

Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

Series I: General Correspondence, 1914-1969, undated. Sub-series A: Alphabetical, 1914-1965, undated.

Folder Reel Box 87 30 1916

Zionist Organization of America, "U," "V," "W," "X," "Y," and "Z", 1948-1949.

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Regional & District Presidents and Secretaries

Regional Directors

National Executive Committee

DATE: August 20, 1948

FROM:

National Administrative Council

RABBI JEROME UNGER

SUBJECT:

URGENT -- REPLACING ALL PREVIOUS NOTICES.

1. Pending further decision by the highest Zionist authority in the United States, the Zionist Organization of America will respond to the official request of the Israeli Permanent Supply Mission by undertaking through the ZOA Israel Equipment Project the major relief projects of procurement of food. It will also undertake other projects for non-embargo material as they are assigned to us by the Mission.

All problems that districts and regions may have, dealing with these projects, are to be cleared with the ZOA National Office which will continue to work in close cooperation with the Permanent Supply Mission. A committee consisting of two representatives of the Zionist Organization of America and two representatives of Materials for Palestine, Inc. will coordinate our joint efforts on the American scene.

In the collection of materials not included among those specified in the ZOA projects, the Districts and Regions of the ZOA are requested to continue to give full assistance to and facilitate the operations of Materials for Palestine, Inc. It is understood that Materials for Palestine, Inc. will make no direct approach to ZOA districts or regional offices, but will channel their requests through the national office of the ZOA.

- The foregoing statement, for the time being and pending any further decision, resolves the confusion that may have existed regarding the collection and disposition of contributed materials for Israel carried on by ZOA members, committees, districts and regions.
- 3. All such materials as specified in Paragraph I of this release should be sent to ZOA warehouse facilities, c/o Trio Packing and Shipping Corp., 125-127 Carlton Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.
- 4. Please notify all your members at once. Be sure to clear all problems with the National Office.

Counting on your earliest endeavor in the best interest of Israel, I am

Sincerely,

Rabbi Jeromo Unger

Associate Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Regional & District Presidents & Secretaries

DATE:

August 26, 1948

FROM:

National Executive Committee National Administrative Council

Rabbi Jerome Unger

Regional Directors

SUBJECT:

URGENT - Z.O.A. ISRAEL EQUIPMENT PROJECT

In my previous communication of August 20th I informed you that the Z.O.A. Israel Equipment Project had decided to respond to the request of the Israeli Permanent Supply Mission in the United States by undertaking the major relief project of procurement of food for Israel. I earnestly hope that our membership throughout the country will fully comprehend this great task and its urgency.

The Z.O.A. Israel Equipment Project has been in fact created in order to serve as a permanent instrument in the procurement of food, material and equipment for the people of Israel. The burdens of war are heavily pressing upon the shoulders of the heroic Yishuv and the Z.O.A. has decided to embark on a large scale ambitious program of aid for the civilian population of Israel through our Israel Equipment Project.

I further urge upon all of you to expand the activities of the project in your district, region, community or city. We shall send you shortly further lists of urgently needed equipment in Israel and further organizational directives. It is our firm decision to expand and strengthen our project so that it will indeed become a major and permanent branch of Z.O.A. activities.

Sincerely yours,

Rabbi Jerome Unger

Associate Executive Director

Jerome Unger

M: ht

memo from

1250-625-

RABBI JEROME UNGER

September 8, 1948

Dear Dr. Silver:

First, let me say welcome home.

Second. our National Executive Committee meets Saturday evening, September 18th, at the Hotel Pennsylvania in New York. The National Administrative Council meets same place Sunday, September 19th. You are expected at both.

Third. Southwestern Region ZOA meets in Dallas, September 18th, 19th and 20th. Dr. Marcus Levinson of Houston, Texas states you promised to attend if at all possible. What are your plans regarding NEC and NAC meeting in New York on September 18th-19th; regarding Dallas. September 18th - 20th?

To save time and effort, please indicate on this memo. Mr. Barbarash can give it to me in the morning.

Fond regards,

JU:dh

September 9, 1948 Rabbi Jerome Unger Zionist Organization of America 41 East 42nd Street New York 17, New York My dear Rabbi Unger: I understand that as a result of an agreement reached with Materials for Palestine, the Z.O.A. undertook to procure food required by the mission which came here in behalf of the Israeli government. I would appreciate very much if you would let me know what has been done in this direction and how successful your campaign has been. Mr. Jacobson of the mission, with whom I spoke vesterday, indicated that as yet his mission has received nothing from the Z.O.A. With all good wishes, I remain Very cordially yours, ABBA HILLEL SILVER AHS:er

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SYMBOLS

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DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

THE TEMPLE CLEVE=

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CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED

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To RABBI JEROME UNGER SEPTEMBER 10	10 110
C . A. N. STONISH OF CANTRACTON OF AMERICA	1948
Care of or Apt. No. ZIONIST CRGANIZATION OF AMERICA	
Street and No. 41 EAST 42ND STREET Place_NEW YORK CITY	
I SHALL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO BE AT THE MEETINGS NEXT SATURDAY AND SUNI	DAY



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

AIR MAIL Special

September 16, 1948

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver The Temple E. 105th and Ansel Rd., Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

It was good to speak with you yesterday afternoon over the telephone. May I extend to you my warm personal greetings on your return home.

Just so that you may have the information before you, let me reiterate:

- 1. Regarding your telegrem to Dr. Neumann on the Southwest Regional matter, I repeat this office did not promise you for Dallas this weekend. On the contrary, I warned them not to advertise your name because there was no commitment. They were willing to take the risk hoping for a miracle or at least an adequate substitute.
- 2. Regarding the ZOA food procurement project and agreement with Materials for Palestine, I am enclosing the two memoranda that were sent out to our people following the agreement which was negotiated during August.

It was our clear understanding that just as Materials for Palestine finds it necessary to accept money contributions for conversion into materials, in our procurement of food it will become necessary as a matter of practicality also to accept money contributions for conversion into food.

We are really to move into high gear in a campaign for the procurement of food in conjunction with the American Zionist Fund campaign, using all of our tested and successful techniques. It is perfectly clear to all of us including Dr. Neumann that just as in the matter of materials and equipment only part of our contributions will be in kind. It was Dr. Neumann's suggestion that it would be highly useful if you could have a conversation with Mr. Morgenthau to the end that since he looks kindly on this practice in the matter of Materials for Palestine, he would look with equal kindliness on the necessity for our following a similar pattern.

Over the weekend at the meeting of the National Executive Committee and the National Administrative Council, it will be possible for you and Dr.

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

5

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2

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

9

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Page 2 Dr. Silver Neumann as well as several others including Mr. Abe Goodman and Mr. Ben Doft to discuss this whole matter, which I am confident can be resolved satisfactorily. With warm and affectionate greetings, I am Sincerely yours, Rabbi Jerome Unger Associate Executive Director JU:hsl

THE PALESTINE YEAR BOOK The Zionist Organization of America and The Keren Hayesod, Inc. SOPHIE A. UDIN, Editor Dr. Abba Hillel Silver The Temple

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

September 23, 1948.

Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Silver:

For the forthcoming Palestine Year Book, volume 4, I feel that your address at the Pittsburgh Convention will be a most suitable summation of the political situation of the last year. We are hereby enclosing a copy with a few editorial modifications. May I ask you to kindly go over it and return it to us so that we may include it in the forthcoming Palestine Year Book?

Very sincerely yours.

SAU: 88 Encl.

September 27, 1948 Miss Sophie A. Udin, Editor Palestine Year Book 41 East 42nd Street New York 17, New York My dear Miss Udin: I am returning herewith the copy of the address which you sent me. The one suggestion which I should like to make is (page 11) to put the Democratic platform, which had not been adopted at the time this address was delivered, in a footnote, stating that since this address was delivered at the Convention of the Z.O.A., the Democratic Convention met and adopted the following resolution. With all good wishes, I remain Most cordially yours, ABBA HILLEL SILVER AHS:er Enc.

THE PALESTINE YEAR BOOK

Published by

The Zionist Organization of America and The Keren Hayesod, Inc.

SOPHIE A. UDIN, Editor

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

October 8, 1948.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver The Temple Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Silver:

We have received your article for the Palestine Year Book, Volume 4, and wish to thank you very kindly for your cooperation.

Miss Udin is at present away in Israel and I expect her back by the end of November. I have notified her of the receipt of your article.

Very sincerely yours,

SHS

for Sophie A. Wdin, Editor.

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Dr. Sidney Marks telephoned this morning and dictated the following to me in response to your telegram of October 12th:

This is a memorandum issued by Babbi Jerome Unger on August 20, 1948:

1. Pending further decision by the highest Zionist authorities in the United States, the Zionist Organization of America will respond to the official request of the Israeli Permanent Supply Mission by undertaking through the ZOA Israel Equipments Project the major relief projects of procurement of food. It will also undertake other projects for non-embargo materials as they are assigned to us by the Mission.

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In the collection of materials not included among those specified in the ZOA projects, the districts and regions of the ZOA are requested to continue to give full assistance to, and facilitate the operation of Materials for Palestine Inc. It is understood that Materials for Palestine Inc. will make no direct approach to ZOA districts or regional offices, but will channel their requests through the regional offices of the ZOA.

- 2. The foregoing statements, for the time being and pending any further demission, resolved the confusion that may have existed regarding the collection and disposition of contributed materials for Israel carried on by ZOA members, committee, districts and regions.
- 3. All such materials as specified in Paragraph 1 of this release should be sent to ZOA warehouse facilities, care of Trio Packing and Shipping Corp., 125-127 Carlton Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y.
- 4. Please notify all your members at once. Be sure to clear all problems with the National Office.



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

December 13, 1948

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver The Temple Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

The following message from you was read at the Zionist Organization of America luncheon in honor of Morris Weinberg at the Hotel New Yorker in New York on Sunday, December 12, 1948:

"I join your host of friends in sending you warmest felicitations om the occasion when the Zionist leadership of the nation is extending to you well deserved tribute for the many years of outstanding service which you rendered to the cause of our people and the reestablishment of the State of Israel through the effective medium of a distinguished Yiddish press. In every grave political crisis you could be depended upon to speak the word of wisdom and courage and to arouse public opinion in defense of our historic rights. I wish you many more years of effective and satisfying labor."

Knowing that you will understand, I am, with kindest regards

Sincerely yours,

Rabbi Jerome Unger Associate Executive Director

JU:1k

s, mod.

JANUARY 28, 1949

RABBI JEROME UNGER ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA L1 EAST L2nd STREET NEW YORK, NEW YORK

MANY THANKS TO YOU AND THE STAFF ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA FOR BIRTHDAY GREETINGS. I SALUTE ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE STAFF OF ZOA FOR THE MAGNIFICENT WORK WHICH THEY ARE DOING IN THIS CRITICAL HOUR.

ABBA HIILEL SILVER



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SYMBOLS

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Ship Radiogram

PRESIDENT

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1949 JAN 28 PM

BE A SPIRITUAL BOUQUET TO YOU TODAY THAT WILL YEARS STILL AHEAD RICH IN SATISFACTION WARM PERSONAL GREETINGS= RABBI JEROME UNGER=

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WESTERN UNION

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SYMBOLS

DL - Day Lecter

NL - Night Letter

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

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JOSEPH L. EGAN

PRESIDENT

TS-CL141 DL PD=NOH NEWYORK NY 28 1140A=

DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

1949 JAN 28 PM 1 03

BEHALF ENTIRE STAFF ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA EXTEND TO YOU AFFECTIONATE GREETINGS FELICITATIONS YOUR BIRTHDAY. WE JOIN ADMIRING FRIENDS AND DEVOTED COLLEAGUES OUR PEOPLE INVALUABLE LEADERSHIP OF GREATEST CAUSE MAY THE EVENTS ISRAEL IN INCREASING RECOGNITION OF ITS INDEPENDENCE AS THE STRENGTH AND UNITY OF AMERICAN JEWRY

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WESTERN

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DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

:THE TEMPLE=

1949 FEB 24 PM 5 16

MEMBERS BOARD DINNER ROOM ONE FOURTEEN UP A = ZOA FEBRUARY TWENTY EIGHTH SIX PM BILTMORE HOTEL EXPECT YOUR PRESENCE SAME TO PLEASE ASK US PLEASE BE THEY CAN REGARDS=

: RABBI JEROME UNGER=

ZOA UPA PM= (

MPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

DATE: March 11, 1949

Marger

FROM: Rabbi Jerome Unger

SUBJECT:

Mr. Jess Nathan, our energetic Director of the Seabeard Zionist Region, informs me that our Labor Zionist friends are moving into the whole general area along the Atlantic Seaboard and are seeking to influence our people.

In connection with this, the Labor Zionist Organization will hold a Regional Convention in Richmond, Va. on May 14th and 15th. This is something that they have never done before.

Among other weapons to combat their influence, Mr. Nathan is scheduling the Annual Convention of the Zeaboard Zionist Region in Richmond, Va. on May 7th and 8th. Last year Dr. Neumann was the speaker. This year it is felt that it would be highly desirable if you would consent to be the speaker.

They do not want either Pabbi Miller or Mr. Frisch for obvious reasons; neither do they want Mr. Weisman.

All of this seems to make sense and I do think that it would be excellent for our cause if you could see your way clear to accepting this engagement.

Please do let me hear from you as quickly as possible about this.

Kindest personal regards.

JU:dh

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA NEW YORK 17, N. Y. II EAST 42nd STREET MEMORANDUM TO: Dr. Abba Hillel Silver DATE: March 16, 1949

FROM: Rabbi Jerome Unger

SUBJECT:

I have just checked the information on the matter of community-wide representation on the UPA Board.

The Eastern Central Region to which I referred in my conversation, entitled to two representatives, includes Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Kentucky. The President of the Eastern Central Region is Mr. Julian Freeman, 77 So. Harding,. Indianapolis, Ind. The Secretary of the Region is Mr. Maurice Pearlstein, c/o CJFWF, 435 Chester-12th Building, Cleveland, Ohio.

Harry Shapire informs me that Max Simon of Cleveland is probably the man who can do most for us in obtaining our objective in this regard.

I sincerely hope that you will be able to accept the invitation of the Seaboard Region for May 7th and 8th.

Harry Shapire infinite who can do most for who can do most for something the second region for something the second regards.

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Lettion is Justine infinite who can do most for something the second region for something the second regi

-- 5-March 18, 1949 Mr. A. M. Luntz Hanna Building Cleveland, Ohio My dear Abe: In connection with the representative on the U.P.A. for the Eastern Central Region which will be entitled to two representatives, I have been informed from New York that the President of the Eastern Central Region is Mr. Julian Freeman, 77 So. Harding, Indianapolis, Indiana, and that the Secretary is Mr. Maurice Pearlstein, the local field man of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, 435 Chester-12th Building, Cleveland, It might be well for someone to speak to Pearlstein as to the desirability of putting the right kind of people on the Board. Among names which might be considered are those of Max Simon and Jerome Curtis. With all good wishes, I remain Most cordially yours, ABBA HILLEL SILVER AHS:er

Ziorist 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:

I have just heard from Charlie Wolok, one of our best friends in Detroit, that Venetzky and his friends are still perpetuating the rumor of the \$300,000 taken from the UPA for Shekolim.

They use the subterfuge of employing the negative sense in that he says "Silver refuses to give a certified statement that \$300,000 was not taken from the United Palestine Appeal for the purchase of Shekolim."

This was made to Charlie in the presence of Sobeloff, Louis Berry, Holzman and a few others at the Wonder Bar Restuarant in Detroit on Wednesday evening, March 30th.

Charlie Wolok is ready to blast this stuation in Detroit by a public statement that if this thing can be proven, he is willing to give \$300,000 to the United Jewish Appeal.

I am calling this to your attention on behalf of Charlie Wolok and would appreciate your advices as to the procedure to be followed from this point on. It is a most disgusting and highly slanderous remark.

My affectionate regards.

Dr. Sidney Marks

P. S. Charlie Wolok can be reached in Detroit at Madison 4044 (7338 Wood-ward Avenue). Charlie Wolok would be willing to come into Cleveland and discuss it with you.

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

THE TEMPLE
EAST 105TH STREET AT ANSEL ROAD
CLEVELAND, OHIO

April 7, 1949

Dr. Emanuel Neumann 521 Fifth Avenue New York 17, New York

My dear Emanuel:

I plan to follow through with this matter and once and for all get this thing out into the open. Where did this figure of \$300,000 originate and what is this business about the purchase of Shekolim? I would like to know the full story so that when I speak to Mr. Wolok, I shall be clear as to exactly how to proceed.

With all good wishes, I remain

As ever yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

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Via Ar Rage alba:

Maven't the faintest iclea _ where is be the allocations to the Confederation of General Firmsts on the theory that thereby we "longled" their support a the lenguess. A for cry, There's nothing also sknown about this - Evans

Seymore Meintrauh 3/17-49-Private Study अभी पर त्या हुए महा द्वा १०० वर्ष हार अभी पर १०००० वर १००० वर्ष हर हम्मिल्डिक LII Pit Pill Pill is xoull votor is forme is out out SIK fills for Pour & provered Pis figure 5 Dails RILIO 10 fujus/12/Pir - 04/1 12/1 29 2159111 25/10 The grave of a ryson vicina silene of sing Bill - ELOROLIN FLORE & B KIOSING BE 211 NOTOR 1945 ashi fil /11/ - 6112 et 20,60. 119 es fir fo 2411 NO1601/19 es 112 volor 3/16 is for here 51 Pix 11 DIR "0113 PIN - 291/2 611 500 224 00112 काराह में हिला का कि अप कार्य कार्य हिला है हिला है। है। - 21/13.11.31.4 /r 021 202 100 gr 200001119 8 Gestar Git Out the soling & Pois 200 100 NO 3 Lished In 100 100 100 Gen Gill 600 1112 4 NA GILL ENTROPH 121 121 PIN EN SON SO JUNE PAININGIE AND SER GENTION AS CHO DIENT SILONINA 112 Horsalar Military regulation regul 3 9×11/25/2 211/601/19 61601/19 11/00) \$100 4/2/2/ 1/1/6 2011 / 11 /11 11,691 ext Living for 15 policy Pilor 00, 10 20 910 b \$10 for 119 NA for 13 11/2

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370 × W. agatelle ly chicago, Se

April 19, 1919 10.00 Mr. Charle s Wolok 7338 Woodward Avenue Detroit, Michigan My dear Friend: Earlier in the month I heard from our mutual friend, Sidney Marks, that you informed him that "Venetzky and his friends are still perpetuating the rumor of the \$300,000 taken from the UPA for Shekolim". They use the subterfuge of implying the negative sense in that he says: "Silver refuses to give a certified statement that \$300,000 was not taken from the United Palestine Appeal for the purchase of Shekolim," and that this statement was made to you in the presence of Sobeloff, Louis Berry, Holzman and a few others in the Wonder Bar Restaurant in Detroit on Wednesday evening, March 30th. Venetzky, of course, is a liar if he made this statement, as is anyone else who makes it. The gentleman who first gave currency to this charge - the priority liar of them all - was compelled to retract in public. The Executive of the Jewish Agency unanimously repudiated that and similar charges. I don't know what you may wish to do about it in Detroit. There is no way really of stopping charlatans from circulating such rumors. With all good wishes, I remain Very cordially yours, ABBA HILLEL SILVER AHS:er

April 19, 1949 Mr. Seymour Weintraub 3702 West Agatite Avenue Chicago, Illinois My dear Mr. Weintraub: Please pardon the delay in answering your kind letter. I have been away from the city a good deal of the time. I deeply appreciate the sentiments expressed by you, and I am greatly heartened by your words of confidence in me and in my work. I am hoping that the forthcoming Convention of the Zionist Organization of America will implement the kind of policy which will carry on the fictorious activities of American Zionism and will find the right people to assume the chief executive responsibility in the organization. I shall do all I can to help. With all good wishes, I remain Most cordially yours, ABBA HILLEL SILVER AHS:er

Toronto 1 June 7/49. Dr. A.H. Silver, The Temple, East 105th at Ansel Rd., Cleveland, Ohio. Dear Dr. Silver: I could not permit this opportunity to pass without my writing you to tell you how much I personally have agreed with your stand at the Z.O.A. convention. I think you covered, fearlessly and admirably, many things which had to be said. I have just returned from Israel and came back feeling that the Jewish Agency, as presently constituted, is woefully lacking in spirit and ability. It can hardly be said that a good job is being done. I found the actions Committee meetings were of little value. The D.P. problem is a big one and there has been little done about evolving a solution. Actually there has been talk but very little action in the matter of housing or rehabilitation. The agency had no program apart from the party activity. I have come to the conclusion that we in America and Canada who have raised the funds, could do no worse in spending these funds than is being done presently. I have spoken to Dr. Meuman and I believe he and the South Africans, who did not attend the Actions meetings, find themselves in agreement with us. I understand the South Africans are making their own arrangements and decisions about purchases. Last February, we opened a 'Canada "ouse' in Israel, with office in Tel Aviv. Mr. A.H. Friedgut was sent over by the Z.O.C. to guide Canadians and to facilitate investment and tourist problems emanating from Canada or Canadians and has been attempting to . work with the Agency. I do not know where we will go from here. I trust we may have the opportunity of meeting soon so that we can discuss these matters at greater length. In the meantime, I want to express my gratification to you for the position you have taken. - trust israel's situation will be bettered and

S. J. ZACKS -2-Dr. A.H.S. become healthier, as a result of your forthright stand. Hoping to see you soon and with kindest regards, I am, lours very sincerely, SJZ/FH.

June 10, 1949 Mr. S. J. Zacks 185 Bay Street Toronto 1, Canada My dear Friend: Thank you so much for your letter of June 7th. I enjoyed reading it very much, and I am heartened by the fact that you see things the way I do. In the matter of the Jewish Agency, its work and its relationship to existing Zionist bodies, I do hope that I shall have the pleasure before very long to sit down and talk things over with you. There is much to talk over, I am sure. With kindest regards to Mrs. Zacks and with all good wishes, I remain Most cordially yours, ABBA HILLEL SILVER AHS:er

THE PALESTINE YEAR BOOK The Zionist Organization of America and The Keren Hayesod, Inc. 41 EAST 42ND STREET NEW YORK 17, N. Y. SOPHIE A. UDIN, Editor June 15, 1949. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver The Temple Cleveland, Chio My dear Dr. Silver: It gives me great pleasure to send you, under separate cover, the Fourth Palestine Year Book and Israeli Annual in which an article by you is included. It is a source of deep gratification that the previous three Year Books are considered the standard reference

book on Palestine and Zionism. It is my sincere wish

With many thanks for your co-operation in making the

a similar purpose.

SAU:ss

Year Book what it is, I am,

that this year Book, dealing with Israel, will also serve

Very sincerely yours,

Return to De Silver of gene Zion 20 Arkwright Mansions, Finchley Road. H.S. June 23, 1949. London. N.W.3. England. Please return Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, The Temple, Cleveland, Ohio, U. S. A. Dear Dr. Silver: Since my return to London I have met with a number of our friends, attended a meeting of the Federation Executive and of the General Zionist Committee and felt that you might be interested in a summary of my findings: a - With regard to the recent Annual Conference of the Zionist Federation, I have now ascertained that Brodetsky and the office staff had prepared a resolution for the General Zionist session proclaiming the allegiance of British Zionists with the "Progressives". This resolution was first brought before a meeting of the General Zionist committee a couple of days pior to the Conference. Our friends warned against it, but Brodetsky replied "maybe your 5% diehards will not be on our side, but the remaining 95% are ours". At the Session proper a battery of speeches from the platform had been organised in favour of the "Progressives" and the Chairman himself, Mr. Halevy, is a known socialist protagonist. Then followed 12 speeches from the floor, and 11 turned out to be in favour of neutrality and against taking sides. The trend of discussion was quickly turned towards the UJA; fund-raising became the keynote and the resolution was dropped without having been proposed. b - There is general discontent throughout the country with the present form of General Zionism practised here. c - It is clear that with the imminent departure of Brodetsky, even the mediocre front will disappear - not only in England, but in Europe. I have heard a suggestion that Brodetsky is aiming at the Presidency of Israel, and some people even believe that he stands a chance. This accounts for his announcement yesterday, that he will take less and less interest in the World Confederation in future. d - Since the set-back is very apparent, a sub-committee was elected to work out plans for revived activity on the part of General Zionists in the fall. This is clearly to be preparatory to the proposed World Confederation Conference to be convened in the fall or winter - I believe in Paris - and, of course, to the Congress itself. e - This does not, in itself, present a great danger because the brain behind everything is Bakstansky who has for years been clever enough to throw the General Zionists sufficient crums to keep them alive, but to withhold from them the food that would strengthen them. He has not changed and I therefore do not believe that he will go out

of his way to make more than a minimum success of the proposed revival.

- f However, there is an impression among those craving for it an impression fostered by a chance remark of Dr. Goldstein that the "Progressives" will try and capture the entire ZOA next year, and the work of Haoved Hazioni is boosted beyond recognition.
- g Next Wednesday a meeting of the European Secretariat is to gather in Paris with Dr. Goldstein. I imagine that Brodetsky will wish to utilise this last opportunity to assure that some minor honours be bestowed upon Joseph Sagall. Fortunately Sagall is highly unpopular in this country, fell through for Vice-Presidency of the Federation, was hardly listened to at the Conference. But, of course, with the backing of Brodetsky he can go a long way, at least as far as the acquisition of titles is concerned.

h - on the issue of the autonomy of our national movements, Brodetsky yesterday spoke against it and he thought that opinion must be mobilised in time for the next Congress to outvote the suggestion.

- i I believe that the vacuum created by the following:
 - 1). Withdrawal of funds from the States;
 - 2). Natural division within the Confederation;
 - 3). Continuous changes in the Paris office;
 - 4). Brodetsky's departure:
 - 5). Lack of interest on the part of British Zionists,

presents a good opportunity to make radical changes within the structure of European General Zionism.

j - A very simple decision will have to be taken in the United States, i.e. do American Zionists want to take over their rightful place as leaders of Galuth Zionism, or do they wish to withdraw into isolation? Especially with a view to the forthcoming Congress, the decision cannot long be withheld. But it will require the clear-cut basis you demanded in your Convention speech, otherwise the muddle will merely be perpetuated.

I expect to leave for Israel on Sunday and if there is anything I can do for you either during my five weeks' stay in that country, or on may way back in Paris, I need hardly assure you that I am always at your service. My address in Israel will be:

c/o Bodanoff, 63 Choveve Zion Street, Tel-Aviv.

Alternatively mail will always be promptly forwarded to me through my home address as above.

May I send you and Mrs. Silver the best of good wishes, and remain,

Very cordially yours,

Harmah Stein.

June 27, 1949 Miss Sophie A. Udin, Editor Palestine Year Book 41 East 12nd Street New York 17, New York My dear Miss Udin: I received the 4th Palestine Year Book, and I wish to congratulate you upon another very fine Annual to which we have all come to look forward because of its inclusiveness and authenticity. I send you all my good wishes. Most cordially yours, ABBA HILLEL SILVER AHS:er

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Regional & District Presidents & Secretaries

DATE:

August 26, 1948

FROM:

National Executive Committee National Administrative Council

Rabbi Jerome Unger

Regional Directors

SUBJECT:

U F G E N T - Z.O.A. ISRAEL EQUIPMENT PROJECT

In my previous communication of August 20th I informed you that the Z.O.A. Israel Equipment Project had decided to respond to the request of the Israeli Permanent Supply Mission in the United States by undertaking the major relief project of procurement of food for Israel. I earnestly hope that our membership throughout the country will fully comprehend this great task and its urgency.

The Z.O.A. Israel Equipment Project has been in fact created in order to serve as a permanent instrument in the procurement of food, material and equipment for the people of Israel. The burdens of war are heavily pressing upon the shoulders of the heroic Yishuv and the Z.O.A. has decided to embark on a large scale ambitious program of aid for the civilian population of Israel through our Israel Equipment Project.

I further urge upon all of you to expand the activities of the project in your district, region, community or city. We shall send you shortly further lists of urgently needed equipment in Israel and further organizational directives. It is our firm decision to expand and strengthen our project so that it will indeed become a major and permanent branch of Z.O.A. activities.

Sincerely yours;

Jerome Unger
Rabbi Jerome Unger

Associate Executive Director

JU: ht