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Zionist Organization of America, 1955-1956.

CLASS OF SERVICE

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WESTERN UNION

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

1220

SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

NL=Night Letter

LT=Int'l Letter Telegram

VLT=Int'l Victory Ltr.

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November 4, 1955

WE HAVE SENT THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM TO THE RABBINICAL ORGANIZATIONS
OF THE UNITED STATES:

"Israel is in great danger from an Arab Communist alliance. Important that Jewish Community throughout United States manifest its grave concern and unbounding fear for peace, existence and security of Israel. Zionist Organization of America calls upon its members to pray for Israel. May we ask you to designate day of November 28, the eve of the United Nations decision to establish the Jewish State as a day of prayer for Jewish people everywhere. Zionist Organization of America will do all in its power to mobilize the Jewish Community to attend the synagogue on this prayer day and make it most impressive and expressive. We would appreciate your immediate reply."

MAY WE ASK YOU TO SERVE ON THE ZOA RABBINICAL COMMITTEE, TO LEAD
IN MOBILIZATION FOR THE PRAYER DAY FOR ISRAEL, TO GUIDE AND
SUPERVISE IT.

PLEASE WIRE YOUR CONSENT COLLECT.

DR. SIDNEY MARKS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

MINUTES NO. 6
INNER COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT ZOA HEADQUARTERS 145 EAST 32 STREET
NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 8, 1955

PRESENT: Chairman, Mr. Abraham Goodman, Messrs. David Moskowitz, Abraham Redelheim, Dr. Joseph Tenenbaum, Jacques Torczyner, Charles Wolf; Staff: Mr. Leon Ilutovich, Miss Hannah Stein, Blanche Wiseman.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Abraham Goodman, at 6:00 P.M.

REPORT ON ZOA ACTIVITIES IN ISRAEL

Before calling on Mr. Ilutovich, the Chairman expressed regret that such a highly important report to be rendered, must needs be for such a small attendance, due, no doubt both to the inclement weather and the frequency of meetings. He stated that the report, however, will be widely circulated for maximum benefit.

Mr. Ilutovich began by saying that his last report on Israel projects was made to the Inner Committee on December 15, 1954, a few months after the establishment of the Department for ZOA Activities in Israel. It dealt primarily with the work done from this end; while this report deals with the functioning operations of the projects in Israel as studied by him while on a special ZOA assignment there, from July 24 through Sept. 25, 1955. While many changes were effected by Mr. Ilutovich, the short duration of his stay did not permit completion of all details, which are being processed in his absence.

He was most pleased to find that because of these two large projects, the ZOA-Daniel Frisch House and Kfar-Silver, the prestige of the ZOA has grown tremendously in Israel. It is his conviction that if new projects are undertaken in the future, they should also be on a large scale, since, in the long run, they visibly reflect the most credit. For a long time to come, neither project can be expected to be income-producing or self-sustaining and must, of necessity remain as a fixed item on future budgets. In comparison to organizations like Hadassah, Mizrahi, Pioneer Women or Histadruth, the ZOA's expenditures are very slight and provide for a minimum only and do not provide for proper expansion as originally hoped for, in the implementation of a program. Some of the notable failings experienced in these projects have been due to lack of experience as well as lack of long-range planning. He emphasized that before undertaking new projects, the ones already in existence should be placed on a completely sound basis. He realized, too, that it is impossible to direct projects in Israel by remote control from New York. For example, Hadassah's national administration is continually represented in Israel for the definite purpose of directing their activities on the spot. The chief accomplishment of his trip was a survey and study of the entire situation.

Kfar-Silver: When Mr. Ilutovich submitted his report on ZOA Activities in Israel to the National Administrative Council last April, 1955, he announced that Kfar-Silver would open in October, in accordance with other agricultural-school terms. This was effected on October 11. The official name of the school is: Agricultural Training Institute "Kfar-Silver", sponsored by the Zionist Organization of America and the General Zionist Organization in Israel. Kfar-Silver is located in the southern part of Israel, near Migdal Ashkelon, about forty kilometers from the Gaza Strip, in an area of 1800 dunams of land. It is in a rather exposed position in the event of war. 1300 dunams are under cultivation and the harvest gathered this year yielded a profit of IL10,000.-; in addition, there are 240 dunams of pardess, 80 dunams of vineyard and 200 dunams have been set aside for the construction area. Only one other agricultural school is larger in area than Kfar-Silver. The cotton grown there is of the finest quality in the country.

11/8/55

He pointed out that the profits from the orange grove still do not belong to Kfar-Silver since it is under the jurisdiction of the Custodian of Abandoned Property. About IL100,000.- is required to purchase it from them. Provided the money is available, this would be an excellent proposition since the pardess yields a profit of about IL30,000.- to IL40,000.- annually, which could be applied to the Kfar-Silver budget.

As to construction, the following buildings are completed: an auditorium and dining-hall building, to accommodate 300 students; two dormitories, consisting of ten rooms each, accomodating 40 to 45 students each; a two classroom building (named for the late Mrs. Chizever of Chicago); as well as six small reconditioned buildings, used for a temporary administrative office, small personnel quarters and an apartment for the school principal.

The school is divided into two parts: one, an agricultural high-school for pupils graduated from Israeli elementary schools, whose present enrollment is 19 pupils; the other is an agricultural school for boys and girls from the ranks of Youth Aliyah (Aliyat Hanoar), whose present enrollment is 45. A long-range plan has been worked out showing progressive increases until the year 1958-1959, when it is expected to handle a total of 320 pupils - 180 from the elementary school group and 140 from Aliyat Hanoar. Here are the figures:

<u>Year</u>	<u>No. of Students</u>	<u>Staff Personnel</u>
1955 - 1956	65	16
1956 - 1957	170	26
1957 - 1958	240	31
1958 - 1959	320	38

It is a fallacy to believe that it is not possible to obtain enough students. The only obstacle is having sufficient facilities and financial means. The school is under the supervision of a Curatorium (Board of Directors) which now consists of 9 members: 7 appointed by the General Zionist Organization in Israel, and 2 by the ZOA; they are Elias Epstein and David Tannenbaum. The ZOA, is, of course, free to appoint as many members as it may desire. The problem is finding suitable people who can devote sufficient time to such an appointment.

Up to the present time, Kfar-Silver has been registered as an Israeli company, whose finding share is in the hands of the General Zionist Organization in Israel. In order to assure the ZOA's ownership and participation in the company, Mr. Ilutovich worked out a new company plan on the basis of which, 50% of the shares would be in the hands of the ZOA and 50% with the General Zionist Organization in Israel. The attorney, Mr. Elhanani, prepared all the papers and it now awaits approval by the ZOA.

Finances: The amount of money invested in Kfar-Silver (construction, farming, irrigation, etc.) to date, is IL292,000.-. Out of this, about IL216,000.- represent contributions both from the ZOA and the General Zionist Organization in Israel. The balance is derived from loans, the Israel Government development budget, small subsidies from the Israel Ministry of Agriculture, etc. The ZOA's share of the IL216,000.-, amounted to a total of IL130,000.-, representing IL30,000.- for the 1953-1954 period, and IL100,000.- for the fiscal year 1954-1955; while the difference was received from the General Zionist Organization in Israel, out of their KMK allocation. Mr. Ilutovich was pleased to report that only IL11,400. - went for administrative purposes.

The ZOA commitment for the current year 1955-1956 is IL100,000.-. Unfortunately, the General Zionist Organization in Israel, advised that due to their tremendous deficit resulting from their electioneering expenses, they will not be in a position to contribute to Kfar-Silver this year, but expect to again resume this responsi-

bility within a year or a year and a half.

The budget for the fiscal year 1955-1956, including operations, construction, and development, is as follows:

Expenditures:	IL280,000.-
Income:	<u>180,000.-</u> (includes ZOA allocation of IL100,000.-)
Deficit:	100,000.-

It is expected that the deficit will be covered by various sources, as follows:

1. Subsidies from the Agricultural Colonization Dept. of the Jewish Agency in Israel*
2. Campaign by a Committee of Friends of Kfar-Silver, already established by the General Zionist Org. in Israel
3. General Zionist Group in South America, especially the Women's groups.

*When Dr. Neumann was last in Israel, he started negotiations with the Jewish Agency's Agricultural-Colonization Department, for a subsidy to be given to Kfar-Silver, in line with subsidies extended to other agricultural schools in Israel, encouraging agricultural development. Mr. Ilutovich was happy to announce that Dr. Neumann just received a cable from Israel stating that the Colonization Department of the Agency has allocated IL50,000.- for Kfar-Silver, which will cover half of the IL100,000.- deficit.

It is estimated that when the school reaches its 4th year, 1958-1959, Kfar-Silver will have spent IL1,240,000.-:

1956-1957.....	IL530,000.-
1957-1958.....	440,000.-
1958-1959.....	270,000.-
Total	<u>IL1,240,000.-</u>

The over-all allocations are as follows:

Construction.....	IL730,000.-
Equipment & Furnishings.....	65,000.-
Maintenance of School.....	440,000.-
	<u>IL1,235,000.-</u>

The ZOA's 1954-1955 obligation was fully met; and for the current year, IL18,000.- has been paid. In view of the large budget requirement for the next four-year development plan, consideration has been given to the idea of obtaining large contributions from individuals for specific projects within Kfar-Silver, in addition to the outright annual ZOA allocation coming out of AZ Funds. It was felt that this could be achieved without damage to the AZF campaign.

Mr. Ilutovich recommended establishing a training institute for young American Zionist leaders in Kfar-Silver, where they could work as they do in a kibbutz. This could be started with 30-40 young people and a trained cadre. A group of the General Zionists in Israel could also be tied up with this, as well as young General Zionists from other countries. Kfar-Silver has the facilities for such a set up and could readily lend itself to it.

In the discussion that followed, the point was raised whether it would be advisable to have the shares of the Kfar-Silver company on a 50-50 basis or have

the ZOA hold a controlling share which would entitle it to a majority vote. Mr. Goodman pointed out that even though the ZOA is foregoing equal participation with the General Zionist Organization in Israel at this time, he would not want such an arrangement to be continued indefinitely. He therefore suggested that there be some clear-cut correspondence with the Party in Israel on the matter, and in the event that there will not be equal participation in the future, the ZOA should then have larger percentage of ownership.

It was decided to consult with Dr. Levine, Chairman of the Committee on ZOA Activities in Israel and send appropriate instructions to the attorney as to how to proceed with the registration of the company.

Mr. Torczyner proposed that at the next Zionist Congress the ZOA should demand a revision of allocations from the KMK Funds. At present all KMK funds are distributed equally between the General Zionists and Progressive Parties in Israel for their constructive enterprises. The ZOA should secure an outright allocation for its own projects in Israel.

Miss Stein raised the question of ZOA's right to solicit funds publicly, for projects in Israel and recalled that in the past, the Jewish Agency had made an issue of it. At this point, Mr. Redelheim explained that several years ago, during Mr. Browdy's Administration, the ZOA had obtained permission from the Agency to campaign for funds for its projects in Israel. This was granted because of Mr. Browdy's waiving of the ZOA's allocation from the Jewish Agency. Mr. Torczyner was under the impression that this was not so. Therefore, Mr. Goodman asked Mr. Redelheim to send him a statement in relation thereto, so that the records may be gone into, in order to establish the true status quo.

In conclusion, Mr. Ilutovich emphasized the importance of instilling in the minds of the ZOA constituency the fact that its projects loom large both in size and importance; that they compare most favorably with other organizations' enterprises and can be viewed with pride.

Mr. Goodman thanked Mr. Ilutovich for his illuminating report. Because of the lateness of the hour, it was decided to postpone the second part of the report, dealing with the ZOA House, to the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

bw

Dr. Sidney Marks, Secretary

של ארצות הברית

ההסתדרות הציונית



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

November 21, 1955

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Doctor Silver:

I am enclosing, for your information, copy of the last minutes of the ZOA Inner Committee, held on November 8th, at which I delivered an elaborate report on Kfar Silver in connection with my recent trip to Israel. I thought it would be good to send you these minutes instead of repeating the same information in a letter.

You may have heard by now that I spent two months in Israel, on an assignment in behalf of the ZOA, to deal especially with our two projects there - the ZOA House and Kfar Silver.

You will be interested, I am sure, to know that the ZOA met in full its last year's commitments to Kfar Silver in the amount of IL 100,000. We have already remitted over IL 20,000 on account of this year's commitment of IL 100,000.

In one of his last letters, Joseph Serlin mentioned to me that you may be prepared to visit Israel in the Spring, at which time they would arrange a formal dedication of Kfar Silver for your participation. Could you, perhaps, tell me what your plans are in this respect?

Dr. Harris Levine reminded me that the Foundation of your Temple that contributed \$2,500 to Kfar Silver over a year ago had an additional amount of \$2,500 available for the same purpose. Could they make the contribution at this time?

With warmest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Leon Ilutovich
Assistant Executive Director
Zionist Organization of America

LI:U

Copy to: Harris Levine

[1955]

From: Ruth Davis
Zionist Organization of America
Lord Baltimore Hotel
Baltimore, Md.
Lexington 9-8400

1.

FOR A.M. RELEASE WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 7TH

RABBI SILVER, TOP U.S. ZIONIST, ASKS ALLIES FOR MILITARY ALLIANCE

SAYS TRI-PARTITE AGREEMENT OF 1950 FAILED

WARNS WEST ARMS TO ARABS WILL NOT BUY ALLEGIANCE BUT

WILL END IN DISASTER

BALTIMORE, MD., DEC. 6.-- Pointing to the failure of the Tri-partite Agreement of 1950 to insure peace on Israel-Arab borders, and labeling Great Britain's mediation offers in the Near East "the desire to insure for itself a corridor through the Negev to Jordan and the Middle East," Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, foremost spokesman for Zionism in the United States, tonight called upon the Western nations to give Israel the assurance of a military alliance.

Speaking to a capacity crowd attending Baltimore's 12th Annual Donor Dinner of the Zionist Organization of America, held in the ballroom of the Lord Baltimore Hotel, Dr. Silver declared:

"Allied diplomacy has at no time since the establishment of the State of Israel, seven years ago, been of the kind as to persuade the Arab States that nothing is to be gained by them in prolonging the boycotts, the blockade and the cold war against Israel. The extensive economic and political aid which has been given to one or another of the Arab States by our Government and by other nations of the free world was never made conditional upon Arab agreement to peace negotiations with Israel and for a package settlement of outstanding issues."

Over 800 Zionists attended this dinner to raise funds for the local and national program of the ZOA, one major project of which finances scholarships for needy students at the Kfar Silver Agricultural Training Institute in Negev, Israel. This school, named in honor of Rabbi Silver, teaches modern techniques of scientific farming.

Chairman Leonard Rosen, who presided over the meeting, urged Dr. Silver to give the Baltimore ZOA the benefit of his "authoritative analysis of the Middle East during the tense and dangerous days which are now facing the State

From: Ruth Davis
Zionist Organization of America
Lord Baltimore Hotel
Baltimore, Md.
Lexington 9-8400

2.

of Israel."

Dr. Silver enumerated as basic facts which must be faced in discussing the Near East situation, some nine points, the first three of which dealt with the Arab States. The first charged them with acquiring arms not to defend themselves against Russia but to prepare a war against Israel. It also asserted "Those who are hoping to hold the allegiance of the Arab States to the West by providing them with arms, are helping to build up a threatening military front, not against Russia, but against Israel."

The second fact cited stated, "The Arab States know that Israel is not threatening them....The third stated, "The Arab States will not willingly recognize the existence of the State of Israel. Their leaders have time and again publicly announced their intention to wipe Israel off the map."

Rabbi Silver, who represented the Zionist movement before the Assembly of the United Nations, reviewed past events, explaining that the State of Israel had been "compelled to arm itself because immediately upon its establishment it was attacked by the armies of neighboring Arab States in a war which they declared against Israel in defiance of the United Nations. In this war, they were defeated, but they have not abandoned their intention to launch another war at the first opportunity to accomplish what they failed to accomplish in their first onslaught. This is their clearly avowed intention. Until these states have made peace with Israel and have abandoned their intention of exterminating it, or until such time as the Western nations have given Israel the assurance of a military alliance, the young State must, as best as it can, look to its own defenses."

He further declared that "Israel desires no arms race...Israel has no expansionist ambitions; it covets nothing which its Arab neighbors possess."

But, "Israel will not purchase peace at the price of reducing its small territory of 8,000 square miles in order to augment the 1,700,000 square miles of the territories of its Arab neighbors. The Arab States require no additional territory for their well-being, but the development, irrigation and cultivation of what they have....

"Great Britain's offer of mediation on the basis of territorial concessions by Israel is motivated, not by the economic needs of the Arab States or by any moral consideration, but by the desire of Great Britain to insure for itself a corridor through the Negev to Jordan and the Middle East. Egypt's desire for

From: Ruth Davis
Zionist Organization of America
Lord Baltimore Hotel
Baltimore, Md.
Lexington 9-8400

the Negev, to which it has absolutely no claim, is motivated by its wish to have a common land frontier with other Arab States, to deny Israel an outlet to the Red Sea, and to gain prestige for Egypt in the Arab world."

Deploing the failure of the Tri-partite Agreement of 1950 to fulfill its objectives -- to insure tranquility on Israel-Arab borders, pending a permanent peace settlement, and to avert an arms race -- Dr. Silver charged, "An arms race is on! And the allied nations, no less than the Soviet bloc, has encouraged this armament race."

The ninth and final point submitted by Rabbi Silver as basic to any analysis of the Middle East question was:

"Israel wants no war -- and no preventive war. It has not employed its armed forces, which according to the testimony of the Arabs have been superior to theirs, in launching any war against any of them. The Arab States can have peace with Israel any time they want it. They need not spend, and they should not be encouraged to spend, their limited resources, which ought to be devoted to the problems of wide-spread poverty, disease and ignorance among their peoples.

"The short-sighted policy of purchasing their loyalty to the democratic world by supplying them with arms has clearly bankrupt. Any attempt to compete with Russia in grants and sale of arms in that part of the world will also end in disaster. It will simply make the Arab leaders more intransigent, more ruthless and demanding. They will continue to play off the East against the West to the utter confusion of both."

#

December 8, 1955

Dr. Sidney Marks
Zionist Organization of America
145 East 32nd Street
New York 16, New York

My dear Sidney:

At the close of the meeting, the Baltimore Zionist District gave me the enclosed check of \$10,000.00 for Kfar Silver. It represents an amount raised from Scholarships and the names of those who contributed were published in the program of the evening.

I should like you to forward this amount immediately to Kfar Silver in Israel. Please let me know when this is done.

I thought the meeting was a very fine one in spite of the difficulty which they had with the bit of staging which they put on.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl
encl: Chk.

OHIO VALLEY REGION

President

J. Abe Liff, Dayton

MICHIGAN REGION

President

Leon Kay, Detroit

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

11345 LINWOOD AVENUE

DETROIT 6, MICHIGAN

REGIONAL OFFICE

TOwnsend 8-8199

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

~~Abba Hillel Silver~~ Helen R. Schneider

December 19, 1955

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

As you may know I made innumerable attempts to meet with you, but was made aware by your secretary that your schedule did not permit such a meeting.

My purpose in wanting to see you was in connection with a projected fund raising dinner in Cleveland under the sponsorship of the Zionist Organization of America.

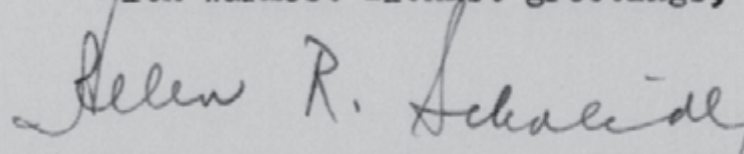
During my stay in Cleveland, I had several occasions to speak with Dr. Falkman who informed me that he had broached this matter to you and that it was your feeling that you would be amiable to lending your name to such a function under the conditions that the three Zionist districts in Cleveland would co-operate in the fund raising effort.

I consequently met with Rabbi Rudolph Rosenthal and R. Benjamin Persky of the Heights Temple District and Mr. Ezra Shapiro of the Zionist District. Dr. Persky and Rabbi Rosenthal were ready to give their complete cooperation. However, Mr. Shapiro for reasons, which you may know, did not feel that he could proceed on this matter.

Since such a function in Cleveland is of dire necessity, I would appreciate your word on how you would prefer to proceed for this function.

Because of many communal considerations, a tentative date has been set for the 4th of March. I would be most grateful for a reply at your earliest convenience.

With warmest Zionist greetings,



Helen R. Schneider
Regional Director

HRS:sk

cc: Dr. Sidney Marks

December 22, 1955

Miss Helen R. Schneider, Regional Director
Zionist Organization of America
11345 Linwood Avenue
Detroit 6, Michigan

My dear Miss Schneider:

I regret that pressure of work made it impossible for me to see you, but I have discussed the matter with Dr. Falkman two or three times and made it very clear that the Cleveland Zionist Society would be glad to cooperate in a fund raising effort for the American Zionist Fund provided all three organizations cooperated.

I made it also clear that the affair is not to be built around me as a similar function was held here in Cleveland some two years ago when the Zionist Executives met here.

From what you say it is clear that the Zionist District is not prepared to enter into such community wide meetings. This is to be regretted but there is nothing that I can do about it.

With all good wishes, I remain

Cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl

של ארצות הברית

ההסתדרות הציונית



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

December 27, 1955

Dear Friend:

What does the extra 10% Charitable Deduction mean to you? --- Young Israelis going to school --- food for Israel --- a feeling of not being neglected during a crisis --- the spirit of kindness and of peace --- a reaffirmation of our determination to survive.

What does the extra 10% Charitable Deduction mean to Kfar Silver Agricultural Institute? It means that an additional contribution of 10% before the end of the Tax year can make all these things possible.

Here is our suggestion and explanation: Under Internal Revenue Code Section 170, an individual may deduct charitable contributions to the extent of 20% of Adjusted Gross Income. But an additional 10% is allowable if made to an educational institution, such as Kfar Silver Agricultural Institute.

For example, let us assume all the following conditions are present:

1. That you have \$100,000 Adjusted Gross Income.
2. That you are married with no dependent.
3. That you have securities that cost \$10,000 but are worth \$30,000.
4. That you make a gift of the securities without previous commitment for the gift.

Here Is What Happens

	Your Federal Income Tax If You Give the Securities	If You Don't
Amount of Federal Income Tax	\$32,040.00	\$52,056.00
Amount of Tax Saving	20,016.00	

In other words, at a cost to you of only \$4,984.00 (which you wouldn't have unless you sold the securities), the fine work of this school is benefited to the extent of \$30,000).

(Of course, the extra 10% on lower incomes show proportionate costs and savings).

- more -

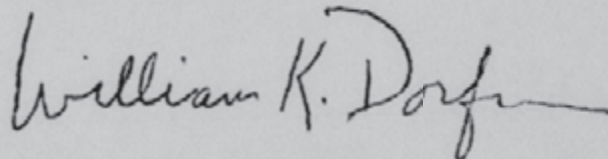
Here is your opportunity to review your Tax situation before the end of 1955. See if it is possible to give the extra 10%. Earmark it for Kfar Silver Agricultural Institute; but make it payable to the Zionist Organization of America for Tax exemption.

Here is a thought: Let's pay tribute to Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, who has led American Zionism and Israel, to Statehood and to effectiveness. He has now undertaken leadership of the Bond Drive. Let us salute him through these extra contributions.

If you need any advices, just phone or write me.

I depend upon your cooperation.

Sincerely,



William K. Dorfman
National Finance Chairman

WKD/mbr



של ארצות הברית

ההסתדרות הציונית



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

January 10, 1956

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I am pleased to inform you that the ZOA Inner Committee, at its meeting held last Monday, January 9th, approved the recommendation submitted by Dr. Levine and myself to commit the ZOA in the amount of IL100,000 to Kfar Silver, during the next fiscal year (1956-1957).

As you know, this is the same amount we are giving Kfar Silver this year. Practically half of our obligation for the current year was met already.

Sincerely yours,

Leon Ilutovich
Asst. Executive Director
Zionist Organization of America

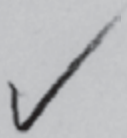
LI:ajs

cc:
Dr. Harris Levine

Zionist Organization of America

Office of the President
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

NEW ADDRESS
145 EAST 32nd STREET
NEW YORK 16, N. Y.
Murray Hill 3-9201



January 16, 1956

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

It was good to have talked with you yesterday in connection with our effort to expand our membership and to re-enroll former members.

We have prepared the attached letter which we would like to send out over your signature and on your personal letterhead. We would prepare the letterhead here, for your approval, and the mailing would be done from Cleveland, through a Cleveland lettershop. We will handle all the mechanics, including your acknowledgments of membership enrollments, as we do not want to impose any burden on you or your staff.

As it will take a little while to get all this in order, your earliest, possible response would be most helpful.

With many thanks and kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Mortimer May

Mortimer May

MM:BW

של ארצות הברית

ההסתדרות הציונית



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

January 18, 1956

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th St. & Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

This is to follow up our telephone conversation regarding your forthcoming trip to Israel.

In reply to inquiries received from Israel I wrote to Mr. Joseph Tamir, Secretary-General of the General Zionists Organization in Israel, confirming that you would arrive in Israel on March 22 and will depart April 5. I explained that this is going to be a private visit.

As to the exact date of the dedication ceremonies in Kfar Silver, you leave it to them to decide, provided the first and last days of Passover are left free, since you plan to spend the holidays in Jerusalem.

I will appreciate hearing from you when you would like us to announce your visit in public.

Sincerely yours,

Leon Ilutovich
Assistant Executive Director

LI/mf

cc: Dr. Harris J. Levine

של ארצות הברית

ההסתדרות הציונית



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

January 20, 1956

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

I have just now received a letter from Kfar Silver in which they suggest that the official dedication ceremony of Kfar Silver take place on Thursday, March 29 (third day of Pesach).

They plan to invite representatives of the Israel government and its various ministries, the national institutions, public figures, etc. They also mention the possibility of arranging a dinner with your participation.

If I do not hear from you to the contrary, I will assume that the above date is acceptable.

With warmest regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Leon Ilutovich
Assistant Executive Director

LI/mf

cc: Ozer Gutmann

January 24, 1956

Mr. Mortimer May
Zionist Organization of America
145 East 32nd Street
New York 16, New York

My dear Mr. May:

(use my dear Mortimer)

I am enclosing herewith a revised letter which you may send out over my signature.

As I explained to you over the telephone the mailing cannot be done from Cleveland nor the membership renewals received here.

With all good wishes, I remain

Cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl
encl.

(suggested letter from Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver to all delinquent members)
revised

Dear Fellow Zionist:

At the meeting of the National Executive Committee of the Zionist Organization of America last week, I expressed my deep concern regarding Israel's present situation and the attitudes of our government and the other major powers.

I believe the die has not yet been cast. The next few weeks will be decisive. I am convinced that this is the moment for the Zionist Organization of America to step forward and mobilize American Public Opinion as it helped to do so effectively under my Presidency during the fateful years of 1947-48.

All aid to Israel is important but most important of all at this moment is Public Relations work on every level, and it is for the Z.O.A. to lead in this work.

You can help in these crucial days by lending strength through your renewal of membership to an organized body of hundreds of thousands of proud Jews who feel a deep concern about Israel's future and want to do something about it.

I am sure that you will want to join me once again in this struggle for justice, international morality, and against those who would destroy Israel.

If you will return to me your enrollment in the enclosed self-addressed envelope, I shall be pleased to personally acknowledge receipt.

With all good wishes,

Cordially,

של ארצות הברית

ההסתדרות הציונית



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

January 24, 1956

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I found your letter of January 5th, in my office after I saw you at the Board of Governors Conference and I want to thank you for this very kind note.

I am in the process of preparing the ZOA caucus, which will take place on Saturday, February 4, at 4 P.M., at the Hotel Seville in Miami Beach. I was delighted to learn from Mr. Mortimer May that you were good enough to promise to look in at our caucus and greet the delegates with a few words. This will help us get a good attendance, and I am personally deeply grateful to you.

So far we have a list of 100 ZOA delegates who will attend the Conference. Among them are: Louis A. Falk of Jersey City, Jack Goodman of New York, Albert Schiff of New York, William H. Sylk of Philadelphia, Mr. I. Turover and Mr. Abe S. Kaye of Washington, D.C.

Before his departure for Israel, Dr. Emanuel Neumann had a talk with Dr. Joseph Schwartz. Dr. Neumann planned to call you before leaving but may not have found the time to do so, due to some passport trouble at the last moment. As far as I could gather, no important decisions were made for the time being. I trust I will have an opportunity to report to you on this in more detail in Miami Beach.

I am leaving for Miami Beach Friday evening, January 27, and will be staying at the Sovereign Hotel, 43 St. and Collins Ave., and will be at your disposal for any assistance that you may need.

It will be good to see you again. With warmest regards,

Very sincerely yours,

Nettie Eisner
Nettie Eisner

NE:ek

של ארצות הברית

ההסתדרות הציונית



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

January 27, 1956

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

Just a word to say thanks for your approval of the membership letter. It will be most helpful to us and I am sure that the returns will be great.

I do hope that this letter finds you, Virginia and the family in the best of health and spirits. My affectionate regards,

Sincerely,

DR. SIDNEY MARKS
Executive Director

SMrsk

של ארצות הברית

ההסתדרות הציונית



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

January 31, 1956

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

This is just to let you know that we are making an effort for the Z.O.A. prior to the Bond Conference this week-end.

The originally planned caucus was converted into a cocktail reception by the Z.O.A. for you which is to be held on Saturday, Feb. 4th at 5:30 at the Hotel Seville.

In order to do some work for Bonds, we have called a Z.O.A. breakfast for Friday morning, February 3rd. All Z.O.A. leaders are working for Bonds within their City set-up such as Washington, D.C., Chicago, etc. At our breakfast, they will bring in the reports. Of course, I am in touch with them to see that they contact people, and the Bond staff is also working with them.

We are eagerly looking forward to your arrival and wish you a very happy trip.

With warm personal regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

Nettie Eisner
Nettie Eisner

NE/as

של ארצות הברית



ההסתדרות הציונית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

January 31, 1956

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
E. 105th St. & Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

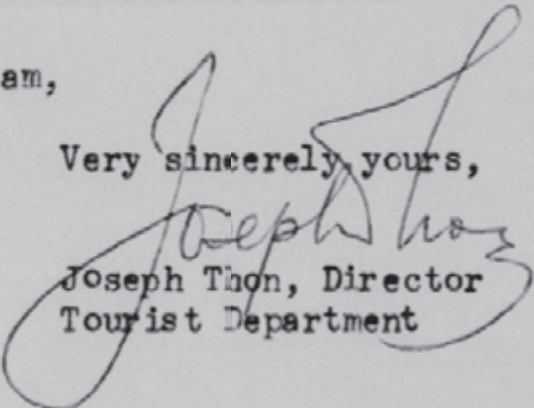
Dear Dr. Silver:

We all rejoiced at the news of your impending trip to Israel signalling the celebrations in Kfar Silver. It gives me special pleasure to inform you that participants in several tours being readied by the ZOA Tourist Department for next Pesach are being advised by this department in a special announcement that these celebrations will take place on March 29th.

May I at this time offer the services of the ZOA Tourist Department in helping to arrange the technical details of your trip, especially transportation to and from Israel and any other arrangements which you would see fit to entrust us with. I hope that you will honor us with an order to this effect.

With best Zion's greetings, I am,

Very sincerely yours,


Joseph Thon, Director
Tourist Department

JT/ng

של ארצות הברית

ההסתדרות הציונית



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

February 3, 1956

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

We are anxious to publish the news about your forthcoming trip to Israel, as well as the information on the dedication ceremonies of Kfar Silver, well in advance.

I hope you will have no objection to our announcing it now.

I will appreciate your early reply.

With warmest regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Harris J. Levine
Chairman, National Committee
on ZOA Activities in Israel

HJL/mf

cc: Leon Ilutovich

February 9, 1956

Dr. Harris J. Levine, Chairman
National Committee on ZOA Activities in Israel
Zionist Organization of America
145 East 32nd Street
New York 16, New York

My dear Friend:

I have no objection to your making an announcement of my forthcoming visit to Israel in connection with the dedication ceremonies of Kfar Silver.

The purpose of my visit too, is to acquaint myself with the progress of the country since my last visit in 1951. I am traveling in no official capacity and under the auspices of no organization. Whatever publicity is given to my visit, I should like no confusion on that score.

With warmest regards and all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl

של ארצות הברית



ההסתדרות הציונית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

February 14, 1956

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

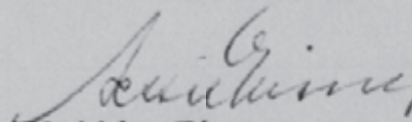
I do hope that you got back to Cleveland in good health after the strenuous days in Miami Beach. It was a great thrill again to listen to your speech. It was certainly the sensation of the Conference and people in all hotels spoke about the event for many days.

I am writing to suggest that you be good enough to write a few words of recognition to Mr. William H. Sylk for his having accepted the ZOA Chairmanship for Israel Bonds. I believe a few words from you will inspire and encourage him to greater activity. His address is c/o Sun Ray Drug Co., 49th & Lancaster Ave., Philadelphia, Pa.

Dr. Neumann has already been in touch with you and will probably discuss with you among other matters ZOA and Israel Bonds.

With warm personal regards,

Sincerely yours,


Nettie Eisner

NE:ek

LAW OFFICES
DAVID J. MARKOFF

GEORGE C. EVERING
JERRY GLASSMAN
IRWIN M. SUSSMAN

TELEPHONES
MULBERRY 5-1555
MULBERRY 5-1556

SUITE 405-406 TOWER BUILDING
BALTIMORE STREET & GUILFORD AVENUE
BALTIMORE 2, MD.

February 16, 1956

Rabbi Abba H. Silver
c/o The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Mr. Silver:

In answer to your recent letter requesting my
enrollment as a member of the Zionist Organization of America,
I wish to inform you that I am already enrolled as a member.

Thank you for your letter and also for the fine work
you are doing as a leader in this cause.

Very truly yours,

David Markoff
David J. Markoff

DJM:mcp

של ארצות הברית



ההסתדרות הציונית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

February 17, 1956

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I will greatly appreciate your letting me have the name of the airline and the flight number in connection with your trip to Israel March 22nd. I would like to submit the details to our friends in Tel Aviv.

Sincerely yours,

Leon Hutzovich
Assistant Executive Director

LI:ajs

COPY

February 20, 1956

Dear Leon:

Mr. Greenfield took me down to Ind (he now has his own car) to meet Mr. Bernard Katzen. I was rather surprised to find only representatives of the Embassy (Messrs. White & Bennett) and of the Prime Minister's Office (Messrs. Kollek and Foldman) there besides ourselves. Kollek explained this to me afterwards when he objected to the press (of whom three representatives were also there) mentioning that I was among these greeting Mr. Katzen. He said that he had asked all organizations to refrain from being at the airport in order to avoid an impression of pressure upon Mr. Katzen. Fortunately, I got no such message and Mr. Katzen was pleased to see me, my name being known to him through you. We did not have time for much discussion as, while waiting for his luggage, the official representatives discussed his schedule with him. However, he appreciated our being there. I extended an invitation to him to visit the ZOA House for a reception, to which he agreed pending fixing of a suitable date.

Subsequently we arranged for Sunday evening. The reception took place last night, Feb. 19th and was voted a great success. I also wrote to the ambassador, who accepted, despite the day of the week. Mr. Bennett and Mr. Hamilton, as well as Dr. McGrail also came. We had sixty or more guests. Many important people were there, such as Bernstein, Rokach, Sapir, Zysman, Tamir, Arlay, Babe, as well as a number of Americans. Of these were Mr. and Mrs. Sachs and visitors like Mr. Mirelman and Sholem Asch. There were also top press representatives.

The reception took place in the library because all the other rooms were occupied, including the restaurant. I had some material in the House made up into curtains which temporarily relieved the bareness of the furnishings.

Cocktails were served; the refreshments being quite good.

in

I arranged for Mr. Passman to greet the visitor who also spoke/very good mood. He said that he knew of the ZOA House from his friends in the U.S.A.—Dr. Neumann, Torozyners, Dr. Silver, Goodman, Beinsh Epstein, etc. He mentioned that this was the first reception for him in Israel and praised the Ambassador and his colleagues for the excellent job they were doing in promoting understanding between Israel and America. He described his mission, incidentally mentioning that there were still some formalities to be overcome and that the ratification of Congress would be required before monies could be allocated.

Previously I arranged for his trip to Kfar Silver and suggested that Greenfield take him there, which was done. He met Mr. Ur (the architect and Mr. Kozar (the principal), and spent some four hours in the village.

In his speech at the reception he referred enthusiastically to the village and said he would give Dr. Silver his report on his return.

From various hints I assume that the ZOA House will figure in his recommendations, though I cannot yet say to what extent. I have sent you a copy of the memorandum which I have submitted to him but he has not, naturally, had time to comment on it. He is being besieged with requests from all sides and is extremely active in seeing the maximum possible people. Tomorrow he will attend a luncheon at the ZOA House with the Executive of the Lawyers Association. I suggested to our friends that they should extend home hospitality to him, but so far I know of nothing in this direction except that Mrs. Mendes Sachs is trying to arrange a party at her home.

It is obvious that no final decisions will be taken here on the spot and that you will have plenty of opportunity of discussing the matter with him on his return.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Elias M. Epstein
Director

EME:cl

February 21, 1956

Dr. Sidney Marks, Executive Director
Zionist Organization of America
145 East 32nd Street
New York 16, New York

Dear Dr. Marks:

WRHS AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES
Rabbi Silver has asked that I forward to you the enclosed check of \$10.00, received in response to the membership letter, from Mr. Meyer Weinstein, 100-11 67th Road, Forest Hills, New York.

Sincerely,

Miss Sophia Levine
Secretary to Dr. Silver

/sl
encl.
cc: M. Weinstein

February 21, 1956

Dr. Sidney Marks, Executive Director
Zionist Organization of America
145 East 32nd Street
New York 16, New York

Dear Dr. Marks:

Attached is a copy of a letter addressed to Dr. Silver. I thought
you might like to mark your records.

Sincerely,

Miss Sophia Levine
Secretary to Dr. Silver

/sl
encl.

February 21, 1956

Mr. William H. Sylk
c/o Sun Ray Drug Company
49th and Lancaster Ave.
Philadelphia, Pa.

My dear Bill:

I understand that you have accepted the Z.O.A. Chairmanship for Israel Bonds. That is good news and I hasten to congratulate you.

I myself have stepped into the Israel Bond situation this year because of the gravity of the situation. I believe that much can be done, especially among our Zionist friends to increase the sale of Bonds and I know you will do your utmost in this regard.

With warmest regards and all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl

trip to NY. Should be
to Idelwild.

Should arrive 1/2 hr to 1 hr earlier
advise Helvaag -

February 21, 1956

lv. Clve. 9⁴⁵ am 3/10
ar. NY. 11²⁰ Intern
lv. NY. - 130 Int.

Mr. Leon Ilutovich,
Assistant Executive Director
Zionist Organization of America
145 East 32nd Street
New York 16, New York

My dear Mr. Ilutovich:

Thank you for your letter of February 17th.

My plans are to leave for Israel by plane on the KLM Tuesday,
March 20th, 1:30 P.M., arriving Wednesday, 9:25 P.M.

My return schedule: leaving Israel Thursday, April 5th, 10:15
A.M. on the KLM, arriving New York Friday, April 6th, 10:20 A.M.

I will be in touch with you about Dr. Jacob Rubin.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl

PS. Please notify our good friends in Israel that I am not travel-
ing in any official capacity and that I do not wish to make public
addresses other than the one scheduled at Kfar Silver. The purpose
of my short visit is to acquaint myself with the progress and devel-
opment of the country which I have not seen since 1951. It is an
unofficial visit, sponsored by no party or institution.

A. H. S.

N. Y. Feb 27/56

Rabbi Abbe Hillel Silver
Cleveland, O

Dear Rabbi

I think it is
about time for us to
become hysterical and
to accuse this administration
of deliberately aiding the
arabs to destroy Israel.

Yours sincerely

Herman Goldstein

499 Kt. Washington
N. Y. 33

של ארצות הברית



ההסתדרות הציונית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

February 24, 1956

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th St. at Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Thank you very much for your letter of February 21 with an outline of your itinerary in connection with your trip to Israel.

I have written today to the Israel General Zionist Party and informed the ZOA House in Tel Aviv and Kfar Silver accordingly.

Sincerely yours,

Leon Ilutovich
Assistant Executive Director

LI/mf

PERSONAL

*mail
To Mr. A.H. Simon, Cleveland
Dear Alba
The attached report
may interest you.
AW*

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA 145 East 32nd Street, New York 16, N.Y.

m e m o r a n d u m

TO: Mr. Mortimer May
Mr. Abraham Goodman
Dr. Emanuel Neumann ✓
Dr. Harris J. Levine
Mr. Jacques Torczyner

February 27, 1956

FROM: Leon Ilutovich

Enclosed please find copy of a report I received today from Elias Epstein, Director of the ZOA House in Tel Aviv, on Mr. Bernard Katzen's visit.

Elias ought to be commended for the excellent manner in which he handled the Katzen visit.

I am sure you noticed a news item in the New York Times this morning, that Katzen would recommend allocations for archeology, academic education and U.S. information activities in Israel. A brief dispatch from Tel Aviv published in the Times several days ago mentioned allocations for the Hebrew Institute, the Weitzman Institute, etc.

I believe we will not find out much until Mr. Katzen's return to New York.

Liaja
enc.

cc: Mr. Harry Torczyner
Mr. Moses Torczyner
Dr. Sidney Marks
Mr. Beinish Epstein

של ארצות הברית

ההסתדרות הציונית



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

February 27, 1956

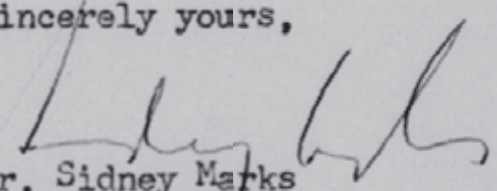
Miss Sophia Levine
Secretary to Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Miss Levine:

I am truly grateful for your copy letter addressed to Dr. Silver from David J. Markoff. His letter is proving to be most effective.

Accept my kindest personal regards, and please extend them to Dr. Silver.

Sincerely yours,


Dr. Sidney Marks
Executive Director

SM/br

February 28, 1956

Zionist Organization of America
1145 East 32nd Street
New York 16, New York

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is check in the amount of \$10.00, dated February 22nd from Herman Goldstein of 499 Ft. Washington Avenue, New York 33, New York, made payable to The Zionist Organization of America for regular annual dues.

Sincerely,

Miss Sophia Levine
Secretary to Dr. Silver

/sl
encl.

של ארצות הברית

ההסתדרות הציונית



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32ND STREET • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-9201

February 29, 1956

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

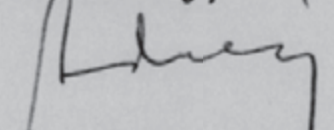
We are working on the matter of our Convention and we have tentatively scheduled Washington once again as the place of the meeting.

Our dates at present are between August 23rd and August 27th. Will you be able to participate at that time?

I do hope that this letter finds you and the family in the best of health and spirits.

Accept my affectionate regards.

Sincerely,


Dr. Sidney Marks
Executive Director

SM/br

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

NL=Night Letter

LT=International Letter Telegram

1201

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

SYB071

(18).

DUPLICATE OF TELEPHONED TELEGRAM

SY EZA064 PD=EZ NEW YORK NY 12 1114AME:

=DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=THE TEMPLE

CLEVE=105th

and ansel Rd

MAR 12 AM 11 24

=ARRIVING TOMORROW 12:45 PM AIRPORT SHALL PROCEED TO TEMPLE=

ELIAHU=

(Ben-Horin)

SW-1-7755

PO	1201P	Dr Silver
BY	1201P	mail
JULY 4TH 1975		

March 13, 1956

Zionist Organization of America
145 East 32nd Street
New York 16, New York

Gentlemen:

I am enclosing check for \$10.00 from Mr. Nathan Kushin, dated March 5th, 1956 on the North Shore Bank, Miami Beach, Florida to cover annual dues of the Zionist Organization of America.

Sincerely,

Miss Sophia Levine
Secretary to Dr. Silver

/sl
encl.

March 14, 1956

Dr. Sidney Marks, Executive Director
Zionist Organization of America
145 East 32nd Street
New York 16, New York

Dear Dr. Marks:

I am enclosing herewith two letters which were received by Dr. Silver.

The check for \$10.00 which accompanied the letter of Mr. Nathan Kushin was forwarded to your office (although not to your attention) yesterday.

The letter from Mr. Kres will I am sure have the necessary attention from your office.

Sincerely,

Miss Sophia Levine
Secretary to Dr. Silver

/sl
encl.

*Nathan B. Kres
4021 Belle Ave
Bklyn. 15, N.Y.*

Memorandum

To: ZOA DISTRICT AND REGIONAL LEADERS

Date: April 11, 1956

From: Harold P. Manson
Executive Vice-Chairman, Department of Public Information

Subject: Statement by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver on American Policy
in the Middle East

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, who returned from his visit to Israel a few days ago, made his first public address since his return in his home community, Cleveland, Ohio, on April 8, 1956.

Dr. Silver's references to current American policy in the Middle East are of special significance to all American Zionists and we are therefore sending you the report of his address as it was published in the Cleveland Plain Dealer of April 9, 1956.

- - - - -

Silver Slaps Attitude of U.S. in Middle East

A grim-faced Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver at the Temple yesterday loosed a barrage of criticism at America's attitude toward the Middle East problem.

The internationally known spiritual leader, usually a supporter of the administration, told one of the largest gatherings ever to attend his regular sermons that he had measured his words carefully.

The crowd which jammed the large Temple included a number of the city's non-Jewish civic and industrial leaders.

Underscoring that America had shipped arms to Iraq, Saudi Arabia and other Arabian countries, Rabbi Silver said: "The United States does not fear an arms race there, but to Israel is thrown the spurious argument of an arms race. Why was it trotted out only in the case of Israel and never before?"

He tore into what he termed an American embargo dictated by expediency, which, he warned, might be as bad a blunder as the embargo which defeated the Spanish republic and set the stage for World War II.

Cites Oil Interests

He asserted that those who said the present danger was not great, who declined urgently needed help, were taking upon themselves the gravest responsibility.

The Rabbi rapped the United States program of referring Israeli pleas for defensive arms to other nations. He said it was highly improbable that other nations would do what the world's leader for freedom failed to do.

"I feel this does not represent leadership or morality," he said. "This is not America speaking--it is the oil interests."

He stressed that Israel was not asking American intervention or soldiers, but only seeking to purchase weapons against an imminent danger that threatened her survival.

No one is impressed with the "chivalry, morality or candor" of the State Department's new attitude, he said, his voice heavy with bitterness.

He ripped the contention that the Middle East was properly the concern of the United Nations by asserting that a strong Soviet bloc, plus Russia's veto, would be enough to slow up U.N. action in case of sudden war until tiny Israel was a shambles.

The Rabbi said he felt peace could come to the Middle East--from which reports of new battles came even as he spoke--if only Western leaders would take a firm grip on present opportunities.

Calls Plea Mandate

There are only minor refugee and territorial problems between the Israelis and the Arabs, which could be easily adjusted at a conference table, he said.

"The job of the democracies should not be to bolster truculence, but to call for negotiations for the peace of the world," he said.

He emphasized that, as long as the Arabs know Israel is weak and will be kept so, they will not consent to a conference, but will wait until their new power assures them victory and then strike as they said they would.

For a long time the West thought the Middle East was its own province and did not anticipate the swift entry of the Soviets into that area, he said.

As a result, he added, there has been a general collapse of the British-American policy there and the whole situation is being restudied.

"A small nation pleading for the right of self defense is a clear mandate for all of the free world," he said.

- - - - -

For your information.
Hastler

C O P Y

Copy for Dr. Silver

May 5th, 1956

AIR MAIL - EXPRESS

Dr. Sidney Marks,
Executive Director,
Zionist Organization of America,
145 East 32nd Street,
New York.

Dear Sidney,

It is Saturday in Jerusalem, the Congress is resting and I have a free hour to take care of some correspondence.

By and large this is an unusually poor and disorganized Congress. Spiritually the leadership of the Jewish Agency did not prepare any definite program and there is no guiding line coming from the top. A lack of top notch leadership of the kind Silver could provide is noticeable.

Strange as it may sound, in spite of the tense political situation the number of delegates, deputy delegates and guests at this Congress is very big, by far bigger than at any other congress in the past. Prior to the opening session on April 24th there was a responsive and enthusiastic gathering of people here but as a result of the dull opening session the "Stimmung" dissipated right away.

Instead of holding a brief impressive opening ceremony there was a flood of speeches by Locker, Ben Gurion, Ben Zvi, the two Chief Rabbis, and when Goldmann got up to deliver his big widely publicized address the hall was already half empty.

From a purely administrative and organizational point of view this is the most chaotic establishment I have ever seen in my life. Inefficiency in congress offices is reigning supreme.

The Congress building (Biniane Hauma) are as unfinished as they were in 1951, and since they did not have the brains at least to put an elevator, one has to climb often 4 or 5 floors up to get to the various Congress offices.

Due to my arrival a week in advance I managed to have our delegation's machinery running rather smoothly and I succeeded more or less to eliminate difficulties by making arrangements with the various Congress offices and with the Organization Department of the executive well in advance.

From the several cables I sent thus far you know about the ceremonies at the ZOA House and in Kfar Silver. You also know about the formation of the Unity Bloc within the Confederation.

While I am writing these lines on Saturday, April 5th at 12:00 noon the political behind the scene situation looks as follows:

Goldmann is anxious to become President. Mapai, Mapam and Achdut Haavoda came out yesterday in the Congress Steering Committee with an ultimatum that if Herut is included in the new Jewish Agency Executive they will not participate. In result Goldmann, who favors Herut, is on a spot. He does not want to fight Mapai and will probably have to give in. Had he had only a little courage he could have turned down the demands of the left-wing and teach Mapai and the two other Leftist parties, which do not control a majority, a good lesson. But courage is a very rare quality as you know.

Tonight or tomorrow morning the fate of Herut will be decided.

As expected, the Congress did not end on May 4th, neither will it end tonight, but will continue till tomorrow late at night or even Monday, May 7th early morning.

As I am writing these lines there is a stalemate inside the Confederation. This afternoon the Unity Bloc will meet to decide how to proceed. It is the first time in the history of the Confederation that we control at least 50% of the delegates and we have perhaps a small edge. I say perhaps because the position of a handful of the neutrals may swing the balance either way. Goldstein and the Progressives are trying their best to drag with the negotiations till after the Congress in order not to permit time for the Confederation Conference to take drastic decisions. Since the Congress is ending late the Confederation will be able to meet not earlier than May 7th in the afternoon and on May 8th most of the delegates begin leaving Jerusalem.

The Confederation got two committee chairmanships at the Congress. These were divided between ourselves and Hadassah. Rose Halprin is chairman of the Steering Committee and Jacques is the head of the Organization Committee.

Since every five delegates are entitled to one member on the Actions Committee the ZOA will have six members and six alternates. The list is already prepared and will be submitted to a meeting of our full delegation this afternoon. As usual, one can expect many to remain dissatisfied since unfortunately there are only 12 seats to distribute among 31 delegates.

The Unity Bloc as a whole will get about 16 Actions Committee members, of them will be 6 of the ZOA.

We are conducting a tough battle behind the scenes to get Emanuel the Chairmanship of the American Section of the Jewish Agency. Goldmann, however, supports Rose Halprin. He originally wanted Israel Goldstein but this idea was given up in the meantime in view of our strong opposition.

Several of our delegates left Jerusalem during the last two days so that practically all alternates who are here will have a chance to be full-fledged delegates during the last 2-3 days of the Congress.

I am enclosing a list of ZOA Committee Assignments.

Please note that since before yesterday Herman Quittman replaced Jack Lefkowitz on the Committee of Colonization and Milton Silverman replaced Gershon Feigin on the Education Committee since the former two left already.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Harold and you are free of course to use the information contained therein to inform those of our people who you think would be interested.

By the time this letter reaches you both the Congress as well as the Confederation will have been over.

With warmest regards to all our people in New York, I am as ever,

Yours,

Leon Ilutovich
Assistant Executive Director
Zionist Organization of America

cc: Harold Manson

Zionist Organization of America

Office of the President
145 EAST 32nd STREET
NEW YORK 16, N. Y.
MUrray Hill 3-9201

May 25, 1956

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Silver:

I have just returned from Israel and am planning to visit a number of communities in the coming week to help strengthen ZOA.

I would very much like to come to Cleveland on Tuesday, June 19th, and to have an opportunity of a personal chat with you at sometime convenient to you.

Once I know that you will be in town, I would like to arrange for a small luncheon at a downtown hotel with a few of the key leaders of your three Cleveland districts, plus the leading Rabbis, to see what we can do to strengthen ZOA in your community.

Of course it would mean a great deal to me if you could participate in this luncheon and we could have a chat either before or after this affair, - to which I only plan to invite about fifteen people.

I would appreciate your reply to these suggestions by return mail so that I can make the necessary arrangements.

Looking forward to hearing from you and chatting with you in person, I am

Cordially yours,

Mortimer May
Mortimer May,
President

MM.gpb

May 29, 1956

Mr. Mortimer May, President
Zionist Organization of America
145 East 32nd Street
New York 16, N.Y.

My dear Mortimer:

Thank you for your letter of May 25.

At the moment I am not sure I will be in the city on June 19th.
However, when you arrive, please telephone my office and if I am
in town I, of course, will be delighted to see you.

With warmest regards and all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl

Zionist Organization of America

Office of the President
145 EAST 32nd STREET
NEW YORK 16, N. Y.
MUrray Hill 3-9201

June 4, 1956

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

I am looking forward to meeting you in Cleveland on Tuesday, June 19. As mentioned in our telephone conversation, Mr. Ilutovich ~~will~~ join us to discuss a number of problems concerning Kfar Silver.

I am about to take a train to Nashville and I will greatly appreciate it, if you would be kind enough to drop a line to Mr. Ilutovich in New York indicating the time when we could meet. We are available any time starting from 10 A.M., except between 12:30 and 2, when I will have a luncheon appointment with Dr. Falkman. We plan to leave Cleveland by train for New York the same evening. L

We will both stay at the Wade Park Hotel.

With warmest regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Mortimer May

Mortimer May
President

MM:mf

Memorandum

To: ZOA DISTRICT AND REGIONAL LEADERS

Date: June 5, 1956

From: Harold P. Manson
Executive Vice-Chairman, Department of Public Information

Subject: The Security Council's Action --
Editorials in The New York Times

The United Nations Security Council yesterday adopted a watered down version of the British resolution requesting UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold to "continue his good offices" toward full compliance with the Israel-Arab armistice agreements. Britain, as well as the United States, capitulated to Arab and Soviet pressure and agreed to eliminate the paragraph calling for a peaceful settlement of the Palestine question "on a mutually acceptable basis." Ironically enough, it was this phrase -- "on a mutually acceptable basis" -- which was used in the Soviet statement of policy on the Middle East, published in Moscow on April 17, as well as in the British-Soviet communique issued at the conclusion of the visit of the Soviet leaders to London. The Soviet position in the Security Council debate was therefore hypocritical, and the British capitulation -- reportedly on direct orders from Prime Minister Eden -- indefensible.

However, public opinion is acutely aware of what was said and done in the Security Council debate, in the course of which the Arabs themselves exposed the wholly negative and destructive character of their position. Two magnificent editorials on this subject appeared in The New York Times of June 2 and June 5. We are sending you the full text of both of them in the hope that you will call them to the attention of all moulders of public opinion in your community.

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Editorial in The New York Times of June 2, 1956

THE TRUTH ABOUT PALESTINE

The United Nations Security Council has been spending some tedious hours this week wrestling with the wording of a British resolution that expressed hope for a lasting peace in Palestine. The delay that kept the Council working overtime was due mainly to the reluctance of the Arab states--Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and Egypt--to admit that the State of Israel legally exists and to give up, for good and all, their ambition to drive the Israelis into the Mediterranean. For this reason the discussion yesterday, still incomplete, was postponed until Monday afternoon.

Not one Arab speaker said one word to indicate that he felt the awful responsibility of restoring or maintaining peace in the Near East; not one showed the slightest understanding, or desire to understand, the urge that drove so many abused and harassed individuals into the ancient land of Palestine, to set up a new commonwealth and labor for a new hope; not one welcomed the kind of peace that might result from accepting Israel as a neighbor; each, without exception, seemed to be waiting for the ultimate catastrophe that by wrecking the Mediterranean world and perhaps all the Western World, might destroy the tiny State of Israel.

These assertions are not rhetorical. The fault the Arabs found with the original British resolution was that it used words suggesting, however vaguely,

- more -

that a peaceful and permanent settlement of the trouble between Israel and her Arab neighbors might be reached. The Arab spokesmen wouldn't have this. They regarded it as an offense for the United Nations to endorse, or the Secretary General to attempt, any solution that might put an end to the suffering and suspense in the Near East and open the way to peace and prosperity for all. They stuck to medieval notions that are now as out of date as chain armor, spears and battle-axes.

Listen to the Syrian spokesman, Ambassador Ahmad el-Shukairy, speaking Thursday afternoon. He referred to Palestine--that is, the State of Israel, recognized by our own and most other Governments, received in 1949 as a member of the United Nations--as "part and parcel of the Arab homeland." He went on to say:

To advocate the idea of a mutually acceptable solution must inevitably lead to a reversal of all the resolutions of the United Nations. * * * We must begin from the beginning. We must start de novo on a clean sheet. Everything written by the United Nations should be written off, ever since the 29th November, 1947. (This was the date of the the U.N. partition resolution.) The establishment of Israel, its membership in the United Nations and all other resolutions will have to be revoked. Then, and then only, the United Nations can look forward to a solution "on a mutually acceptable basis."

We have to put this remarkable utterance into the context of a debate over Mr. Hammarskjold's patient and impartial efforts to stop the killing in the Near East. Mr. Hammarskjold reported, as in duty bound. He had kept--so it seemed to most observers--within the limits of the April 4 resolution, under which he had gone to Palestine. He had received assurances from all the parties, the four Arab states necessarily included, that they would try to reduce border squabbles and accept an increased and improved measure of U.N. supervision. There is every indication that the Arab states and Israel gave the assurances in good faith. But if we judge by the Arab arguments in the Security Council this week this good faith was in the Arab case of a temporary nature. Given an opportunity, one had to conclude, the Arabs would pounce on Israel.

Neither side in the Near Eastern troubles has been without blame. Each side has unnecessarily taken innocent lives. But the Israelis are now willing to settle and end the bloodshed. The Arabs, if their spokesmen truly represented them this week, are not ready to do this finally and for all time.

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Editorial in The New York Times of June 5, 1956

U.N. HAS A BAD DAY

The United Nations and the Security Council never seemed weaker than they did yesterday when the Council allowed four Arab states, aided and abetted by Russia, to take out of the Palestine resolution the words that expressed hope for "a peaceful settlement on a mutually acceptable basis."

The Arab states, for which Syria was the most vociferous spokesman, were at least consistent; they have not concealed their desire to get rid of the little State of Israel, which, though they outnumber it twenty times over, they pretend to fear.

The United Kingdom and the United States were not inconsistent, either. They yielded in the interests of "unanimity," and achieved it -- a mistaken course, we think, but not an ignoble one. But what is, or ever was, wrong with a "mutually acceptable settlement" in place of bloodshed and hate?

The Soviet Union, denouncing Stalin as its new rulers are now doing, behaved as that dead and dishonored potentate would have done. On April 17, in Moscow, in a press conference sponsored by Vyacheslav M. Molotov, who was then Foreign Minister, they appealed for "a stable, peaceful settlement of the Palestine question on a mutually acceptable basis." The words were picked up and again endorsed by Russia in the joint communique issued by Prime Minister Eden and Premier Bulganin on April 27. Sir Pierson Dixon, British Ambassador to the U.N., certainly had every reason but one to believe that if he put them in his resolution the Russians would accept them. The one reason he overlooked was that Moscow is seemingly as ready as ever to betray its promises and assurances for a brief and mean diplomatic advantage.

And perhaps it is not even an advantage. Perhaps this episode will show skeptics, by contrast, that honor, courage and pity are in the end winning qualities. Perhaps the U.N. will be the stronger if this one act of folly opens its eyes to the eternal truth that empty compromises win no victories, and that in the end principles worth defending must be defended.



June 7, 1956

Mr. Leon Ilutovich
Zionist Organization of America
145 East 32nd Street
New York 16, New York

My dear Mr. Ilutovich:

Mr. Mortimer May has requested that I indicate to you when I would be free to see you and him in my study on Tuesday, June 19th. I shall be very happy to see you at 11:00 o'clock.

With warmest regards I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl

H. GOODMAN & SONS

INCORPORATED

Makers of "GOODY" Products200 VARICK STREET
NEW YORK 14, N. Y.

June 14, 1956

Rabbi A H Silver
The Temple
E 105th St & Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

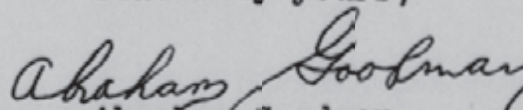
On Sunday, June 3, at the conference of the ZOA's National Administrative Council, I took occasion to express my views concerning the type of leadership the Zionist Organization of America requires during the coming years in order to discharge fully its proper role on the American and World Zionist scenes and in Israel.

Profoundly convinced that at this critical juncture in the history of our Movement the ZOA requires leadership of the highest caliber, I called for the drafting of Dr. Emanuel Neumann for the Presidency of our Organization. I was delighted by the response of the National Administrative Council, which received this suggestion with a standing ovation. At the conclusion of the meeting Dr. Neumann expressed his appreciation and gratitude for the warm demonstration of confidence in him and his leadership which had taken place, and said that he would give earnest consideration to our urgent call for his assumption of the ZOA Presidency.

Since Dr. Neumann is considering the matter, I am writing to you at this time because I believe that, as a leader of the ZOA who is anxious to enhance the prestige of our Organization and to increase its effectiveness, you will wish to join in prevailing upon him to accept the heavy burdens and responsibilities of the ZOA Presidency. You could help to achieve this by indicating your readiness to provide the fullest measure of support to an administration which he would head. I will welcome a communication from you to this effect.

There is a great challenge - and a great opportunity - before our Organization. Let us meet it and open a bright new chapter in the history of the ZOA.

Sincerely yours,


Abraham Goodman

AG/SS

Memorandum

To: ZOA DISTRICT AND REGIONAL LEADERS

Date: June 20, 1956

From: Harold P. Manson
Executive Vice-Chairman, Department of Public Information

Subject: Press Comment on Current Political Developments in
Israel and the Middle East.

The following editorial from The New York Times of June 19, 1956 will be of interest to you in connection with the most recent political developments in the Middle East -- the resignation of Moshe Sharett, the visit to Cairo of Soviet Foreign Minister Shepilov, and the increasing aggressiveness of Nasser.

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NEW PALESTINE TENSION

New York Times - Tuesday - 6/19/56:

Despite the comparative calm brought to the Middle East by the peace mission of Secretary General Hammarskjold, tension is rising again in that troubled area as a result of two new developments. One is the visit to Cairo by Soviet Foreign Minister Shepilov, who engineered the Soviet bloc arms deal with Egypt and is now doing his double-talking worst to rouse Arab antagonism against the West and to stiffen the Arab stand against a mutually acceptable peace settlement with Israel. The other, a kind of reflex action, is the resignation of Israeli Foreign Minister Sharett and the shift of control of that office, under Mrs. Myerson as its temporary titular head, to Premier Ben-Gurion.

The immediate results of Mr. Shepilov's burrowing action remain to be seen. But in view of the increasingly aggressive attitude of Premier Nasser of Egypt it would seem to be the part of wisdom for Israel to pursue a cautious and moderate policy in order to keep world opinion on its side as its most potent defense. That has been the policy of Mr. Sharett. Both he and Premier Ben-Gurion have sought peace even at the price of some concessions. Mr. Ben-Gurion, like Mr. Sharett, has been against the hotheads who press for a "preventive war" and has offered to go to Cairo to discuss peace with Premier Nasser.

But Mr. Ben-Gurion is convinced that the Arab states, led by Egypt, are preparing for a "new round" against Israel, and that this threat calls for bolder policies than used heretofore. He sees confirmation of this view not only in the Arab-Soviet bloc arms traffic but also in the Soviet-backed Arab rejection of the recent resolution in the Security Council calling for a settlement of the Palestine question on a "mutually acceptable basis," and in the way in which Premier Nasser is building up military alliances to encircle Israel. Furthermore, in view of Israel's failure to obtain arms from the West he holds that Israel must primarily depend on its own "policies of strength."

That Israel has every reason to be concerned is obvious. But while it took great zeal to create Israel it will take wisdom, patience and restraint to keep it alive. It is to be hoped that these qualities will not be lacking under the new dispensation.



Zionist Organization of America

... SAN FRANCISCO DISTRICT ...

973 MARKET STREET • ROOM 600 • SAN FRANCISCO 3, CALIFORNIA • YUkon 6-1361

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Dr. Alexander Seidman

July 18, 1956

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

I am now here and have been devoting my time to strengthen our position in this area where it has been rather weak. I learned about a Mrs. E. S. Heller, 2020 Jackson Street, San Francisco, Calif. who gave \$5000. to the American Zionist Fund in 1953 when you were here. She did it anonymously and it was inspired, I learned, by your visit here and your address.

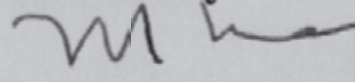
Unfortunately, she is out of town just now, but is due back shortly.

The thought occurred to me that you might drop her a line and stress the need for Kfar Silver. As you know we require at least one dormitory and a few teachers' flats at once in order to take care of the second class.

If you think well of this suggestion, I believe it is worth the effort because from what I learn here she is very wealthy, and also charitable.

I am going to Los Angeles for one week to continue my work and will be at the Beverly Hilton Hotel until July 26th. As you know we postponed our convention until Oct 4th - 7th. I am glad about this because our earlier date proved to be an utterly impossible one. I am confidently counting on your presence at the convention.

Sincerely



MORTIMER MAY

mm/er

file 'zoa'
copy of
letter - 7/19/56

addressed to Dulles
written by

Dr E. Neumann, Ch.
Nat'l Exec Comm

zoa

in file ("Dulles")
"D"

file ZOA

EMANUEL NEUMANN
250 WEST 57TH STREET
SUITE 413
NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

July 20, 1956

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Abba
Dear Dr. Silver:

First, Mazel Tov! I hope both boys and their brides will enjoy great happiness through the years and that their parents will continue to have much "naches."

see file "B"
I am enclosing copy of a letter I have sent to Secretary Dulles in connection with the allocations for Kfar-Silver and the ZOA House. I trust you find it okay, but would be glad to have your critical comment, if any.

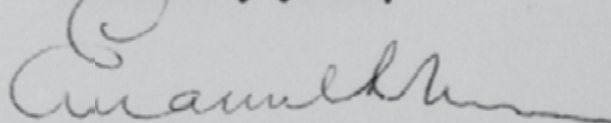
A bond item: A couple of years ago we made an arrangement with the Bond Organization, by which the ZOA was to receive \$24,000 a year, by way of reimbursement to carry on bond activity. When Schwartz took over, I spoke with him a couple of times but he claimed to be unable to allow a more substantial amount. However, he continued the old arrangement during the current year, ending September.

During Browdy's administration in the ZOA, he got from the Bond Organization during two years, close to half a million dollars. The arrangement existing at the moment does not permit of any extensive activity by the ZOA for bonds. It requires traveling, organizing meetings, sending out field workers, etc., if an effective job is to be done. The question arises whether we should approach Schwartz for an increased allocation and whether you can be helpful in that connection.

We have no idea regarding his intentions for the coming year. He may even want to cut down. The Bond management has always pleaded poverty, complaining of the fact that the Israel Government allows them "no more than \$7,000,000 to \$8,000,000" for expenses.

As ever,

Faithfully yours,



Emanuel Neumann

EN:BW

(suggested letter from Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver to all delinquent members)

[undated]

Dear Fellow Zionist:

At the meeting of the National Executive Committee of the Zionist Organization of America last week, I expressed my deep concern regarding Israel's present situation and the attitudes of our government and the other major powers.

I believe the die has not yet been cast. The next few weeks will be decisive. I am convinced that this is the moment for the Zionist Organization of America to step forward and mobilize American Public Opinion as it did under my Presidency during the fateful years of 1947-48. ~~There is no other organization to do it.~~

All aid to Israel is important but most important of all at this moment is Public Relations work on every level, and it is for the Z.O.A. ~~to do it.~~ *to lead in this work*

You can help in these crucial days by ~~providing~~ *leading* through your renewal of membership, ~~the~~ *the* organized following of hundreds of thousands of proud ~~conscious~~ Jews who feel ~~this~~ *their* deep concern about Israel's future. ~~and want to do something about it.~~

I am sure that you will want to join me once again in this struggle for justice and ~~decency~~ *international morality*, and against ~~those~~ *those* who would destroy Israel.

~~Israel is the symbol of all free peoples. With your help it shall survive.~~

If you will return to me your enrollment in the enclosed self-addressed envelope, I ~~should~~ *shall* be pleased to personally acknowledge receipt.

With ~~cordial~~ *best* regards, all ~~and~~ *best* wishes,

Sincerely, *Abba Hillel Silver*

Mail to Zion Org I am
in many boxes

File 12 12-1-39
Keef
Cundated

THE SUEZ CRISIS COULD HAVE BEEN AVERTED...



**"I look to Americans and say:
may you choke to death on your fury."**

**Gamal Abdel Nasser
Dictator of Egypt**

But these warnings went unheeded...

In a way what has happened in recent weeks—the opening of the Eastern Mediterranean to Soviet penetration—is the result of our Government's mistaken Middle Eastern policy. We warned against it time and again, but our objections were written off as coming from "special pleaders." We did not see things, we were told, from "the American point of view."

But quite definitely we saw it from the American point of view and the people who were responsible for the handling of the Near East interests of our Government in the State Department have been proven wrong clear down the line. Egypt's invitation to the Soviet to provide it with arms, which involve ultimately technicians and Communist propaganda, is the very seal and testament of their blundering policy.

When our Government set out to arm the Near East as a bulwark against Sovietism, without first assuring itself that such weapons would not be used to precipitate war among the countries in the Near East—without first making sure that they would not be used against Israel—without insisting that Israel should be included in any military pact for the defense of that region of which it is a vital part, our State Department blundered; and the degree of unrest which today prevails in that part of the world, and the general deterioration of the situation there, is the measure of that blunder.

Our Government could have pressed for peace and for the lifting of the blockade against Israel when Egypt courted our support in her efforts to free the Suez Canal Zone from British troops. It was a logical thing to have asked for, as part of a general pacification of that region, but our State Department refused to do it. It gave Egypt its full measure of support unconditionally.

When Iraq was being armed, it was part of statesmanship to arm also Israel so as not to create a military imbalance in that part of the world, knowing full well that it was only the relative strength of Israel that was discouraging the Arabs' governments from carrying out their avowed intentions of attacking Israel. That, too, was not done. Our Government proceeded to encourage regional defense pacts in the Middle East with the understanding that Israel need not be included in such pacts.

The same blindness which formerly afflicted the Mandatory Power in its dealings with the Arabs and the Jews of Palestine has now come to afflict the people in the State Department who deal directly with the Middle East. "Woo the Arabs—by-pass Israel—and you will save the Middle East from Soviet penetration!" The very opposite, of course, is happening.

DR. ABEA HILLEL SILVER
October 30, 1955

For three years many far-sighted and experienced observers have been warning the Administration, and Mr. Dulles personally, that their policy in the Middle East was fraught with disaster. These repeated warnings went largely unheeded. Today we witness the tragic and dramatic collapse of that policy, certainly so far as Egypt is concerned.

The State Department's recent policy in the Middle East has been . . . vitiated by several cardinal errors. First, a general misreading of the Levantine mind and the naive assumption that political and economic favors would be repaid with sincere friendship. Second, the notion that Arab loyalty to Western democracy can be bought with political concessions and material aid. Third, we are giving

top priority to building a "northern tier" of defense for the Middle East against external military aggression which is not imminently threatening, rather than giving first priority to assuring the internal peace and stability of the region. Fourth, the ousting of the British from the Suez Canal Zone without exacting from Egypt guarantees obviously called for in the circumstances. Fifth, we have permitted and encouraged the Arab states to pursue their aggressive designs against Israel, despite her unmistakable alignment with the West. Sixth, we have sought to remedy the failures of appeasement with yet more appeasement.

We are now eating the bitter fruit of a self-defeating policy. What does it all add up to but a colossal blunder—one of the worst in the history of our foreign relations?

Our policy-makers in the State Department were reported to be surprised and dismayed by the Egyptian arms deal with the Communist bloc and the ominous prospect of more things to come. We are now reaping the traditional harvest of appeasement. Step by step we have yielded to political blackmail which the Arab states have practiced so successfully with a skill and expertness born of experience. Egypt's latest treacherous move against the West is not a sudden impulsive act, but premeditated and long in preparation. It is not a slight error of judgment, a temporary deviation from the path of virtue. On the contrary, it is wholly in keeping with a pattern of behavior quite familiar to seasoned observers of Middle East affairs. Egypt's secret negotiations with the totalitarians today closely parallel her secret negotiations with the Nazis and her betrayal of the democratic cause during World War II. That our policy-makers should be concerned and dismayed is understandable; what is surprising is that they should be

surprised. What is most disturbing, what is intolerable, is their apparent inability to draw, even now, the most obvious and inescapable conclusions from this diplomatic debacle.

If full scale war should break out in the Middle East, with all the global repercussions and incalculable consequences it may bring in its train, our own Government will bear a large part of the responsibility. The grave situation demands an immediate and drastic revision of American policy founded on sounder and more realistic assumptions. Unless we are to be heading for a Middle Eastern "Munich" or a Middle Eastern "Korea" we must without delay throw our full strength behind our loyal friends and adopt a new posture of firmness towards those bent on betrayal. To do less, to waver, to temporize is to confound our friends, encourage their enemies, compromise our own prestige and invite ultimate catastrophe.

DR. EMANUEL NEUMANN
October 30, 1955

The events of the past three months have vindicated the position taken by the Zionist Organization of America. We solemnly warned that the "New Look" in our State Department's Middle Eastern policy was bound to have dire consequences, not only for America-Israel relations, but for American interests and American prestige throughout the Middle East. We called upon our Government to alter its reckless policy of wooing the Arab states with promises of American arms which threaten the security of Israel and the peace of the Middle East; and we predicted that this policy would not only fail to strengthen the Western position but would actually promote insta-

bility and thereby weaken American interests in a vital area.

Unfortunately, our policy-makers in Washington chose to ignore these carefully considered views and they proceeded along the one-sided and short-sighted course which had been charted under the slogan of "impartiality." The results should now be apparent even to the apologists of the State Department. Every day brings additional evidence of the almost total collapse of the current policy and of the fiasco that it has produced in the Middle East . . . But there is as yet no indication that our Government has abandoned the fatally obtuse policy of backing and arming military adventurers while they enjoy their brief taste of power.

ZOA President MORTIMER MAY
November 27, 1954

Once again, as so often in the past, a threat directed against the people and the land of Israel carries with it the profoundest implications for the values and interests of Western civilization—for the arms deal between Egypt and the Soviet bloc represents a grave danger not only for Israel, but for the entire free world.

Once again, the Jewish people—and Zionists in particular—are, Cassandra-like, warning of the global consequences of any failure to recognize the nature of the threat and to act in time. Surely, Western statesmen must be fully cognizant of the far-reaching effects of Soviet penetration into the Middle East through arms deals and other intrigues with the very Arab dictators whom our State Department has built up and appeased throughout recent years. Most certainly the time has come for our Government

to draw the correct conclusions from the behavior of the Arab states—to emancipate our Middle East policy from the disastrous notion that we can bargain for Arab friendship with arms offers to any of the Arab states, while ignoring or shelving Israel's legitimate requests for the defense of her territory and citizens against the growing threat of renewed Arab aggression.

Editorial in *The American Zionist*
October, 1955

The State Department's policy in the Middle East is collapsing. The chief goal of that policy—the friendship of the Arab world for America and the West—has in recent weeks been trampled in the sands of Arabia by the very pashas, potentates and self-proclaimed "strong men" whom the Administration has courted so assiduously. We have wooed them with promises of arms, appeased them by whittling down our country's traditional support of Israel—all in the hope of winning their adherence to the West. And with what results? . . . Egypt has even informed the United States that it will not accept American arms aid if this would involve association with the West.

All of the Arab states have at the same time increased their hostile behavior toward Israel—an attitude which our State Department naively assumed would change for the better as a result of its policy of "impartiality."

Here then are the bitter fruits of our State Department's bungling and blundering in the Middle East. The American people are surely entitled to a sounder, more statesmanlike approach . . .

Editorial in *The American Zionist*
October, 1954

**Here is irrefutable proof that the Zionists
of America have *always* advocated the policy
that would best serve American interests in the
Middle East.**

**It is the policy which every patriotic American
should urge our Government to carry out.**



**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION
ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
145 East 32 Street • New York 16, N. Y.**

For Dr. Silver

[undated]

C O P Y O F C A B L E

ISRAEL AGRICULTURE MINISTRY ORDERED ALL AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS OPEN THIS YEAR
OCTOBER ELEVENTH POSTPONING UNTIL SILVER OPENING TILL THAT DATE HAPPY NEW YEAR



ILUTOVICH

