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United Jewish Appeal, United Palestine Appeal, "B", 1940-1941.

PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND

(Keren Hayesod) Inc. - קרן היסוד FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT OF THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

41 EAST 42nd STREET
NEW YORK CITY
MURRAY HILL 2-3754

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Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
Mooselookmeguntic Lodge
Haines Landing, Me.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I am in receipt of a cable from the head office of the Keren Hayesod in Jerusalem informing me that plans are under way for the launching of a Keren Hayesod campaign in Palestine on September 15th, using the 20th anniversary celebration of the Keren Hayesod as a stimulus. I am advised further that the celebration will include all countries of the world and am asked to secure a message from you to the Keren Hayesod, on this occasion.

It would be a splendid thing for World Jewry, as well as a manifestation of the spirit and the strength of the Yishuv, if Palestine were able at this time of strain and stress to raise funds for the rebuilding of the country.

I am sure you will agree that everything possible ought to be done to encourage our friends in Palestine, and I know that a message from you would go a long way toward stimulating those who are carrying the larger share of the glorious burden.

If you could be good enough to send me your message, I would be glad to cable it on to Palestine immediately on its receipt.

With very kindest regards, I am

Very sincerely,

Kurt Blumenfeld
Kurt Blumenfeld, Director
World Keren Hayesod

KB:CDG

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120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

August 30, 1940

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
E. 105th St. at Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Normally I would hesitate to ask a busy man or woman to read a long letter. This is an exception.

Our European Chairman, Mr. Morris C. Troper, has written me a letter of such fundamental significance that I want to pass it along to some of our good friends throughout the country. It is a long letter, but I urge you to read it from beginning to end. Mr. Troper has summarized some of the basic problems which now face our Committee; he has answered many of the questions which may have occurred to you or have been asked by people in your community who look to you for guidance.

His letter shows the desperate need for J.D.C. help; the actual ways in which help has been and is being given to the Jews of Germany, former Austria, Bohemia-Moravia, Slovakia, Luxembourg. He tells how our assistance is given in Poland. He describes what we are attempting today in the invaded countries of Holland, Belgium and France. He explains how we are carrying on in Hungary, Rumania, Yugoslavia, Switzerland, Portugal and what we are doing in the lands of Central and South America and the Far East.

The letter shows how the emigration of Jews from Europe is operating today. It indicates that this emigration can and must be continued.

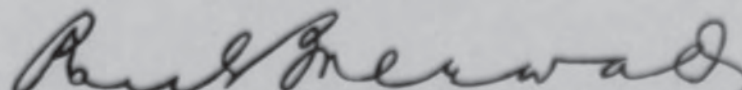
All of these activities are being conducted without helping the German economy, without sending American dollars into German-occupied territory.

J.D.C. help is so sorely needed over and above the general work of the Red Cross that no one need fear, the letter explains, that we are duplicating the activity of any other agency or violating the British blockade of continental Europe. We can continue in our task of service and life-saving.

Money, and money alone, remains the chief factor which determines the extent of our ability to help the Jewish victims of the overseas catastrophe.

Mr. Troper's thoughts concerning the responsibility of American Jewish communities in these tragic days are shared by all of our officers and colleagues. I am sure that, as a supporter of the J.D.C. and of the United Jewish Appeal, and as one who has long interested himself in their programs, you will be deeply stirred by what Mr. Troper has to say. I should appreciate your comments.

Sincerely yours,


Paul Baerwald

PB:as

UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

41 EAST 42nd STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y.

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September 23, 1940.

Mr. Paul Baerwald
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee
100 East 42 Street
New York City

Dear Mr. Baerwald:

From several sources I have had suggestions urging that the regional meetings which are now being conducted by various bodies, including the United Palestine Appeal, might to the benefit of the organizations themselves and to the community leaders be coordinated and unified.

The United Palestine Appeal, like the Joint Distribution Committee, has been sponsoring regional meetings. In view of our association in the common fund-raising effort of the United Jewish Appeal, it occurred to me that this might be a subject which we could profitably discuss. What is involved is not the autonomy of any particular organization, which the United Jewish Appeal certainly must respect, but the wishes of our constituency, who have an interest in the Joint Distribution Committee, in the United Palestine Appeal, and in the activities of such a group as the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds.

The communications that I have had on the subject have said that the local leaders find themselves unable to cope with the multiplicity of regional conferences, all of which they would like to attend were it not for the time involved and the expense. In addition, there is a question of expenditures incurred by the various bodies in promoting conferences simultaneously with each other, on occasion.

You will recall that early in 1940, as in 1939, I urged that the United Jewish Appeal be used as a vehicle whereby promotion of each of the agencies in the United Jewish Appeal might be furthered. This would include the holding of regional conferences in which each of the agencies would be represented, so that their programs could be effectively described.

Undoubtedly you have had brought to your attention this same point of view on the part of many community leaders. Perhaps we can have an early discussion of the advisability of meeting in some degree

Mr. Paul Baerwald

Page 2

September 23, 1940.

the representations that are being made, without in any way minimizing our individual identity, and yet acceding to the desire of the communities to take an active interest in every important phase of our Jewish communal life.

Very cordially yours,

Abba Hillel Silver
National Chairman

AHS:MET



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FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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

September 28, 1940

Mr. Samuel Blitz
New York City Campaign
United Jewish Appeal
261 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

I MUST INSIST THAT YOU COOPERATE FULLY WITH US IN PROCURING THE LIST WHICH I REQUESTED SOME TIME AGO SO THAT MY NEW YEAR LETTER MAY GO FORTH IMMEDIATELY AND WITHOUT ANY REVISION. I ~~XX~~ SHALL HOLD YOU ACCOUNTABLE TO THE UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL. HAVE WIRED MR. WARBURG.

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

DRAFT OF LETTER TO BE SENT TO MR. BAERWALD

My dear Mr. Baerwald:

At a meeting of the Administrative Committee of the United Palestine Appeal, held last Wednesday, our representatives reported on the negotiations held with representatives of the Joint Distribution Committee touching the campaign for 1941. I am enclosing herewith a copy of the resolutions which were adopted by the Administrative Committee after a thorough discussion of the situation.

The United Palestine Appeal is desirous of continuing in a united campaign for 1941, but it can not accept the ratios which obtained in 1940. Conditions have radically changed since last year. You will recall that the United Palestine agreed to a sharp revision of the ratios of 1939 for this year, because it was indicated at that time that the needs of the National Refugee Service had greatly increased, as well as the emergency needs of the Joint Distribution Committee. Our representatives then agreed to a quarter of a million differential in favor of the Joint Distribution Committee in the initial allocations, and to a million dollar differential in favor of the National Refugee Service, although the needs of Palestine had also greatly increased.

The conditions which we face today have again changed. The needs of the National Refugee Service are less. The number of refugees coming to the United States has decreased. Locally, Jewish communities have taken over the load of caring for refugees to an amount of almost two million dollars. It is therefore quite unreasonable to maintain the same ratio for 1941. The areas of service of the Joint Distribution Committee have also been restricted.

The needs of Palestine, on the other hand, have greatly increased because of the fact that Palestine is in the active war zone today, its economic life has been seriously affected, and its normal sources of income from other lands have been practically cut off. The Jewish community of America

must now provide nearly eighty percent of the funds which are necessary to maintain the Yishuv, and to provide elementary relief for the thousands of refugees who have come into the country and for the thousands who are still coming in.

The impression which we received from our representatives was that your decision not to accept any new proposal was final, and that no further meetings would therefore be necessary. If you still maintain this position, please let me know so that we might proceed with our direct applications to the Welfare Funds of the country. Perhaps you would wish to agree on some percentage arrangement such as prevailed in 1938, in order to eliminate the unpleasantness of competitive solicitations in these Welfare Fund Cities? Please let me have your final decision before very long.

With all good wishes, and assuring you of my highest regard, I remain

Very cordially yours,

HARRY C. BARKER
GEO. O. DURHAM
T. DEWITT DRURY

DAVID BERENSTEIN
DAVID J. TOMPKINS
EARLE N. EDGINGTON
JOHN A. ARNOLD
JAMES W. DURHAM

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ATTORNEYS AT LAW
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SAINT LOUIS

November
14th,
1940.

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ANSWERED	

Dr. Abba Hiller Silver,
National Chairman U. P. A.,
41 East 42nd Street,
New York City, New York.

Dear Mr. Silver:

Pursuant to your letter of November 1st, 1940, designating the writer to represent the U. P. A. at the annual conference of the J. N. F. held at St. Louis on November 9, 10, 11, 1940, please be advised that I have attended all the sessions, some of which were exceedingly inspiring.

If the conference had done nothing more but winning over Senator Barkley as it did, it was worth all the effort. He was so deeply moved by the spiritual content of the Zionist ideology that we are safe to count on him as one of our good friends.

The other night while attending the Executive Committee Meeting of the Jewish Federation of St. Louis, we had the pleasure of hearing Mr. Irvin Bettman, its President, report about the Milwaukee Conference. What he said of Mr. Montor's factual statements presented before that group was so praiseworthy and laudible that it would have gladdened your heart as it did mine. Mr. Montor made a profound impression there and it moved Bettman to say to the Board that we have a most efficient and well qualified management in the affairs of Palestine thru the U. P. A.

Sincerely yours,

David Berenstein.

DB:MMH

CC: DR. ABBA HILLEL
SILVER

120 BROADWAY

NEW YORK

C
O
P
Y

November 19, 1940

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, National Chairman
United Palestine Appeal
41 East 42nd Street, New York

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Thank you for letting me know that Mr. Charles J. Rosenbloom of Pittsburgh was elected Treasurer of the United Palestine Appeal and was also designated to serve as Co-Treasurer of the United Jewish Appeal in succession to the late Arthur M. Lamport.

I take this opportunity of expressing, also, to you my deep regret at the untimely death of Mr. Lamport who was such an ardent worker in many good causes.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) PAUL BAERWALD

0
November 21 1940

MR. PAUL BAERWALD
100 E. 42nd St.
New York, N.Y.

DID OUR LETTERS CROSS OR IS YOUR LETTER OF NOVEMBER 19 BY WAY OF
AN ANSWER TO MIND KINDEST REGARDS

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

WRHS
Telegram



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WESTERN UNION

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DR ABBA HILLEL SILVEC=

THE TEMPLE=

OUR LETTERS DID CROSS. HAVE WRITTEN YOU BRIEF NOTE OF
ACKNOWLEDGMENT TODAY TO NEWYORK AND AM SENDING SPECIAL
DELIVERY COPY TO CLEVELAND. REGARDS=

PAUL BAERWALD.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

COPY

b

BRITISH EMBASSY
Washington, D.C.

November 25, 1940

Dear Rabbi Wise,

You will have seen in the press the Government of Palestine's announcement about the future of the 1770-odd illegal immigrants detained at Haifa recently. We have now heard from London the reasons which have led His Majesty's Government to adopt this new policy for dealing with this long standing problem, and my Ambassador would like you to be acquainted with them.

You know, of course, as well as we do, the background of persecution and cold-blooded exploitation of these poor people and there is no need to go over it again.

Lately however, the problem has again become acute and under war conditions assumed a graver aspect. There are indications that the Axis powers are encouraging an influx of Jews to Palestine (giving them the choice of embarking on a ship for Palestine or of remaining in a concentration camp) their object being not only to embarrass His Majesty's Government by inflaming Arab sentiment, but to introduce enemy agents into Palestine and the Middle East. His Majesty's Government are persuaded that to admit into Palestine any further shiploads of illegal immigrants and to allow the law of Palestine to be openly flouted would undoubtedly involve the risk of serious trouble with the Arabs and jeopardize the whole British military position in the Middle East.

The Secretary of State for the Colonies has therefore approved strongly the recommendation of the High Commissioner for Palestine that the two shiploads (totalling one thousand seven hundred and seventy) who have already arrived at Haifa should not be admitted to Palestine and should be shipped the earliest possible moment to Mauritius where it is intended that provision shall be made for their detention during the period of the War. A further ship carrying Jewish refugees of similar origin has since arrived off Cyprus, having run out of fuel, provisions and water, and unless (as is likely) she can be induced or compelled to proceed elsewhere it will be necessary to take her to Haifa and there to arrange for the re-routing of the passengers.

It is hoped that when it has been made widely known that immigrants without permits will not be able to gain admission into Palestine but will be sent abroad for detention, the practice even with the Axis' encouragement, will cease.

We must, I suppose, expect plenty of criticism whichever way we tackle this problem of illegal immigration and the Axis powers will strain every nerve to exploit whatever we do. Nevertheless the controlling factor at a time like this must be the military safety of Palestine. The course which His Majesty's Government are now going to adopt seems to entail no risk on that score. Any help that you can give us in making that vital point understood among the Jews of America will, I am certain, be greatly appreciated in London.

Very sincerely yours,

(signed) NEVILLE BUTLER

November 28, 1940

Mr. Samuel Blitz
New York City and Metropolitan Area
United Jewish Appeal
261 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Blitz:

I would appreciate it if you would let me know whether William Rosenwald made a contribution to the 1940 New York City UJA campaign, how much that contribution was, whether it has been paid, and whether there were any strings attached to that contribution. I should like to have this information within the next few days.

Thanking you for your courtesy, permit me to remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

copy all

November 28, 1940

Mr. Paul Baerwald
120 Broadway
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Baerwald:

I informed you on November 19th of the action taken by the Administrative Committee of the United Palestine Appeal at a meeting held on the same date. Your letter of November 19th - in which you stated the position of the Joint Distribution Committee with respect to the campaign for 1941 - seems to have crossed with mine.

In order that the position of the United Palestine Appeal on the question of a joint campaign for 1941 may be understood, I desire to say the following in acknowledgment of your letter of November 19th:-

1. ON THE QUESTION OF UNITY

The United Palestine Appeal has been consistently in favor of the holding of a united campaign. May I remind you that the meeting finally held of the sub-committees of the Joint Distribution Committee and of the United Palestine Appeal to consider a joint campaign for 1941 followed three pleas which I made that the negotiations should be initiated without delay.

The United Jewish Appeal for 1939 was made possible by the United Palestine Appeal overlooking questions of prestige and percentages, believing as it did, that what was important was not percentages and ratios, but the net results of the participants in the campaign. It was for that reason the United Palestine Appeal had also waived the question of ratios in the joint campaign of 1938. I submit that by adhering to this position again in 1939 we made a major contribution to the cause of unity in American Jewry.

The Allocations Committee met at the end of 1939 to distribute the unallotted income. It was composed of two representatives of the Joint Distribution Committee, two of the United Palestine Appeal, and a fifth member selected jointly. The Allocations Committee decided on the allotment of the balances by a unanimous vote. It is not unfair to say that the Joint Distribution Committee was disappointed with this decision, and that its dissatisfaction in this connection was largely responsible for the countless weeks spent in negotiation in an effort to persuade the Joint Distribution Committee to enter a joint campaign for 1940. The consent of the Joint Distribution Committee was given, however, only after an increase in its allotment in the initial setup had been conceded, and the National Refugee Service had been given \$1,500,000 more than was voted in 1939. In spite of increasing needs in Palestine, the United Palestine Appeal entered

The United

Jewish Appeal in 1940, feeling confident that if the situation changed and the relative needs for Palestine became apparent, due consideration to its requirements would be given by its partners in the joint campaign.

Thus, in 1939 the United Palestine Appeal received \$4,000,000 in a campaign which gave \$8,200,000 to the Joint Distribution Committee and \$2,600,000 to the National Refugee Service. In 1940, however, the United Palestine Appeal received only \$2,500,000 as against \$5,250,000 received by the Joint Distribution Committee, and \$3,500,000 by the National Refugee Service out of a total of \$11,250,000 thus far allotted.

The Joint Distribution Committee now wishes to freeze the proportions that produced these results - to freeze them for the first six months and then have all balances thrown into the hands of the Allocations Committee. The United Palestine Appeal would thus receive for the first six months in 1941 only \$1,250,000. We of the United Palestine Appeal would be disloyal to our responsibilities if we accepted this proposal as a fair estimate of the war-time and normal needs in Palestine, as a sympathetic appraisal of the historic and moral values of Palestine Jewry, or as a genuine contribution to the cause of unity in American Jewry.

The United Palestine Appeal has given proof of its faith in the ideal of unity in fund-raising by the repeated sacrifices it has made in order to maintain the joint campaign. It has given unprejudiced thought to the totality of Jewish needs. The United Palestine Appeal again urges a united campaign for 1941, but it must insist on terms that will reflect an impartial consideration of all Jewish requirements, and not merely serve to appease organizational pride or to congeal the unfair relations of previous years.

2. WHAT IS FLEXIBILITY?

In offering an explanation of its attitude with respect to its joint campaign proposals for 1941, the Joint Distribution Committee declares that it is imbued with a desire for "flexibility" in the distribution of funds. For three consecutive years the United Palestine Appeal has paid tribute to the principle of "flexibility", but if that term is to have any meaning it must be made applicable to all Jewish interests involved, and not merely to the needs of Palestine; not merely in the years that are past, but in 1941 as well.

In 1940 the Joint Distribution Committee declined to accept the ratios established by the decisions of the Allocations Committee of 1939. In the negotiations for the 1940 United Jewish Appeal, it was the Joint Distribution Committee representatives who opposed "throwing the responsibility for determining the needs upon an Allocations Committee or Budgeting Committee." The original proposal of the Joint Distribution Committee for a United Jewish Appeal campaign in 1940 made no mention of an Allocations Committee at all. The clear intention of the Joint Distribution Committee was not to have any Allocations Committee for 1940. The Joint Distribution Committee was displeased with the unanimous agreement of the Allocations Committee of 1939.

November 28, 1940

It was at the insistence of the Joint Distribution Committee that a larger sum was first distributed in 1940 than in 1939, i.e., \$11,250,000 as compared with \$9,500,000.

To preserve unity in 1940 and to meet conditions which had arisen, the United Palestine Appeal at a substantial sacrifice to itself agreed to a revision of the agreement which was operative in 1939.

For the coming year, another revision is clearly indicated because conditions have again radically changed. Accordingly, the United Palestine Appeal proposed that the first income of a United Jewish Appeal in 1941 be divided as follows: \$1,500,000 to the National Refugee Service (including New York City), \$3,000,000 to the United Palestine Appeal and \$3,000,000 to the Joint Distribution Committee -- and not, as your letter indicates, \$2,500,000 to the United Palestine Appeal and \$2,500,000 to the Joint Distribution Committee. The needs of Palestine have greatly increased because Palestine is in the active war zone today. Its economic life has been seriously affected. Its normal sources of income from other lands have been practically cut off. The Jewish community of America must now provide eighty percent of the funds which are necessary to maintain the Yishuv and to provide elementary relief for the thousands of refugees who have come into the country and for those who are still coming in.

In all fairness, with due regard for these changed conditions, the Joint Distribution Committee and the National Refugee Service should now concede that re-adjustment is in order, just as the United Palestine Appeal was willing to make concessions last year. If the principle of "flexibility" is to be invoked, why does the Joint Distribution Committee now insist on a mathematical preponderance in the first allotment, since it seems to be willing to leave to an "impartial, objective, fact-finding body the determination of the needs of world Jewry?" Why should the ratios of 1940 be regarded as sacred and unchangeable? These ratios were not determined by "an impartial objective fact-finding body". They were the result of the usual negotiations, of pressure involved where one party for the sake of unity makes concessions, and the other remains obdurate and unyielding.

3. WHAT ARE THE NEEDS?

If an allocation for a period of six months is to be made - and we do not advocate it - the United Palestine Appeal is forced to ask that account should be taken of the indispensable minimum budgets required by Palestine during that period. \$2,500,000 is a fragment of the total budget for 1941 of the Jewish Agency and the Jewish National Fund, which is about \$14,000,000. \$2,500,000 is only a part of what the United Palestine Appeal has a right to expect American Jewry will make available for Palestine in 1941.

To agree to an arrangement that would give \$1,250,000 for the first six months as the contribution of 3,000,000 Jews in America to the work of the Jewish Agency and the Jewish National Fund - the instruments responsible for our entire building program - would be disastrous to our work in Palestine; it would deal a staggering blow to the morale of Palestine Jewry; it would impair the morale of Jews throughout the world, whose sustaining hope is the Jewish National Home.

November 28, 1940

Why should the Joint Distribution Committee be concerned with ratios if its object is the most effective use of the available funds? One is forced to the conclusion that it is not validity of requirements which is the criterion it employs. In your letter of November 19th you state "if, therefore, the United Palestine Appeal insisted on having in the first half year of 1941 \$2,500,000 towards its first fixed amount, exactly the same sum as for the whole year of 1940, (this is not correct, for the United Palestine Appeal anticipates a substantial sum from the fund to be distributed by the Allotment Committee), it would mean that the Joint Distribution Committee would be obliged to ask for the same amount which it had received towards its first fixed program in 1940, namely, \$5,250,000. Thus, the Joint Distribution Committee tacitly admits that it does not foresee that it will require \$5,250,000 for the six-month period, but it advances this contention in order to maintain its proper standing in relation to the United Palestine Appeal. For that reason, it will be obliged to ask for an amount of money which, apparently, it does not require.

It is imperative that the whole program of Palestine work be seen in its proper perspective to the rest of the Jewish world. It is not without significance to American Jewry that the only Jewish community in the world where a constructive, large-scale program of Jewish assistance is possible is in the Jewish National Home. It is not without significance that Palestine today represents the largest free Jewish community in the world, next to the United States. It is not without significance that the largest Jewish community in the world, next to the United States, is identified actively and whole-heartedly with the interests of Great Britain in its struggle against Nazi aggression.

In this connection it may be pointed out that a sound community of over 500,000 - such as exists in Palestine today - must be taken as a part of the desperate effort of the Jewish people to survive through the tragic difficulties of the day. In this hour of crisis, the reinforcement of morale and of substance, which American Jewry alone can make available, is of the highest importance not only for the Jews of Palestine, but for Jews all over the world. Constructive statesmanship would demand that what is wholesome and vigorous and creative should be preserved for the Jewish people. Relief for the suffering thousands on European soil is essential. Maximum help must be given those unfortunate men and women who have been caught in the maelstrom of war, and who have been overtaken by persecution and disaster. But statesmanship would recognize the fact that we have a paramount duty to save the one community which, allied with Great Britain, is engaged in a task the ultimate goal of which is the liberation of the Jews of Europe, as well as of Palestine. Any act tending to weaken the Yishuv, jeopardizing its ability to maintain its structure, would be construed as a desertion of the Jewish National Home, as a desertion of Palestine Jewry in the most difficult hour in its history.

The Jewish Agency for Palestine and the Jewish National Fund are unable to plan in these critical emergency times of overwhelming need on a six-month basis involving a definite allotment of only \$1,250,000 to be received from American Jewry. Unlike the Joint Distribution Committee, the Jewish Agency is called upon to meet other than emergency needs. Many annual commitments for constructive purposes have to be met. The United Palestine Appeal has been making a direct appeal to American Jewry on the

basis of a program for the upbuilding of a National Home for the Jewish people. It is a program calling for large-scale colonization, immigration, land purchases, stimulation of industry, culture and the general economy of the country, and for the varied activities involved in the rebuilding of a land to give sustenance and security to a growing number of people.

The United Palestine Appeal cannot subscribe to the thought that Palestine must be regarded from the philanthropic point of view. The upbuilding of Palestine is far more than a solution of the needs of Jewish refugees, although in this field alone it has done as much as the whole of the rest of the world combined. From July 1, 1932 to July 1, 1940, some 280,000 Jews entered Palestine, while a maximum of 150,000 entered the United States during the same period. Consideration of the needs of Palestine, therefore, must take into account the wider implications of the movement.

4. THE NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE

The United Palestine Appeal is of the opinion that, as a matter of principle, the National Refugee Service should not be included as an integral part of the United Jewish Appeal. The National Refugee Service is a temporary, domestic organization created to meet a specific situation. Its requirements cannot be regarded as within the field of interest reflected in the Joint Distribution Committee and the United Palestine Appeal. The needs of refugees in the United States cannot be placed on the same footing as the needs of our brethren in war-torn Europe. Refugee work makes its appeal to the sense of communal responsibility. It calls forth the traditional sentiment of Hachnoses Orchim. It serves an interest which is immediate and direct, and is best worked out through the initiative and the autonomous interest of the communities.

The Jews of America have a deep interest in the adjustment and integration of refugees in the United States, but they are showing that interest in their local communities. It is a confusion of fact to make it appear that the National Refugee Service bears the entire, or even the major load for refugee assistance in the United States. The National Refugee Service is primarily a service organization. With the exception of costs incurred for such service and for assistance to refugees in New York City, the burden borne by the National Refugee Service for refugees in the United States is auxiliary and complementary to the local co-operation given in this field. Year after year, there has been an upward trend in the allotment of local communities for local refugee service and assistance. In fact, these increases are reflected in the income of the United Jewish Appeal itself, from which substantial deductions have been made in every community to enable them to provide for their refugee needs locally. The interest of American Jewry in refugees is not gauged, therefore, by the amount the National Refugee Service receives.

The United Palestine Appeal, however, showed its fundamental desire for unity by agreeing again to include the National Refugee Service as a beneficiary agency of the United Jewish Appeal in 1941, but with full regard for its diminished needs. It cannot be denied that fewer immigrants are entering the United States now than in 1939 and 1940. There is a likelihood that even fewer refugees will be coming to the United States in 1941 than ever before. These immigrants are being aided more rapidly to adjust themselves to the American economy by reason of the general improvement in the United States.

Just as the United Palestine Appeal indicated its sympathy with and interest in refugee requirements in previous years, agreeing to increases when they seem to be required, so - just as objectively - it now states that the needs of the National Refugee Service in 1941 will be substantially lower and that the principle of "flexibility" which is invoked by the Joint Distribution Committee should be applied to the National Refugee Service.

November 28, 1940

You state in your letter of November 19th that your representatives favored the inclusion of the National Refugee Service in the 1941 joint campaign because "it constituted a most persuasive and cogent basis for securing larger funds." It is the conviction of the United Palestine Appeal that the needs of Palestine and of the Joint Distribution Committee are sufficiently valid and actual and persuasive in themselves, and that we do not require a campaign device presumably calculated to catch the fancy or prejudice of ill-informed contributors in order to secure funds for our purposes. It is not fair to the American public, to the purposes of the Joint Distribution Committee, nor to the long-range needs of Palestine, to consider campaign requirements from the point of view of raising money through what might be called a subterfuge; without stressing clearly and vigorously and with unequivocation our own requirements as they exist. The use of a campaign organization solely to enhance fund-raising capacity is a practice often condemned in some communities. The American public should be educated to the actual requirements of each organization and of each cause, and should not be persuaded into giving money on unfounded assumptions. It is our firm conviction that in 1941 the needs of the National Refugee Service are definitely less, whereas the needs for Jewish relief outside of America, and for reconstruction purposes especially in Palestine, require the greatest generosity and it is with that program of reality we should approach the Jewish communities of America.

The sums made available to the National Refugee Service and to refugee purposes in America through local and other organizations are rapidly approaching an amount equal to what the Joint Distribution Committee and the United Palestine Appeal together receive for their millions of prospective beneficiaries. There is a question as to whether American Jewry understands and approves this situation. It is doubtful whether American Jewry actually desires to spend for a comparatively limited number of refugees in this country, at peace and economically strong, as much as for the vast numbers of war-driven, homeless, desperate refugees throughout the world and for the great community in Palestine and those coming to Palestine under the most distressing conditions.

5. FINALLY, WHAT IS OUR POSITION?

Because of the greater needs of Palestine, the United Palestine Appeal asks that the rule of "flexibility" be adopted for the campaign of 1941 so that a proper differential - recognizing Palestine's increased requirements for the coming year - may be reflected in the first allotments from a United Jewish Appeal in 1941. The Jewish communities of America will be persuaded of the valid basis of the United Jewish Appeal if, as conditions vary in each year, proper acknowledgment of these changed circumstances is made within the structure of the United Jewish Appeal, and that there be a fair distribution of funds accordingly. We regard it as unfair and unjust to maintain in 1941 the status quo of 1940. The rapidly shifting conditions to which you refer in your letter applies most forcefully to Palestine, where 500,000 Jews are in a position to receive and use funds in constructive enterprises, whose basic requirements are known in advance; and where the emergency needs have assumed such an urgency as will not permit American Jewry to continue the placid tempo of 1940, which resulted in retrogression and shrinkage in the giving of funds.

Mr. Baerwald

-7-

November 28, 1940

The United Palestine Appeal earnestly hopes that the Joint Distribution Committee will recognize the changed Jewish situation; will consent to a United Jewish Appeal for 1941 on a basis that will assure to the United Palestine Appeal, either on a full year's basis or on a six-month basis, a substantially increased amount for Palestine as compared with 1940. But our responsibility to Palestine requires that for six months we should be able to assure the Jewish Agency of at least \$2,500,000 for the first period.

In my letter to you of November 19th I said that if "your decision not to accept any new proposal was final, please let me know so that we might proceed with our direct application to the Welfare Funds of the country. Please let me have your final decision before very long."

I again enclose a copy of the resolution adopted on November 13th by the Administrative Committee of the United Palestine Appeal, and look forward to your prompt reply.

With all good wishes, and assuring you of my highest regard, I am

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



Copy for Rabbi A. H. Silver

x was all

COPY

REPORT OF THE PALESTINE DEPARTMENT

December 3, 1940

TO: Mr. Edmund I. Kaufmann,
President, Z.O.A., Washington, D.C.

FROM: Dr. S. Bernstein,
Director, Palestine Bureau
111 Fifth Avenue, New York City

Strictly Confidential,
Not for publication.

1. ATTITUDE OF THE RUSSIAN AUTHORITIES TOWARDS PALESTINE IMMIGRATION

From my recent reports you have noticed that the attitude of the Russian authorities towards granting transit visas to holders of Palestine entry permits has become unexpectedly unfriendly. Originally, the Jewish Agency for Palestine was given to understand that no hindrance would be put in the way of such immigrants. When the Baltic States were occupied by Russia, it was hoped that the refugees living in these countries would now have all the necessary facilities to proceed to Palestine without difficulties, after securing the Turkish transit to go via Istanbul. Unfortunately, these hopes were not realized at all. On the contrary, in the last three months conditions became so bad that their last hopes of obtaining Russian transit visas had to be given up. Furthermore, even those living in the newly occupied countries have had to abandon their hopes of obtaining an exit permit from Russia.

These difficulties affect a large number of American Jews in whose behalf we have secured Palestine certificates and permits for their relatives living in Eastern Europe. The greatest blow, however, which the Russian authorities have struck at these unfortunate prospective immigrants is the deportation to Siberia of a large number of people who were even in possession of certificates from former times. The Russian authorities, furthermore, refused to recognize the rights of Palestinian citizens and holders of Palestine passports and the situation became so acute that the Palestine Government found it necessary to announce that no further visas will be granted to residents in Russian territories. Only a few days ago we received a communication from the British Passport Control Office in New York, dated November 30th, regarding a capitalist case from Kaunas and the following was the cable reply from the authorities in Palestine:

"Reference your telegram dated November 26th:
I am unable to take action since the British
representatives at Moscow are not in a position
to deal with such matters".

It is therefore obvious that the Palestine authorities refuse to handle Russian cases. As far as Americans are concerned, over sixty such cases are involved. In each case an American relative deposited the amount of £1,000 in a Palestine bank in order to enable the prospective immigrant to go to Palestine under the capitalist category.

From reports reaching us, we learn that the reason the Russian authorities took such a stand was that a large number of prospective immigrants living in the Baltic States and also in former Galician Poland, have all of a sudden begun to submit passports of South American States, which presumably have been bought from Consulates abroad. The Russian authorities stated that if a resident immigrant changes his citizenship, he is duty-bound to

become a Russian citizen. This, of course, would entirely exclude him from any possibility or hope for emigration from Russia. Under this pretext the Russian authorities refused even to recognize bona fide Palestinian passports which were sent to husbands and wives by their spouses living in Palestine. All foreign passports held by prospective immigrants have been declared invalid. In a number of cases, the British Embassy in Moscow has tried to intervene in behalf of Palestinians (some of whose relatives have been visiting our office) but to no avail.

On the other hand, the representative of the Jewish Agency, Mr. Barlas, who is now in Istanbul, seems to be meeting with some measure of success in his efforts to secure for those who reached Istanbul Syrian transit visas. In a letter we received from him recently, he requests us to secure financial help from their American relatives for a number of immigrants, in order to bring them to Palestine, which is an indication that the transit facilities can be arranged.

2. 1,777 REFUSED ADMISSION TO HAIFA

I should like to draw your attention to the fact that there is a great deal of American interest involved in this pathetic situation. A large number of the unfortunate people on these boats were enabled to make the trip through the financial help of their relatives living in America, many of them members of the Zionist Organization and other friends of our cause.

You have noticed from my previous report that during the last six months almost daily people came to this office submitting cables received by them from the Palestine Amt in Berlin and Vienna, requesting them to send \$200 per person. The money was to be paid by them to the Swiss Bank Corporation, 15 Nassau Street, New York City, to be credited to the Jewish Community Help, for immigrants in Geneva, Switzerland. As soon as the Geneva Bank informed the authorities in Germany that the amount is at the disposal of the particular immigrant, the man or woman was permitted to leave Germany and to proceed to Slovakia or Yugoslavia by boat where in most cases they were kept on the boat waiting for an opportunity to enter Palestine illegally.

We know that these cables were being sent to the relatives in the United States at the order of the Gestapo and we have been advised to tell the relatives not to send any money. We were later informed that it came to a severe dispute between the Gestapo and the Palestine Amt in Berlin and Vienna. These Palestine offices refused to cooperate not because of alleged smuggling in of Fifth Columnists (which, by the way, is being denied by the Zionist offices there), but because the responsible Zionist officials refused to accept certain boats designated by the Gestapo for the transportation of immigrants. The Zionist officials stated that according to their information, the boats are not only unseaworthy but definitely unsafe. Furthermore, they demanded the elimination of certain members of the crew whom they knew definitely to be professional bandits and dangerous characters. Finally, the Gestapo took the matter from the hands of the Palestine offices and entrusted it to a certain Jew by the name of Stofer living in Vienna, who undertook to carry through the transportation. While this office has nothing to do with anyone who made the voyage on these boats, and in spite of the fact that we have strongly advised inquirers to ignore and not to become a party to these dealings, we know that a great many Americans could not withstand the pleas of their relatives, of them a

considerable number who made inquiries in this office in the last six months. At least 100 Americans gave them the money, complying with the cables from Germany.

3. REFUSALS TO "CAPITALISTS"

We have recently been rather amazed by the considerable number of refusals on the part of the Palestine Government to applications made by us in behalf of Europeans to whom American residents made a gift of £1,000 each. We never up to now have had any serious difficulties regarding this category, and as a rule these applicants were granted permits after the verification of the gift, etc., by the British Passport Control Office in New York. It seems that of late the authorities in Jerusalem are taking a different stand with regard to such applications. We have reports from Palestine by responsible people who, at our request, intervened with the Government in Jerusalem pleading for speedy action on applications submitted by us, that the Palestine Government now looks askance upon such capitalists, - taking the attitude that these in reality are not Palestine settlers but rather transit visitors using Palestine as a stopping station from where to go to America as soon as their American quotas become due. The authorities maintain that this is not in full conformation with the Palestine immigration laws requiring that the applicant be a bona fide settler, while in reality they have no intention of settling in Palestine, thus depriving others, especially Polish citizens who have no hope for American visas and who would gladly remain in Palestine, of the chance to obtain Palestine certificates. That this information is not entirely without foundation, is evidenced from one official communication which reached us only a few days ago. In a letter dated November 13th, the British Passport Control Office in New York writes us regarding a certain case (Mr. Fish) which was refused on the following grounds:

"The Palestine authorities are of the opinion that since Mr. Fish has forfeited his permanent residence in Palestine by settling elsewhere (in the U.S.). We cannot grant him a second chance where so many have no first chances."

So, in spite of the friendly attitude on the part of the British Passport Control Office in New York, we are now at a loss as to how to act regarding further capitalist applications in behalf of Europeans, about which we are almost daily receiving inquiries.

4. IMMIGRATION TO COUNTRIES OTHER THAN PALESTINE.

This office is now facing the same problem which we met about a year or two ago. If Palestine will be closed, by the constant refusal of certificates, the Palestine offices abroad will be hammering at us to enable at least the active and leading Zionists to get an entry permit to another country, preferably the United States. Since almost all of them are registered with the American Consuls for the last three years, they demand that we secure for them American affidavits which would enable them to come to America in the not distant future. A year or two ago we were able to meet these conditions, since the numbers involved were not very large. However, it would be entirely above the strength of this department to tackle these problems, with the numbers of applicants for affidavits threatening to become enormous. On the other hand, it would create a bad situation to ignore the S.O.S. calls of the Palestine offices in Europe for such assistance. Very soon steps will have to be taken to bring to the attention of Zionists in this country the necessity of supplying affidavits in behalf of a considerable number of fellow Zionists in a desperate emergency.

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL *For Refugees & Overseas Needs*

ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE,
THE UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL AND THE NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE

NEW YORK CITY AND METROPOLITAN AREA

261 Fifth Avenue • MUrray Hill 3-5901

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Director
SAMUEL BLITZ

Co-Director
HENRY C. BERNSTEIN

December 3, 1940

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

We have on record a pledge of \$31,000 made by Mr. William Rosenwald at a fund-raising meeting during the campaign. This pledge has not as yet been paid. I do not know of any conditions in connection with Mr. Rosenwald's pledge.

Trusting this answers your inquiry, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Samuel Blitz

Samuel Blitz
Director

SB:mf

\$23,000,000 NEEDED IN 1940

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

1220

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter
NL = Night Letter
LC = Deferred Cable
NLT = Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

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

HY35 103 NT=NEWYORK NY DEC 18.

RABBI A H SILVER, CARE THE TEMPLE=
EAST 105 ST AND ANSEL RD=

1940 DEC 19 AM 8 01

RECEIVED FOLLOWING TELEGRAM QUOTE DESPITE OUR WILLINGNESS TO ENLARGE AMOUNT FOR INITIAL ALLOCATION AS INDICATED AT MEETING YOU ATTENDED YESTERDAY THE JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE MUST TAKE THE POSITION THAT (1) THE FIRST FIXED AMOUNTS SHOULD BE BASED ON RELATIONSHIP EXISTING IN 1940, WITH HOWEVER THE LARGEST POSSIBLE AMOUNT TO BE LEFT FOR DETERMINATION BY ALLOCATIONS COMMITTEE ON BASIS OF NEEDS

(2) THE NEEDS OF NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE MUST BE ADEQUATELY RECOGNIZED. THESE BASIC POINTS DO NOT DIFFER FROM OUR TELEGRAM OF DECEMBER SIXTEENTH AND WERE REJECTED BY UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL. WE APPRECIATE YOUR EFFORTS AND REGRET THEY WERE UNAVAILING (SIGNED) PAUL BAERWALD UNQUOTE=

:J M BERNE

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WESTERN UNION

1220

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter
NL = Night Letter
LC = Deferred Cable
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Ship Radiogram

(14)

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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HW169 107=NCB NEWYORK NY 19 409P

1940 DEC 19 PM 5 22

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER= DLR 240 E 105 ST

THE TEMPLE TENTH AND ANSEL RD=

I TELEGRAPHED JOSEPH BERNE LAST NIGHT AS FOLLOWS QUOTE
DESPITE OUR WILLINGNESS TO ENLARGE AMOUNT FOR INITIAL
ALLOCATION AS INDICATED AT MEETING YOU ATTENDED YESTERDAY
THE JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE MUST TAKE THE POSITION
THAT ONE THE FIRST FIXED AMOUNTS SHOULD BE BASED ON
RELATIONSHIP EXISTING IN 1940 WITH HOWEVER THE LARGEST
POSSIBLE AMOUNT TO BE LEFT FOR DETERMINATION BY
ALLOCATIONS COMMITTEE ON BASIS OF NEEDS AND TWO THE
NEEDS OF NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE MUST BE ADEQUATELY

RECOGNIZED STOP THESE BASIC POINTS DO NOT DIFFER FROM
OUR TELEGRAM OF DECEMBER SIXTEENTH AND WERE REJECTED
BY UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL. WE APPRECIATE YOUR EFFORTS
AND REGRET THEY WERE UNAVAILING UNQUOTE=

PAUL BAERWALD.

1940.

RECEIVED AT

TELEPHONE YOUR TELEGRAMS
TO POSTAL TELEGRAPH

Form 16A

Postal Telegraph

Mackay Radio
Commercial Cables



All America Cables
Canadian Pacific Telegraphs

THIS IS A FULL RATE TELEGRAM, CABLE-
GRAM OR RADIOGRAM UNLESS OTHERWISE
INDICATED BY SYMBOL IN THE PREAMBLE
OR IN THE ADDRESS OF THE MESSAGE.
SYMBOLS DESIGNATING SERVICE SELECTED
ARE OUTLINED IN THE COMPANY'S TARIFFS
ON HAND AT EACH OFFICE AND ON FILE WITH
REGULATORY AUTHORITIES.

DEC 20 AM 4 10

N 011/2 WB WASHINGTON DC RABBI SILVER CLVD

CONNECTION WITH THE DEPORTATION FROM PALESTINE OF JEWISH REFUGEES.

YOUR PRESENCE IS EARNESTLY REQUESTED...

ISADORE BRESLAU EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.



Postal Telegraph

Mackay Radio
Commercial Cables



All America Cables
Canadian Pacific Telegraphs

THIS IS A FULL RATE TELEGRAM, CABLE-GRAM OR RADIOGRAM UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED BY SYMBOL IN THE PREAMBLE OR IN THE ADDRESS OF THE MESSAGE. SYMBOLS DESIGNATING SERVICE SELECTED ARE OUTLINED IN THE COMPANY'S TARIFFS ON HAND AT EACH OFFICE AND ON FILE WITH REGULATORY AUTHORITIES.

STANDARD TIME INDICATED

RECEIVED AT

TELEPHONE YOUR TELEGRAMS
TO POSTAL TELEGRAPH 54

Form 16A

DEC 20 AM 4 10

0
NB11 68 NL

WB WASHINGTON DC 19

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER

THE TEMPLE CLVD

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ZOA AND THE CONSTITUENT BODIES OF THE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE FOR ZIONIST AFFAIRS ARE INVITED TO A PRIVATE MEETING SUNDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 22 AT 2:00 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE UPA, 41 EAST 42ND STREET TO CONSIDER POLICY REGARDING THE LATEST SITUATION WHICH HAS ARISEN IN



10

CLASS OF SERVICE

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(10)

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ZA153 35=DETROIT MICH 29 628P DUPLICATE OF TELEPHONED TELEGRAM

ABBA HILLEL SILVER= *Stadler Hotel Ball room* 240 DEC 29 PM 7 21

blb CLEVE= *246 E 105*

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED 50 PERCENT PAYMENTS TO NRS AND
THAT CREDIT FACILITIES BY SUBORDINATION OF RIGHTS IN
FUTURE COLLECTIONS BE GRANTED SO AS TO HELP NRS TO
BACK CREDIT THIS IS MY BEST RECOLLECTION KINDEST REGARDS=

FRED BUTZEL.

Refer - Pr 6800 GL 2980
Robb's
Alfred
7/11 7451

50 NRS NRS.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

41 EAST 42nd STREET

MEMORANDUM

0

Date December 29, 1940

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

From Mr. Henry Montor

Subject

Attached herewith is a copy of a telegram which Messrs. Paul Baerwald and Edward M. M. Warburg sent to a group of leaders in New York City.

I do not know yet whether a similar telegram was sent to community leaders throughout the country.

fe

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WE OF THE JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE ARE ANXIOUS TO
PRESENT PICTURE OUR NEEDS AND GENERAL CAMPAIGN PROBLEMS
BUT NOT UNTIL EXPIRATION 1940 UNITED JEWISH APPEAL.
THEREAFTER WE CAN TOGETHER CONSIDER ALL FACTS IN AMPLE
TIME TO MEET OUR RESPONSIBILITIES IN THESE CRITICAL DAYS
BOTH AS AMERICANS AND AS JEWS. WE URGE THAT NO ONE COMMIT
HIMSELF OR HIS COMMUNITY TO PROGRAMS OR BUDGETS UNTIL THE
AMERICAN JEWISH RESPONSIBILITY CAN BE STUDIED AND APPRAISED
AS A WHOLE

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

PAUL BAERWALD

EDWARD M. M. WARBURG

12/27/40
ff

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	NIGHT LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	SHIP RADIOGRAM

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CHECK
ACCT'G INFMN.
TIME FILED

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

December 29, 1940

Fred M. Butzel
299 Rowena Street
Detroit, Michigan

UPA EXECUTIVE WILL VOTE MONDAY ON RECOMMENDATIONS OF ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE WITH REFERENCE TO NRS. I AM NOT CLEAR IN MY MIND ON ONE POINT AND WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING YOUR IMPRESSION. WAS IT YOUR UNDERSTANDING THAT PAYMENT TO NRS BE ACCELERATED IN DECEMBER AND THEREAFTER UP TO FIFTY PERCENT OF TOTAL COLLECTED EACH MONTH UNTIL FULL AMOUNT IS PAID OR TO ADVANCE A MINIMUM OF SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS IN DECEMBER AND EACH MONTH THEREAFTER. ACTUALLY LESS THAN FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS WAS COLLECTED BY THE UJA IN DECEMBER. UNDER LATTER ARRANGEMENT AGENCIES WOULD GET NOTHING IN DECEMBER AND WOULD HAVE TO BORROW TO MAKE UP NRS MINIMUM. NEITHER DR. LOWENSTEIN NOR I HAVE ANY CLEAR RECOLLECTION OF AGREEMENT TO GIVE NRS MINIMUM SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS. WOULD APPRECIATE A WIRE FROM YOU TODAY. KINDEST PERSONAL REGARDS.

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

69 Bay 29th Street,
Brooklyn, N. Y.
January 5, 1941.

My dear Rabbi Silver,

Rabbi Israel Goldstein informed me that he expected to be in Cleveland tomorrow, the 6th, and that if he managed to see you then, he would discuss the following matter, the background of which I am taking the liberty of presenting.

My husband, Lavy Bakstansky, has been General Secretary (analogous to Executive Director) of the English Zionist Federation for twelve years; he serves also as Secretary of the Keren Hayesod and of the Council for German Jewry; in his private capacity he is a member of the Board of Deputies. He has attended the last seven sessions of the Zionist Congress. During the past two or three years in particular, he has had the closest contact with members of Parliament and especially with the Parliamentary Palestine Committee. He has prepared the material for Commons Debates and has personally "coached" Opposition speakers.

Mr. Bakstansky studied in Palestine from 1914 to 1922 and speaks Hebrew fluently; he holds degrees of Barrister-at-Law and B.Sc. (Government major) from London University.

The Keren Hayesod campaign in England was launched at their Conference on October 20th last. When the forthcoming U.P.A. campaign starts actively, the English campaign will be nearing completion. I have reason to believe that if an invitation were extended to Mr. Bakstansky via the Executive to assist in the U.P.A. campaign, London would give favorable consideration to a leave of absence. I should also add that I believe Mr. Bakstansky would welcome the privilege of participating in the major Zionist campaign in the world today.

I have spoken to Mr. Montor on the subject, and he was good enough to say that he would present the matter at the forthcoming meeting of the Committee on January 8th.

Yours truly,

Naomi Bakstansky
Naomi Bakstansky

Rabbi A.H. Silver
The Jewish Center
Cleveland, O.

THE AMERICAN JEWISH
JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, Inc.

100 EAST 42nd STREET, NEW YORK CITY

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ISIDOR COONS, *Director of Fund Raising*

January 14th, 1941

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
E. 105th St. at Ansel Rd.,
Cleveland, Ohio

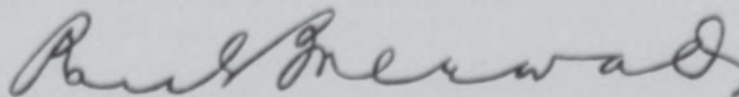
Dear Rabbi Silver:

As a member of the National Council of the Joint Distribution Committee and a leader in your community, you will want to have the fullest information concerning important developments in the work of the J.D.C.

Such a development was the recent decision by the three agencies comprising the 1940 United Jewish Appeal not to renew the U.J.A. during 1941. The underlying reasons are briefly outlined in the enclosed, which embodies a report made to the J.D.C. Executive Committee by Dr. Solomon Lowenstein, who headed the J.D.C. negotiating subcommittee for a 1941 campaign. We trust it will make our position clear.

With appreciation of your past services and in the hope that we may continue to work together in behalf of aid to needy Jews overseas,
I am

Sincerely yours,



Paul Baerwald
Chairman

PB:df
encl.

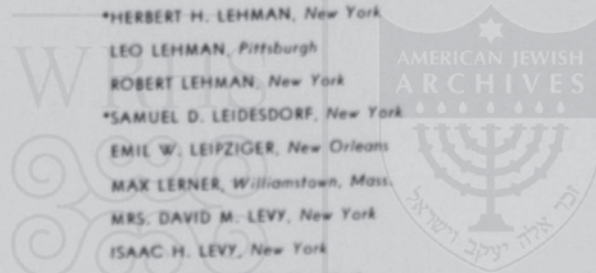
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COPY

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JACOB BLAUSTEIN

American Building
Baltimore, Md.

January 27, 1941

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your January 22, 1941 letter.

I hope that you will find it possible to attend the Atlanta meeting of the Committee on the Study of National Budgeting Proposals as it is important that all points of view be fully discussed. If you are not present, I shall read your letter to the Committee.

I want to assure you that I do not lend myself to precipitous action. Frankly, though, I would not consider it precipitous for a committee organized as far back as this committee was -- a committee which has diligently pursued its task since then and has had available to it at least some of the experiences of the Allotment Committee of the 1940 United Jewish Appeal -- to make a report and recommendations to the General Assembly in Atlanta. That would have been expected of the committee even if there were to be a 1941 UJA -- and should not be side-tracked simply because it seems there is not to be a 1941 UJA.

This committee was organized, and made important decisions, long before it appeared there would be no 1941 UJA -- and incidentally is concerned not only with the three beneficiary organizations of the 1940 UJA, but ultimately with all organizations appealing to the Welfare Fund Communities for funds and promptly with more than just those three.

If there is not to be a 1941 UJA -- and I am still optimistic enough to hope there will be -- and if the recommendations of the Committee on the Study of National Budgeting Proposals can, among other things, be helpful at a critical time in preserving unity within the communities, in minimizing confusion within them, in aiding them purely in an advisory capacity in arriving at sound and objective decisions, and in the raising of greater funds within the communities for the support of all the organizations, I, as one interested in Jewish Causes generally, would consider it most fortunate. It should be added that in its findings and recommendations, the Committee means to be thoroughly objective and non-partisan -- and I believe that to be possible.

I understand that any recommendation of the Committee to Study National Budgeting Proposals will not be adopted unless, and until, those recommendations have been fully discussed and approved by the Board of the Council and the General Assembly, in which, it is hoped, all interested parties will participate.

Sincerely,

(Signed) J. Blaustein

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

February 1, 1941

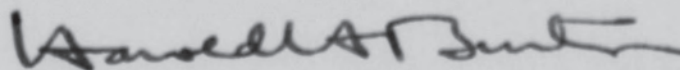
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Rabbi Silver:

Replying to your wire of January 29th, Mr. Emanuel Neumann came to see me on that same day. I was glad to meet him and to join in the formation of his committee expressing support of the Zionist Movement.

With personal and cordial regards,

Yours sincerely,



HHB:ew

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February 6, 1941

Mr. Samuel Blitz
United Palestine Appeal of Greater New York
200 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Blitz:

I shall make every effort to be with you on Monday,
February 24.

The meetings which you are planning for me should be carefully built up so that my time and my energy are not used up to no purpose. If a luncheon can be arranged whereby I would be enabled to meet, informally, a small group of influential Jews in New York heretofore not actively identified with Zionism or Palestine, -- nor definitely hostile to them -- it would, I believe, be helpful. Perhaps Mr. Gotshal can arrange for such a meeting.

If I remember correctly, Mr. Schneider also asked me to meet with Mr. Goldmark. Can that be arranged for the 24th?

I would suggest that you hold regular meetings both of your Executive Committee of officers as well as of the larger committee of one hundred which you are forming. It is highly important to draw more and more people actively into the planning and administration of the campaign.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

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Postal Telegraph

(45)
 (45)
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All America Cables
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DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

THE TEMPLE EAST 105 & ANSEL=

JDC REJECTED FIFTY FIFTY TERMS IN BROOKLYN AND WE ARE PROCEEDING
 WITH INDEPENDENT CAMPAIGN PLEASE WIRE JUDGE EMANUEL GREENBERG 80
 CENTER STREET NEWYORK URGING IMMEDIATE AND VIGOROUS ACTION AS
 GREAT PRESSURE WILL BE BROUGHT TO BEAR ON HIM TO CONTINUE
 NEGOTIATIONS THEREBY DELAYING CAMPAIGN AWAITING YOUR WIRE
 REGARDING POSSIBILITY OF APPOINTMENT WITH DAVID BERNSTEIN NEXT
 WEEK AND CONFIRMING FEBRUARY 24 FOR RABBINICAL LUNCHEON WOMENS
 DIVISION TEA IN AFTERNOON AND JUNIOR DIVISION RALLY IN EVENING
 MANY THANKS=

SAMUEL BLITZ



JDC 80 24 RABBINICAL

\$12,000,000

WAR EMERGENCY
CAMPAIGN

United Palestine Appeal

PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND (KEREN HAYESOD)
JEWISH NATIONAL FUND (KEREN KAYEMETH)

GREATER NEW YORK AND METROPOLITAN AREA
200 Madison Avenue • LExington 2-5701

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

February 6, 1941

Dear Dr. Silver:

Thank you for your telegram confirming your visit to New York on Monday, February 24th. You will have a very busy day as we are arranging a tea for the Women's Division at the Astor Hotel at 2:30, a cocktail party of our Speakers Bureau at the Harmonie Club at 5 P.M. and a rally of young people arranged by our Junior Division in the evening at Temple Emanuel. We were also trying to arrange a luncheon of the Greater New York Rabbis but it is possible that for local reasons we will not be able to hold it that day.

As wired you today, the JDC has refused to accept fifty-fifty in Brooklyn and insisted on an allocation committee although they were willing to have us approve the majority on the committee. We could not agree to this as it would set a precedent which would work to our disadvantage in the trades where we would be at the mercy of unfriendly allotment committees.

We are calling a meeting of Brooklyn UPA leaders on Sunday morning and will proceed with an independent campaign. I am glad you have wired Judge Greenberg as I know that the JDC will urge continued negotiations which would seriously endanger our campaign. Negotiations with the JDC are also going on in other boroughs but by next week the situation will be clarified. We are trying to force action first in such trades as Clothing, Food, Men's Wear, Paper and Notions where we are in control so that we can insist on a fifty-fifty arrangement or proceed with an independent campaign. It is quite evident that we are in for a hard fight but I am satisfied that the results will be all in our favor.

Complying with your request, I am enclosing a copy of our estimated budget for the Greater New York Campaign.

Sincerely yours,

Samuel Blitz
Samuel Blitz
Director

SB:mf
Enclosures

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0

February 11, 1941

Mr. David Bernstein
C/o Loew's
Broadway, N.Y.

My dear Friend:

It is some time since I have seen you, and much has happened in Jewish life and in the life of the world since. I should very much like to have an opportunity to see you and to counsel with you about some important matters which are of common interest to us. I am planning to be in New York City on the 24th and 25th of this month. Would you be free to spend a little time with me on either day? It would indeed give me great pleasure.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

\$12,000,000

WAR EMERGENCY
CAMPAIGN

United Palestine Appeal

PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND (KEREN HAYESOD)
JEWISH NATIONAL FUND (KEREN KAYEMETH)

GREATER NEW YORK AND METROPOLITAN AREA

200 Madison Avenue • LExington 2-5701

February 13, 1941

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I was glad to be informed by Mr. Montor that you have accepted the heavy schedule of meetings which we have arranged for Monday, February 24th. Following is a list of your engagements:

12:00 Noon Luncheon meeting of Greater New York Rabbis
at Hotel Sharon

1:00 P.M. Sylvan Gotshal Luncheon at Empire State Club

2:30 P.M. Rally of Women's Division at Hotel Astor

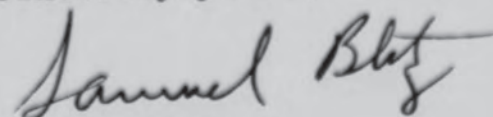
5:30 P.M. Cocktail Party of Speakers' Bureau at Harmonie Club

7:00 P.M. Dinner meeting of Long Island U.P.A. at the Commodore Hotel

9:00 P.M. Rally of Junior Division at Free Synagogue

Complying with your request, we are planning to hold regular meetings of officers and executive committee members and have called a meeting for February 20th, copy of notice of which was sent to you. Of course, I keep in constant touch with Mr. Gotshal, who, I assure you, gives his personal attention to every important phase of the campaign.

Sincerely yours,



Samuel Blitz
Director

SB:LD

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Director
SAMUEL BLITZ

0

RABBI HENRY J. BERKOWITZ, LL. D.
CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL
PORTLAND, OREGON

February 14, 1941.

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

Dear Abba:

Word just came to us that your western trip will bring you to Portland March 20th and 21st. I am thrilled at this prospect, and particularly happy that you will speak to my congregation and community from the Temple pulpit on Friday evening, the 21st.

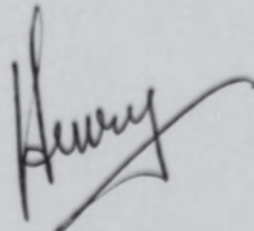
On Thursday we will book you for the Welfare Fund Campaign Committee and Board, for a general discussion. We may make this an evening meeting, so as to give you plenty of time. Luncheon meetings are too hurried.

Outside of these appointments, I will protect you from any other duties. I know that as soon as your coming is announced other groups will try to grab you, but if any requests come please refer them to me, and I will say no. I am sure it is your wish to concentrate on campaign matters.

You are cordially invited to occupy the Hebrew Union College Alumni suite in my home. Every one of the fellows has used it - Morgie, Goldenson, Jake Marcus, Morris Lazaron, etc. The last time you were here you went to the hotel, but don't pass up a good bet this time. We run the best hotel in Portland.

Flora and I look forward with keen anticipation to your visit, and will do our utmost to give you a grand time.

Faithfully yours,



C
O
P
Y

BRITISH EMBASSY
Washington, D.C.

February 22, 1941

Dear Mr. Montor:

I have received your letter of the 13th February and am very much obliged to you for so kindly inviting me to lunch or dine one day in March with a group of leaders of the United Palestine Appeal in Greater New York.

I should indeed be delighted to do so at some future date; but for a reason which I will frankly state, I should prefer not to do so just yet. The Axis propagandists have been making use in the Middle East of parts - I do not know which parts, nor can I imagine - of the message which I sent to the National Conference and to which you refer in such kind terms. I frankly believe it would be a mistake if I were to follow this up by being the guest of honor at a public function such as you are good enough to suggest. It is distasteful to feel that one must take this kind of thing into account but I believe it would be wise to do so, and I can only trust that you will appreciate the reasons for my feeling of caution. Later on, perhaps in the fall, if you would care to renew the invitation, I should be very happy to consider it again. Meanwhile, please accept my best thanks and my sincere regret at the attitude I feel bound to adopt.

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed)

Nevile Butler

Mr. Henry Montor
United Palestine Appeal
41 East 42nd St.
New York City

M E M O R A N D U M

February 26, 1941

T o : Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

From: Mr. Henry Montor

Subject: Communication from Neville Butler

I thought you would be interested in the enclosed copy of a letter from Mr. Neville Butler, British Minister to the United States, whom I had asked to participate in a function for the U.P.A. in the New York Campaign.

HM:JB

Encl.

March 3, 1941

Mr. Jacob Blaustein
American Building
Baltimore, Md.

My dear Mr. Blaustein:

As I write to you I do not know whether there will be a United Jewish campaign or not. I suppose that the next day or two will finally dispose of the matter one way or another. However I want to take this opportunity to thank you personally for the proffer of your services and for the time, thought and energy which you devoted to this matter. I was tremendously impressed with your fairness, earnestness and tact.

I am sorry that we find ourselves in such strong opposition on the subject of National Budgeting. My respect for the sincerity of your position has been greatly heightened by my contact with you in recent days.

I trust that you have also obtained a more sympathetic impression of our position and of our readiness to cooperate and to make concessions for the sake of unity. We are really not as unreasonable as some of your friends would have one believe.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

March 8, 1941

Dr. Henry Berkowitz
Congregation Beth Israel
Portland, Oregon

My dear Henry:

Please pardon the long delay in answering your kind letter. I have been out of the city so much of the time in connection with the reconstitution of the United Jewish Appeal that my correspondence has sadly lagged. Furthermore, my schedule for the Pacific Coast Tour has been undergoing constant revision, and now, as a result of the joining of forces, it will again be drastically revised. At the present writing I do not know when I am to be in Portland or how long I will be able to remain there. I am sure our representatives on the Coast will be in touch with you. I have also informed Mr. Shemanski, who has written to me, about this situation. It would perhaps be better for me to put up at a hotel for the brief time that I am in Portland. But I do hope that I shall have an opportunity to spend a few hours with you and Flora.

With all good wishes, and looking forward with pleasure to seeing you, I remain

Most cordially,

AHS:BK

JACOB BLAUSTEIN

AMERICAN BUILDING
BALTIMORE, MD.

March 10, 1941

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I have been away from Baltimore and that accounts for the delay in this reply to your March 3rd letter.

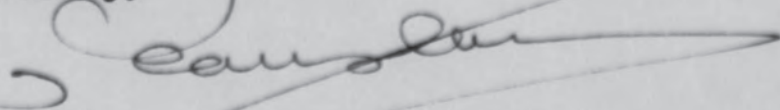
It was good of you to write, and I appreciate it. I am glad that the United Jewish Appeal has been reconstituted for 1941; and to the extent that I may have helped in the process, I feel fully repaid for the time and effort devoted to it.

I am sure, also, that the communities are pleased -- and that they are grateful to you and the others for continuing unity in the American Jewish scene.

One of the real satisfactions I derived from serving in the matter, was the opportunity it afforded me to work with you and to know you better. And as a result of it, I believe I have a better understanding of your position, and I appreciate the cooperation you extended.

I am sorry, as you are, that we find ourselves in such strong opposition on the subject of a national advisory budget service. Can't we have a talk about this? It so happens that I have to make a trip west and could stop off in Cleveland the afternoon of Friday, March 21st, if you would be available. Even if nothing came of it as far as the budgeting matter is concerned, I would enjoy another visit with you. At that time, we might also discuss the Jewish Telegraphic Agency and the Overseas News Agency in which we are both interested.

Sincerely,



March 12, 1941

Mr. Jacob Blaustein
American Building
Baltimore, Md.

My dear Mr. Blaustein:

Permit me to acknowledge your letter of March 10 to Rabbi Silver. Rabbi Silver is at present on a tour of the Pacific Coast in behalf of the United Jewish Appeal. I shall be pleased to refer your letter to his attention when he returns to Cleveland on March 25.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

BJK

Secretary to Rabbi Silver.



ALEPH ZADIK ALEPH

6

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• March 13, 1941

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Silver:

I have before me a recent release from Meyer Steinglass telling about the reconstitution of the United Jewish Appeal in which he proceeds to explain the distribution of the initial sum of \$8,800,000 with \$4,275,000 going to the J.D.C., \$2,525,000 to the U.P.A., and \$2,000,000 to the N.R.S. The release then goes on to say:

"The balance of the funds raised is to be distributed by an allotment Committee to be constituted in the same manner as in 1940."

It is my personal feeling that it is unwise to announce anything but the distribution of the entire amount that you are attempting to raise because the release in its present form very definitely gives the impression that all that you really need is \$8,800,000, and that anything raised beyond that amount is simply "cream and gravy" that you will figure out somehow to use and distribute.

I know that you can honestly use, and urgently need, every cent of the \$25,000,000 if it is raised, and I do not think that by written or spoken word, the American Community should get the impression that actual needs run only to a figure less than \$10,000,000.

Most cordially,

Julius Bisno
JULIUS BISNO
Executive Director

JB:mh

very de

JACOB BLAUSTEIN

AMERICAN BUILDING
BALTIMORE, MD.

March 13, 1941

Rabbi Abba Hilel Silver
Ansel Road and East 105th St.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

A good deal of discussion has been aroused by the referendum now in progress throughout the country among the member agencies of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds on the proposal to set up a national advisory budget service.

For the past nine months, I have spent considerable time studying the matter as chairman of the Council's Committee on the Study of National Budgeting Proposals; and you, as an active leader in the affairs of your community, may be interested in some observations which I think may prove helpful in your own thinking on this subject.

In the first place, it should be mentioned that the report of the Committee urged the following in addition to a national advisory budget service:

- (1) The reestablishment of the UJA for 1941,
- (2) The greatest possible support by local communities for the causes in the UJA regardless of whether or not a joint appeal is organized for 1941, and
- (3) The continuance of the inherently sound practice of joint fund raising within communities.

I had no idea when I consented to serve on the Committee that a recommendation for a national advisory budget service, if made, would provoke so much controversy. Indeed I still do not see any real need for all the controversy. The fact is that a precedent for fact-finding and evaluation had already been set by the 1940 United Jewish Appeal Allotment Committee. The responsibilities of that Committee extended even beyond those contemplated in the present proposal, since the findings of that Committee were mandatory instead of advisory. It was reasonable therefore to expect, at least, that none of the three major agencies in the UJA would oppose a national advisory budget service if the Council's Committee on the Study of National Budgeting Proposals, after careful study, recommended it and the Council approved it. And I might now add, that since then, just several

days ago, with the reconstruction of the UJA for 1941 (for which we are all indeed happy) these three agencies have in effect reaffirmed their faith in the principle of objective fact-finding and evaluation by a national committee.

I approached this question of a national advisory budget service as a business man and contributor who for a long time has been deeply interested in all legitimate Jewish causes.

Certainly a large majority of the members of the Committee on the Study of National Budgeting Proposals went into the matter with open minds -- and without any pre-conceived convictions about it. The Committee did not start out to prove an answer. To the contrary, there was a determination to weigh objectively the pros and cons, the possible advantages and the possible disadvantages, of a national advisory budget service.

After a full and thorough consideration of all the factors involved, including the points raised in the report of a small minority which objects to the evaluative aspects of the project, the Committee suggested the establishment of a national advisory budget service, the Council Board approved it by a vote of 17 to 5, and the member agencies are being called upon in the present referendum to express their views upon it before April 1, 1941.

In essence, the proposal calls for a national advisory budgeting committee with proper facilities for studying and evaluating the work of the various agencies making appeals to welfare funds. I am convinced that the only way to have understanding and fairness in allocations is to have a national advisory budget service, -- and I hope the member agencies of the Council will vote for it. Such a service is essential and desirable, and the need for it is in no way altered by the fact that there is now to be a UJA for 1941. For remember, this national advisory budget service would apply to many organizations other than the three beneficiary agencies in the UJA; also that the UJA has been reconstituted only for 1941, and while it is hoped the UJA may be extended thereafter, there is no assurance to that effect.

Member agencies, in addition, were to vote on a second collateral proposal that, as a first step, a special commission be set up to study the 1941 needs of the three beneficiary agencies in the UJA and promptly report the results of its studies to the communities. However, the reconstruction of the UJA for 1941 makes this second proposal of no immediate consequence, as an Allotment Committee with welfare fund representatives on it will be set up under that arrangement itself for the three agencies in the 1941 UJA.

Understand please, a vote on the first and main proposal is still necessary and important; a point of view of the member agencies on the second collateral proposals may be helpful in the development of the future functions of the national advisory budget service.

I should like to comment on what appears to be the crux of the controversy.

I. The minority report states as 'THE ISSUE':

"The Jews of America are now called upon to decide whether the funds they raise annually in their local communities through Welfare Funds (or similar campaign bodies) are to be distributed through the decision of their own local budgeting committee; or by a small national committee to be named by the Board of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds."

1. THAT IS NOT THE ISSUE AT ALL. It is the sort of statement which, in my opinion, comes from an effort to confuse rather than to clarify, and from trying to create a fictitious issue where no proper issue really exists.

2. As a matter of fact, there is nothing whatever in the proposal which would prevent, or tend to prevent, local budgeting committees from making their own decisions, nor which would substitute decisions of a national committee for those of local budgeting committees. Further, there is no sinister motive in the proposal, as some of the opponents of a national advisory budget service infer. Nothing in the proposal would have the effect of opposing or favoring one overseas or national cause or ideology against another. And it should seem almost unnecessary to add that nothing in the proposal has for its purpose, or could accomplish, the obtaining of control of community funds and community policy by a small group.

3. Such issues, to my mind, are entirely artificial and extraneous. Stripped of them, the only possible issue as to the proposal for a national advisory budget service is this and only this:

Will, or will not, local communities wishing to discharge their proper responsibilities for meeting the tremendous needs of the Jewish group throughout the world, be assisted in their tasks as to their relative obligations by the fullest information on requirements and programs and the thoughtful recommendations (purely advisory in character) of a group of reasonable, fair-minded, sympathetic individuals (having available to it a proper inquiry staff)?

Or to put it tersely, perhaps bluntly:

Do you in the communities, or don't you, want to know what you are doing?

And from the standpoint of the overseas and national agencies:

Do they, or don't they, want communities to know what they are doing?

4. So let us address ourselves to that issue:

(A) Bear in mind that the national budget service recommended by the proposal would be purely advisory in character. That is definite. The service would

be rendered to such member agencies as wanted it, and for only such use in local budgeting as each community cared to make of it.

(B) Now what sound argument can there be for a community not wanting to know, or not being permitted to get, objective facts and advice?

(a) As stated above, the member agencies would not in any sense be bound to use, accept or be guided by any of the recommendations. If any community considered any of the facts or advice wrong -- or not in keeping with the wishes of its contributors -- the advice would not have to be, and would not be, followed.

(b) Let us consider this in terms of our everyday affairs in other matters. Many of you are business men or women, or professional persons who have practical decisions to make.

When you have an important problem to decide, do you deny yourselves such facts and advice as you can get from outside unbiased sources for fear that your own judgment will be overwhelmed by same? Or, do you accept such outside facts and advice, indeed seek it, weigh it with the other data available to you, and then make your decision? You do the latter, of course! That is just as sound with respect to these Jewish causes.

As a matter of fact, if someone came to you in your other affairs with a proposition and argued that you should not get outside facts and advice, you would be skeptical. And if he wanted you to accept 'hook, line and sinker' only what he told you, and chose to tell you, about his proposition and competitive ones, you would be skeptical.

In the final analysis, the communities are the 'buyers'; the overseas and national agencies the 'sellers'. And the communities have a right to investigate what they are buying, fully and with all means that can be placed at their disposal. Indeed, they have an obligation to their contributors not to act blindly on partisan, and possibly biased, sales talk, pressure and propaganda. That, it seems to me, is not only a business viewpoint; it is common sense.

(c) We must be realistic. Most welfare funds cannot do an adequate budgetary job. There are about eighty Jewish overseas and national agencies. How can a local community have enough information and research available to it to make fair and impartial decisions with respect to the many agencies appealing for support, unless there is an independent objective source to which it can turn for facts and advice (to be used to the extent it wishes)? Certainly this applies to the average-sized and smaller communities. Even the larger communities are unable to afford, or to develop, the facilities that are increasingly necessary, either to do a complete fact-finding job or, on the basis of facts made available, to appraise relative needs.

The truth is that really to get the facts and to evaluate them and correlate them with other causes, overseas and American, takes more time, staff and facilities than is at the disposal of any one community. That applies no matter how good the local budget committee is. I know because I have served as chairman of local budget committees and have also had occasion to meet with budget committees in other communities.

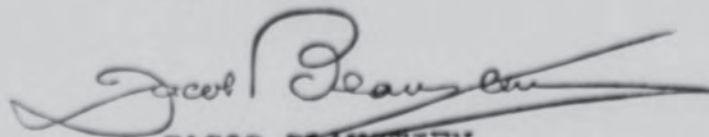
(d) It is a mistaken idea of some that it is sufficient for the Council just to get facts and distribute them. That is not a satisfactory solution for the problem confronting the communities. Indeed, a greater mass of figures and facts themselves, if 'dumped' on the local communities without research, evaluation and recommendations would, if anything, tend to confuse and not be of practical value. More reliable facts must be had -- but that is the beginning, and not the end, of a helpful service. There must be evaluation.

Before closing, there is a point which should be emphasized:

Welfare funds must realize that budgeting is concerned not only with two major overseas causes and the one refugee cause in the UJA, but with many other overseas agencies and American programs that are of vital importance to all of us. Objections to the proposal have come primarily from those who are closely associated with one of the overseas agencies. Member agencies should keep in mind that the national advisory budget service would concern itself primarily with an attempt to relate our American responsibilities to all causes. The underlying principle which has determined the decisions of the Committee on the Study of National Budgeting Proposals has been a recognition that all of the elements which enter into our total responsibilities as Jews and as American citizens are definitely interrelated. It is because the Board of the Council regards a national advisory budget service as a constructive step toward this aim that it, by a large majority, approved strongly of this proposal which is being submitted to you.

And in closing, I should like to make a plea for unity. As a people, we are having much trouble these days from the 'outside'. It is particularly important, therefore, that though we have, and continue to have, honest differences of opinion in Jewish life, we grant to each group in it a sincerity of purpose and that we avoid impugning motives. It is more necessary than ever before that we close ranks. The spirit for this has again been set, fortunately, by the three major agencies in reconstituting the UJA. Let us carry this spirit forward.

Sincerely,


JACOB BLAUSTIEN

March 26, 1941

Mr. Samuel Blitz
200 Madison Ave.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Blitz:

I have just returned from the Pacific Coast where I had a rather strenuous but satisfactory tour. I believe that we did some good.

I am concerned about the UJA campaign in New York City. I hope that the mistakes of the last two years will not again be repeated. You will recall that we complained frequently of the fact that there were no regular meetings of the Executive Committee of the New York Campaign, that the entire campaign was carried in the vest pocket of a few people in the office. Very often important meetings were arranged at which a spokesman of the UPA was not present, and the JDC spoke for Palestine. There are important trades in New York where no representative of the UPA has ever been allowed to appear -- territory pre-empt, so to speak, for the JDC. This practise should not be permitted in the future. If Palestine is to make any progress, it must have a chance to present its case to those who heretofore have been indifferent or hostile to it.

The set-up of officers seems to be pretty heavily weighted in the direction of the JDC, and with Jonah B. Wise as chairman, you will have to see to it that the UPA is not made a tail to the kite in the forthcoming campaign.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHSPBK

March 28, 1941

Mr. Julius Bisno, Executive Director
Aleph Zadik Aleph
1003 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Bisno:

Please pardon the long delay in answering your kind letter. I have just returned from the Pacific Coast where I made a tour in behalf of the United Jewish Appeal. Of course your point is well taken, and I have tried to impress that very thing on the committee, but with little success. The terms of the agreement had to be made public, and unfortunately they were given wider publicity than the total goal of the campaign. I am sure, however, that from now on it is the quota required which will be stressed.

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

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL *For Refugees & Overseas Needs*

ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH
JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE
UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL
NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE

NEW YORK CITY AND METROPOLITAN AREA • 250 WEST 57th STREET • COLUMBUS 5-2200

March 31, 1941

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I am in receipt of your letter of March 26th with reference to the UJA campaign in New York City.

You will see by the enclosed list of officers that all the leading UPA people are included in the setup this year. Last year Governor Lehman and Mr. Ittleson were the only honorary chairmen. This year Dr. Wise and Judge Mack are included. Last year both the chairman and executive chairman were of the JDC. This year Mr. Sylvan Gotshal is the Executive Chairman.

We have had two meetings of the Executive Committee of the New York UJA where UPA interests were amply safeguarded. At the last meeting Mr. I. Edwin Goldwasser resigned in protest to the insistence of the UPA members that UPA personnel be included in every department of the campaign. Rabbi Miller will assure you that the Executive Committee has gone into every phase of the campaign. We are also continuing the Executive Committee of the New York UPA and have called a meeting for April 3rd.

I am sure that UPA speakers address a majority of the campaign meetings. In certain trades where a JDC speaker would be more effective, we insist that Palestine be given adequate coverage by the speaker. It is not always practical to have an additional UPA speaker at such meetings any more than it would be practical to add a JDC speaker at meetings which are addressed by UPA speakers. As an example, I think the effectiveness of your address at the Amusement Division meeting would have been impaired had the JDC insisted on adding their speaker to the program. Mr. Gotshal has emphatically stated at the last meeting of the Executive Committee that at every important gathering of a general character, a representative of the UPA must be included in the program.

Dr. Weizmann has been invited to address the dinner to Mr. Baerwald and Mr. Warburg on April 9th which will be our first Special Gifts meeting. I will promptly let you have the results of that meeting and will keep you regularly informed on the progress of the campaign.

Sincerely yours,

Samuel Blitz
Samuel Blitz

Officers announced by Dr. Wise, in addition to the honorary chairmen are co-chairmen: Paul Baerwald, Benjamin J. Bittenwieser, Monroe Goldwater, George Z. Medalie, William Rosenwald and Nathan Straus; executive chairman: Sylvan Gotshal; chairman, executive committee: Edward M. M. Warburg; associate chairmen: I. Edwin Goldwasser and Arthur M. Rosenbloom; treasurer: Samuel D. Leidesdorf; co-treasurers: Abraham L. Liebovitz and Harold F. Linder; chairmen, trades council: Louis Broido, Arthur O. Dietz, Leonard Ginsberg and Harry A. Hatry.

Vice-chairmen: Benjamin Abrams, Alexander E. Arnstein, Jacob Aronson, Alexander A. Bernstein, Herman Chopak, Joseph L. Eckhouse, Isidor Fine, Arthur Fluegelman, John G. Frumkes, Harry Gertz, Moses Ginsberg, Albert Richard S. Goldman, Goldman, / Louis Gordon, Milton Greenebaum, George M. Gross, Samuel Hausman, Stanley M. Isaacs, Lester E. Jacobi, Samuel Koenigsberg, Abraham Krasne, Abraham Landau, Carl Leff, Isidore Leviton, Oscar A. Lewis, Charles Mayer, Abraham Mazer, Max Meyer, Irving Miller, David Nemerov, Jerome K. Ohrbach, Sidney Reisman, Simon H. Rifkind, Louis P. Rocker, Hal A. Salzman, Harry Scherman, Max J. Schneider, Herman Schwarz, Bernard Semel, Jacob Sincoff, Irwin Steingut, Robert Szold, Harry Uviller, Abraham F. Wechsler, Harold M. Weinberg, Harry Zeitz.

Honorary vice-chairmen: Louis Altschul, Carl J. Austrian, George Backer, David Bernstein, Samuel J. Bloomingdale, David M. Bressler, Mark Eisner, Louis Finkelstein, Leon Gellman, Israel Goldstein, Emanuel Greenberg, Sidney Hillman, Joseph C. Hyman, William Klein, Philip Kleinfeld, Alexander A. Landesco, Edward Lazansky, Samuel S. Leibowitz, Maurice Levin, Israel H. Levinthal, Jerome Lewine, Harry E. Lewis, Richard Percy Limburg, Jacob H. Livingston, Solomon Lowenstein, James Marshall, Israel Matz, Mitchell May, Henry Morgenthau, Benjamin H. Namm, Edward A. Norman, Joseph M. Proskauer, David L. Podell, Charles Ress, James N. Rosenberg, Morris Rothenberg, Walter Rothschild, Michael Schaap, Eustace Seligman, Ferdinand Sonneborn, Meier Steinbrink, Roger W. Straus, Sol M. Stroock, Morris C. Troper and David Wertheim.

Chairman, boroughs: Sam A. Lewisohn; chairmen, public relations: Alexander Kahn, Louis Lipsky and David Hays Sulzberger; chairman, employee division: Hugh Grant Straus; chairman, organizations: Jonah J. Goldstein; co-chairmen: Herman Hoffman and Max Ogust; chairmen, speakers bureau: Harold K. Guinzburg and Louis Nizer; chairman, labor division: Adolph Held;

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RABBI ABBE HILLEL SILVER

CLVD

FEDERATION MEETING NOON TOMORROW TO VOTE ON NATIONAL BUDGETING WIRE
AT ONCE EXPERIENCE IN OTHER COMMUNITIES HAVING COUNCILS OR WELFARE
FUNDS AS WELL AS FEDERATIONS

CHARLES BROWN 824 SOUTH BROADWAY

824 S

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BROWN'S

SMART APPAREL FOR MEN AND WOMEN

822-824 SOUTH BROADWAY

LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

April 1st, 1941.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I want to thank you very much for your promptness in giving me the information I asked for concerning Welfare Funds and Federations.

The matter of National Budgeting came up today at a special meeting of our Federation. A motion made not to vote on National Budgeting was lost, and National Budgeting was approved by our local Federation, the vote being 10 to 6.

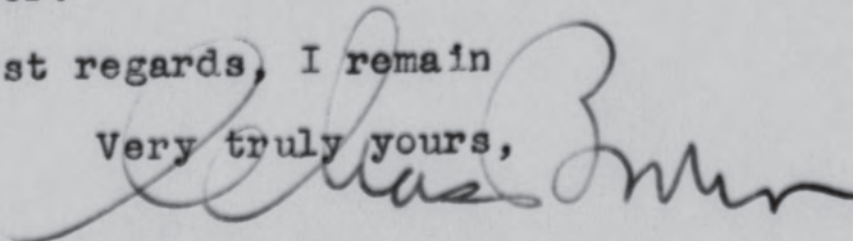
Taking into consideration the set up of the Federation Board, this was the expected result, providing they voted.

I know you will be pleased to hear that Edgar Magnin accepted the chairmanship of our Campaign. I feel this was due, to a very large measure, to your influence while in our City.

I am sure that you will acknowledge this news with an appropriate letter.

With kindest regards, I remain

Very truly yours,



CB/HH

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL *For Refugees & Overseas Needs*

ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE,
THE UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL AND THE NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE

NEW YORK CITY AND METROPOLITAN AREA

250 WEST 57th STREET COLUMBUS 5-2200

April 11, 1941

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IRWIN STEINGUT
ROBERT SZOLD
HARRY UVILLER
ABRAHAM F. WECHSLER
HAROLD M. WEINBERG
HARRY ZEITZ

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I beg to report that we raised \$1,300,000 in new contributions at the dinner meeting April 9th. As we had previously raised \$700,000, we now have a total of \$2,000,000.

You will be glad to hear that our UPA people gave a good account of themselves. Mr. Moses Ginsberg, who gave \$5000 last year, gave \$10,000. Mr. Abraham Mazer increased his pledge from \$7500 to \$10,000. Mr. Barney Balaban, who contributed \$5000 last year, gave \$10,000 this year. Mr. Isidor Fine increased from \$2000 to \$3000. Mr. Louis Altschul, who gave \$18,000 last year, is still in Florida. Most of our other UPA people gave at least the same as last year or increases ranging from 25 to 50%.

On the other hand, Mr. Ittleton gave \$100,000, a decrease of \$50,000. Mr. Lewis Strauss, Mr. Maurice Wertheim and Mr. Jack Straus did not attend the meeting and have not pledged their support to the campaign. Mrs. David M. Levy announced the Rosenwald contribution of \$100,000. As Mr. William Rosenwald gave \$31,000 last year, the Rosenwald pledge is only an increase of \$69,000, which merely covers the loss sustained through Mr. Ittleton's decreased contribution. The Warburg family gave \$100,000, the same as last year. The Guggenheim Foundation is not planning to make a contribution this year.

It is clear that we cannot depend upon the big givers to make a success of the New York Campaign and will have to obtain increased contributions from the general public if we are to exceed last year's total of \$5,000,000.

Mr. Montor informed me today that the name of the Appeal this year will be United Jewish Appeal for Refugees, Overseas Needs and Palestine. Had I been informed that the change was contemplated, I might have been able to hold up the printing of our stationery and literature.

With kind regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Samuel Blitz
Samuel Blitz

Honorary Vice-Chairmen
LOUIS ALTSCHUL
CARL J. AUSTRIAN
GEORGE BACKER
DAVID BERNSTEIN
SAMUEL J. BLOOMINGDALE
DAVID M. BRESSLER
MARK EISNER
LOUIS FINKELSTEIN
LEON GELLMAN
BERNARD F. GIMBEL
ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN
EDWIN GOODMAN
EMANUEL GREENBERG
SIDNEY HILLMAN
JOSEPH C. HYMAN
WILLIAM KLEIN
PHILIP M. KLEINFELD
ALEXANDER A. LANDESCO
EDWARD LAZANSKY
SAMUEL S. LEIBOWITZ
MAURICE LEVIN
ISRAEL H. LEVINthal
JEROME LEWINE
HARRY E. LEWIS
RICHARD PERCY LIMBURG
JACOB H. LIVINGSTON
SOLOMON LOWENSTEIN
ARTHUR L. MALKENSON
JAMES MARSHALL
ISRAEL MATZ
MITCHELL MAY
HENRY MORGENTHAU
BENJAMIN H. NAMM
EDWARD A. NORMAN
DAVID L. POPELL
JOSEPH M. PROSKAUER
CHARLES RESS
JAMES N. ROSENBERG
MORRIS ROTHENBERG
WALTER ROTHSCHILD
MICHAEL SCHAAP
EUSTACE SELIGMAN
FERDINAND SONNEBORN
MEIER STEINBRINK
ROGER W. STRAUS
SOL M. STROOCK
MORRIS C. TROPER
DAVID WERTHEIM

Chairman, Boroughs
SAM A. LEWISOHN

Chairmen, Public Relations
ALEXANDER KAHN
LOUIS LIPSKY
DAVID HAYS SULZBERGER

Chairman, Employee Division
HUGH GRANT STRAUS

Chairman, Organizations
JONAH J. GOLDSTEIN

Co-Chairmen
HERMAN HOFFMAN
MAX OGUST

Chairmen, Speakers Bureau
HAROLD K. GUINZBURG
LOUIS NIZER

Chairman, Labor Division
ADOLPH HELD

Co-Chairman
ALEX ROSE

Executive Vice-Chairman
SAMUEL BLITZ

Director
HENRY C. BERNSTEIN

April 14, 1941

Mr. Samuel Blitz
United Jewish Appeal for Refugees, Overseas Needs and Palestine
250 West 57th St.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Blitz:

Thank you very much for your letter of April 11 informing me of the progress of the New York City Campaign. I was glad to see that some of our people are substantially raising their contributions. On the other hand, I am afraid that Mr. Ittleson's cut will affect the giving of other rich Jews not only in New York but in other parts of the country. I am already having difficulty with one or two of the largest givers in Cleveland who are friends of Mr. Ittelson who were in Florida and know that Mr. Ittelson has reduced his contribution. I am glad that the Rosenwald family has raised its contribution to \$100,000, or is it a raise?

I would appreciate it if you would tell me something more about the meeting on April 9, and if you would send me a list of the twenty to twenty-five largest givers in the ~~country~~ *city* and what they gave in the last two years. This is just for my own information.

I wish that in all future publicity, both on your stationery which is to be printed, as well as in all announcements that you give the Appeal its new official name -- United Jewish Appeal for Refugees, Overseas Needs and Palestine. The name, Palestine, should be included.

I look forward to seeing you in New York on the 24th. With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

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DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

THE TEMPLE

1941 APR 22 PM 2 22

WRHS

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

AMUSEMENT INDUSTRY HAS HAD NO MEETING. BERNSTEIN WILL ARRANGE
=LUNCHEON EITHER FOR SPECIAL GIFTS OR ENTIRE INDUSTRY AS YOU
PREFER. NO OTHER SPEAKERS WILL BE SCHEDULED. AWAITING YOUR REPLY=
SAMSEL BLITZ...

STANDARD TIME INDICATED

RECEIVED AT

BRANCH OFFICE
10514 EUGLID AVE.
GARFIELD 5044

TELEPHONE YOUR TELEGRAMS
TO POSTAL TELEGRAPH

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REGULATORY AUTHORITIES.

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DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER:

=THE TEMPLE CLEVELAND OHIO=

1941 APR 21 PM 7 37

Fr May 9-

DAVID BERNSTEIN INSISTS ON YOUR PRESENCE AT MEETING OF
AMUSEMENT INDUSTRY AND WILL ARRANGE LUNCHEON ANY DATE SUITING
YOUR CONVENIENCE. DATES PREFERRED TUESDAY MAY SIXTH THURSDAY
MAY EIGHTH OR FRIDAY MAY NINTH. WILL APPRECIATE YOUR REPLY BY
WIRE SO THAT WE MAY PROCEED WITH ARRANGEMENTS=

SAMUEL BLITZ 250 WEST 57TH STREET.

Charge to the account of

COLLECT

1206-B

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
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WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CHECK
ACCOUNTING INFORMATION
TIME FILED

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

4-22-41

Mr. Samuel Blitz
250 West 57th St.
New York, N.Y.

I SHOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT AMUSEMENT INDUSTRY MEETING? IS IT FOR THE ENTIRE INDUSTRY AS LAST YEAR? ARE THERE TO BE ANY OTHER SPEAKERS? HAVE THEY ALREADY HAD ONE MEETING? AND WITH WHAT RESULTS?
KINDEST REGARDS

Silver

WRHS



JACOB BLAUSTEIN

next all

AMERICAN BUILDING
BALTIMORE, MD.

May 15, 1941

AIRMAIL

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

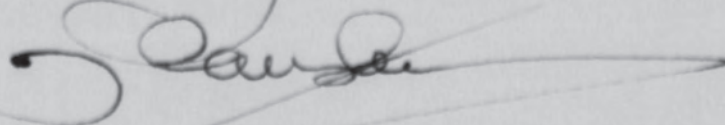
I regret we could not meet to discuss the national advisory Budget service, although I am glad we had the phone talk last Friday.

As you requested, I am sending herewith a tentative draft of the report of the Committee on Referendum, which is subject to possible changes before it is presented to the Board Meeting.

I believe this recommendation is the minimum requirement called for by the results of the Referendum -- and is predicated on my feeling that it is entitled to, and will I hope receive, your support.

I am leaving for New York early tomorrow morning and will be glad to have you phone me (~~reversing the charges~~) in the afternoon at the Biltmore Hotel to give me your views.

Sincerely,



REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEE ON REFERENDUM

(Following the Atlanta Meeting of the Board in February, a Committee was appointed by Sidney Hollander, President, to review the results of the Referendum and prepare a report and recommendations to be submitted to the Board of Directors at its next meeting.* Meetings of the Committee were held on April 10 and May 1. There was available a preliminary tabulation of ballots received by the Council, information on additional member agencies that had taken various other forms of action, and a considerable amount of correspondence from voting and non-voting member agencies and individual leaders expressing a point of view on various aspects of the proposed service. The preliminary tabulation and a digest of correspondence and results are attached as appendices to this report. A special Committee of Tellers consisting of Messrs. Joseph Goldstein, Rochester, Kurt Peiser, Philadelphia and Donald Kaffenburgh, Hartford, has been appointed by the President to prepare a final tabulation of votes on the Referendum.)

Introduction

As of May 1, 1941, it was reported that 140 agencies** in 113 cities had sent in ballots or had notified the Council office on the results of the vote taken or of other action in regard to the proposal. The agencies that have voted or have taken other specific action represent cities with an estimated total Jewish population of 4,036,582. The agencies in 52 cities that have not reported are located mainly in the smaller centers of Jewish population. The Committee believes that a sufficiently large and representative number of member agencies have taken action or expressed views to enable the Board to reach valid conclusions on the services to be developed.

* Members of the Committee are: Jacob Blaustein - Chairman, Solomon Lowenstein, William Rosenwald, William J. Shroder, Edward M.M. Warburg, Ira M. Younker, Sidney Hollander - Ex-Officio.

** The term "agency" refers to local federations and welfare funds; the term "organization" in this report is used for the national and overseas agencies' appeals to welfare funds.

A majority of the agencies voting have approved of Proposition 1. on the Referendum "That the Council establish a national advisory budget service for national and overseas organizations appealing to local communities for support, as set forth in the report of the Committee to Study National Budgeting Proposals (Items 3,4,5,6, - P.8) which recommends that the Council set up fact-finding and advisory services under an appropriate committee." A number of the member agencies voting affirmatively, offered additional explanations on their attitude on the kind of services desired. Similarly a number of the minority who disapproved of specific aspects of the proposal indicated the kind of services that they would welcome as extensions of present Council services.

The United Jewish Appeal was reconstituted for 1941 while the vote on the Referendum was proceeding and only a small number of member agencies expressed themselves on Proposition 2 in the Referendum, for an initial study of the needs of the JDC, the UPA and the NRS in 1941. When the 1941 UJA was announced, our member agencies were informed that action on Proposition 2 was not essential for the reason that the functions of fact-finding, allotments and distribution of funds for 1941 were within the scope of the UJA organizations themselves.

The results of the Referendum indicate that a representative majority of the member agencies that voted want the Council to develop more intensive and analytical fact-finding services, with the evaluation of programs of the organizations appealing to welfare funds, leading to recommendations on the individual and relative needs of these organizations to be developed by a properly constituted national committee. Among the minority of our member agencies who voted negatively on the first proposition, a number expressed a desire for more intensive and analytical fact-finding but were dubious or opposed to adding evaluation of organization programs or of relative financial needs, especially for those organizations that are considered as basic movements or depend upon specific ideologies of a controversial character.

The member agencies that voted favorably on the Referendum re-affirmed the recommendations of the Committee that the proposed advisory budget services were to be advisory in character. These agencies indicated that they will give due consideration to the studies and the suggestions which would receive consideration in the regular processes of local welfare fund budgeting.

General Recommendations

On the basis of the vote and the additional suggestions from our member agencies, this Committee recommends that the Board of Directors take immediate steps to organize a national advisory budget service under an appropriate committee of the Council. In order to meet the needs for service requested by the majority, and mindful of the views of agencies who disapproved of some aspects of the proposal, and believing that the Council should proceed carefully and soundly in a recognition of the practical initial problems of procedure involved, it is recommended that an experimental service be developed for 1941 (for the benefit of member agencies that wish to avail themselves of such services) and to leave for consideration of the Board of Directors of the Council (based upon recommendations of the National Advisory Budget Committee) the development in 1942 and in subsequent years of additional aspects of the proposed program that have not yet been fully accepted by a part of our membership. Insofar as we have been able to determine clearly the views of our member agencies, we believe that the specific recommendations that follow meet the minimum requirements called for by the results of the Referendum.

Specific Recommendations

(1) A Council Committee to be known as the National Advisory Budget Committee should be appointed by the Board of Directors, consisting of (not less than nine or more than 15) representatives selected from among the personnel of the Board of Directors and from active leaders of local member agencies. This Committee shall have responsibility for all studies prepared by the professional staff, serve in an editorial capacity, and authorize the submission of reports to member agencies. It shall have the authority to appoint sub-committees on specific organiza-

tions or fields of service, to appoint advisory committees of consultants, including representatives of organizations being studied, and of the executive members of local federations and welfare fund agencies.

(2) The present fact-finding and budgeting service of the Council* shall be augmented by the addition of a research director on organization reports, competent to make intensive studies particularly in the field initially selected for the project, accounting services (secured either through an additional staff member or by arrangement with some competent firm of certified public accountants), one assistant investigator and one additional clerical assistant. The approximate cost of such additional services on an annual basis may be estimated at from \$10,000 to \$12,500.

(3) Program for 1941

A. The National Advisory Budget Committee shall select for its major specific task in 1941 an intensive study of organizations engaged in overseas, Palestine or refugee services, that supplement or relate to the work of the UJA organizations. Agencies in other fields shall also be considered for study if staff resources are available. The JDC, UPA and NRS will continue in 1941 to make evaluations of their programs through the instrument of the Allotment Committee of the 1941 UJA and the Inquiry, which they themselves established. The Council advisory budget service for 1941 will supplement the work of the Allotment Committee and the Inquiry of the UJA, and undertake an examination and analysis of organizations other than the JDC, UPA and NRS that function in the same or related fields of service.

B. The additional fact-finding and analytical procedures to be undertaken will include:

- (a) Intensive examination of all basic financial records,
- (b) Collection of periodic service data for all organizations and subsidiaries, including the ultimate spending organizations,

(c) Study and description of social needs met by the organization and by other

* For a brief statement of present Council fact-finding and budgeting service, see Appendix A.

sources of aid operating in the same field,

- (d) Examination of administrative and fund raising processes,
- (e) Securing of data indicating results of the services given by organizations.
- (f) Efficiency in agency activities, duplication of programs with other organized agencies and other qualitative factors in the work of the organizations.

(C) Reports issued on evaluations of organizations will be limited to analysis and descriptions of functional services, administration and fund raising procedures, the problems with which the organization deals, and the results of services rendered. The reports in 1941 will not attempt to translate evaluations in terms of total budget requirements and no specific recommendations will be offered to member agencies on approved minimum or maximum financial needs of any organization.

(D) No attempt will be made in 1941 reports to evaluate for member agencies the programs of organizations in terms of the importance of the work of one organization in relation to the work of other organizations in the same or related field or to measure the importance of one program in relation to any other field of service. The Committee, however, will be charged with responsibility for studying the basic data collected in its research work and other factors, with the view to determining whether such studies furnish a satisfactory basis for arriving at valid judgments on the relative financial needs of individual organizations. If as a result of the studies undertaken, the Committee concludes that it is possible to arrive at individual or relative budget evaluations, it shall so report to the Board of Directors of the Council.

(4) Program Beyond 1941

The National Advisory Budget Committee to be established by the Council, shall undertake to study all developments and progress made during 1941 and make recommendations to the Board of Directors of the Council on the program of service to be undertaken in 1942. It shall advise the Board on the values of its 1941 services, utilization by member agencies and other pertinent facts. It shall

recommend to the Board the fields of work and organizations to be studied in 1942 and the further extension of its functions to include evaluations and budget recommendations to communities.



GLADSTONE PARCIMENT

HAS CONTENT

1934

May 18, 1941

Mr. Jacob Blaustein
American Building
Baltimore, Md.

My dear Mr. Blaustein:

At your request I am sending you the envelope in which your letter addressed to me arrived. As you will note the envelope is stamped May 15, 8:30 p.m. It reached my desk Friday afternoon with the second mail. I was not at The Temple Friday afternoon. I saw your letter Saturday morning and did not read it until after the Sabbath Service. When you spoke to me long distance in New York City on Friday, May 9, I told you that I could not give you any answer until I had read your proposals in writing. You said that you would get them to me by Wednesday. I said that I would then consult with some members of the United Palestine Appeal and give you our reaction. How you expected me to consult with people over an important matter with the document reaching me Friday afternoon (assuming even that I would be in my office that afternoon), with the sessions of the Council scheduled for Saturday morning, is beyond me.

You gave the members of the Council the definite impression that I received the document in time for consultation and the expression of opinion, and that my silence could therefore be interpreted as in some way approving, or not opposing the proposals. That was altogether unwarranted.

Sincerely yours,

AHS:BK
Enc.

JACOB BLAUSTEIN

AMERICAN BUILDING
BALTIMORE, MD.

May 21, 1941

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Referring to your phone call to me in New York last Saturday afternoon and your letter of Sunday:

- I. I regret you did not get a chance to read my letter of Thursday, May 15th (enclosing tentative draft of the report of the Committee on Referendum), until after the Sabbath Service Saturday morning, but my envelope which you were good enough to return to me bears out the fact that the letter was sent by airmail on May 15th. My secretary informs me it was posted in the letter chute of our building that afternoon.

When we had our phone talk on Friday, May 9th, during which I covered the fundamentals of the proposed recommendation to the Council Board and you requested I send the report to you in writing, I told you that it was just in the process of being written in collaboration with others of the committee and that I doubted it could be mailed you before Wednesday or Thursday of the next week. It was not ready until Thursday, when it was sent you.

- II. Your informant was positively inaccurate in advising you that I had given the Council Board the impression at the Saturday meeting, that you were either in favor of, or were not opposed to, the report. I told the board that it had not been possible to forward a copy of it to you till the preceding Thursday, and specifically stated that I did not know where you stood with respect to the recommendations in it. I did say that from our phone talk previous to sending you the draft I had gotten the impression that you felt the committee was trying to be fair.
- III. I wonder if your informant told you that I made no remarks concerning you until after the Board had voted favorably on the matter, so that whatever I said pertaining to you did not in any way influence the vote. After the vote, quite informally, I was asked about any contact I had had with you in the matter and it was only then that I commented.
- IV. As you requested, I told the Council Board on Sunday morning about your Saturday phone call. The members were amazed that anyone could have construed what I had said the day before to what your informant told you. I also advised the Board Sunday morning that you wanted it made clear that you still are very definitely opposed to the program.

Mr. Jacob Blaustein to Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver

May 21, 1941

0
SHEET 2

I am sorry that is so, particularly since the Committee and the Board tried so hard to meet the views of the opposition and yet give the majority the minimum to which they were entitled.

The report as approved by the Board is somewhat changed from the draft I sent you. I shall have a copy of the adopted program forwarded to you. When you get it, please read it carefully and without any bias that may have been injected by the party who phoned you. If you do this, I believe you will agree that the program now contemplated is a fair and reasonable one, and that effort has been made to take into consideration the views expressed on both sides. Also, the release as to the action was moderately worded.

I would like to hear from you after you have reviewed the adopted program; and also think it would be desirable for us to have a talk the next time you come East. Quite apart from this particular proposition, it would be too bad if we permitted differences to rise between us because of wrong information someone has given you.

I expect to be in New York the coming week-end, and if by any chance you are also there, let's have a talk. If you will not be there then, will you let me know when you will be?



Sincerely,

JACOB BLAUSTEIN

AMERICAN BUILDING
BALTIMORE, MD.

June 6, 1941

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Referring to my May 21st letter, may I inquire
if I can expect to see you some time soon on one
of your trips East?

Sincerely,



June 9, 1941

Mr. Jacob Blaustein
American Building
Baltimore, Md.

My dear Mr. Blaustein:

I am sorry that I did not get a chance to reply to your letter of May 21. I have been away from the city most of the time, due to the illness of Mrs. Silver. Mrs. Silver was operated on in Baltimore, and is now at the Women's Hospital in your city. I am happy to state that she is getting along splendidly and will be able to leave the hospital before very long.

I shall be in Baltimore again on Thursday of this week, stopping at the Belvedere Hotel. If you are in the city on that day, please telephone me and we will arrange to meet.

With best wishes, I remain

Cordially yours,

AHS:BK

I have been informed that plans
 are under way for the launching
 of the Keren Hayesod Campaign
 in Pales. on Sept 15; marking
 also the 20th Anni. May I
 extend to you our greetings &
 felicitation in these desperate
 times when ~~our~~ Jewish
 Community life in Eur. has
 prac. been liquidated. and
 when dangers threatened us everywhere
 even in our natl home-land. It
 is heartening to know that Pal. Jewry
 is carrying on with mag. courage
 & resolution. and the menaces by
 Naz W has remained dauntless

in the heroic work. The Jews
of Am send you their
warmest greetings - We
are not unmindful of our
own respon. in this
Crisis & we shall not fail
you



Abba Hillel Silver
Natl Chair UPA.

Mr Kurt Blumenfeld.
My dear — I am enclosed, herewith
a brief mess. which you requested to
be transmitted to you.
I trust you are well & hope I may
have pleas of seeing you in near future
with all good wishes I remain yours

xerox abt [undated]

My dear Mr. Baerwald:

I informed you on November 19th of the action taken by the Administrative Committee of the United Palestine Appeal at a meeting held on the same date. Your letter of November 19th - in which you stated the position of the Joint Distribution Committee with respect to the campaign for 1941 - seems to have crossed with mine.

In order that the position of the United Palestine Appeal on the question of a joint campaign for 1941 may be understood, I desire to say the following in acknowledgment of your letter of November 19th:-

1. On the Question of Unity - *Caps.*

The United Palestine Appeal has been consistently in favor of the holding of a united campaign. May I remind you that the meeting finally held of the sub-committees of the Joint Distribution Committee and of the United Palestine Appeal to consider a joint campaign for 1941 followed three pleas which I made that the negotiations should be initiated without delay.

again The United Jewish Appeal for 1939 was made possible by the United Palestine Appeal overlooking questions of prestige and ~~allotment~~ ^{percentages}, believing, as it did, that what was important was not percentages and ratios, but the ~~concrete~~ ^{concrete} results of the campaign. It was for that reason the United Palestine Appeal had waived the question of ratios in the joint campaign of 1938. I submit that by adhering to this position, in 1939 we made a major contribution to the cause of unity in American Jewry.

the participants in

The ^{Joint} Allocating Committee met at the end of 1939 to distribute the unallotted income. It was composed of two representatives of the Joint Distribution Committee, two of the United Palestine Appeal, and a fifth member selected jointly. The Allocations Committee decided on the allotment of the balances by a unanimous vote. It is not unfair to say that the Joint Distribution Committee was disappointed with this decision, and that its dissatisfaction in this connection was largely responsible for the countless weeks spent in negotiation in an effort to persuade the Joint Distribution Committee to enter a joint campaign for 1940. The consent of the Joint Distribution Committee was given, however, only after an increase in its allotment in the initial setup had been conceded, and the National Refugee Service had been given \$1,500,000 more than was voted in 1939. In spite of increasing needs in Palestine, the United Palestine Appeal entered the United Jewish Appeal in 1940, feeling confident that if the situation changed and the relative needs for Palestine became apparent, due consideration would be given by its partners in the joint campaign, to its requirements.

Thus, in 1939 the United Palestine Appeal received \$4,000,000 in a campaign which gave \$8,200,000 to the Joint Distribution Committee

and \$2,600,000 to the National Refugee Service. In 1940, however, the United Palestine Appeal received only \$2,500,000 as against \$5,250,000 received by the Joint Distribution Committee, and \$3,500,000 by the National Refugee Service out of a total of \$11,250,000 thus far allotted.

5
allocation The Joint Distribution Committee now wishes to freeze the proportion that produced these results - to freeze them for the first six months and then have all balances thrown into the hands of the Allotment Committee. The United Palestine Appeal would thus receive for the first six months in 1941 only \$1,250,000. We of the United Palestine Appeal would be disloyal to our responsibilities if we accepted this proposal as a fair estimate of the war-time and normal needs in Palestine, as a sympathetic appraisal of the historic and moral values of Palestine Jewry, or as a genuine contribution to the cause of unity in American Jewry.

The United Palestine Appeal has given proof of its faith in the ideal of unity in fund-raising by the repeated sacrifices it has made in order to maintain the joint campaign. It has given unprejudiced thought to the totality of Jewish needs. The United Palestine Appeal again urges a united campaign for 1941, but it must insist on terms that will reflect an impartial consideration of all Jewish requirements, and not merely serve to perpetuate organizational pride or to congeal the unfair relations of previous years.

2. What is Flexibility? - *Caps. Appense*

In offering an explanation of its attitude with respect to its joint campaign proposals for 1941, the Joint Distribution Committee declares that it is imbued with a desire for "flexibility" in the distribution of funds. For three consecutive years the United Palestine Appeal has paid tribute to the principle of "flexibility", but if that term is to have any meaning it must be made applicable to all Jewish interests involved, and not merely to the needs of Palestine; not merely in the years that are past, but in 1941 as well.

relative It is quite clear that in 1941 a revision of relations is clearly indicated, for conditions have radically changed. The needs of Palestine have greatly increased; it is now in the active war zone; its economic life has been seriously affected; its income from other lands has been practically cut off. The Jews of America must now provide 80% of the funds to maintain the settlement and to provide the elementary needs for thousands of refugees who have come in, and for those who will be coming in during 1941.

add Martin's p. 2. Par 3, 4, 5, 6
in the first allotment,
In all fairness, with due regard for these changed conditions, the Joint Distribution Committee and the National Refugee Service should now concede that an adjustment is in order, just as the United Palestine Appeal was willing to make ~~such a~~ concession last year. If the principle of "flexibility" is to be invoked, why does the Joint Distribution Committee now insist on a mathematical preponderance, since it seems to be willing to leave to an "impartial, objective, fact-finding body the determination of the needs of world Jewry?" Why should the ratios of 1940

be regarded as ^{sanctified} ~~sanctified~~ and unchangeable? These ratios were not determined by "an impartial, objective, fact-finding body." They were the result of ^{the usual} ~~negotiation~~, of pressure, ~~of the intimidation involved where one party is softer than the other~~, where one party for the sake of unity makes concessions, and the other remains obdurate and unyielding.

3. What Are The Needs? . Caps.

If an allocation for a period of six months is to be made, the United Palestine Appeal is forced to ask that account should be taken of the indispensable minimum budgets required by Palestine during that period. \$2,500,000 is a fragment of the total budget for 1941 of the Jewish Agency and the Jewish National Fund, which is about \$14,000,000. \$2,500,000 is only a part of what the United Palestine Appeal expects American Jewry to make available for Palestine in 1941.

To agree to an arrangement that would give \$1,250,000 for the first six months as the contribution of 5,000,000 Jews in America to the work of the Jewish Agency and the Jewish National Fund - the instruments responsible for our entire building program - would be disastrous to our work in Palestine; it would deal a staggering blow to the morale of Palestine Jewry; it would impair the morale of Jews throughout the world, whose sustaining hope is the Jewish National Home.

Why should the Joint Distribution Committee be concerned with ratios if its object is the most effective use of the available funds? One is forced to the conclusion that it is not validity of requirements but ~~organisational pride~~ which is the criterion it employs. In your letter of November 19th you state "if, therefore, the United Palestine Appeal insisted on having in the first half year of 1941 \$2,500,000 towards its first fixed amount, exactly the same sum as for the whole year of 1940, it would mean that the Joint Distribution Committee would be obliged to ask for the same amount which it had received towards its first fixed program in 1940, namely, \$5,250,000." Thus, the Joint Distribution Committee tacitly admits that it does not foresee that it will require \$5,250,000 for the six-month period, but it advances this contention in order to maintain its proper standing in relation to the United Palestine Appeal. For that reason, it will be obliged to ask for an amount of money which, apparently, it does not require.

It is imperative that the whole program of Palestine work be seen in proper perspective to the rest of the Jewish world. It is not without significance to American Jewry that only Jewish community in the world where a constructive, large-scale program of Jewish assistance is possible is the Jewish National Home in Palestine. It is not without significance that Palestine today represents the largest free Jewish community in the world next to the United States. It is not without significance that the largest Jewish community in the world next to the United States is identified actively and whole-heartedly with the interests of Great Britain in its struggle against Nazi aggression.

In this connection it may be pointed out that a sound community of over 500,000 must be taken as a part of the desperate effort of the Jewish people to survive through the tragic difficulties of the day. In this hour of crisis, the reinforcement of morale and of substance, which

But American Jewry alone can make available, is of the highest importance not only for the Jews of Palestine, but for Jews all over the world. Constructive statesmanship would demand that what is wholesome and vigorous and creative should be preserved for the Jewish people. Relief for the suffering thousands on European soil is essential. Maximum help must be given those unfortunate men and women who have been caught in the maelstrom of war, and who have been overtaken by persecution and disaster. Statesmanship would recognize the fact that we have a paramount duty to save the one community which, allied with Great Britain, is engaged in a task the ultimate goal of which is the liberation of the Jews of Europe, as well as of Palestine. Any act tending to weaken the Yishuv, jeopardizing its ability to maintain its structure, would be construed as a desertion of the Jewish National Home, as a desertion of Palestine Jewry in a perilous hour of its history. *in*

to be received
The Jewish Agency for Palestine and the Jewish National Fund are unable to plan in these critical emergency times of overwhelming need on a six-month basis involving a definite allotment of only \$1,250,000 from American Jewry. Unlike the Joint Distribution Committee, the Jewish Agency is called upon to meet other than emergency needs. Many annual commitments for constructive purposes have to be met. The United Palestine Appeal has been making a direct appeal to American Jewry on the basis of a program for the upbuilding of a National Home for the Jewish people. It is a program calling for large-scale colonization, *immigration* land purchase, stimulation of industry, culture and the general economy of the country, and for the varied activities involved in the rebuilding of a land to give sustenance and security to a *growing* maximum number of people.

The United Palestine Appeal cannot subscribe to the thought that Palestine must be regarded from the philanthropic point of view. The upbuilding of Palestine is far more than a solution of the needs of Jewish refugees, although in this field alone it has done as much as the whole of the rest of the world combined. From July 1, 1932 to July 1, 1940, some 280,000 Jews entered Palestine, while a maximum of 150,000 entered the United States during the same period. Consideration of the needs of Palestine, therefore, must take into account the *broader implications* objective of the movement.

4. The National Refugee Service - *Caps*

Hachnosas
The United Palestine Appeal is of the opinion that, as a matter of principle, the National Refugee Service should not be included as an integral part of the United Jewish Appeal. The National Refugee Service is a temporary, domestic organization created to meet a specific situation. Its requirements cannot be regarded as within the field of interest reflected in the Joint Distribution Committee and the United Palestine Appeal. The needs of refugees in the United States cannot be placed on the same footing as the needs of our brethren in war-torn Europe. Refugee work makes its appeal to the sense of communal responsibility. It calls forth the traditional sentiment of *Achmoth Orchim*. It serves an interest which is immediate and direct, and is best worked out by the initiative and the autonomous interest of the communities. *Chanoch*

The Jews of America have a deep interest in the adjustment and integration of refugees in the United States, but they are showing that interest in their local communities. It is a confusion of fact to make

it appear that the National Refugee Service bears the entire, or even the major load for refugee assistance in the United States. The National Refugee Service is primarily a service organization. With the exception of costs incurred for such service and for assistance to refugees in New York City, the burden borne by the National Refugee Service for refugees in the United States is minor. Year after year, there has been an upward trend in the allotment of local communities for local refugee service and assistance. In fact, these increases are reflected in the income of the United Jewish Appeal itself, from which substantial deductions have been made in every community to enable them to provide for their refugee needs locally. The interest of American Jewry in refugees is not gauged, therefore, by the amount the National Refugee Service receives.

auxiliary
and
complementary
to the local
co.-operation
given in this
field.

The United Palestine Appeal, however, showed its fundamental desire for unity by agreeing to include the National Refugee Service as a beneficiary agency of the United Jewish Appeal in 1941, but with full regard for its diminished needs. It cannot be denied that fewer immigrants are entering the United States now than in 1939 and in 1940. There is a likelihood that even fewer refugees will be coming to the United States than ever before. These immigrants are being aided more rapidly to adjust themselves to the American economy by reason of the general improvement in the United States.

- again -

in 1941

Just as the United Palestine Appeal indicated its sympathy with and interest in refugee requirements in previous years, agreeing to increases when they seem to be required, so just as objectively it now states that the needs of the National Refugee Service in 1941 will be substantially lower and that the principle of "flexibility" which is invoked by the Joint Distribution Committee should be applied to the National Refugee Service.

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You state in your letter of November 19th that your representatives favored the inclusion of the National Refugee Service in the 1941 joint campaign because "it constituted a most persuasive and cogent basis for securing larger funds." It is the conviction of the United Palestine Appeal that the needs of Palestine and of the Joint Distribution Committee are sufficiently valid and actual and persuasive in themselves, and that we do not require a campaign device presumably calculated to catch the fancy or prejudice of ill-informed contributors in order to secure funds for our purposes. It is not fair to the American public, nor to the purposes of the Joint Distribution Committee, nor to the long-range needs of Palestine, to consider campaign requirements from the point of view of raising money through what might be called subterfuge; without stressing clearly and vigorously and without equivocation our own requirements as they exist. The use of a campaign organization solely to enhance fund-raising capacity is a practice often condemned in some communities. The American public should be educated to the actual requirements of each organization and of each cause, and should not be persuaded into giving money on unfounded assumptions. It is our firm conviction that in 1941 the needs of the National Refugee Service are definitely less, whereas the needs for Jewish relief outside of America, and for reconstruction purposes especially in Palestine, require the greatest generosity and it is with that program of reality we should approach the Jewish communities of America.

5. Finally, What Is Our Position?

Because of the greater needs of Palestine, the United Palestine Appeal asks that the rule of "flexibility" be adopted for the campaign of 1941

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Par. 4
p. 5

increased

so that a proper differential - recognizing Palestine's requirements for the coming year - may be reflected in the first allotments from a United Jewish Appeal in 1941. The Jewish communities of America will be persuaded of the valid basis of the United Jewish Appeal if, as conditions vary in each year, proper acknowledgment of these changed circumstances is made within the structure of the United Jewish Appeal, and that there be a fair distribution of funds accordingly. We regard it as unfair and unjust to maintain in 1941 the status quo of 1940. The rapidly shifting conditions to which you refer in your letter applies most forcefully to Palestine, where 500,000 Jews are in a position to receive and use funds in constructive enterprises, whose basis requirements are known in advance; and where the emergency needs have assumed such an urgency as will not permit American Jewry to continue the placid tempo of 1940, which resulted in retrogression and shrinkage in the giving of funds.

The United Palestine Appeal earnestly hopes that the Joint Distribution Committee will recognize the changed Jewish situation; will consent to a United Jewish Appeal for 1941 on a basis that will assure to the United Palestine Appeal, either on a full year's basis or on a six-month basis, a substantially increased amount for Palestine as compared with 1940. But our responsibility to Palestine requires that for six months we should be able to assure the Jewish Agency of at least \$2,500,000 for that first period.

to In my letter to you of November 19th I said that if "your decision not accept any new proposal was final, please let me know so that we might proceed with our direct application to the Welfare Funds of the country. Please let me have your final decision before very long."

I again enclose a copy of the resolution adopted on November 13th by the Administrative Committee of the United Palestine Appeal, and look forward to your prompt reply.

With all good wishes, I am

and many thanks for my highest regard
Very cordially yours,

204 W. 55 St.,
New York City.

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Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
Cleveland.

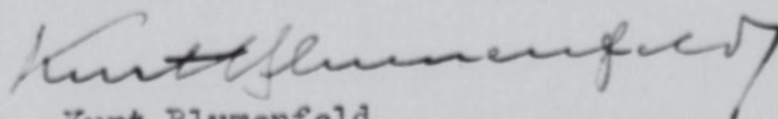
Dear Dr. Silver,

The other day I called you at your Hotel as I wished to shake hands with you and tell you how happy I was over the decision to conduct a separate campaign. I congratulate you most heartily. I know the decision is largely of your making and I also realize fully what this means as far as you personally are concerned: a burden of work which will require your whole strength. I never before tried to talk to you about our work, not wishing to take up your time without a special purpose. But now I would like to have a talk with you, and if you are not coming to New York I would come out to Cleveland specially to see you.

I hope that the new start will also provide a powerful impulse for a live Zionist movement. This too will need your active participation and leadership to make it a movement signalized by a forceful policy as well as a sense of balance and proportion, a movement in which word and deed will not lead separate existences but will be joined and integrated.

With best wishes for you and your work and with my best regards to Mrs. Silver,

yours sincerely,


Kurt Blumenfeld

CORRECTED ORIGINAL DRAFT

From: Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Mr. Paul Baerwald
120 Broadway
New York City

Dear Mr. Baerwald:

On November 19 I wrote to inform you of a decision taken by the Administrative Committee of the United Palestine Appeal at a meeting on November 13. Under the same date of November 19 you addressed a letter to me restating the position of the Joint Distribution Committee with respect to campaign plans for 1941. Our letters apparently crossed, as you state in your note of November 22nd.

In order that the position of the United Palestine Appeal may be understood, I am herewith acknowledging your letter of November 19th.

I. Unity

The United Palestine Appeal has consistently expressed its desire for a unified campaign that would reflect the needs of the Jewish situation. May I remind you that the meetings finally held between the subcommittees of the Joint Distribution Committee and the United Palestine Appeal followed three pleas from myself that such negotiations for 1941 should be initiated.

The launching of the United Jewish Appeal in 1939 was made possible by the willingness of the UPA to ignore ratios of prestige and percentages of allotment, in the belief that our work in Palestine must be furthered in terms of actual financial support and not merely percentages. Accordingly, the UPA did not insist on the agreement of allotment that prevailed between the two organizations in 1938. This was its major contribution to unity in American Jewry in 1939.

At the end of 1939 an Allocations Committee met to distribute the balance above the first fixed sums. It was composed of two representatives of the JDC, two of the UPA and a fifth selected by these four. That Allocations Committee made a decision which subsequently was irritating to the JDC, (even though two of its members were partisan representatives and the other three certainly were interested in the JDC program.) This dissatisfaction with the action of the Allocations Committee was primarily responsible for countless weeks of negotiations before the JDC would consent to a United Jewish Appeal for 1940. But even then the JDC consented to a united campaign only after it had gained an increase in its allotment for initial purposes and after there had been obtained for the National Refugee Service an additional \$1,500,000 beyond the first amount voted to it in 1939.

Once again the UPA, in spite of the increasing needs of Palestine, consented to a United Jewish Appeal as its contribution to unity in America, trusting that good faith would be exhibited as the situation changed and the needs for Palestine became apparent even to those fundamentally unsympathetic to its achievements and objectives.

In 1939, the UPA received an allocation of \$4,000,000 from a campaign which allotted \$8,200,000 to the JDC and \$2,600,000 to the NRS. In 1940, the UPA, out of \$11,250,000 thus far allotted, received \$2,500,000 against \$5,250,000 for the JDC and \$3,500,000 for the NRS.

The JDC now proposes that for the first six months of 1941, the UPA receive

\$1,250,000. The UPA cannot regard this proposal as a fair estimate of the war-time and normal needs of Palestine, (as a sympathetic appraisal of the hardships and the historical value of Palestine Jewry or as a genuine contribution to the unity of American Jewry.)

As the UPA has made clear, year after year, it ^{desires} ~~is desirous of~~ unity in fund-raising and it has shown its good faith by the continual sacrifices it has made toward that end. The UPA, for the sake of all causes, again urges a UJA for 1941 but on terms that will reflect due ~~consideration of Jewish requirements~~ ^{as they exist today} and not merely perpetuate organizational interests.

II. Flexibility

The Joint Distribution Committee, in defending its attitude with respect to 1941, declares that its desire is "flexibility" in the distribution of funds according to needs. The UPA has now, for three successive years, adjusted itself to that demand for "flexibility"; but that (is a term which must apply to all of Jewish life and not merely to Palestine ~~alone~~).

In 1940 the JDC declined to accept the ratios established by the decisions of the Allocations Committee of 1939. In the negotiations for the 1940 UJA, it was the JDC representatives who opposed "throwing the responsibility for determining the needs upon an Allocations Committee or Budgeting Committee." (These are the words of Dr. Solomon Lowenstein as reported in your minutes of a negotiations committee meeting held on January 3, 1940.) The original proposal of the JDC, (as read by Mr. James Becker on December 18, 1939) for a UJA campaign in 1940 made no mention of an Allocations Committee at all. The clear intention of the JDC was not to have any Allocations Committee for 1940. The JDC was displeased with the unanimous agreement of the Allocations Committee of 1939.

It was at the insistence of the JDC that a larger sum was first distributed in 1940 than in 1939, i.e., \$11,250,000 as compared with \$9,500,000. (This was made necessary by the insistence of the NRS on priority and on a guarantee of its \$3,500,000.)

To preserve unity in 1940 and to meet conditions which had arisen, the UPA at a substantial sacrifice to itself agreed to a revision of the agreement which was operative in 1939.

For the coming year, another revision is clearly indicated because conditions have again radically changed. Accordingly, the UPA proposed that the first income of a UJA in 1941 be divided as follows: \$1,500,000 to the NRS (including New York City), ~~and~~ \$3,000,000 to the UPA and \$3,000,000 to the JDC -- and not, as your letter indicates, \$2,500,000 to the UPA and \$2,500,000 to the JDC. The needs of Palestine have greatly increased because Palestine is in the active war zone today. Its economic life has been seriously affected. Its normal sources of income from other lands have been practically cut off. The Jewish community of America must now provide eighty percent. of the funds which are necessary to maintain the Yishuv and to provide elementary relief for the thousands of refugees who have come into the country and for those who are still coming in.

The JDC and the NRS should now agree to an adjustment such as the UPA was willing to make last year.

Instead, the JDC insists upon a further reduction in the allotment for Palestine. It proposes that only \$1,250,000 be made available for the UPA for a six-month period, instead of a \$2,500,000 minimum upon which Palestine could count in 1940, and further demands that there shall be "modifications of the text of the agreement" of 1940.

If "flexibility" in the allotment of funds is the goal sought by the JDC, why should it insist on a mathematical preponderance, since it is apparently willing to leave to "an impartial, objective, fact-finding body" the determination of the needs of world Jewry. The JDC admits "rapidly shifting conditions overseas" but is unprepared to give "latitude" to the Allotment Committee on whose behalf it seemingly speaks.

If "flexibility" is sought, why are the ratios established for 1940 insisted upon as sanctified and inflexible? The ratios for first allotment in 1940 were not determined by "an impartial, objective, fact-finding body" but after fruitless weeks of negotiation during which the JDC ignored the unanimous recommendations of the Allotment Committee of 1939. These ratios were finally accepted by the UPA in its desire to give the country unity. It asks that a similar willingness to give the country unity in 1941 be now accepted by the JDC.

III. The Needs

— and it does not advocate it —

The UPA has asked, that if a six months' allocation is desired, then account must be taken of the indispensable minimum required by Palestine during that six-month period. The \$2,500,000 which it asks is but a fragment of the total budget for 1941 of the Jewish Agency and the Jewish National Fund, totalling some \$14,000,000. \$2,500,000 is but a part of the total sum which the UPA hopes American Jewry will make available for Palestine in 1941.

For American Jewry to say to the Jewish Agency and to the Jewish National Fund, the instruments through which our entire upbuilding program is sustained and preserved, that for the first six months of 1941, they may count on only \$1,250,000 from some \$5,000,000 Jews in the United States is to administer the most shattering blow to the morale of Palestine Jewry at a time when it is entitled to receive all that American Jewry can give and do in order to maintain that morale.

Why should the JDC be concerned with ratios between it and the UPA if the object to be achieved is the most fruitful use of the funds available? One can only assume that not validity of requirements but organizational prestige is the criterion by which such ratios are established, if I am to judge by your letter of November 19th, in which you state that "if, therefore, the UPA insisted on having in the first half of 1941 \$2,500,000 towards its first fixed amount, exactly the same sum as for the whole year of 1940, it would mean that the JDC would be obliged to ask for the same amount which it had received towards its first fixed program in 1940, namely, \$5,250,000." In other words, the JDC tacitly admits that it does not foresee that it will require \$5,250,000 for a six-month period, but in order to maintain its proper standing in relation to the UPA, it will be "obliged" to ask for an amount of money which it does not require. Is that compatible with an expressed desire for an expenditure of funds on the basis of valid needs?

It is imperative that the whole program in Palestine be seen in 1941 in proper perspective to the rest of the Jewish world. It is not without significance to American Jewry that the only Jewish community in the world where, outside of the United States, a constructive large-scale program of Jewish assistance is possible, is Palestine. It is not without significance that Palestine today represents the largest free Jewish community in the world, next to the United States, and the largest Jewish community in the world identified actively with Great Britain.

A sound community of over 500,000 souls is part of a desperate effort of the Jewish people for survival. In this hour of its supreme crisis, it needs the reinforcements of morale and of substance which American Jewry alone can now make available. Constructive statesmanship demands that what is whole and vigorous and creative shall

be preserved within and for the Jewish people. Relief abroad is necessary. Our unfortunate brothers must be given maximum help wherever persecution and disaster have overtaken them. But we have a paramount duty to help save the one community which, along with Great Britain, is engaged in a task whose ultimate goal is the liberation of the Jews of Europe as well. Any act of ours which would weaken the Yishuv, which would jeopardize its ability to maintain its structure, could be construed only as a desertion of Palestine Jewry in the most perilous hour of its history.

The Jewish Agency for Palestine and the Jewish National Fund cannot plan in these critical, emergency times of overwhelming need on a six-month basis involving the allotment of \$1,250,000 from American Jewry. The Jewish Agency, unlike the JDC, has other than emergency needs to meet. In the large-scale program of upbuilding Palestine, many annual commitments have to be met. The UPA has, for years, been making a direct appeal to American Jewry on the basis of a program for the upbuilding of a national home for the Jewish people in Palestine. It is a program calling for a large-scale projects of colonization, land purchase, stimulation of industry, culture and the general economy of the country, and for all the other activities involved in the rebuilding of a land to give sustenance and security to a maximum number of people.

One wonders whether the present enthusiasm of the JDC for an Allocations Committee can possibly be based on the hope that the three "neutrals" on the 1940 Allocations Committee, representing the Council of Federations and Welfare Funds, who are not Zionists, will evaluate the work in Palestine on a purely philanthropic basis on the same level as the relief service which the JDC is carrying on. Palestine would thus be reduced to just another item in the local emergency relief problem of world Jewry. To this the UPA cannot subscribe. The upbuilding of Palestine is far more than a solution of the needs of Jewish refugees at this time, although in this field alone Palestine has done as much as the whole of the rest of the world combined. It may be recalled that from July 1, 1932 to July 1, 1940, some 280,000 Jews entered Palestine, while a maximum of 150,000 entered the United States during the same period.

That the JDC itself recognizes the increased needs in Palestine is reflected in its statement to the Allotment Committee of 1940 that it has received appeals for relief purposes in Palestine, although it has not met these appeals. If the JDC takes the position that it may distribute funds for relief to Jews everywhere in the world except in Palestine, then certainly account ought to be taken of the increased relief load resting on the Jewish Agency as a result of widespread unemployment and distress in Palestine, toward which the UPA must provide funds far beyond the meagre sums made available in 1940.

IV. The National Refugee Service

The United Palestine Appeal believes, in principle, that the NRS should not be an integral part of the UJA. It is a temporary, domestic organization created to meet a specific situation. Its requirements cannot be placed on a permanent basis such as those of the JDC and the UPA.

The UPA again showed its fundamental desire for unity in agreeing to include the NRS as a beneficiary agency of the UJA in 1941 but with full regard to its diminished needs.

It cannot be denied that fewer, many fewer, immigrants are entering the United States now than in 1939 and in 1940. The likelihood is for even decreased immigration opportunities. Moreover, the immigrants are being aided more rapidly to adjust themselves to the American economy by reason of the general economic upswing.

The Jews of America have a deep interest in the adjustment and integration of refugees in the United States. They are showing that interest in their local communities. It is a confusion of facts to make it appear that the National Refugee Service bears the entire--or even the major--load for refugee assistance in the United States. The National Refugee Service is primarily a service organization. With the exception of costs incurred for such service and for assistance to refugees in New York City, the burden borne by the NRS for refugees in the United States is a minor one. Year after year, there has been an upward trend in the allotment by local communities of funds for local refugee service and assistance. In fact, these increases for local refugee purposes are reflected in the income of the United Jewish Appeal itself, from which substantial deductions have been made in every community to enable the community to provide for its refugee needs locally. The interest of American Jewry in refugees is not gauged, therefore, by the amount the NRS receives.

The UPA has shown its sympathy with and interest in refugee requirements. Every increase in the allotments for the NR has previously had the approval of the UPA. But its sympathy has been based on a consideration of the fair, legitimate needs of the NRS and of the refugees as distinct from the NRS. Just as objectively, it now states that the needs of the NRS in 1941 will be substantially lower and that the law of "flexibility", invoked by the JDC, should be applied to the NRS.

In your letter of November 19th you state that the JDC representatives favored the inclusion of the NRS in a 1941 UJA because it "constituted a most persuasive and cogent basis for securing larger funds." We do not believe it fair to the American public nor to the long-range needs of Palestine--nor even to the purposes of the JDC--to attempt to raise money through what might be called a subterfuge; without stressing clearly, vigorously and unequivocally our own requirements as they exist. This use of a campaign organization solely to enhance fund-raising capacity is a practice which has been often condemned in some communities. The American public should be educated to the actual requirements of each organization and of each cause and should not be persuaded into giving money on false assumptions. We are convinced that in 1941 the needs of the NRS are definitely less, whereas the needs outside America, and especially in Palestine, require the greatest generosity.

made

The sums/available to the NRS and to refugee purposes in America through local and other organizations are rapidly approaching an amount equal to what the JDC and the UPA together receive for their millions of prospective beneficiaries. There is a question as to whether American Jewry understands and approves this situation. It is doubtful whether American Jewry actually desires to spend for a comparatively limited number of refugees in this country, at peace and economically strong, as much as for the vast numbers of war-driven, homeless, desperate refugees throughout the world and for the great community in Palestine and those coming to Palestine under the most distressing conditions.

V. The Position of the UPA.

Because of the greater needs of Palestine, the UPA asks that the principle of "flexibility" be practiced so that a proper differential--recognizing Palestine's requirements in the coming year--may be reflected in the first allotments from a UJA in 1941. The JDC has rejected even 1940 as a basis. The Jewish community of America will be persuaded of the valid basis of the United Jewish Appeal if, as conditions vary in each year, proper acknowledgment of these changed circumstances is made within the structure of the United Jewish Appeal and its distribution of funds.

The "rapidly shifting conditions" to which you refer in your letter applies most forcefully to Palestine, where 500,000 Jews are in a position to receive and spend funds; where they are engaged in a constructive enterprise whose basic require-

ments have assumed such urgency as not to permit American Jewry to continue with the placid tempo of giving of 1940.

The Jews of America, I believe, will not consent to a catastrophic indifference to the position of the one Jewish community in the world where we are not only relieving suffering but building a solid foundation for the future, a future that will be safeguarded only if we give our maximum understanding and support now.

The United Palestine Appeal earnestly hopes that the JDC, recognizing the changed Jewish situation, will consent to a United Jewish Appeal in 1941, on a basis that will assure to the United Palestine Appeal, either on a full year's basis or on a six-months' basis a substantially increased amount for Palestine as compared with 1940. But our responsibility to Palestine requires that for six months we be able to assure the Jewish Agency of at least \$2,500,000 for that first period.

I quote from my letter to you of November 19th, in which I stated that if "your decision not to accept any new proposal was final, please let me know so that we might proceed with our direct applications to the Welfare Funds of the country. Please let me have your final decision before very long." I again enclose a copy of the resolution which was adopted on November 13th by the Administrative Committee of the United Palestine Appeal.

With all good wishes, I am

Very cordially yours,

Abba Hillel Silver
National Chairman

AHS:ET