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### **MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.**

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

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

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Zionist Organization of America, "M" and "N", 1948-1949.

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

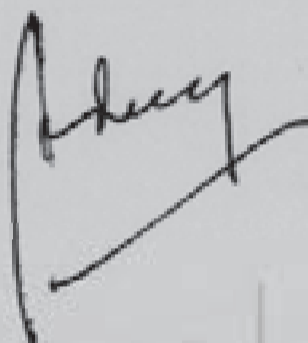
DATE: August 12, 1948

FROM: Dr. Sidney Marks

SUBJECT:

What are your advices?

My kindest personal regards.



SM:hsl

COPY

TRANSLATION

GENERAL ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF ARGENTINA  
T. A. 47, Cuyo 2988  
Buenos Aires

July 21, 1948

Dr. Emanuel Neumann:

We are taking this opportunity to write to you to express our surprise at the strange attitude towards all the Zionist groups here including our own party taken by the important leader, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver.

Dr. Silver appointed a man outside of all Zionist institutions to be responsible here in our governmental circles for all affairs of greatest political importance which concerns the State of Israel. According to certain rumors, the man was instructed not to take any advice from whomever it might be concerning all these matters. Disappointment without notification and without consultation with the General Zionists here can be understood. After all, we were responsible for all Zionist activities over a period of tens of years and we have prepared the ground under very unfavorable circumstances. Why should such a negative attitude be taken towards the General Zionists here who are in a very uneasy position? We hope that you will realize this yourself. We are indeed interested to hear from the various sources, the details and the truth about the matter. We will be very grateful if you will be able to guide us in this respect.

Would like to have your reply.

Signed: Dr. Jacob Reiter  
Asst. Secretary

Mr. C. H. Epstein  
Vice Chairman

August 12, 1948

Dr. Jacob Reiter, Assistant Secretary  
Mr. C. H. Epstein, Vice Chairman  
General Zionist Organization of Argentina  
T. A. 47, Cuyo 2988  
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Gentlemen:

Further with reference to my letter dated August 4th, I was unable to contact Dr. Silver before his departure for Israel. As soon as Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann have returned to this country in four weeks, it will be called to their attention.

Accept my kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Sidney Marks  
Executive Director

SM:hal

September 9, 1948

Dr. Sidney Marks  
Zionist Organization of America  
41 East 42nd Street  
New York 17, New York

My dear Sidney:

Some time ago your Book Department wrote me about the availability for distribution of my book, "The World Crisis and Jewish Survival". I have about 500 remaining copies of the volume, and I should be pleased if your Book Department would handle the distribution of these volumes. They are priced at \$2.50 each. I would, of course, make them available to the Z.O.A. at the customary wholesale price, and your Department would reimburse me as the books are sold.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

41 EAST 42nd STREET  
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

September 16, 1948

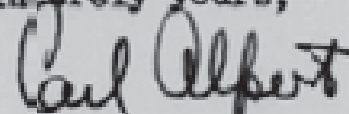
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
East 105th Street at Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

In the absence of Sidney Marks, your letter of September 9th addressed to him has been called to my attention inasmuch as the ZOA Book Bureau falls within my jurisdiction.

We at one time had a considerable number of copies of "The World Crisis and Jewish Survival", and upon checking the record I find that the book has been selling consistently. However, we still have about 400 copies on hand. Should we dispose of these within the next few months, I shall be glad to arrange with you for purchasing the remaining 500 copies which you hold.

Sincerely yours,



Carl Alpert, Director  
Education Department

CA:RW

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?

*Honorary Vice-President*

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*Chairman, Finance Committee*

MILTON POLLACK, Brooklyn, N. Y.

?

*National Secretary*

DR. SIDNEY MARKS, New York, N. Y.

?

*National Executive Committee*

MARCUS ABRAMSON, Bronx, N. Y.  
ABE BERKOWITZ, Birmingham, Ala.  
ABE R. COHEN, Pittsburgh, Pa.  
HARRY COHEN, Bronx, N. Y.  
SOL COHEN, Richmond Hill, N. Y.  
RABBI SAMUEL COOPER, Charleston, W. Va.  
BENJAMIN J. COPT, Lawrence, N. Y.  
MICHAEL H. ESNAL, Philadelphia, Pa.  
LOUIS A. FALK, Jersey City, N. J.  
JOHN J. FOX, New Haven, Conn.  
IRVING GALT, New York, N. Y.  
BEN ZION GINZBURG, Chicago, Ill.  
JOSEPH GOLDBERG, Worcester, Mass.  
SAMUEL GOLDSTOCK, Pittsburgh, Pa.  
I. R. GOODMAN, Miami Beach, Fla.  
JACOB GOODMAN, Brooklyn, N. Y.  
RABBI ROBERT GORDIS, Rockaway Park, N. Y.  
BENJAMIN E. GORDON, Teaneck, N. J.  
RABBI SIMON GREENBERG, New York, N. Y.  
MORRIS M. JACOBS, Detroit, Mich.

JUDGE HARRY E. KALOONER, Philadelphia, Pa.  
PAUL KAMINSKY, New York, N. Y.  
WILLIAM KAPELMAN, Bronx, N. Y.  
EDMUND A. KOBLENZ, Albany, N. Y.  
LEON KOHN, New York, N. Y.  
DR. HARMS J. LEVINE, Bronx, N. Y.  
JULIUS LIVINGSTON, Tulsa, Okla.  
JACOB G. LUKASZAK, New Rochelle, N. Y.  
A. M. LUNTZ, Cleveland, Ohio  
DR. SAMUEL MARGOSHES, New York, N. Y.  
DAVID MCKOWITZ, Bronx, N. Y.  
DR. MORTON J. ROBBINS, Nashua, N. H.  
DR. DAVID REISS, St. Louis, Mo.  
B. G. RUSOLPH, Ithaca, N. Y.  
JOCHANAN I. RUDAVSKY, Brooklyn, N. Y.  
ALBERT SCHRIF, Columbus, Ohio  
MILTON J. SILBERMAN, Chicago, Ill.  
DAVID SPIEGEL, Brooklyn, N. Y.  
THEODORE STRIMLING, Los Angeles, Calif.  
I. S. TURVET, Washington, D. C.

MORRIS WEINBERG, New York, N. Y.

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A. H. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

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

To DR. EMANUEL NEUMANN

Care of or Apt. No. ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

Street and No. 11 EAST 12 STREET

Place NEW YORK, NEW YORK

YOU MIGHT WISH TO INVITE PART OR ALL OF THE ISRAELI YOUTH GROUP NOW TOUTING THE  
COUNTRY TO APPEAR BEFORE ADMINISTRATIVE MEETING SUNDAY. REGARDS

SILVER

Sender's name and address  
(For reference only)

Sender's telephone  
number

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE  
ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA HELD ON SATURDAY EVENING  
SEPTEMBER 18th, 1948 AT THE HOTEL PENNSYLVANIA, NEW YORK CITY

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Dr. Emanuel Neumann, ZOA President, chairman of the meeting welcomed the members of the National Executive, and members of the National Administrative Council who were in attendance prior to the meeting of that body scheduled for the following day. He commented on the illness of Numa Torczyner who had been stricken seriously ill in Amsterdam, Holland, while en route to New York from Israel where he attended the sessions of the Actions Committee.

Before taking up the prepared agenda, the chairman spoke briefly of the meeting of the Actions Committee, whose sessions will be fully reported during the course of the National Executive Committee and National Administrative Council meetings. He stated that the prestige and influence of the ZOA was at its highest peak, with Zionists from all over the world looking to it for moral strength and support, and expressed the hope that the organization would live up to its great responsibilities at this critical time.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Sidney Marks, Executive Director, appraised the outstanding role of the American delegation at the sessions of the Actions Committee.

In his report on the various activities of the ZOA and plans for the ensuing months, Dr. Marks revealed that under the leadership of Joseph Goldberg, national ZOA membership chairman, enrollments had increased 20% over the same period last year, with 66 new districts organized, making a total of 685 districts to date. He stressed the need for additional life memberships.

American Zionist Fund

Collections for the AZF have exceeded that of the previous year. He expressed appreciation to Mendell Selig, national chairman, and Manuel Posy, director, for their efforts in behalf of the Fund. At the same time he pointed out that income from dues was not sufficient to meet the growing needs of the organization and urged increased efforts for support of the AZF as the "financial mainstay of the organization and the basic source of means for the far-reaching expansion of its educational, public relations, and other activities."

Public Relations

Dr. Marks commended the complete coverage of the meeting of the Actions Committee by the Public Relations Department and The New Palestine, headed by Mr. Ernest Barbarash. This first-hand material had served as a basis for the general and Jewish press. Likewise, the Convention proceedings had received unprecedented space in both the foreign and domestic press. The Public Relations Department was geared to implement the expanded ZOA program during the coming year.

### Education

Under the guidance of Dr. Robert Gordis, national chairman, and Carl Alpert, director, the Education Department is preparing an expanded program in line with the evolving concept of the future of the Zionist movement in America. This will include special education courses, increased scholarships for young people to study in Israel, the establishment of Zionist institutes and adult camps, etc.

### Israel Equipment Project and ZOA Food Project

The recently established Israel Equipment Project of which Benjamin Dof, member of the NEC, is chairman and Yehuda Hellman director, is making progress. Dr. Marks reported that considerable support for this project had already been received from the Michigan area, and thanked Morris Jacobs, president of the Detroit ZOA for his cooperation.

As a result of negotiations with the Israeli Supply Mission, arrangements are now in progress for the launching on a nationwide scale, of the ZOA Food Project, to be administered by the American Zionist Fund.

Dr. Marks stated that the entire membership has been mobilized to give priority support and fullest cooperation to the UJA campaign, as well as to the activities of the American Zionist Emergency Council.

In concluding his report, Dr. Marks paid tribute to Rabbi Jerome Unger, Associate Executive Director, who acted during his absence from the country.

The report of the Executive Director was unanimously approved.

### Budget

Milton Pollack chairman of the ZOA Finance Committee, reviewed the previous year's budget and analyzed the permissive budget approved by the convention in principle and referred to the National Administrative Council for adoption. Mr. Pollack stated the Finance Committee has been set up to ensure a maximum of efficient administration of funds for the ensuing year and was hopeful the ZOA would continue to keep "out of the red."

At the suggestion of Mr. Sol Cohen, it was agreed to mail copies of the budget as finally approved, to members of the NEC for their guidance during the year.

Rabbi Miller, chairman of the National Administrative Council explained that the Constitution of the ZOA provided for the adoption of the definitive budget at the first meeting of the NAC following the convention; that the framework of the budget was usually approved by the national convention. Any deviations in the definitive budget may be made by the NEC at subsequent meetings.

In order to facilitate the working operations of the organization, a resolution was introduced by the chairman and unanimously adopted, authorizing the officers and the Inner Committee, after consultation with the Finance Committee, to make any necessary interim decisions with regard to expenditures within the framework of the budget between now and the next meeting of the NEC.

### INNER COMMITTEE

The National Executive Committee approved the appointment by the ZOA president of the following members constituting the Inner Committee for the ensuing year; Dr. Emanuel Neumann, ex officio chairman; Daniel Frisch, vice chairman; Mark Sugarman, Coatesville, Pa.; Dr. Israel Goldstein, New York; William Sytk, Philadelphia; Rabbi Irving Miller, Woodmere, L.I.; Milton Pollack, Brooklyn; Abraham Goodman, Miami; Charles Resc, Mt. Vernon, N.Y.; Benjamin Browdy, Brooklyn; Joseph W. Greenleaf, Mt. Vernon, N.Y.; Dewey D. Stone, Brockton, Mass; Jacques Torczyner, New York; Herman Weisman, Scarsdale, N. Y.; Mendell Solig, Loominster, Mass.; Dr. Sidney Marks, ZOA Executive Director and Rabbi Jerome Unger, Associate Executive Director, ex officio.

### Subvention to Histadruth Ivrit

The chairman reported that a special subcommittee had been appointed by the Inner Committee to meet with representatives of the Histadruth Ivrit for the purpose of determining which particular activities of the Histadruth Ivrit are of special interest to the ZOA for which special or additional appropriations might be considered. The Histadruth Ivrit receives an annual subvention from the ZOA for the promotion of Hebrew.

### CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS

The chairman called on Rabbi Unger to present several important resolutions which had been prepared at the convention and referred to the National Executive Committee for action. The following resolutions were adopted:

#### Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School

A resolution endorsing the \$4,000,000 campaign for the establishment of the first medical school in Israel to train physicians and scientists, and calling for the cooperation of all Zionist districts and regions.

#### American Zionist Fund

A resolution urging wholehearted support for the AZF by Zionist districts and regions in fulfilling quotas to be assigned to them commensurate with the needs of the coming year and the organized Zionist strength in each community; the resolution stresses that precedence must be given in each community to campaigns of the UJA.

#### Youth Activities

A resolution consisting of seven separate directives dealing comprehensively with every phase of the Zionist youth program was presented.

The resolution provides for an expanded program for the education of Zionist youth as one of the major functions of the ZOA in the years to come. The extension by the American Zionist Youth Commission (maintained jointly by the ZOA and Hadassah) of its Brandeis Camp Institute to the Seaboard, Southeastern and Pacific area was hailed. The resolution recommended to the Youth Commission the extension of its sphere of operations beyond the existing Zionist youth organizations to all Jewish youth groups in this country and further asked the convening of a conference of all Jewish youth organizations for coordinating youth work in relation to the new State of Israel.

Continuing, the resolution offers encouragement and support to a program of chalutzit and extending greetings to Plugat Aliyah, the General Zionist chalutz group in this country, and to the Hechalutz Organization in America. It recommended the expansion of the Chalutzit Commission and urged ZOA districts throughout the country to make chalutzit one of their projects.

Point seven of the general youth resolutions, directed the administration to make available to the American Zionist Youth Commission the sum of \$125,000 for this year, exclusive of the needs of chalutzit. (In previous years, the allocation had been \$80,000). Appropriations of the ZOA are matched by Hadassah, joint sponsor of the Youth Commission.

On the recommendation of the chairman, the first six paragraphs of the resolution composed of recommendations of a general nature for guidance for the future were separated from that part calling for an appropriation of \$125,000 to the Youth Commission, and were unanimously approved.

Mr. Pollack suggested that action on the appropriation be deferred until a full report of the Youth Commission's activities, now in preparation, was available for study. A motion offered by Mr. Pollack that this part of the resolution be tabled, was thereupon adopted. In answer to Mr. Herman Weisman's objection that this would indefinitely delay action, the chairman pointed out that the Inner Committee had been empowered to act on budgetary allocations.

#### Acquirement of New Hachshara Training Farm

The chairman announced that Mr. H.H. Butler of New York, a member of Dr. Israel Goldstein's congregation, had offered to contribute his personal farm at Averill Park, N. Y. of 2000 acres, as a hachshara pioneer training farm for the chalutz group of IZFA, Ha-oleh. Before his departure for the Actions Committee, the chairman had concluded arrangements with the Keren Hayesod to allocate the sum of \$20,000 to equip the farm whose value is estimated at between \$50,000 and \$60,000.

#### Report of Herman Weisman--Youth Activities

Mr. Weisman, chairman of the AZYC, gave a brief resume of the projected activities for the coming year. He stated that Dr. Shlomo Hardin, director of the AZYC will henceforth devote his entire time to the development of the Brandeis Youth Foundation in charge of the operational, educational, cultural policies of the Brandeis Camp Institute. Three such institutes are already in operation in various parts of the country. Candidates to fill the post of director of the Youth Commission are being interviewed.

Mr. Weisman pleaded for greater support of youth activities under the sponsorship of the Youth Commission. He stressed the need not only of financial aid, but the enlistment and cooperation of new personnel who would be free to devote themselves wholeheartedly to this important aspect of the Zionist program--an aspect which was in keeping with the policy outlined in the presidential address at the ZOA convention.

The chairman expressed his appreciation to Mr. Weisman for his distinguished and loyal services as head of the Youth Commission and added that he hoped the entire expanded youth program would receive the serious consideration of the Inner Committee in the coming months.

Mr. Sol Benamy of Atlanta, Ga., chairman of a special committee to prepare a report on youth activities, announced his committee was making progress and that a complete report would be made at the next meeting of the NEC. The information would be available to the Inner Committee in the interim.

#### Political Resolutions

Acting on the suggestion of the chairman, a committee of three was appointed to draft the political resolutions for presentation to the Administrative Committee the following day. Rabbi Leon Feuer was appointed chairman, and Leon Kohn, and Judge Henry Ellenbogen, members, with Carl Alpert as Secretary.

#### Schedule of NEC Meetings

The chairman presented a tentative schedule for a minimum number of meetings of the National Executive Committee and National Administrative Council for the purpose of allowing members ample opportunity to avoid conflict of dates and allow for full attendance. The following schedule was unanimously approved:

October 31, 1948 - N.E.C., New York	March 6, 1949 - Ad. Council, Cleveland
December 12, 1948 - Ad. Council, Phila.	April 23, 1949 - N.E.C., New York
January 23, 1949 - N.E.C., New York.	May 29, 1949 - N.E.C., New York

#### Cleveland Membership Dues

The chairman accepted with gratitude, a check presented by Dr. F.M. Falkman, secretary of the Cleveland Zionist Society, covering payment for 1,300 members who have already paid their dues for the new year.

Materials for Palestine and ZOA Food Project

Mr. Abraham Goodman, chairman of a special committee for the ZOA, reported on his successful negotiations with Materials for Palestine and plans for the launching of a Food Project for Israel. As a result of discussion with Capt. Kolleck of the Israeli Supply Mission and representative of Materials for Palestine, an arrangement has been entered into whereby the ZOA will assume full and exclusive responsibility for the Food Project for Israel. It was anticipated this campaign would cover a period of about three months. This would in no way interfere with the ZOA Israel Equipment Project and the continued cooperation of Zionist districts.

Under the agreement, the ZOA would cooperate with Materials for Palestine insofar as their particular projects are concerned. At this point, Mr. Jacobs of Detroit reported that despite the agreement, Materials for Palestine was engaged in collecting food in that city. Dr. Morton Robbins of New England also questioned the role of the American Zionist Emergency Council in these projects, stating that in his area the activities of the Emergency Council are being extended to include collection of materials, food, etc. for Israel. Dr. Silver asserted the Emergency Council is not to engage in any such work and has not redefined or extended its original program of political and public relations activities.

The chairman cautioned there was a need for tightening of discipline within the organization, barring any independent action on policy decision without consultation with the national administration. He clarified the status of Materials for Palestine and Americans for Haganah, and emphasized the importance of Zionist districts communicating first with ZOA headquarters for clearance and guidance before engaging in campaigns sponsored by other groups. He reminded the members that such a resolution had been adopted previously by the National Administrative Committee and that a directive to that effect had been sent to all Zionist districts requesting their cooperation in implementing this decision.

Mr. Maurice Egnal, president of the Philadelphia ZOA, reported on the successful activities on behalf of the Equipment Project, resulting in the full cooperation of leading industrialists and others in that particular field. Likewise the Zionists of his city are earnestly at work on the Food Project and have pledged to contribute food in the value of \$1,000,000 within the prescribed period.

In response to a request for further information on the activities of Materials for Palestine and the extent of ZOA cooperation with that group, Mr. Abraham Goodman stated that a joint committee of two representatives from the ZOA and Materials for Palestine had been established to clarify and coordinate all projects before authorizing participation of Zionist districts.

The chairman emphasized that top priority will continue to be given to the UJA in all communities.

Upon motion of Leon Kohn, the agreement with Materials for Palestine was ratified and the ZOA Food for Israel Project was fully endorsed.

The president was authorized to appoint a national chairman and committee for the ZOA Food Project.

Bank Signatures

A resolution presented by Milton Pollack, authorizing the following signatures on ZOA checks was approved:

One: Mr. Mark Sugarman as treasurer, Mr. William Sylk and Mr. Joseph Greenleaf as Associate Treasurers, and Mr. Jacques Torczyner as alternate for the above; Two: For the Finance Committee, Milton Pollack as Chairman, or Bernard Singer, vice-chairman, or Philip Lassar or Jacob Goodman as members of the Finance Committee; Three: Abraham Goodman, vice-president, Dr. Sidney Marks, Executive Director and Rabbi Jerome Unger, Associate Executive Director. Any member of one group is authorized to sign for any member of another group.

Mr. Pollack further moved that the Finance Committee be authorized to open such additional bank accounts as in its discretion may be advisable. This was approved.

National Executive Committee Vacancies

The chairman stated that at the national convention one vice-presidency and seven places on the National Executive Committee had been left unfilled. In addition, the president was authorized to recommend to the Administrative Council the names of eight additional members instead of five as formerly, thereby making a total of fifteen to be designated, and one vice-president.

To this end, invitations have been extended to prospective members, including several affiliated with the Committee for Progressive Zionism. In the absence of definite replies at this time, the chairman was authorized to make recommendations to the meeting of the National Administrative Council the following day, or otherwise leave the vacancies open until the next meeting of the National Administrative Council.

Report of Dr. Goldstein

The chairman expressed the profound gratification of the ZOA on the election of Dr. Israel Goldstein as treasurer of the World Zionist Organization, and assured him of the fullest cooperation of the ZOA in meeting the challenge and responsibility which has come to him. He voiced appreciation that this important post has been assumed by a General Zionist and President of the Confederation of General Zionists.

In his report, Dr. Goldstein stated he had remained in Israel after the adjournment of the Actions Committee, to take preliminary steps in the way of personnel and organization in preparation for his new undertaking. He announced that Meir Hartman, General Zionist leader in Israel, will serve as special assistant to the treasurer.

The chief work of the Jewish Agency at this time, which is tied up closely with that of the Treasury Department, will be the absorption of new immigration and colonization on a mass scale. He reviewed several aspects of American participation to make this unprecedented program possible, including the enlistment of private capital for Israel and American industrial techniques and business skill.

Report of Dr. Silver

Before calling on Dr. Silver, the chairman reviewed some of the problems which confronted the American delegation upon its arrival in Israel. He paid tribute to Dr. Silver's role at the Actions Committee sessions, stating that many of the major accomplishments would not have been possible without his powerful support and leadership.

Due to the lateness of the hour, Dr. Silver stated he would defer his lengthy report of the Actions Committee until the following day. He confined his remarks mainly to the American political scene and analyzed the attitude of the U.S. Government on three major issues upon which no action has as yet been taken - namely, de jure recognition of Israel, the loan by the Export-Import Bank, and U.S. backing of the proposed admission of Israel to membership in the United Nations. Pointing out that America remains the key factor in the situation, its failure to take a positive stand had influenced member nations of the UN to postpone favorable action on Israel, until the US took an affirmative stand.

In analysing the effect of the assassination of Count Bernadotte in relation to Israel, developments at the UN, and world reaction, Dr. Silver characterized the assassination as a criminal, dastardly act which would be seized upon by other countries to delay favorable action. He reviewed happenings in Israel since Mr. Bunche had assumed the role of acting UN Palestine mediator and strongly condemned his statements which blamed the Israeli government for the assassination. He regarded Mr. Bunche's attitude as hostile to Israel.

Dr. Silver cautioned that despite the tremendous progress already evident in the new Jewish State, which was a source of pride to all, there were still many problems to be faced, -- economic, social and political. He pleaded for patience and understanding, and a determination on the part of American Zionists to prepare themselves now, spiritually and morally, for constant, unrelenting, undeviating loyalty to the upbuilding of the Jewish State.

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 A.M. until the following morning, with the singing of Hatikvah.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Sidney Marks  
Executive Director

MINUTES OF THE NATIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL, ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA  
HELD ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1948--HOTEL PENNSYLVANIA, NEW YORK

The first meeting of the duly constituted National Administrative Council was opened by its chairman, Rabbi Irving Miller, at 10:30 A. M.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Sidney Marks, ZOA Executive Director, rendered a comprehensive report covering all phases of Zionist activity and plans for the ensuing year. He stated that the goals set at the convention by the various national activity chairmen, in cooperation with the ZOA executive staff, were being implemented successfully. (A full summary of this report which was given also at the meeting of the National Executive the previous evening, is included in the minutes thereof.)

A discussion followed concerning the position of the ZOA and its membership toward the various campaigns for "Aid to Israel" projects which have been initiated in several parts of the country independent of the ZOA.

The chairman gave assurance that the expanded Zionist program including many new projects which was now under consideration, would be widely publicized and that clear directives will be sent to the ZOA membership. He emphasized that several communications have gone to districts recently advising ZOA members to seek clearance with the national office before participating in outside projects.

Dr. Robbins suggested that the Israeli agencies notify the ZOA leadership in advance when their emissaries expect to be in this country on procurement missions so that arrangements might be made to coordinate our activities.

The chairman stated this problem had received the attention of American Zionist leaders when they were in Israel and that negotiations are now under way with the World Zionist Organization to work out a means to eliminate this problem.

Convention

Mr. Shoolen Ettinger suggested that early consideration be given to the locale of the next convention.

NAC and NEC Meetings

In order to allow members of the National Administrative Council sufficient advance notice of meetings, the following dates were submitted for approval:

Sunday, December 12th -- Philadelphia; Sunday, March 6th -- Cleveland.

These dates were unanimously approved in the absence of other circumstances.

The chairman also announced a schedule of meetings for the National Executive Committee for the balance of the year which had been approved at the previous night's meeting.

A suggestion by Mr. Halbert of Atlantic City that the final meeting of the National Administrative Council be held on the eve of the convention was noted.

Reports on Actions Committee Session

Before calling on several leaders for reports, the chairman reviewed the background and problems which confronted this historic session of the Actions Committee which met for the first time since the establishment of the Jewish State.

He pointed out that with the immediate political objectives attained, the major problems centered around the future of the World Zionist Organization and its relationship to the Government of Israel. He paid tribute to the members of the ZOA delegation who played such an important role in guiding the outcome of the deliberations.

#### Report of Judge Morris Rothenberg

The speaker lauded the spirit prevalent among the people of Israel and the accomplishments of the new State. He spoke in particular of the role which the national funds have played and will continue to play in the upbuilding of the State, and lauded the wisdom shown by the Actions Committee in its decision to safeguard the integrity and autonomy of the national funds.

With regard to the land situation, Judge Rothenberg stated that under existing conditions, there is splendid opportunity to purchase large tracts of land at reasonable prices. The annulment of the restrictive land purchasing laws presented a golden opportunity which he warned must not be lost, if large masses of immigrants are to be absorbed. While there was sufficient manpower, there was still a crying need for more land.

In introducing Dr. Goldstein, Rabbi Miller, paid tribute to the important role which he has assumed in his new post of treasurer of the Jewish Agency. He voiced the gratitude of the ZOA that this high position has gone to a General Zionist and the president of the Confederation of General Zionists and assured him of the fullest cooperation.

#### Dr. Goldstein's Report

Before dwelling on some of the internal organizational problems, Dr. Goldstein described conditions in Israel and praised the high morale of the people and their great achievements in every field.

He reviewed the sessions of the Actions Committee and stressed that as the largest single party, the General Zionists played a significant role in the deliberations.

He analyzed the split which had taken place within the General Zionist framework of the Haoved Hazoni and Aliyah Haydasha and the creation of a third group under the leadership of Dr. I. Gruenbaum as yet unaffiliated with any party.

Dr. Goldstein characterized the Actions Committee meeting as one of the "most constructive" in the history of the Zionist movement listing as major achievements the broadening of the coalition; the distinct separation and delineation of functions of Government and the World Zionist Organization; the strengthening of the World Zionist Organization; and the assignment of significant additional functions to the American section of the Jewish Agency. He pointed out that the primary task of the Zionist Organization now will be to settle in Israel large masses of Jews from Europe, North Africa and other lands. He appealed for fullest support of American Jewry comparable to that which they extended on the mass education front, adding this support of the national funds and the enlistment of private capital and skill would determine to a great extent the numbers who could be absorbed into Israel. He appealed for support of the UJA campaign and expressed appreciation of the services rendered by Henry Morgenthau, General Chairman, and his co-workers.

Dr. Silver

The next speaker was Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of the American Section of the Jewish Agency, who was introduced by the chairman as "universally acknowledged as the leader today of World Zionism."

Dr. Silver stated he would not report on the Actions Committee as it had been fully covered by previous speakers. Before going into the political situation, he compared conditions in Israel now to that of his visit last February, and described the accomplishments there as a "miracle." He left Israel with a feeling of confidence that this people which "has been tried under fire and not found wanting would express itself in creative activities that would astound the world."

Dr. Silver reviewed the military and political situation and the hardships imposed by the truce. He urged that pressure be exerted by Great Britain and the U.S. on the Arab states to negotiate directly with Israel for peace as the only solution.

In analyzing the effect of Count Bernadotte's assassination which he described as a terrible tragedy, Dr. Silver voiced concern lest this "foul act" delay favorable action at the UN. He reviewed happenings in Israel since Mr. Bunche had assumed the role of acting Palestine mediator and strongly condemned his statement blaming the State of Israel for the assassination of Bernadotte.

Dr. Silver then discussed the political scene in this country and declared that the U.S. still held the key to the situation in Israel. He called upon the government to take positive action with reference to de jure recognition, the granting of a loan and the sponsoring of the admission of Israel into the UN. He strongly urged American Zionists to intensify political action to persuade our government to complete without delay what it has begun so that Israel can carry on its peaceful task of building the Jewish State.

The morning session adjourned at 1:30 P.M.

- - - -

Afternoon Session

The afternoon session resumed at 3 P.M. with Rabbi Irving Miller, national chairman, presiding.

Budget

The first item of business was the presentation and adoption of the annual budget. In this connection, the chairman stated that a tentative budget for the coming year was adopted at the national convention. He reported that at the meeting of the National Executive the previous night, it was decided to authorize the Inner Committee and officers of the ZOA in consultation with the Finance Committee to operate on the basis of last year's budget inasmuch as the exact income and budget could not be foretold at this early date.

Mr. Milton Pollack, chairman of the ZOA Finance Committee, pointed out that the budget had been adopted by the convention in principle and was a permissive budget, totalling \$1,466,443, from October 1, 1948 to September 30th.

Mr. Pollack presented a detailed departmentalized breakdown of proposed expenditures within the overall budget and outlined the purposes for which these

expenditures have been allocated. He stated that for the past few years, the ZOA has balanced its budget. He asked that the National Administrative Council approve the action of the National Executive.

In accordance with the action of the National Executive Committee, the resolution was unanimously adopted.

#### Atlantic City District Status

Mr. Halbert of Atlantic City, N.J. announced his district had withdrawn from the New Jersey region. He requested that his appointment as a member of the Nat'l Administrative Council representing his district be confirmed.

The question was referred to a committee to be appointed by the chairman which is to report its findings.

#### ZOA Economic Affairs Commission - Report of Albert H. Schiff

The chairman stated that one of the major tasks confronting the ZOA this year would be in the economic field. He called upon Albert Schiff to report on the findings of the ZOA Economic Commission.

Mr. Schiff advised that the Commission was still in the process of formation and that a full report would be available at the next meeting of the National Administrative Council.

#### Israel Corporation of America

Mr. Schiff announced the formation by individual Zionist officers and members of the Israel Corporation of America, which he pointed out was in keeping with the economic program presented to the convention by Dr. Neumann and approved by that body. The Israel Corporation of America is organized under the laws of the state of Delaware for \$25,000,000 and is dedicated to furthering the economic upbuilding of Israel through a program of housing and the promotion of essential industries. It aims to encourage the investment of American private capital in Israel; introduce American business and industrial skill; and strengthen the general economy of the Jewish State.

In reply to a question as to the need of a new corporation in view of the existence of the Palestine Economic Corporation, Mr. Abraham Goodman, ZOA vice-president and chairman of the Board of the Israel Corporation declared, there was the desire to organize a new corporation not tied to existing groups. There was however, the fullest cooperation and understanding between the PEC and ICA.

Mr. Goodman added that plans were being formulated for the holding of an economic conference in the near future when a full report would be presented on all phases of the economic development of Israel.

#### Report of Dr. Neumann

Dr. Neumann gave a full report of the Actions Committee and a significant analysis of what its decisions portend for the Zionist movement in America in the coming years.

He gave an analytical report on the various party alignments which came into play during the Actions Committee meetings, and deplored the tendency toward party fragmentation and the formation of new splinter groups in Israel. He pointed out

that many who at heart are General Zionists belong to other groups in Israel, often because of minor disagreements.

He recounted the efforts exerted by Dr. Silver and himself to bring about a unity of the two wings of General Zionism into one united Confederation of General Zionism, an effort in which they had succeeded two years ago.

Dr. Neumann spoke of the position of the Haoved Hazoni, General Zionist workers' group and the Aliyah Haydasha, another General Zionist group comprised of newer settlers from Germany and Central European countries, which was within the general framework of General Zionists but not part of the Confederation of General Zionists. These two groups have now begun negotiations on their own to combine and constitute a new General Zionist party in Israel within the Confederation.

The Greenbaum group when they found they were a minority in the General Zionist Party, had stepped out and formed a new splinter group.

Dr. Neumann commented that Labor also had split into two groups - Mapai and Mapam, and there was also disunity among the Revisionists.

Referring to the broadening of the Zionist Executive coalition, Dr. Neumann felt it was an anachronism for Zionist parties to exist in the Diaspora in alignment with similar parties in Israel. However, he believed there was little likelihood of such parties being abandoned in the Diaspora in the near future.

Commenting on a recent charge made by the American Poale Zion delegates to the Actions Committee that the ZOA, in calling for political separation of functions between the State and the World Zionist movement, was splitting the Jewish people. Dr. Neumann pointed out that according to a recent statement made by Dr. Weizmann, which appeared in "The Star," of New York, he approved this policy and associated himself fully with the position of the ZOA on this issue.

Dr. Neumann felt it would be helpful for the ZOA to cultivate more direct relations and have specific projects in Israel such as other groups. In this connection, he suggested the advisability of establishing a permanent office in Israel which would serve as a central point for all Americans visiting or living there.

He stressed the importance of broadening the economic field, and implementing the Israel Equipment Project and the ZOA Food Project. Dr. Neumann called for an intensified Hebrew program and encouragement of a wider American chalutsit movement.

In concluding his report, Dr. Neumann cautioned that a critical period lies ahead of Israel and that there were great tasks to be fulfilled, in every plane - moral, material, political, financial and economic.

#### Political Resolutions

Dr. Leon Feuer, chairman of the Political Resolution Committee, presented a series of resolutions covering the assassination of Count Bernadotte; calling on the American government to take positive action in regard to Israel; endorsement of the position taken by the ZOA delegation at the Actions Committee meeting; and an appeal to American Jewry to support the upbuilding of Israel in all fields. These resolutions were adopted.

Resolution on Behalf of Dr. Goldstein

A resolution expressing the great satisfaction of the National Administrative Council upon the election of Dr. Israel Goldstein to the Executive of the World Zionist Organization and his designation as Treasurer, was unanimously approved.

Resolution on Dr. Bunche:

At the suggestion of Dr. Silver, the Political Committee was authorized to draw up a resolution repudiating the charge of Dr. Bunche, Acting Palestine Mediator, that the State of Israel was responsible for the assassination of Bernadotte, and calling attention to the primary responsibility of the UN to take such steps as may be necessary to safeguard its personnel.

Mr. Joseph Goldberg's suggestion that copies of the political resolutions be distributed by the American Zionist Emergency Council to all districts was noted.

Dr. Robbins suggested that Dr. Neumann's Hebrew address at the Actions Committee be reprinted in Hadoar, while Mr. April further suggested that a booklet embodying the substance of Dr. Neumann's report and an outline of the program of the ZOA be published and widely circulated.

Numa Torczyner

On behalf of the National Administrative Council, the chairman was requested to express to Jacques and Harry Torczyner its sympathies with reference to their father, Numa Torczyner, who had been stricken ill enroute to America.

Israel Equipment Project

Morris Jacobs, President of the Detroit ZOA, reported that the Michigan area has already forwarded more than four carloads of equipment and food exceeding \$200,000 in value. Mr. Jacobs presented an album to Dr. Neumann outlining the work done by the Region.

Committee Appointments

Dr. Neumann stated that because of his absence from the country, several committee chairmanships were still vacant but he hoped to fill them shortly. On the matter of appointments to the National Executive, Dr. Neumann requested that action be deferred until the next meeting of the National Administrative Council when he would report fully.

Committee on World Zionist Constitution

Dr. Neumann announced that Judge Simon Rifkind of New York had agreed to serve as chairman of a committee of fifteen to study the question of the future program and constitution of the World Zionist Organization. Twelve members have accepted; the balance will be announced at a later date.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Sidney Marks, Secretary

September 21, 1948

Memorandum

To: Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
From: Dr. Emanuel Neumann

I would like to draw your attention to a young man who has been rendering us valuable service and is very devoted, Leon Ilutowicz. He is an educated and cultured man, a University graduate with a law degree from one of the European universities. He was active in Zionist work in Poland and later in Shanghai, holding responsible positions. He commands several languages perfectly, including Hebrew. It was he, you may recall, who translated into excellent Hebrew, your report to the Actions Committee at Zurich.

Recently he has been working along with Dr. Margoshes in the Zionist Information Service, sending out systematically, well-written articles about American Zionism, our work and activities. In these articles he has shown a remarkable grasp of the situation here, of our political line and the implications. I am enclosing one of his recent articles which appeared in the Zionistische Shtimme in Paris.

Though he has been doing very useful work, he is, I believe, cut out for more important functions and he has tried several times to get connected with the Jewish Agency Office here or with the Israel Mission, but without success. At various times I have recommended persons to Lourie, but the only one of my recommendations that he has acted upon, was in the case of a young man from Habonim.... There never seems to be room for a General Zionist who is consciously one.

I would appreciate it if you would give some consideration to using Ilutowicz in our new set-up. He knows English well by this time and his perfect command of Hebrew and Yiddish as well as an intimate knowledge of the Movement, particularly in Europe, would make him a valuable member of our staff. He would be excellent, for instance, in carrying on correspondence with Palestine in Hebrew, with Latin-American Zionists in Yiddish, etc..

Incidentally I think you were quite right in suggesting that we should include in our staff, some persons drawn from other parties, but we should, in each case, know exactly who the person is.

EN:BW

EA

September 21, 1948

Memorandum

To: Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
From: Dr. Emanuel Neumann

Something ought to be done, at long last, with the business of Shlichim from Palestine which seem to be coming over in increasing numbers. In many cases no doubt, they are good men who are doing useful work, but in many other cases, I am convinced they are useless, a drain on public funds and doing as much harm as good, if not more.

I know of some cases which are simply outrageous. The latest is the case of a man whom I knew in Palestine, who turned up here as a Shliach and has been after me ever since, to get him employed in some organization or institution in this country. He ought to be back home serving in the Army or doing other useful work. The whole subject is a matter which ought to be taken up seriously and energetically by the Executive in Palestine and also by the American Section of the Agency.

It is part of the functions of the American Section to supervise activities in this country generally. In line with that we ought to have a person on the staff of the American Section whose business it would be to keep some kind of tab on Schlichim and their activities. It would pay the Movement to engage such a man because I am persuaded that if he is the right person his work would result in a very substantial saving of our public funds. I am sending a copy of this letter to Israel Goldstein.

*Eto*

EN:EW  
C.C. Dr. Goldstein

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Officers of the ZOA, Members of the  
National Executive Committee, and  
Members of the National Administrative  
Council.

FROM:

SUBJECT: Dr. Sidney Marks

DATE: Sept. 21, 1948

Pursuant to the action taken by the National Administrative Council at its meeting on Sunday, September 19th, upon the recommendation of the National Executive Committee, the following schedule of dates and places of the meetings of the National Executive Committee and the National Administrative Council has been fixed:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Committee</u>	<u>Place</u>
Sunday, October 31	National Executive Committee	New York
Saturday night, Dec. 11	National Executive Committee	Philadelphia
and Sunday, December 12	National Administrative Council	Philadelphia
Sunday, January 23rd	National Executive Committee	New York
Saturday night, March 5	National Executive Committee	Cleveland
and Sunday, March 6th	National Administrative Council	Cleveland
Sunday April 24th	National Executive Committee	New York
Sunday, May 29th	National Executive Committee	New York

Please mark your calendar accordingly.

Kindest regards.

*Sidney Marks*

SM:ml

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Regional and District Presidents  
Members of the National Executive Committee  
Members of the National Administrative Council  
Regional Directors

Sept. 23, 1948

DATE:

FROM:

Dr. Sidney Marks

SUBJECT:

The American Zionist Emergency Council has requested us to emphasize that this is the critical period during which the Administration must be induced to fulfill its promises to Israel. We dare not allow this moment to pass without exerting maximum efforts to bring about de jure recognition of Israel and the economic aid which the President and the platforms of the Democratic and Republican parties have pledged. If these two objectives could be achieved quickly the possibility for political gains at the forthcoming meeting of the United Nations General Assembly in Paris would be greatly enhanced.

We urge that you do the following:

1. Request your Senators and Representatives to phone or wire the Chairman of the Export-Import Bank of Washington urging that that institution grant the requested loan immediately. We are confident that a large number of the members of both Houses of Congress will be happy to join us in pointing out to the Export Import Bank that there is no justification for the postponement of the \$100,000,000 loan to Israel and in demanding that it be extended forthwith. Such calls and telegrams should be addressed to William McC. Martin, Jr., Export-Import Bank of Washington, 734 Fifteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D C. (Phone: REpublic 7690)

2. You have already seen background material on the questions of de jure recognition, economic aid and immigration. No doubt you are calling these to the attention of newspaper editors, columnists and radio commentators. Please put this material to good use so that helpful newspaper and radio comment will result from your efforts in this connection.

Please let us have regular reports on your activities, and bear in mind that now is the moment for action. Let us ensure that the American Zionist movement, which has accomplished so much in the struggle to bring Israel into being, shall never reproach itself for failure to meet the challenge of the hour.

My kindest personal regards.

P.S. We are also annexing for your information the texts of three editorials which appeared in the press since the assassination of Count Bernadette.

SM:dhl

Encl.

September 27, 1948

Dr. Emanuel Neumann  
521 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York

My dear Emanuel:

In getting up the new Year Book of the Z.O.A. on which Miss Udin is now at work, I would suggest that you go over with her carefully the material so that everything we should like to see included is included, and proper interpretation of events during the past year is given. Miss Udin herself tries to be impartial, but her sympathies are elsewhere.

This Year Book is a very important one, covering as it will the critical year 1947-48 - the decisions at the United Nations, the position of the American government, the final struggle in our own ranks for the proclamation of the state of Israel, the meeting of the Actions Committee last month, the problems presented there, etc.

With all good wishes, I remain

As ever yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er

[Sept. 30, 1948]



# ההסתדרות הציונית במכסיקו ORGANIZACION SIONISTA DE MEXICO

Ref. \_\_\_\_\_ 1800

AV. CHAPULTEPEC 300

APDO. POSTAL 2700

TEL. } 11-03-13 11-23-34 Y  
ERIC. } 11-23-44 MEX. 35-94-71

COMITE EJECUTIVO:

MEXICO, D. F.

PRESIDENTE:  
DULTZIN LEON

A.H.S.  
15/6/48

VICEPRESIDENTES:  
FASTLIGHT ADOLFO, מפקסטיק, ד.פ. דעם 30-סן סעפטעמבער  
WOLFOWITZ ARTURO

SECRETARIO GENERAL:  
EPSTEIN IDEL

TESORERO:  
WOLFOWITZ MAX

SECRETARIO FINANCIERO:  
SONABEND MENDEL

SECRETARIO EJECUTIVO:  
SCHUSTER MOISES

VOCAL:

- Gutlin Israel
- Gutlin Enrique
- Landau Salomón
- Lewinshteln Barol
- Liberman Jacobo
- Lupa Jacobo
- Mintz Josué, Dr.
- Kucher Salomón
- Kraimainik Pedro
- Rasnikoff Teodoro
- Rosenfeld Abel
- Rubinstein Watsia
- Schwartz Mijael
- Shapiro Lázaro
- Sourasky Elias
- Sourasky Jaime
- Sukatski Isaac
- Witkilewitz Rafael
- Tolz Paul

לכבוד הח' דר. עמנואל ניומאן  
פרעזידענט פון אמעריקאנער  
ציוניסטישער ארגאניזאציע  
ניו יארק

זייער ליבער חנר דר. ניומאן:

עס איז אונזענס צו באשעסטיקן די דערהאלטונג פון אייער  
בריוו דאטירט דעם 27-סן סעפטעמבער.

מיר זיינען אייד זייער דאנקבאר פאר אייערע הארציקע  
וואונסטן וועלכע איר האט אונז איבערגעשיקט ביי דער גע-  
לעגנהייט פון נייעס יאר אין אייער נאמען און אין נאמען פון  
דער אמעריקאנער ציוניסטישער ארגאניזאציע.

נאסירליך וועלן מיר נישט דורכלאזן די געלעגנהייט אייד  
איבערצושיקן און אייד דער אמעריקאנער ציוניסטישער ארגא-  
ניזאציע, אונזערע הארציקסטע וואונסטן ביי דער געלעגנהייט  
פון נייעס יאר תש"ט, אז דאס נייע יאר זאל אונז ברענגען  
נצחון און שלום.

ביי דער געלעגנהייט ווילן מיר זיך ווענדן צו אייד  
מיט פאלגענדע ביטע.

אין צוזאמענהאנג מיטן 50 יעריקן יובילעאום וואס אונ-  
זער ארגאניזאציע פיערט דעם 30-סן אקטאבער לכבוד אונזער  
פראמינענטן אקטיוון חבר אליהו סוראסקי וועלן מיר אייד  
זייער דאנקבאר זיין אויב איר וועט אונז צושיקן א פאסיקע  
באגריסונג צו דער דאזיקער געלעגנהייט ווי אייד באזארגן דאס  
זעלבע פון דר. אבא הלל סילווער.

דאנקענדיק פאראויס אייער אויפמערקזאמקייט צייבענען מיר

בכל הכבוד ובב ישראל נאמנה

ציוניסטישע ארגאניזאציע אין מעקסיקע  
לייב דולצין  
פרעזידענט  
משה שוסטער  
סעקרעטאר

# ההסתדרות הציונית במכסיקו

## ORGANIZACION SIONISTA DE MEXICO



Ref. \_\_\_\_\_ 1800

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COMITE EJECUTIVO:

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PRESIDENTE:  
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WOLFOWITZ ARTURO

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SONABEND MENDEL

SECRETARIO EJECUTIVO:  
SCHUSTER MOISES

VOCALES:

Gutlin Israel  
Gutlin Enrique  
Landau Salomón  
Lewinshtein Baruj  
Lieberman Jacobo  
Lupa Jacobo  
Mintz Josué, Dr.  
Kucher Salomón  
Krajmalnik Pedro  
Reznikoff Teodoro  
Rosenfeld Abel  
Rubinstein Watsia  
Schwartz Milael  
Shapiro Lázaro  
Sourasky Elias  
Sourasky Jaime  
Sukatchi Isaac  
Wishniawits Rafael  
Zalts Paul

מעקסיקע, ד.פ. דעם 1טן אקטאבער 1948



לכבוד הח' דר. אבא הלל סילווער ניו יארק

ו ייער חשובער חבר דר. הלל סילווער:

ביי דער געלעגנהייט פון נייעס יאר חט"ס שיקם אייד איבער די ציוניסטישע ארגאניזאציע אין מעקסיקע אדע בעסטע און האדציקסטע וואונסטן אז דאס נייע יאר זאל זיין א יאר פון נצחון און שלום.

בדכה ישראל נאמנה

ציוניסטישע ארגאניזאציע אין מעקסיקע

אידל עפסטיין  
נע.נ. סערעסאר

לייב דולצין  
פרעזידענט

September 30, 1948

Memorandum

To: Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
From: Dr. Emanuel Neumann

I have your letter regarding the ZOA Year Book  
and will do everything in my power.

Kind regards,

EN:BW



## MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

DATE: October 7, 1948

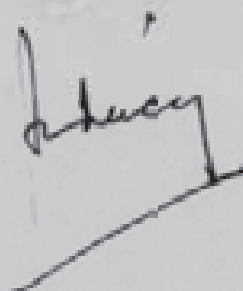
FROM: Dr. Sidney Marks

SUBJECT:

Enclosed herewith please find a letter forwarded to us requesting a 50th Annual message of greeting. Our Public Relations Department will be more than happy to prepare this for you, if you so request.

I trust that you, Mrs. Silver and the family are in the best of health and spirits.

Accept my affectionate regards and please extend them to the family.



SM:dh  
encl.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	ORDINARY
DAY LETTER	URGENT RATE
SERIAL	DEFERRED
NIGHT LETTER	NIGHT LETTER

Please always check class of service desired; otherwise the message will be transmitted as a telegram or ordinary cablegram.

# WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

\$	CHECK
\$	ACCOUNTING INFORMATION
F	TIME FILED

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

OCTOBER 12 1948

To DR. SIDNEY MARKS

Care of or Apt. No. ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

Street and No. 42 EAST 42 STREET

Place NEW YORK, NEW YORK

MATERIALS FOR PALESTINE PLANNING CAMPAIGN CLEVELAND. PLEASE SEND ME

TEXT OF ZOA AGREEMENT WITH MATERIALS.

SILVER

Sender's name and address  
(For reference only)

Sender's telephone  
number

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE  
ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA, HELD ON OCTOBER 14, 1948, AT THE  
HOTEL COMMODORE, NEW YORK

---

The special meeting of the National Executive Committee was called to order at 3 P.M. by Dr. Emanuel Neumann, President.

Death of Numa Torczyner

Dr. Neumann reported the passing of Numa Torczyner of New York, veteran Zionist leader in Amsterdam, while returning from the meeting of the Zionist Actions Committee in Tel Aviv. He paid deep tribute to his many years of distinguished service to the Zionist cause, referring to Mr. Torczyner's leadership of the Zionist Federation of Belgium and later, his manifold activities in the United States.

A resolution directing that appropriate resolutions in memory of Mr. Torczyner be spread on the records of the ZOA, was unanimously adopted.

UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

The chairman stated this special meeting had been convened to receive a full report of the recent developments in the controversy which had developed within the UPA as a result of Henry Montor's letter of resignation, and to take any necessary action thereon. Dr. Neumann reviewed the salient points of Mr. Montor's letter to Dr. Israel Goldstein, UPA Chairman, dated September 10th, and Dr. Goldstein's reply of September 27th, copies of which were made available to NEC members. The chairman characterized the charges made by Mr. Montor as a series of allegations, grave accusations and insinuations directed chiefly at the ZOA, and in part against the whole Zionist movement, adding they reflected upon the honor and integrity of members of the UPA occupying positions of high responsibility.

Dr. Neumann pointed out that Dr. Goldstein's answer categorically and fully refuted the charges of Mr. Montor. In his letter, Dr. Goldstein cautioned Mr. Montor against raising a public controversy at this time, declaring such action would ultimately harm the welfare of hundreds of thousands of Jews whose salvation depended upon the success of the forthcoming UJA campaign.

Dr. Goldstein advised Mr. Montor that his resignation would be referred to the Executive Committee of the UPA at its next meeting.

Dr. Neumann then comprehensively reviewed the developments since the exchange of the above correspondence. Although Dr. Goldstein had requested Mr. Montor to be present at the next scheduled UPA meeting, he had not done so. However, at a subsequent meeting which Mr. Montor attended, he declined to substantiate the allegations and charges made in his letter of resignation.

The chairman recounted the negotiations which had taken place recently between a sub-committee of the UPA, consisting of a group of about twenty community leaders and contributors to the UJA, who asked that the UPA be reorganized so as to allow for increased community representation on its Board. He stated that the Jewish National Fund and Keren Hayesod, comprising the main beneficiaries of the UPA, were giving this matter their earnest consideration.

He advised that this group, known as the Committee of Contributors and Workers, was planning a meeting to be held in Pittsburgh on October 23rd, to discuss the launching of a separate appeal for a new fund whose proceeds would not be remitted to Israel through the UJA or the Jewish Agency, but would go directly to Israel through some as yet undisclosed channel.

In view of the gravity of the situation, the chairman stated he felt it urgent that the NEC members have all the facts before them so they may determine their position. A meeting of the UPA Executive was scheduled for that evening.

#### UPA - Discussion

In the lengthy discussion that ensued, members strongly voiced their condemnation of Mr. Montor's action, as well as that of the group of contributors who had seen fit to assume the responsibility of taking independent action. They expressed the conviction that any reasonable question relating to the reorganization of the UPA would receive the consideration of those immediately concerned, and voiced deep anxiety that this controversy might seriously affect national fund-raising to the harm of Israel. However, it was the consensus that Mr. Montor must retract his unjustified charges and confine his activities solely to fund-raising, abstaining from partisan political activities. Otherwise, his resignation must be accepted by the UPA.

The chairman read a telegram which had just been received from Dr. Silver in which he stated that Mr. Montor's slanderous attack on the ZOA and his unsubstantiated charges have disqualified him from further useful service in the UPA. He pointed out that the UPA represented all political parties and shades of opinion and that its Executive Vice-Chairman "must limit himself to campaign activities and not engage in partisan political activities which are harmful to the harmony of the common fund-raising effort."

On the question of additional community representation on the UPA Board, Dr. Silver in his message advised such action should be taken after careful study by the JNF and Keren Hayesod and "should not be the result of punitive measures on the part of the Executive Vice-Chairman whose intemperance and partisanship have disqualified him from being in any way helpful in the situation."

Recapitulating the discussion, Dr. Neumann cautioned that Mr. Montor's action was a maneuver on the part of himself and his friends, to grasp control of the UPA unless their proposals were accepted.

A resolution introduced by Mr. Leon Kohn of New York recommending that Mr. Montor's resignation be accepted by the UPA, was approved unanimously, with three abstentions on the part of Dr. Goldstein, Judge Morris Rothenberg and Albert Schiff.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Sidney Marks  
Secretary

# CLASS OF SERVICE

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# WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN  
PRESIDENT

1901

## SYMBOLS

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To **CL317 PD=NEWYORK NY 11 400P=** E at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=1

THE TEMPLE=

JEWISH DAY BRINGING OUT SPECIAL ADDITION NOVEMBER 29TH  
COMMEMORATING HISTORIC EVENT AND HIGHLIGHTING EXTRA  
ORDINARILY ROLE AMERICAN ZIONIST LEADERSHIP IN ACHIEVING  
HISTORIC RESULT. IN THIS CONNECTION WOULD BE HIGHLY HONORED  
RECEIVE FROM YOU ARTICLE ON ANY PHASE OF SUBJECT URGE YOU  
LET ME HAVE ARTICLE NOT LATER THAN NOVEMBER 20TH BEST  
REGARDS=

S MARGOSHES

# 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

JOSEPH L. EGAN  
PRESIDENT

# SYMBOLS

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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.

, CLO32 NL PD=UD NEWYORK NY NOV 3=

DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

1948 NOV 4 AM 8 53

THE TEMPLE=

YOU ARE URGENTLY REQUESTED ATTEND SPECIAL INVITATION  
MEETING SATURDAY AFTERNOON NOVEMBER 6TH ONE OCLOCK  
SHARP, ROOM 14 PALMER HOUSE, CHICAGO. INTERNAL UPA  
SITUATION WILL BE DISCUSSED. YOUR ATTENDANCE IMPERATIVE.  
REGARDS=

: DR SIDNEY MARKS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ZOA=

MINUTES OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE  
ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA HELD AT THE HOTEL WALDORF ASTORIA,  
NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 13, 1948.

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The meeting of the National Executive Committee was called to order at 8:45 P. M. by Mr. Abraham Goodman, ZOA vice-president, who presided until the arrival of Dr. Neumann.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Dr. Sidney Marks, Executive Director, in a comprehensive report outlined the various ZOA projects and overall program for the ensuing year.

Food for Israel Campaign:

Dr. Marks stated a food campaign for \$2,500,000 had been launched by the ZOA at the specific request of the Israeli Supply Mission in this country and was receiving an enthusiastic, nationwide response. Under the chairmanship of William Sylk of Philadelphia and operating through the American Zionist Fund, regions and districts were cooperating wholeheartedly. Furthermore, the aid of many new individuals and organizations not heretofore identified with the ZOA, had been successfully enlisted.

ZOA Economic Commission: The recently organized ZOA Economic Affairs Department of which Mortimer May is chairman, had completed arrangements for its first nationwide conference at the Waldorf Astoria the following day, when prominent experts would discuss the economic future of Israel, and various reports would be submitted.

An important function of this Department will be the gathering and dissemination of first-hand authoritative material on all phases of Israel's economy.

Other Departments:

Membership activities under the leadership of Joseph Goldberg, National Membership Chairman are going forward successfully, and the American Zionist Fund of which Mendell Selig is national chairman, reports an increase in income over last year. However, Dr. Marks pointed out that the major source of income was derived from membership and AZF, and cautioned against any slackening of effort which would seriously affect the implementation of the broadened ZOA program during the coming year.

In regard to Public Relations, Mr. Barbarash, director, and editor of The New Palestine was presently in Israel where he planned, among other things, to set up the necessary machinery for the receipt of first-hand authoritative information from Israel, photos, and other pertinent material, for wide distribution to the press and key Zionist leaders and workers throughout the country.

Dr. Marks reported that all other ZOA projects were being carried forward, including the Israel Equipment Project headed by Benjamin Doff. We are extending our J.N.F. work. The ZOA is giving full cooperation to the World Confederation of General Zionists, the Zionist Information New Service (ZINS) as well as to the ZOA affiliate, B'nai Zion.

Upon motion of Eliku Stone, the report of the Executive Director was unanimously approved.

EDUCATION REPORT:

Carl Alpert, Education Director, rendered a detailed report on the Department's intensified activities. He advised that educational literature was being more widely used than heretofore not only by ZOA districts, but by many individuals and organizations outside the ZOA. New pamphlets, films, and special material prepared for Hebrew courses are being utilized. A new type of literary periodical is being planned. Vol. IV of the Palestine Year Book and several other books covering a wide range of subjects will be available shortly.

An important feature of the expanded Education Department program, will be the award of one hundred scholarships to young people for one year in Israel, to be divided between study and work on the land. The cost of these scholarships will be met by the American Zionist Fund. This increased grant for scholarships was received with warm commendation by the NEC and regarded as an added incentive for intensified efforts on behalf of the AZF campaign.

MEMBERSHIP:

Joseph Goldberg, national membership chairman, stressed the need for a continued vigorous membership campaign and suggested that a national membership conference be held. He expressed confidence that the ZOA membership goal would be achieved.

AMERICAN ZIONIST FUND:

In the absence of Mendell Solig, national chairman, Manuel Posy, A.Z.F. director, reported that the ZOA Food for Israel campaign, under the aegis of the AZF, was meeting with an unprecedented response. Moreover, the campaign for funds for the overall purposes of AZF has been launched in many communities, and Welfare Funds throughout the country have indicated that allocations would be made as heretofore.

"FOOD FOR ISRAEL":

William Sylk, national chairman, rendered an extensive report on the organization and achievements to date. He announced that \$1,000,000 worth of food has been collected within the first month, and that pledges have already exceeded two and a half million dollars in food stuffs, the amount set by the Israeli Supply Mission as required within a ninety day period. Mr. Sylk stated that an important aspect of the campaign had been the support on the part of many people and organizations hitherto unassociated with the activities of the ZOA. He described the campaign in various parts of the country and stated the overwhelming response ensured the success of the drive.

In response to queries by Samuel Goldstock of Pittsburgh and Milton Silberman, now of Chicago, concerning methods to be used to avoid interference with the UJA, Mr. Sylk emphasized the Food Committee was seeking only contributions of goods in kind and urged there be no solicitation for funds to purchase food unless unavoidable. Where contributions of food were impossible because of large consignments, certificate authorizations from donors to purchase specific amounts of food might be obtained.

Further queries from Dr. David Reiss of St. Louis and others indicated they had been asked for data to show there was a definite need of food for the people in Israel. To dispel any doubt, Dr. Neumann made it clear that this food drive had been launched by the ZOA at the specific request of the Israeli Purchasing Supply

Mission in this country. He cited the comprehensive agreement in force between Materials for Palestine and the ZOA, pointing out the former confined its activities to other spheres and that an amicable relationship existed between the two organizations. Dr. Neumann suggested distributing to ZOA workers a facsimile of the official statement of the Israeli Supply Mission which requested and authorized the ZOA to undertake this campaign.

MESSAGE OF DR. BRODETSKY, ENGLAND:

The chairman introduced Professor Selig Brodetsky, life-long Zionist and chairman of the Jewish Board of Deputies of Great Britain. In a brief greeting, Dr. Brodetsky gave an appraisal of the role of the Zionist movement in the past 30 years and the future of the Jewish State. He appealed for support of the Hebrew University of which he is Deputy Chairman of the Board of Governors, and praised the "tremendous vigor and scope of Zionist activities in this country."

LOAN TO JEWISH AGENCY:

Milton Pallack, chairman of the Finance Committee, reported his committee recommended the approval of a loan of \$65,000 to the Jewish Agency toward the purchase by them of a building at 11 East 70th Street, New York. This will house the offices of the American Section of the Agency, the Consulate of the Israeli government, and the members of the Israeli representatives to the UN. Satisfactory terms for the repayment of the loan have been worked out. The chairman joined in support of this resolution as an accommodation and service to the Jewish Agency and the State of Israel. Upon motion being put to a vote, it was unanimously adopted.

APPOINTMENT OF HARRY SHAPIRO TO UPA:

Herman Weisman, acting UPA chairman, announced the appointment of Harry Shapiro, Executive Director of the AZEC, as Executive Vice-Chairman of the UPA, a post which had become vacant on the acceptance of Henry Montor's resignation.

UPA REPORT

Mr. Weisman, in a comprehensive report, reviewed the developments in the UPA controversy since September 26th when the dissident minority group, the Committee of Contributors and Workers, announced its intention to organize a separate fund for Israel in opposition to the UPA, and related the steps taken to date by the UPA to negotiate a settlement.

Mr. Weisman explained in detail the background of the issues raised. He pointed out that the UPA had responded quickly to meet the requests for broader community representation, bearing in mind that the time for a new campaign was close at hand. The Keren Hayesod and the Jewish National Funds, the two funds comprising the UPA, had adopted in principle the request for increased community representation, and had agreed to 33%. They agreed also to strengthen the functioning of the UPA so that it would elect its own officers instead of receiving nominations from the two Funds as heretofore. It was also approved that the UPA be empowered to pass upon applications for special allocations instead of leaving this to the discretion of the Funds.

On October 13th, the dissident group stated its intention to invite the Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) to form a new fund in place of the UPA. Ten days later, the Council of Federations and Welfare Funds met in Pittsburgh to

make plans for the coming year's fund-raising campaigns. The Committee of Contributors and Workers also met at the same time in Pittsburgh. The latter group refused a hearing to Mr. Weisman and Dr. Israel Goldstein, treasurer of the Jewish Agency. However, both Mr. Weisman and Dr. Goldstein spoke before the sessions of the Council, which adopted a resolution that it would cooperate in consultation with everyone concerned, for the purpose of organizing a United Jewish Appeal for 1949.

Mr. Weisman revealed that the Council of Federation and Welfare Funds explicitly denied receiving any demand from communities for increased representation on the UPA Board; also that the organizations of the Welfare Funds were such that they did not see the need of any organic relationship with the UPA. It was felt that this whole problem had been foisted upon the Council by the actions of the dissident group.

Mr. Weisman then reported on the many attempts to arrive at an understanding with the dissident group prior to the UPA conference in Chicago on November 7th, emphasizing that the UPA had already taken steps to meet the requests made by this group. Every effort had been made to have this conference represent a unified body so that no further time need be lost in planning a united fund-raising campaign. However, Mr. Weisman stressed that the UPA could not negotiate with any group unless and until the threat of an independent campaign were clearly removed.

Mr. Weisman disclosed the contents of a cable from Berl Locker, chairman of the Jerusalem Agency Executive addressed to the American Section of the Agency and read to the delegates in Chicago. The message in substance warned against any independent fund-raising campaign "apart from the UPA as fraught with gravest dangers to our cause" and upheld the UJA "as the mainstay of American Jewry's effort."

In a series of resolutions adopted at the UPA conference, the actions by the UPA Executive to strengthen its organization were endorsed; the authority of the World Zionist Congress and all the central institutions of the World Zionist movement was affirmed.

In concluding, Mr. Weisman reported that during the UPA conference in Chicago, the Committee of Contributors and Workers issued a press statement announcing they planned to hold a meeting in Atlantic City on December 12th to which community representatives would be invited, to discuss a separate campaign and the transmission of funds directly to Israel. Such action, Mr. Weisman declared, would be tantamount to by-passing the national funds and the authority of the Jewish Agency. Furthermore, he pointed out, the date and place chosen by this group were the same as those tentatively set by the United Jewish Appeal for its annual conference.

#### DR. NEUMANN'S REPORT

Dr. Neumann gave an interpretation and analysis of the controversy, endorsing the decision of the UPA Executive that it could not negotiate with a dissident group on the basis of a threat to wage an independent fund-raising campaign which would disrupt the UPA and UJA. He reaffirmed that this dispute was not between the UPA and the Welfare Funds, but was strictly an issue between the UPA and a dissatisfied minority within that body. He reiterated that the Council of Welfare Funds had stated they were under no pressure in the matter of increased community representation on the UPA, and charged this demand was being engendered artificially by a group within the UPA. He stated that the American Section of the

Jewish Agency had acted promptly, constructively and responsibly in dealing with the situation, and added that Mr. Locker, representing the Jerusalem Executive was expected in this country shortly as an observer. He pointed out that the UPA (on the recommendation of the American Section of the Agency) had responded promptly in agreeing to enlarged community representation, and had only recently invited 200 communities to designate representatives to discuss ways of implementing this proposal.

Dr. Neumann underscored the full implications and consequences of independent fund-raising in America and the distribution of funds in Israel by any group which arrogated this power to itself. He charged that if successful, it would spell the dissolution of the discipline of the World Zionist movement and the weakening of one of its prime functions, that of setting up a budget and distributing its own funds.

Alluding to the underlying motives of the dissident group, Dr. Neumann expressed the view that they were prompted not so much toward the reorganization of the UPA but by the desire to assume personal leadership, on the pretext of acting as the champions of the cause of the communities. By such action they were in effect sweeping aside the locally, democratically established, representation of the Zionists of America on the Funds. He condemned such procedure, characterizing these tactics on the part of ZOA members as a contravention of Zionist discipline.

#### DISCUSSION AND ACTION:

A lengthy discussion followed, in which members denounced the undisciplined conduct of ZOA members of the dissident group, and called for vigorous measures if they persist in utilizing their status to undermine Zionist unity. The speakers emphasized the need for being kept fully informed of developments in the controversy and urged that the true facts be brought before the entire ZOA membership and Jewish community at large.

As a result of this concerted demand for action, a series of resolutions were adopted embodying the consensus of the NEC in this matter. These include recommendations that the ZOA membership be kept apprised of all pertinent facts; that the necessary action in communities be taken to safeguard the primary position of the UPA as the central fund-raising instrument in behalf of the program of the Jewish Agency; that the Zionist leadership make formal representation to Welfare Funds disclaiming the authority of ZOA members of the CCW to speak as Zionists on behalf of the Zionist movement, and urging that no response be made to any request for a fund-raising conference by a group which is acting in derogation of the authority of the Jewish Agency.

Another resolution took note of the breach of discipline on the part of certain members of the ZOA and authorized the officers to notify such members of the grave view which is taken of their action which is regarded as contrary to the practice, principles and discipline of the Zionist movement, and call upon them to desist.

#### ZOA REPRESENTATION ON FUNDS:

In view of the impending annual meeting of the Keren Hayesod and Jewish National Fund, a resolution was adopted authorizing the appointment of a sub-committee to appoint ZOA representatives on the Boards of the Funds.

AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE:

Daniel Frisch reported that at a recent meeting of the AJC which he attended on behalf of the ZOA, it was decided to dissolve the Conference as of December 31, 1948.

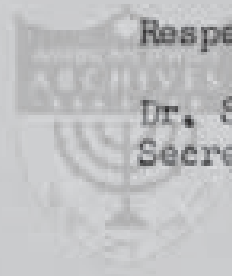
NEW PALESTINE--CHANGE OF NAME:

The question of changing the name of the official ZOA publication to one more appropriate in the light of the creation of the State of Israel, was referred to the Inner Committee.

- - -

The chairman reviewed the program of the ZOA Economic Conference taking place the following morning, and invited all members to participate in its sessions.

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 A. M.



Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Sidney Marks  
Secretary

# H. GOODMAN & SONS

INCORPORATED

Makers of "GOODY" Products

200 VARICK STREET

NEW YORK 14, N.Y.

November 19, 1948

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

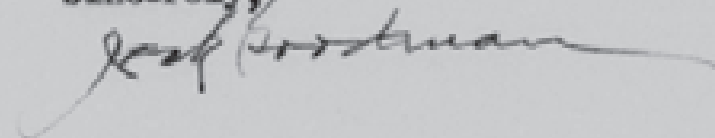
Dear Rabbi,

It was indeed very kind of you to extend your warm greetings to me at the Metropolitan Zionist Fund dinner last night, at which I was the guest of honor.

The reading of your telegram served as an inspiration to my friends, and to me personally, it was a great honor and privilege to be remembered by you.

I am very grateful to you.

Sincerely,

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

JG:ebh

DAY LETTER

NOVEMBER 26, 1948

DR. S. MARGOSHES  
NEW PALESTINE  
ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA  
41 EAST 42 STREET  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

THE YEAR WHICH HAS ELAPSED SINCE NOVEMBER 29TH HAS BEEN ONE OF THE MOST MOMENTOUS IN JEWISH HISTORY. THREE UNPRECEDENTED EVENTS GIVE IT ITS TREMENDOUS IMPORTANCE: THE RECOGNITION BY THE UNITED NATIONS OF THE RIGHT OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE TO ESTABLISH THEIR STATE IN PALESTINE, THE PROCLAMATION OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL BY THE YISHUV, AND THE REMARKABLE AND SUCCESSFUL MILITARY DEFENSE OF THIS STATE BY THE YISHUV. THIS YEAR ~~WAS~~ WAS CHARACTERIZED BY VACILLATION AND INDECISION ON THE PART OF GOVERNMENTS AND OF THE UNITED NATIONS ITSELF BUT ALSO BY UNSHAKEN STEADFASTNESS AND RESOLUTION ON THE PART OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL AND THE JEWISH PEOPLE. IT IS CERTAIN THAT AS A RESULT OF THE COURAGE AND SACRIFICES WHAT HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED HAS BEEN FIRMLY ESTABLISHED AND WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED IS IRREVOCABLE. THE GREAT POLITICAL HURDLES HAVE BEEN MANIPULATED. THE ORGANIZATION OF THE STATE HAS BEEN CONSOLIDATED. MANY SERIOUS PROBLEMS STILL REMAIN BUT NONE THAT CANNOT BE SOLVED BY WORK, SKILL AND UNFAILING SUPPORT ON THE PART OF THE JEWS OF THE WORLD. WE MUST REMAIN MOBILIZED AND ALERTED. ONE OF THE DEEPEST SATISFACTIONS OF THIS YEAR HAS BEEN THE UNPRECEDENTED FLOW OF JEWISH IMMIGRATION INTO ISRAEL. WITH INCREASING FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM US THE STATE OF ISRAEL WILL BE ABLE AT THE PRESENT RATE QUICKLY TO EMPTY THE DP CAMPS OF EUROPE AND OFFER A HAVEN TO MANY OTHER ENDANGERED JEWS IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD. THIS HAS BEEN A YEAR OF STRUGGLE, ACHIEVEMENT AND VICTORY. WE MUST NOW TENSE OURSELVES FOR THE LONG PULL AHEAD.

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

(ADDITION TO DICTATION TO MR. TUVIM) I TRUST THAT THE COMING YEAR WILL SEE THE ADMISSION OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL INTO THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PEACE AND PROSPERITY IN THE HOLY LAND.

December 3, 1948

Dr. Sidney Marks  
Zionist Organization of America  
41 East 42nd Street  
New York, New York

My dear Dr. Marks:

Mr. Goldman is in the city organizing collections for Materials for Israel. I was under the impression that Materials for Israel was not to come into Cleveland until the food campaign of the Z.O.A. is out of the way. He claims he had a letter from Mr. Posy endorsing his work in Cleveland at this time. He has asked me to give him a letter since he has encountered opposition in the community.

Just what is the arrangement between the Z.O.A. and Materials for Israel? Are the two campaigns to go on simultaneously? What has been your experience in other communities?

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er

MINUTES OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA  
HELD AT THE HOTEL NEW YORKER, N.Y., SATURDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 11th, 1948.

- - -

The meeting of the National Executive Committee was called to order at 8:45 P. M. by Mr. Daniel Frisch, ZOA Vice-President, who presided until the arrival of Dr. Neumann.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Dr. Sidney Marks, Executive Director, rendered a comprehensive report embracing all phases of ZOA activities, with all departments geared to meet the expanded Zionist program during the ensuing years.

Membership:

Membership enrollments, including life membership, show an increase over that of the preceding year.

Dr. Marks reported on the Membership Mobilization Conference scheduled for the following morning to feature an audio-visual presentation of Zionist projects and their relation to membership. A highlight of the conference will be messages from Aubrey Eban and Dr. Jorge Granados direct from the United Nations in Paris, by radio-telephone. Dr. Marks urged all members of the Executive to stimulate and support the nationwide membership campaign which is now in full swing.

Other Activities:

The Education Department is continuing its production of various materials which are in constantly growing demand by every segment of the community; the Speakers' and Artists' Bureau has been enlarged to meet the many guests of Zionist districts.

The activities of the Public Relations Department and the publication of The New Palestine are going forward in the absence of Mr. Barbarash who is now in Israel. The scope and plan of the recently organized Economic Affairs Committee is being developed by Seymour Liebman, director, and the publication of an Economic Newsletter designed to arouse American investment interest in the economic possibilities of Israel is contemplated.

Dr. Marks paid tribute to Milton Pollack, chairman of the ZOA Finance Committee, and Henry Stern, auditor, for their vigilance in directing the financial course of the organization. He stressed however, the need for greater income from membership and the American Zionist Fund as the only guarantees for the full implementation of the expanded ZOA program.

Appreciation was expressed to Rabbi Jerome Unger, Associate Executive Director, for his cooperation in carrying on the manifold activities of the organization. The report was unanimously approved.

REPORT ON AZF AND FOOD CAMPAIGNS:

In keeping with the policy to present detailed reports of each major ZOA department at successive NEC meetings, the chairman called upon Manuel Post director, for a detailed review of the American Zionist Fund and "Food for Israel" campaign, which is under the aegis of the AZF.

Mr. Posy reported that regions and districts throughout the country have embarked on campaigns to meet AZF quotas. He emphasized the need for continued support of the AZF and urged the immediate remittance of moneys to national headquarters by Zionist districts and Welfare Funds as the most effective means to ensure the proper functioning of all ZOA projects maintained by the Fund.

Food for Israel Campaign:

Mr. Posy gave an enthusiastic account of the nationwide food drive now in progress. He pointed out that many diverse groups, within and outside the Zionist movement, have contributed generously to its success -- farmers, canneries, processors, trucking firms, and distributors, particularly, Heinz, Campbells, etc. The response of organizations and individuals, many of whom had never been associated previously with the ZOA, had aided in large measure in the overwhelming success of the campaign. Mr. Posy paid tribute to the cooperation of "Materials for Palestine" and the Welfare Funds and Federations with whom harmonious relationship has been established. He cited as an outstanding example of city-wide support, the food campaign in New Orleans, under the leadership of Lester Seelig, ZOA district chairman. The unprecedented collection in that city required the chartering of a special vessel to carry its cargo to New York. Likewise in Philadelphia, the community will act as host to an Israeli ship carrying a tremendous shipment of food gathered in that city.

Mr. Posy described in detail the step by step procedure involved in the food drive starting with the organization of the collection to its actual transporting and delivery to Israel. He explained that 65% of the food is earmarked for Tel Aviv and the balance for Haifa. Mr. Posy expressed gratitude to the members of the Israeli Supply Mission in this country for their assistance.

In response to a query as to the estimated value of collections to date, in kind and money, Mr. Posy replied that as of three weeks ago the figure was approximately \$1,000,000, but that the increased activities throughout the country which were still in progress, made a current appraisal impossible at this time.

In concluding his report, Mr. Posy brought out that the success of the Food campaign rather than detracting from the AZF, had created good-will and an understanding of the work carried on by the ZOA. In many communities, the Food Campaign had spurred AZF fund-raising.

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND:

Dr. Harris Levine, ZOA chairman for JNF, who has just returned from Israel, reported on the need for land redemption, particularly in the Negev. He urged an intensification of effort throughout all ZOA districts to meet the pledge made at the ZOA Jubilee Convention to redeem 50,000 dunams. Dr. Levine stressed the important role of JNF in the Zionist movement and stated that any weakening of its integrity and independence at this time would mean a disappearance of the soul and spirit of the Zionist movement. He expressed the hope that the ZOA which has raised vast sums for JNF and the Keren Hayesod would be tangibly associated with the up-building of Israel through the creation of colonies.

Dr. Levine reported that at the dinner given by the Brooklyn Zionist Region to Benjamin Browdy, ZOA vice-president, pledges were made to redeem several thousands of dunams in Israel.

LUNCHEON TO MORRIS WEINBERG:

Dr. Neumann who took over the chair at this time, announced a testimonial luncheon would be tendered by the ZOA Executive the next day to Mr. Weinberg, veteran Zionist leader and newspaper publisher, in honor of his 70th birthday and invited all members to attend.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Milton Pollack, chairman, advised that the loan of \$65,000 to the Jewish Agency for the purchase of a building in New York City, which had been previously authorized, would be completed shortly. A letter was read from Arthur Lourie, Israeli Consul General, addressed to Dr. Neumann, expressing appreciation for the loan.

Reporting on the financial status of the ZOA, Mr. Pollack stated that under the supervision of Dr. Marks and Rabbi Unger, every effort is being made to keep expenses within the approved budget.

UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

Dr. Neumann reviewed the negotiations leading up to the agreement recently ratified between the UPA and the Committee of Contributors and Workers. He stressed the need for clarification of the relationship between the Zionist movement in America, the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem and the Agency as a whole, with the Government of Israel, regarding authority and jurisdiction in order to avoid chaos and by-passing of the constituted authorities in this country.

In reply to a question as to the present status of Henry Montor, the chairman stated that the acceptance of his resignation as Executive Vice-chairman of the UPA automatically removed him as that organization's representative on the UJA. However at the request of Mr. Henry Morgenthau, UJA chairman, and due to a technicality, he was remaining as executive vice-chairman of the UJA until the end of the year. Dr. Neumann declared that Mr. Montor's resignation from the UPA and his future activities were never the subject of the negotiations just concluded.

Dr. Neumann paid tribute to the cooperation of Berl Locker, chairman of the Jerusalem Executive now in this country in an unofficial capacity, to help in accelerating the final agreement. He also expressed appreciation to Mr. Herman Weisman, chairman of the UPA and the Council of Federations and Welfare Funds for their wholehearted cooperation.

In concluding his report, Dr. Neumann urged members of the NEC to be in a position to clarify the issues which have tended to confuse the public at large, and to establish a closer relationship with community workers so that there may be created a better understanding among all those working together in the interests of Israel.

BRANDEIS YOUTH FOUNDATION

Mr. Sol Erensky, of Atlanta, chairman of a sub-committee appointed by the NEC, submitted a comprehensive report on the Brandeis Camp Institute and the Brandeis Youth Foundations. The other members of the Committee consist of Martin Adolf, Dr. Shlomo Bardin, Dr. S. Blumenfeld, Abe R. Cohen, Michael Egnal, Dave Friedman, Abraham Goodman, Mortimer May, Charles Riss, Dr. Morton Robbins, Milton J. Silberman, Theodore Strimling, Robert Travis, I.S. Turever, Herman L. Weisman and Joseph H. Tudor.

The report dealt with the history, organization, program and achievements of the Brandeis Camp Institutes and the Brandeis Youth Foundation, and their relationship to the ZOA.

The report praised the Brandeis Camp Institute as a solid achievement in furthering the aims of the Zionist movement and an important source for the training of a vigorous youth leadership. It recommended the granting of a \$25,000 subsidy to the Brandeis Youth Foundation for the current year, and requested the ZOA to mobilize its membership through its district and the press, in support of the program of the Brandeis Youth Foundation.

The report further recommended that the ZOA extend its general endorsement to any fund-raising program launched by the Brandeis Youth Foundation, including support from the Welfare Funds and Federations.

On the question of the relationship of the Brandeis Youth Foundations which are now being set up in various parts of the country to the ZOA, Mr. Weisman gave assurance that the By-Laws of the Charter adequately guarantee the continued influence and guidance of the ZOA and the American Zionist Youth Commission so as to preserve the original intent and purpose of their creation.

It was unanimously decided that the report be referred to the officers of the ZOA for study and that a further discussion be held at a subsequent meeting.

#### VISIT OF MENAHEM BEIGEN

The advisability of making a public statement disassociating the ZOA from the activities of Menahem Beigen, former head of the Irgun and present leader of the Heruth (Freedom) Party, now in this country, was discussed briefly. While there was some feeling expressed that Mr. Beigen's misstatements and claims should be answered, the general consensus was to regard his activities as a political matter within the jurisdiction of the State of Israel and that no statement be made by the ZOA in the press. It was suggested that the representatives of the Israeli Government in this country might give the true facts to the American public. A motion to table the question was approved.

#### COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL RESOLUTIONS--NAC

The chairman appointed a committee of five to draft the political resolutions for presentation to the meeting of the Administrative Council the next day. This committee consists of Leon Kohn, chairman, Benjamin Gordon, Adolph Koblenz, Judge Henry Ellenbogen and Charles Auerbach.

#### FARMERS' FEDERATION OF ISRAEL

The chairman introduced Mr. Zev Izakson, president of the Farmers' Federation of Israel, who briefly outlined the activities of his organization and its progress since its inception thirty years ago. Mr. Izakson stated that he was here on a 3 man special mission to obtain help for the mechanization of the citrus industry in Israel. He paid tribute to the leaders of the American Zionist movement for their great contribution in the upbuilding and establishment of the Jewish State.

Mr. H. Ariav, General Secretary of the Farmers' Federation, a member of the Commission, brought greetings from the State of Israel and briefly reported on conditions there.

ZOA REPRESENTATIVES ON ZIONIST FUNDS

The chairman appointed the following Committee to designate ZOA representatives on the Jewish National Fund and Keren Hayesod: Judge Joseph Klau, chairman, Milton Silberman, Adolph Koblenz, Dr. Morton J. Robbins, Jacques Torczynor, Charles Ress, Herman Weisman, Dr. Harris J. Levine, Judge Morris Rothenberg, I.S. Turover and Joseph Goldberg.

The committee was requested to take early action in view of meetings of the Funds scheduled in the near future.

PALESTINE PRESS REPORTS

Before closing the meeting, the chairman read two cables from Israel giving a digest of recent newspaper articles and editorials on the subject of the UPA controversy, indicating that practically the entire Israeli press supported the position taken by the UPA.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Sidney Marks  
Secretary

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

DATE: December 13, 1948

FROM: Dr. Sidney Marks

SUBJECT:

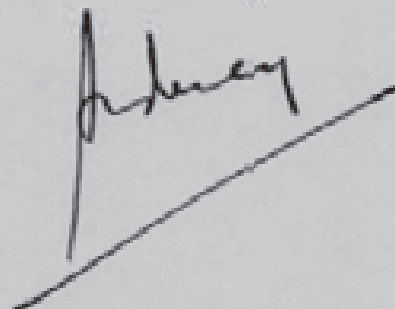
I am enclosing herewith copies of cables received by us with reference to press reaction in Israel on the UPA situation. This is at the instruction of Dr. Neumann.

I regret that you were unable to be present at our meeting.

I look forward to the pleasure of seeing you soon.

My affectionate regards.

SM:dh  
encl

A handwritten signature, likely of Sidney Marks, is written in dark ink. The signature is stylized and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the bottom of the name.

COPY OF CABLE FROM JERUSALEM

December 10, 1948

REFERENCE REACTION UPA ISRAEL PRESS ATTITUDE UNCHANGED SINCE CABLE 16TH STOP  
SUBJECT MAINLY TREATED NEW YORK CORRESPONDENTS DISPATCHES STOP GENERAL EDITORIAL  
AGREEMENT INJECTION CONTROVERSY UNJUSTIFIED VIEW PRESENT GRAVE TIME STOP PRIOR  
CONCLUSION AGREEMENT HAARETZ URGED KAPLAN PROCEED USA INFLUENCE DISSIDENTS TO  
WHOM PRESUMED SYMPATHETIC REFRAIN CREATE RIVAL FUND STOP DAVAR RESENTED HAARETZ  
EDITORIAL IMPLICATION LABOR SUPPORTING MONITOR WHICH DENIED WHILE REGRETTING  
SUBJECT UNVENTILATED LOCAL PRESS STOP OVED ZIONI DEPRECATED PETTINESS ISSUES  
WHILE STATING COMPETENCE ZIONORG INVOLVED STOP HAMSHKIF HAZOFE HAARETZ AMERICAN  
DISPATCHES ALL DEPLORED CONTROVERSY STOP HABOKER ARTICLE MAILED 14TH.

COPY OF CABLE RECEIVED FROM ELIAS EPSTEIN

DECEMBER 10, 1948

ADD TO UPA REACTIONS DAVAR COLUMNIST 23RD NOVEMBER TRIBUTES ZOA WHICH PRESERVED  
SACRED FLAME DURING DEPRESSED TIME AND STOOD BY US IN POLITICAL FIGHT FROM  
BEGINNING TO WHOM WE CONSTANTLY TURN WHEN TROUBLED STOP NO CONTROVERSY CAN UN\*  
CHANGE THESE VALUES STOP NEWCOMERS HOWEVER WELCOME MUST NOT CREATE NEW DIVISION  
NOR SLIGHT CHARACTER OR FORCE OF THOSE VETERANS WHO WERE UNCONDITIONALLY LOYAL.

MINUTES OF NATIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL, ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA,  
HELD AT HOTEL NEW YORKER, N.Y., SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1948

---

Rabbi Irving Miller, Chairman of the NAC presiding.

The Chairman opened the regular quarterly meeting of the National Administrative Council at noon and welcomed the members and guests present.

In response to an inquiry as to why the locale of this meeting had been changed from Philadelphia as agreed upon previously, the chairman explained that the Philadelphia Zionist Organization had advised a conflict of dates had arisen. Rather than change the date of the meeting, it was deemed advisable to hold this NAC session in New York City.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Dr. Sidney Marks, Executive Director, rendered a comprehensive report embracing all phases of ZOA activities, with all departments geared to meet the expanded Zionist program during the ensuing year.

Membership: Membership enrollments, including life membership, show an increase over that of the preceding year.

Dr. Marks reported that a full-scale membership campaign was launched at the Membership Mobilization Conference held earlier in the morning. An important feature of the Conference was an audio-visual presentation of Zionist work and its relation to membership. The membership campaign will be based on the theme that 300,000 ZOA members can foster the removal of 300,000 European Jews to Israel. Herschel Auerbach has resumed his post of director of membership.

Messages were heard from Aubrey Eban and Dr. Jorge Granados direct from the United Nations in Paris, by radio-telephone, stressing the role of American Zionism. Dr. Marks appealed for the wholehearted support of NEC members in membership efforts which he characterized as the bedrock and foundation of the organization.

"Food for Israel" Campaign: The American Zionist Fund is working on two fronts -- that of the Food campaign and collection of funds. Collections to date for AZF exceed those of the same period last year.

Reports from Manuel Posy, director of the AZF indicate widespread support for the Food campaign, with 1,000 tons already shipped to Israel, and quotas exceeded in many communities. The campaign is now in full swing and its activities have reflected favorably for the ZOA. (A full report was given at the National Executive the previous evening and included in the minutes)

Other Activities: The Education Department, under the direction of Carl Alpert, is continuing its production of various materials which are in constantly growing demand by every segment of the community; the Speakers' and Artists' Bureau has been enlarged to meet the many requests of Zionist districts.

The activities of the Public Relations Department and the publication of The New Palestine are going forward in the absence of Ernest E. Barbarash who is now in Israel.

The scope and plan of the recently organized Economic Affairs Commission is being developed by Seymour Liebman, director, and the publication of an Economic Newsletter designed to arouse American investment interest in the economic possibilities of Israel is contemplated.

Dr. Marks reported that fullest cooperation was being extended to the UJA, American Zionist Emergency Fund, Jewish National Fund, B'nai Zion and Histadrut Ivrit. The Foreign Service Department of the ZOA under Dr. Joseph Thon was handling many inquiries from abroad.

Dr. Marks paid tribute to Milton Pollack, chairman of the ZOA Finance Committee, and Henry Stern, auditor, for their vigilance in directing the financial course of the organization. He stressed however, the need for greater income from membership and the American Zionist Fund as the only guarantees for the full implementation of the expanded ZOA program.

Appreciation was expressed to Rabbi Jerome Unger, Joseph Vogel, Bernard Endelman, the Regional Directors and the rest of the Administrative and Clerical staff for their cooperation in carrying on the manifold activities of the organization.

The report of the Executive Director was unanimously approved with appreciation.

#### AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL:

Mr. Abraham Tuvim who succeeded Mr. Harry Shapiro as executive director of the AZEC when the latter assumed the post of executive director of the United Palestine Appeal, reviewed extensively the Council's activities for the past year. He traced the organization's efforts in behalf of the Jewish State since the United Nation's partition resolution of November, 1948 -- its nationwide mobilization of American Jewry to rally support for Israel through the media of the press, radio, public demonstrations, veterans' parades, etc.-- all of which had played a significant part in determining the favorable attitude of the U.S. Government and people. He warned however, that continued vigilance was vital and that the AZEC and the Jewish community must remain on the alert as there still remained much to be safeguarded and achieved.

Mr. Tuvim expressed gratitude to the ZOA for its "magnificent cooperation" and paid warm tribute to his predecessor, Mr. Shapiro who led the AZEC for the past five years.

A resolution was adopted voicing approval of the Council's leadership and approval of the policies, methods and techniques employed in the conduct of the successful political struggle on behalf of the Jewish State.

A second resolution adopted expressed appreciation to Mr. Shapiro for his leadership and extended best wishes to Mr. Tuvim for a successful and effective administration.

#### LUNCHEON TO MORRIS WEINBERG

During the luncheon recess, Mr. Morris Weinberg, veteran Zionist leader of New York and prominent Jewish newspaper publisher, was tendered a testimonial luncheon by the ZOA on the occasion of his 70th birthday. Speakers included Dr. Emanuel Neumann, Daniel Frisch, and Dr. S. Margoshes.

#### Afternoon Session

#### ATLANTIC CITY ZIONIST DISTRICT

Judge Joseph Klau, chairman of a special sub-committee appointed at the

previous meeting to settle the differences which had arisen between the Atlantic City district and the New Jersey Region, reported the matter had been amicably resolved. The Atlantic City district will not press its application of withdrawal from the Region. It will be known hereafter as the Atlantic City Zionist Organization. Mr. David Moskowitz, a member of the sub-committee, expressed appreciation to Mr. Joseph Halbert, president of the Atlantic City organization and Rev. Martin Adolf, president of the New Jersey Region, for their understanding and cooperation which made this agreement possible.

Judge Klau's report was received with thanks and filed.

#### ZOA CONVENTION:

The Chairman advised that the ZOA constitution invested the NAC with the responsibility to fix the time and place of the annual convention. In accordance with the decision taken at the September NAC meeting, action on this question was to be taken at this time.

In the ensuing discussion in which Mr. John J. Fox, Mr. Lerner, Rev. Adolf, Mr. Halbert, Mr. Edmund Koblenz, Marcus Abramson and others participated, it was pointed out that many important factors must be seriously considered in connection with the convention -- date, geographic location, ample hotel accommodations, meeting facilities, etc., all of which would require lengthy deliberation.

A resolution proposed by Mr. Fox was adopted, with one negative vote, delegating authority to the Inner Committee to determine the place and date of the next convention and to notify the members of the NAC of its decision. The recommendation that the Inner Committee seek the advice of NAC members as far as possible, before arriving at a decision was approved and voted.

#### ISRAEL CORPORATION OF AMERICA:

Mr. Jacob Alkow, secretary of the Israel Corporation of America, reported on the ZOA Economic Conference held in November, as well as on the progress of the Israel Corporation organized by prominent Zionist leaders and headed by Albert Schiff.

Mr. Alkow stressed the need for General Zionists in this country to create the instruments by which they can lend concrete aid to middle-class business enterprises in Israel which looked to us for this necessary aid. The ZOA Economic Commission was established as a means of enlisting American Zionist support for the economic development of the Jewish State.

The Israel Corporation of America which received the approval of the Securities and Exchange Commission, has entered into an agreement with the Jewish Agency for Palestine to provide low cost housing to help meet the urgent requirements of the great influx of immigrants. This investment of \$6,500,000 is insured by the Jewish Agency and will provide the investor with a fair return. Mr. Alkow stated considerable interest has already been indicated by General Zionists in neighboring countries with a view to uniting in a common economic undertaking to aid financially the middle class businessman in Israel.

He made a strong plea for the cooperation of American Zionists to rally behind the program of the Economic Commission and the Israel Corporation.

Dr. Neumann warmly endorsed Mr. Alkow's appeal and urged members of the NAC and NEC to initiate this important activity in their respective communities.

התאחדות הצינאים של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

41 EAST 42nd STREET  
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

December 17, 1948

Dear Dr. Silver:

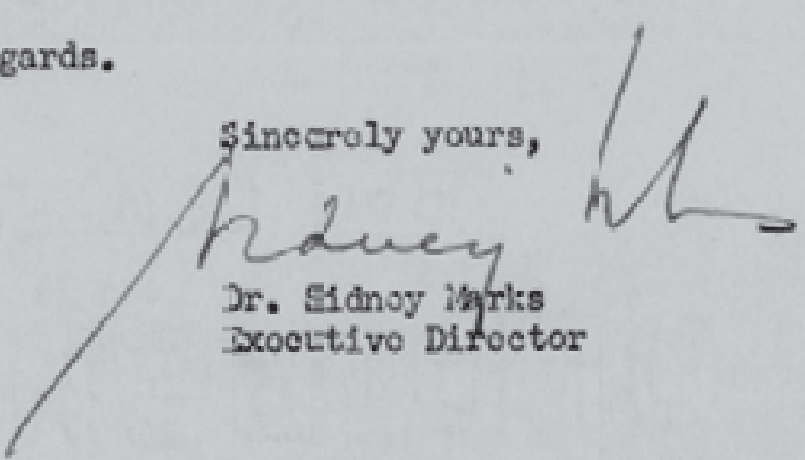
I have the honor to inform you that you have been designated by Dr. Emanuel Neumann, President of the Zionist Organization of America, as a member of the Board of Directors of the Keren Hayesod - Palestine Foundation Fund.

I know that the work entailed in this most important branch of Zionist endeavor will furnish you with the greatest possible interest and will offer a most worthy incentive for your efforts in behalf of the people of Israel.

Accept my heartiest congratulations and my best wishes.

My kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

  
Dr. Sidney Marks  
Executive Director

SM: dhl

*President*

DR. EMANUEL NEUMANN, NEW YORK, N. Y.



*Honorary Vice-President*

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DR. HARRIS J. LIVINE, Bronx, N. Y.  
JULIUS LIVINGSTON, Tulsa, Okla.  
JACOB G. LUKASIK, New Rochelle, N. Y.  
A. M. LUNTZ, Cleveland, Ohio  
DR. SAMUEL MARGOSHES, New York, N. Y.  
DAVID MERSKOWITZ, Bronx, N. Y.  
DR. MORTON J. ROBBINS, Nashua, N. H.  
DR. DAVID REISS, St. Louis, Mo.  
B. G. RUDOLPH, Syracuse, N. Y.  
JOCHANAN I. RUDAVSKY, Brooklyn, N. Y.  
ALBERT SCHIFF, Columbus, Ohio  
MILTON J. SILBERMAN, Chicago, Ill.  
DAVID SPIEGEL, Brooklyn, N. Y.  
THEODORE STRIMLING, Los Angeles, Calif.  
I. S. TUROVER, Washington, D. C.

MORRIS WEINBERG, New York, N. Y.

MINUTES OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT  
THE HOTEL STATLER, NEW YORK -- SUNDAY, JANUARY 23, 1949

Morning Session - 11 A.M.

Dr. Emanuel Neumann, Presiding.

The Chairman welcomed three newly appointed members of the National Executive: Prof. Milton Handler, New York; Rabbi Armand Cohen, Cleveland; and Joseph Kohn, Philadelphia.

Tribute to Lord Melchett:

Dr. Neumann eulogized the memory of Lord Melchett who had passed away in Miami. Lord Melchett rendered distinguished service to the Cause, and played an important part in Zionist affairs. The members stood in silent tribute to his memory.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Dr. Sidney Marks rendered an informative and comprehensive report on all ZOA activities with particular emphasis on the need to revitalize districts and spur membership activities.

Membership:

While membership renewals were satisfactory, Dr. Marks stated there was a lag in the enrollment of new members, with the result that the total membership was at a lower level than that of the same period last year. He warned a continuation of this trend would make serious inroads in the fiscal program and sharply curtail the implementation of ZOA objectives. Dr. Marks believed this decrease was due in part to a lack of a sense of urgency by Zionist workers rather than an indication of disinterest by the masses of American Jewry. He attributed the failure to enroll more new members to the following reasons: preoccupation of key workers with the current "Food for Israel" campaign; a diminution of political activities coupled with the fact of the establishment of the Jewish State; the need for more specific projects in Israel by the ZOA; the usurpation of work for Israel by many organizations who are recent adherents to the cause. He also pointed out that in many cases, district leadership was heavily involved in the activities of Welfare Funds and local community organizations and finally that the impact of fund-raising and intra-organizational friction had had an adverse effect.

In order to overcome this situation, Dr. Marks stated it was essential to have a reorientation of the Zionist program which would provide for direct personal identification and participation of the individual in the economic and cultural up-building of Israel. He believed there were large numbers of Jews ready for ZOA affiliation if approached. He urged that the activities and techniques of the membership department under the direction of Herschel Auerbach, director, and Joseph Goldberg, national membership chairman, be utilized to the fullest advantage. He stressed that NEC members themselves must be the driving force in formulating Zionist thinking, program and work. These will be the determining factors in re-activating ZOA workers and districts throughout the country.

"Food for Israel" Campaign:

Dr. Marks reported this campaign, which is sponsored by the American Zionist

Fund, has proven highly successful with quotas allotted already exceeded. He emphasized the benefits of the public relations and education aspects resulting from the campaign, and believed these could be utilized to bolster membership and AZF. Here again, Dr. Marks emphasized the need for Zionist leaders and workers to get behind membership and AZF to achieve the goals set, underscoring the fact that these two projects represented the foundation upon which the program and activities of the organization rest.

Other Departments:

Since his return from Israel, Ernest Barbarash, editor of The New Palestine and director of Public Relations, has intensified activities through the media of releases to the daily, Yiddish and Anglo-Jewish press; "INSIDE ISRAEL" bulletin, Spot News, and special press conferences. A bi-weekly economic newsletter to be published by the Public Relations Department jointly with the Economic Affairs commission, will be available shortly. An enlarged photo service to the press is also planned.

Activities of the Education Department headed by Carl Alpert, are constantly expanding. There will be available shortly, at a nominal fee, twelve film-strips on Israel, for wide distribution to districts and other interested groups.

WMCA Radio Program:

Dr. Marks announced that the ZOA was now sponsoring a 15 minute broadcast direct from Tel Aviv, "Report from Israel" over station WMCA, five nights a week at 7:04 P.M. with Arthur Holzman, commentator. Although a very recent addition to the expanded ZOA public relations program, the many favorable reports already received, testify to the program's growing popularity and effectiveness. Negotiations are under way to place this radio feature on stations in major communities from coast to coast. This program, handled for the ZOA by Bernard Endelman, provides for appropriate ZOA announcements publicizing the manifold activities of the organization. In addition, "The Day" and other Yiddish newspapers, are publishing transcripts of these daily reports.

Economic Affairs Commission:

There is an intensified interest in this Department's program, with hundreds of inquiries already received requesting information on economic possibilities in Israel. This department will distribute the 1947-48 Anglo-Palestine Economic Digest and in cooperation with Mr. Barbarash and Mr. Alpert, has arranged for the publication of the Israel Year Book under the joint sponsorship of the ZOA and the Jewish Agency. It is expected the bi-weekly newsletter will be ready shortly.

Dr. Marks stated there was increased cooperation with the Israel Corporation and other Israel interests, and that the ZOA was working closely with the AZEC and other constituent Zionist bodies.

Activities under the supervision of Rabbi Jerome Unger and Joseph Vogel are in excellent shape.

Concluding his report, Dr. Marks appealed for the wholehearted support of the NEC in carrying out the ZOA program and called for positive, constructive action.

REPORT OF DELEGATES FROM FARMERS' FEDERATION OF ISRAEL:

Messrs. Zev Izakson and Haim Ariav, president and general secretary

respectively of the Jewish Farmers' Federation of Israel, are on a mission to the U.S. to purchase machinery, tools and equipment for the mechanization of the citrus industry in Israel, to make necessary financial arrangements for such purchase, and study American methods for adaptation in Israel.

Report of Mr. Izakson:

Mr. Izakson described the importance of the citrus industry and its close relation to the economic upbuilding of Israel, emphasizing its primary position in the past and its important role in the country's future development. \$13 million dollars have been invested by Jews alone in this branch of agriculture: 200,000 dunams of citrus groves are within the present boundaries of Israel, having an actual value of more than \$200 million dollars. In the past year alone, Mr. Izakson stated, the sale of its crop brought into the country in foreign exchange, over \$50 million dollars. The citrus industry which is in most part, privately owned, forms 80% of the total exports of the country with a large percentage of the population living on and around this industry. 80% of the citrus growers, who are for the most part members of the General Zionist group, are affiliated with the Farmers' Federation.

Mr. Izakson who had just returned from an extensive tour of citrus areas in Florida, stated that soil, climatic conditions and water for irrigation were even more favorable in Israel than Florida. He reported excellent markets existed in Europe for Israel's crops and their by-products. However, due to the great increase in the cost of manual labor, Mr. Izakson emphasized the urgent need for the mechanization of and rehabilitation of the industry in order to save it for the good of Israel's economy.

Mr. Izakson advised that \$12 million dollars would be required over the next three years. He expressed the hope that necessary aid, in whole or part, might be forthcoming from the American Export-Import Bank loan to Israel. He concluded with a strong appeal for support of the needs of his organization.

Mr. Ariav's Report:

Mr. Ariav gave a bird's-eye-view of the political situation in Israel and the important role played by General Zionists there and the U.S. toward the general welfare of Israel, without consideration of Party interests. He pointed out that national institutions, in whose establishment and strengthening the General Zionists have played a major role, are often in practice, the patrons and protectors of labor interests which are often unfriendly to small enterprises. The middleclass private investor does not derive the same benefit of support which the Histadrut receives from Mapai. He deplored the submergence of national interests by Party sectional interests. He cited the case of Histadrut which he characterized as more than a labor union, but rather the custodian of the interests of the Labor party in Israel. Mr. Ariav emphasized however, that criticism of certain aspects of labor should not be intended as hostility toward labor with whom he personally, and the Farmers' Federation have always had friendly relations. He hoped there would emerge a planned economy for Israel as against State socialism.

Mr. Ariav appealed to General Zionists in America to support middleclass interests in Israel which he said looked to America for needed support.

He traced the developments of the first settlements in Israel some 30 years ago and the subsequent building up of industry, commerce and trade. Although the national institutions, with General Zionist support, have established many workers' settlements, Mr. Ariav maintained private enterprise was an important factor in

the general development of Israel. He revealed that many settlements belonging to the Farmers' Federation have served as training centers for new immigrants in agriculture and have been an important means of livelihood for thousands of families. Giving a detailed picture of the middleclass contribution to agriculture, he stated that of 327 farms and settlements, 81 are privately owned. Of those, more than half belong to the Federation with a population of 83,000; the other 37 have only 13,500. He recited statistics which indicate that the middleclass, through private initiative, have made a great contribution to the agricultural economy of Israel. Private settlers have organized in addition to the Farmers' Federation, financial and commercial institutions, a mortgage bank, a supply company for farmers, a secondary agricultural school, a housing company, etc. They have likewise aided materially in the revitalization of some of the older colonies. He urged support for these existing agencies and for the means to increase existing colonies by settling an additional 3000 families.

Dr. Neumann expressed appreciation to Mr. Izakson and Ariav for their illuminating reports and promised consideration and cooperation.

#### REPORT OF CONTROLLER:

In accordance with the practice adopted to receive detailed reports from heads of departments, Mr. Henry Stern, ZOA controller, gave a comprehensive analysis of his department. He reported the entire bookkeeping and auditing departments have undergone numerous changes and new systems introduced to assure the sound functioning of the auditing department. More than \$1 million dollars is received and disbursed annually within the budgets allocated to each department. He thanked Mr. Milton Pollack and members of the Finance Committee for their cooperation.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mr. Pollack, chairman of the Finance Committee rendered a report for the first quarterly fiscal period. He believed that the lag in membership receipts was indicative of a transition period through which the ZOA was passing. With the adoption and implementation of a positive ZOA program embracing economic, and rehabilitation activities in Israel, he believed that the income from membership might increase. Income from the AZF would not be determined at this time as campaigns were not complete and many large allocations by community chests were not yet remitted.

A subcommittee of the Finance Committee had explored 11 angles in connection with the projected moving of ZOA headquarters to 2 Park Avenue. This report as well as the question of renewal of Union contracts with the staff was under advisement. A full report on these matters will be submitted at a subsequent meeting.

#### "Food for Israel" Campaign:

William Sylk, national chairman, briefly supplemented Dr. Mark's report. He stated the quota allocated by the Israel Supply Mission of 4 million pounds has been exceeded by two million, with an approximate value of over two million dollars. Port facilities in six cities have been opened. Mr. Sylk underlined the constructive aspects of the campaign which have aided in creating beneficial public relations and bringing into the working orbit of the ZOA many people and organizations who have had no previous association with the ZOA.

#### DR. NEUMANN'S REPORT:

Dr. Neumann reviewed the latest events on the political scene. He declared

the Zionist position generally was brighter than at any time since the inception of the movement. Many governments have granted recognition to Israel, including many who had opposed the Jewish State previously in the U.N. The British Government was expected to grant de facto recognition shortly, although he added, there existed some suspicion in Israel that certain conditions may be tied to this action.

Dr. Neumann stressed the importance and political significance of the one hundred million dollar loan to Israel from the Export Bank and its impact on wavering countries. He spoke of the tremendous effect this action would have on the Arab states with its clear indication that the U.S. intended to fulfill its promises to Israel. He analysed the deterioration of the Arab position vis-a-vis Israel, and concluded that these heartening developments were positive indications that the State of Israel was accepted and that its admittance to the U.N. was an established fact.

#### UPA Controversy:

Dr. Neumann then rendered a comprehensive review and interpretation of recent events in connection with the UPA controversy and the actions of the dissident group, the Committee of Contributors. He referred to the meeting of the Actions Committee in Israel last summer where it had been assumed that as the political situation tapered off there would be intensified concentration on the major problems of immigration and rehabilitation.

Dr. Neumann then reviewed developments after his return to this country from the Actions Committee meeting in connection with the internal struggle which confronted the Zionist movement involving its role, function and very future. He spoke of the developments preceding, during and after the UJA conference in Atlantic City, with particular reference to the issue which had arisen concerning Mr. Morgenthau's acceptance of the chairmanship of the forthcoming UJA campaign and the reinstatement of Henry Montor.

Dr. Neumann stated that the Committee of Contributors and Workers with whom the UPA negotiated an agreement, had disregarded that part of the agreement which had to do with the liquidation of the controversy, i.e., that the COC would cease all its activities preparatory to its total dissolution. On the contrary, Dr. Neumann advised, its actions since then have definitely confirmed their statements that the COC intended to continue its activities and work for the appointment of Mr. Morgenthau and the reemployment of Montor, despite the acceptance of his resignation by the UPA.

He disclosed a recent statement made by Montor at a meeting of reformed rabbis in New York at which Montor stated the objective of the dissident group was the reduction of Zionist representation in the UPA to 50% and ultimately to zero; furthermore, that the ZOA had fulfilled its function. Dr. Neumann characterized this as a well-conceived program for removing all fund-raising activity from Zionist sponsorship and control.

He referred to the UPA which embraced the K.H. and J.N.F., and Hadassah and Poale Zion. He pointed out that whereas these traditional Zionist Funds (K.H. and J.N.F.) offered the only direct contact Zionists had to the upbuilding of Israel, Hadassah and Poale Zion each had its own projects in Israel for which they waged separate campaigns running into millions. At the same time, they retained their prerogatives for representation on the national Funds and UPA. He termed this attempt by leaders of the COC aided by certain elements of Poale Zion and Hadassah to recall Henry Montor as chief executive of the UJA, as an attempt at a "wrecking job" of the ZOA and involved the very future of the Zionist movement.

He deplored the pressure which was being exerted by certain members of the Jewish Agency Executive, Hadassah and the Poale Zion, to foist Montor on the UPA after his resignation had been accepted, despite the fact that the UPA Executive had taken the stand that the campaign and its personnel was not a matter within the jurisdiction of the Agency Executive but was one for consideration by the constituent bodies of the UJA. After the UPA Executive had arrived at its decision, the Jewish Agency Executive over the protest of Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann, voted to recommend to the UPA the acceptance of Mr. Morgenthau as general UJA chairman, giving him a free hand in choosing his assistant and had cabled the Jerusalem Executive requesting a meeting of the full Agency in N.Y. Dr. Neumann pointed out that neither he nor Dr. Silver had taken part in this discussion or vote, deeming the whole procedure as an infringement of the autonomy and rights of the UPA.

Dr. Neumann expressed the view that the Agency Executive did not have the power to intervene directly in "purely administrative questions such as the hiring or firing of employees of various institutions". He added that his views as well as Dr. Silver's, were cabled to Jerusalem. He said he felt an attempt might be made to change the composition of the JNF and Keren Hayesod leading to the virtual elimination of the ZOA from any position of influence and responsibility in connection with the Funds. He urged the NEC to make known its position on the fundamental question of the maintenance of the autonomy of the Funds.

He reiterated his conviction first expressed at the Zionist convention in Pittsburgh that American Zionists should not intervene in matters affecting internal or foreign affairs of the State of Israel; conversely, the people of Israel should not attempt to intervene in the internal affairs of American Zionism or American Jewish life.

Dr. Neumann pointed out the relationship existing between this fundamental question and the need to reactivate Zionist workers and districts. In this respect, he suggested that in addition to supporting the UJA, the ZOA should operate in Israel and have its own program and projects, similar to that of Hadassah and the Poale Zion.

Recapitulating, he deplored the activities and false accusations of Montor and his associates who have spread distrust and hostility toward Zionists throughout the country. He termed Montor's actions as a "wrecking job" and stated if he were allowed to come back to the UPA, these activities would be intensified rather than lessened. Dr. Neumann regretted the purposes of the forthcoming meeting in New York of the Jewish Agency Executive in its attempt "to foist Montor and his associates on the Zionist movement in this country".

In view of the gravity of the situation, Dr. Neumann concluded his address with an appeal to the NEC to clarify its position and take a definite stand which would serve as a guide to the Zionist constituency and fellow-Zionists abroad.

#### LUNCHEON RECESS

The afternoon session opened at 2:20 P. M. with Daniel Frisch, ZOA vice-president in the chair until the arrival of Dr. Neumann later in the afternoon.

#### DISCUSSION ON DR. NEUMANN'S REPORT:

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to a full discussion of the fundamental issues confronting the ZOA as a result of the internal situation. Many suggestions were made for the reorientation of the Zionist program and the need of

specific undertakings by the ZOA in Israel. There was unanimous determination to resist any effort to impose Henry Montor on the Zionists of America.

Rev. Martin Adolf and Marcus Abramson proposed a vast General Zionist Housing project as a goal for a ZOA drive. Judge Jacob Klau and Michael Egnal proposed the establishment of a women's division. Other speakers strongly advocated the launching of special drives by the ZOA for Israeli projects. All speakers vigorously protested the intervention from abroad in the internal affairs of American Zionists and strongly denounced the attempt to impose Mr. Montor on the UJA after his resignation was accepted and his unsubstantiated charges against the ZOA rejected.

Leon Kohn condemned the Committee of Contributors for repudiating and failing to carry out the terms of their agreement with the UPA. He stated if Montor had any connection with the UJA he would call on the ZOA to launch a separate campaign for Israel. Dr. Morton Robbins expressed the view that the whole controversy should have been brought out in the open at the UJA conference in Atlantic City inasmuch as the question involved the very future of the ZOA.

Jacques Torczyner charged that Mapai forces in Israel were lending support to the Montor group here and called for the support of the recently organized Committee of Zionist Contributors, adding that Zionists could not cooperate with the UJA if Montor comes back. Samuel Goldstock flayed the attempts at outside dictation and decried placing certain Party interests above the general welfare of the movement. Jochanan Rudavsky felt the issue should not be characterized as one of American Zionists against Israel, and urged the adoption of a resolution voicing confidence in ZOA leadership and the UPA. Milton Pollack maintained that the UPA, of which the Zionist Funds are major constituents, should have the right to decide who shall head its fund-raising campaign inasmuch as the UPA tapped the membership and resources of the ZOA. He felt that neither Mr. Morgenthau nor Montor were indispensable to the success of the campaign.

Joseph Goldberg made a plea for a constructive Zionist program and the strengthening of membership. Benjamin Gordon, Aaron Robbins, John J. Fox and others urged the adoption of a definite program. Louis Falk asked for increased participation as a Zionist body in the UJA as a means of strengthening the position of the ZOA in communities. Harry Cohen called for support of small private enterprise in Israel as a suitable project to stimulate ZOA membership. I. R. Goodman recommended that districts adopt resolutions supporting the position of the National Executive, while Mr. Egnal advocated that some concrete action be initiated to indicate the attitude of the ZOA, possibly the organization of a women's division. He also suggested that ZOA members refrain from giving support to the Histadrut campaign. Mendel Fisher felt the issue rather than being enlarged, should be confined to taking a stand against the reemployment of Mr. Montor. There was unanimous agreement that ZOA membership be kept fully informed of all developments.

The chairman appointed a resolutions committee consisting of Leon Kohn, chairman, Dr. Samuel Margoshes, Mortimer May, and Judge Jacob Klau ..... to draft appropriate resolutions expressing the attitude and thinking of the NEC on the issues discussed.

#### REPORT OF HARRY SHAPIRO:

Mr. Harry Shapiro, executive director of the UPA, reported on behalf of Mr. Herman Weisman who was out of town on behalf of the campaign. He stated the UJA campaign was making progress; the field staff has been organized and meetings are

being held with the national chairmen. Mr. Shapiro announced that the first large commitment for the UJA has been received from Miami where a quota of \$1,000,000 has been set, largely through the endeavors of Mr. Abraham Goodman. A telegram of appreciation was sent to Mr. Goodman for his efforts on behalf of the campaign.

RESOLUTIONS:

Mr. Kohn, chairman of the Resolutions Committee, submitted the following resolutions which were adopted after minor changes:

The National Executive Committee of the Zionist Organization of America, in conference assembled on Sunday, January 23rd, 1949, at the Hotel Statler, New York City.

HAVING deliberated and reviewed fully the United Jewish Appeal situation and having received advices regarding a contemplated meeting of the Jewish Agency for Palestine in New York City in that connection; and

EXPRESSING the views of the American Jewish community after a careful survey of American Jewish public opinion; and acting in the best interests of Israel and the United Jewish Appeal, DOES HEREBY RESOLVE:

FIRST: That the Zionist Organization of America approves and commends, fully and unqualifiedly, our representatives in the United Palestine Appeal, headed by Dr. Emanuel Neumann, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Mr. Herman Weisman, for their support of the position taken by the Appeal with respect to its autonomy, its freedom of action and its rejection of any interference in its operations by any groups or individuals without authorized competence or jurisdiction;

SECOND: That the Jewish Agency for Palestine be advised that the Zionist Organization of America deems any intervention by the Agency in the matter of techniques and organization of the American Zionist movement as not being within their competence and jurisdiction;

THIRD: That a cablegram be sent to the Jewish Agency for Palestine in Jerusalem advising them that their contemplated meeting in New York or elsewhere for a discussion of Zionism on the American scene is both unprecedented and emphatically inopportune at this time;

FOURTH: That the United Palestine Appeal and the United Jewish Appeal are completely and competently staffed and are fully prosecuting the 1949 UJA campaign throughout the United States; that this National Executive Committee is convinced that any and every attempt to foist the former UPA director, Mr. Montor, upon the Zionists of America is bound to and is calculated to create dissension in all of the Jewish communities in the United States; that such unwarranted action will jeopardize the success of the United Jewish Appeal campaign to the grave detriment of Israel, its future and its tremendous tasks; that our representatives are hereby requested to continue to maintain the firmest possible stand against his re-employment in any capacity under any circumstances;

FIFTH: That a copy of this resolution together with a statement of all facts in the United Jewish Appeal controversy be sent to the press in Israel, so that public opinion in that country will be made fully acquainted with the situation.

Dr. Neumann stated it was important that representatives on the Funds bear in mind that the breach of the UPA agreement by the Committee of Contributors raised the question of its validity. He suggested that the question of ZOA launching specific projects in Israel be given consideration if found advisable.

Mr. Ettinger urged that these resolutions receive the widest possible publicity; Judge Klau recommended that a statement covering all phases of the controversy be made available to the ZOA membership.

Dr. Neumann endorsed these recommendations and stressed that Zionists should not only be well informed on all phases of questions under discussion, but take an active interest in community Welfare Funds so as to make the Zionist point-of-view felt.

He urged Zionists to be more alert in the realm of public relations and membership and expressed the conviction that the success of the ZOA in its great political struggle should also act as positive factor in winning new members and increased support for the AZF. He appealed for full cooperation in the ZOA economic program, particularly that of the Israel Corporation of America and "Food for Israel" campaign.

Mr. Egnal's suggestion that a sub-committee be appointed to study the question of the relations of the ZOA to Hadassah and the Gewerkschaften campaign of the Poale Zion was approved.

#### FOOD FOR ISRAEL:

There was a brief discussion as to the advisability of setting a date for the termination of the "Food for Israel" campaign. It was decided to refer this question to the Inner Committee which would have authority to determine the duration of the campaign in various parts of the country.

#### FARMERS' FEDERATION OF ISRAEL

A resolution was adopted expressing deep interest in the problems presented by Mr. Zev Izakson and Chaim Ariav, delegates of the Farmers' Federation of Israel. The Inner Committee was instructed to take appropriate action through proper channels to secure attention for their needs.

The meeting adjourned at 6 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Sidney Marks  
Secretary

# MEMPHIS ZIONIST DISTRICT

1016 DERMON BLDG.

MEMPHIS, TENN.

PHONE 37-9326

January 26, 1949

RECEIVED			
NOTED BY		REFER TO	
DATE			DATE
		JAN 28 1949	
ANSWERED			

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
c/o United Palestine Appeal  
41 East 42nd Street  
New York 17, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Silver:

As directed by the Board of Directors of the Memphis Zionist District, I am enclosing you herewith copy of the resolution adopted by said Board at its last meeting.



Very truly yours,

*Simon Weiner*  
President

SW/jb

Encl.

## RESOLUTION.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Memphis Zionist District;

1. That we endorse the splendid record of accomplishment of the last two years of the United Jewish Appeal, under the leadership of Honorable Henry Morgenthau, Jr., and urge him again to accept the Chairmanship of the U. J. A. We believe that he should be given the privilege, as General Chairman, of selecting such personnel to work with him as he desires.

2. That we disapprove the action of the Acting Chairman and the Executive Committee of the United Palestine Appeal, in refusing to call a meeting of the Board of Directors, upon the occasion of the resignation of the Executive Vice-Chairman. Without passing upon the merits of the controversy engendered by this resignation, we believe that the Board of Directors of the U.P.A. was entitled to receive the full facts, and to take such action as the majority of the Board felt that the facts warranted. The refusal of the Acting Chairman, H. L. Weisman, to give the Directors an opportunity to function in this crisis is indefensible. It represents an unwarranted assumption of power on the part of Weisman and the Executive Committee. This course of conduct, inspired by Neumann, Weisman and Silver, is not calculated to create confidence of the American Jews, or to result in the largest possible contributions of funds so sorely needed by Jewish displaced persons in Europe, and by the people of Israel. It demonstrates Weisman's unfitness to remain as Chairman of the U.P.A.

3. That it is futile to discuss the proportions of representation on the future Board of Directors of the U.P.A. if the present Board is not permitted to function.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That copies of this resolution be forwarded to Hon. Henry Morgenthau, Jr. and to Neumann, Weisman and Silver.

That before participating in any further campaigns for funds, the Officers of this District are hereby instructed to ascertain and report to this Board whether a democratic U.P.A. has been established, under fair and impartial leadership; and that the rights of welfare funds contributing thereto shall not only have the right of fair representation, but also the means of making its voice heard. Never again, in the history of Jewish giving, must we witness the spectacle where a few men set themselves up to make decisions, in defiance of the rights of the Board of Directors of the U.P.A.

That copies of this resolution be published in the National Jewish Post; and further, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to The New Palestine, with request that it be published in full; and in the event this journal of the Zionists of America refuses to publish these resolutions, that the President of this District be, and he hereby is authorized to publish the same therein as a paid advertisement; that copies of this resolution be sent to Zionist Districts throughout the Country, and to the members of the American Section of the Jewish Agency.

# Is the ZOA Dead?

By DAVID MOSKOVITZ

The author is Chairman of the Bronx Zionist District.

Writing in the Congress Weekly of December 6, and December 20, 1948, David W. Petegorsky calls for the dissolution of all American Zionist groups and their merger with other Jewish organizations in one big super-organization. Oddly enough, now that the fifty year struggle of Zionism has been crowned with success, voices on all sides confidently contend for the mantle of the rightful heir. Can it be that these pretenders, tempted by the richness of their potential inheritance, have mistaken a live and growing body for a corpse?

We are thankful to Dr. Petegorsky for stating in clear and simple prose the exact program and rationale of the post-Zionist Party. His articles claim to prove the following points: Zionism, with the birth of the State of Israel, has fulfilled its function; 2. That the function of Zionism is now too important to be executed by Zionists. Presumably, old-fashioned Aristotelian logic is to be thrown out along with outdated Zionism.

The arguments presented in the first article, "Should Zionist Organization Be Dissolved?" are political, economic, cultural, and—most of all—questions of taste. There is not the slightest doubt that the ZOA is not to Dr. Petegorsky's taste. It is not unfair to say that the arguments based on politics, economics, and culture are the thinnest rationalizations for an anti-ZOA taste accompanied by a bad conscience on the part of the connoisseur. This sweet reasoning with the Zionists, preparatory to devouring them, is not unlike the carpenter's moody discourse to the oysters he is about to eat. Indeed, the whole fabric of Dr. Petegorsky's fertile and eager imagination is permeated by an *Alice in Wonderland* atmosphere.

The first political argument is that "the various Zionist political parties had their roots in sharp ideological differences," which are obsolete now that these issues have become the concern of the internal policy of the State of Israel. But an executive of the American Jewish Congress should certainly be among the first to understand the same ideological conflicts affect the Diaspora. It is up to the Israeli parties to fight among themselves in the Yishuv, but why should that render differences in the Galut obsolete? The second argument, which doesn't happen to be true, would blunt the point of the first if it were: Dr. Petegorsky tells us—what would be astonishing news if it came from any source other than this veritable fountain of astonishing news—that "these differences . . . have largely ceased . . . to have any genuine significance . . ."

Dr. Petegorsky is consistent, if nothing else, in his inconsistency. He assures us that though American Zionist groups were largely responsible for the creation of Israel, "their very success, however, has created the conditions which make their disappearance essential." The "evidence" he offers in support is that the American Zionist Emergency Council "has been unable to exercise effective control." Whoever knows and is willing to tell the truth knows that the opposite is true. The Zionist Emergency Council under the leadership of Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, has been a tremendous success having truly historic achievements to its credit.

The economic argument is, of course, by far the weakest. It is weakest because it is here that the real reasons are strongest—and therefore the "good" reasons are most transparently ridiculous. The literally miraculous work of the Keren Hayesod and the Keren Kayemet is given a perfunctory blow. The old funds were useful. But now "their time is up. History—very well disguised as Dr. Petegorsky—is ready to discard the traditional

funds that Zionists are still foolish enough to treat with reverence. Strangest of all is Petegorsky's logic. Since all American Jews are now pro-Zionist, there is no need for any specifically Zionist bodies to give aid to Israel.

The cultural argument is added merely to round out the indictment and mechanically falls into Petegorsky's favorite pattern of self-contradiction. For one, there is too much duplication of activity and organization in this field; the Zionists should discreetly fold their tents (like the Arabs) and leave the field to others—including the Congress, of course. On the other hand, culture needs "diversity and multiple activity", but the Zionists are not adequate to this because of "the limited segment they can reach."

The first article ends on a similar note of illogic. What is needed is an integration of American Jewish life: Zionism makes for fragmentarization. What is needed is a vigorous diversity of effort: Zionism makes for rigid uniformity. What is needed is greater democratization of Jewish life: again, Zionism is guilty, because even though it has done more in this direction than any other group, it has not done enough.

The second article, incredible as it may seem, says even less than the first. The great need in American Jewish life, Dr. Petegorsky repeats, is integration. One way of integrating American Jewry is to subordinate all existing organizations to the direction of a super-organization: this method has been tried and it has failed. Another way is to unify the various community councils into a national body: this method is good as far as it goes, but woefully insufficient.

David W. Petegorsky is full of sublime faith that on the basis of agreement on his own seven theses a new organization can be formed. This organization is to be built out of the bricks supplied by the old, moribund organizations, especially by the nearly "dead" Zionist groups. Their members are to become its members. The precise difference of such an organization from the super-organization which has been tried and which has failed is left to the imagination.

Does Dr. Petegorsky really believe all these fairy tales and fantastic rationalizations? Perhaps? For centuries very intelligent men believed in astrology. And it is easiest to believe that he sees the proposed organization as a vastly expanded American Jewish Congress. The current opposition to Zionism, which admits that it springs from the very success of the movement which it opposes, is intoxicated by the wealth and the power and the prestige that Zionism has won by hard struggle against apparently insuperable odds. These people would reap in comfort the fruits sown in "blood, sweat, and tears" by the Zionists, and the ZOA especially.

Dr. Petegorsky says, "I know that I shall be told that my proposal is unrealistic and naive." But he shall be told nothing of the sort. He shall be told that the Zionists are not so unrealistic and naive as to cooperate in their own destruction, nor to surrender their hard-won position at the center of creative Jewish life to those whose sincerity, industry, and devotion have not yet been tested in the fires of history. But no one shall deem them unrealistic and naive. Perhaps some will call them rather disingenuous and predatory.

We, however, will content ourselves with calling him premature. The Zionist organizations are not dead yet. Not by a long shot. In the far future, when the babals and coteries that infest the fringes of Jewish life in our country today will be long forgotten, the Zionist organizations will still be what they are now, the creative, vital centers of Jewishness in America.

February 11, 1949

Dr. S. Margoshes  
Zionist Information Service  
60 East 66th Street  
New York 21, New York

My dear Friend:

Permit me to thank you for your kindness in sending me your column, "News and Views", which appeared on February 3rd in The Day. I deeply appreciate what you write, and I am sure that that is the proper approach to the Zionist situation today.

I have been reading with a great deal of amusement the Ehrenreich (Zuckerman) series of articles on me in The Forward. I am reminded of the advertisements which appeared at the time of the elections for the last Zionist Congress - dictator, ambitious, officer-seeker, etc.

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er

# NEWS

- A N D -

## VIEWS

British Recognition of Israel.  
Triumph of Jewish Statesmanship.  
Salute to Architects of Victory.  
The Great Zionist Revolution.

By DR. S. MARGOSHES

Not since America has recognized the Government of Israel, has world Jewry been so electrified by the recognition extended to Israel by any power as it has been by Britain's official acknowledgement of the fact of the existence of the Jewish State. Belated, given grudgingly, Britain's recognition of Israel is felt to be one of the great triumphs of Jewish statesmanship. The world's greatest empires bowing, after a prolonged and bitter struggle, to a small and scattered people—what a spectacle!

How was this feat accomplished? Who forced burly Bevin's big, grabbing and brutal hand? In this hour of triumph of the stout heart over the mailed fist, I think, above all, of three men: David Ben Gurion, Abba Hillel Silver and Emanuel Neuman. It was they who first among us all had the clear vision to see that the chapter of Anglo-Jewish cooperation in Palestine was ended and that henceforth only a most vigorous standing up to British might, coupled with marshalling of all the forces within and without world Jewry for the attainment and the defense of Jewish statehood, could be relied upon to secure the success of the Zionist cause. And it was their high courage and blessed stubbornness that finally triumphed over all obstacles.

These obstacles, it may be said, were not all of Britain's making, nor was the field of battle the only place across which they were strewn. Some of the greatest difficulties lay in the old habits of Zionist thought that steadfastly and blindly refused to break with Britain even after Britain had definitely broken with the Jewish people. I recall how, at the last Zionist Congress at Basle, these stumbling blocks in the form of good old Zionist leaders with a record of high devotion but also of British training and a mentality of compromise and steady retreat, almost stymied the growing Zionist trend to be done with the ever-recurring and never-ending conferences, called by the Government in London with the evident purpose of breaking down Zionist resistance. And I remember, too, how Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann, with the powerful, though not always open support of Ben Gurion, fought and fought again for an aggressive Zionist policy, based on the realities of British hostility instead of the illusion of British cooperation, and how, at the eleventh hour, turned the tide in favor of a militant Zionism that, for the first time in the history of the Zionist movement, took its stand with the organized forces of the Jewish people and the enlightened opinion of America and other democracies. Instead of orienting itself to Britain. On that winter day in Basle, to paraphrase Herzl's famous phrase, the foundations of the Jewish State were truly laid.

Whatever happened since was an outgrowth of the Zionist Revolution that was wrought in Basle early in January, 1947. The Zionist movement, released from the restraints of a well-meaning but old and feeble leadership, took on a new lease on life, acquiring a new spirit of youth and daring. Great achievements followed in quick succession—the U.N. Resolution of November 29, calling for the establishment of a Jewish State in Palestine, followed by the Declaration of Jewish Independence, these two political triumphs, in turn, being succeeded by military victories of decisive importance for the maintenance and growth of the State of Israel.

**But they all stemmed from one root—the Zionist Revolution of January 1947.**

The leaders of that Revolution, Ben Gurion, Silver and Neumann can now have the satisfaction that their strategy had worked. The Jews of the world had responded to the call for Jewish statehood in our days, pouring out their substance and their devotion in an unending stream; the Yishuv had risen to the historic occasion in truly Maccabean tradition, and American and world opinion, once aroused and mobilized, had rallied to our side. The Jewish State, born in the midst of struggle and turmoil, had to fight its way against terrific opposition, but won out in the end. The New York Jews, whom Bevin had scorned openly as the chief obstacle to his own pet solution of the Palestine problem, finally triumphed over him.

Ironically, some Zionist leaders, currently ensconced in high positions in the Government of Israel, now more than ever out-reached by Britain's recognition, have the Zionist Revolution, which they opposed, to thank for their pomp and glory. For, but for architects of this Revolution, there would be no Jewish State today, no high office to grace, no homage to receive, no British recognition to applaud.

As to the Revolution and its authors, they have their own lodestar to follow. Not for them the momentary plaudits of the multitude; theirs is history's high enduring tribute.

feat

"The Day" 2/3/49

ON

## ציוניסטישער אינפארמאציע סינדדיקאט

## ZIONIST INFORMATION SERVICE

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NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

Telephone BU 8-4361

Dr. S. MARGOSHES  
Editor

דאס איז אַ פּריוואַטע  
קאָפּיע

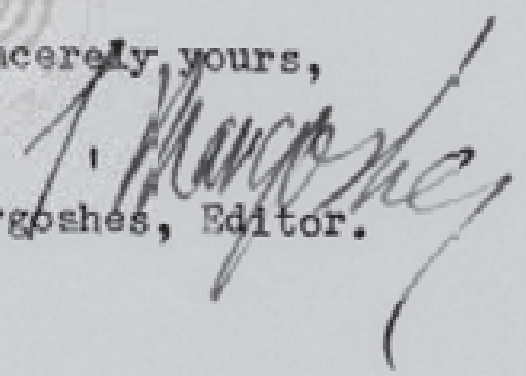
February 3, 1949.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I shall ask you to be good enough to take a look at the enclosed column. I believe this is the correct and healthy approach to the current Zionist situation.

Very sincerely yours,

  
S. Margoshes, Editor.

SM.h  
Encl.

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

41 EAST 42nd STREET  
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

February 21, 1949

To: Regional & District Presidents  
National Administrative Council  
National Executive Committee  
Regional Directors

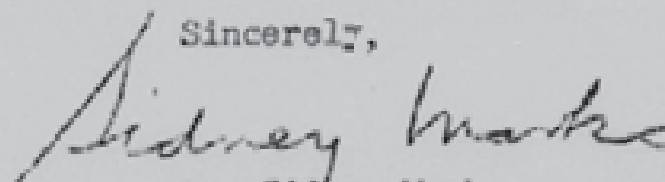
Dear Friends:

We are annexing hereto a memorandum on Jewish-Catholic Relations arising from the situation in Israel.

This was prepared by the American Zionist Emergency Council and deserves a careful reading on your part. It will provide you with the factual background on the problem and bring you up to date currently.

My kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,



Dr. Sidney Marks  
Executive Director

SM/M  
enc.

## MEMORANDUM

### JEWISH-CATHOLIC RELATIONS IN AND OVER ISRAEL

#### Past Recriminations

During the first months of the Palestine War, reports describing desecration of Christian sanctuaries by Jewish soldiers were widely publicized in the American press, particularly in Catholic publications. Needless to say, these reports had an unfavorable effect on Jewish-Catholic relations in the United States and the world over. If left unchecked, this development could have lead to most undesirable results both for the State of Israel and for the Jewish communities in many lands.

We, therefore, feel that a recent report on this question by a competent eyewitness deserves our careful attention. We refer to a survey of Catholic institutions and interests in Israel made by Elisha Ben-Horin, well-known writer and Adviser on Middle Eastern Affairs to the American Zionist Emergency Council. Part of Mr. Ben-Horin's tour of Catholic institutions in Israel was made in the company of Monsignor Thomas McMahon, who represented Cardinal Spellman on a special mission to the Middle East, and Monsignor Anthony Vergani, Vicar-General of the Latin Patriarchate in Israel. Mr. Ben-Horin is therefore in a position to report to some extent the impressions of these two Catholic dignitaries.

#### Not One Incident in Many Months

Mr. Ben-Horin's report was submitted at a conference of representatives of Jewish national organizations. The outstanding feature of his report is the fact that not a single case of desecration or mistreatment of Christians has taken place since the establishment of the Government of Israel. This merely reemphasizes the truth that whatever excesses occurred, took place during the height of the Palestine War last summer and were perpetrated by irresponsible individuals; accordingly, responsibility for these acts cannot properly be ascribed to the Government of Israel or the Jewish community as a whole. From the moment stable government was established in Israel, not one serious complaint was recorded.

#### Minorities in Israel

In an article under the above title, published in the New York Herald Tribune of January 5, 1949, Mr. Ben-Horin described and analyzed the facts about the situation of the national and religious minorities in Israel and the treatment accorded them by the Israeli Government. A large-scale and costly program of education for Arab children has been adopted and put into operation by the Government, at the expense of the state budget. The minorities, Christian and Moslem, enjoy complete equality of civil rights, with the exception of freedom of movement for the duration

of the war. As soon as peace is established, this single restriction will be removed. The special needs of the various religious communities are catered to by the government with the greatest care and understanding. In his article, Mr. Ben-Horia described a Christmas party tendered the Christian prisoners of war by the Israeli command of the camp, which he attended, along with a Catholic Bishop and an Arab Catholic dignitary from Haifa. Both the prisoners and the Haifa visitors praised the Israeli authorities for the humane and considerate treatment they accorded the prisoners of war.

#### The Christian Communities

The mass flight of the Arabs from Palestine has left only about one hundred thousand of them in Israel. However, it was mostly Moslems who ran away. Of the million Moslems, only about 50,000 stayed behind, whereas an equal number of Christians remained out of a total pre-war community of only 125,000. Nazareth and the Christian villages in Lower Galilee now hold the majority of the Christians in Israel. Their churches and monasteries were hardly touched by warfare. Most of the Christian communities in this area are intact.

In the mixed cities of Palestine -- Jerusalem, Haifa, Jaffa, Acre -- the Christian population has decreased in number through the Arab flight, but the communities exist, enjoy complete freedom to practice their faith, and most of the churches are in perfect condition. The same is true of the smaller towns, like Ramleh, on the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem road. It was mainly in Jerusalem, where a battle of artillery went on for months at close range, that churches as well as synagogues suffered damage from warfare. The Church of Dormition on Mount Sinai, just outside the walls of the Old City, was hit by many Arab shells. The same applies to the Church of Notre Dame, which is on the border dividing the Jewish positions from the Arab. Wherever physical damage was inflicted on Christian churches, it was done by Arabs, namely by the Transjordan Legion. This fact is proved beyond doubt.

On the other hand, the Israeli authorities -- central and local -- have not only done their utmost to repair whatever internal damage was done by Jewish soldiery, but take good care to supply all the needs of the Christian communities. Thus, despite the grave shortages of food and the severe rationing in the country, the Government has regularly supplied food to the old and infirm of the Christian communities in Jerusalem, footing the cost itself. All through their tour of Israel, the two Monsignori and Mr. Ben-Horin came across cases of excellent care and understanding displayed by the Israeli authorities towards the needs of the Christian communities. When, for instance, the sisters of the French Monastery in Ein Karem, outside of Jerusalem, asked the Israeli Military Governor of the

area to intervene on their behalf with the Transjordanian authorities in the Old City for the release of their Mother Superior, the latter was brought back to the Monastery the same afternoon.

#### Prospects of Future Relations

Summing up, Mr. Ben-Horin arrived at the conclusion that there is no reason to expect future complications in Jewish-Catholic relations, as far as the safety of the Catholic sanctuaries and the rights of the Catholic community in Israel are concerned. However, there are other problems concerning Israel which will surely affect Jewish-Catholic relations in the future. The question of the administration of the holy places is one of those problems. However, there are indications that this issue may be resolved in the not too distant future in a manner satisfactory to all concerned. Israel unconditionally favors the establishment of an international regime for the holy places, as long as the latter term is not interpreted too broadly. In other words, Israel supports an international regime for the Old City of Jerusalem, but is unalterably opposed to the inclusion of New Jerusalem (which contains no holy places) in the international area. Although the Catholic Church has thus far failed to express itself authoritatively on this issue, there are reasons to believe that an Israeli-Catholic understanding may be reached.

The most difficult problem, and the one whose solution will probably require the greatest effort on the part of all concerned, is the problem of the Arab refugees. Hundreds of thousands of them are today homeless and hungry. Even though the responsibility for their plight does not lie with Israel, as long as their fate remains undecided the pressure of their presence on the borders of Israel is bound to prove a serious irritant both in Jewish-Arab and in Jewish-Catholic relations. It is to be hoped that before long a constructive plan will be evolved for a permanent solution of the problem of the Palestine Arab refugees.

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\* \*  
\*

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

41 EAST 42nd STREET  
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

March 1, 1949

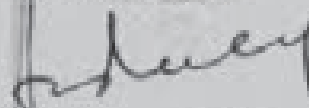
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Would you be available for the Oklahoma State Conference on March 27th? Julius Livingston advises me that he will call together the entire Southwest Region if you can appear there. Please advise me immediately.

My kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,



Dr. Sidney Marks  
Executive Director

SM/M

March 3, 1949

Dr. Sidney Marks  
Zionist Organization of America  
41 East 42nd Street  
New York 17, New York

Dear Dr. Marks:

Dr. Silver is at present out of the city, and I am, therefore, taking the liberty of replying to your letter of March 1st.

Dr. Silver is speaking in Atlanta, Georgia, on March 27th, before the National Convention of the Jewish War Veterans, and it will, therefore, be impossible for him to accept the invitation to address the Oklahoma State Conference on that date. Will you please express his regrets to Mr. Livingston.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to Dr. Silver

er

March 4, 1949

Dr. Sidney Marks  
Zionist Organization of America  
41 East 42nd Street  
New York, New York

My dear Sidney:

I should like you to obtain for me:

- A. A list of the members of the Board of Directors of the UPA.
- B. When was this Board elected and by whom?
- C. Inasmuch as this Board does not elect the Executive Committee of the UPA, the members of this Committee being appointed by the KH and the KK, what relationship has the Board to the Executive and what authority has it?
- D. Is there a constitution anywhere of the UPA?
- E. How often has the Board of Directors of the UPA met in the last few years?

I should like you to obtain this information as quickly as possible. Someone is writing an article on this subject.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er

P.S. If you cannot obtain this information directly from the UPA, perhaps Mr. Schwadron of the Emergency Council may obtain this information for you.

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

March 4, 1949

THE TEMPLE  
EAST 103TH STREET AT ANSEL ROAD  
CLEVELAND, OHIO

Dr. Sidney Marks  
Zionist Organization of America  
41 East 42nd Street  
New York, New York

My dear Sidney:

I should like you to obtain for me:

✓ A. A list of the members of the Board of Directors of the UPA.

B. When was this Board elected and by whom?

1447-  
KH-V-NE  
C. Inasmuch as this Board does not elect the Executive Committee of the UPA, the members of this Committee being appointed by the KH and the KE, what relationship has the Board to the Executive and what authority has it? *all copy*

D. Is there a constitution anywhere of the UPA?

E. How often has the Board of Directors of the UPA met in the last few years? *2 letters for this*

I should like you to obtain this information as quickly as possible. Someone is writing an article on this subject.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

*Abba Hillel Silver*

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er

P.S. If you cannot obtain this information directly from the UPA, perhaps Mr. Schwadron of the Emergency Council may obtain this information for you.

March 8 , 1949

Dr. Sidney Marks  
Zionist Organization of America  
41 East 42nd Street  
New York, New York

My dear Sidney:

I think this letter should be answered by someone in  
Chicago. It is full of lies and distortions.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er  
Enc.

RABBI IRVING MILLER  
WOODMERE, LONG ISLAND

P. 2  
Return  
All

Mar 15, 1949.

Dear Dr. Silver.

The absence of my secretary (who thinks that Levin is a printer) necessitates this roughhand which I trust you will find legible.

Kirshblum and I met yesterday with Goldman and Halpin. Goldman began by explaining that the Executive's directive to the Funds to suspend payments to the Council after March first, is the result of pressure on the Executive by tax experts, and by the Warburg-Strauss crowd which insists that money will be forthcoming from certain quarters if this be done. (I am only reporting). The Executive will provide the budget from "other sources", e.g. money from Canada, or the Shetel payment of the parties.

I asked whether the Ex. will intervene in the dispute between the P. 2 and the other parties. The answer was no. I proceeded to ask whether the Ex. would indirectly "encourage" the P. 2.

to withdraw from the Council and use their withdrawal as a pretext for "taking over". Assured that there were no such intentions, I observed that if no such "encouragement" were used, there would probably be no defections.

N. B. then gave us his informal ideas. He felt that (1) the budget should be sharply reduced, (2) the budget for the Christian Palestine Comm. should be submitted separately, (3) that there be no allocation for special events, but that special request be made on each occasion demanded, (4) that the Washington office be continued for work on the Hill (which the Agency could not do) and (5) that there be "close cooperation" between the Agency and the Council as well as between the professional staffs on policy and "line", conceding, however, full leeway to the Council in the implementation of policy.

At that point, Mrs. H. criticized what she called the "present working pattern"

RABBI IRVING MILLER

WOODMERE, LONG ISLAND

of the Council and called for certain organizational changes. I interrupted to ask whether she spoke as President of Had. or as a member of the Ex., pointing out that I could not accept the proposition that the organizational pattern was the concern of the Ex. That was something to be hammered out by the parties. Both agreed that ~~my~~ suggestion was correct.

When the others left, I asked S. whether he cared to tell me how much of a budget he thought would be approved. He observed that in his opinion a budget of 200,000 for the Council and 100,000 for the C.P.C. would be fair.

My committee will meet on Thursday. My first order of business will be program and budget and not organizational changes. The P.2 may object, but the others will support me.

I shall be happy to receive  
any comments or suggestions  
from you.

Cordially,  
Irving.



MINUTES OF MEETING OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF ZOA  
HELD AT HOTEL COMMODORE, NEW YORK, MONDAY, MARCH 21, 1949

The meeting convened at 1 P.M. with Daniel Frisch, vice-president, in the chair until the arrival of Dr. Emanuel Neumann, president.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Dr. Sidney Marks reviewed ZOA activities of the past few months with particular reference to the impact which the establishment of the Jewish State has made on the organization. He stated there had been a decrease in membership and fund-raising activities, but added that other Zionist and Jewish bodies had been affected similarly. The controversy within the UJA, general economic conditions, attempted inroads of other organizations in the sphere of Zionist work have operated also as deterrents. To help overcome this transitional period, every possible public relations technique and endeavor are being employed to maintain the structural strength and growth of the ZOA. However, Dr. Marks indicated, the rate of increase in membership and fund-raising will depend to a great extent, on the degree to which the leadership on the national, regional and district level, will assume responsibility and activate Zionist workers.

Dr. Marks reported that new emphasis is now being given to the ZOA program in response to the appeal by the Israeli Government and others for large-scale private investment in Israel. Greater stress is being placed on building up The Israel Corporation of America as the ZOA vehicle for direct participation in Israel's economic program. In this connection, Dr. Marks announced that a dinner will be held that night sponsored by the Economic Affairs Commission of the ZOA at which Albert Schiff, ICA president, Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann will be guest speakers.

Economic Affairs:

Dr. Marks further reported that the Economic Affairs Commission directed by Seymour Lieberman, has organized an Economic Institute for Israel. A series of three lectures will be given at Town Hall, New York, (April 11th, 18th and 25th) and will be addressed by leading authorities in their respective fields on topics embracing all aspects of Israel's economic and industrial development.

An Economic Newsletter, a recent monthly publication of the Public Relations Department and the Economic Bureau, has already received widespread favorable comment and is regarded as an authoritative source by U.S. governmental and business agencies.

Education:

A tourist guide book for Israel, the first of its kind to appear in this country, will be published by the Education Department directed by Carl Alpert, as well as several new books and pamphlets. Its Speakers' Bureau is servicing an increasing number of districts with speakers and films.

Several national conferences are being projected covering a wide range of subjects and ZOA projects.

Dr. Marks reported the radio program, "Report from Israel" sponsored by the ZOA over station WMCA, has been received with enthusiasm in the metropolitan area, and the many requests for rebroadcasting from out-of-town stations are being handled by Bernard Endelman, in charge of this project.

AZF:

The "Food for Israel" campaign under the auspices of the ZOA American Zionist Fund of which Manuel Posy is director, one of the most successful undertakings of the ZOA, will be brought to a close shortly. Dr. Marks paid tribute to William Sytk, national chairman, Manuel Posy and Arthur Taub, for their cooperation.

Concentrated attention must now be given to the American Zionist Fund whose receipts at this time are below that of last year's. It is expected that the new stamp campaign, scholarship awards and general activities based on new ZOA projects will provide an incentive for greater effort and resultant income. Dr. Marks expressed appreciation to those communities which have remitted AZF funds and urged all districts to meet their quotas.

The Public Relations Department, directed by Ernest E. Barbarash, is increasing its output -- The New Palestine, INSIDE ISRAEL, Economic Newsletter, news releases, etc. This Department is also giving its ministrations to the public relations work of other departments.

Joseph Vogel, technical administrator, and his staff have facilitated the smooth and efficient functioning of the multifold organizational activities. In line with reduced ZOA income, Rabbi Jerome Unger, Associate Executive Director has made essential retrenchments in the organizational set up. The Foreign Service Department has been discontinued. Dr. Marks thanked Dr. Joseph Thon, its director for his cooperation and fine services.

Membership:

Dr. Marks reported a loss in the total membership figure as compared to the same period of the previous year. He pointed out this was due to falling off in new membership rather than renewals, which carry a normal loss. He expressed the belief this membership problem was related to the present conditions in Zionist and general Jewish affairs and reflected the measure of effort by Zionist leaders and workers throughout the country in activating an intensive membership program. Successful speaking tours have been undertaken recently by Joseph Goldberg, national membership chairman, Daniel Frisch, Rabbi Irving Miller, Jacques Torczyner, Adolph Koblenz, as well as members of the national staff.

Dr. Marks spoke briefly on the importance of the "Book of Remembrance" campaign to be launched by the ZOA as a unique membership technique. He appealed to members of the National Executive and National Administrative Council to give serious thought to building up a numerically strong organization which he said must play a new and important role in the American Jewish community and Israel.

REPORT OF MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Herschel Auerbach, membership director, reviewed the major problems pertaining to membership. There was a tendency on the part of individuals to relax now that some of the objectives have been attained. This attitude was indicated in other Jewish organizations which also had a drop in membership. However, a breakdown in membership figures reveals the encouraging fact that renewals are ahead of last year. New ZOA literature has been redirected to stress the relationship and role of American Jewry vis-a-vis Israel, coupled with its plea for a strong membership.

Mr. Auerbach urged NEC members to spearhead membership campaigns in their respective communities. Previous experience has shown that an active leadership will produce commensurate membership results.

"Book of Remembrance"

Mr. Joseph Goldberg, national membership chairman, announced the national launching of a "Book of Remembrance" drive on the eve of Passover, in which all members will have the opportunity to sign their names to signify identification with the Zionist movement during the historic year of the establishment of the State. Mr. Goldberg stated that a copy of the completed book will be sent to Jerusalem and a duplicate presented to the Library of Congress in Washington. He expressed confidence that the Book of Remembrance, with its theme of "If I forget Thee, Oh Jerusalem" will stimulate reenrollments and new membership. He voiced appreciation to the members of his committee and the national staff for their direction and cooperation.

Discussion:

A discussion followed on the basic underlying causes of the decrease in enrolling new members. Several speakers emphasized the need for new directions in the light of the creation of the Jewish State.

Rev. Martin Adolf called for a united program and reorientation of Zionist ideology which should be widely publicized. A crystallization of the principal ideas was essential. In addition, Rev. Adolf asked that concrete objectives be created toward which General Zionists in America could work. While wholehearted cooperation must be extended to the Israel Corporation of America, Rev. Adolf also advocated a program conducted exclusively under the auspices of the ZOA, other than enlisting support for private enterprises. Such an all-embracing program would act as a stimulus for building up membership in the ZOA.

Mr. Abe Cohen believed new membership would be enrolled if sufficient efforts were made. These activities must be initiated and spearheaded by districts and Zionist leadership.

Dr. S. Margoshes felt that membership would be strengthened if NEC members and other speakers would go directly to communities and explain the need for a strong ZOA, here and for Israel.

Rabbi Cooper thought the question was a fundamental one and pointed out that the problem of the ZOA differed from that of other Zionist parties which have their own ideologies and projects.

Leon Kohn while recognizing the need for determining a long-range program, emphasized the need to make clear to the membership at large that the old program was not yet finished; that there were still tasks ahead requiring coordinated action.

Shoolem Ettinger stated it was essential for the NEC as a body, rather than as individuals, to arrive at a united program which in turn should be presented to the country.

Dr. Neumann, who took over the chair at this juncture, advised there was a lengthy agenda requiring consideration and action. It was decided therefore, to resume discussion later if time allowed.

ANNUAL CONVENTION

Dr. Neumann reported the ZOA Inner Committee (to whom the matter had been referred by the National Administrative Council, with power to act) had decided that the 52nd annual convention be held in New York City, Decoration Day weekend, beginning Saturday evening, May 28th - 30th. It was deemed advisable to hold the convention earlier than usual because of cooler weather at that time, and the need to have full clarification of vital issues as soon as possible.

Mr. Elihu Stone suggested the convention be postponed until September after the meeting of the Actions Committee in the early summer, while Rabbi Armond Cohen expressed the view it would be beneficial to decide on the earlier date so as to meet the issues which have been raised by the ZOA opposition. Samuel Goldstock also approved the earlier date which he said would allow more time for planning the ensuing year's activities.

The motion of Dr. Morton Robbins that the NEC approve the decision of the Inner Committee to hold the Convention in New York, May 28th - 30th, was approved unanimously.

Postponement of Actions Committee:

Dr. Neumann reported a meeting of the World Zionist Actions Committee was scheduled for early May in Israel, to be preceded by a plenary session of the Jewish Agency Executive. He added that during the recent session of the Jewish Agency Executive in New York when it had been proposed to hold the Actions Committee meeting in May, he had pointed out that the agenda could be held over until June or July without harm. Furthermore, it would be advisable if the Actions Committee were to meet after the close of the UJA campaign, and when Zionist organizational activities, etc., were not as pressing.

Because of the above reasons and inasmuch as ZOA representatives could not attend an Actions Committee meeting in May in Israel due to the convention, it was unanimously voted that the NEC recommend the postponement of the Actions Committee until the early summer. The Inner Committee was authorized to work out a satisfactory date.

Convention Procedure:

The chairman stated that certain questions of procedure, particularly with reference to the closed ballot, had been raised at the last convention. He therefore suggested that early consideration be given to procedural recommendations for presentation to the forthcoming convention. He pointed out that under the ZOA constitution only the convention can determine its own rules of procedure. Likewise, thought should be given at this time to the need if any, of constitutional amendments for action at the convention.

In the ensuing discussion, it was brought out that the convention appoints its own committee on procedure. Therefore all recommendations must be submitted to that committee.

It was approved unanimously that the president appoint a committee to deal with questions pertaining to convention procedure and constitutional revision; this committee to submit a report to the National Administrative Council if it convenes prior to the convention; otherwise to report to the National Executive.

# CLASS OF SERVICE

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# WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN  
PRESIDENT

1901

## SYMBOLS

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TS CLA405 PD=NEWYORK NY 25 611P=

DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER

THE TEMPE

PRESENTED DETAILED OUTLINE COUNCIL'S POSITION TO GOLDMANN  
TODAY DID NOT GIVE REACTION BUT STATED HE WOULD TAKE UP  
MATTER WITH EXECUTIVE NEXT WEEK PLAN PRESENTED WAS  
COMPLETELY IN LINE WITH OUR UNDERSTANDING REGARDS=  
IRVING MILLER=

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

41 EAST 42nd STREET  
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

April 4, 1949

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

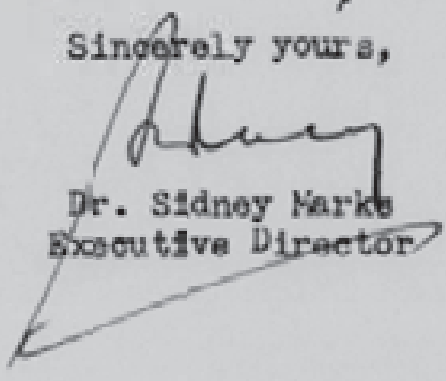
Dear Dr. Silver:

Many thanks for your letter dated March 31st. I have notified the Empire State Region with reference to your inability to attend.

I trust that you and your family are in the best of health and spirits.

Accept my affectionate regards.

Sincerely yours,

  
Dr. Sidney Marke  
Executive Director

SM:dh

התאחדות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

41 EAST 42nd STREET  
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

April 5, 1949

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

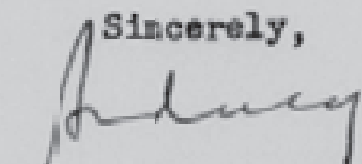
Bnai Zion is holding its Annual Convention in Atlantic City on June 18 and 19. They are anxious to have you as their main speaker.

In the discussion which took place at their Administrative Committee meeting, of which I am a member and Sgan Shani of the Order, the Committee indicated that it would be as a tribute to you and as a public expression of their support of your leadership.

I would appreciate your courtesy in advising me whether you can be available at that time.

Accept my affectionate regards and please extend them to the family.

Sincerely,

  
Dr. Sidney Marks  
Executive Director

SM/M

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

41 EAST 42nd STREET  
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

April 13, 1949

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

We have just received a communication from the South African Zionist Federation requesting us to contact you and obtain a suitable message to be read at a banquet which is to be held on the first anniversary of the State of Israel.

That function is taking the form of honoring General Jan Smuts, who will be the guest of honor. General Smuts is the last living author of the Balfour Declaration.

I am advised by the South African Zionist Federation that this is likely to be the last opportunity that we will have to pay honor to this world statesman. One of the important features of the banquet is to be the reading of these messages. It is imperative that these messages be cabled by April 28th. The address of the South African Federation is P. O. Box 18, Johannesburg, South Africa.

I should be more than happy to transmit these cables for you if they are received in this office within a week. On the other hand, you may, if you desire, transmit them directly.

I sincerely solicit your cooperation in these respects on behalf of the South African Zionist Federation.

My kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

*Sidney Marks*  
Dr. Sidney Marks  
Executive Director

SM:ml

המחשבה הזו, שיש לה פוטנציאל להפוך לאסון, נדחתה על ידי מנהיגי הממשלה, שראו בה חלק מהמחשבה הלאומית. הם ראו בה חלק מהמחשבה הלאומית, שיש לה פוטנציאל להפוך לאסון, נדחתה על ידי מנהיגי הממשלה, שראו בה חלק מהמחשבה הלאומית.



MINUTES OF MEETING OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF ZOA  
HELD AT THE HOTEL STATLER, NEW YORK, APRIL 17, 1949

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 A. M. by Dr. Emanuel Neumann, chairman. He welcomed Judge Sidney Herold, veteran Zionist leader of Shreveport, La. and Mr. Tulcin of Mexico City, a former president of the Zionist Organization of Mexico, who extended greetings on behalf of Latin-American Jewish Communities.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Sidney Marks rendered a comprehensive report embracing all phases of ZOA activity. He stressed throughout the need to implement by concrete action, resolutions adopted by the National Executive particularly those relating to membership which has fallen below the estimated figures. He made a strong plea for NEC members to spearhead intensive membership drives in their respective communities before the convention opens on May 28th.

Dr. Marks reported that collections for the American Zionist Fund had shown a decrease as compared with last year's receipts. Again he called for redoubled efforts pointing out that the income from membership dues was far from sufficient to maintain an efficient organization. He said there seemed to be an erroneous impression on the part of some districts and regions that the national organization had sufficient income not only for its own needs but to make subsidies on the local scene. The trend of regions and districts to neglect the income base of the national organization will seriously impede our operations.

Plans for the convention were well under way with Jacques Torczyner serving as chairman of the Convention Committee and Judge Henry Ellenbogen heading the committee on Election Rules and Procedure.

The ZOA Economic Department directed by Seymour Liebman has expanded its program to meet the requirements of the present situation. The recent series of lectures held under its auspices at Town Hall, N. Y. were well received by large audiences and plans are being made to inaugurate similar seminars in other cities throughout the country. The Economic News-Letter published jointly by the Economic Department and the Public Relations Department is being distributed widely in trade and financial circles. The mounting requests for information on the economic development of Israel and related subjects are being handled by the Economic Department.

The ZOA is working closely with The Israel Corporation of America in the public relations field and an increasing number of Zionist groups are arranging meetings at which the program of the ICA will be presented.

The Public Relations Department directed by Ernest Barbarash is continuing to bring all phases of ZOA activities before the public through the media of The New Palestine, INSIDE ISRAEL, and news releases to the general, Yiddish and Anglo-Jewish press.

The Education Department of which Carl Alpert is director, is continuing to broaden its publication program. It has just completed the printing of a tourist guide book for Israel, the first of its kind. It has arranged also for a ZOA edition of a new book by Rufus Learsi, "History of the Jews" and is making plans for a fourth edition of "Hebrew Self-Taught".

A special folder containing program material for the first anniversary of the Jewish State was sent to districts and regions as well as to community councils and welfare funds throughout the country. Consideration is being given to the possibility of summer study tours to Israel in conjunction with the Agricultural Secondary School of the Farmers Federation of Israel.

A playwriting contest is being sponsored by the Education Department with Eddie Cantor, Norman Corwin and Moss Hart as judges.

Dr. Marks reported that an experimental project is under way, through the American Zionist Fund of which Manuel Posy is director, whereby several ZOA regions will undertake the rehabilitation of colonies in Israel. It is anticipated that these experiments will serve as the pattern for similar undertakings by other ZOA regions and districts. Such projects will provide a direct link between the ZOA membership and Israel.

Discussions are under way with the Israeli Supply Mission for the creation of a Veterans' Rehabilitation Project.

"Report from Israel" radio program sponsored by the ZOA over station WMCA is now broadcast from Philadelphia, Boston and Chicago and will be heard shortly in cities in the South and West.

Concluding his report, Dr. Marks pointed out that the scope of ZOA activities was constantly expanding. Its national membership is in the forefront in UJA, JNF, American Zionist Emergency Council, Jewish educational projects, etc. He urged NEC members to give evidence of their wholehearted support through redoubled efforts in membership and fund-raising at this time.

#### GREETINGS TO DR. WEIZMANN:

In view of Dr. Chaim Weizmann's arrival in New York, Dr. Neumann suggested, and it was by unanimous vote, that he express warm greetings to the President of Israel on behalf of the NEC. Dr. Neumann reported that Mr. Frisch had represented the ZOA officially at the airport on Dr. Weizmann's arrival in New York, and immediately thereafter, a message of welcome was sent by Dr. Neumann to Dr. Weizmann.

#### MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO DR. WISE AND RABBI BERLIN

The chairman warmly eulogized the memories of Dr. Stephen S. Wise, former President and founder of the ZOA and Rabbi Meir Berlin, world leader of Mizrachi, who had passed away. A resolution expressing the deep sense of sorrow and loss to the Zionist movement on their demise was adopted by a rising vote and the observance of a two minutes' silence in tribute to their memories.

Plans were discussed for an appropriate memorial to Dr. Wise, by the ZOA in association with the Jewish National Fund.

#### AMERICAN ZIONIST YOUTH COMMISSION:

Rabbi Abram Prero, director of the AZYC, defined the purposes of the Commission and reviewed its major activities. He stated that among its objectives was the coordination of activities of the four Zionist youth groups affiliated with it--Jr. Eedassah, Masada, IZFA and Young Judaea; to provide them with counsel, programmatic and administrative assistance, and the funds with which they operate. The Youth Commission serves as the Zionist agency among the non-Zionist unaffiliated youth in Jewish Centers, camps, schools, etc. 40,000 youth are affiliated with the Youth Commission, constituting the largest youth potential of Zionist and non-Zionist groups in this country. Rabbi Prero urged the need of greater concentration on organizational problems and the coordination of Zionist youth activities. He called for the strengthening of youth activity through the aegis of the Youth Commission which he said will serve to make it the recognized agency for Zionist youth work among Zionists and non-Zionists alike.

Rabbi Prero reported the Youth Commission is expanding its program. It has recently established a Camp Service Bureau to disseminate material and counsel on the integration of Israeli culture into camp programs. The YC also provides educational and social groups with suitable educational program material and techniques. A joint programming service for the youth organizations comprising the Youth Commission has been inaugurated and a Zionist Youth Council and a Program Department have been set up. Efforts are being made for improving the means of integrating youth activities in local district activities. Concluding, Rabbi Prero appealed not only for the necessary financial support but for a wider appreciation of the primary need of intensified youth work on the American Jewish scene. The success of its youth program he said, would ensure the future of the ZOA and guarantee Jewish survival in America.

Leon Kohn who succeeded Herman Weizman as national chairman of the Youth Commission, seconded Rabbi Prero's report and urged support of Zionist youth activities.

#### EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Carl Alpert, director, outlined the activities of his department, pointing out that its program had been reorientated to meet the changing situation confronting the movement since the establishment of the Jewish State. Although there were many new projects, Mr. Alpert selected a few outstanding activities as indicative of the varied Education Department program.

He reported a phenomenal increase in formal adult Jewish education in Zionist districts with over 200 sustained study courses under ZOA sponsorship throughout the country. The Education Department is functioning as a "service to the Jewish community" through its wide distribution of source and program material and curriculum aids on Israel to the Youth Commission, rabbis, synagogues, bureaus of Jewish Education, etc. There is a steady profitable increase in the sale of books through the Book Department, running into tens of thousands of copies annually. Almost three-quarters of a million pamphlets have been sold, exclusive of millions of "throw-aways". 11,500 copies of Hebrew Self-Taught, a ZOA publication, have been sold and a fourth printing is planned.

The Speakers' and Artists' Bureau is meeting the growing requests of districts and has made available prominent Israeli speakers and entertainers of all types, thus affording American Jewry a first-hand source of culture and inspiration from Israel.

#### ECONOMIC AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT:

Seymour Liebman, director, stated there was considerable interest in new spheres of Israel's development other than the philanthropic and political. Reviewing the activities of the Economic Department of which Mortimer May is chairman, Jacob Alkow, co-chairman, and Albert Schiff, vice-chairman, Mr. Liebman reported his office is supplying information on various aspects of the development of the Jewish State in response to requests from hundreds of individuals and organizations from all parts of the country. The Economic News-Letter is giving specific information on Israel, including basic Israeli rules and regulations of trade with America. This department is the sole distributor in America of the Anglo-Palestine Year Book.

Mr. Liebman reported that the Economic Institute for Israel at Town Hall, New York, sponsored by the Economic Department, featured prominent authorities from Israel and America. A digest is being made of the proceedings and one-day economic institutes will be held in key cities in the Fall.

Mr. Liebman added that the Economic Department was encouraging American Jews to make capital investments in Israel through The Israel Corporation of America along with gift donations to the UJA. It also was instrumental in stimulating trips to Israel by American businessmen.

MEMBERSHIP:

Joseph Goldberg, national chairman, made a strong plea for the personal cooperation of NEC members in building up ZOA membership. He pointed out that the holding of the convention at an earlier date than usual had shortened the usual working year by several weeks. He praised the "Book of Remembrance" as a successful technique for stimulating membership and as an excellent public relations medium. Mr. Goldberg cautioned against passive acceptance of a decrease in this year's membership and called for a concerted membership drive which would help to correct this situation. He asserted that where intensive efforts had been made, districts had exceeded their membership goals, and that similar results could be obtained in other districts. Herschel Averbach is Director.

Convention:

The chairman reported the appointment of a convention committee on election procedure headed by Judge Henry Ellenbogen which will submit its recommendations to the convention. The other members of this committee are Judge Jacob Klau, co-chairman, Louis Falk, Edmund Koblenz, Rabbi Irving Miller, Jochanon Rudovsky, Rudolph Sonneborn, Jacques Torczyner, and Dr. Sidney Marks, ex-officio.

Convention Program:

Jacques Torczyner, chairman of the convention committee, submitted a tentative program calling for a minimum of formal speech-making and providing for a maximum of time for discussion and business. He stated that everything will be done to assure the smooth functioning of all details of the convention.

Mr. Torczyner recommended on behalf of his committee, that the election session be closed to the public for technical and physical reasons, but that the press be invited. This would obviate undue confusion and over-crowding and allow for an orderly election procedure. This would be the only closed session of the convention. The rules for the election of delegates and alternates would be the same as the previous year. This tentative program was accepted in principle.

ACTIONS COMMITTEE:

Dr. Neumann reported that in accordance with the unanimous decision of the NEC at its previous meeting, he had addressed a letter to Dr. Nahum Goldmann, acting chairman of the American Section of the Jewish Agency, requesting postponement of the Actions Committee from May until June. The reasons were enumerated - namely, conflict with the time of the ZOA convention which would preclude delegates from attending the AC, the desirability of arming delegates with a clear mandate from the convention; the need for Zionist leaders to be in this country while UJA fund-raising and general Zionist activities were at their height. The letter also pointed out that the tentative agenda was not of an emergency nature and could be held over until the following month when ZOA members could be present.

Dr. Neumann reported no reply was received from Dr. Goldmann. It was learned subsequently that the Jerusalem Executive, acting on the ZOA request, voted for postponement until June 20th with only one negative vote. However, the American Section of the Agency with one exception, voted against such postponement. Inasmuch as the majority votes were against postponement, the AC meeting will convene in Israel early in May, Dr. Neumann stated.

Accordingly, the praesidium of the Actions Committee have been advised that under the circumstances it was entirely possible that ZOA representatives would be unable to attend.

In this connection, after discussion, the NEC officially recorded the fact that the officers of the ZOA had repeatedly advised the officials of the Actions Committee and the Agency that the holding of the meeting in May would make it impossible for representatives of the ZOA to attend. It was understood that ZOA representatives in the Actions Committee will confer among themselves and decide collectively whether or not they will attend. They will also take any necessary action on the matter of appointing alternates if provision for same is called for.

#### POLITICAL REPORT -- DR. NEUMANN:

Dr. Neumann in a confidential report reviewed the recent developments on the political scene. He discussed the latest trends which had indicated the possibility of postponement of action on Israel's admittance to the UN. He told of the position which the U.S. Government had taken on major questions now under discussion relating to the status of Jerusalem, frontiers and Arab refugees, as well as the pressure being brought by the Vatican and its influence on Latin-American countries. Dr. Neumann stressed the need for the greatest vigilance, particularly in the light of renewed anti-Zionist propaganda from Near Eastern sources and the recrudescence of activity by the American Council for Judaism.

#### RIFKIND COMMITTEE:

The chairman stated this committee which is headed by Judge Simon Rifkind to study proposals on the future program and action of the Zionist Organization will submit its recommendations to the convention. The committee has been meeting continuously hearing many points-of-view, including those of representatives of other Zionist parties.

#### PAMPHLET OF DR. SILVER'S SPEECHES

On Dr. Neumann's recommendation it was unanimously approved that the ZOA publish in book form a collection of Dr. Silver's addresses to be ready for the opening of the convention.

The chairman also recommended that in line with the discussions and general thinking expressed by members of the NEC at previous meetings, a committee be appointed to submit to the convention, suggestions of specific projects to be undertaken by the ZOA the following year.

Adjournment for Lunch:

The meeting convened at 3:15 with Dr. Neumann presiding.

ISRAEL CORPORATION OF AMERICA

Abraham Tuvim, executive director of the ICA, reported that the ICA was making considerable progress and urged the ZOA to give serious consideration to sponsoring it as its major project in the economic field. He urged intensified support of its activities and appealed for closer cooperation between the two organizations. Dr. Neumann strongly endorsed Mr. Tuvim's plea for ICA support.

REPORT ON STAFF-UNION NEGOTIATIONS

Milton Pollack, chairman of the ZOA Finance Committee reviewed in detail the protracted negotiations which have been held between his committee and representatives of the Union and clerical and executive staff of the ZOA since the expiration of the Union contract on January 1, 1949.

He stated these negotiations had come to a practical standstill because the Finance Committee was unwilling to grant across-the-board salary increases on an increment basis demanded by the Union. In view of the present financial situation of the ZOA, such action would entail an outlay which the organization could not afford and would result in a serious deficit. Mr. Pollack felt the Finance Committee could not institute a policy of deficit financing and asserted the National Executive must assume the responsibility for establishing such a policy.

Mr. Pollack read a letter addressed to the members of the NEC by the staff (excluding top executives who are not members of the Union) which stated that "negotiations had broken down" and requesting the NEC to appoint a subcommittee to negotiate and reach a settlement.

Mr. Pollack compared the difference in the wages for both the clerical and executive staffs of three years ago and the present scale, pointing out there had been considerable annual increments as well as other benefits such as vacation and holiday schedule, sick leave, etc. He maintained the scale of salaries paid to the ZOA staff was equal to or better than those paid in comparable positions in other membership organizations. He added the Finance Committee was willing to discuss any existing inequities or hardship cases but it could not comply with the salary increment plan without a directive and plan for financing from the NEC.

After considerable discussion, a motion was adopted to the effect that the Finance Committee continue its negotiations. The President was authorized to appoint a subcommittee of three NEC members with authority to act on behalf of the NEC in conjunction with the Finance and Inner Committees.

Mr. Pollack suggested that ways and means be devised immediately to balance the ZOA budget. There was general agreement that such retrenchment of activities which would not affect basic questions of policy be implemented without delay.

The meeting adjourned at 6 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Sidney Marks  
Secretary

MEETING HELD IN CLEVELAND, OHIO, APRIL 18, 1949  
IN THE HOME OF DR. SILVER

Present: Dr. A. H. Silver, Benjamin Doff, Daniel Frisch, A. Goldstein, A. Goodman, Joseph W. Greenleaf, Rabbi Irving Miller, Charles Ress, Jacques Torczyner

1. Except as mentioned below, it was the consensus of opinion that a meeting be held on Sunday night, April 24th, of all the members of the Executive Committee who belong to the administration forces. At this meeting a secret ballot should determine the official candidate of this administration for the presidency of the Z.O.A.

Rabbi Miller agreed to abide by the decision of this committee meeting. Mr. Frisch reserved his answer subject to the advice of his committee.

2. Dr. Silver suggested that Rabbi Miller and Mr. Frisch enter in personal negotiations and felt that until the end of the meeting a personal agreement of these two gentlemen would ease the entire situation.

Dr. Silver felt that Daniel Frisch was entitled at this time to the presidency of the Z.O.A. Rabbi Miller should assume the chairmanship of the Emergency Council for very important political work will have to be done in the coming year. It was his thought that Rabbi Miller might well succeed to the presidency at the expiration of Mr. Frisch's term.

3. It was agreed by everyone that Mortimer May should occupy a leading position in the next administration if he is not to be the presidential candidate. If in negotiations with the opposition it is felt desirable to offer them the post of Chairman of the Administrative Council, then a post of Chairman of the Executive should be created which should be offered to Mr. May.
4. The following committee of seven was suggested to the President to negotiate with the committee of 15 of the opposition. This committee has no power to make any commitment without a decision of the committee mentioned in #1 of this memorandum. The seven members are: Dr. Emanuel Neumann, Daniel Frisch, Mortimer May, Irving Miller, Dr. M. Robbins, Abraham Goodman, and Jacques Torczyner.

It was also agreed that no formal negotiations should be started before Monday, April 25th. It was also unanimously agreed that no individual will negotiate with the opposition. This includes all candidates.

5. With respect to the inner committee, it was suggested that membership of the inner committee be 11 of which 3 should eventually belong to the opposition, 3 to be appointed by the new president, and 5 to be selected by the administration group.
6. It was suggested that the maximum concession to the opposition would be 2 to 3 vice-presidents and about 20% of the membership of the Executive Committee.
7. No member of the Z.O.A. will go to the Actions Committee meeting if it is held before the Z.O.A. Convention.
8. In view of the uncertain financial conditions during the coming year, it was felt that the budget, with the approval of the Convention, be subject to ~~the~~ review from time to time during the year by the Executive Committee, including also subventions such as that of the Histadruth Ivrit, Youth Council, etc.

9. All matters pertaining to the reorganization of the staff of the Z.O.A. which may be found necessary will first be reviewed by the inner committee before action is taken.
10. The relationship of the Z.O.A. to Hadassah and to the World Confederation will be determined after the conclusion of the negotiations with the opposition.



ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

41 EAST 42nd STREET  
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

April 19, 1949

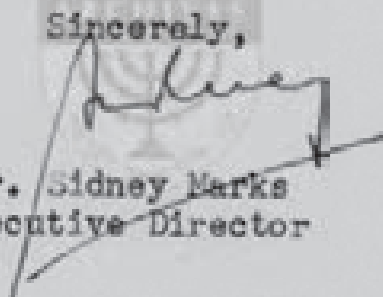
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

At the request of Dr. Neumann, I am enclosing copy of a cable I have received from Jerusalem with reference to the Actions Committee.

My kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

  
Dr. Sidney Marks  
Executive Director

SH/M  
(Enc.)

C O P Y

IVL 757 XM

22JERUSALEM 38 17 1200 W RADIOISRAEL

MLT ZIONISTS SYDNEY MARKS NEW YORK  
(SYDNEY MARKS % ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA  
41 EAST 42 STREET RM 600)

YOURS 10/4 PRESIDUM AND EXECUTIVE DISCUSSED YOUR PROPOSAL  
BUT FOUND POSTPONEMENT UNTIL JUNE JULY IMPOSSIBLE VIEW  
EXTREME URGENCY PROBLEMS STOP HOPE ACCESSION WILL END IN  
TIME FOR PREPARATIONS AND PARTICIPATION YOUR CONVENTION



ZIONIT

M/

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Regional & District Presidents  
National Executive Committee  
National Administrative Council  
Regional Directors

FROM: Dr. Sidney Marks

DATE: April 25, 1949

re: DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER TO DELIVER AN ADDRESS OVER THE  
AMERICAN BROADCASTING COMPANY'S NETWORK ON MAY 2ND.

On May 2nd Dr. Abba Hillel Silver is scheduled to deliver a radio address on the American Broadcasting Company's full network. His subject will be the "First Anniversary of Israel." The time - 11:16 - 11:30 P.M. (E. D. T.)

It is recommended that you make contact with your local A. B. C. radio station to insure that they include Dr. Silver's address in their schedule. In the event the scheduled time is unsuitable for your communities, it is suggested that Dr. Silver's address be recorded and broadcast at a more appropriate one.

To promote a large listening audience, it is recommended that small advertisements be taken in your local press pointing up to this event. Your cooperation is most vital.

Your cooperation in these respects would be appreciated.

*Sidney Marks*

SM:ml

NEW JERSEY REGION

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

45 Branford Place, Newark, N.J.

PLEDGE OF SUPPORT TO

DR. SILVER AND DR. NEUMANN

WHEREAS Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Emanuel Neumann have rendered distinguished services to the Zionist Cause throughout their entire lifetime and more particularly during the unforgettable period of recent memory which saw the establishment of the Jewish State, to which they contributed in such abundant measure, and

WHEREAS we wholeheartedly approve of their policy of direct and positive action which for the first time in many years and, fortunately, at the most critical moment of decision, united American Zionism behind the singular objective of full realization of our aims, and

WHEREAS we furthermore approve the stand taken by Drs. Silver and Neumann in the recent Jewish Agency controversy as consistent with the best interests of the Zionist Movement in the United States.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the New Jersey Zionist Region meeting at its fifth regular Zionist Convention at Pleasantdale, New Jersey, on Sunday, May 8th, 1949, sends greetings to Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann and assure them of its complete confidence in their matchless leadership, coupled with the hope that their policies of militant action will guide and inspire future Z.O.A. administrations, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be spread on the minutes of this meeting and forwarded to Drs. Silver and Neumann.

NEW JERSEY REGION

התאחדות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

45 BRANFORD PLACE  
NEWARK 2, N. J.  
MARKET 3-3748

REV. MARTIN ADOLF  
PRESIDENT

LOUIS A. FALK  
HON. PRESIDENT

HARRY E. ASHER  
HENRY GOLDMAN  
EDWARD HART  
MERVIN D. HYMAN  
S. ARTHUR LEVY  
HON. HARRY S. MEDINETS  
AARON J. ROBBINS  
VICE PRESIDENTS

BENJAMIN E. GORDON  
SECRETARY

JESSE EISEN  
TREASURER  
CHAIRMAN JNF

MORRIS MARGARETTEN  
CHAIRMAN REGIONAL  
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

## *Executive Board:*

BENJAMIN KLEINBERG  
MORRIS LEVINE  
SAMUEL E. PRINCE  
ADOLPH STERN  
ABRAHAM TOUB  
PHILIP APRIL  
U J A  
RABBI BENJ. H. ENGLANDER  
MEMBERSHIP  
ELLIS GOODMAN  
AMERICAN ZIONIST FUND  
LOUIS A. HORWITZ  
PALESTINE ECONOMIC  
IRA J. KATCHEN  
PALESTINE ENTERPRISE  
MORRIS KRITZMAN  
EDUCATION  
SAUL ROBINSON  
PUBLICATION  
IRVING I. RUBIN  
POLITICAL  
HARRY W. STANLEY  
VETERANS  
LEO YANOFF  
SPEAKERS BUREAU

URIAH TCHACK  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

May 13, 1949

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

I was requested to send you a copy of the following resolutions which were adopted at our Fifth Annual Regional Convention on May 7-8, 1949.

Support Daniel Frisch for President of  
National Z.O.A.  
Pledge of Support to Dr. Silver and  
Dr. Neumann  
President Harry S. Truman

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

*Uriah Tchack*  
Uriah Tchack  
Executive Director

UT/vml  
Encls.

May 16, 1949

Mr. Uriah Tchack, Executive Direction  
New Jersey Region, Z.O.A.  
45 Branford Place  
Newark 2, New Jersey

My dear Friend:

Permit me to acknowledge your kind letter of May 13th  
and the three resolutions which were enclosed. I deeply  
appreciate the sentiments expressed which were most  
heartening to me.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

41 EAST 42nd STREET  
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

June 2, 1949

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I do suppose that this can be regarded as a desperate appeal.

You are proceeding to Sioux City on October 18th and the Zionist district is simply filled with disappointment. While they are ready to stage affairs and do everything humanly possible, in essence they simply want to meet with you and pay tribute to your leadership. It is understandable.

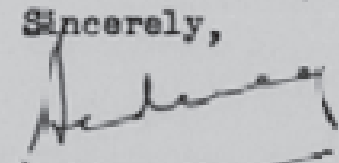
Is it possible for you to meet with them at, let us say, late afternoon for a small reception or a luncheon during the course of the day or at any time that you can spare for them.

The Sioux City Zionists are some of the finest in the country. The Baron boys have made Zionism as much of their living day and night as is humanly possible.

I respectfully solicit your reconsideration.

Accept my affectionate regards.

Sincerely,

  
Dr. Sidney Marks  
Executive Director

SM/M

התאחדות ציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

41 EAST 42nd STREET  
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

June 6, 1949

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I am happy to greet you once again as a Past-President of the Zionist Organization of America for the year 1949-1950.

We move forward towards a year of challenge. It will require all of us to bend our greatest efforts towards a strengthening of our organization. We must adopt a realistic attitude and all of us are expected to go into our communities and provide the organization with those basic needs - Membership and Funds - which will enable us to build and enlarge our future program.

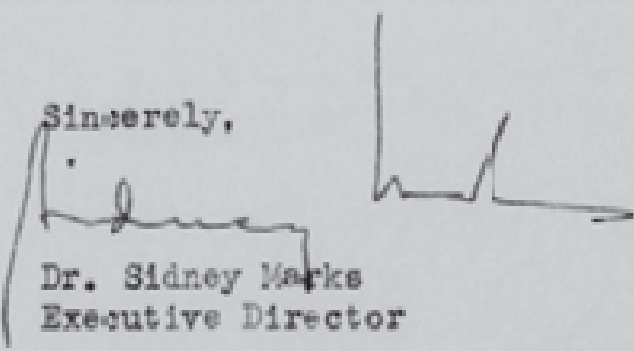
The basic pattern has been provided for us by the Convention assembled and with your help, we shall move forward.

If you are not a Life Member of the Zionist Organization of America, I do believe it will be a wonderful tribute to the organization and a most fitting occasion to enroll in such category now. I am enclosing a membership application for that purpose.

I look forward to the pleasure of greeting you and meeting with you on future occasions and at future meetings.

Accept my kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

  
Dr. Sidney Marks  
Executive Director

SM/M  
(Enc.)

התאחדות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

41 EAST 42nd STREET  
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

June 6, 1949

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

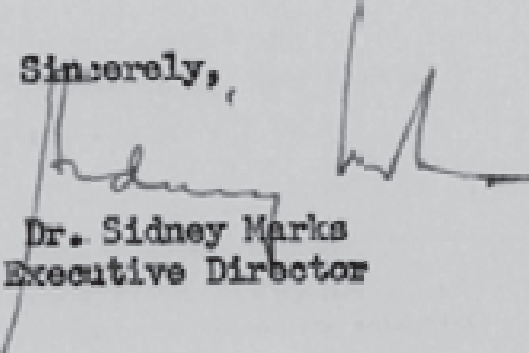
May I extend to you on behalf of the Zionist Organization of America and personally our sincere thanks for the role you played in our program.

With your help, and with the fine atmosphere which was created by your thought-provoking words, the Convention moved speedily to a successful conclusion. Our delegates were all very happy to participate with you in this 52nd Annual Convention of the Zionist Organization of America. Your friendship is a matter of pride and gratefulness to all of us.

If you are not a Life Member of the Zionist Organization of America, I do believe it will be a wonderful tribute to the organization and a most fitting occasion to enroll in such category now. I am enclosing a membership application for that purpose.

Accept my kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

  
Dr. Sidney Marks  
Executive Director

SM/M

התאחדות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

41 EAST 42nd STREET  
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

June 15, 1949

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

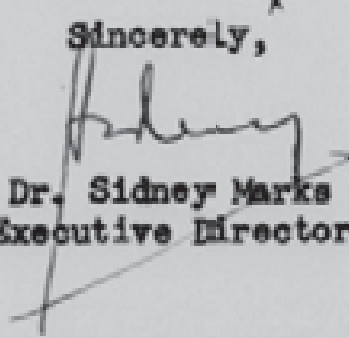
I have the honor to inform you that you have been designated by Mr. Daniel Frisch, President of the Zionist Organization of America, as one of its representatives on the American Zionist Council.

I need not express the high measure of responsibility which is attached to this post.

I know that this Zionist task will be gladly assumed by you.

Accept my kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

  
Dr. Sidney Marks  
Executive Director

S4/M





## MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF NEC, NAC, DISTRICT  
AND REGIONAL PRESIDENTS, AND  
MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMEN

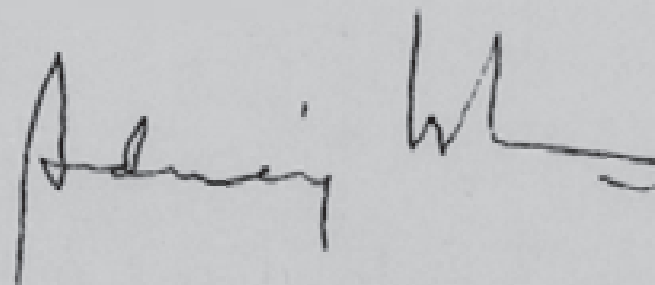
DATE: June 30, 1949

FROM: DR. SIDNEY MARKS

SUBJECT:

I am annexing hereto several comments which were made upon the current situation concerning American Zionist life. They should be of unusual interest to you.

Accept my kindest personal regards.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Sidney Marks", with a stylized flourish at the end.

SM/br  
enc.

## I. ZIONIST UNIFICATION OR FRAGMENTATION: WHICH?

At the opening of the Rabbinical Assembly of America's annual Convention at Monticello, New York a few days ago, Rabbi David Aronson, President of the Assembly proposed the formation of a new Zionist party. This party, which would associate with the Zionist groups in this country as well as with the World Zionist Organization, would represent American Jews who are members of Conservative Synagogues.

This plan is anything but constructive. If actually carried out it would tend to produce more anarchy in Zionist circles. What Rabbi Aronson is really saying is that every Jewish group in the United States, big or small, may form a new Zionist party, regardless of the already existing Zionist alignment here and the world over. Because according to Rabbi Aronson's estimate there are a half million Jews belonging to over four hundred conservative Congregations, the Rabbi would have them form a new party. No other reason is offered.

Such a group would have no ideological raison d'etre. Rabbi Aronson says that the function of the new organization would be "strengthening our religious way of life and expressing our sense of spiritual and historic continuity". But there is already a Zionist party for that very purpose - the Mizrahi, a branch of the World Zionist Organization with a very strong American section.

One is forced to believe that the real reason behind this proposal is the desire to be seen and counted. Here we have yet another example of "the new individualism" - or the old selfishness. We are reluctantly forced to interpret the call for a new group in this light since it in no way advances the common cause of Zionism, in which all existent parties cooperate.

Mr. Benjamin G. Browdy, acting President of the ZOA, made a special statement to the Zionist Information Service:

"The World Zionist Organization, in the course of a half century and more of its existence has provided ample opportunity for all Zionist viewpoints to be expressed within its fold. Through its established parties - the General Zionists, the Labor Zionists, the Left Labor Zionists, the Mizrahi and the Revisionists - the whole spectrum of Zionist opinion has made itself evident and felt.

"As far as I can see, these groups afford sufficient hospitality to every ideology in the Zionist movement. Without trying to set an arbitrary limit to differences within Zionism, one can safely say that the point has been reached beyond which one can no longer speak of differentiation but rather of fragmentation.

"It would seem that the Rabbinical Assembly of America, representing the Conservative Congregations in the United States, in seeking to further increase the number of Zionist parties are bringing us dangerously close to chaos. Of course it need not be said that this is not their intention. It is to be hoped that the plan advanced by Rabbi Aronson will be modified so as to make it possible for the entire membership of the conservative synagogues of the United States to cooperate with other Zionist organizations, notably the ZOA.

"The ZOA has always had the deepest reverence for traditional Jewish values, though it has never attempted to impose its religious views on those it helped in Israel. Because of its profound appreciation of the religious element in Jewish life the ZOA has been known to give an especially cordial welcome to the memberships of whole congregations.

"It has been glad to extend them special privileges in the form of reduced membership fees, greater representation, etc. The ZOA feels that a great many members of conservative synagogues can best express their Zionist sympathies through the ZOA, which can confidently offer them that "sense of religious and historic continuity" called for by Rabbi Aronson.

## II. ZIONIST AUTONOMY AND WORLD JEWISH UNITY

Zionist leaders charge that the demand for autonomy is an attack on Jewish unity. They contend that the ZOA stand for its own management of American Zionist affairs and the local management of local Zionist business the world over is a stand against the solidarity of World Zionism. Most recently, these Zionists have received with alarm the suggestion of Judge Rifkind's Commission, that the World Zionist Organization be reorganized along the lines of federation or association.

These charges are entirely without foundation. There is not a grain of truth in them. Throughout its long history American Zionism has believed in and fought for world Jewish unity. Its sense of fraternity with all Jews everywhere is writ large in its record of the past half century. American Zionist publications have always supported Jewish unity. ZOA spokesmen have called for greater Jewish unity.

The ZOA was founded on the Zionist theory that the Jews are Jews by virtue of a community of fate. This theory means that no Jew can be indifferent to what happens to any other Jew. We are bound together by a common history and a common future, and that bond is the determining element in our present situation. Such a view, obviously, is the surest guarantee of World Jewish Unity. But unity is not the same thing as uniformity. World Jewish Unity does not mean complete centralization of World Zionist administration. There is plenty of room for both unity and autonomy. Indeed autonomy is necessary to sustain world unity for any length of time.

It would be painfully unrealistic to overlook the great division and difference that mark World Jewry. The Jews do not live in a vacuum. They dwell among all the people of the world, in a great variety of cultures, religions, and political systems. The Jews in each country take on a certain color, a definite stamp from the surrounding environment. To a greater or lesser degree - and in America to the greatest degree - the Jews share the mores and culture-patterns of their gentile neighbors.

A Moroccan Jew is very different from a Polish Jew. An American Jew, even though he may be the son of a Polish Jew, even if he was once a Polish Jew himself, is something very different from both. And then there is the great division between the Ashkenazim and the Sephardim. The profound differences between these two groups extends into the very ritual of their common religion. This division is very deep and centuries old, but it has never seriously impaired Jewish unity.

Today the Jews live under four political systems, Democracy (in the United States, Latin America, Western Europe and the British Dominions), Totalitarianism (in the Soviet Union and its satellite states), Feudalism (in the Arab countries), and in a state of their own, in Israel. Basically, there are two great sociological groups. First, those who live in Israel, who completely determine their own ways of living. Second, those in the Diaspora who are always in the position of a minority which must accommodate itself in varying degrees to the ways and demands of the majority. These divisions must be realized in theory and practice if we are

to function realistically. Every group can only function according to the particular requirements of its own environment and by its own insight into its position; this means autonomy.

The Jewish people may be considered as a family, large but cohesive. Each national Jewry is a member of the World Jewish family, but each has its own distinct individuality. Separateness and difference do not mean incongruity or irreconcilability. On the other hand, the very genuine community of interests of all Jewish groups does not spell identity. Any attempt to force uniformity on local groups from a world center would be un-Jewish. Each group can best contribute to the whole community, if allowed to work and act in its own way. This is the ideology behind the determined battle for autonomy.

Here in America, the autonomist position is especially clear. For years Zionists have struggled for the doctrine of cultural pluralism which asks for autonomy within the framework of American culture. How can we ask of others what we are not ready to demand from ourselves? Why should this splendid and inspiring idea not be applied to World Jewry? There is one Jewish culture, but it consists of a plurality of different Jewish cultures functioning harmoniously together. American Zionism will continue to fight for autonomy, and in so doing will continue to fight for World Jewish Unity.



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*Canceled*

3:00 p.m. Dr. Marks called and gave me the following information:

1. It appears that PEC had a fight with Aaron Baroway and wanted to get him out.
2. Dr. Marks spoke to Baroway who stated that the PEC people could not see eye to eye with the others (the 2 M's).
3. Dr. Marks said he understands that other people on the Board resigned as well.
4. One other difficulty was the spending of money too lavishly and unwisely.

Dr. Marks will speak to Baroway and Szold tomorrow and will keep you up to date.

ER

