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Series I: General Correspondence, 1914-1969, undated.

Sub-series A: Alphabetical, 1914-1965, undated.

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United Jewish Appeal, United Palestine Appeal, "O," "P," "Q,"
and "R", 1939-1940.

[September 1939?]

REPORT
ON THE CASE OF MR. BENZION PECKER

The Administrative Committee of the United Palestine Appeal, by resolution adopted on September 19th, authorized its chairman to appoint a special committee with full power to act in the matter of the employment of Mr. Benzion Pecker. The chairman, Dr. A. H. Silver, appointed as members of said committee: Mr. Louis Lipsky, Abraham Liebovitz, Louis Rinsky.

A meeting of the committee was held on Tuesday morning, November 7th, at the offices of the Eastern Life Insurance Company, with the following members present: Louis Lipsky and Louis Rinsky.

There were also present the National Director and the New York City Director of the UPA, Mr. Henry Montor and Mr. Samuel Blitz. There were present, representing the UPA fund-raising committees in Bensonhurst, Mapleton Park, Boro Park and Williamsburg, the following: David Freiburger, Judge Nathan Sweedler, Samuel J. Borowsky and Jochanon I. Rudavsky.

A memorandum on behalf of Mr. Pecker was submitted in the name of the Brooklyn sections by Mr. Rudavsky.

Mr. Blitz made a statement of the facts leading to the official order, calling for the retirement of Mr. Pecker.

It appeared from statements made and not disputed, that Mr. Pecker had been in the service of the Zionist movement in various activities in connection with fund-raising for the Keren Hayesod and the Keren Kayemeth since 1921. At one time he represented the UPA in the sections of Bensonhurst, Boro Park, Seagate Coney Island and Brighton Beach. When the UJA began functioning, Mr. Pecker was transferred to the payroll of the UJA in the same manner as other members of the UPA permanent staff were transferred, and became the field director for the sections of Bensonhurst, Mapleton Park, Boro Park and Williamsburg. The record shows that he devoted himself to his work to the satisfaction of the local committees in the sections to which he had been assigned. During the year 1939, Bensonhurst, Mapleton Park, Boro Park and Williamsburg did unusually well for the United Jewish Appeal.

It appears that in 1939 the UJA campaign in Greater New York had been conducted by a staff of workers selected from the personnel of the Federation of New York Jewish Philanthropies. It was agreed that the campaign would be ended by July 1st in order to make way for a campaign of Federation, which was scheduled to be held in the Fall.

At the end of June, all the Federation workers were withdrawn from the New York campaign, and it became necessary for the UJA to dismiss a number of its workers. On July 5th, Mr. Pecker received notice to the effect that inasmuch as the campaign in Greater New York would be definitely over by July 15th, Mr. Pecker's services with the UJA would terminate as of that date.

On July 12th, Mr. Blitz, Executive Director, to whom the continuation of the Greater New York campaign, through the collection of pledges, had been assigned, wrote the following memorandum to Mr. Pecker:

"The UPA committee has instructed me to advise you that as it had been agreed to terminate the Greater New York campaign at this time, they cannot insist on the continuation of your employment with the UJA.

UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

111 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

-3-

"The UPA committee has also instructed me to inform you that in consideration of your devoted and conscientious service to the UPA an amount equivalent to three months' salary has been granted to you.

"You also have the privilege to appear before the UPA committee for a hearing on your case, if you so desire."

Acting upon the suggestion of Mr. Blitz, the campaign leaders in the respective sections held a conference with Mr. Arthur M. Lamport, co-chairman of the UJA and associate treasurer of the UPA, and Mr. Samuel Blitz of the UJA staff and of the UPA staff. There were present for the sections: Mr. Herman Neaderland, UJA chairman for Bensonhurst and Mapleton Park; Judge Nathan Sweedler, co-chairman of the Brooklyn division of the UJA; Mr. A. N. Braham, representing the Williamsburg section; and Messrs. Samuel J. Borowsky, Jacobson I. Rudavsky and Mr. N. Tartikoff, representing Boro Park.

Although it is claimed that Mr. Lamport had agreed that Mr. Pecker be transferred to the UPA payroll and continue his work in the sections assigned to him, no official action resulted, and on August 25th, Mr. Lamport informed the leaders of the sections that the decision of the UPA Committee as of July 13th would be maintained.

Mr. Pecker accepted, under protest, the arrangement for compensation of three months' salary, but appealed from the decision of the UPA committee to the Administrative Committee.

No question was raised as to the competence and the devotion of Mr. Pecker to his work as executive director in the sections named.

Mr. Blitz stated that if the UPA would decide to restore Mr. Pecker to its staff and to place him on the UPA payroll, he could find useful work for him to do in Brooklyn, for the balance of the year, in the field of collection of pledges; and that in the 1940 campaign he would probably require several assistants to the executive director in charge of Brooklyn. He was prepared to utilize the services of Mr. Pecker, provided he would not be required to have Mr. Pecker included on the payroll of any joint campaign. He believed that Mr. Pecker could be of service to the UPA and could also, in the sections assigned to him, do general Zionist work, but that the districts served in this respect should be asked to pay some part of the expense involved in maintaining Mr. Pecker on the payroll.

After all representatives had retired from the meeting, consideration was given by Mr. Lipsky and Mr. Rinsky to all the facts brought out, and it was agreed to file the following decision:

1. That Mr. Pecker be reinstated as of November 15, 1939.
2. That he be assigned to work on behalf of the UPA in the Brooklyn sections of Bensonhurst, Mapleton Park and Boro Park, and that an effort be made to have him integrated in the staff that will be in charge of the UJA for 1940.
3. That Mr. Pecker be permitted to render service to the Zionist Organizations in these sections, with a view to building up general

support for Palestine fund-raising and to further the development of Zionism.

4. That in case such general service is given by Mr. Pecker to the Zionist Organizations in his sections, a written statement be secured from the Chairmen of the Zionist Districts of the sections, pledging that they would give Mr. Pecker their full cooperation; and that in the event of services to be given by Mr. Pecker accruing to the benefit of said districts, they would make fair compensation to the UPA for the services given by Mr. Pecker.

(signed) Louis Lipsky
Louis Rinsky

WRHS



October 10, 1939

Mr. A. Rothenberg
United Palestine Appeal
111 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Rothenberg:

I used the airplane script of the UPA
for a trip from New York to Cleveland - not for
UPA business. When you get the bill, please send
it to me and I will send you a check for it.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK

A. J. RONGY, M. D.

2 WEST 71ST STREET

NEW YORK

Rabbi A.H. Silver,
The Temple,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Nov. 11, 1939.

Dear Dr. Silver:

It seems to me that if this ever becomes public it will reflect unfavorably upon the World Zionist Organization and Jewish Agency activities in Palestine. Something should be done about it.

Cordially yours,

A. J. Rongy



JAMES N. ROSENBERG

165 BROADWAY

NEW YORK

November 14, 1939

Dr. Jonah B. Wise, Chairman,
1939 United Jewish Appeal for
Refugees and Overseas Needs
New York City

Dear Jonah:

Last January, the Rosenwald Family Association held a meeting to which I was invited. At that meeting, the Association fixed a minimum contribution to the 1939 United Jewish Appeal for Refugees and Overseas Needs. Their decision is recorded in their pledge letter (dated March 27, 1939), which reads:

"We believe that the constituents of the 1939 United Jewish Appeal for Refugees and Overseas Needs, as well as those organizations to which they remit their funds, including the principal beneficiary organizations in the countries in which the funds are ultimately expended, must account by complete and clear reports and audits, by certified public accountants, for all funds received and expended by such organizations for 1938 and 1939, and submit same to the officers of the campaign and to the above-mentioned Allocations Committee. (In any country where funds are expended, and where a certified public accountant cannot be made available, the best equivalent to an audit and report by a certified public accountant should be required.)

"In addition, we believe, that the above-mentioned Allocations Committee should be provided with detailed budget figures and supporting data, which would properly and adequately substantiate the requests for the funds which they allocate.

"We desire to take this occasion to similarly record that, unless such reports, audits, budgets, and other data are so submitted, we shall definitely refrain from participating in any joint campaign in 1940."

Having participated in the meeting which led to the formulation of this decision, I feel a special responsibility for calling it to your attention and to that of the Allocations

*Please note
J. Rosenberg*

November 14, 1939

Committee, now that that committee is planning to meet; therefore copies of this letter are being sent to the members of the Allocations Committee and their alternates.

In addition to the necessity for having a sound procedure developed as a basis for properly distributing the funds in excess of \$9,500,000, this matter arises at a time when we must be thinking of laying a foundation which may assure the 1940 campaign of the best possible start.

It is, of course, needless to make reference to the great generosity of the Rosenwald family. Aside from that fact, I feel that the members of the family are entirely correct in wishing to know by proper audited reports how the monies which go to the U.J.A. are actually expended.

Very sincerely yours,



JNR:JC

November 16, 1939

Dr. A. J. Rongy
2 West 71st St.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Rongy:

Let me thank you for your kind note of November 11. I shall be very happy to present th letter of Doctors Plaschkes and Sherman at the next meeting of the United Palestine Appeal. However, you must bear in mind, my dear Dr. Rongy, that the Jewish physicians in Palestine are not the only ones who are suffering at this time. Every section of the population has felt the impact of the disorders of the last few years, and the disarrangements brought about by the war. We are distributing in Palestine today relief in one form or another to close on to eighty thousand people. There is nothing that the World Zionist Organization or the Jewish Agency in Palestine have done in this connection that can reflect unfavorably upon them.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

"Give Today --- Tomorrow May Be Too Late"

—DR. CHAIM WEIZMANN

UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND (KEREN HAYESOD)
JEWISH NATIONAL FUND (KEREN KAYEMETH)
For the Settlement in Palestine of Jews of Germany, Poland, Rumania and Other Lands

111 FIFTH AVE. CABLE ADDRESS—PALFUND NEW YORK CITY

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Herbert H. Lehman
Julian W. Mack
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Chairman, Executive Committee

Louis Lipsky

Chairman, Administrative Committee

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David Wertheim

Secretary, Administrative Committee

Charles Ress

Executive Director

Henry Montor

November 21, 1939

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

In accordance with your request, I am sending you herewith a bill to cover the charges made to our TWA account for trips made by you from Newark to Cleveland and from Grand Rapids to Cleveland.

Cordially yours,

Alex Rothenberg

Alex Rothenberg

AR. SB

PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND
(KEREN HAYESOD — קרן היסוד)
FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT OF THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

111 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

TELEPHONE ALGONQUIN 4-2640

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SECRETARY

CHARLES RESS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ROBERT SILVERMAN

December 15, 1939

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND (KEREN HAYESOD) INC.

Dear Friend:

It is our pleasure to inform you that at the Annual Meeting of the members of the Palestine Foundation Fund (Keren Hayesod) Inc., held on Monday, November 27th, you were elected a member of the Board of Directors for 1940.

The first meeting of the newly elected Board will take place on Thursday, December 28th, 1939, at 4:00 P.M., at the office of the Keren Hayesod, Rm. 720A, 111 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

This meeting will elect officers for the coming year, and attend to such other business as may properly come before it.

Very sincerely yours,

Charles Ress
Charles Ress
Secretary

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TO POSTAL TELEGRAPH

Postal Telegraph

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Form 16A

1939 DEC 20 PM 11 39

NB755 37 NL

SI NEWYORK NY 20

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER THE TEMPLE

E 105 ST AT ANSEL RD CLVD

HAVE LEARNED YOU ARE CONVENING MEETING ON TUESDAY OF REPRESENTATIVES
OF UPA, JDC AND COUNCIL. IN VIEW OF OUR CONVERSATION MONDAY
AFTERNOON I ASSUME REPRESENTATIVES OF NRS WILL ALSO BE INCLUDED IN
THESE DISCUSSIONS. PLEASE WIRE CONFIRMATION

WILLIAM ROSENWALD.



CHECK

ACCT'G INFMN.

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CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
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WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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

December 21, 1939

William Rosenwald

122 R. 42nd St.
New York, N.Y.

INASMUCH AS NRS HAS STATED ITS CASE FULLY AT LAST TWO MEETINGS IT WOULD EXPEDITE MATTERS IF NEXT MEETING BE HELD AS AGREED BETWEEN JDC UPA AND COUNCIL. THERE WILL HAVE TO BE ANOTHER MEETING OF NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE WITH NRS ORT AND HIAS BEFORE FINAL AGREEMENT IS REACHED. KINDEST REGARDS

Abba Hillel Silver

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

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NB24/2 NL NYC RABBI SILVER CLVD OHIO

1939 DEC 23 AM 11 42

COMMITTEE TO ATTEND AS SOON AS I LEARNED MEETING WAS BEING CALLED. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR COOPERATION SINCE WHILE WE DO NOT WISH TO BE AT A MEETING WHERE WE ARE NOT WANTED IT WOULD BE EMBARRASSING IN VIEW OF ALL THE FOREGOING IF OUR COMMITTEE WERE NOT TO ATTEND TUESDAY'S MEETING, AND ALSO IN VIEW OF FACT THAT DECISIONS AFFECTING OUR PARTICIPATION IN UNITED JEWISH APPEAL 1940 MIGHT BE DISCUSSED. AM CONFIDENT THAT NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE'S INCLUSION AS SIGNATORY WILL STRENGTHEN 1940 APPEAL IN VIEW OF OUR NATION-WIDE ACTIVITY AND THE INTEREST TAKEN IN OUR AMERICAN REFUGEE WORK. REFERENCE TO ORT AND HIAS HARDLY PERTINENT AS THEY HAVE

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Form 16A

24 221 NL XU

NB

SI NEWYORK NY 22

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER

THE TEMPLE EAST 105 ST. AT ANSEL ROAD CLVD
 THANKS FOR YOURS 21ST. RELYING ON YOUR STATEMENT TO ME AT END OF
 LAST MEETING INDICATING NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE WOULD ALSO HAVE
 REPRESENTATIVES INVITED TO NEXT MEETING, I REFRAINED FROM
 FURTHER RAISING THE QUESTION AT THAT TIME. ACCEPTING YOUR WORD
 AS DEFINITE I SO REPORTED AND ON STRENGTH OF THAT REPORT NATIONAL
 REFUGEE SERVICE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DIRECTED ITS OFFICERS TO MAKE
 EVERY EFFORT TO HAVE OUR ORGANIZATION INCLUDED. IN VIEW OF
 YOUR ASSURANCE AND NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
 INSTRUCTION, INVITED A

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1939 DEC 23 AM 1 42

NB24/3 NL NYC RABBI SILVER CLVD OHIO

NOT BEEN BENEFICIARIES WHILE WE HAVE BEEN IN THE PAST YEAR
AND IT IS CONTEMPLATED THAT WE WILL BE IN 1940. SINCE OFFICE IS
CLOSED PLEASE WIRE REPLY WALDORF TOWERS.

WILLIAM ROSENWALD.

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES



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WESTERN UNION

1220

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENTNEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARDJ. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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NA19 118 NT 14 EXTRA=ND NEWYORK NY 6

1940 JAN 7 AM 12 47

RABBI ABBA HILLEL=SILVER I

MAYFLOWER HOTEL WASHDC=

WE WISH TO ADVISE THAT OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT A MEETING HELD THIS WEEK HAVE APPROVED THE SUGGESTION OF JDC THAT ORT ACCEPT FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS OUT OF THE FIRST TEN MILLION RAISED BY THE UJA DRIVE. THIS APPROVAL WAS OBTAINED WITH DIFFICULTY BECAUSE THIS SUM IS FAR LESS THAN THE PRESENT NEEDS OF ORT PARTICULARLY AS THE WAR HAS DEPRIVED US OF LARGE FUNDS ORDINARILY COLLECTED IN COUNTRIES NOW AT WAR AND FROM THE POLISH COMMUNITIES. OBVIOUSLY AMERICA NOW BECOMES THE MAIN SOURCE FOR OUR SUPPORT. YOU WILL THEREFORE UNDERSTAND WHY WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ACCEPT ANY SMALLER ALLOTMENT=

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AMERICAN ORT FEDERATION LOUIS :
BOUDIN MURRAY LEVINE JOSEPH BASKIN MAX HERZFELD LOUIS
POSNER HARRY RUBENSTEIN JOSEPH WEINBERG.

JDC UJA.

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WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS

DL = Day Letter
NM = Night Message
NL = Night Letter
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1940 JAN 10 PM 12 45

HW78 TWS PAID 3=XJ NEWYORK NY 10 1139A

DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

THE TEMPLE=

THE FOLLOWING IS A LETTER DATED JANUARY EIGHTH FROM PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT ADDRESSED TO YOU AND RABBI JONAH B WISE QUOTE DEAR FRIENDS. I DESIRE TO EXTEND HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS UPON THE SPIRIT OF BROTHERHOOD AND UNIVERSAL GOOD WILL WHICH PROMPTED ALLOCATION FROM THE FUNDS OF THE UNITED JEWISH APPEAL FOR REFUGEES OF GENEROUS SUMS FOR USE THROUGH OTHER AGENCIES IN RELIEVING SUFFERING AMONG NON JEWISH REFUGEES. PARAGRAPH.

I HEARD WITH PECULAIR SATISFACTION OF THE GIFT OF ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS TO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH FOR ITS REFUGEE WORK AS A MEMORIAL TO GEORGE CARDINAL MUNDELEIN AND OF THE ALLOCATION OF A LIKE AMOUNT TO THE PROTESTANT CHURCHES THROUGH REVEREND DOCTOR GEORGE A BUTTRICK PRESIDENT FEDERAL COUNCIL OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AMERICA FOR THEIR REFUGEE RELIEF WORK PARAGRAPH.

THIS ACTION BEARS ELOQUENT WITNESS TO THE SPIRIT OF TOLERANCE AND TRUE CHARITY AND AFFORDS AN EXAMPLE IN

CLASS OF SERVICE

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WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

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SIGNS

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GOOD WILL WHICH COULD BE WIDELY COPIED WITH HAPPY RESULTS.

VERY SINCERELY YOURS SIGNED FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT=

MOTOR.



WILLIAM ROSENWALD
122 EAST 42ND STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y.

January 12, 1940

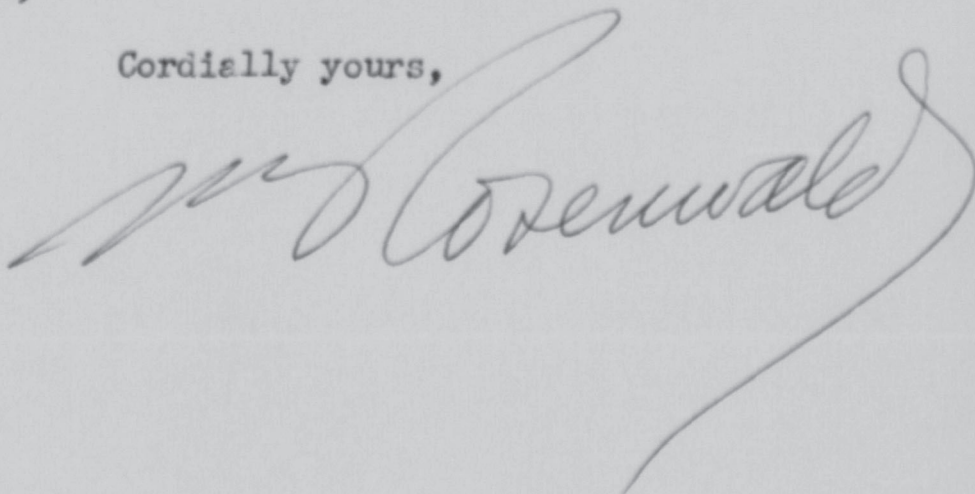
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Thank you for your thoughtfulness in affording me the opportunity of reading your pamphlet, "The World Crisis and Jewish Survival." The subject is one which is well deserving of the fine presentation you have given it.

With kind personal regards and all best wishes to you and Mrs. Silver, I am,

Cordially yours,

A large, elegant handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "W. Rosenwald". The signature is written in dark ink and extends across the lower right portion of the page.

January 18, 1940

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. President:

Permit me to acknowledge the receipt of your kind telegram expressing satisfaction with the contribution of a quarter of a million dollars which the United Jewish Appeal made to Catholic and Protestant agencies working in the field of non-Jewish refugee relief. We were very happy to make the contribution to help in some small measure those who are not of our faith who are nevertheless suffering from the same brutalities which have swept over the Western World in recent years. It was thought that this gift might also stimulate others to think of this terrible human tragedy and to help.

It was indeed very kind and thoughtful of you to send us your encouraging message, and it will be, I am sure, very helpful.

With all good wishes, permit me to remain

Very respectfully yours,

AHS:BK

TEMPLE EMANUEL
111 ELM STREET
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

LEVI A. OLAN
RABBI

January 30, 1940

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
Cleveland, Ohio.

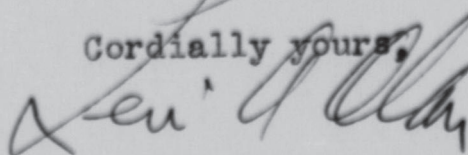
Dear Rabbi Silver:

I should like to personally acknowledge the letter sent out over your name informing us that the United Jewish Appeal has once more found common ground for its agencies.

I write to you personally for I think that you ought to know that we, in the communities outside of New York, are anxious to organize an orderly and efficient method of taking care of Jewish needs. I don't know whether you can appreciate the tremendous damage that was done in a community such as ours when word got out that there was a serious possibility that the agencies in the United Jewish Appeal may not find common ground for a united effort. That kind of a rumor delivers a hard blow to the aspirations of the community anxious to do its duty.

I should like, personally, to congratulate you and all the others who had the wisdom and sympathetic understanding to overcome the inherent problems and to give us a hearty answer in a critical time.

Cordially yours,



LAO:S

February 5, 1940

Rabbi Levi A. Olan
Temple Emanuel
111 Elm Street
Worcester, Mass.

My dear Rabbi Olan:

Let me thank you for your kind letter of January 30. I am pleased to know that you approve of the merger of forces again under a United Jewish Appeal for the coming year. It took considerable time to iron out difficulties, but I am happy that an agreement was finally reached.

With all good wishes, and thanking you for your thoughtfulness in writing to me, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

March 25, 1940

Mr. Alex Rothenberg
United Palestine Appeal
111 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Rothenberg:

In connection with my attendance at
the meeting of the UPA last Monday, my traveling and hotel
expenses amounted to \$40.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND

(KEREN HAYESOD — קרן ה'סוד)

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT OF THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

~~XXXXXX AVENUE~~ 41 East 42nd Street
NEW YORK CITY

TELEPHONE ALGONQUIN 4-2640

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HONORARY CHAIRMEN

HERBERT H. LEHMAN
JULIAN W. MACK

NATIONAL CHAIRMAN

LOUIS LIPSKY

CO-CHAIRMEN

LEON GELLMAN
SOLOMON GOLDMAN
ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN
LOUIS E. LEVINthal
HENRY MONSKY
MORRIS ROTHENBERG
ABBA HILLEL SILVER
ELIHU D. STONE
DAVID WERTHEIM
STEPHEN S. WISE

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ROBERT SILVERMAN

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LOUIS RIMSKY
LOUIS P. ROCKER
MRS. ARCHIBALD SILVERMAN
SIGMUND THAU
MORRIS WEINBERG

and Officers

April 29, 1940

Dear Friend:

A meeting of the Committee on the Loan will be held on Wednesday, May 1st, at 4:00 P.M., at the office of the Palestine Foundation Fund, Room 1111, 41 East 42nd Street, New York City.

A number of important matters are to be presented for decision, and it is therefore urgent that every member of the committee attend.

Sincerely yours,

Charles Ress

Charles Ress, Chairman
Board of Directors

CR. SB

\$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.

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SOLOMON LOWENSTEIN
LOUIS P. ROCKER
CHARLES J. ROSENBLOOM
ELIHU D. STONE
and officers

May 8, 1940

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105 Street and Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I am enclosing herewith the United Jewish Appeal check for \$13.00 to reimburse you for your expenses in connection with your visit to Indianapolis on behalf of the United Jewish Appeal on May 2nd.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Alex Rothenberg
Alex Rothenberg
Office Manager

AR:DMS
enc.

UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL
111 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

LOUIS RIMSKY
415 Central Park West
New York

May 9, 1940.

Rabbi Hillel Silver, Chairman,
United Palestine Appeal
41 East 42 St.,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Rabbi Silver:

For the last few months I have been suffering from a severe heart ailment, which makes it practically impossible for me to attend to my duties as Associate Treasurer of the United Palestine Appeal.

It is with deep regret that I must ask you to relieve me of my duties of office and to elect someone else in my place. The privilege that was mine, working together with you, will always remain with me as a great source of joy and inspiration. It is a rare distinction to work under your leadership, but circumstances are such that I must forego the pleasure of taking an active part in that work which is near to my heart.

Wishing you all the success in your great work, I want to remain with Zion greetings

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Louis Rinsky

"Give Today --- Tomorrow May Be Too Late"

—DR. CHAIM WEIZMANN

UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND (KEREN HAYESOD)
JEWISH NATIONAL FUND (KEREN KAYEMETH)
For the Settlement in Palestine of Jews of Germany, Poland, Rumania and Other Lands

41 EAST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK CITY

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National Chairman

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National Co-Chairmen

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Chairman, Administrative Committee

Louis Lipsky

Chairman, Executive Committee

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Israel Goldstein
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James G. Heller
Edward L. Israel
Louis E. Levinthal
Elihu D. Stone
Joe Weingarten
David Wertheim

Honorary Secretary

Charles Ress

Executive Director

Henry Montor

May 10, 1940

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
E. 105th St. at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Enclosed, herewith, you will find check for
\$27.37, reimbursement of expenses incurred for
secretarial and telegraphic services for the month of
April.

Very cordially yours,

Alex Rothenberg
Alex Rothenberg
Controller

AR:IS
Encl.

May 20, 1940

Mr. Louis Rinsky
415 Central Park West
New York, N.Y.

My dear Friend:

I was very saddened to receive your letter informing me of the condition of your health which compels you to relinquish your duties as Associate Treasurer of the United Palestine Appeal. I sincerely hope that your ailment is a temporary one and that you will soon be restored to complete health. Of course, under the circumstances, we shall have to accept, regretfully, your resignation. You have been a bulwark of strength to us for many years in the great, and at times, very trying work which we have been called upon to perform in behalf of our people. You have given faithful and devoted service of a high order seeking no reward but the satisfaction of serving your people.

While relieving you of the exactions of an office which you filled so honorably, we shall, I am sure, continue to have the helpful contacts and associations which we have had with you in our movement right along.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

111 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

New Orleans, La., May 29, 1940.

Board of Directors
Jewish Welfare Fund
New Orleans, La.

Gentlemen:

Your Budget Committee desires to submit a specific problem which has arisen in its discussion of budgets for the year 1940. Your Committee feels that the subject matter of this problem is one which should be considered and decided by the Board of Directors, but that because of its investigation and experience, your Committee has the right and duty to make recommendations with respect thereto.

We desire to recommend that your Board should communicate to the National Council of Jewish Welfare Funds and Federations a request that there be a continued and intensified study of the fields in which national and overseas agencies are engaged in order to eliminate duplication. We particularly urge that we in New Orleans express ourselves strongly in favor of the coordination and consolidation of all fund raising for Palestinian work under the United Palestine Appeal, and the coordination of fund raising for the so-called protective work by the General Jewish Council, i.e., the American Jewish Committee, the American Jewish Congress, the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League and the Jewish Labor Committee; and also the coordination of fund raising for health work, especially tuberculosis.

In submitting this recommendation, your Budget Committee does not feel that it is passing judgment on the relative merits of these Agencies. The work that they do is sorely needed, but we feel that the manner of fund raising is not in accord with good practice, and that if enough Welfare Boards protest it may have some effect.

In the field of Zionist and Palestinian work, our Welfare Fund budgets the following Agencies: Hadassah, Junior Hadassah, National Labor Committee of Palestine, National Youth Aliyah, United Palestine Appeal, American Friends Hebrew University, Vaad Leumi (Palestine Council for distribution among Agencies in Palestine).

One of these Agencies, which does a needed and splendid work in caring for and training children, receives funds not only directly from the Jewish Welfare Fund, but also from the National Hadassah and from other sources. It is obvious that more funds would be available for the actual work of this Agency and less required for overhead expense were useless steps in collection to be eliminated. We know that it is the desire of this community that the maximum amount should go to the real causes, and we do not feel that this desire is followed when contributions must pass through one or more agencies before reaching the ultimate beneficiaries.

With respect to one of the Agencies, the American Ort Federation, which this year requested that we increase their allotment from \$1000 to \$6500, we are informed that this organization was excluded from United Jewish Appeal, as were Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society and Jewish Telegraphic Agency, through no desire of their own, but simply because it was felt by the officials of the United Jewish Appeal that by duplicating appeals more money might be raised.

The situation with respect to Palestinian agencies is duplicated in other groups. We are being asked to give, outside of the United Jewish Appeal contribution, direct relief to refugee Rabbis and refugee writers. We feel that all of the work for refugees should be coordinated in the one fund and that the overhead should not be increased by separating beneficiaries into categories.

This observation also applies to health agencies. Various amounts are contributed to four hospitals, to wit: Ex-Patients Tuberculosis Home, Jewish Consumptive Relief Society, Los Angeles Sanitarium & Ex-Patients Hospital, National Jewish Hospital for Consumptives. Some of these hospitals are claiming that we give a disproportionately small amount to them. We feel that the National Council of Welfare Funds should investigate the claims of the national hospitals on local funds and should recommend the distribution of the funds available for health work.

With respect to all of these matters, your Committee feels that nothing should be done in this year's budget, but at the present time, if this meets with your approval, a communication should be addressed to the National Council informing it of our dissatisfaction with the present situation and of our intention to reconsider our financial relationship to the agencies above discussed.

We will be glad to confer with your Board, or to submit further data, if you so desire.

Yours very truly,

ROBERT H. POLACK (signed)
Chairman Budget Committee

et 6/18/40

CHARLES RESS
ATTORNEY AT LAW
420 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

May 31, 1940

Dear Dr. Silver:

I want to repeat what I have just told you over long distance telephone.

A group of active Zionists, which included Mr. Lipsky, Carl Sherman and several others, discussed today the campaign of misrepresentation and innuendo which is flooding the country and is being directed and financed by men in high Zionist office. The purpose of this campaign is to befuddle American Zionists and create false issues. It is being carried on for partizan political purposes. This campaign is undermining the Zionist organization. If successful, it will have serious and detrimental consequences as we know by reason of our experience during the last two years.

We decided at this conference to organize a committee to be known as Committee on Convention Problems. It will be the object of this committee to clarify the issues and combat the disparagement of the organization and the vilification of Zionist leadership. The committee will not be concerned with the election of any individual to the presidency. It will support no particular candidate, but will be entirely non partizan in this respect. It will support any plan sincerely promulgated which will strengthen and expand Zionist work in this country.

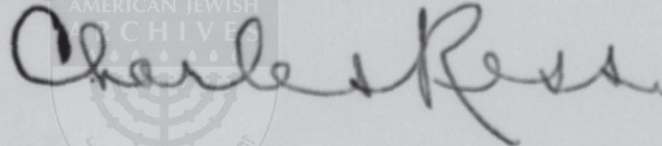
The committee is planning a meeting of representatives of Zionist organizations on the Atlantic Seaboard, which will be held on Sunday afternoon, June 9, at New York City. The program will be devoted to a dignified survey of Zionist affairs in the light of the present emergency. It will condemn the efforts being made to destroy harmony in Zionist ranks, but will neither present nor support any candidate for the presidency. It will seek to formulate a platform upon which all sincere Zionists may stand. We propose to invite as speakers, in addition to yourself and Mr. Lipsky, Dr. Goldstein, Judge Rothenberg, and perhaps one or two other speakers of prominence in the country. We believe that your support of this committee, at least to the extent of participation in the meeting, will be of material assistance to the committee and to the Zionist cause.

May 31, 1940

The group of men to whom I have referred, delegated me to present this matter to you. Since the time is short and we want to issue a notice of the meeting, I took the liberty of telephoning you this afternoon.

I trust that you will find it possible to participate in the meeting. I am sorry that your duties at Cleveland will prevent your being here in person. It will, however, be of great help to us if we may announce that you will send a message to be read to the meeting.

Very sincerely yours,


The signature is written in cursive and is placed over a circular stamp that reads "AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES".

cr.nh

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio



May 31, 1940

Mr. Alex Rothenberg
United Palestine Appeal
41 East 42nd St.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Rothenberg:

I used my airplane script for a trip from Cleveland to Grand Rapids not in connection with the UPA or the UJA. Please send me a bill for the amount and I will send you a check.

My traveling and hotel expenses in connection with my trip to New York to address campaign meetings of the UJA on May 23 amounted to \$50.

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK

POLLAK BROS., INC.

NEW YORK SHOW ROOM
1350 BROADWAY



SAN FRANCISCO SHOW ROOM
833 MARKET STREET

FORT WAYNE, IND.

1 June 1940

Rabbi Abba Silver
c/o The Temple
105th and Euclid
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi:

As chairman of the Jewish Welfare Drive in Fort Wayne, it is my pleasure to advise you that our campaign is completed and while we only have a small Jewish community--about 250 families--we have passed our quota of \$45,000.00. The allocation committee will meet next week to allocate these funds.

I am writing this as I thought that you would be interested to know the results of the drive in Fort Wayne.

Hoping that this finds you well,
with kindest personal regards,

Sincerely,

Robt M. Pollak
Robt. M. Pollek

RMP/ez

June 3, 1940

Mr. Charles Ress
420 Lexington Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Ress:

Thank you so much for your letter of May 31. I have given a great deal of thought to the subject which you raised when you spoke to me over long distance, and I have come to the conclusion that the position which I took when you discussed the matter with me at the Commodore Hotel is still the proper one for me to hold. I should not like to become involved in the present controversy. It will reawaken the echoes of the Detroit Convention and will becloud the present issues. I have taken no part in the present administration in the last two years, and I do not plan to attend the Convention. I trust that you and your friends will understand.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

June 3, 1940

Mr. Robert M. Pollak
Pollak Bros, Inc.
Fort Wayne, Indiana

My dear Mr. Pollak:

I was delighted to receive your letter which contained the information that the Jewish community of Fort Wayne has had a very successful campaign for the Jewish Welfare Fund, and that it has passed its quota. May I extend to you, and through you to the members of the campaign organization and your community, my heartiest congratulations on this outstanding achievement. For a community of 250 Jewish families to have passed a quota of \$45,000 is indeed an occasion of pride and congratulations.

I understand that your allocations committee will meet in the near future to allocate these funds. May I express the earnest hope that in these allocations which are to be made, the desperate needs of the United Jewish Appeal be fully taken into consideration. The cables which come to us from abroad daily are most tragic human documents. We are doing our utmost to help, and we are doing it on borrowed money. Our funds are exhausted.

With all good wishes, permit me to remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

"Give Today --- Tomorrow May Be Too Late"

—DR. CHAIM WEIZMANN

UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND (KEREN HAYESOD)
JEWISH NATIONAL FUND (KEREN KAYEMETH)
For the Settlement in Palestine of Jews of Germany, Poland, Rumania and Other Lands

41 EAST 42ND STREET

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Louis E. Levinthal
Elihu D. Stone
Joe Weingarten
David Wertheim

Honorary Secretary

Charles Ress

Executive Director

Henry Montor

June 4, 1940

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
E. 105th St. at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Enclosed, herewith, you will find check for \$39.74, reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of the U.P.A. for the month of May.

A check for \$50.00 in reimbursement of your expenses in connection with your trip to New York on May 23rd will be forwarded to you by the U.J.A. -New York, within a few days.

With kind regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Alex Rothenberg
Alex Rothenberg
Controller

AR:IS
Encl.

June 7, 1940

Mr. Alex Rothenberg
United Palestine Appeal
41 East 42nd St.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Rothenberg:

Rabbi Silver has requested me to send you the enclosed letter which he received from the Pennsylvania-Central Airlines Corporation regarding a refund on a round-trip ticket to Grand Rapids, Michigan. Rabbi Silver did not make the return trip by plane.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

BJK
Enc.

Secretary to Rabbi Silver.



PALESTINE HEBREW CULTURE FUND, Inc.

קרן התרבות העברית בארץ ישראל

15 WEST 86th STREET, NEW YORK CITY

Phone TRafalgar 4-0470

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DR. SOLOMON B. FREEHOF

WASHINGTON PRESIDENT

DR. JEHIEL DAVIDSON

WILMINGTON PRESIDENT

RABBI JACOB KRAFT

June 17, 1940.

Dear Friend:

The first Annual Conference of Keren Hatarbut will take place, in connection with the Zionist Convention, in Pittsburgh, Pa. on Friday, June 28, at 2:30 P.M., and on Monday, July 1, at 9:00 A.M., when we shall have a "breakfast-meeting". The Conference will be held at the William Penn Hotel.

The agenda will be as follows:

Friday afternoon session:

1. Opening Address - Dr. Stephen S. Wise
2. Report on Keren Hatarbut work - Dr. Simon Ginzburg
3. Financial report - Mr. Sigmund Thau
4. Discussion

Monday morning session:

1. Status of Hebrew literature in Palestine - S. Halkin
2. Resolutions
3. Closing Remarks - S. Hillels.

You are hereby cordially invited to participate in this Conference, as a delegate from your city.

In case it is impossible for you to come, kindly have another delegate appointed to represent your Committee.

Please inform us as to whether we may expect you, or your representative, to the Conference.

Hoping to hear from you at your earliest convenience, and thanking you for your kind cooperation,

Faithfully yours,

Simon Ginzburg

Dr. Simon Ginzburg
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

"Give Today --- Tomorrow May Be Too Late"
—DR. CHAIM WEIZMANN

UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND (KEREN HAYESOD)
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Joe Weingarten
David Wertheim

Honorary Secretary

Charles Ress

Executive Director

Henry Montor

June 17, 1940

The President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Mr. President:

All those concerned with the impact of the war upon civilian victims are grateful for the spirit of compassion which prompted you to recommend to Congress the appropriation of \$50,000,000 for assistance to refugees through the Red Cross and other agencies which you might designate.

The war has had tragic consequences for all who have come within its sphere. But its burden has been doubly heavy for the Jewish population in the areas affected. The racial philosophy of the Nazi Government has placed special hardships upon Jews and made their adjustment to war conditions much more difficult than those facing the ordinary individual.

In the seven years in which Hitler has been engaged in the extirpation of Jewish life over a succession of European countries, the ancient Jewish homeland of Palestine has played an important role not alone in holding aloft a beacon of hope to the dispossessed and the disinherited, but in giving actual shelter to hundreds of thousands of men, women and children. Today the Jews of Palestine stand ready with their resources and their lives to aid the cause of the allies to which the overwhelming majority of Americans have given their moral approval because it is identified with the cause of the democracies.

Arrangements have been made and can be made for the transport of Jewish refugees to Palestine. It is estimated that in the first eight months of the war over 14,000 Jews who fled from Europe were able to find shelter in Palestine. Thousands of others have legal permission to enter Palestine if funds can be made available to assist their transport to the place of safety which Palestine offers. There are thousands of Jews whose need to settle in Palestine has become far more urgent as a result of the events in Western Europe in the past few days. To permit them to remain in the countries in which they are waiting for transfer to Palestine is literally to doom them to the concentration camp or to death, for to the Jewish refugee is reserved a degree of hardship and suffering beyond those of the average refugee.

With these facts in mind, may I, on behalf of the United Palestine Appeal, respectfully submit to you the cause of these Jewish refugees who must be assisted in Europe while awaiting transfer to Palestine and to enable them to reach Palestine. It is my belief that these refugees ~~can~~ ^{could} come within the framework of the fund which you have asked the Congress of the United States to appropriate ~~for your allocation.~~

My associates and I would be grateful for the opportunity ~~of~~ ^{to} coming to Washington to discuss with the ~~appropriate individual~~ whom you will designate the details of this application ~~and the actual~~ extent of the financial requirements through which great numbers of men, women and children may be saved from the ravages of war.

Very cordially yours,

AHS:MBC

Abba Hillel Silver
National Chairman



proper authorities

June 21, 1940

The President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Mr. President:

All those concerned with the impact of the war upon civilian victims are grateful for the spirit of compassion which prompted you to recommend to Congress the appropriation of \$50,000,000 for assistance to refugees through the Red Cross and other agencies which you might designate.

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Palestine is literally to doom them to the concentration camp or to death, for to the Jewish refugee is reserved a degree of hardship and suffering beyond those of the average refugee.

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My associates and I would be grateful for the opportunity to come to Washington to discuss with the proper authorities whom you will designate the details of this application.

Very cordially yours,

AHS:MBC



Abba Hillel Silver
National Chairman

