



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

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

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United Jewish Appeal, United Palestine Appeal, "O" and "P",
1940-1941.

UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

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

POSTAL TELEGRAPH DAY LETTER

SEPTEMBER 4, 1940

HARRIS PEARLSTEIN
221 NORTH LASALLE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

INASMUCH AS AGENDA FOR MEETING DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE UJA CALLED FOR
FRIDAY SEPTEMBER SIXTH REFERS TO PROSPECTIVE DECISIONS WHICH CANNOT
POSSIBLY BE MADE UNTIL RESEARCH HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND DISTRIBUTION
COMMITTEE HAS HAD OPPORTUNITY TO EXAMINE FACTS WE SHALL NOT PARTICIPATE
IN FRIDAYS MEETING. ~~MOREOVER~~ MUST POINT OUT THAT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE
HAS NO AUTHORITY WITH REGARD TO PRIORITY IN PAYMENTS TO PARTICIPATING
AGENCIES ON AMOUNTS VOTED TO THEM IN AGREEMENT CONSTITUTING UJA. OUR
JOINT DECISION REPRESENTS FORMAL ACTION UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

STEPHEN S. WISE

ET

PALESTINE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

41 EAST 42nd STREET
ROOM 1111
NEW YORK CITY
MURRAY HILL 2-3754

September 24, 1940

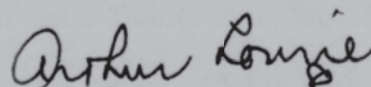
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

At the last meeting of the Palestine Emergency Committee it was decided to hold the next meeting on Monday, October 7, at 3 P. M., in room 1111, 41 East 42nd Street, New York City.

This meeting will be devoted exclusively to the discussion of the program of work and organization. Your attendance is therefore essential.

Sincerely yours,



Arthur Lourie
Secretary

AL:DJS

PALESTINE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

41 EAST 42nd STREET
ROOM 1111
NEW YORK CITY
MURRAY HILL 2-3754

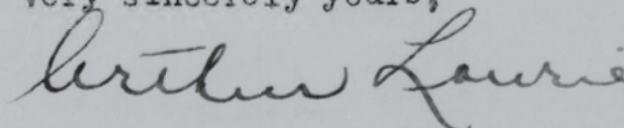
September 27, 1940

NOTICE OF CHANGE IN HOUR OF MEETING
OF EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

Dear Friend:

Will you please make note of the fact that the meeting of the Palestine Emergency Committee which was called for three o'clock on Monday, October 7, will take place at 8:00 P.M. on October 7, in Room 1111, 41 East 42nd Street, New York City.

Very sincerely yours,



Arthur Lourie
Secretary

AL:DJS

PALESTINE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

41 EAST 42nd STREET
ROOM 1111
NEW YORK CITY
MURRAY HILL 2-3754

October 8, 1940

Rabbi A. H. Silver,
c/o The Temple,
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

In accordance with the decision taken by the Emergency Committee at its meeting last night, an Office Committee is being established on the nomination of the Acting Chairman, Dr. Stephen S. Wise.

Dr. Wise hopes that you will find it possible to serve as a member of this Committee.

The first meeting of the Office Committee will be held on Thursday, October 10th, at 5 P.M., at this office, at which a number of important matters will be dealt with, and your presence is earnestly requested.

Very sincerely yours,

Arthur Lourie
Arthur Lourie
Secretary

HARRIS PERLSTEIN

221 NORTH LA SALLE STREET

CHICAGO

December 10, 1940

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

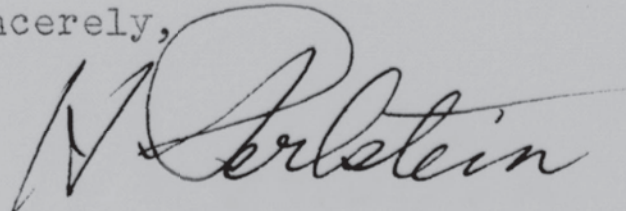
Dear Dr. Silver:-

Please note the enclosed copy of my letter to Mr. Jacob Blaustein in reply to his of December second, copy of which was furnished you at the meeting last Saturday night but additional copy of which is also attached for your convenience.

I am quite sure it was intended that all of the requests for cooperation contained in Mr. Blaustein's letter be granted. I know we specifically authorized the sending of copies of the Committee and Inquiry reports when these are finally ready but I do not recall whether we took particular action with reference to the request that they have the privilege of conferring with members of the Committee and Staff with reference to their problems of procedure.

Unless you see some objection, there is no need to reply. In that case, after a week or so I will simply advise Mr. Blaustein that it will be all right for him to talk over his procedural problems with our people.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "H. Perlstein". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Harris Perlstein".

COUNCIL OF JEWISH FEDERATIONS AND WELFARE FUNDS
INC.

165 West 46 Street
New York, N.Y.

December 2, 1940

Mr. Harris Perlstein, Chairman
Allotment Committee of the UJA
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Perlstein:

I am serving as the Chairman of the Committee to study National Budgeting Proposals which has been established by the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds in response to a widespread interest on the part of its member agencies in this subject. Mr. William Rosenwald is associated with me in this Committee as Acting Co-Chairman and there are 15 other members of the Committee in various sections of the country. We have already undertaken a considerable amount of work in examining the various aspects of the problem and the next job that we have set for ourselves is to review and analyze the processes of study that have been undertaken in your Inquiry and the procedures that have been established by your Allotment Committee. We believe that your experience, both in the study and in your other functions, is very important to any consideration to be given to the subject of national budgeting itself.

I am therefore writing to you to ask that there be made available to my Committee the reports and materials prepared by your Inquiry on the constituent agencies of the United Jewish Appeal and on other agencies. We would also like the privilege of conferring with members of your Committee and your staff with reference to problems of procedure that may be relevant to the general subject in which we are interested.

We shall be very grateful for the cooperation of your Allotment Committee in assisting us in our tasks.

Very sincerely,

(Signed) Blaustein
Jacob Blaustein, Chairman
Committee to Study National Budgeting Proposals

HARRIS PERLSTEIN

221 NORTH LASALLE STREET

CHICAGO

December 10, 1940

Mr. Jacob Blaustein, Chairman
Committee to Study National Budgeting Proposals,
Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, Inc.
165 West 46th Street
New York City

Dear Mr. Blaustein:-

In reply to your letter of December second, I am pleased to advise that the Allotment Committee has approved furnishing to you a copy of its report, when completed, as well as a copy of the report prepared by the Inquiry Staff for the Allotment Committee.

I find that under pressure of time we inadvertently omitted discussion of your request for the privilege of conferring with members of our committee and staff with reference to problems of procedure that may be relevant to the subject in which your committee is interested. I am quite sure this will be welcome and I am today writing to the members of our committee suggesting that this additional cooperation with you be authorized.

Sincerely yours,

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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 16, 1940

HARRIS PEARLSTEIN
CHICAGO ILL.

I HAVE WRITTEN TO JONAH WISE ASKING THAT A MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
UJA BE HELD IN NEAR FUTURE TO RECEIVE OFFICIALLY REPORT ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE
AND TO ACT ON RECOMMENDATIONS. DEEM IT ADVISABLE TO DELAY ACTION SUGGESTED
IN YOUR TELEGRAM UNTIL SUCH MEETING. KINDEST REGARDS

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

D.L. - upa

CLASS OF SERVICE

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(26)

WESTERN UNION

1220

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

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

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1940 DEC 16 PM 5 27

HW128 TWS PAID 3=CHICAGO IL 16 154P

DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

CARE THE TEMPLE=

TO AVOID DELAY IN EFFECTUATING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE FOR IMMEDIATE ACCELERATION OF PAYMENTS TO NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE MAY I ASK THAT YOU, ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE, ADVISE THE UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL, WHICH I UNDERSTAND MEETS IN NEWYORK ON TUESDAY, REGARDING THE ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDATIONS AND ARRANGE FOR PROPER INSTRUCTIONS TO THE TREASURER REPRESENTING UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL ON THE UNITED JEWISH APPEAL. IT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL ALSO IF YOU COULD AT THE SAME TIME TAKE UP THE MATTER OF THE PROPOSED ADVANCE TO N.R.S. NEXT MARCH FROM U.J.A. FUNDS OR A JOINT ADVANCE BY U.P.A. AND J.D.C. AS DISCUSSED SATURDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 7, SINCE I UNDERSTAND THIS WOULD HAVE A GREAT BEARING ON CONVERSATIONS REGARDING BANK LOANS NOW BEING CARRIED ON BY N.R.S. I AM SENDING A SIMILAR WIRE REQUESTING DR. LOWESTEIN TO TAKE UP THESE MATTERS WITH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, BEST WISHES=

HARRIS PERLSTEIN.

N R S U J A U P A J D C 7 N R S PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

C
O
P
Y

December 16, 1940

CHICAGO, ILL.
DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER, CARE UNITED
PALESTINE APPEAL 41 EAST 42 ST

TO AVOID DELAY IN EFFECTUATING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE FOR IMMEDIATE ACCELERATION OF PAYMENTS TO NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE MAY I ASK THAT YOU, ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE, ADVISE THE UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL, WHICH I UNDERSTAND MEETS IN NEWYORK ON TUESDAY REGARDING THE ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS AND ARRANGE FOR PROPER INSTRUCTIONS TO THE TREASURER REPRESENTING UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL ON THE UNITED JEWISH APPEAL. IT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL ALSO IF YOU COULD AT THE SAME TIME TAKE UP THE MATTER OF THE PROPOSED ADVANCE TO N. R. S. NEXT MARCH FROM U. J. A. FUNDS OR A JOINT ADVANCE BY U. P. A. AND J. D. C. AS DISCUSSED SATURDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 7, SINCE I UNDERSTAND THIS WOULD HAVE A GREAT BEARING ON CONVERSATIONS REGARDING BANK LOANS NOW BEING CARRIED ON BY N. R. S. I AM SENDING A SIMILAR WIRE REQUESTING DR. LOWENSTEIN TO TAKE UP THESE MATTERS WITH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE.

BEST WISHES

HARRIS PERLSTEIN

H. Silver

C O P Y

HARRIS PERLSTEIN
221 North La Salle Street
CHICAGO

December 20, 1940

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
National Chairman
United Palestine Appeal
41 East 42 Street
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Silver:

I greatly appreciate your letter of December 13 suggesting that I accept membership on the National Council for Palestine of the United Palestine Appeal.

However, for the coming year I find myself in a position where I must reduce my activities in connection with matters of this kind because of increased demands on my time for business purposes.

For that reason, I greatly regret that I cannot accept for the time being.

Sincerely,

(Signed) H. Perlstein

(fe 12/23/40)

HADASSAH

Inc. The Women's Zionist Organization of America

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NEW YORK, N. Y.

December 24, 1940

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
105 St. at Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Silver:

→ The Executive Committee of Hadassah would be very happy to meet with you at its next regular meeting on Tuesday, December 31 at our office. We meet from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and are ready to see you at any hour convenient to you. Will you please let us hear from you.

With cordial Hadassah greetings, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

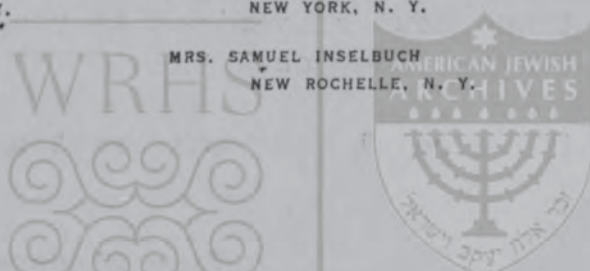
David de Sola Pool

Mrs. David de Sola Pool
National President

tp/rg

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WESTERN UNION

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SYMBOLS

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NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

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FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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Received at

HW334 158 DL=WUX ARROWHEADSPRINGS CALIF 27 320P 1940 DEC 27 PM 7 16
DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

THE TEMPLE:

=ASSUME THE UNEDITED VERBATIM MINUTES MENTIONED YOUR
TODAYS WIRE REFER TO SAME PORTION OF PROCEEDINGS AS YOUR
WIRE DECEMBER TWENTIETH WHICH SPECIFIED TRANSCRIPT OF
THE MINUTES WHICH CONCERN THEMSELVES PARTICULARLY WITH
THE ACTUAL VOTING AND DECISIONS. AM SENDING ELISHA
FRIEDMAN FOLLOWING WIRE QUOTE IF HAVE NOT ALREADY
DONE SO PLEASE SEND AT ONCE DR. SILVER AND ALL MEMBERS
COMMITTEE FULL VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT OF THAT PORTION OF
MINUTES OF DECEMBER SEVENTH WHICH COVERS MOTIONS AND
ACTIONS TAKEN AND DISCUSSIONS THEREON. ALSO SEND EACH
A COPY OF PROPOSED PRESS RELEASE AS PREPARED BY EDITORIAL
COMMITTEE AND REQUEST APPROVAL. AS THIS IS NOT IN FORM
SUITABLE FOR REPORT TO U. J. A. DRAW UP REPORT WHICH SIMPLY
STATES THE ACTION TAKEN AND RECOMMENDATIONS MADE AND SEND
COPY AT ONCE TO EACH MEMBER COMMITTEE REQUESTING
TELEGRAPHIC APPROVAL SO THAT YOU WILL BE IN POSITION TO
SUBMIT SAME TO U. J. A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
DECEMBER THIRTIETH OVER YOUR SIGNATURE AS SECRETARY.
UNQUOTE=

H PERLSTEIN.

HILLEL U J A U J A.

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WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

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FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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

December 27, 1940

Harris Pealstein
221 North LaSalle Street
Chicago, Ill.

HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED UNEDITED VERBATIM MINUTES OF ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE LAST SESSION. UNLESS I RECEIVE THEM IMMEDIATELY I AM AFRAID UPA WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ACT ON RECOMMENDATIONS IN TIME FOR MEETING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE UJA NEXT MONDAY NIGHT. IT MAY EVEN BE NECESSARY TO POSTPONE THE MEETING.
KINDEST REGARDS

Abba Hillel Silver

January 3, 1941

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

My dear Friend:

Let me thank you for your kind letter of December 31. I know what is troubling you and I assure you that the United Palestine Appeal did its utmost to preserve the United Jewish Appeal. I am requesting Mr. Henry Montor, our director in New York, to send you a full statement of the negotiations leading up to the dissolution and you will understand, as far as the Zionist leadership at least is concerned, that no effort was spared to preserve a united front without sacrificing the vital interests of Palestine.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

letter sent to Montor

C O P Y

EDWARD G. PLATT
308 North Eighth Street
Saint Louis

January 15, 1941

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
United Palestine Appeal
41 East 42nd Street
New York, N. Y.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Thanks very much for your letter of
January 15th.

If you are going to be in New York
during the week of February 3rd, and it is
possible for me to see you a moment, I would
like very much to have the opportunity of
talking with you. In any event, I shall
see someone in your office at the time.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) E. G. PLATT

EGP:F

(fe 1/17/41)

January 15, 1941

~~CHAIRMAN, CLEVELAND JEWISH WELFARE FUND~~

Mr. Harris Perlstein, Chairman
Allotment Committee of the UJA
221 North LaSalle Street
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Mr. Perlstein:

I understand that the chairman of the Budget Committee of the Cleveland Jewish Welfare Fund has written to you requesting a copy of Mr. Friedman's report in full for the use of the local committee. I wish to apprise you that this request was sent without my knowledge and consent as chairman of the Cleveland Jewish Welfare Fund; nor was the Budget Committee consulted. I write this note so that you may not think that I disapprove of the action which all the members of the Allotment Committee took not to distribute the report broadcast through the nation, but to make copies available only to the beneficiary organizations of the United Jewish Appeal and to the Council of Federations and Welfare Funds.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

CHAIRMAN, CLEVELAND JEWISH WELFARE FUND

January 21, 1941

Mr. Edward G. Platt
308 North Eighth Street
St. Louis, Mo.

My dear Mr. Platt:

Thank you so much for your kind letter of January 15. I should be very happy indeed to see you. At the moment, I do not plan to be in New York during the week of February 3rd. Would it be possible for you, on the way East, to stop over in Cleveland? It would afford me great pleasure to see you here.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

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1941 JAN 27 PM 4 52

HARRIS PERLSTEIN
221 N LA SALLE ST.

WRHS



PLANNING ATTEND MEETING ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE FRIDAY JANUARY 31

at 7 PM. TRUST PROSPECTIVE FINANCIAL REPORT INQUIRY COMMITTEE

AVAILABLE AT LEAST TWO DAYS IN ADVANCE TO FIVE US ADEQUATE

OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY IT. REGARDS-

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

COPY

HARRIS PERLSTEIN

221 NORTH LA SALLE STREET

CHICAGO

January 28, 1941

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

Dear Dr. Silver:-

I have just this morning returned and found your wire of yesterday afternoon, as per copy enclosed. While this came through a little garbled in transmission, I am taking it for granted you refer to the latest revision of the report rendered by the Inquiry to the Committee.

It is my understanding that this will be mailed to each member of the Allotment Committee not later than today so you should have it in time to be able to study it.

There is, of course, a separate report to be made by the Committee itself but this is very brief. While in New York last week, I talked with Mr. Lipsky and Dr. Lowenstein and then dictated a draft for such a report which Mr. Lipsky received and in which he suggested certain changes. He has, of course, both my original version and his own. I left my copies of these in New York for retyping when I came away from there yesterday so do not have any to send you at this moment. These proposed reports of the committee itself are so brief that advance study would hardly seem to be necessary, but if you wish them in advance I would suggest you get in touch with Mr. Lipsky.

With regards.

Sincerely,

H. Perlstein

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NIGHT LETTER	SHIP RADIOGRAM

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WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CHECK
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TIME FILED

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

February 27, 1941

Mr. Harris Perlstein
221 North LaSalle Street
Chicago, Ill.

I AM IN FAVOR OF EXTENDING THE TIME TO FEBRUARY 28 OR EVEN A FEW DAYS MORE IF NECESSARY. INASMUCH AS EACH ORGANIZATION ASSUMES RESPONSIBILITY FOR ITS OWN BRIEF APPENDIX IT SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO NO CONTROL EITHER BY THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE OR BY THE SECRETARY. KINDEST REGARDS

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

HARRIS PERLSTEIN

221 NORTH LA SALLE STREET

CHICAGO

March 1, 1941

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

I have received the following request from
Mr. Elisha M. Friedman:

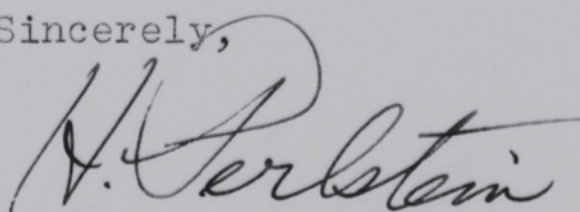
"Will you as Chairman of the Allotment Committee and as ex-officio editor, permit me to make the following changes in your report, in the interest of accuracy. Original wording 'the staff included Bernard J. Reis, C.P.A., well known for independent research in financial questions, and Special Advisor to the Comptroller of the City of New York; his partner, Joseph Kalafa, C.P.A.;' The suggested revised wording 'the staff included as Chief Accountant, Mr. Joseph Kalafa, C.P.A. who had seven assistants; as Personal Accounting Advisor to the Director, Mr. Bernard J. Reis, C.P.A.'"

"Dr. Frederick Grubel also asks that there be omitted from the Allotment Committee Report, the phrase 'of Leipzig', as he has relatives left in Germany. The phrase then would read 'Dr. F. Grubel, with long experience in Jewish Social Work and statistics in Europe.'"

I can see no objection to permitting these minor changes, particularly since we would not want to say anything about Dr. Grubel's past connections which he thinks might possibly injure his family remaining in Europe, and we certainly have no reason for not clarifying the positions occupied by Messrs. Kalafa and Reis.

However, I do not want to authorize even the most minor changes in a report which carries your signature without your permission. Will you be kind enough to let me have such permission by wire or prompt reply by mail?

Sincerely,



HP.RF.

March 3, 1941

Mr. Harris Perlstein
221 North LaSalle Street
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Mr. Perlstein:

I received your kind letter of March 1, which raises the question of a minor matter which could easily be disposed of. But simultaneously, I received a letter from Mr. Bernard Reis, a copy of which you have undoubtedly also received, which raises a very serious question. Mr. Reis states that our agreement in Atlanta to have Mr. Reis certify the figures and to make all tables comparable before the publication of the Report, has not been carried out, and that the Director of the Inquiry has largely ignored the observations and criticisms of Mr. Reis concerning factual errors and misuse of figures in various tables. Mr. Reis requests that neither his name nor that of his partner nor that of his company should be used in connection with the Inquiry Report. Mr. Reis' letter contains very serious charges, and unless our agreement in Atlanta is carried out, it will I am afraid vitiate the entire Report.

I should like to hear from you in this connection.
With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

PHILADELPHIA

Allied Jewish Appeal

1700 Walnut Street
KINGSley 3200

March 5, 1941

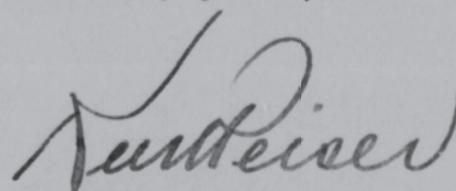
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I am writing to you as a friend, in order to ask you one question. Do you think the articles that Louis Lipsky is writing in the Congress Weekly are going to help communities raise money? If so, I would like to know how.

Kind regards.

Sincerely yours,



Kurt Peiser
Executive Director

KP:ps

HARRIS PERLSTEIN

221 NORTH LASALLE STREET

CHICAGO

March 6, 1941

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

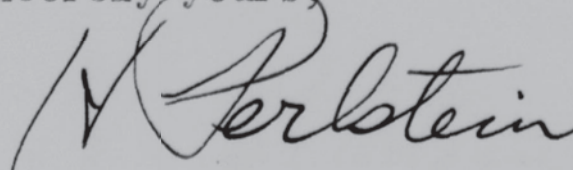
Attached find copy of a letter which I wrote to Mr. Bernard Reis under date of March 4 which I believe covers the points raised in your letter of March 3.

On my return to the city this morning I found a letter from Mr. Reis withdrawing his letter of March 1. I assume that you have received a similar letter from him. The matter would therefore seem to be cleared up in any event.

Although your letter of March 3 was not entirely clear with reference to the minor changes in the Committee report set out in my letter of March 1, I have assumed that under the circumstances they are satisfactory to you, particularly since I received the O.K. of Mr. Lipsky and other members of the Committee. I have therefore advised Mr. Friedman that he may go ahead with these minor changes.

With regards.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'H. Perlstein', written in a cursive style.

HP.RF.
Enc.

C O P Y

March 4, 1941

Mr. Bernard Reis
10 East 40th Street
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Reis:

I have your letter of March 1.

The files disclose that your connection with the Inquiry was in the capacity of personal advisor to the Director. In this capacity you appeared at several of the sessions of the Allotment Committee including the important session on December 7 when the allotment decisions were arrived at. You were questioned closely on that occasion with regard to various tables appearing in the Inquiry report and at no time raised question as to their propriety. In fact, you defended the presentation quite well.

You also attended a subsequent meeting of the Allotment Committee held in Atlanta on January 31 and raised no questions there as to the report, with which you were fully familiar. At that meeting someone asked whether it would be possible to have the various tables certified and suggested that it would be well to get them as comparable as possible for the various organizations. It was agreed that you would look the matter over and make suggestions to the Director along these lines, but it was also agreed that he need not accept any suggestions. The responsibility of the Director for the report and his freedom of action with regard to it has been recognized by our Committee at all times.

The suggestion that was made concerning possible certification of tables, etc. was not based on any assumption that there was anything wrong with the statistical presentations. All that was expected was that where possible tables might be certified, and revisions which would make the tables more comparable might be suggested. Such revisions were not expected to alter the facts which had been presented to the Committee. You were not requested to point out "factual errors and misuse of figures in various tables" for the simple reason that the Committee had a right to assume you knew of none in

Mr. Bernard Reis - 2 -

view of your failure to mention any such.

A majority of our Committee has undoubtedly realized all along that the Inquiry was not engaged in an audit of the various organizations but was engaged in a study. Certification in the sense that it applies to an ordinary business audit is therefore not to be expected and I was surprised that you did not immediately point that out. Apparently you realized it later. As to making tables comparable, the Committee in its report recognized that certain preliminary steps have to be taken before that will become possible, since the organizations keep their books in accordance with different methods.

In view of the above I can only state that if there are "factual errors and misuse of figures in various tables" you should have called attention to them when sitting with the Committee and not waited until the report was not only authorized for publication but ready to proceed to actual printing. In view of all this, I assume that what you mean is not that there are presentations of actually incorrect figures, but simply that you disagree with the form of presentation or interpretations of the Director. It is not to be expected that everyone will agree with the Director, but a majority of our Committee has consistently expressed a high regard for the impartial character of his approach.

I regret the necessity for pointing out that your letter, sent at the time it was and considered in the light of your former silence concerning, and in some instances defense of, the material in the report, seems to me improper.

I am also advised that sometime between December 7 and January 31 you were retained by the United Palestine Appeal. This was unknown to me and, I believe, to several other members of our Committee when they met in Atlanta. Such a connection with one of the agencies of the U.J.A., in my opinion, while perfectly proper in itself, promptly disqualified you as an impartial advisor in connection with the report. Every professional man is well aware of the danger of attempting to serve two masters where a conflict of interests is possible.

Mr. Bernard Reis - 3 -

We have not had any request from Mr. Kalafa corresponding with your own, but as I am advised that the published copy of the Director's report will make no reference to you or Mr. Kalafa or your company there does not seem to be any practical question involved. You are doubtless also aware of the fact that the Director's report contains a statement that he alone takes responsibility for it.

Very truly yours,

WRHS




Chairman, Allotment Committee
1940 United Jewish Appeal

HP.RF.

March 7, 1941

Mr. Kurt Peiser, Executive Director
Philadelphia Allied Jewish Appeal
1700 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, Pa.

My dear Peiser:

Thank you for your note of March 5. I am not a member of the American Jewish Congress -- never have been. I do not read the Congress Weekly. I have not seen Mr. Lipsky's articles and therefore I can not tell you whether they will help communities raise money or not.

I have read one since you wrote to me. I can not believe that such articles are generally read by the so-called large givers in our campaigns, unless interested parties make it a point to bring such articles to their attention. Mr. Lipsky writes as an individual. He is at present neither at the head of the United Palestine Appeal nor of the Zionist Organization of America. His views on democratic procedure in American Jewish life are not new. He has been expressing them for many years. I suppose that in the heat of the controversy created by the people who control the Council of Federations and Welfare Funds and who are out to dominate national Jewish movements and agencies by the clever device of setting up a National Advisory Budgeting Service, both proponents and opponents of the proposal have "stepped up" considerably their arguments and sharp things are being said on both sides.

I am confident that with the reconstitution of the United Jewish Appeal (which, but for the intransigence of a few individuals, would never have been dissolved) the temperature will drop again, and that when and if the National Budgeting Proposal is voted down by the Jewish communities of America, life will return to normal -- as normal as Jewish life can be.

Your good friend in Philadelphia who refused to contribute last year to the United Jewish Appeal because he didn't want any of his money to go to Palestine, did more to embitter people and to arouse passions than all the articles that you can point to...

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

HARRIS PERLSTEIN

221 NORTH LASALLE STREET

CHICAGO

March 14, 1941

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

This is in reply to the copy of your letter of March 6 to Mr. Bernard Reis which you sent me, particularly with reference to your last sentence reading "If, as you say, Mr. Perlstein edited the minutes in his own handwriting it is news to me."

If there were any questions in your mind I regret that you did not see fit to write to me to ascertain the facts rather than write in such fashion to someone else.

In Atlanta, the morning following our meeting, Mr. Friedman showed me his minutes to obtain my opinion as to whether he had fully covered the meeting. There was nothing whatever improper in such action on his part, nor on my part in looking them over. For your full information you will find enclosed a photostatic copy of this original draft.

As nearly as I can identify my own handwriting, among the many penciled corrections due largely to bad typing, the words "and the Council" at the end of the first sentence of the first paragraph on page 1 are mine--this being a simple correction of an omission in Mr. Friedman's notes. This is not at all controversial since Dr. Lowenstein's motion set out on page 2 makes it clear that the report was to be furnished to the Council and we all know that to be the fact.

On page 2 I recognize my writing in the words at the end of the first paragraph, reading "and supply such list to the secretary of this committee." This likewise simply called attention to a minor, non-controversial omission.

On page 3 the only thing that looks as though it might be in my handwriting is the correction of the spelling of the word "unanimously" in the next to the last paragraph.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver -2-

With particular reference to the point at issue, namely, the statement that changes suggested by Mr. Reis were to be subject to the acceptance of the Director, I ask you to note that this appeared in the first draft of the minutes by Mr. Friedman. It was neither suggested nor inserted by me. Despite your recollection to the contrary, I regarded this correct as written when I first saw it and still think it so. It is my recollection that when you suggested that it would be well for the tables to be certified and made comparable someone pointed out that any actual changes would have to be subject to the acceptance of the Director, since he was responsible for the report.

As pointed out in my letter of March 4 to Mr. Reis, copy of which I sent you on March 6, our committee consistently recognized the responsibility of the Director for the report and his freedom of action with regard to it. It never meant to place in the hands of Mr. Reis the power to force Mr. Friedman to accept changes. If you think I am wrong in this statement I will be very glad to poll the committee with regard to it.

In any event, what Mr. Reis tried to do, according to his letter of March 4 was to force Mr. Friedman to eliminate certain tables. Even if your recollection of what happened at the committee meeting were correct and mine at fault, it could not be asserted that Mr. Reis had been given power to have tables eliminated from the report. I can only repeat what I said to Mr. Reis; in my opinion, he was definitely in the wrong.

I am sorry to have to take up so much of your time to read this and so much of mine to write it, but I consider that your letter left me no alternative. Since our committee decided that the report was to be released for the benefit of the Council, the various agencies, and the communities, I have considered it my duty to see that it was finished and published despite all difficulties. I sincerely trust that we have finally come to an end of the bickering.

On the assumption that copy of your letter to Mr. Reis was supplied only to me I have sent no copies of this to anyone. If perchance you sent copies of your letter to others, will you please advise me who they were.

Sincerely yours,

N. Perlestein

HP.RF.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE
OF THE UNITED JEWISH APPEAL OF 1940

BILTMORE HOTEL, ATLANTA

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 7 P.M.

Present: Mr. Harris Perlstein, Chairman.

~~Mr.~~^{Messrs} Fred M. Butzel, Louis^S Lipsky, Solomon
C. Lowenstein, Abba H. Silver, Edward M. Warburg,
Henry Wineman.)

(Also, Mr. Bernard J. Reis, Accountant to the
Inquiry and Elisha M. Friedman, Director.

Mr. Fred Butzel suggested that the Report of the
Inquiry be released for general circulation with such comments
as the ~~city~~^{three} organizations choose to make before February 20th.
Dr. Solomon Lowenstein suggested that ~~it~~^{the report} be made available
for general publication and to the constituent organizations
and to their affiliates and subsidiaries. ^{and the Council.} Accompanying
the Report of the Inquiry should be the report of the Allot-
ment Committee as a sort of ~~governing~~^{Concluding} document and a letter of
transmittal from the Chairman of the Allotment Committee.

Mr. Louis^S Lipsky stated that the Inquiry Report should
be regarded as the responsibility of the director. If the
comments of the organizations are accepted by him he is to
include them ⁱⁿ ~~as~~ his report. If, however, he does not accept
them, the organizations shall be free to make such comments as
they choose in criticism ~~of the report~~. He thought likewise ~~that~~
the Inquiry Report should be released to the three organiza-
tions. ^{and to the Council. These} Of course, the ~~city~~ organizations should be at full
liberty to persuade Mr. Friedman of the soundness of their
criticisms. There ~~must~~^{need} be no limit on the length of the organ-

izations' criticisms.

Mr. Butzel, however, suggested that the longer the criticism ~~the~~ ^{it is} the less likely ~~it is~~ to be read and that a short criticism would probably prove more effective. On motion of Dr. Solomon Lowenstein, seconded by Mr. Henry Wineman, it was unanimously ~~reported~~ ^{assumed} that the Report of the Inquiry with the ~~Report~~ ^{be} of the Allotment Committee officially released for publication and that ~~criticisms~~ ^{comments} submitted by the participating agencies and accepted by the Director of the Inquiry shall be included ^{but} ~~and~~ that criticisms by the agencies ^{not} ~~in~~ so accepted shall be published with ^{out} ~~the~~ comment as an appendix provided ~~also~~ they be submitted not later than February 20, 1941. The report is to be distributed by the three organizations / to their affiliates and by the Council to its members for any use they choose to make of it ~~by that~~ but that each distributor should keep a list of the persons to whom it was sent, *and supply such list to the secretary of this committee.*

At the suggestion of Dr. Silver and accepted by the Committee Mr. Bernard J. Reis was to go over the tables and accounts and make suggestions, but in this respect ~~also~~ the acceptance of ~~the~~ ^{change} is to be subject to the discretion of the director.

The allotment Committee then setting as an Editorial Committee read Mr. Lipsky's version of the Allotment Committee report as dictated by Mr. Harris Perlstein and as accepted provisionally by the Editorial Committee, Messrs. Perlstein, Lipsky, Lowenstein and Friedman.

On motion of Mr. Butzel, seconded by Dr. Lowenstein, the report of the Allotment Committee as now revised by the entire Allotment Committee was approved, and was to be signed by all the members of the Allotment Committee.

Dr. Silver then suggested that the report if published in full was to be available for general circulation, but if any abstracts ~~xxx~~ thereof ^{was} ~~these~~ made such abstracts should receive the approval of the above named Editorial Committee of four.

On motion of Dr. Lowenstein, seconded by Mr. Butzel, it was unanimously passed that ~~xxx~~ if any abstracts of the Inquiry Report is sent out by any organization or by the Council it must be approved by the Editorial Committee.

On motion of Mr. Fred Butzel it was ^{unanimously} ~~unanimously~~ passed that the inquiry print 1,000 copies and charge fifty cents a copy.

On motion of Mr. Henry Wineman, seconded by Solomon Lowenstein, the Committee extended its thanks to Mr. Harris Perlstein, ^{for} faithful and diligent ~~conduct~~ ^{and} ~~x~~ ^{direction} of the Allotment Committee to the successful conclusion of its work.

March 19, 1941

Mr. Harris Perlstein
221 North LaSalle Street
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Mr. Perlstein:

Permit me to acknowledge your letter of March 14 to Rabbi Silver. Rabbi Silver is at present on a tour of the Pacific Coast in behalf of the United Jewish Appeal. He will return to Cleveland about the middle of next week and I shall be pleased to refer your letter to his attention at that time.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

BJK

Secretary to Rabbi Silver.

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CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
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HW327 17 TOUR=NEWROCHELLE NY 24 802P

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

CARE THE TEMPLE EAST 105 ST ANSEL RD CLEVE=

LEAVING SATURDAY ON NEWYORK CENTRAL 1115PM STANDARD TIME

ARRIVING CELVELAND 1110 SUNDAY MORNING STANDARD TIME REGARDS=

JAN PEERCE..

1115PM 1110 PEERCE..

ATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

March 26, 1941

Mr. Harris Perlstein
221 North LaSalle Street
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Mr. Perlstein:

I have just returned from a tour of the Pacific Coast in behalf of the United Jewish Appeal and I read your letter which you sent me on March 14. I am amazed to learn that you have so completely misconstrued my statement contained in my letter to Mr. Reis: "if as you say, Mr. Perlstein edited the minutes in his own handwriting, it is news to me." This statement is not an innuendo, but clearly a repudiation of an innuendo contained in Mr. Reis' letter. I could not accept Mr. Reis' suggestion that you edited the minutes in order to make them read otherwise than they were intended. Therefore, I expressed my surprise at his statement and said that "it is news to me".

I am afraid that the passions aroused by the unfortunate controversies of recent months as well as the hysterical statements and actions of Mr. Friedman (clearly a person who should have psychiatric attention) have led you to put a construction on a statement of mine which was never intended. Please re-read the letter which I wrote to Mr. Bernard Reis on March 6 which, by the way, I did not supply to anyone else. You will note that I wrote to him that I did not wish to enter into the subject which he raised in both of his letters. I chose only to make one comment: namely, that at the meeting in Atlanta, I requested that all the figures in the Inquiry Report should be certified by him and that all statistical tables should be made comparable -- inasmuch as he was the authorized expert accountant of the Survey. It was not suggested by anyone at the meeting that such certification and correction be subject to the approval or discretion of the Director of the Inquiry. The statement contained in the minutes, presumably written by Mr. Friedman, that they are subject to his discretion was not mentioned by anyone at the meeting. This is the fact.

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK

HARRIS PERLSTEIN

221 NORTH LASALLE STREET

CHICAGO

April 5, 1941

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

Dear Doctor Silver:-

Acknowledgment of your letter of
March 26th has been delayed by my absence.

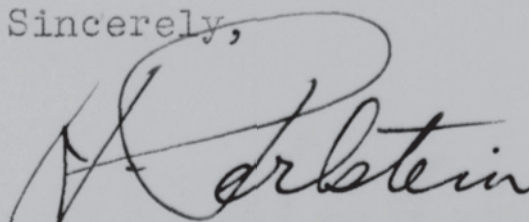
I am very happy to learn that the statement regarding me in your letter to Mr. Reis was not at all intended to raise the question which I thought it did, and I greatly appreciate your explanation regarding what you actually had in mind.

We still seem to be apart on our recollections as to exactly what was said and meant at Atlanta concerning certification of tables, etc., but that does not seem to be a matter of any particular moment any longer.

Like you, I am very sorry that the controversies which arose during the work of the 1940 Allotment Committee got out of hand at times to the point where they took on the character of personal attacks on some of the men. I hope that future committees will be able to avoid or greatly minimize that feature since the maintenance of cordial good will and mutual respect seems to me to be so important to everyone.

With regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "H. Perlstein". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial "H" and a long, horizontal stroke extending to the right.