

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	Box	Folder
67	24	1548

United Jewish Appeal, United Palestine Appeal, "C," "D," and "E", 1939-1940.

Western Reserve Historical Society 10825 East Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44106 (216) 721-5722 wrhs.org

SEPTHEBER 20, 1939

ZIONISTS NEWYORK

BENGETIGE ZUR ABFERTIGUNG BEI SOO PERSOREN HIT ZERTIFIKATEN LAUFENDE ALIJAH NACH PALAESTINA SECHSUNDREISSIGTAUSEND DOLLAR FUER SCHIFFKARTEN ERBITTE DRINGEND IBREN BEISTAND UND DRARTANTWORT

C

OP

Y

PALANT ROTHENBERG

(TRANSLATION)

WE NEED FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF 600 PERSONS IN POSSESSION OF CERTIFICATES OF THE PRESENT IMMIGRATION SCHEDULE THIRTYSIX THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR TICKETS TO PALESTINE WE URGENTLY APPEAL FOR YOUR HELP AND YOUR CABLE REPLY PALANT ROTHENBERG

SEPTIMBER 29, 1939

BERLIN

NLT RABBI GOLDMAN ZIONIST ORGANIZATION 111 FIFTH AVE. NY

C O P Y

SONDERTRANSPORT DEUTSCHLAND PALAESTINA MOEGLICH WERN 12000 PFUND VERFUEGBAR KABELT ANTWORT

RECHA FREIER ORGETP

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL (Inc.) FOR REFUGEES AND OVERSEAS NEEDS

ON BEHALF OF AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, INC. UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL and NATIONAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE FUND. INC.

> 342 MADISON AVENUE NEW YORK, N. Y.

September 25, 1939

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

IC:LG

I appreciate most sincerely your thoughtfulness in sending to me personally a copy of your paper on "The World Crisis and Jewish Survival." I have read this and reread it and I shall continue to reread it from time to time. It gives me a much clearer understanding of the world problem and the relationship of us Jews to it. When we project our own lives into the historic background of the Jewish people, we as individual Jews have not only reason for pride but, indeed, we find ample reason to carry on with courage in the face of that which you show to be merely transitory handicaps in the larger epochs and historic cycles of time.

Here I am tending to deliver a sermon myself which, obviously, I have no right to undertake. My expression, however, merely reflects the tremendous impression made upon me personally by your splendid arguments. If you can spare a dozen copies, I shall welcome them so that I might distribute them to friends who would not only be interested but would be benefited as I know I have been.

With all good wishes to you and yours for the New Year, I am, with kind regards,

Cordially yours,

Isidor Coons

National Chairmen Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver Rabbi Jonah B. Wise

Honorary Chairmen

CYRUS ADLER LOUIS BAMBERGER ALBERT EINSTEIN MAX EPSTEIN HON. HERBERT H. LEHMAN LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN HON. JULIAN W. MACK HENRY MONSKY WILLIAM J. SHRODER HON. MAX C. SLOSS HON. NATHAN STRAUS SAMUEL UNTERMYER MRS. FELIX M. WARBURG RABBI STEPHEN S. WISE

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\$20,000,000 is the National Goal for 1939

SEPTEMBER 29, 1939

XXXXXXXXXX JERUSALEM

NLT RABBI GOLDMAN ZIONIST ORGANIZATION 11 FIFTH AVENUE NEWYORK FOR YOUR INFORMATION ACTION MAGNES DISPATCHED FOLLOWING TELEGRAM BAERWALD JOINT QUOTE PART FOLAND OCCUPIED BY SOVIETS CONTAINS OVER TWO MILLION JEWS STOP AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES AND MYSELF CONSIDER NEGOTIATIONS WITH SOVIETS WARRANTED ON FOLLOWING SUBJECTS ONE REPATRIATION ABOUT 2000 PALESTINIAN JEWS STRANDED THERE TWO EVACUATION VIA ODESSA INTO OTHER COUNTRIES INCLUDING PALESTINE OF REFUGEES FROM GERMAN OCCUPATION AREAS WHOSE NUMBER RUMORED BETWEEN TWO AND FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND THREE TRANSIT FACILITIES VIA ODESSA REAXINAXERXNIE WITH BRITISH VISAS TO PALESTINE FROM LITHUANIA LATVIA THERE BEING NO OTHER WAY THROUGH FOR THEM FOUR IF YOU CONSIDER ADVISABLE ALSO POSSIBILITY EVACUATION ZIONIST LEADERS FROM RUSSIAN OCCUPIED AREA STOP SUGGEST YOU CONSIDER SENDING ROSEN EXPLORE THESE MATTERS POSSIBLY ACCOMPANIED BY IMMIGRATION EXPERT FROM PALESTINE PLEASE CABLE MAGNES STOP DOBKIN

6736 JEFFREY AVENUE CHICAGO, ILL.

> September 29th 1939

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver The Temple Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I am congratulating you on the splendid letter which I received today from the United Palestine Appeal, as well as on the very interesting enclosed memorandum on the war situation in Palestine. Both the letter and the memorandum are timely and appropriate. Finally the silence of the leadership has been broken.

Since the issuance of the White Paper, the Zionists of America have been waiting for some such statement from the leadership. The war situation has aggravated matters and our leadership, I presume, have been compelled to keep silent and think through the matter cautiously until they could orientate themselves under new conditions. In the meantime, the rank and file was clamoring for information: What is going to become of Palestine? Is it all lost? Is Palestine bankrupt? What shall be our task? What practical program shall we follow now? The situation was similar to the legend in which we are told that Moses went up to the mountain of Sinai to consult the Deity and the populace became impatient - he was tarrying too long. They demanded something tangible - "eygel hazohov" - they wanted a definite program of action.

The indecision in making a definite statement on the part of the leadership, which I recognize was inevitable, has had, in my opinion, a demoralizing effect upon Zionists. Under such conditions the membership of the Zionist Organization could not grow. I was approached numerous times with questions: Why belong to the Zionist Organization? Why give money to Palestine if the White Paper has ended all? I mix among the people and I have heard their murmurs. It is for this reason that I am exceedingly happy to receive these documents. I wonder whether this information could be circularized widely to the various Zionist Districts? ALBERT K. EPSTEIN 6736 JEFFREY AVENUE CHICAGO, ILL.

-2-

Since it is still before Hoshana Raba, I think it is appropriate to wish that any bad 335 which has been destined to befall the Jewish people shall be obliterated. Let us hope that American Jewry will feel a sense of responsibility and will implement its impatience with 3735 376 which will result in 3735 376 which will

Very truly yours, Albert K. Epstei

AKE: co

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ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

MEMORANDUM

Date October 2, 1959

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(Dr. Wise (Dr. Silver / (Mr. Lipsky

Samuel Caplan

For your conference with Mr. Hyman tomorrow, I attach herewith the

various requests for appropriations, as follows:

1. Cable from Rothenberg (Vienna)

2. Cable from Recha Freier Orghip (Berlin)

5. Cable from Dobkin, quoting Magnes' cable to J.D.C.

I am placing in Dr. Wise's hands the letter which he received from

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the second states and a second

Mr. Hyman.

From

To

October 6, 1939

Rabbi Aaron Decter Congretation Shaare Shomayim 23rd & Wharton Streets Philadelphia, Pa.

My dear Rabbi Decter:

Please pardon the delay in answering your kind letter. I have been so busy during this Holiday season and have been out of town so much of the time. I reciprocate mo t heartily your good wishes for the new year.

I am taking the liberty of forwarding your letter to our office in New York. I am sure that they will wish to avail themselves of your kind offer of service in behalf of our cause. I understand that Philadelphia is moving into its own campaign and I am sure that you will be able to render great service in that campaign. I hope that on my next visit to your city I will have the pleasure of seeing you.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS: BK

MEMORANDUM

October 10,1939

TO: DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER

FROM: SAMUEL CAPLAN

Attached herewith is callegram received today in reply to our request for special appropriation upon application of Mizrachi.

October 10,1989

SILVER ZIONIST ORGANISATION

EXECUTIVE JEWISH NATIONAL FUND KEREN HAYESOD UNANIMOUSLY DECIDED TO URGE YOU REJECT ALL DEMANDS MADE UPON YOU FOR DIRECT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE STOP REQUEST YOU REPLY PETITIONERS APPROACH EXECUTIVE JERUSALEM STOP STRAINED FINANCIAL POSITION HEAVY TASKS COMPEL US INSIST THIS DECISION

KAPLAN

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

MEMORANDUM

Dr. Wise Louis Lipsky Dr. Goldman Dr. Silver

Date October 16, 1939

From

To

Samuel Caplan

Attached is a cable from the Executive in Jerusalem, informing us of the proposed arrival of Dr. Landauer to the United States.

What answer, if any, should be made to this cable?

MEMORANDUM

November 1,1939

TO: DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER

FROM: SAMUEL CAPLAN

Please note that the next meeting of the Emergency Committee will be held on Tuesday, November 7th, at 4.00 P.M. at the ZOA office. November 3, 1939

Mr. Samuel Caplan Zionist Organization of America 111 Fifth Avenue New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Caplan:

I regret that I will not be able to attend the meeting of the Emergency Committee on November 7th. I shall be in New York on the 15th of this month to attend the next meeting of the Allocations Committee. I shall be free in the morning to attend an Emergency Committee meeting if it is called at that time. In the evening I am to be in Philadelphis for the campaign of the United Jewish Appeal.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS: BK

The Temple

EAST 105¹² STREET AT ANSEL ROAD

Cleveland

ABBA HILLEL SILVER, D. D. RABBI

HARRY A. LEVY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

MELBOURNE HARRIS ASSISTANT RABBI

November 3, 1939

Mr. Samuel Caplan Zionist Organization of America 111 Fifth Avenue New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Caplan:

I regret that I will not be able to attend the meeting of the Emergency Committee on November 7th. I shall be in New York on the 15th of this month to attend the next meeting of the Allocations Committee. I shall be free in the morning to attend an Emergency Committee meeting if it is called at that time. In the evening I am to be in Philadelphia for the campaign of the United Jewish Appeal.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours, alter Hell John

AHS: BK

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

MEMORANDUM

Date November 9, 1939.

Dr.Abba Hillel Silver

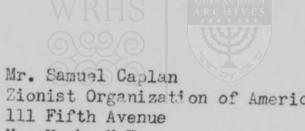
From

To

Mr. Samuel Caplan

The attached is copy of cablegram received today.

S.C.



Zionist Organization of America 111 Fifth Avenue New York, N.Y.

SILVER GOLDMAN ZIONIST ORGANISATION 111 FIFTH AVENUE NEWYORK

COPY

AGREEMENT KEREN HAYESOD KEREN KAYEMETH REGARDING CAMPAIGN 1940 STILL UNDER DISCUSSION STOP APPROPRIATION ALLOCATION COMMITTEE BHOULD BE IN PROPORTION OUR EMERGENCY SCHEME SENT YOU THROUGH BLUMENFELD STOP PLEASE INSIST EMPHATICALLY SPECIAL NEEDS RELIEF AND REFUGEES ABSORPTION ALSO ADJUSTMENT ECONOMY TO WAR CONDITIONS EMERGENCY NEEDS GROWING DAILY HELP URGENT

RUPPIN KAPLAN

COPY

NATIONAL POWER POLICY COMMITTEE INTERIOR BUILDING WASHINGTON

November 20, 1939

Dear Montor:

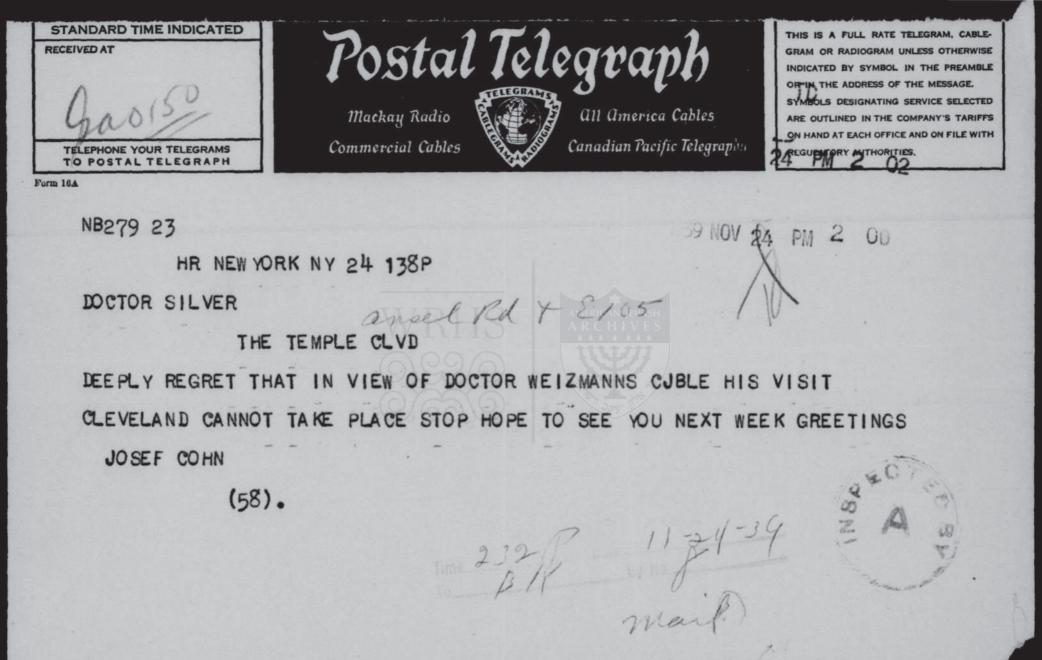
I am afraid it would be embarrassing to Justice Frankfurter to send him an invitation to the Annual National Conference for Palestine. I know that he does not attend any public meetings of this character. He feels that he cannot participate in such meetings, and attending meetings where he has so deep an interest in the subject and yet is restrained by his office from speaking would be extremely difficult for him. I think he has explained the situation to Dr. Wise.

I am extremely grateful to you for your report on the decision taken by the Allocations Committee on the matter in which I am specially interested.

Yours sincerely.

(Signed) Ben V. Cohen Benjamin V. Cohen

Henry Montor, Esq., Executive Director, United Palestine Appeal 111 Fifth Avenue New York, New York





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

WA5 16 NT WASHINGTON DC 20 DOCTOR SILVER =

1939 NOV 21 AM 2 59

THE TEMPLE CLEVE:

*REGRET CANNOT MAKE DEFINITE ARRANGEMENTS REGARDING DOCTOR WEISMANNS ITINERARY UNTIL FRIDAY STOP SHALL THEN CABLE AGAIN:

JOSEF COLIN.

CABLE ADDRESS ZIONISTS BENTLEY'S CODE



111 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK

November 30, 1939

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver The Temple Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I shall be glad to place the contents of your letter of the 28th before the next meeting of the Emergency Committee which is scheduled for Monday.

My own understanding is that in order to utilize Dr. Weizmann's time to the best advantage and not to subject him to the embarassment of having to decline the large number of invitations that will undoubtedly descend upon him, the Emergency Committee will undertake responsibility for Dr. Weizmann's tour. Since all the Zionist interests, including the U.P.A., are represented in the Committee, it should not be difficult to apportion Dr. Weizmann's time in a manner that will best serve our common purpose.

I believe you need have no misgivings with regard to the availability of Dr. Weizmann for the purpose of the U.P.A. The plans for Dr. Weizmann's meetings for the U.P.A. will, I am sure, be formulated in cooperation with yourself and Mr. Montor so that the dates and places will be in conformity with the needs of the U.P.A.

Sincerely yours,

Samuel Caplan Secretary, Emergency Committee for Zionist Affairs

SOLOMON GOLDMAN President

HARRY FRIEDENWALD LOUIS LIPSKY JULIAN W. MACK MORRIS ROTHENBERG ROBERT SZOLD STEPHEN S. WISE Vice-Presidents

LOUIS E. LEVINTHAL Chairman, Nat'l Admin. Council

LUDWIG LEWISOHN Honorary Secretary

MORRIS MARGULIES Secretary

MORRIS WEINBERG Treasurer

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ISRAEL MALTIN Auditor

SC:BP

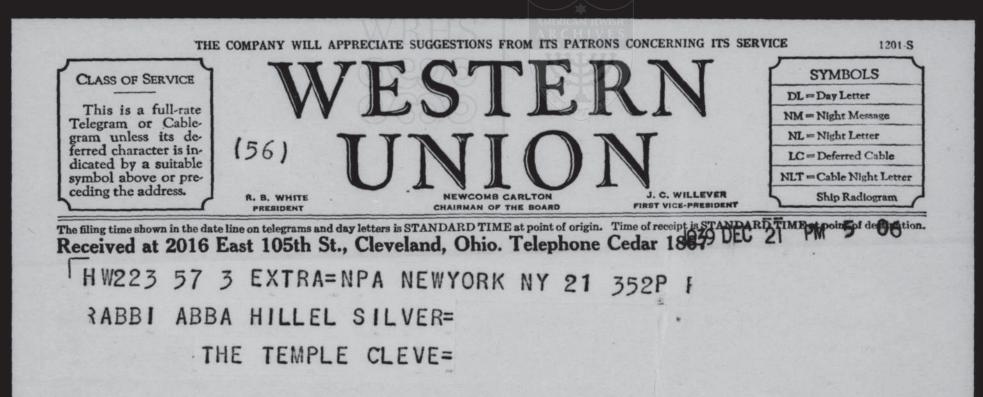


WA299 20 NT = WASHINGTON DC 19 DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER = TEMPLE CLEVE=

BISHOP SHIEL MOST APPRECIATIVE AND WILL MEET US IN NEWYORK EITHER TUESDAY OR THURSDAY NEXT WEEK PREFERABLY THURSDAY PLEASE CONFIRM=

BEN V. COHEN.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE



NEWYORKCITY UJA CAMPAIGN LEASE EXPIRES DECEMBER 31 NO EXTENSION POSSIBLE IMPERATIVE LEASE BE EXECUTED FOR NEW

PREMISES IMMEDIATELY. CORPORATE RESOLUTION REQUIRES YOUR CONSENT AND FOUR OTHERS. PLEASE WIRE FOLLOWING ; QUOTE. REPLYING YOUR WIRE I CONSENT TO EXECUTION OF LEASE BY UJA FOR PREMISES 261 FIFTH AVENUE OR ELSEWHERE FOR NEWYORKCITY CAMPAIGN. UNQUOTE. MONTOR INFORMED: =SAMUEL BLITZ UNITED JEWISH APPEAL 200 MADISON AVE. UJA UJAE 200.

THERE IS NO DEPENDABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR WE



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WA22 9 NT=WASHINGTON DC 22 RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER

1939 DEC 23 AM 2 18

=THE TEMPLE CLEVE=

THANKS WILL MEET YOU WITH BISHOP TUESDAY AS ARRANGED= BEN V COHEN.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE



Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

December 22 , 1939

Mr. Benjamin V. Cohen Department of Interior Washington, D.C.

WILL BE PLEASED TO MEET YOU AND BISHOP SHIEL NEXT TUESDAY COMMOBORE HOTEL 11:30 A.M.

A H SILVER

MEMORANDUM

March 15,1940

TO: DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER

FROM: SAMUEL CAPLAN

RE: WEIZMANN CONFERENCE WITH NON ZIONISTS

Dr. Wise sent me the following comment upon the conference held by Dr.Weizmann with the non-Zionist members of the Jewish Agency Executive, with the request that a copy be sent to you.

> "I have the memorandum of Dr.Weizmann's meeting with Karpf, Hexter and Senator. I think it was most unwise, and I protest against it that no American Zionist was present who could have answered the untruthful things said by Karpf and Hexter. It was a great mistake to have that interview without some one of us. I regret enough that Dr.Weizmann had none of us present when he met with the American Jewish Committee; but this was really absurd, and you will notice that Senator even spoke against the Zionist leaders in Palestine --a perfect B'rith Shalom attitude.

"I register my earnest protest against that meeting having been held and the false impression created upon Dr.Weizmann by it."

MEMORANDUM

March 15,1940

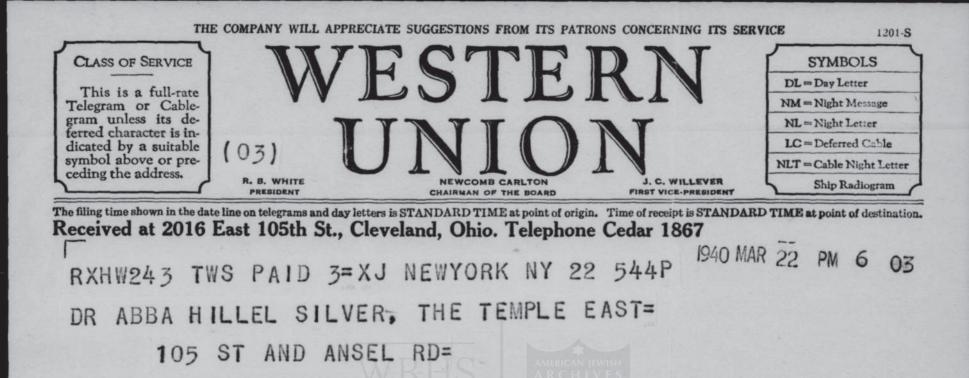
TO: DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER

FROM: SAMUEL CAPLAN

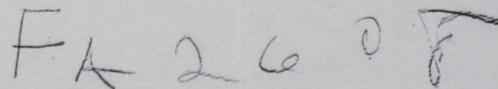
At the request of Dr.Israel Goldstein, I am giving you below a cable received by the Jewish National Fund in reference to the land ordinance:

> "(A)Zone 11,786,000 dunams plus 5,370,000 Negeb contains 326,000 Jewish. (B) Zone 1,570,000 plus 6,800,000 Southern Negeb contains 529,000 Jewish. Unaffected zone 1,545,000 plus Jerusalem 41,000 contains 688,000 Jewish. Per capita unit whole country Arabs 25 point 5 Jews three point two dunams."

> > Keren Kayemeth



MONTOR LEFT NEWYORK TODAY HAVE RECEIVED ANOTHER URGENT WIRE FROM DALLAS. CAN YOU PLEASE WIRE REPLY TO INVITATION TO OPEN DALLAS CAMPAIGN APRIL THIRD. KINDEST REGARDS= ISIDOR COONS.



MONTOR.



The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination. Received at 2016 East 105th St., Cleveland, Ohio. Telephone Cedar 1867 21 PM 3 46 [HW130 TWS PAID 3= NEWYORK NY 21 320P

DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

THE TEMPLE=

CHAIRMAN DALLAS TEXAS CAMPAIGN HAS PLEADED WITH US TO URGE YOUR VISIT DALLAS APRIL 3RD. ORIGINAL CAMPAIGN SCHEDULE CALLED FOR MEETING DALLAS APRIL 7TH. BUT THEY SO EAGER TO HAVE YOU ARE PREPARED MAKE MEETING APRIL 3RD TO TAKE ADVANTAGE YOUR PRESENCE NEWORLEANS APRIL 2ND. IF THIS IS AT ALL POSSIBLE BELIEVE YOUR ACCEPTANCE WOULD BE HELPFUL DALLAS CAMPAIGN=

ISIDOR COONS HENRY MONTOR.

\$23,000,000 is the National Goal for 1940 UNITED JEWISH APPEAL (Inc.) FOR REFUGEES AND OVERSEAS NEEDS

ON BEHALF OF AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, INC. UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL and NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE, INC.

March 26, 1940

342 MADISON AVENUE NEW YORK, N. Y.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver The Temple Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Savannah, Georgia is particularly insistent upon having you as the guest speaker for their opening campaign meeting on May 14 or May 15 - whichever date you prefer. Mr. Sam G. Adler, who is the outstandingly wealthy leader of the community, is pressing hard as reflected by his letters of March 22 to Mr. M. Robert Herman and to me, respectively. I am also attaching a copy of Mr. Herman's reply indicating that you will be in the midst of your own Cleveland campaign at that time and it may not be possible, and a copy of my reply in which I suggest that I too would approach you in this matter.

Adler is a peculiar fellow and we cannot afford to lose his interest and leadership. It would not be easy to replace him in Savannah which has done an increasingly better job over the years. In 1939 Savannah contributed \$20,000 to the United Jewish Appeal in contrast to \$8,675 to the included agencies in 1938 and we are asking them for \$30,000 this year.

If you cannot find it possible to visit Savannah on either May 14 or May 15 and would be willing to visit there at a date convenient to you, would you suggest to me an agreeable date or choice of dates so that I may be privileged to show our complete good will to Mr. Adler and his colleagues and urge upon them to arrange for a meeting to inaugurate their campaign when you can be with them.

With kind regards, I am

IC:LG

ENC.

Cordially yours, nich Con

Isidor Coons

National Chairmen Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver Rabbi Jonah B. Wise

Honorary Chairmen

Cyrus Adler Louis Bamberger Albert Einstein Max Epstein Louis E. Kirstein Albert D. Lasker Hon. Herbert H. Lehman Hon. Julian W. Mack Henry Monsky William J. Shroder Hon. Max C. Sloss Hon. Nathan Straus Samuel Untermyer Mrs. Felix M. Warburg Rabbi Stephen S. Wise

Co-Chairmen

PAUL BAERWALD RABBI SOLOMON GOLDMAN RABBI ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN LOUIS LIPSKY JAMES N. ROSENBERG WILLIAM ROSENWALD HON. MORRIS ROTHENBERG EDWARD M. M. WARBURG

Co-Treasurers I. Edwin Goldwasser Arthur M. Lamport

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Executive Committee JAMES H. BECKER DAVID M. BRESSLER JOSEPH C. HYMAN HON. JACOB J. KAPLAN SIDNEY LANSBURGH HON. LOUIS E. LEVINTHAL SOLOMON LOWENSTEIN LOUIS P. ROCKER CHARLES J. ROSENBLOOM ELIHU D. STONE and officers



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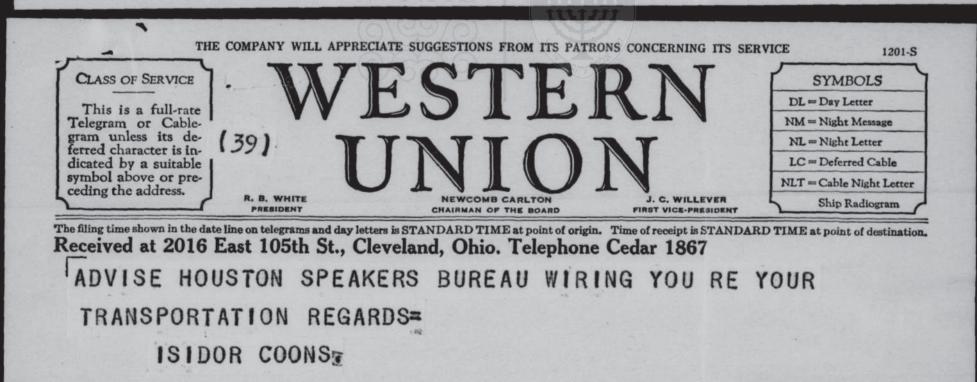
DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

1940 MAR 27 PM 12 44

DLR THE TEMPLE CLEVE=

HOUSTON FRIENDS KNOWING YOU PLAN BE DALLAS APRIL THIRD EARNESTLY URGE US PERSUADE YOU BE GUEST SPEAKER HOUSTON CAMPAIGN MEETING THURSDAY APRIL FOURTH WE POINTED OUT POSSIBILITY ARRANGING YOUR NEWORLEANS TRANSPORTATION TO MAKE YOU AVAILABLE FOR LUNCHEON MEETING BUT THEY INSIST THEIR INABILITY CONVENE IMPORTANT GROUP AT LUNCHEON STATING EVENING MEETING ONLY OPPORTUNITY HOUSTON UNDERTAKING RIASE \$125,000 WITH UJA EXPECTATIONS SEVENTY TO EIGHTY THOUSAND WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR WIRING ME IMMEDIATELY TO PERMIT ME

THERE IS NO DEPENDABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR WESTERN UNION TIME



: \$125,000 UJA

THERE IS NO DEPENDABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR WESTERN UNION TIME



Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

March 28, 1940

Isidor Coons UJA 342 Madison Avenue New York, N.Y.

REGRET CANNOT ACCEPT HOUSTON INVITATION. MUST BE BACK IN TIME FOR EVENING MEETING APRIL 4TH.

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

Collect

WESTERN UNION MESSENGERS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THE DELIVERY OF NOTES AND PACKAGES

\$23,000,000 is the National Goal for 1940 UNITED JEWISH APPEAL (Inc.) FOR REFUGEES AND OVERSEAS NEEDS

ON BEHALF OF

AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, INC. UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL and NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE, INC.

> 342 MADISON AVENUE NEW YORK, N. Y.

April 4, 1940

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver The Temple Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

It was gratifying to have a telegram from Mr. Arthur Adams, representing the United Jewish Appeal in the South, that the meeting which you were privileged to attend in New Orleans was the best held in that community since 1932. It augurs well for the success of their effort where, in my opinion, and as a result of having Edgar Stern in their community, they do a remarkable job in relation to population, etc.

A week or so ago I wrote you of the genuine desire of Mr. Sam G. Adler and his colleagues of Savannah to have you as the guest speaker for opening their campaign and today I have another letter from Mr. Adler in which he tells me that either May 21, or 22, or 23, or 24 would suit them even better to have you with them and that they could arrange a meeting for any one of these dates agreeable to you. For reasons which I set forth in my previous correspondence, I do hope that you can accept one of these dates.

It was a pleasure to greet you for even that brief a moment in Cleveland. Jonah tells me that he expects you here next Monday and I hope that I too shall have the privilege of seeing you and Jonah together so that we may discuss some fundamental questions.

With kind regards, I am

Cordially yours

Isidor Coons Executive Vice-Chairman

IC:LG

National Chairmen Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver Rabbi Jonah B. Wise

Honorary Chairmen

Cyrus Adler Louis Bamberger Albert Einstein Max Epstein Louis E. Kirstein Albert D. Lasker Hon. Herbert H. Lehman Hon. Julian W. Mack Henry Monsky William J. Shroder Hon. Max C. Sloss Hon. Nathan Straus Samuel Untermyer Mrs. Felix M. Warburg Rabbi Stephen S. Wise

Co-Chairmen

Paul Baerwald Rabbi Solomon Goldman Rabbi Israel Goldstein Louis Lipsky James N. Rosenberg William Rosenwald Hon. Morris Rothenberg Edward M. M. Warburg

Co-Treasurers I. Edwin Goldwasser Arthur M. Lamport

Executive Vice-Chairmen Isidor Coons HENRY MONTOR

Executive Committee JAMES H. BECKER DAVID M. BRESSLER JOSEPH C. HYMAN HON. JACOB J. KAPLAN SIDNEY LANSBURGH HON. LOUIS E. LEVINTHAL SOLOMON LOWENSTEIN LOUIS P. ROCKER CHARLES J. ROSENBLOOM ELIHU D. STONE and officers CHARLES A. COWEN

10 Sheridan Square

April 18th, 1940

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver

Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Silver:

Thank you for your letter which I found upon my return home.

I appreciate the difficulties you labor under in any attempt to raise the amount of money needed to meet the extraordinary demands. Under the circumstances, also, I appreciate the ten per cent which you were good enough to say was due to my visit to Cleveland.

Our hope is that there will come about a realization of the importance of the work of ORT, of the work of vocational retraining generally, and with it the recognition of claims of ORT to a considerably larger participation in the overseas quota.

With warmest regards to Mrs. Silver and yourself, I am

Sincerely yours,

Rastes a. Coven

Charles A. Cowen

\$23,000,000 is the National Goal for 1940 UNITED JEWISH APPEAL (Inc.) FOR REFUGEES AND OVERSEAS NEEDS

ON BEHALF OF AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, INC. UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL and NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE, INC.

> 342 MADISON AVENUE NEW YORK, N. Y.

April 22, 1940

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver The Temple Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

My home community, the Rockaways, where we all hold you in such high esteem, is eager to have you as the guest speaker for a campaign victory meeting of some type scheduled for May 15. I assured our Chairman, Mr. J. Nathan Helfat, that I would be personally delighted to extend the invitation.

As you probably recall, we are a large and, I think, fine community, deeply concerned with the problems represented by the agencies of the United Jewish Appeal. We are also, perhaps, the most important suburban community of Greater New York by virtue of our numbers and leadership. We are undertaking this year, through competent organization and direction, to have a bang-up campaign. We are aiming to have a complete coverage.

Your many sincere friends in the Rockaways join me in extending this most cordial invitation and we hope that you can find it possible to accept it. I know that I shall hear from you at your early convenience.

With kind regards, I am

IC:LG

Cordially Jours,

Isidor Coons.

National Chairmen RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER RABBI JONAH B. WISE

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Mr. Isidor Coons United Jewish Appeal for Refugees 342 Madison Avenue New York, N.Y.

My dear Friend Coons:

Let me thank you for your kind letter of April 22. I wish I could come to the Rockaways on May 15 but that happens to be the closing day of our Campaign in Cleveland and of course I must be present here.

I know that under your splendid leadership you will have a very successful campaign.

With all good wishes and hoping to see you in the near future again, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS: BK

April 30, 1940

Br. I. Elbogen 434 West 120th St. New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Elbogen:

Permit me to thank you for your kind letter of March 29. I hope that you will pardon the long delay in replying to it. I have been away from the city a good deal of the time and my correspondence has lagged.

I am bringing to the attention of the United Palestine Ap eal the contents of your letter. I cannot say what action will be taken in the matter as the funds of the Jewish Agency do not permit expenditures for the transporting of immigrants to Palestine. Heretofore the Joint Distribution Committee with the cooperation of the British Fund and one or two other agencies have taken care of the transporation expenses. The british Fund is no longer doing it. I will be pleased to inform you what action the United Palestine Appeal takes in the matter.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS: BK

May 8, 1940

Rabbi Jonah B. Wise

Mr. Isidor Coons

Baltimore, Maryland

For a number of weeks I have been in touch with Mr. Sidney Lansburgh of Baltimore to ascertain if Baltimore could be persuaded to contribute funds to the United Jewish Appeal this year.

You will recall the Baltimore problem; that is, a campaign for the United Jewish Appeal in one caldndar year and a campaign for the Associated Jewish Charities in the next calendar year. The year 1939 was U.J.A. year and Baltimore contributed \$300,000 to our campaign for 1939. This effort was made last November-December.

You will also recall that our friends in Baltimore hoped to raise a sum of money through the 1939 campaign that would permit them to contribute the surplus to the United Jewish Appeal of 1940 but the results did not warrant any funds being available over and above the \$300,000 allotment for 1939. It was Baltimore's intention, to which we acquiesced, to establish a bridge with these hoped for funds which would tide the U.J.A. over until the spring of 1941 when they would undertake to inaugurate an annual campaign for us in the spring and for the Associated Jewish Charities in the fall.

At two previous meetings during the past fortnight of the officers of the Baltimore United Jewish Appeal and the Associated Jewish Charities, respectively, the situation was canvassed thoroughly and it was decided that it would be absolutely impossible for Baltimore to consider a combined campaign between these two organizations next fall. Their major reason for this decision is that the amount of money which would have to be asked in such a combined campaign would equal or exceed the amount of money raised for their local Community Chest and that relationships in Baltimore are of such a delicate nature that it would be highly dangerous, in their opinion, to do this. They, therefore, had the alternative of no campaign at all for the United Jewish Appeal for 1940 or to undertake a solicitation among the bigger givers. Contributors of \$200.00 and over subscribed approximately 70% of the \$405,000 raised in the Baltimore campaign of 1939. As I indicated, the United Jewish Appeal received \$300,000 of this amount. \$75,000 was set aside for the local refugee program for two years; that is, 1939 and 1940, and approximately 5% of the total was made available to such agencies as Ort, Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Hebrew University and a few others.

Mr. Lansburgh invited me to attend a third meeting of the Executive Committee held in Baltimore yesterday, May 7, at which a final decision was to be made. Some forty-five individuals were invited and approximately thirty attended. Among these who attended, and even more important amond the leaders/largest contributors the did not attend, strong protest was made against any type of fund-raising effort for the United Jewish Appeal this year lest the contributions from the larger givers would tend to injure the Associated Jewish Charities campaign in the fall. Among the most important leaders of the community there was no unanimity of opinion as to the advisability of Baltimore contributing to our campaign this year.

Mr. Lansburgh, with great adroitness, was able to gwing the meeting to a positive decision with the result that a special campaign for direct solicitation to the three hundred contributors who gave \$200.00 and over last year will be made in Baltimore after the first week of June. (This date was established to permit the Baltimore Jewish community to pay up in full last year's pledges. Approximately \$135,000 is still outstanding against the campaign conducted last December.) There will not be an intensive communitywide appeal for those who gave less than \$200.00 in 1939 but a series of letters will be sent to every subscriber to last year's campaign urging there contribution. It is believed that up to \$25000, based upon Baltimore's experience along these lines, might be raised from this solicitation of the smaller givers.

Mr. Lansburgh and his associates have considered most earnestly the desirability of establishing a quota and they believe it unwise to do so. Without going into details, I do not believe that we should press them for a fixed amount this year. I have an idea that the U.J.A. will receive through this specialized effort between \$150,000 and \$200,000 which, from my knowledge of local conditions in Baltimore in relation to their fund-raising program, might be considered as found money this year. Baltimore is unwilling to be found wanting in the face of the world crisis and at the same time they feel that they cannot do anything which will be prejudicial to the success of their Associated Jewish Charities campaign which must be held in November of this year. You will recall that the Associated Jewish Charities did not conduct a campaign in 1939.

I wish to make it quite clear that beginning with 1941 Baltimore plans to hold an annual campaign for the United Jewish Appeal or its agencies in the spring of each year. They are considering the establishment of some type of a Welfare Fund. I alto formt out that the local refugees will not be beneficiaries of this special campaign to be inaugurated for the United Jewish Appeal next month as provision was made for this program for a two year period through the campaign last fall. The only other beneficiaries will be the same minor agencies which received 5% of the total last year and which will receive not more than 5% of the total raised this year, and in no instance more than each of these smaller agencies received in 1939. This means that the United Jewish Appeal will receive 95% of the total raised in this special campaign this year. It is considered desirable to include these same agencies in order to sustain a nucleus for a broader Welfare Fund in the community at a later date.

It is my hope that you will find this plan and arrangement acceptable. The fact of the matter is that if we do not accept it, we will not, in my opinion, receive any money whatsoever from Baltimore this year.

While I did not stress it, this special campaign will not be perfunctory. Plans are now being made for a big givers dinner or a series of meetings in order that the largest sum of money possible may be forthcoming from this special group. The keynote of the campaign is to be that everyone in this group give at least as much money as he or she gave to the United Jewish Appeal in 1939.

IC:LG

UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

NEW YORK, N. Y.

THE AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, INC. 100 EAST 42nd STREET, NEW YORK CITY

May 10, 1940.

Mr. Henry Montor, Executive Director United Palestine Appeal New York City

Dear Mr. Montor:

In response to your letter of May 3 with reference to the adjustment of funds received by the Joint Distribution Committee and the United Palestine Appeal, respectively, from communities covered by the effectuating agreement between the Joint Distribution Committee and the United Palestine Appeal for 1938, covering specified Welfare Fund communities and the agreement between the Joint Distribution Committee and the United Palestine Appeal with reference to communities in the Tri-State area, I shall be glad to meet with you and such other representatives of the United Palestine Appeal as you wish to have present, at a mutually convenient date. I, personally, desire to have present Mr. Louis Rosner, Chief Accountant of the Joint Distribution Committee and Miss Julia Rubenstein present at this meeting because of their familiarity with the details.

This meeting, as I understand it, is to be devoted exclusively to the adjustment of funds received on account of normal 1938 allotments that have been paid in full by the specified Welfare Fund cities and with the adjustment of funds received from communities in the Tri-State area which have completed payments on their 1938 campaigns to the Joint Distribution Committee and the United Palestine Appeal, respectively. It is my further understanding that the matter of the disposition of the funds raised in the Joint Distribution Committee emergency campaign in November and December, 1938, is still pending. At our last meeting on this subject, as I recall it, we decided to proceed with adjustments on the normal allotments only and we are now prepared for the final session on this.

You state in your letter that you do not find in the audits of the Joint Distribution Committee records, prepared by Messrs. Loed & Troper, supplementary items received by the Joint Distribution Committee outside of normal allotments, such as individual contributions, special proceeds from theatre benefits, etc., etc., May I call to your attention that the audits prepared by Messrs. Loeb & Troper from the Joint Distribution Committee records do specifically include such items, both in the statement on Welfare Fund communities covered by the effectuating clause and in the statement on communities in the Tri-State area - these items being listed in two columns entitled "Individual Contributions" and "Junior Division Contributions." Any funds which may have been received by the Joint Distribution Committee in 1938 from any source traceable to a Welfare Fund community from individuals or organizations, except in the emergency appeal, have been included.

May I say that I have no desire to delay the convening of the meeting for final adjustments, but I do think that it could be held just as well after the climax of our spring production for the United Jewish Appeal has passed. I, personally, feel that my sime and attention could be better given to producing new money these few weeks of intensive activity than in concerning myself in adjusting small balances due either organization from the 1938 campaign. I therefore hope that we can arrange to hold such a meeting during the first week in June or about that time.

Sincerely yours,

Isidor Coons Director of Fund-Raising

IC:SB



THE DANIEL SIEFF RESEARCH INSTITUTE نعب انار سان

REHOVOTH P.O.B. 26 ת. ד. PALESTINE TELEPHONE 259

רחובות ארץ־ישראל

PLEASE REPLY TO THE SECRETARY בא לעברת למזכירות

as from:

Hotel Salisbury , 123 West 57th Street , NEW YORK CITY.

June 11th, 1940.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, The Temple, CLEVELAND, Ohio.

Dear Doctor Silver:

I have just received a letter from Dr. Weizmann dealing with the financial needs of his Research Institute. I beg to send you the enclosed copy of an extract from this letter which shows that an amount of approximately \$30,000.00 is urgently required. This figure includes an amount of £4,000.0.0 for the completion of the Daniel Wolff Industrial Research Laboratories which have to be considered as lost owing to the invasion of Holland. The completion of these laboratories is of particular importance in order to enable Dr. Weizmann and his chemists to continue with their research work for the development of pharmaceutical and oil industries. The final realisation of these projects, which according to Dr. Weizmann's information have already reached a very advanced stage, has become an urgent necessity after the closing of the Mediterranean.

We are very anxious to comply with Dr. "eizmann's request with a minimum of delay and to send a substantial amount to Rehovoth by the end of this month. I would be most grateful if you would find it possible to raise now in cooperation with Dr. Maron either the entire \$2,000.00 or part of it. Forgive me for bothering you again with this matter which I would not have done but for Dr. Weizmann's urgent request.

With kindest regards,

Cordially,

Josef bohm .

one enclosure.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER BY DR. WEIZMANN DATED MAY 26TH, 1940.

Events have taken such a turn that my departure from here, as you will readily understand, has become impossible. I am hoping that things will change for the better soon, and that I may be able to come to the States, regardless of the season of the year.

In view of the situation in Holland, I am afraid that we cannot reckon on the residual £4000 from our friend Daniel Wolff. Although Gestetner and myself spoke to him only a week before the invasion of Holland, and found him quite prepared to live up to his promise, we cannot expect anything at all. God knows what has happened to him; we have heard nothing. He may even be in America, or in England. So far we have no news, just as we have no news of many of our friends, who live in Holland.

In order, therefore, to complete the Daniel Wolff Laboratories, we shall require this £4000, and I am hoping that we may obtain it from the Research Foundation. I cannot get a clear picture of how much money has come in so far whether Boston and Philadelphia have paid up, and whether other cities have done anything. Our funds here will soon be exhausted, and we shall need £4000 in ordervto complete the Wolff Laboratories, and about £5000 for the budget. I would therefore be very grateful if you could send to Rehovoth as much as you possibly can now, so as to enable us to finish the Wolff building and carry on.

I hope you will be able to carry on; in fact I am sure you are doing, and will do so. The responsibility will, I fear, have to fall ever more heavily on the American community. We find ourselves to-day in such a position that it is almost impossible to give serious thought to any ideas or projects not directly connected with the day-to-day happenings. It is taking an almost superhuman effort to write this letter, but I feel that I ought to do it.

To sum up: (a) I must entreat you and our friends to carry on the work without me until I see a chance of coming over. (b) We shall urgently need about £9000 in order to complete the Daniel Wolff Laboratories and carry on with the budget.



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

1940 JUN 19 AM 10

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HW42 6= TDN RICHMONDHILL NY 19 1015A DR A H SILVER= CARE THE TEMPLE=

GLAD TO SERVE AS UPA DELEGATE= SOL COHEN.





Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

ne 18, 1940 solomon Cohen Ur 42 nd A 11 1 ittsburgh you like to atte Would a convention is a delegate for the ePa ? Phase were. Kundest regards. Silve

COPY

THE AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, Inc.

Rabbi Stephen S. Wise 40 West 68th Street New York, N. Y.

Dear Rabbi Wise:

We have received from our European Chairman, Mr. Troper, who was in Amsterdam on Monday, a cablegram to the effect that 2,960 Palestine emigrants possessing certificates and transit visas, are ready to embark on steamers at Trieste, provided the transportation charges are covered. Of this group, 960 certificate holders are in Berlin, 1,200 in Prague, 600 in Vienna and 200 in Bratislava. Mr. Troper understands that the expenses of the Prague group are covered by the trustees of the Czech Fund. That would leave 1,760 who would require \$60 each, or a total of something over \$100,000.

12. Silver

As you know, through the Hicem, the J.D.C., the Jewish Colonization Association and the British Council for German Jewry have up to this time shared equally in the transportation charges for these purposes. Mr. Troper plans today to be in London to discuss this matter with the representatives of the Council and with such members of the ICA as he can reach. We do not know at this moment how the Council for German Jewry and the ICA are affected by the exchange regulations of the British government. The ICA, as you know, is a British corporation. In any event, this situation which requires for 1,700 persons a fairly large sum - \$100,000 creates a very substantial problem which will become scute should the ICA and the Council for German Jewry be unable or unready to participate.

In view of the enormous burdens under which we are laboring at the present time, I felt that I should bring this matter to your attention with a view to your considering it with your colleagues of the United Palestine Appeal and with the Jewish Agency. The war has created new conditions for all of us. I am not unaware of the fact that up to this time, the U.P.A. has taken the position that it serves only to remit funds to the Jewish Agency which must determine their distribution. In connection with the 1,700 persons ready to go to Palestine (which we all want to expedite), I should like to urge the prompt consideration of this matter by the United Palestine Appeal and the Jewish Agency, as well as by the other organizations which up to this time have been helping to defray transportation costs to Palestine. As I understand that situation brooks ver little delay, since visas must be used up as promptly as possible, I shall be very glad to have word from you at the earliest moment.

Sincerely yours,

J. C. Hyman

Executive Director

JCH:DF

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver c/o Hotel Commodore 42nd St. & Lexington Ave. New York City

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BY HAND

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