



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.

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Zionist Organization of America, 1954-1955.

JACQUES TORCZYNER

September 24, 1954

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
Shaker Boulevard
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Again a year has passed and we want to wish you a happy, healthful and prosperous New Year. This year, special congratulations are in order, due to the victory of the "Cleveland Indians." I recall very vividly, how they were leading in 1951, but eventually lost. Maybe their victory augurs well for our victory next year, at the Congress.

I hope to have an opportunity to meet with you when you are in New York, in order to discuss the problems of the ZOA and the Congress.

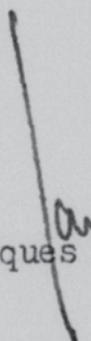
As you know, Leon Ilutovich has returned from his highly successful trip to South America. In Europe, too, the picture looks a little brighter. The only dark spot is our own United States.

Bert joins me in extending to Mrs. Silver, the boys and yourself, our greetings for the coming year.

As always,

Cordially yours,

JT:BW


Jacques Torczyner

SIXTEENTH FLOOR
400 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, NEW YORK
—
MURRAY HILL 8-0123

February 11, 1955

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

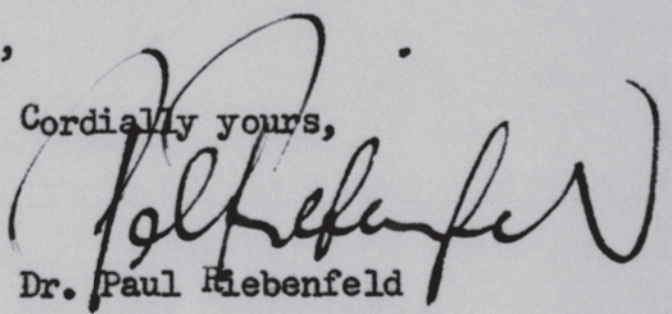
The subscription from Mr. Bernard Schwartz which your secretary sent in was evidently made through your kind assistance. I am writing to thank you and express to you our appreciation. Nothing is more apt to give proper perspective to what we are trying to do than your constant cooperation and support.

I use this opportunity to refer to the communications which you received from Mr. Sam Katzin, PEC chairman in Chicago, and Mr. Morris Bromberg, president of the ZOC, regarding a ZOA-PEC dinner in Chicago and asking you to agree to be the speaker. You are, of course, aware of the ZOA position in Chicago. PEC, on the other hand, has an excellent working committee in Chicago, and your participation would make it possible to build PEC's activities there around the ZOA somehow, and to draw a new group of men into the ZOC.

I know, of course, that you are very busy. I would feel guilty, however, if I would not mention to you this added consideration which might affect your decision.

With kind personal regards,

Cordially yours,


Dr. Paul Hiebfeld



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Uniontown, Pa.
March 24, 1955.

Rabbi Hellel Silver
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I have a very unusual request to make of you.

Some years ago the Uniontown Zionist District numbered about 275 members and was very active. I too was very active until four years ago when my only son was stricken with Polio which left him paralyzed in both legs. At the time I dropped everything in the way of outside activities to devote my entire time to my son. Now that he is in as good condition as I can expect I feel that I am in a position to meet a local challenge that has arisen during the past few days.

The Tri-State Zionist Region is making a strong effort to revitalize the Uniontown District which now numbers 36 members. A few anti-Zionists are doing their best to "kill" the effort. In fact, one of the anti-Zionists, who is a business friend of mine, went so far as to make me a substantial wager that we cannot rebuild our local District. I accepted the wager and am deeply interested in winning it..... not for the money, but to show them that we can re-activate our District despite their efforts in the other direction.

I want to send every Jew in Uniontown a very strong appealing letter containing the best reasons *why* the ZOA must continue to function..... why the ZOA must be kept strong in numbers, etc. I want this letter to be one of the most logical and appealing letters they have ever received. A few days after the letter has been mailed a group of eight good Zionists will personally call on every Jew in town.

I know of no better person in the country to turn to for such a letter. I will forever be grateful if you will send me such a letter that I can use for this one specific occasion.



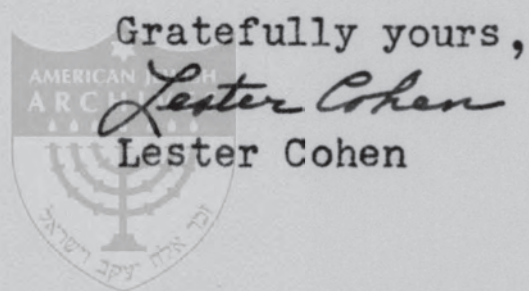
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2.

Believe me, you will be doing another great service to Zionism. You will help me to secure at least another 100 to 150 Zionists here in town and, if this job is successful, we are going to help to reactivate several other towns in this area.

Thanking you many many times for your kind consideration and with warmest personal regards, I am



Gratefully yours,

Lester Cohen

Lester Cohen

Perth Amboy Zionist District

Y. M. H. A.—MADISON AVE.

PERTH AMBOY, N. J.

WILLIAM DWORK
President

LAWRENCE GREEN
MORRIS KAUFMAN
HENRY SCHLACHTER
Vice Presidents

DR. BENN SINOWAY
Recording Secretary

JOSEPH DWORK
Corresponding Secretary

JACOB BREITMAN
Treasurer

JULIUS DEUTCHMAN
Recording Treasurer

March 27, 1955.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver.
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver-

It is evident that this Administration
is pursuing a Policy dangerous to the ex-
istence of Israel.

An aroused Jewry pleads that you be
our Spokesman again.

At this desperate hour we await your
return.

"Can't you hear our Martyr's voices calling,
Come you back you, Jew,
Come you back to Israel"

Yours truly.

William Dwork

William Dwork-President Perth Amboy Zionist District.
410 New Brunswick Ave. Perth Amboy, N.J.

April 1, 1955

Mr. Lester Cohen
Cohen Furniture Company
Uniontown, Pennsylvania

My dear Mr. Cohen:

I should like very much to comply with your kind request, but I am afraid that I cannot undertake to do so. Whatever statements I issue on the ZOA should logically come through the office of the ZOA and should be used throughout the country.

I am sure that the files of the ZOA must contain any number of statements of mine on the reasons why our people should belong to it and help support it.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:rms

THE DAY
"THE NATIONAL JEWISH DAILY"
Jewish Journal

183 EAST BROADWAY, NEW YORK 2
TELEPHONE ORCHARD 4-3300

May 12, 1955

Dr. A. N. Silver,
The Temple,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver;

I am taking the liberty of calling your attention to a plan for a much-needed administrative reorganization of the J.O.A. contained in the enclosed article. And I would greatly value your opinion of this plan - whether for publication or not.

I am genuinely concerned about the future of the J.O.A., for its own sake, for the sake of Israel and for the sake of American Jewry. And I am convinced that something drastic must and can be done at once to halt the deterioration of the J.O.A.

Respectfully yours

M. Rubin
3916 Laurel Ave.
Brooklyn 24

May 20, 1955

Mr. M. Rivlin
3916 Laurel Avenue
Brooklyn 24, New York

My dear Mr. Rivlin:

Thank you for sending me the article from ~~The~~ DAY of May 12th. I read it with interest.

I do not believe that the problems of the ZOA are administrative ones or that a reorganization will in any significant way improve the situation. I have expressed myself more than once on this subject. The decline in the influence of the ZOA does not stem from internal weaknesses, but from Jerusalem, and its restoration to a dominant position in American Jewish life - assuming that this is still possible - can only come from a change of heart and a radically new and sincere policy on the part of those who control the affairs in Jerusalem.

I write these sentiments not for publication.

With best wishes, I remain

Cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:rms