what you have to say with respect to the philosophy and ideology of Zionism. In fact, it is just because I believe and have frequently stated my belief that the Zionist philosophy represented by the documents to which you refer and others, is dangerous ideologically that I regret so strenuously your effort to convert a debate in the realm of ideas into an easily refuted legal argument. That is to put weapons into the hands of one's adversaries. Moreover, it does not follow from the fact that when one deeply disapproves the use of some of the money one gives to a charitable organization that an effort should be made to malign its officials and supporters as in bondage to a foreign government, or to argue that its tax exemption should be removed. You don't have to throw out the baby with the bath. I give to UJA along with many other opponents of Zionism because I know how much of what I do approve in Israel is accomplished through those funds and because via UJA a very large amount -- nearly 40%, and thus on your own figures about 120 million dollars between 1950 and 1953 -- went to JDC purposes abroad, which I do not believe would have been as well supported except for UJA. I do not know to what political party you belong. But if you are a Democrat I doubt that you withhold support because of the Southern wing; and if you are a Republican I doubt that you are for McCarthy and Knowland. All of us find ourselves supporting things and people we oppose because that is the only way to get others to support the things and people we are for. That is the nature of democracy. And it is also the nature of democracy, in my opinion, to be extremely careful in debate not to attack other people's integrity, patriotism or loyalty by means of sophistical arguments, or pretended objectivity where none exists. Particularly when dealing with one's fellow-Jews. There one's own fate is also at stake, and the result can be just plain suicide.

Sincerely yours,

/sgd/ ALAN M. STROOCK

AMS:U

C O P Y

Copy to Dr. Silver

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

WASHINGTON 13, D.C.

Chambers of
Justice Felix Frankfurter

June 28, 1956

My dear Mr. May:

So warm an invitation as yours, by which I feel honored, makes it all the harder for me not to meet your wishes and deliver the commemorative address on Mr. Justice Brandeis at the forthcoming national Convention of the ZOA, but I have no choice. Compelling reasons, with which it will serve no purpose to trouble you, preclude my acceptance.

With every good wish,

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Felix Frankfurter

Mortimer May, Esq.

This does not surprise me.
Would be grateful for any
suggestions.
Warmest regards,
Harold

AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

342 MADISON AVENUE

• TELEPHONE MURRAY HILL 2-1160 •

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

Cable Address: AMZIONIST

June 29, 1956

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
1855 Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Under separate cover I am returning the pamphlet by Moses Lasky entitled BETWEEN TRUTH AND REPOSE, which you sent to Mr. Harold Manson and asked to have returned.

We had been apprised of the publication of such a pamphlet back in February, when Mr. Clarence L. Coleman, Jr., President of the American Council for Judaism, sent a draft copy to Rabbi Irving Miller. When the distribution of the finished pamphlet began, we of the American Zionist Council, together with colleagues in the Jewish Agency and in the United Jewish Appeal, conferred upon a course of unified action. It was decided that no general refutation of the pamphlet should be issued. On the other hand, a letter by Mr. Alan Stroock, the attorney, to Mr. Moses Lasky, was prepared and sent. The United Jewish Appeal makes this letter available to those who inquire as a result of the receipt of the pamphlet. Incidentally, the letter by Rabbi Irving Reichert which appeared in The National Jewish Post is also being sent out by the United Jewish Appeal.

In addition, we three mentioned above, with expert legal advice, are preparing a refutation of the facts which are to be kept on file for use as indicated. All have agreed that nothing public is to be done in order to avoid the type of publicity it surely does not deserve.

The American Zionist Council is now preparing a new memo which will contain Rabbi Irving Reichert's letter referred to above, and an excellent editorial which appeared in an April issue of Commonweal, and the resolutions dealing with the American Council for Judaism that have been passed by the various rabbinic and other bodies.

The statement signed by 1318 rabbis denouncing the American Council for Judaism is being put into printed pamphlet form for wider circulation than it had in its mimeographed form.

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, Women's Zionist Organization of America • Hapoel Hamizrachi (including Hapoel Hamizrachi Women) • Mizrachi Organization of America (including Mizrachi Women) • Labor Zionist Organization of America-Poale Zion (including Farband and Pioneer Women) • Progressive Zionist League-Hashomer Hatzair • United Labor Zionist Party (Achdut Avodah-Poale Zion) • United Zionists-Revisionists of America • Zionist Organization of America

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

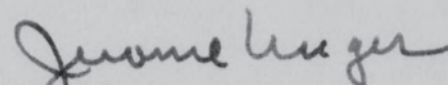
- 2 -

June 29, 1956

I know all the foregoing will be of interest to you. I shall be of course, most happy to hear from you and to transmit any suggestions or advice you may have, in this or any other matter.

With fondest regards to you and Mrs. Silver, I am

Sincerely yours,



Rabbi Jerome Unger
Executive Director

JU:sg



Forward to Dr. Silver

הסוכנות היהודית לארץ ישראל
THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

MEMORANDUM

TO: Judd Teller (CC: Mrs. Rose Halprin)
Mr. Harold Manson - ZOA)
FROM: Emanuel Neumann
SUBJECT:

*re: Between Repose
Smith + Repose*

July 2, 1956

Thanks for the copy of the letter of Alan Stroock, as well as the clipping of Rabbi Reichert's statement. Both are very good. Of course, Stroock's letter is not adequate from our standpoint, because while he defends the Zionist, he also does it at times in a very left-handed manner. Definitely, we need a piece of literature on our own. Meantime, I am forwarding the material you sent me to Harold Manson who will presumably send it on to Dr. Silver.

EN:TM

של ארצות הברית

ההסתדרות הציונית



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

July 3, 1956

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

Following our telephone conversation of today, I am making it clear to our colleagues here that your inability to provide us with a final commitment as to your attendance of the forthcoming ZOA Convention in no way reflects a lack of desire to be present, but merely indicates that you still do not know where you will be towards the end of August and that you are reluctant to make a commitment which you might have to rescind at some later date, thereby creating questions in the public mind. I do hope that you will be in touch with me on this just as soon as the picture is clear.

I am glad that you have agreed to look into the question of a top political figure for our Convention during your forthcoming visit to Washington. Just to remind you -- the Convention dates are August 24-27 (with the possibility of a slight revision to August 23-26). Of course I agree that from the larger political point of view no worse time could have been chosen -- but once again we must try to do the impossible. I will be grateful for any information that you may provide on this matter following your trip to Washington. Since, as I told you over the telephone, I am beginning my "vacation" activity on the book this week-end, future correspondence should be addressed to my home -- or you can convey any information concerning the Convention directly to Emanuel Neumann and/or Mortimer May.

Best always,

Harold P. Manson

HPM:ha
Encl.

76
To
From
Dr. Sidney Marks

Copy to Dr. Silver
July 5, 1956

Convention Program and Related Matters

Before I leave the office to resume work on my project I am summarizing the items with which I have been dealing in connection with the ZOA Convention. While some of these matters will continue to command my interest during my "vacation," many will have to be followed up in the office.

1. There is a strong feeling that the Convention should open on Thursday evening, August 23 and end on Sunday evening, August 26. This is being investigated by Leon Ilutovich, who will undoubtedly leave word for you on the matter.
2. The precise subjects to which the various sessions will be devoted have not been finally determined. What follows, therefore, is not a tentative Convention program, but a listing of personalities who have been or are being approached to speak.
3. Political Personalities. The difficulties being encountered because of the proximity of our Convention to the Republican and Democratic National Conventions have been made clear to the officers and need not be repeated here. As of today the picture is as follows:

a) Republicans.

Agreed to come: Javits. He emphasized, however, that he would be doing so under great difficulties, since he would have to fly in from San Francisco (the Republican Convention), and he made it clear that he would expect to be given a top spot on the program -- at a session where he would be the principal attraction. He said that Sunday, August 26 -- luncheon, afternoon or evening -- is the best day from his point of view. Assuming that his stipulations are accepted, all of this must be confirmed with him.

Outside chance, but unlikely: Sobeloff. His reasons for turning us down were perfectly valid, but I have tried to keep the matter open (see my letter to him of July 3) just in case there will be a change in his personal situation. This might be looked into -- preferably by Dr. Neumann -- towards the end of July.

Approaches to top Administration spokesmen, and by whom this is being done: Our first choice is Vice-President Nixon, although we are anything but hopeful -- particularly in view of the fact that the Republican Convention practically coincides with ours (this applies to the other VIP's as well). Nevertheless, Bernie Katzen has promised to do his best to get a top Administration spokesman, realizing its importance in this election year -- and if Nixon (who is currently in the Far East) is unavailable he promised to try for others. This will have to be followed up.

(more)

Dr. Silver expects to be in Washington during the coming week, at which time he intends to explore the possibility of getting a leader of the Government to come to our Convention. (See my letter to Dr. Silver of July 3.)

b) Democrats.

Since we have no way of knowing whose political stock will be high and whose low after the Democratic Convention, it was decided to withhold any direct invitations for the time being. We have been trying to get leaders of the Democratic National Committee to agree that the standard-bearer, whoever he will be, should come to our Convention -- but this is a very long shot.

(An important by-product of my efforts in these quarters was a verbal acceptance by Harriman of an invitation to speak at the AZT dinner on October 22. However, his assistant, Van Devander, stipulated that final confirmation must await the outcome of the Democratic National Convention. An invitation in Mortimer May's name was sent to Harriman and we are awaiting the final confirmation.)

Apart from the leading contenders for the Democratic nomination -- Stevenson, Harriman, Kevauver -- other Democratic personalities whom we might approach are: Symington, Governor Leader (through Bill Sylk), Lausche, etc.

4. Dr. Silver. He will be in touch with us when he is in a position to give us a definite yes or no. (See my letter to him of July 3.)
5. Eban had agreed to come in a conversation with Dr. Neumann. (There was also some talk about inviting Sharett -- but the advisability of such a move is still in doubt.)
6. S.Z. Abramov has been invited to come in a cable sent by Leon Ilutovich. We are awaiting his reply.
7. The Brandeis Memorial Session is still up in the air. Szold has agreed to serve as chairman, but Frankfurter has turned us down and Chief Justice Warren will be out of the country. The alternative suggestions are: Justice Douglas, A. Sacher, Milton Konvitz, Ben Cohen, Prof. Freund.
8. Report on Soviet Jewry. I spoke to Rabbi Rackman prior to the departure of his Rabbinical delegation for the Soviet Union. We are to be in touch with him upon his return late in July to ascertain whether his appearance at our Convention is feasible or desirable.

The name of Rabbi Sandrow has also been mentioned in this connection.

9. Miscellaneous

- a) The idea of inviting Daniel Silver to deliver the Sabbath sermon.
- b) The idea of a session devoted to the Ahad Ha-Am Centennial, to be addressed by someone like Mordecai Kaplan or Leon Simon.

(more)

- c) The idea of a UN personality. However, I have told Moses Schonfeld, who is looking into the matter, that we are interested only if the gentleman understands that he is to deliver a pro-Israel speech, rather than make a plug for the UN in general.

Warmest regards.

HPM:ha

cc: Mortimer May
Dr. Emanuel Neumann
Abraham Goodman
Dr. Harris J. Levine
Jacques Torczyner
Harry Torczyner
Leon Ilutovich



July 9, 1956

Mr. Harold Manson
Zionist Organization of America
145 East 32nd Street
New York 16, New York

My dear Harold:

The pamphlet (Between Truth and Repose by Moses Lasky) which I sent you some time ago and which you turned over to the Zionist Emergency Council has never been returned to me. I have been in touch with that office on three separate occasions and they tell me that they have mailed it back but so far I have not received it.

The gentlemen who gave it to me is very urgent about getting it back. Is it possible for you to obtain another copy of that booklet from U.J.A.?

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl
air mail