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Zionist Organization of America, 1956-1957.

RESOLUTION

ADOPTED BY THE NATIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL OF THE ZOA

STATLER HOTEL, NEW YORK CITY AUGUST 26, 1956

We express our grave concern over the severe diplomatic and political defeats suffered by our country and by Western interests generally in the Middle East, culminating in Egypt's seizure of the Suez Canal. We view the steady deterioration of the American position in that crucial area as the inevitable result of the self-defeating policy pursued by our Government in recent years - a prolonged but futile attempt to win the friendship of feudal regimes and aggressive dictators by appeasement, concessions and yielding to political blackmail. The present crisis is a tragic vindication of the criticism of this policy voiced by large sections of American opinion, whose repeated warnings were discounted and ignored by the Department of State.

Our concern for America's position and the vital interests of the Free World in the Middle East, combined with justified alarm over Israel's security, impel us to call upon our Government at the eleventh hour to rectify the blunders of the past by adopting a new and resolute policy, boldly calculated to strengthen our true friends and check the mounting arrogance and aggressiveness of the elements inimical to America and the Free World.

We warmly welcome the declarations in the Democratic and Republican platforms in defense of Israel's security and independence, reflecting the traditional attitudes of both parties and of the American people. We note with satisfaction the forthright and unequivocal call of the Democratic Party for the supply of defensive arms to Israel and the pledge of the Republican Party to stand by Israel against armed aggression.

In the light of these declarations and the increasing recklessness of the Nasser regime, we renew our appeal to President Eisenhower to authorize the immediate shipment of the arms required by Israel; and secondly, to initiate discussions with the Government of Israel with a view to the negotiations of a Mutual Security Pact.

August 31, 1956

Dr. Peretz Bernstein
Kalisher 36
Tel Aviv, Israel

Dear Bernstein:

I received your cable with reference to the coming meeting of the smaller Actions Committee. As of this moment, it is very doubtful that any of our people will attend it and in fact, from the point of view of the matters which you and your colleagues would like to discuss, the purpose may not be adequately served even if one of our members on the Actions Committee should be coming. I fear, if such a consultation is to take place, it will have to be at some later date, either in Tel Aviv or in New York.

Now that I am writing you, I would like to use the opportunity to advise you as precisely as I can, about the attitude of the ZOA leadership to the negotiations with Herut. I tried to convey my attitude to the meeting which I addressed in Tel Aviv last May 11. Subsequently, when Saphir was here a month or two later, several of us met with him and tried to express our viewpoint. Nevertheless, in order to avoid any possible misunderstanding, I will try to do so again in this letter.

We understand perfectly the circumstances under which the negotiations with Herut were started, as well as reasons and arguments which impell many of you to favor the merger in principle. It was all explained to us fully and in detail by Saphir.

Now as to the merits of the arguments for and against the merger, there are some shades of difference of opinion among our people. I would say that the preponderant view here is that a merger would be undesirable and unwise - at least at this time - from the point of view of your situation and the conditions in Israel. There is also a minority opinion among us that from the local Israeli standpoint, there is a good deal to be said in favor of the proposal.

However, all of us, I believe without exception, are of the opinion that the step would be most embarrassing and harmful to the General Zionists in the Diaspora and most certainly so, in the case of the ZOA. We feel that a merger would virtually cut the ground from under our feet and we are pretty sure that other organizations allied with us in Latin-America and elsewhere, feel the same way. In the case of the United General Zionist Party of South Africa, a rather important ally, they actually sent a cable to the office of the Confederation stating that if the merger takes place they are inclined to disaffiliate. This is some indication of how embarrassing they find it. We have staked a great deal, even on the limited extent to which we have expressed our sympathy and support for the General Zionist Party of Israel, and we could only justify it - in the face of repeated and violent

attacks - on the ground that our association and ideological affinity as General Zionists is of long standing, pre-dating the establishment of the State of Israel. On the other hand, there has been no sense of ideological affinity with Herut and on the contrary, there is widespread feeling among our constituents that the Herut point of view, its historical background and temperament, are alien and even repugnant to the traditional General Zionist viewpoint. Rightly or wrongly, it is regarded as the war-party with an underground mentality, tinged with extremism and irresponsibility.

I want to make it perfectly clear that I do not share this attitude toward Herut, completely. I certainly regard Beigin and his comrades of the Irgun, as great Jewish patriots, though I may not be able to follow his leadership. But in a matter like this, it is not my personal attitude or even the personal attitudes of our group here that is decisive, but the attitude and sentiment of our large constituency; and we are pretty certain that your merger with Herut would create a virtually irresistible demand that we, the ZOA, dissociate ourselves definitely from such a new united party.

Then there is the question of the Confederation. As you know, we went to considerable effort politically and financially, to assure a strong representation at the Congress, for ourselves and other likeminded organizations, with one principal objective in view: to alter the intolerable situation in the Confederation of General Zionists. The fight over the future of the Confederation and of our position within it, absorbed most of our time and energy before and during the Congress. To the extent that we were successful, this was the only "victory" to be brought home. Now if the merger goes through, it appears clear to us that all that effort and struggle will have been wasted. Either you will be excluded or the Confederation will blow up - with what result? In the first place, you will lose rather large sums of money you have been receiving from the KMK -- and to that extent you will be weakened; secondly, the Progressives will continue to receive what they have been getting - and probably still larger sums; thirdly, the Progressives will begin to be recognized as the only legitimate Organization of General Zionists in Israel, will gain new supporters in the Diaspora and its position in Israel will thereby be greatly enhanced; fourthly, we will be unable to prevent a reorganization of the Confederation as a Diaspora organization and we will either find ourselves as a helpless minority within it or keep out of it and remain isolated. Tertium non datur. We will certainly not find it possible to form a World Confederation of our own with your United Party as our Israeli partner. Such a plan would be rejected by our constituents.

Despite all of these negative results which we foresee both in Israel and the Diaspora, we do not feel that we should attempt to pressure our Israel friends, much less dictate to them, anymore than we would have you pressure us or dictate to us what course we should follow here. It is not only a great political question, but a moral question and a matter of conscience. If contrary to our judgment and despite all the considerations I have enumerated, the great majority of our Party should feel that a merger with Herut is not only feasible but in the best interest of Israel and of the Cause, we are powerless to prevent it and will not attempt to do so, but we cannot give our approval to this step. Moreover, we must again draw your attention to certain inevitable consequences. We shall feel morally free and released of any commitment - free in fact to adopt an entirely new line, and even form new and different alignments. An old chapter or volume would be closed and an entirely new one begun, so far as we are concerned.

I will go further and say that to a certain degree - a small but yet appreciable degree - that has already happened. Your very negotiations with Herut, irrespective of the outcome have constituted an important political development which has had definite repercussions in the United States and elsewhere and has already affected our mutual

relations. Thus, some of our true and tried friends here have already been undergoing a certain inner struggle on the subject of our identification with you. Also, as a result of the negotiations, it is unlikely that at our forthcoming Convention, we will adopt any new resolutions re-affirming our identification. Our people are increasingly disinclined to tie the political fate of the ZOA to a party, which having suffered a severe defeat at the last Knesseth election, has apparently lost confidence in itself and is trying to save itself by a merger which looks like absorption by a larger and stronger party.

Personally, I do not feel as despondent about the future possibilities of the General Zionist Party as so many of our friends apparently feel, in Israel. I believe the Party can be rehabilitated, reinvigorated and "live to fight another day" - but, of course we, from here, can contribute so little toward that result, that we can only express an opinion and a hope. Our hope is that you will decide not to sacrifice so valuable, even if intangible, an asset as the General Zionists of the Diaspora; that you will pull yourselves together; that you will find within you the moral and intellectual resources to make a fresh start which may lead to a much brighter future. Such a rebirth has happened in the case of other parties in other countries. We all remember the case of the British Labor Party after the MacDonald fiasco and how strongly and brilliantly they came back into power. To despair of that, is to let down a large part of your followers in Israel and practically all of your friends and sympathizers throughout the Diaspora.

This is of course a personal letter. We have never had any discussion of the problem at any meeting of the governing bodies of the ZOA, and in that sense it is not to be considered as official. But I haven't the slightest doubt that you will believe me if I say that the letter correctly summarizes the views of those who are in control of the Organization and will continue to be in control after our forthcoming Convention in October.

It were better, I suppose, if some of us could meet with your group, but frankly I do not believe that the situation could be more clarified than it already is. We know pretty well your views and those of Rokach, Saphir, Serlin and others - and you know ours. I can only pray that you will arrive at wise decisions.

With warm personal regards and best wishes for a happy New Year,

As ever,

Faithfully yours,

Emanuel Neumann

EN:BN

EMANUEL NEUMANN
250 WEST 57TH STREET
SUITE 412
NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

September 5, 1956

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Abba:

There are a few matters I would like to inform you about, which will be of interest to you, I believe.

During the past two or three years I have been trying to get hold of certain important documentary material relating to the political activities in the forties - including the verbatim stenographic records of the Jewish Agency Executive in New York. There was one discussion in particular, the transcript of which I was anxious to get. It related to the proposals of the State Department to "post-pone" the proclamation of the Jewish State and our rejection of these proposals. After a good bit of inquiry and "detective work" I located the material I was after, in the Central Zionist Archives in Jerusalem, through my personal relations with Alec Bein, and I had the material examined. Much of it were stenotypist's notes which had been transcribed. At my urgent request they proceeded to transcribe them in Jerusalem and eventually shipped the transcribed notes to me. I had been going through them gradually and finding it all most fascinating reading after ~~the~~ lapse of these years. They were sent to me as strictly confidential material which has not as yet been released - but I have them in my possession and will keep them.

Now, curiously enough the verbatim record of the particular discussion I have referred to, is not among the material which I have received thus far, though there are other Minutes of earlier and later meetings. This tends to confirm the suspicion I have had for years, that these particular Minutes were either destroyed or secreted in order to protect the reputation of certain important individuals who had argued long and earnestly in favor of accepting the American proposals. But I am not through with my search and intend to continue no matter how long, in the hope of eventually getting hold of such interesting and vitally significant historical records. In the meanwhile, that which I have already collared, is, in itself, highly important.

Secondly, ZOA affairs: I have slowly and reluctantly come to the conclusion that in the present external and internal circumstances - especially the latter - there is no satisfactory solution of the problem of the presidency - unless I take it myself. No candidate of sufficient stature and caliber has emerged, whose election would arrest the trend of ~~of~~ steady lowering of the level of leadership, both nationally and locally.

On the other hand, the Progressives-Liberals-Independents, are lying in wait - in ambush - as it were - ready to leap and make a full-scale onslaught, especially if the new leadership elected at the Convention should offer an easy target.

I know that in accepting the post at this time, I shall be risking an established reputation. It may be that the objective circumstances are such, that I cannot do much more than others to strengthen the Organization and re-establish its position and prestige; but I have decided to risk it and make at least a gallant attempt, hoping to draw about me a small group that will share the burdens and perhaps help to turn the trick.

One of these is Leon Feuer, of whom you spoke to me, many months ago. He could not be successfully projected at this time for the presidency because for several years he disappeared from the scene. Now I have had several serious conferences with him and he has agreed to devote a good deal of time during the coming year, which he is now in a better position to do. I have begun to build him up so that he may figure in the public eye and come to occupy a conspicuous position in the leadership. We did so, at the last meeting of the National Administrative Council. I also ~~had~~ appointed him Chairman of a Committee on Platform and Program, and he will appear before the Convention in that capacity. I plan to have him elected to one of the leading positions on the basis of the understanding I have reached with him and he will come to New York frequently and do a good bit of traveling through the country. I feel encouraged and have reason to hope that he will go from strength to strength and prove himself for the future.

In another direction, I am trying to get those of our people who are really well off to begin to make much larger contributions than they have in the past, to the ZOA and our projects in Israel. The first example was set by Jack Verdi. Now I am lining up others with larger contributions to be announced at the Convention. This should also help us to start the year auspiciously.

I will not burden you with further details, but I am glad to find that a number of younger men, able and vigorous, are coming forward with offers to cooperate with me, including a group of Rabbis of all "denominations." So I am hopeful!

Thirdly, regarding the General Zionist Party and Herut: I am enclosing copy of a letter I have sent Peretz Bernstein, summarizing our position, in the hope that it may be helpful.

Under separate cover I am also sending you a complimentary copy of the recently published volume of Herzl's Diaries, translated and edited by Marvin Lowenthal. This has been a project of mine, to which I devoted time and effort during the past two years. I am hoping that by 1960 - the one-hundredth anniversary of Herzl's birth - if God gives me strength, I may arrange for the publication of the complete edition of the Diaries, and perhaps of an edition of Herzl's

works in English, which is long overdue. Meanwhile, I know that you, a Herzlian of the Herzlians, will enjoy this volume.

Since this is the eve of Rosh Hashonah, I close with my fervent wishes for a happy and fruitful New Year to you and Virginia, as well as the boys and their brides. Fan joins me in this expression of our good wishes, affection and esteem.

As ever,

Faithfully yours,

Emanuel

Emanuel Neumann

לד"ר אהרן דוד

EN:BW



cc: Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

File 12 2-1-40

September 24, 1956

Senator Estes Kefauver
Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator Kefauver:

I assume that your office is in constant touch with you, and am therefore sending the following information to your Washington headquarters, with copies to Mr. James Finnegan and Mr. Charles Tyroller.

I am sure that you will be pleased to know how enthusiastically our Districts throughout the country have responded to the news of your forthcoming appearance at the ZOA Convention in Washington on Sunday, October 7. You may be sure of a warm and heartfelt expression of friendship on the part of the delegates.

After studying the Convention program carefully, with a view to ensuring that your appearance will take place under the best possible circumstances, my fellow-officers and I have concluded that the session originally envisaged -- that of Sunday evening, October 7 -- unquestionably provides the right atmosphere for your address. At that time there will be a large banquet, which will close the Convention. Apart from the fact that such banquets traditionally express appreciation to the outgoing President of the Organization -- in this case, myself -- and that I would of course be personally delighted by your presence as my Senator and as one I am proud to know as a friend, we have also ascertained that we are assured of an excellent attendance at this dinner on the part of the Convention delegates.

The dinner is scheduled to get under way at 7 P.M. We would be happy to welcome your arrival either at that time or later in the evening after the program has started, depending on which would be more convenient from your point of view.

Looking forward to greeting you personally at the Convention and with all good wishes, I am

Cordially yours,

M:ma

Mortimer May

cc: Mr. James Finnegan
Mr. Charles Tyroller

cc: Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

September 24, 1956

Mr. James A. Finnegan, Chairman
Stevenson-Kefauver Campaign Committee
1728 L Street
Washington 6, D.C.

Dear Mr. Finnegan:

The enclosed copy of my letter of today to Senator Estes Kefauver suggests the best time for his arrival and address on October 7 at the Convention of the Zionist Organization of America, to be held at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington.

With profound thanks for your wonderful cooperation, I am

Sincerely yours,

Mortimer Hay

MM:ma

cc: Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

September 24, 1956

Mr. Charles Tyroller
Democratic National Committee
1001 Connecticut Ave.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Tyroller:

The enclosed copy of my letter of today to Senator Estes Kefauver suggests the best time for his arrival and address on October 7 at the Convention of the Zionist Organization of America, to be held at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington.

With profound thanks for your wonderful cooperation, I am

Sincerely yours,

Mortimer May

MM:mba

cc: Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

September 24, 1956

Congressman Bob Wilson
Republican National Committee
1625 I Street, N.W.
Washington 6, D.C.

Dear Congressman Wilson:

Thank you so much for your letter of September 19, confirming Vice President Nixon's appearance at our Convention on Sunday afternoon, October 7, and advising us that his address will take from 15 to 20 minutes. Should the Vice President wish to take additional time for his message, please assure him that the delegates will be delighted to greet him in either case.

As our Convention schedule now shapes up, I would suggest that the Vice President's arrival at the Convention be timed for approximately 4:30 P.M., with his address following immediately thereafter. If anything should develop to suggest a change by a few minutes in either direction I will let you know during the coming days. Otherwise, I trust that we may regard the time as fixed.

I hope that I may have the great pleasure of greeting you together with Mr. Nixon on October 7, and thank you once again for your wonderful cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Nortimer May

KH:mha

cc: Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

September 24, 1963

Mr. Bernard Katzen
19 W. 44th Street
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Katzen:

Just to let you know that, in reply to a letter from Congressman Wilson advising us that Vice President Nixon will appear at our Convention on Sunday afternoon, October 7, I today suggested to Congressman Wilson that Mr. Nixon's arrival at the Convention be timed for approximately 4:30 P.M. Unless anything should develop which would suggest a change by a few minutes in either direction, I trust that we may regard the time as fixed.

With warmest regards, I am

Cordially yours,

Mortimer May

MM:aha

Cable Address:
ZIONISTS, N. Y.



In Israel
1 DANIEL FRISCH ST., TEL-AVIV
Cable Address: ZOAHOUSE, TELAVIV

התאחדות הציונית של ארצות הברית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

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

September 25, 1956

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I assume you have received in the meantime in our general mailing, the copy of the first comprehensive Kfar Silver pamphlet "Young Plants in the Negev" which I published last week.

I will greatly appreciate your comments so that we may guide ourselves accordingly in the future.

Looking forward to the pleasure of seeing you at the convention in Washington, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Leon Blumovitch
Assistant Executive Director
Zionist Organization of America

LI:g

Z. O. A. Program — Aid to Israel and Service to Our Community

TELEPHONE
MU 3-9201

CABLE ADDRESS
ZIONISTS, N. Y.

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32nd STREET
NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

ERNEST E. BARBARASH, Director
PRESS AND PUBLICITY DEPT.

September 25, 1956

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

Dear Dr. Silver:


I sincerely hope that I will have better luck with you this time than in previous years.

In order that your keynote address at the opening session of the ZOA convention receive the nationwide press coverage it merits, it is vitally important that I have the salient excerpts thereof at this office by Monday morning, October 1.

This would give me an opportunity to process the release for wide-spread distribution.

With kindest personal regards and best wishes.

Sincerely yours,


Ernest E. Barbarash

EEB:es

October 2, 1956

Mr. Ernest E. Barbarash, Director
Press & Publicity Dept.
Zionist Organization of America
Mayflower Hotel
Washington, D. C.

My dear Barbarash:

I am enclosing herewith the gist of the address which I am to deliver on Thursday evening.

With warmest regards I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl
encl.

P.S. I understand that the book department of the Z.O.A. is to have my book WHERE JUDAISM DIFFERED for sale at the Convention. Would you please check on that.



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

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

October 12, 1956

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
E. 105th St. & Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

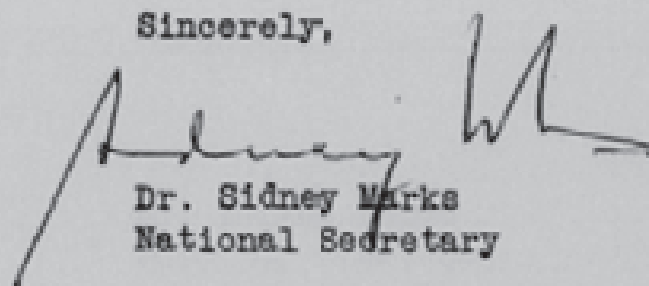
I want to express to you the profound thanks of the Zionist Organization of America for your magnificent contribution to the Convention.

Your participation elicited splendid comment and the incisiveness of your remarks made a deep impression on the delegates. I can assure you that our Z.O.A. Districts will be hearing of your contribution in the many Report meetings which are being held all over the country.

It was a real pleasure to greet you at the Convention, and I look forward to the privilege of meeting with you and working with you in our mutual endeavors on behalf of America, of Israel and Jewry.

My kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,



Dr. Sidney Marks
National Secretary

SM:br

Memorandum

To: ZOA DISTRICT AND REGIONAL LEADERS

Date: October 31, 1956

From: Harold P. Manson
Executive Vice-Chairman, Department of Public InformationSubject: COMMENT ON THE MIDDLE EAST CRISIS -- STATEMENT BY DR. EMANUEL NEUMANN

Events in the Middle East are moving so swiftly that last-minute developments push the reports of only a few hours ago into the background. Nevertheless, the basic elements in the situation remain constant. These were called to your attention in our communique of yesterday. They were more fully analyzed last night by Dr. Emanuel Neumann, President of the ZOA, at an emergency meeting of Zionist leaders held at the Jewish Agency for Palestine. In sending you the following excerpts of Dr. Neumann's remarks, we urge you to make full use of them in your local efforts to inform public opinion on the fundamental issues of the conflict, and to be guided by them in whatever comments are made on behalf of your Districts.

The excerpts of Dr. Neumann's statement follow:

Israel's thrust into Egypt must be viewed against two related sets of circumstances. The first is the relentless pressure of the Arab states surrounding Israel, their massive military build-up with unlimited quantities of Soviet arms, their stepped-up warlike preparations and murderous attacks, and the constantly repeated declarations of their fixed purpose to annihilate Israel.

On the other hand, there is the swift decline of Western prestige and the crumbling of the Western position in the Middle East as the result of the anti-Western drive spearheaded by Nasser with the help of the Kremlin. Nasser's spectacular success in getting away with his seizure of the Suez Canal may sound the deathknell of Western influence in that vast and strategic area.

With the single exception of France, the West failed to grasp betimes the one encouraging fact in that bleak picture -- the complete identity of interest between Israel and the Western democracies. Our own Government failed to draw obvious conclusions from the fact that not one of the Middle East nations supported the United States, Britain and France in condemning Nasser's act of brigandage; but on the contrary, they lined up against us. The sole exception is, of course, Israel.

Our own country has lead the inglorious parade of retreat before Nasserism. If neither we nor the United Nations have the will and capacity to check this anti-Western drive and the threatened destruction of our one ally, the least we can do is to keep hands off Israel in her gallant and desperate struggle for self-preservation. If we shrank from applying sanctions against Nasser, it would be suicidal to our national interest to apply pressures against Israel; for Israel may yet retrieve a tragic failure of the West. Israel is the only remaining bulwark against Nasserism. Her bold if desperate step may give us our last chance to reverse the disastrous trends before the whole Middle East is lost to us completely and delivered, lock, stock and barrel, to the Cairo-Moscow axis. It is Israel's heroic action which has offered the Western Powers an opportunity to regain the initiative, correct the military imbalance and save the Middle East from the murky tide of Nasserism and Communism which threatens to engulf it.

Memorandum

To: ZOA DISTRICT AND REGIONAL LEADERS

Date: November 2, 1956

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

Subject: WHO IS THE REAL AGGRESSOR?
STATEMENT BY DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver issued the following statement on the Middle East crisis in Cleveland, Ohio on October 30, 1956:

I hope that what appears to be a large scale action on the part of Israeli forces in retaliation for the nigh endless series of murderous Egyptian commando raids, the mining of Israeli roads, the killing and wounding of many Israeli citizens and the continuing illegal blockade of Israeli shipping through the Suez Canal will not develop into an all-out war. War can be of use to no one.

The Israeli government has asked for peace with Egypt and with its Arab neighbors repeatedly in the last eight years, but has been contemptuously brushed aside.

Instead, the Arab governments, under the leadership of Egypt, have proceeded to build a ring of steel to encircle Israel. The dictator Nasser of Egypt has been particularly active in this direction. Just a few days ago a military alliance was concluded between Egypt, Jordan and Syria, and their military forces were placed under a single command with the avowed purpose of "leaping" upon Israel when the proper moment arrives.

Life in Israel has been made dangerous and intolerable by the constant shooting and killing on its frontiers. To brand Israel the aggressor in the face of the persistent violations of the armistice agreement on the part of the Arab states is quite pointless and somewhat cynical. Israel wants peace. The Arab governments have proclaimed time and again that their major objective is to destroy Israel. Who is the real aggressor?

When the Suez Canal was seized by Nasser nothing concrete was done about it, and Mr. Dulles made sure that nothing would be done about it. President Eisenhower warned the State of Israel against mobilization, but said nothing about the military alignments and preparations which the Arabs were making against Israel. The British were quick to suggest or to approve the movement of Iraqi troops to the frontiers of Jordan, and Iraq has indicated its readiness to join with Jordan against Israel.

Our government, which helped to establish the State of Israel and was the first to recognize it, has given it neither the security of a mutual pact which it has granted to some forty other count-

ries. nor - when communist Russia poured hundreds of millions of dollars of arms into Egypt - did it grant to the imperiled young State of Israel the right to acquire arms in this country, to defend itself.

The situation has now reached such a dangerous and critical point where only a new approach, a new order of courageous and forthright statesmanship can meet the situation. The status quo in the Near East cannot be indefinitely maintained on an armistice basis. The free world must bring its united diplomatic authority to bear upon the reluctant Arab states to sit down with the willing representatives of Israel to work out a just and permanent peace for that part of the world.

Please see to it that the above statement is given the widest publicity - - in your local press, by your local radio and television commentators, in your contacts with opinion-makers in your community -- and, of course, utilize it for the guidance of your own membership.

Regards.

HPM:ha



Rabbi Silver,

Please make this urgent announcement:

TONIGHT, AT 11:00 P.M. over RADIO STATION WDOK, THERE
WILL BE A RADIO BROADCAST BY DR. EMANUEL NEUMAN,
PRESIDENT OF THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
CONCERNING THE PRESENT ISRAEL-EGYPT CONFLICT.
ALL JEWS IN AMERICA ARE URGED TO TUNE IN AND LISTEN
TO DR. NEWMAN'S MESSAGE.

(Phone call from ZOA, New York to M. Azoff,
Pres. Hts. Temple Zionist)

Thanks,

M. Azoff
M. Azoff

Memorandum

To: ZOA DISTRICT AND REGIONAL LEADERS

Date: November 2, 1956

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Executive Vice-Chairman, Department of Public Information

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When the Suez Canal was seized by Nasser nothing concrete was done about it, and Mr. Dulles made sure that nothing would be done about it. President Eisenhower warned the State of Israel against mobilization, but said nothing about the military alignments and preparations which the Arabs were making against Israel. The British were quick to suggest or to approve the movement of Iraqi troops to the frontiers of Jordan, and Iraq has indicated its readiness to join with Jordan against Israel.

Our government, which helped to establish the State of Israel and was the first to recognize it, has given it neither the security of a mutual pact which it has granted to some forty other count-

ries, nor - when communist Russia poured hundreds of millions of dollars of arms into Egypt - did it grant to the imperiled young State of Israel the right to acquire arms in this country, to defend itself.

The situation has now reached such a dangerous and critical point where only a new approach, a new order of courageous and forthright statesmanship can meet the situation. The status quo in the Near East cannot be indefinitely maintained on an armistice basis. The free world must bring its united diplomatic authority to bear upon the reluctant Arab states to sit down with the willing representatives of Israel to work out a just and permanent peace for that part of the world.

Please see to it that the above statement is given the widest publicity - - in your local press, by your local radio and television commentators, in your contacts with opinion-makers in your community -- and, of course, utilize it for the guidance of your own membership.

Regards.

HPM:ha



CLASS OF SERVICE

*This is ~~an~~ 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.

ORGANIZATIONAL BUDGET AND I URGE YOU MAKE STRONG EFFORT
TOWARDS SPECIAL FUND ENABLE US CARRY OUR EMERGENCY ACTIONS
WITHOUT CURTAILING REGULAR ACTIVITIES ORGANIZATION.
THIS SPECIAL FUND DISTINCT FROM NORMAL AZF ALLOCATIONS.
ALSO CALL YOUR ATTENTION STATEMENT NATIONAL JEWISH
ORGANIZATIONS SENT LOCAL ZIONIST COUNCILS WITH REQUEST
FOR COMMUNITY WIDE PARTICIPATION ITS DISSEMINATION.
IN COOPERATING ON COMMUNITY BASIS PLEASE INSIST THAT
EXPENSES, INCLUDING ADVERTISEMENT COSTS, SHOULD BE BORNE
BY ALL GROUPS ON FAIR AND PROPORTIONATE BASIS AND NOT
BY ONE OR TWO ZIONIST ORGANIZATIONS. PLEASE LET ME KNOW
IMMEDIATELY WHAT WE MAY EXPECT FROM YOUR DISTRICT FOR

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

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. (58).

1201

STANDARD TIME at point of destination

SYMBOLS

Day Letter
Night Letter
International Letter Telegram

GQ CLA153 PD=FAX NEW YORK NY 2 NTF=

=DR A H SILVER=

=DLR THE TEMPLE CLEVELAND OHIO

1956 NOV 5 PM 5 00

ZOA HAS LAUNCHED NATIONWIDE PUBLIC INFORMATION CAMPAIGN ON MIDDLE EAST CRISIS BEGINNING WITH COAST TO COAST RADIO BROADCAST BY MYSELF AS PRESIDENT ORGANIZATION OVER NBC NETWORK SUNDAY NOVEMBER FOURTH 11:15 A.M. E.S.T. TO BE REBROADCAST AT LATER HOUR SOME STATIONS. PLEASE CONSULT LOCAL NBC STATION AND ALERT COMMUNITY THIS BROADCAST WHICH WILL BE OPENING GUN EMERGENCY PROGRAM IT IS OUR SOLEMN DUTY CARRY OUT WITH GATHERING MOMENTUM FOR DURATION CRISIS. SUCH A PROGRAM CANNOT BE IMPLEMENTED UNDER PRESENT

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.

SPECIAL FUND AND FORWARD AMOUNTS AS SPEEDILY AS POSSIBLE.

REGARDS=

EMANUEL NEUMANN=



File 12

12-1-40

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32nd STREET

NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

Memorandum

To: ZOA DISTRICT AND REGIONAL LEADERS

Date: November 5, 1956

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

Subject: RADIO ADDRESS BY DR. EMANUEL NEUMANN

We are sending you the full text of the important address delivered yesterday, Sunday, November 4, over the National Broadcasting Company by Dr. Emanuel Neumann, President of the Zionist Organization of America.

Please give this very significant address the widest publicity throughout your community.

Try to bring about its publication in your local newspapers.

Call it to the attention of editors, columnists, your radio and television commentators.

Use it as background material for other opinion-makers in your community and as guidance for your membership.

Regards.

HPM:ha
Encl.

RADIO ADDRESS

BY

DR. EMANUEL NEUMANN

PRESIDENT, ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

ON THE MIDDLE EAST CRISIS

OVER THE NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY

Sunday, November 4, 1956

It is we, the people of the United States, who must ultimately determine the American reaction to the events in the Middle East. We must all try to understand the basic issues of a struggle whose outcome is of vital consequence not only to the nations immediately involved, but to the world community and to our own country. In the minutes at my disposal I will deal with one aspect of that struggle: the Arab-Israel conflict.

Many of you have been asking yourselves some pertinent questions: Is this a new war that is in the making? Is it aggression - and who is the aggressor? What are the equities? Where does our national interest lie; and who merits our sympathy? Let us consider the salient facts and circumstances.

First, is this a new war of unknown dimensions, wilfully precipitated? The answer is no! It is an old war, launched more than eight years ago by the Arab states, when they invaded the newborn Republic of Israel to crush it in its infancy. It was deliberate and concerted aggression in defiance of the United Nations. The Arab armies were repulsed and driven back by Israel, fighting its battle for survival alone. Neither the United Nations nor any single nation came to its aid.

The armistice agreements of 1948 did not end the war. On the contrary, the aggressors were determined to persevere and wipe Israel off the map at the first opportunity. They said so and acted accordingly from that day to this. Unable or unwilling to risk again full-scale war prematurely, they employed every other available means. Throughout these troubled years Israel sought and offered peace, freely arrived at by direct negotiation at a conference table. All these offers and overtures, repeatedly made, were as consistently rejected by the Arab states. They insisted down to the present moment, that they were belligerents, at war with Israel, loudly proclaiming their resolve to pursue their purpose relentlessly until Israel was brought to her knees.

Self-preservation is the first law of life. Israel had no choice but to look sharply to its own defense. Its position was tragically unique. Surrounded on all sides by implacable neighbors, it had no one else to rely upon. It was part of no combination of nations; it belonged to no power bloc; it had no military alliance and no security pact of any kind to fall back on. It was a case of "sink or swim, survive or perish."

Viewed in perspective, the present hostilities will therefore be seen, not as a new war, but as the climax and culmination of a war which has been smoldering and simmering and erupting from time to time, which the Arab leaders have kept alive and going; a war they have refused to liquidate. Today I believe we are witnessing its decisive and perhaps concluding stages.

The continuing tensions to which I have referred, the guerrilla warfare, the border incidents and incursions, economic warfare and strangulation, the propaganda

- more -

war, the war of nerves, all of these and other measures directed at Israel's security, entered a new phase with the advent of Colonel Nasser as the dictator of Egypt. Here was a new element, a new leader, who quite evidently was taking a leaf out of the book of Hitler and Mussolini - a man of insatiable ambition, intoxicated with dreams of Empire. Not content with the limited objective of destroying Israel, he aimed to bring under his dominion the whole Middle East, the whole Arab world and, if possible, the entire Moslem world. He has spearheaded a great anti-Western drive, broadcasting incendiary propaganda from his Cairo radio in twenty languages, sending his agents and shipping arms to every part of Asia and Africa that he could reach, striking at every position of the Western democracies, engineering intrigues and insurrections, upheavals, civil strife and revolution, until Nasserism came to be recognized by Western statesmen as a grave menace to the peace of the world. In reckless pursuit of his designs, Nasser went further. He entered into intimate relations with the Soviet Bloc. He negotiated the now famous "arms deal" with Czechoslovakia, accepted Communist aid and guidance and threw the gates of the Middle East and Africa wide open to Soviet penetration.

In the light of his record, Nasser's seizure of the Suez Canal could only be interpreted as the prelude to more far-reaching and more audacious steps still to come. Our principal allies, Britain and France, have thus far taken the brunt of Nasser's assault. But it would be a dangerous illusion to imagine that he harbors kindlier feelings toward us. Nasser's deep hate of our country was revealed in a flash when, last summer, he flung at us that vile curse which still rings in our ears: "To the Americans I say: 'May you choke to death on your fury.'" We may choose to ignore this imprecation, the like of which has not been heard since the row-forgotten obscenities of Adolf Hitler. We may ignore it, but should not forget it.

So far as the program of aggression against Israel is concerned, Nasser contrived some new methods and techniques of his own. He intensified the blockade of Israeli shipping and extended his boycott to ships under any flag engaged in peaceful commerce with Israel. He mounted guns on the islands commanding the approach to the Port of Elath, cutting off Israel's access to the Gulf of Aqaba and the Red Sea. But his bloodiest and most effective weapon was the "fedayeen", an Arab name applied to murder-squads and saboteurs. These "fedayeen", trained by Egyptian army officers and acting under military orders, were sent into Israel territory in groups, to spread death, havoc and destruction. The weapon was cunningly devised to undermine the sense of security among Israelis, to demoralize the population, so that none might feel safe. In fact, no one who came within the range of their activities was spared: the farmer in the field, the child in his nursery, men and women at prayer, the innocent tourist - all were fair game. Life in Israel was becoming not only unsafe but almost intolerable. As the list of victims mounted, it became evident that radical measures were required to destroy the Egyptian bases of operations of these murder squads. At long last, an expeditionary force was dispatched by Israel to do the job. Is it aggression to knock the gun out of the hand of your assailant? Or is it legitimate self-defense?

In an eloquent plea before the United Nations, Ambassador Eban, speaking for Israel, posed a simple question: What other nation, he asked, in similar circumstances, exposed to such constant provocation and attack, would act differently? To ask the question is to answer it. What would we, Americans, do if a neighboring country habitually sent its marauders into our territory to pillage and to murder? Actually our history provides an explicit answer. Back in 1916, when the notorious Villa seized power in Mexico and sent marauders across the border, killing seventeen Americans, we sent an expeditionary force of 12,000 men into Mexico, under General Pershing, to pursue the enemy and destroy him. This was done under orders of President Woodrow Wilson and his Secretary of State, William Jennings Bryan, both

noted for their liberal humanitarianism and abhorrence of war. Where the security of our frontiers was involved, and the protection of American lives, we struck back. Today to be sure, there is the United Nations to appeal to. But the United Nations has proved powerless to prevent Egyptian aggression. Its authority is flouted, its orders defied. Israel had no other recourse but to act in self-defense.

Dictators are driven by inner compulsions. They must win ever new triumphs to maintain their tyrannical power over their own peoples. Sooner or later they over-reach themselves and run into disaster. This has now happened to Nasser. One other positive result has emerged from his drive against the Western democracies, his alignment with the Kremlin and his guerrilla war on Israel. All this has revealed and pointed up the profound and basic identity of interest between Israel and the free world. If we have hitherto failed to note that Israel is the one reliable ally of the Western democracies in the Middle East, the one strong bastion of the free world in that strategic area, the fact has now been brought home to us with full force. Now at last it is clear that the issue is not simply between Egypt and Israel, but between an expansionist dictatorship running amuck, and responsible democracy standing up to that dictatorship. The lines are sharply drawn between Nasserism and the Kremlin on the one side - and the free world on the other. This should also answer the question: Where does the American interest lie? To what side do our sympathies naturally flow?

If the whole truth be told, the free world has been in steady retreat before the blustering "Hitler of the Nile." Position after position was yielded until it seemed that the whole Middle East and areas further afield would be engulfed and lost to the democratic world; and that meant the inevitable advent of Soviet power and domination in that crucial area. There was but one small nation - small but plucky - standing in the way - the last bulwark, which, if swept away, would leave the road clear for the march of the totalitarians. Fortunately this small country, our half-forgotten ally, has had the courage to offer heroic resistance to the Cairo-Moscow axis and to strike a blow for freedom, with all the strength born of desperation. Thanks to Israel, the murky tide of Nasserism and Communism has been stemmed and a large part of the vast store of arms poured so generously into the troubled region by the Soviets has been destroyed or taken.

Nearly two decades ago, the democratic Republic of Czechoslovakia found itself in a similarly precarious position. At that time, President Benes was advised by England and France to yield to Hitler - and he yielded. The fateful consequences we know. Historians are agreed that if Czechoslovakia, which was capable of stiff resistance, had in fact resisted Hitler - England and France, as well as Russia, would have honored their treaty obligations and come to her aid. The course of history might well have been different, and mankind spared the unparalleled horrors and slaughter of World War II. I believe that England and France have profited from that lesson and that our own country and the rest of the free world will do likewise.

Israel's battle may not be over. A few weeks ago, Nasser completed a military alliance with Syria and Jordan, which placed their armies under his control, drawing the ring of steel ever closer around Israel. But even if Israel is forced to fight on several fronts, I am confident of the outcome. Israel is sustained by moral strength, by a sense of destiny and the justice of her cause. Israel, I feel, is destined not only to live, but is destined - in Milton's immortal words - to "assert eternal Providence and justify the ways of God to Man."

Memorandum

To: ZOA DISTRICT AND REGIONAL LEADERS

Date: November 13, 1956

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

Subject: The New York Times on American Policy Towards Egypt

The New York Times continues its superb editorial comment on the Middle East crisis with an astute analysis of American policy towards Nasser, published today (November 13, 1956).

Please give this editorial the widest distribution throughout your community. It should prove especially useful to the editors of your own local newspapers, columnists, radio and TV commentators, etc.

Regards.

HPM:ba

Editorial in The New York Times
Tuesday, November 13, 1956

AMERICAN POLICY ON EGYPT

Presuming that the United Nations emergency international force will be allowed not only to enter Egypt but to operate there and that the precarious peace in the Middle East can be maintained what policy is the United States going to follow concerning President Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt? This may seem like a trivial question, but in some ways it is at the heart of the whole situation in the Middle East.

One might answer, as the British and French did with regard to Hitler and Mussolini in the Nineteen Thirties, that there is nothing which can safely be done. This was the policy of appeasement. It could also be argued that nothing was more important in this past week than to restore peace, whatever price had to be paid. Only future developments will tell us whether the price was too high.

The Russian threats on the one hand, and American pressure in the United Nations on the other, saved Nasser and defeated the British and French purposes. The Israelis, from their viewpoint, may emerge with some gains, for they defeated the Egyptians in humiliating fashion and captured something like \$50,000,000 worth of Soviet arms which had been sold or given to the Egyptians. They also may yet get a more satisfactory adjustment of their borders.

Meanwhile, the background to this whole business is being forgotten. It was Nasser's seizure of the Suez Canal on July 26, his avowed intention to destroy Israel, his open aid to the Algerian rebels, his clearly expressed intention of driving the Western powers out of the Middle East--these were the acts that led Israel and then Britain and France to strike. This newspaper, like Western opinion as a whole, condemned the attacks as wrong and as a terrible risk, but it should never be overlooked that the provocation was great and the goals of the British and French defensible.

The present situation in the Middle East is especially dangerous because the Russians are moving into the region with ever greater force and influence. The man who invited them in originally with his arms deal in September, 1955, was Gamal Abdel Nasser. The man who has now opened the door still wider to the Russians is Gamal Abdel Nasser. We may soon find the Russians so strongly entrenched in the Middle East that nothing will pry them loose. Fortunately, the other Arab leaders seem to be aware of the danger. They met in Beirut yesterday, and they show signs of being concerned at the progress that the Russian Communists are making.

President Nasser also appears to be developing second thoughts. He has at all times tried to play off the Russians against the Americans to get the most for himself. In this twist of the situation, the turn of the Americans seems to be coming. It used to be said in Latin America, when Washington was appeasing Juan Peron in Argentina, that the way to get advantages from the United States was to treat America badly. The Egyptian policy not only has an element of this psychology but adds the twist that the original aggressor and the present loser is the one who is trying to dictate the terms of settlement.

If the end of this whole incident were to leave Colonel Nasser stronger than ever, the Suez Canal in purely Egyptian hands, the campaigns against the French in North Africa and the attacks on Israel resumed, with, on top of it all, the Russians deeply entrenched in the Middle East as the great champions of the Egyptians and Arabs--if this is to be the result, will the United States policy have proved sound or wise? This is the question that Washington must ask itself today.

It could have been said at least three or four years ago (and this newspaper, for one, said it) that the collapse of British and French power in the Middle East was leaving a vacuum that was going to be filled either by the United States or by Russia. We have not filled it; the Russians are moving in, and time is not on our side.

Memorandum

To: ZOA DISTRICT AND REGIONAL LEADERS

Date: November 14, 1956

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

Subject: "The Kremlin's Shattering Triumph" -- Analysis by Joseph and Stewart Alsop

The analysis by the Alsop brothers in their syndicated column of today will undoubtedly be of great interest to you, although some of the information presented does not make for pleasant reading.

We are sending you the text of the column as it appeared in the New York Herald Tribune. Please utilize it in all of the ways indicated in my previous communications to you.

Regards.

HPM:ha



From The New York Herald Tribune
Wednesday, November 14, 1956

MATTER OF FACT
By Joseph and Stewart Alsop

The Kremlin's Shattering Triumph

The Soviet Union has now scored a gigantic victory in the Middle East, more than important enough to compensate for the Kremlin's severe setback in the satellite area of Eastern Europe.

So much is clear. Even among the Administration policy-makers, the almost hysterical emotions generated by pique against the British and French are now beginning to subside. In this calmer atmosphere, the magnitude of the Kremlin's triumph is beginning to be reluctantly and ruefully admitted. The admissions are all the more rueful because the Kremlin's triumph was altogether needless.

The Anglo-Franco-Israeli intervention in Egypt may have been mistaken. It may have been immoral. It may have been ill-planned. But in fact, the operation was succeeding rather brilliantly when everything that had been gained was lost again by a premature cease-fire.

The main success was owing to the Israelis, rather than to the British and French. The foundation stone of Egyptian prestige and influence throughout the Arab countries has always been the belief that Egypt's Col. Nasser possessed serious military power. The belief was vastly strengthened, and Nasser's influence rose proportionately, when Nasser made his arms deal with the Kremlin last summer. But in a few short days last week, a small, relatively poorly equipped Israeli expeditionary force showed that Nasser's vaunted military power was the most transparently phony sort of busted flush.

In the Sinai Peninsula and the Gaza Strip, 12,000 to 15,000 Israelis took on 25,000 to 30,000 Egyptians. The Egyptians enjoyed the double advantage of defending prepared positions and possessing rather better and more ample equipment. But in the outcome, the Israelis won a total victory. The whole Egyptian force was atomized, leaving all their artillery and tanks and some 4,000 prisoners in Israeli hands. Meanwhile, the Israelis suffered only a few score casualties.

* * * *

The object of the Israelis, and of course of the British and French, too, was to topple Col. Nasser from his throne as unofficial Emperor of Pan-Arabia. This object had in fact been attained by the Israeli victory in Sinai, which was immeasurably more important than the later British and French landings at Suez. Even today, after all the fruits of the victory have been so eagerly thrown away, the American government is receiving convincing reports from Cairo of serious opposition to Nasser in government and army circles. The source of this disaffection is the defeat of the Egyptian Army by the Israelis.

Unfortunately, American policy was never designed to make the best of the bad business of the Anglo-French-Israeli operation in Egypt. Instead, our policy seemed to be chiefly designed to punish the British, French and Israelis for their disobedience to big brother State Department. Hence we joined with the Soviets at the United Nations. We placed the utmost pressure on London, Paris and Jerusalem to accept an immediate cease-fire. And we paid very little attention to the possibility that we were thus making a bad business a lot worse.

This was precisely what happened when the Soviets decided to intervene in the Middle Eastern crisis more forcefully and on a larger scale. Even now, the circumstances of this Soviet action are not widely understood in this country. In brief, the big troop movements that had already been necessitated by the trouble in the European satellites were now used by the Kremlin to convey an impression of menace to Western Europe. There were even planted reports of the entry of Soviet divisions into Czechoslovakia and of threats of attacks on Austria and Yugoslavia.

* * *

Against this carefully arranged background of menace, Bulganin sent his so-called ultimatum to London and Paris demanding an immediate cease-fire. Both the British and French governments had already been thoroughly softened up by American pressure. In addition, the British government was afflicted by divided councils. At least one of the British Conservative big three, R. A. Butler, is now known to have been strongly opposed to Sir Anthony Eden's policy, and he had with him other members of the Cabinet besides the junior ministers who have now resigned.

Even so, the British and French might have rejected Bulganin's ultimatum if they could have hoped for American support. But President Eisenhower, while opposing Soviet intervention in the Middle East, was also saying the same things to London and Paris that Moscow was saying. The only difference was in the tone of voice. Hence the British and French caved in, and agreed to an immediate and unconditioned cease-fire in Egypt.

The State Department then turned on Israel, angrily threatening to expel the Israelis from the United Nations if Prime Minister Ben-Gurion refused to withdraw his troops from Egypt. So the Israelis caved in, too; and Humpty-Dumpty Nasser was triumphantly put back on the wall again. The reasons why this must prove to be a specifically Soviet triumph on the greatest scale are inherent in the foregoing history, but they deserve further analysis.

are known and understood by public opinion. Dr. Neumann stressed in his telegram that ZOA leadership "must not permit today's headlines obscure the real causes of the conflict."

State Department Policy Brought on Israel-Arab Conflict, Declares Dr. Silver

CLEVELAND (ZINS) - Dr. Abba Hillel Silver charged Secretary of State Dulles here with a do-nothing policy in the Middle East even though it was clear from the very outset that the Arabs have been tightening a ring of steel and fire around Israel, and yet our government did not supply Israel with defensive arms. Dr. Silver pointed out that President Eisenhower warned Israel after it proclaimed mobilization, but didn't issue such a warning to the Arab states after they signed aggressive pacts aimed against Israel. The U.S. government didn't take any practical steps when the Egyptian dictator Nasser seized the Suez Canal, Dr. Silver added, and flatly charged the Administration with responsibility for the present Arab-Israel conflict.

Life in Israel Normal; Population Quiet

TEL AVIV (ZINS) - In spite of the dramatic developments on the Egyptian front, life in Israel is as normal as ever. The population displays exemplary quiet and discipline. The fact that England and France vetoed the anti-Israel resolutions in the UN Security Council and decided to intervene in Egypt, has greatly encouraged Israel's people. The man in the street feels that Israel has not been abandoned and isolated in its fight against Arab aggression.

Israel Territorial Waters Fixed

JERUSALEM (ZINS) - Israel's territorial waters will extend from three to six miles according to a new law on territorial waters passed by the Knesset.

Israel Will Not Remain Idle in the Face of Arab Menace, Declares Argov

HEDERA (ZINS) - Israel cannot idly watch the military and political changes taking place on her borders, declared J. Argov, chairman of the Foreign and Defense Committee of the Knesset, here at a public meeting.

Analyzing the recently signed military pact between Syria, Egypt and Jordan, Argov warned against the united command of the three countries established in the course of Arab preparations for a war of annihilation against Israel and the Jewish people. He called for the strengthening of Israel's armed forces, as the only guarantee for establishing peace once and for all in the Middle East.

The Jerusalem Post, which usually expresses the government's point of view, pointed out in an editorial that the western world owes a debt of gratitude to Israel for its bold steps on the Egyptian front. This may give the western powers a last chance to reestablish freedom of navigation in the Suez Canal. Israel displayed, says the newspaper, unusual courage which the western powers themselves were lacking after Nasser nationalized the Canal.

Israel Declared War Risk Zone by Insurance Underwriters

NEW YORK (ZINS) - Johnson and Higgins, international insurance brokers, reported here yesterday that British underwriters of war risk insurance on ships had announced that Israel had been added to excluded areas on all new insurance contracts made on and after yesterday, according to the New York Times.

304
Phil

December 11, 196

Mr. Arnold R. Ginsburg
1529 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Mr. Ginsburg:

I regret very much that the meeting in the auditorium lasted so long that we were unable to meet as we had planned.

I hope that we shall have the opportunity during my next visit to Philadelphia. I plan to be in your city again on January 27th.

With all good wishes I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

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

December 11, 1956

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

"Hahoker" in Tel Aviv published excerpts from your letter to Mr. Ariele Kotzer, headmaster of Kfar Silver.

We would like to publish similar excerpts of the letter in the ZINS bulletin and I will greatly appreciate it, if you would send me a copy.

With warmest regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Leon Ilutovich
Assistant Executive Director

LI/mf

December 13, 1956

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

My dear Leon:

A copy of the letter which I sent to Mr. Kotzer, Headmaster of Kfar Silver, is herewith enclosed.

Warm regards.

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl
encl.

C O P Y

C O P Y

November 21, 1956

A. Kotzer, Director
Kfar Silver
Doar Na
Hof Ashdad, Israel

My dear Friend:

I deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness in writing to me. I enjoyed reading your letter of November 2nd very much.

I am delighted with the progress of Kfar Silver and to read of the fine work which the students and faculty of the school are doing. I too have been thinking much of Kfar Silver in recent, tense days. Knowing the exposed position of Kfar Silver, its safety and security have been of deep concern to me.

I am not at all surprised to read of the additional care which the faculty and students have taken to stand on guard against marauders and infiltrators. The heroic achievements of the Israeli forces in the Sinai Peninsula have brought not only glory upon the State of Israel, but have filled the hearts of our people everywhere with a glow of pride. The Maccabees have returned to defend their land and the sacred heritage of their people.

Please assure all the students of Kfar Silver and their teachers that the Jews of America are doing their utmost to see that no harm shall come to Israel. On the political scene we are working very hard to urge our government to press hard for a permanent peace settlement in the Near East so that Israel may be enabled to proceed with its work of building and construction, of growth and development which is close to the hearts of all of us.

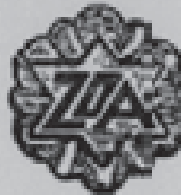
I send you all my best and dearest wishes. I shall think of you next week when I kindle my Chanukah lights. Please think of me.

With warmest regards, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILIEL SILVER

AHS:sl



PHILADELPHIA ZIONIST ORGANIZATION

1022 BANKERS SECURITIES BUILDING

PHILADELPHIA 7, PENNSYLVANIA

KINGSLEY 6-1410

Office of the President, 1529 Walnut Street, Philadelphia 2, Pa.

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Financial Secretary

MRS. ALFRED BALTZ
Recording Secretary

MRS. EDWIN NUSSBAUM
Corresponding Secretary

SAUL GREEN
Executive Director

December 13, 1956

AIR MAIL

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Thank you very much for your thoughtful note. I regret that our ZOA people were unable to meet with you as we had planned.

I am pleased to hear from you that you plan to be in Philadelphia again on January 27 and I certainly join with you in hoping that we shall have the opportunity to meet at that time. In trying to make arrangements toward that end, it would be helpful if you could tell me the occasion of your visit on the 27th and what your plans are for that day.

Although we had only a brief meeting at the airport last week, my wife and I certainly welcomed the opportunity to greet you and to extend a welcome on behalf of the Philadelphia Zionist Organization.

With warmest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,


Arnold R. Ginsburg

ARG:jrw

ש"ס ארצות הברית

ההסתדרות הציונית



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

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

December 19, 1956

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Doctor Silver:

I hope that you got home safely and that you had a chance to rest up a bit from the trying evening in New York.

Only now I learned that your family, for whom I had reserved the best table in the hall, found that table occupied and had to sit in the back. I cannot tell you how distressed I am over this. The technical arrangements for the dinner were entirely in the hands of the Bond Organization. In fact, Mr. Chasin called me a few days before the dinner and told me that they would man the registration tables and it was agreed that we would send down two people for the sale of the books only.

I had drawn up the names of the people who wanted to sit together according to districts or individual hosts. On Monday morning Dr. Marks and I together with Mr. Tannenbaum of the Bond Office, who had the plan of the hall, designated the tables for each group, and we in the ZOA were sure, of course, that the people would be seated at their tables. I assume that the confusion was caused by a last minute overflow of guests.

Because of the instructions I had received from Mr. Chasin, and in order to avoid differences on the spot, I kept completely out of the arrangements on the evening of the dinner.

I had been in touch with Mrs. Matlaw several times on the telephone before the dinner and was subsequently shocked to learn how things turned out. I called her this morning and apologized, and naturally I wish to apologize to you also. I trust that you will understand that I had no control over the matter personally and that I would have done the impossible if I had known about the situation in time.

May I take this opportunity to thank you ever so much for the kind inscription in your book. I will read every word of it.

With my warmest wishes for an enjoyable and restful holiday season, and best regards to you and Mrs. Silver, I am

Sincerely yours,

Nettie Eisner
Nettie Eisner

NE/fs

Z.O.A. - Building Israel and Jewry Today for Better Living Tomorrow - Through Zionism

File 12 12-1-40

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32nd STREET

NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

Memorandum

To: ZOA DISTRICT AND REGIONAL LEADERS

Date: December 19, 1956

From: Harold P. Manson

Subject: ADDRESS BY DR. ABBA HYLLEL SILVER

We are sending you the full text of the important address delivered by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver at the ZOA's Israel Bond Dinner in New York on Monday evening, December 17, and broadcast over the ABC Network.

Please give it the widest publicity throughout your community.

Try to bring about its publication in your local newspapers.

Call it to the attention of editors, columnists, your radio and TV commentators.

Use it as background material for other moulders of opinion in your community, and as guidance for your membership.

Regards,

HPM:ha



ADDRESS BY DR. ABRA HILLEL SILVER

Delivered at the Israel Bond Dinner of the Zionist Organization of America
Waldorf-Astoria Hotel New York City

Broadcast over the ABC Network

Monday evening, December 17, 10:05-10:35 P.M. (E.S.T.)

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My dear Friends:

I am happy to be here tonight and grateful for the many lovely things which you have said about me. I shall cherish them. I am proud to have been associated with the Zionist Organization of America for more than half a century. I recall that I attended my first Zionist Convention as a lad of eleven, an accredited delegate from the first Junior Society in the United States -- the Dr. Herzl Zion Club.

Through these many years, which witnessed such revolutionary upheavals in Jewish life, so much tragic destruction and desolation in two World Wars, and so much of heroic and rewarding struggle for the establishment, recognition, upbuilding and defense of the State of Israel, the Zionist Organization of America has stood always in the vanguard of leadership and service. It pioneered in political action; it mobilized world opinion; it took on the brunt of every attack. Tonight I am heartened by the thought that in the uncertain years which lie ahead, when so much work will yet have to be done to make the State of Israel strong and secure, the Zionist Organization of America will still stand in the forefront, alerted, devoted and unswerving as ever. Your present distinguished leadership under my dear friend, Dr. Emanuel Neumann, who has given a lifetime of outstanding service to our Movement, and his associates, is a welcome assurance, both of competence and courage.

I referred a moment ago to the Junior Zionist Club which I joined more than fifty years ago, and which was named after the immortal leader of our Movement, Dr. Theodor Herzl. Dr. Herzl grew old and tired and died spent and exhausted at the age of 44 in the service of his people. He was fond of quoting to his friends a remark which he heard from an old fisherman: "The most remarkable of all things is when a man never gives up."

To you and to our fellow Jews all over the world, and to our brave brothers in Israel, I could at this time give no more appropriate and profound slogan and rallying word.

The State of Israel was not founded by men who easily gave up. This requires no elaboration before an audience such as this, which knows the history of the tense battle-days of our Movement. The State of Israel was not defended in the war of liberation eight years ago, and again in the war for survival a short time ago, by men who easily gave up. And you will agree with me that the State of Israel, which is so gravely beset today, will not be firmly established upon its foundations by faint-hearted men, but by those whose courage exceeds their fears, who know how to underwrite strong convictions by life-long sacrificial loyalties.

I am proud of the way our people everywhere reacted to the ominous events of the past few months. As always, their resistance grew, like a coiled spring, in proportion to the pressure which was put upon it. Our people closed ranks and demonstrated even greater resolution, solidarity and generosity. I was especially gratified by the political maturity which our people displayed, in that they refused to be taken in by all the synthetic international cant, by Sir Galahad riding the Arab Steed in quest of the Holy Grail of oil, and by Ivan the Red, hot from the shambles of Hungary, shedding crocodile tears over aggression and colonialism.

For the time being at least, the State of Israel has passed from the zone of military danger to the zone of diplomatic danger. A small nation can lose more on the diplomatic checker-board than it can win on the battlefield. It behooves us, therefore, to watch closely the maneuvers which are currently going on at home and abroad. We should turn again to our friends as we did in the past -- and we have many of them in all parts of the world, in many of the delegations to the United Nations and among free people everywhere -- and keep them fully informed, and solicit their continued help in safeguarding the life and independence of that valorous little Republic of Israel, which they helped to establish and which, we believe, has faithfully justified their early hopes.

Above all, we must keep Israel economically strong. Its enemies, unable to destroy it militarily, hope to undermine it economically by means of blockades and boycotts and by forcing it to support costly military budgets. Every new industry established in Israel, every new mine, or mill or factory, every new ship

or harbor, or road or railway track, every new settlement or irrigation project, is so much red blood poured into the life stream of the nation.

I am thinking this evening of the United Nations. There are those who believe that this world organization has come out stronger as a result of the role which it played in the recent Egyptian affair. Everyone wishes the United Nations to be strong and effective; but I am of the opinion that the real testing of the United Nations is yet to come. It will soon come in the Near East, and on its outcome will depend the very survival of that international organization which was called into being to preserve the peace of the world.

The cease-fire which was achieved is an occasion -- not necessarily, the prelude to permanent peace. The United Nations force, now gathering in the Middle East, if intelligently employed, may prove to be an important step towards a final solution of those issues which have kept that part of the world in needless tension and turmoil for years, or it may lead only to a restoration of the status quo ante from which all the evils flowed, and for a carte blanche to the dictator Nasser to resume all his former dangerous plottings and adventures.

Nothing has so far happened to discourage Nasser from believing that the United Nations force will restore him to his former position and prestige; his commandos free to range again across the borders of Israel; his blockade against Israeli shipping in the Suez Canal and in the Gulf of Aqaba to remain in force; and he himself free to acquire again vast stores of weapons and munitions for an attack upon Israel, now that the Israeli forces forestalled his contemplated attack so calamitously a few weeks ago.

Our government has evidently concluded that the best hope for peace in the Middle East lies in the United Nations, and has resolved to channel through it all future consideration of its problems. This is a procedure which it did not follow heretofore, choosing rather to find solutions outside the framework of the United Nations. It therefore becomes increasingly urgent that our government, whose authority and prestige in that area have been augmented by recent events, should proceed to exercise forthright leadership in the United Nations in order to achieve the desired solutions. Without such leadership nothing constructive will come to pass, and the situation will rapidly deteriorate. Unless the United States and the other free nations of the world take strong initiative in the United Nations for a just settlement, it is quite possible that the Asian-African bloc which has been uniformly hostile to Israel, coupled with the support of the Soviet bloc, which as part of its strategy to penetrate the Middle East can be counted upon to vote consistently against Israel, will succeed in imposing the kind of a settlement which Israel as a matter of survival would be forced to reject.

It is to the best interests of the free world to make secure and viable the one dependable free democratic state in the Near East. The traditional position of our country on Israel has been expressed time and again by the leaders of our government, and by both major political parties. It was recently restated in the platform of the Republican Party at its National Convention: "We regard the preservation of Israel as an important tenet of American foreign policy. We are determined that the integrity of an independent Jewish State shall be maintained. We shall support the independence of Israel against armed aggression."

Our government should not wait until there is armed aggression, or until that "innocent" victim of aggression, the little Hitler of the Nile, has had time to rebuild his badly shattered military establishment, or until Syria, bent upon Israeli "disintegration" - to use the recent phrase of the Syrian Ambassador to the United States - has had time to accumulate a vast arsenal of tanks, planes, and guns which will be eagerly supplied to it by the Soviet Union. Playing for time in this area of the globe is playing with disaster. A new excuse for procrastination and a new formula for inaction are beginning to emerge. The Arab states want time to grow stronger militarily, to regroup and to reorganize, so that at the proper time they will be able to confront Israel with ultimatums and dictate a peace settlement on their own terms. This is the meaning of the inspired talk one hears today that this is not the time for direct negotiations between Israel and its Arab neighbors. Tempers are too hot. Perhaps in two years such a step might be undertaken. Dr. Fawzi, Egyptian Foreign Minister, speaking last Thursday before the National Press Club in Washington, was asked to answer the statement which was made to the Press Club by Israel's Foreign Minister two days before -- "that Israel was willing to negotiate peace with Egypt directly, immediately and without any preconditions." He replied, "These things have their time in history." Dr. Fawzi further said that Egypt was not willing to discuss the passage of Israel's ships as part of a Suez Canal settlement. "This is part and parcel of the Israeli question which we are willing to discuss at the proper time. It is not a proper part of the Suez question."

But why not? To most right-thinking people the blockade of the Suez Canal against Israeli shipping is the very proof and evidence of Egypt's illegal usurpation and of the insincerity of its pledge to keep the Canal open to the shipping of the whole world. It glaringly reveals Egypt's intentions not to insulate the operation of the Canal from national politics, but to close it whenever this serves its own political ends, regardless of international treaties and commitments.

May one ask when will be the proper time when Egypt will be pleased to discuss the passage of Israel's ships through the Canal, and when will be the proper time for peace negotiations? The eight years which have elapsed since the armistice was fixed have not been sufficient to cool off the hot tempers in the Near East. On the contrary, the passage of time has served only to acerbate the situation to a point of explosion. Will another two years, or five, under identical armistice conditions help to cool them off? How plausible, but how specious is this formula which is now being peddled about, a formula patently designed to cover up a maneuver for a complete return to the pre-invasion status, in order to satisfy Nasser and his allies.

The Foreign Minister of another Arab state, Iraq, is not satisfied even with a return to this status. Nothing will satisfy him and his government but the complete obliteration of the State of Israel. "Israel," he declared last week, "should no longer be a State." It is as simple as all that! Since Iraq is unable to accomplish this feat single-handed or in collaboration with its Arab neighbors, where collaboration appears to be so singularly difficult to attain -- quite recently Iraq was loudly calling for help, not against Israel, but against Syria, her Arab neighbor, which with the aid of Russian arms and "volunteers" was threatening to attack her -- Iraq now hopes that the United Nations will perform this little service of political assassination to please it and to achieve peace and unity in the Arab world.

In this connection, it should be borne in mind that Iraq is a member of the Baghdad Pact group of nations, which our government called into existence and which it is now being urged to join officially. Our government has been supplying arms to Iraq, and at this very moment Iraq is soliciting a substantial increase in the volume of American military aid.

It should also be recalled that American military aid was denied the State of Israel on the convenient but not consistently applied formula that our country does not wish to become involved in an arms race. The State of Israel was also excluded from the regional security arrangements of the Baghdad Pact, and was denied any other security treaty such as our country has with many other nations.

It is now suggested that the United Nations should not exploit to the fullest its dramatic and energetic ingress into the long-disturbed area of the Middle East, but that it should quickly withdraw and leave the fate of that part of the world to the will and whim of those governments who have consistently proclaimed their unwillingness to make peace.

In our judgment the United States should press forward most energetically in the councils of the United Nations for immediate action which will bring the representatives of the governments of the Near East together around a conference table for the urgent settlement of all their outstanding issues. It has been Israel's contention that there is not a single issue whether it be territory, refugees or compensation, which cannot be settled with goodwill and a desire for peace.

It is not enough to clear the Suez Canal so that oil may flow freely again to the Western world. It is all-important for the peace of the world that the major obstacles which have for years impeded free communication, trade and cooperation between the peoples of the Near East, fostered bitterness and acrimony, and led to periodic and bloody outbreaks and successive crises should be removed without delay.

Here is the challenge to true statesmanship. To denounce your friends when they have been driven to acts of desperation, partly due to your own blunders, may give you a momentary feeling of self-righteousness as well as of expiation. To help them to achieve just and lasting political settlements in which you assume your full share of responsibility is the only true way of political wisdom, friendship and leadership. Furthermore, you will never serve the best interests of the Free World if your primary consideration is to compete for prestige in the Arab world and to appear as its special friend and defender. Governments which are bent upon intrigue play that game. Governments which are sincerely concerned with undergirding the threatened structure of the Free World will help those nations, large or small, whose traditions are the traditions of freedom, whose way of life, whose hopes and ideals are bound up with the future of a free society.

It should be remembered that even before the United Nations ordered a cease-fire and the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Sinai Peninsula, the Prime Minister of Israel, David Ben Gurion, let it be known that he was prepared to propose to his government the immediate withdrawal of all Israeli forces if Nasser would sign a clear undertaking to abstain from further hostile acts against Israel, including undertakings for liquidating the Fedayeen, abolishing the blockade in the Suez and the Gulf of Aqaba, and abstaining from military alliances directed against Israel. These conditions were not met then, and have not yet been met. It would be a colossal blunder for the United Nations to have gone through all the tremendous diplomatic exertions in recent months and the dispatching of a police force only to withdraw and leave the situation in the same perilous condition in which it was prior to October. It would be unwise to permit Egypt to return to the Gaza area from which she used to mount her Fedayeen raids on Israel. Gaza is not Egyptian territory. It would also be an act of prudence to demilitarize all or part of the Sinai Peninsula, so that it could serve as a welcome buffer between Egypt and Israel.

Israel does not want war. Israel was provoked to attack as its only way of survival. It could not wait until Nasser's mountain of tanks, guns and bombers -- part of which, following his defeat, the world was able to examine with amazement -- came crashing down upon it. For eight years Israel has appealed to the United Nations and to the Free World for help against constant harassment and menace, but nothing was done. No sanctions were invoked against Egypt when it flouted the orders of the United Nations to end the blockade against Israeli shipping. Nothing was done to end the economic boycott against Israel. Nothing was done to check the unprecedented flow of armaments to the Near East, all aimed at the destruction of Israel. Nothing was done to counteract the military alliances which were being forged like a ring of steel around Israel.

What did the world expect Israel to do? Did the world expect Israel to sit there like a clay pigeon and helplessly and resignedly await destruction and extinction? Thank God, Israel did not! And, if I know the people of Israel, they never will at any time in the future.

If you live in a neighborhood where your neighbors are determined to make life miserable for you - they smash your windows; they tear up your garden; they beat up your children. You reason and argue with them, but to no avail. You appeal to the police, but they are unwilling or unable to protect you. You become aware of a concerted plan afoot, on the part of your neighbors, to tear your house down completely over your head. If then an opportunity presents itself and you are able to lay hold of the biggest bully and ring leader of them all and beat daylight out of him, so that for a long time to come he will not be in a position to molest you -- would any fair-minded man call this aggression?

Israel does not want war. Many of the citizens of Israel are refugees from war. They know what war is. They experienced all its horrors. Many of them left their sons, daughters, husbands and parents in the horror hells of Nazi, Fascist or Communist wars in Europe. All that these people who have found a haven in Israel want is peace, and a chance to work and build a new life. They want to create something fine for themselves, their country and mankind. They covet nobody's territory, but they are resolved to defend their own. Their tradition -- which is Judaism -- hates war and the shedding of blood. There is no glorification of war in Judaism; there was never any call in Israel to become a great military power or to build a great empire. That Jews could fight when necessary, and with extraordinary valor and heroism, the legions of Rome, the armies of Antiochus, the hosts which faced Joshua, and quite recently the routed and scattered divisions of Nasser could well testify. But Israel never emphasized its military achievements. Its hope for the future was bound up with the hope of universal disarmament, with an international society, banded in brotherhood, united by the law of justice, unity and freedom.

The modern State of Israel is the heir of this tradition. It seeks peace and friendly cooperation with all its neighbors. It has sympathized with the national aspirations of all the Arab peoples. It has welcomed the inexorable march of colonial peoples to freedom and independence. It claims that same freedom for itself and that same national independence.

Israel, therefore, hopes that the present providential moment will be seized by all nations of goodwill to bring about a condition of peace and stability in this region of continued violence.

Israel fervently hopes that before very long some real socially-minded statesmen deeply interested in the well-being of their people, will arise in the Arab world, who will see the picture as it is, and not as the predatory eyes of politically immature demagogues see it. The severe social and economic problems of the exploited, impoverished and illiterate Arab masses cannot be solved either by the obliteration of the State of Israel or by the expropriation of all or part of its small territory. There is land enough in the Middle East for many times its present population, given planning, irrigation and industrialization. It is not an act of political sagacity to keep the Arab world stirred up over issues which really do not affect the ultimate well-being of its peoples and to mortgage their present limited resources to build up costly military establishments where no one threatens, instead of trying to raise their low standard of living.

Israel is eager to cooperate with the Arab peoples; to bring new life, progress and prosperity to the entire vast region which will be for the benefit of all. Some day Israel's outstretched hand of friendship will be taken. Until that time of reconciliation, Israel must be helped to remain strong in its economy and secure in its sovereignty and freedom.

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December 21, 1956

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

Dear Nettie:

Thank you for your note and for the trouble which you took in writing to me. I understand the situation fully. Please pay no attention to the matter.

All's well that ends well.

With warm regards and all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl

ADDRESS BY DR. EMANUEL NEUMANN

PRESIDENT, ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

OVER THE AMERICAN BROADCASTING COMPANY NETWORK

Sunday, December 30, 1956

Few things can be more dangerous to our national security than a premature relaxation of interest in a serious international crisis. In the case of the Middle East crisis, there is already a perceptible drop of public interest, as though the danger of a war that might have taken on global dimensions has definitely passed away. This would be a grave error indeed. The crisis has not been resolved. The hazard of new and still more violent explosions is by no means over. If and when hostilities should be resumed in that area, the new situation which may confront us then, may be even more difficult to cope with.

The fundamental mistake of American policy had been to view the long-simmering crisis in the Middle East as a local squabble between Israel and her neighbors, where the issues were relatively unimportant and the equities unclear; as a minor nuisance with which we could temporize, allowing matters to drift from bad to worse. We had not realized that this was no parochial affair, but of global importance; that it was a focal point in the world struggle between the forces of freedom and totalitarianism; that Nasser and Nasserism were the tool and spearhead of Soviet penetration in the Middle East; that Israel had become the symbol of Western democracy and therefore the primary target of the enemy.

It is now abundantly clear, in retrospect, that the Egyptian-Communist arms deal of more than a year ago was not aimed simply against Israel, but was a crucial step in a much more ambitious program directed against the entire Free World. To be sure, Israel, long in Moscow's disfavor for its anti-Communist and pro-Western orientation, was to be crushed. But beyond that, all British and French positions were to be liquidated, all Western influence destroyed. Into the power vacuum thus created, the Russians intended to enter and take over. The increasingly imminent danger of the consummation of this conspiracy, the passive -- almost complacent -- attitude of the United States, and the inaction of the United Nations finally caused Israel, and then England and France, to take matters into their own hands by striking at the Cairo-Moscow Axis. It was only at this point that the United Nations and our own government were suddenly galvanized into action. The result was an astounding series of diplomatic paradoxes enacted in the forum of the United Nations, the like of which has not been witnessed in recent political history. Having tolerated all of Nasser's provocations and Hitlerian tactics, we now rushed to his assistance, aligned ourselves with the neutralists, voted with the Russians, treated Israel as the aggressor and repudiated our closest allies, all but shattering the Atlantic Alliance -- the cornerstone of the Free World.

All this is behind us. The question which confronts us, as well as the United Nations today, is: What now? Here we run into the greatest and the worst paradox of all. Instead of exploiting to the hilt the new-found opportunity to deal with the Middle East problems at their root and bring about a real and permanent settlement, there is every indication of an attempt simply to restore the status quo ante -- the intolerable situation that existed before the recent explosion, the very situation that made the explosion inevitable. We are being treated to a spectacle not unlike a prize-fight where the contenders have gone into a clinch and the referee intervenes and pulls them apart, so they may be all set to resume the bout. That seems to be Mr. Hammarskjold's conception of the role of the United Nations in this emergency. Is it enough to bring about a temporary cease-fire and a withdrawal of troops? Must there be yet another round? And what will it lead to?

As far back as June, 1951, an official spokesman of the Egyptian government defended that country's illegal blockade of Israeli shipping through the Suez Canal in these remarkable and ominous words: "We are exercising the right of war. We are still legally at war with Israel. An armistice does not put an end to a state of war; it does not prohibit a country exercising certain rights of war."

The world now knows how Nasser has interpreted and exercised those "rights of war." What the world did not seem to know was how to put an end to this state of belligerency on which Nasser has insisted. Exhortations and moral suasion made no dent on the little Hitler of the Nile. Policies of appeasement and yielding to his blackmail were equally fruitless. Israel kept urging that Nasser be brought to the conference table, declaring again and again that so far as Israel was concerned, all outstanding issues--boundaries, territorial questions, the refugee problem--all were subject to negotiation. But who would or could bring this dictator to the conference table? As a European diplomat once put it: "Who is going to bell the cat?" Such a wild cat, at that.

At long last, and after ceaseless provocation, Israel summoned the courage and the daring, not only to "bell the cat" but to clip its claws. With a heroic effort, in a lightning campaign brilliantly executed within one week, Israel delivered a stunning blow, routing Nasser's army and capturing the Gaza Strip, the Sinai Peninsula and the Island of Tiran commanding the Straits of Aqaba--along with large quantities of the finest military equipment which the Soviet arsenal could supply.

This victory, as I have indicated, offers a unique opportunity to bring about a permanent settlement--an opportunity presented to the United Nations on a silver platter. At last Nasser could be forced to face realities and negotiate. He could be offered the choice of renouncing that belligerency which has brought the Middle East and the world to the brink of war, or face the fact that the areas he has lost to Israel would be occupied by his intended victim.

What we are witnessing instead is the contemplated restoration of all occupied territory to Nasser's control. Having suffered a crushing military defeat, he is now to gain an undreamed of political triumph. Not only is Israel to give up the fruits of victory--but the fleeting chance to establish a stable peace will have been thrown away. Nasser's prestige would not only be re-established, but enhanced, his power consolidated and his capacity for mischief immensely increased. If this be the policy of the United Nations and the United States, it is not statesmanship, but incredible folly.

Israel should not be asked or expected to yield to such unwise and unjustified pressure. Not her prestige, but her security and possibly her very existence are at stake. The Gaza Strip, in particular, is a dagger pointed at her very heart--reaching as it does to within thirty-five miles of Tel Aviv. It has been the most important base of operations of the fedayeen murder-squads which the Egyptian Army has been sending into Israel on their missions of terror, death and destruction. It was never Egyptian territory; it was part of Mandated Palestine, unlawfully seized by Egypt when she invaded Palestine eight years ago, in defiance of the United Nations. To the present day, the Gaza Strip has not been incorporated into the Egyptian State. There is no reason in law or justice why it should be handed over to Nasser's control, to facilitate his aggressive designs.

Similar considerations apply with equal or greater force to the positions commanding the Straits of Aqaba and the approach to the Port of Elath, namely, the Island of Tiran and Sharm-El-Sheikh, at the southernmost tip of the Sinai Peninsula. These points are nothing but rocky wilderness without human habitation. They are of no possible use to anyone except for one purpose and one purpose only: to be used as

gun positions for maintaining an unlawful blockade of an international waterway. Israel wants to retain these positions for the sole purpose of preventing a renewal of the blockade, thus keeping the Straits open to the commerce of all nations. Are we now going to insist that Egypt's illegal blockade be restored? Is this also part of the role of the United Nations and its Emergency Force?

It is important to note that a free approach to Elath is of great practical concern to Western Europe in particular. Nasser has demonstrated his capacity to stop the flow of oil through the Suez Canal, thereby threatening the European economy at will. Israel now offers a partial solution by planning to run a pipeline from Elath to the Mediterranean as an alternative channel. This would provide a second lung through which Western Europe can breathe and escape strangulation by the Egyptian dictator, holding the Suez Canal in his grip. This plan depends upon maintaining freedom of navigation through the Straits of Aqaba. It is rendered impossible of execution if the positions referred to are restored to the dictator's control.

The situation might be quite different if Nasser were to start a new chapter in his international relations; if he were prepared to renounce his grandiose dream of empire and the status of belligerency, with all that it implies, and negotiate a peace or at least a tolerable settlement. But of such a change of mind or heart, there is as yet not the slightest evidence. On the contrary, fedayeen incursions into Israel have been renewed. That Nasser is responsible for this resumption of violence is proved by the fact that it was publicly announced by the Cairo radio on December 2nd. In these circumstances, for Israel to retire from all the positions she now holds, would seem to be irresponsible and almost suicidal. For us or the United Nations to coerce her would be worse than a crime; it would be a colossal blunder, destroying the hope of a negotiated settlement.

There is little prospect that Israel will yield, whatever the pressure. I doubt that its present government or any other responsible government could do so without being repudiated by people and parliament. Nor is there any moral law which requires that you replace the dagger in the hand of your assailant.

Our Middle East policy is said to be undergoing a reappraisal in Washington, and it is high time that it take place. It is also reported that President Eisenhower may ask Congress for stand-by powers to employ our forces to prevent or repel aggression in that region. But there is no clear indication as yet of just what change of policy is contemplated, if any. Up to the present, we have been busy discrediting Britain and France and rehabilitating the Egyptian dictator, ejecting them from the Suez Canal Zone and restoring it to Nasser. We have been treating Israel as an aggressor, having little or nothing to say on the problem of her security or how to end the threat to her existence. If Congress is to vote the stand-by powers which the President has requested, how will they be used? In a recent public statement referring to the security of Iraq and other members of the Baghdad Pact, our government issued a warning that it would view with grave concern any attempted aggression against them. No such pointed warning has been uttered where Israel's security is concerned. Can Israel definitely rely in the future on American support in the event of continued hostile pressures--or must she continue to rely upon her own armed strength, alone and unsided?

In a democracy like ours, government policy is subject to the corrective influence of public opinion. Let us all remember and never forget that Israel's struggle for survival is part and parcel of the struggle for freedom and democracy throughout the world; that this is a struggle to which our country is irrevocably committed as the leader of the Free World-- unless we are to forfeit that leadership. Let us not forget that it is not Egypt and the other Arab states alone that Israel is pitted against, but the wrath and hostility of the Kremlin, whose well-laid plans and timetable Israel has upset. Let us not forget that the tanks encountered in the Sinai Desert are the same make as those which made a bloody shambles of Budapest, crushing Hungarian freedom; that the jets which were shot down in Egypt were of the same make as those which darken the sky over Central Europe.

Only if we are prepared to back up the Israel democracy as squarely as Russia is backing the Egyptian dictatorship--only then, can we hope to restore equilibrium and bring about not a temporary cease-fire, with the virtual certainty of bigger and bloodier wars to follow, but a just peace, stability and prosperity in the Middle East.



File 12

12-1-40

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

145 EAST 32nd STREET

NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

Memorandum

To: ZOA DISTRICT AND REGIONAL LEADERS

Date: December 31, 1956

From: Harold P. Manson

Subject: RADIO ADDRESS BY DR. EMANUEL NEUMANN
OVER THE ABC NETWORK

We are sending you the text of the significant address delivered yesterday, Sunday, December 30, over the American Broadcasting Company Network by Dr. Emanuel Neumann, President of the Zionist Organization of America.

Please try to bring about its publication in your local press -- general and English-Jewish.

We also urge you to call it to the attention of newspaper editors, columnists, radio and TV commentators.

This text should also be used as background material for other opinion-makers in your community and as guidance for your membership.

Additional copies of Dr. Neumann's address, as well as of Dr. Silver's radio speech of December 17, are available upon request.

Regards.

HPM:ha

BOOKS

The Pilgrimage of the Jews

WHERE JUDAISM DIFFERED

By Abba Hillel Silver. MacMillan, 1956.
218 pp. \$4.50.

Reviewed by
SOLOMON B. FREEHOF

FOR his many magnificent services which he has rendered to world Jewry Abba Hillel Silver has put us all in his debt. Having devoted so much time, especially in the field of Zionism where the political work is so continuously strenuous, it is all the more remarkable that he is able every now and then to produce a book of enduring worth. Students of the Kabbala will continue to read and benefit from his book written years ago, "Messianic Speculations in Israel."

The worth of his books derive from the fact that he is a thorough scholar in a number of branches of Hebrew literature; that he has a dynamic independence of temperament and, therefore, will never rest content until he has found some original approach and some creative ideas; and finally much of the value of his books comes from the grand public platform skill which he has displayed in thousands of addresses and lectures. A man who is a master of the platform and the pulpit as Silver is, develops very early into a technician in the field of human communication. He understands almost instinctively what his hearers already know and what they do not know, what is clear and what is vague, and how to say what needs to be said, in an impressive and memorable way. In other words, his books, besides being learned and original, are also eloquent, which means they are clear and effective and reveal the great public speaker's skill of making the difficult thought relatively simple and the vague idea crystal clear.

These characteristics are found in all his writings and to a marked degree in his latest book, "Where Judaism Differed." The qualities of originality and clarity are particularly needed in the field of Jewish theology with which this book deals. This is due to the fact that Judaism is not a philosophizing or theologizing religion. Our beliefs emerged from our experience and from the inspiration given us by our teachers and leaders. Whenever Judaism was systematized it was as it were by an after-thought. Therefore, we do not have a long and graded series of Jewish philosophical-theological literature. Each writer in this field, therefore, must go back to Jewish life, re-immersion himself in Jewish history, sense the mood of varied Jewish movements and currents of thought, and from all of the material distill the "living water" of what Judaism essentially is. To write a Jewish theology a man needs to know virtually all of Jewry in its experience and its thoughts. Therefore, this book marshals before us in clear and vivid fashion the whole pilgrimage of our life as Jews.

When Judaism was systematized at various occasions through our history, it was usually in reaction to certain ideas which arose as rival ideas (as Greek philosophy) or as hostile ideas (as when disputations with Christian clergy were forced upon us in the Middle Ages). It is, therefore, natural to write a description of Judaism as a comparison with other beliefs. Hence, the title "Where Judaism Differed." Silver does precisely this in his book. He indicates the uniqueness of Judaism from its very beginning. He does this without deprecating the worth of other faiths, yet without diminishing the grandeur of the uniqueness of Judaism. Thus in answer to the perennial Christian question, "Why did Jews reject Jesus as saviour," he deals with the theme historically but attaches it to the most modern charge by Toynbee which is the old Christian question repeated in other words. His chapter (VI) "On Rejecting Treasures" is a fine statement on this

theme. It could be read by Christians without resentment; and cannot be read by Jews without pride.

The chapter in the entire book which appeals to this reviewer as most original and most effective is chapter VII entitled "On Avoiding Alternatives." It begins "The teachers of Judaism almost instinctively rejected a formula of Either/Or in assaying religious values." The chapter ends with the paragraph "There is a remarkable balance and pragmatic quality in Judaism which, while not proscribing deviation either into the mystical or into the pietistic, nevertheless kept these, as it were, within bounds. The periphery was never confused with the



DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER

center; and the surface eddies were never mistaken for the deep-carrying channels of the faith." Within this chapter the author makes clear the significance of many apparent contradictions in Jewish religious thought and reveals their

psychological harmony in Jewish life.

The final chapter expresses the mood of the book: in its impact upon the relationship between Judaism and other religions. The uniqueness of Judaism does not preclude certain basic similarities with other great religions. It is with these similarities that we work in cooperation, but it is because of the differences that we must learn to respect each other and ourselves. In this last chapter there is this memorable paragraph: "The one universal God does not require one universal church in which to be worshipped, but one universal devotion. In the realms of ascertainable facts, uniformity can be looked for. In the realms of art and philosophy there can be only sincerity of quest and expression—only dedication. Religion is the supreme art of humanity."

This book will long be read and will exert an influence towards mutual understanding between Judaism and Christianity and self-understanding among Jews.

Rabbi Freehof, spiritual leader of Rodef Shalom Temple, Pittsburgh, Pa., has written extensively on Biblical and Rabbinic subjects. "The Responsa Literature" is the latest of his works.

Jewish Life in California

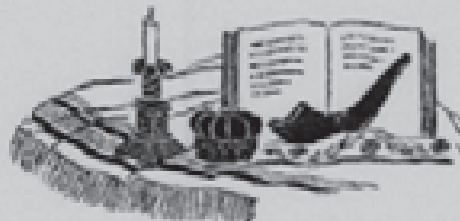
THREE YEARS IN AMERICA, 1859-1862

By Benjamin H. Translated from the German by Charles Reznikoff. The Jewish Publishing Society of America, 1956. 2 vols. 335 pages and 290 pages.

Reviewed by
ADAM Z. MARGOSHES

ISRAEL JOSEPH BENJAMIN, a Bohemian Jew, alone among modern Jews, set himself the task, in the middle of the nineteenth century, of emulating the medieval traveller, Benjamin of Tudela, by visiting and writing about every country in the world, paying particular attention to the various far-flung Jewish communities. It was a romantic idea, but not at all impracticable, and he actually accomplished the major part of his task; he wandered everywhere, including the United States of America, which in the mid-nineteenth century was a "far country."

He was equipped for his work by a broad, if not deep, education, both gen-



eral and Jewish, and a keen, perceptive intelligence. He had a breezy, journalistic German style of writing, well adapted to his purposes, and here excellently translated by Mr. Reznikoff.

As Oscar Handlin points out in his introduction, Benjamin had a moralistic turn of mind and a somewhat provincial, old-world orientation, which prevented him from seeing very profoundly into the new political and social forces at work in the young American republic. Like most other European observers of the pre-Civil War American scene, he saw nothing but raw, ugly materialism, political corruption and cultural ignorance and vulgarity. However, he was much more discerning in his description of the surface details of American life, especially in California. His experiences and observations in California, mostly San Francisco, form the largest and best part of the book. He sometimes rises to a kind of eloquence in drawing his picture of the color and the ceaseless, hustling activity of the gold rush days.

Oddly enough, he is least lively and interesting when talking about the Jews. For the first time in centuries, the Jews were playing an important part in the building of a great state, where they were respected as equals and frequently elected to high office. One would think that such an atmosphere would have been intoxi-

cating to a Jew from Europe. But apparently it wasn't.

Benjamin is certainly interested in the Jewish communities, and he is tireless in the compilation of lists of the numerous congregations and charitable organizations and their individual members. There is no doubt a mine of source material here for the Jewish American historian. But for the non-specialist reader these lists are merely boring. There is hardly a word about the secular activities of the Jews, even though the Jewish contribution to the settling and building of California was probably greater than anywhere else in the United States. The reason for this failure on Benjamin's part is probably to be found in the fact that his primary interest in the Jewish communities was personal; that is, he was interested in what they could or would contribute to his own welfare and future travels. Thus, when he has said that a given community is generous or stingy to "the stranger and the traveller," he has said everything.

Despite these shortcomings, the book remains the only account of Jewish life in California at this time, and one of the most complete records of the state just before the Civil War. The author sees only the excitement of the gold fever, but also the uprush of enthusiasm for the cause of the Union in the newly admitted state. At the start of the book Benjamin finds the causes of the "irrepressible conflict" in poor education and in the prevailing materialism, but in California he seems to have become infected himself with a passion for the Union and even an admiration for the new methods of public school education. It is a pity that his growing feeling for democracy never came to include the Chinese and the American Indians. His contempt for these races completely blinded him to the values of their ways of life. In fact, he speaks of the Chinese in exactly the same manner that anti-Semites speak of the Jews.

With all his narrowness and eccentricity, Benjamin is essentially an accurate reporter, with a flair for what is important in the scene before him. For example, in his interviews with Brigham Young—unfortunately brief—and his history of the Mormon religion, he grasped the importance of this great movement. In his account of the San Francisco Committee of Vigilance he shows an informed understanding of frontier conditions—though he is perhaps a shade too credulous in accepting the excuses of the vigilantes.

If, in general, his writings are prejudiced against the potentialities and actualities of the new world, the events of the past century have corrected similar errors on the part of almost every European traveller. "Three Years in America" is not unworthy to stand as a monument to the early history of what has become the greatest Jewish community in the world.

Dina Doron as the New Anne Frank

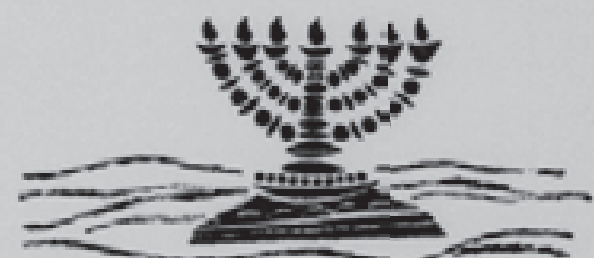
AN admirable feat is being performed by Dina Doron (Peskin) in the almost forbidding task of succeeding that teen-age genius, Susan Strassberg, in the "Diary of Anne Frank" at the Cort Theatre. A sabra, born in Tel Aviv, Miss Doron became a member of Habimah and was chosen to play the lead in the first full-length Israeli film, "The Faithful City." She was sent here to study the American theatre, won a scholarship to the Neighborhood Playhouse and recently found ultimate recognition in being offered a star's part on Broadway.

Anne Frank is an ideal role for what may be called the juvenile juvenile. Dina Doron gives it—as a peer in a superb cast of actors—all the freshness and awkwardness of a bright thirteen-year-old and, in the second act, a touching performance of her metamorphosis into the bud of a woman, with all the headlong courage, fear, confusion and magnificence of a first love. Judging from this accomplishment there can be small doubt of an outstanding future for the young actress.

Play Is Reminder

The impact of the play is as strong as ever. It derives mainly from the authors' understanding of the human mind's healthy refusal to perceive and comprehend the sum-total of a crime like the one committed by the Nazis. By reducing the holocaust to the story of a family and, particularly, the fate of an adolescent girl, the play is able to present the enormity of genocide in a palatable manner, as it were, a manner that has a minimum of emotionality and is tender, often light and always without self-pity.

It is this very virtue of understating the horror of what happened not so long ago which acts as a reminder to those who are inclined to let bygones be bygones and leads to the realization that the only balance to the crime, the only growth that came out of its unspeakable villainess is not remorse, or even restitu-



tion, but the advent of the State of Israel. More than that, in watching little bitter-sweet Anne Frank, at least one member of the audience was struck by the rightness and inevitability of Israel's recent military action in Sinai, which forestalled another extermination threat and which stemmed from the resolve that never, never again shall anybody be allowed to indulge with impunity in the age-old pastime of torturing and killing Jews.

Rafael da Costa

New York ZOA Regions' Dinner For Silver Raises \$1,250,000 in Bonds

The raising of \$1,250,000 in Israel Bond investment funds in a special campaign conducted by the metropolitan Regions of the ZOA in honor of Dr. Abba Hillel Silver was announced at the Silver testimonial dinner held on Monday evening, December 17, in the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria, New York.

Some 1,000 persons—Zionist leaders and key-workers—from the metropolitan area attended the dinner in tribute to Dr. Silver's 50 historic years of Zionist devotion, held under the joint sponsorship of the metropolitan ZOA Regions and the Israel Bond Organization.

In his address, Dr. Silver called upon the U. S. Government to take "forthright leadership" in the United Nations to achieve a prominent peace settlement in the Middle East. Dr. Silver, an honorary president of the ZOA, who is chairman of the Board of Governors of the Israel Bond Organization, asserted:

"Our government should not wait until there is armed aggression or until that 'innocent' victim of aggression, Nasser, has had time to rebuild his badly shattered military establishment, or until Syria has had time to build up a vast arsenal of tanks, planes and guns provided by the Soviet Union. It should press most energetically in the United Nations for action which will bring the representatives of the governments of the Near East together around a conference table for the settlement of all the outstanding issues."

Rabbi Irving Miller, chairman of the American Zionist Council, presided at the dinner. Announcing the total amount of Bonds sold in Dr. Silver's honor, he declared that it gave "eloquent evidence of the devotion of the Zionist movement to the cause of Israel and reflects the profound determination of the American people to provide Israel with necessary investment funds in order to meet the present strains on its economy."

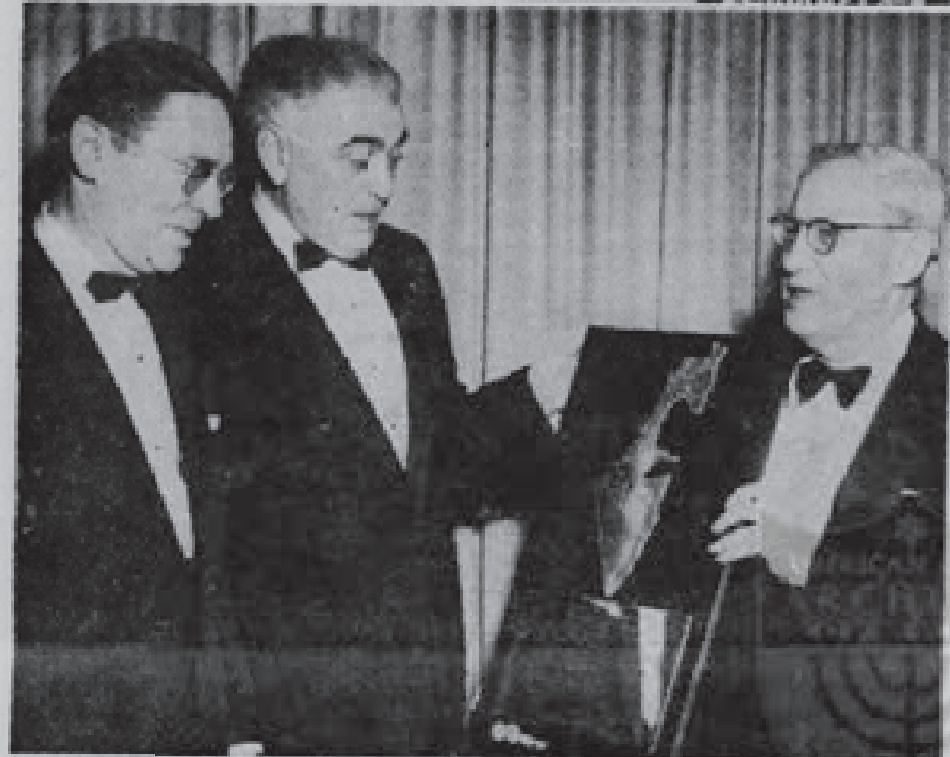
Presents Plaque

Dr. Emanuel Neumann, president of the ZOA, in presenting Dr. Silver with a plaque, a silver map of Israel, which cited the Zionist leader for "fifty rich, fulfilling and historic years of dedicated service and inspirational leadership in the cause of Zionism and a free and independent State of Israel," said:

"Dr. Silver now stands upon an eminence that is beyond the praise of his admirers or the criticism of his detractors. He looms before us as a towering historical figure, one of the greatest statesmen in Zionist history. Two names will be inscribed imperishably on the pages of our history, those of the two men who on two different fronts were jointly responsible for the establishment of the State of Israel and who are its principal architects: the one is the present Prime Minister of Israel, David Ben-Gurion; the other is our guest of honor, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver."

"Israel and Zionism have need of Dr. Silver today more than ever—have need of his wisdom, his sagacity, his brilliant leadership, his force and strength of character and above all, his indomitable courage. For Israel is facing its gravest crisis since its inception."

Dr. Neumann, warning against any delay in attaining a peace settlement in the Middle East emphasized the importance of bringing "the strongest pressure



Dr. Abba Hillel Silver addressing testimonial dinner tendered him by metropolitan Regions of the ZOA jointly with Israel Bond Organization at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. Seated from left to right are: Jacques Torczyner, Col. Haim Herzog, military Governor of Jerusalem, Dr. Joseph Schwartz, vice president of the Israel Bond Organization, Abraham Goodman, Rabbi Irving Miller and Dr. Emanuel Neumann.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver is being presented with a special award by Dr. Emanuel Neumann, ZOA president (right), at the testimonial dinner in tribute to Dr. Silver's "50 years of devoted and heroic Zionist service." Looking on is Rabbi Irving Miller (left), chairman of the American Zionist Council.

to bear upon the Egyptian dictator (Col. Nasser) to arrive at a decent settlement of the Suez Canal issue and his conflict with Israel."

Asserting that the "real testing" of the United Nations is yet to come, Dr. Silver told the dinner: "It will soon come in the Near East, and on its outcome will depend the very survival of that international organization which was called into existence to preserve the peace of the world."

"The United Nations forces now being utilized in the Middle East," Dr. Silver added, "may either help achieve a final solution to the Middle East problem or, it may lead only to a restoration of the status quo ante from which all the evils flow, and for a carte blanche to the dictator Nasser to resume all his former dangerous adventures."

Rabbi Miller served as chairman of the committee that arranged the testimonial to Dr. Silver, with Dr. Neumann as honorary chairman. Albert Schiff was treasurer of the dinner committee and Abraham Goodman, chairman of the National Executive Council of the ZOA, was co-chairman.

"Nothing has so far happened," Dr. Silver warned, "to discourage Nasser from believing that the U.N. force will restore him to his former position and prestige in the Near East; his commandos free to range again across the borders of Israel; his blockade against Israeli shipping in the Suez and in the Gulf of Aqaba to remain in force; and he himself free to acquire again vast stores of weapons and munitions for an attack upon Israel."

"Now that our government has concluded that the best hope for

peace in the Middle East lies in the United Nations and has resolved to channel through it the consideration of its problems—a procedure which it had not followed in the past, choosing rather to find them outside the framework of the United Nations—it becomes increasingly urgent for

our government, whose authority and prestige in the Middle East have been augmented by recent events, to take forthright leadership in the United Nations to achieve solutions which will be in keeping with its expressed desire for impartial friendship to all concerned."

U. S. Maneuvered Into Dangerous Position — Neumann

The view that the "United States is being maneuvered into a most dangerous situation, as a major partner of the Bandung Powers" was expressed by Dr. Emanuel Neumann, ZOA president, in an address before the Presidents' Conference of 17 national Jewish organizations recently held in the Hotel Delmonico, New York.

Dr. Neumann, who presided over the second day morning session of the conference, said that "we may soon have to make our choice between the Asian-Arab bloc and our European allies from whom we are being estranged."

He further warned that "if Middle Eastern oil is dictating our national policy, we are heading for the collapse of the international system of defense so laboriously constructed."

"All the oil of Arabia will not compensate for the break-up of the Atlantic Alliance, the cornerstone of our national security," he said.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. — Dr. Neumann addressed a large mobilization rally sponsored by the Philadelphia Zionist Organization. More than 1,000 persons crowded into the YM-YWHA building heard the ZOA president warn that Soviet Russia is playing for the "highest stakes" in the Middle East in its plan for world domination. "If they can take over the Middle East not just politically but militarily, both Africa and Asia will be theirs and the cause of the free world will be nigh doomed." He charged that the United States played into Russian hands by failing to halt the Soviet military build-up in the Arab countries.

The rally, which was presided over by Arnold Ginsburg, president of the Philadelphia ZOA, was also addressed by District Attorney Victor H. Blanc and Councilman Samuel Rose.

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VOL. 1 No. 4

February, 1957



JEWS WE CAN BE PROUD OF — RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER

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JEWS WE CAN BE PROUD OF

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER

Fifty Years of Zionism

by Rabbi Leon I. Feuer

The Zionist world observes this year the completion of fifty years of service to Zionism by Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver. That service has in many respects been unique, and has received richly deserved recognition in many forms, both on the part of the Zionist movement which he led during the most eventful and creative period of its history, and of the citizens of the State of Israel, for whose existence he is in no small measure responsible.

For a substantial part of that half century, the writer has had the privilege of being closely associated with him, both as a professional colleague and as a Zionist comrade. He thus had the opportunity of observing him at close range particularly during those turbulent, triumphant, tragic, and crises-laden years from 1943-1948 when Jews were being murdered by the millions in Europe, when the successful effort to win the support of American public opinion and of the government of the United States culminated in the decision of the United Nations favoring the establishment of the Jewish State. He may, therefore, be able to contribute a somewhat more personal glimpse into the nature and quality of Rabbi Silver's leadership.

His notable intellectual and spiritual contributions to the philosophy and literature of Zionism are a significant part of the history of this era. They are reflected in his published addresses, papers, and essays which deal with every aspect of our movement, historical, political, and religious. His is a total, conclusive, clear, and consistent philosophy of Zionism, combining in a well articulated synthesis the political insight of Herzl, the spiritual vision of Achad Ha-Am, but most important, the classic impulses of Judaism. The basic theme of his thought is his emphatic, and from the historical viewpoint correct insistence that Zionism is an expression of the drive of Jewish destiny, that it is more than philanthropy, that it includes as integral but also transcends the Jewish State, that it is in brief the quest of the Jewish people as a unity, in and outside the land, for its Messianic goal. That is why he, and those of us who agree with him, cannot accept the narrow Ben Gurion thesis that only those who settle physically in Israel are entitled to call themselves Zionists.

It was, however, in the years of struggle for the establishment of the Jewish State that he proved his mettle as a peerless leader of his people. Observing him and working with him was an unforgettable experience. In the most tempestuous and dangerous moments, his iron nerve and resolve never deserted him. His closely reasoned analysis of political trends, supported by painstaking documentation, persuaded the friendly and refuted the inimical. His flaming words and sweeping eloquence sustained the hope and courage of his fellow Jews. He possessed an uncanny prescience for political developments, a remarkable sense of timing for exploiting the strategic moment to press home an advantage. He was never daunted by opposition, either from within or without the camp. He never surrendered to expediency, nor compromised for the sake of a transient popularity. The goal was to him all important, and the straight line to it the shortest distance. Unlike some Zionist leaders, he was not overawed by persons in high places or submissive to their flattery. His motives never became mixed with other considerations. Under the then prevailing circumstances of World War and universal Jewish tragedy, only such single-minded leadership could have

accomplished the end. American Zionism and World Jewry were indeed singularly fortunate that it was available in the person of Abba Hillel Silver.

One cannot resist the temptation, in these present hours of stress, to add a somewhat wistful postscript. His contention a decade ago, that the position taken by the United States in relation to Israel is and for a long time will be the crucial factor in determining the outcome of issues, has been heavily underscored by recent developments. The public relations activity of the Zionist movement (and of its collaborating organizations) in this country has been marked by inadequacy, temerity, lack of scope, planning, and long-range direction. To call it chaotic and ad extempore is to put the kindest interpretation upon it. A multiplicity of organizations and leaders, councils and committees, consultative and cross-consultative bodies are mounted and galloping in all directions. The overall impression is confusing, and it will be a miracle if the ultimate results are not damaging. How can one help uttering what so many of us are desperately thinking - if only Abba Hillel Silver were at the helm today!

In any event, what he is and what he has achieved in the half century of effort into which he has poured his amazing gifts of mind, body, and spirit, without a moment's consideration of the cost to his health - lavishly and with incomparable devotion - these will be written large in the annals of the Jewish people.

NEWS FROM ISRAEL

French Foreign Minister Pineau Addresses ZOA UN Conference

NEW YORK (ZINS) - Christian Pineau, Foreign Minister of France, and other top members of the French Delegation to the United Nations, addressed a conference of ZOA leaders at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The conference was called under the auspices of the ZOA Committee for United Nations Affairs, under the Chairmanship of Moses Schonfeld who presided.

Other French statesmen who spoke at the conference were M. G. George-Picot, permanent head of the French Delegation at the UN, and M. Champlix, France's Secretary of State for Algerian Affairs, who gave an off-the-record review of the present political situation.

ZOA President, Dr. Emanuel Neumann, and Messrs. Abraham Goodman and Harry Torczyner replied in behalf of the ZOA. 150 ZOA leaders from the New York metropolitan area attended the conference. A previous ZOA conference at the UN was held with the participation of the Israel UN Delegation.

KFAR SILVER

January 24, 1957

Miss Rebekah Kohn
President, Tikvath Israel of the
Seventh Zionist District
420 Riverside Drive
New York, N. Y.

Dear Rebekah:

It gives me great pleasure to acknowledge Tikvath Israel's first contribution for the purchase of books for the Kfar Silver Library to be located in the future Dr. Emanuel Neumann Culture House.

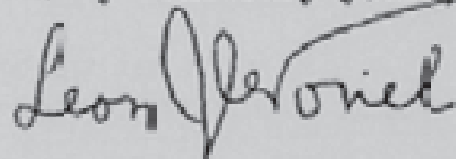
Gideon Pati gave me a check in the amount of \$200. in behalf of your District which I forwarded to our Accounting Department. You will get their official receipt shortly.

This money, which I understand is over and above your District's usual AZF fund raising, will be remitted by us to Kfar Silver for the purchase of books in Israel. Gideon promised to supply me with printed book plates to be pasted in every single volume in order to indicate that this is your District's contribution.

I am delighted, indeed, to see Tikvath Israel pioneering in the effort of establishing the Kfar Silver Library, and I sincerely hope this is only a beginning.

Please accept my warmest personal regards and convey my greetings to the members of your District.

Very sincerely yours,



Leon Ilutovich
Assistant Executive Director

LI:fhc

ההסתדרות הציונית



של ארצות הברית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

41 EAST 42nd STREET • NEW YORK 17, N. Y. • MURRAY HILL 2-3205

Suite 306, Harvey Bldg.
1370 Washington Avenue
Miami Beach, Florida

February 6, 1957

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

We have been trying to reach you by telephone in order to find out whether you could be with us at our ZOA Israel Bond Breakfast on Friday February 15th at 9:15 A.M. at the Hotel Fontainebleau, Miami Beach.

We have learned that you are planning to arrive here at 2:15 P.M. on the same day. We considered immediately whether we could have a reception for you instead, but were told that this is inadvisable because the Friday afternoon is very short and the people do not leave the Beaches until late afternoon and the Shabath starts at 6 P.M. (And planes are often delayed.) Saturday afternoon is equally bad as the big Bond Dinner is preceded by a general cocktail party and again we would not get an attendance on an early afternoon.

You will understand that all of us are most anxious to have you with us. It makes all the difference. Personally I can only hope that you will find it possible to get away from New York Thursday evening and be with us on Friday morning. You know that the ZOA needs every little bit of support it can get and I know you will help us if you can make it at all possible.

With warm personal regards,

Affectionately,

Nettie Eisner

Memorandum

To: ZOA DISTRICT AND REGIONAL LEADERS

Date: March 6, 1957

From: HAROLD P. MANSON

Subject: AMERICA'S MORAL COMMITMENTS TO ISRAEL

The order to withdraw Israel's troops from Gaza and Sharm el Sheikh was, in Prime Minister Ben-Gurion's own words, "an act of faith" in the United Nations and especially in the United States. American public opinion, which reacted so vigorously and definitively against the attempts to impose sanctions on Israel, must now ensure that Israel's faith in our country will be vindicated.

An up-to-date analysis of the situation will be sent to you shortly. However, we wish to avoid any delay in calling your attention to the all-important point -- the grave obligation that has been assumed by the U.S. Government -- which should be driven home in all phases of your public relations work.

Dr. Neumann's Comment

This factor was stressed in the brief comment which Dr. Emanuel Neumann, President of the ZOA, made upon his departure yesterday for Jerusalem, where he will participate in the deliberations of the Jewish Agency Executive. Dr. Neumann expressed the hope that the announced Israeli withdrawal will be accompanied by such further action as will ensure Israel's future security and freedom of navigation. He declared that this is a solemn responsibility of the United Nations and of the United States in particular, and that the U.S. Government's moral commitments to Israel must be fully implemented without delay.

Statement by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

On Sunday, March 3, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver delivered a major address in Cleveland on the subject of American policy toward Israel. You will, I am sure, be deeply interested in his comments, as reported on the front page of the Cleveland Plain Dealer of March 4. Excerpts of this digest of Dr. Silver's address follow:

1957

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver yesterday denounced what he termed "the tragic mistake" of the administration in supporting sanctions for Israel despite opposition of leaders of the President's own party.

America's oil diplomacy in the Middle East ran afoul of Israel and in one blind moment the United States was ready to destroy the tiny state both economically and politically, the rabbi asserted in his sermon at the Temple.

He emphasized that Israel's offer to withdraw her troops from Egyptian territory was being held up because of lack of clarity in America's stand on the situation.

"America's response to Israel's offer was of a character to shake the confidence of Israel in the United States government and caused today's new crisis," he said.

The internationally known rabbi underscored that recent negotiations had not resolved a single basic issue that had agitated the Israeli

frontier for the last eight years, leaving the situation practically where it was before the Israeli invasion of October.

He asserted America and the U. N. did nothing even though both knew the Arabs were building up a massive army, blocking Israeli shipping in the Suez Canal and the straits of Aqaba and constantly harassing Israeli border settlements.

"It seems to me as a layman that the United States is speaking out of both sides of its mouth in the present Middle East crisis," he said.

"The reaction in Israel to this is negative. It has made the position of Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion most difficult in his own country, where he has been working hard to achieve agreement."

Dr. Silver added that Israel did not have to make her offer to withdraw, since the threatened sanctions could never have been imposed.

The rabbi warned that if formalism and legal dialectics were used to whittle America's moral commitments to Israel, the situation could deteriorate rapidly.

Many grave obligations have been assumed by the United States in calling upon Israel to quit her present advantageous position, moral obligations to see that Israel is not sacrificed to serve other interests, he said.

"It boils down to a case of confidence, a confidence in the United States to which Israel still clings in spite of repeated disillusionment," he continued.

"We hope this confidence will not be betrayed."

Rabbi Silver hailed the speech of Israel's foreign minister, Golda Meir, to the U. N. on Friday, in which the offer to withdraw, based on assumptions of U. N. cooperation, was made.

He emphasized he was glad to see the talk followed by a moral appeal by her to Israel's neighbors to turn over a new leaf and unite in a fight on poverty by aiming all their efforts toward the development and progress of the Middle East.

These were memorable words, spoken with statesmanship, he said. If this spirit prevails, he asserted, a new climate will have been established to settle all issues in the area.

"No one wants to see the solution of a problem by force," he said. "But when one is continuously attacked by force and gets no help from the U. N. there is no recourse but to defend oneself by force."

He added he thought Israel had gained in the esteem of mankind by showing an ability to fight for her rights as well as her display of statesmanship and compromise.

Hard days are still ahead for the Holy Land even after the withdrawal of her forces, he said. A peace must still be negotiated, which the Arabs have refused to do for eight years.

These negotiations will have a prospect for success only if the strength of America is thrown into the balance on the side of justice and fair play--if our attitude is not dictated only by the oil interests, the rabbi asserted.

"There has been much blundering in the councils of our government," he said. "But some leaders have insight and understanding. We hope American public opinion will continue to guide these leaders in this most important area."

I am sure that you will put this material to good use.

Regards.

HFM:ha





ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

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

March 8, 1957

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
c/o The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I trust that this letter finds you and your family in the best of health.

I am always under the impression that you regard my letters as invariably accompanied by requests. The fact of the matter is, I have no alternative. Such is my sad lot in life.

My first reason for writing this letter is based upon a telephone call from Max Bressler in Florida. He tells me that he called you by phone and you requested a letter in writing; the details of a possible national ZOA-UJA Conference in Cleveland on April 6 and 7. The purpose of the conference would be to launch officially national ZOA-UJA activities.

We are now engaged in intensifying our UJA and Bond efforts. There seems to be a great deal of promise in these endeavors. Harry Shapiro has been assigned by the UJA to assist us in that aspect of our work. Harry, Max and I talked the matter over in Florida and felt that it would be most helpful if the conference was held in Cleveland based upon your call to the communities at large. We would expect to have representatives from every Region. To this group, we would add the members of the National Executive Council, since it would be most opportune to convene the meeting of that body at the same time. The conference and the meeting of the Council would coincide with the return of Dr. Neumann from the meeting of the Executive in Jerusalem. It seems to us that the circumstances would lend themselves to a most happy event and provide us with the enthusiasm and stimulation for a real productive UJA activity.

My second request deals with your visit to Boston on behalf of the combined Jewish Appeal there on March 20 and 21. We are in the devil's dilemma. The work-up of the campaign in that community and the shifting of the campaign to the Spring has precluded all other activities for fund raising. This puts a terrible dent into our income. It was our idea that a parlor meeting, held informally, at the home of one of our major contributors would prove most productive. It may possibly held in the form of a luncheon. It would coincide with your visit to Boston.



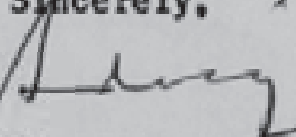
Our idea is to secure contributions from those Zionist stalwarts who normally would make their contributions over and above their contributions to the combined Jewish Appeal. It would be in the nature of a collection "on the spot." It could be held either on March 20 or March 21.

I do know that you normally do not accept this type of engagement, but I sincerely believe that a meeting of this nature would be most productive. It would overcome the twelve-month campaigning disability which we are operating under in connection with the raising of American Zionist Funds for our projects, both in Israel and in this country, in the fair city of Boston.

I hate to bother you with so many details in the course of a busy day, but I guess that it is my lot in life.

My affectionate regards to you and the family.

Sincerely,


Dr. Sidney Marks
Executive Director

SM/fs



NEW ENGLAND ZIONIST REGION



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

Zionist House -- 17 Commonwealth Avenue -- Boston 16, Massachusetts -- COpley 7-3602

March 8, 1957

PRESIDENT

Rabbi Joseph S. Shubow

HONORARY PRESIDENTS

(Chronologically)

Elihu D. Stone,* 1921-31, 1932-34
Hyman Morrison, M.D., 1931-32
Col. Benjamin F. Everts,* 1934-37
Ralph F. Bass, 1937-39
Hon. Joseph Goldberg, 1939-41
Max Kabatnick, 1941-43
Coleman Silbert, 1943-44
Samuel Caploe, 1944-46
Morton J. Robbins, M.D., 1946-48
Michael Lucacer, M.D., 1948-50
Aaron J. Bronstein, 1950-52
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PUBLICITY DIRECTOR

Sibyl Srooker

* Deceased

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Doctor Silver:

It was a pleasure and a joy to talk with you Erev Shabbath and I am sorry to have troubled you, but since you are going to be in Boston for the New Century Club, Wednesday evening, March 20, it is virtually inconceivable that we, the Zionists, should not be afforded an opportunity to honor you at this occasion.

Of course, a number of our Zionists will be present at the New Century Club dinner, but since this club consists of professional men such as doctors, lawyers, engineers and the like, the Zionist leadership as such will not be there with the exception of a few of us.

And particularly since Dr. Neumann has been urging us to make as large a contribution as possible for the American Zionist Fund, we thought this would be a superb opportunity to call a number of our chosen substantial leaders for the sake of bringing together a fairly large sum for the A.Z.F. to be sent at once to Dr. Neumann, in New York, in honor of your visit. I think in your honor we can raise \$15,000.

Hence, my request that if at all humanly possible, if I may say, we be permitted to arrange a luncheon in your honor either Wednesday, March 20, at one o'clock, at the Harvard Club, or Thursday morning, March 21, a breakfast in case you cannot stay Thursday for luncheon.

You know I would never pressure you if not for the sake of our efforts to raise a substantial sum for the A.Z.F. through your presence.

If only we had known you were at all available, we would have long ago invited you to be our guest of honor at our Convention banquet Sunday evening, June 2, but I never dared to presume to trouble you for I know pretty well the burden that you have been carrying.

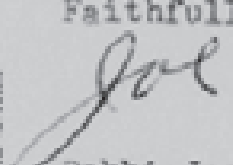
I trust you will forgive my pleas and insistence to arrange either the luncheon on Wednesday, March 20, or the breakfast or luncheon on Thursday, March 21.

-2 (Dr. Abba Hillel Silver)

March 8, 1957

With sincerest best wishes and hoping and praying God will continue to give you health and strength as of yore to lead our people and to be its chief spokesman. I am, with Zion's greetings, ever

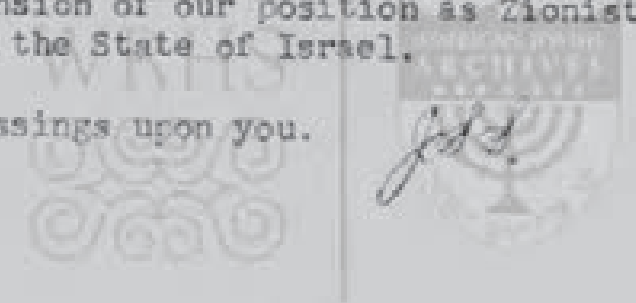
Faithfully yours,


Rabbi Joseph S. Shubow
President

JSS/ey

P. S. I would like to suggest further that a meeting under our auspices will also afford us a much greater opportunity for a wide press recognition with you as our guest of honor, than I think will be possible through the channels of the New Century Club whose influence is not as universally felt as that of our rather militant Zionist constituency. And today, you know better than anybody, a good press, good public relations, are vital for a better comprehension of our position as Zionists in America and as defenders of the State of Israel.

Again God's blessings upon you.



Re: 30a. NIA
natl conf. in Cleveland - 4/6+7

March 12, 1957

Dr. Sidney Marks,
Executive Director
Zionist Organization of America
145 East 82nd Street
New York 16, New York

My dear Sidney:

I wish I could comply with your request contained in your letter of March 8th. Unfortunately, I cannot do it.

I will be in Boston just for a few hours and as far as a Regional Conference in Cleveland is concerned, I haven't the time nor the energy for it. We shall be in the midst of our Cleveland United Jewish Appeal Campaign in April.

I am sorry that I cannot comply.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl

March 15, 1957

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

My dear Sidney:

Through the courtesy of Mr. Samuel H. Oivelber of 1741 East 25th Street, the enclosed contributions to the Zionist Organization of America Fund have been made:

\$100.00 Samuel H. Oivelber, 1741 East 25th St.
\$100.00 Harry Rattner, The St. Clair Builders Supply Co.
20020 St. Clair Avenue
\$200.00 Robert Morris, 705 Union Commerce Building

Please acknowledge these contributions to the individuals.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl
encl.



Zionist Organization of America

CHAIM WEIZMANN DISTRICT 15

485 HOPKINSON AVENUE

BROOKLYN 12, N. Y.

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NATIONAL COMMITTEE
OF WORLD ZIONIST AFFAIRS

March 26, 1957

Dr. Abba Hilel Silver
The Temple, E. 105 St.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

A Group of us old time Zionists, each of us having the degree of B.B. (Before Balfour) were sitting the other day and as usual we talked SHOP, Israel, the present situation and American diplomacy.

We were talking Zionist Leaders and how few new faces we have developed in the last 40- 50 years, and the calibre of leaders we do have.

Suddenly some one mention Dr. Abba Hilel Silver and all of us in unison! What happened to Silver- what is he doing to-day at the present crisis, behind the scene activity is not enough. Where is powerful voice, where is the tribune of our movement, of American Jewry and where was silver at Madison Square Garden? No one knew the answer and we were not playing guessing games.

The group urged me and insisted that I should write to you and ask you these few questions.

Dear Dr. Silver, we realize that you are a busy man, but we are all veterans in the movement and merit consideration.

With all good wishes that you may serve and lead for many years

For Zion free and happy

For the group
Max M. Uberman
Max M. Uberman

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver - For your information,

Harold

March 26, 1957

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein, Chairman
American Zionist Committee for Public Affairs
New York, N.Y.

Dear Phil:

We regret the necessity of advising you that the representatives of the Zionist Organization of America are unable to participate in tomorrow's meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Committee for Public Affairs.

The meeting has been called for the express purpose of finalizing action on the subcommittee report favoring the change-of-name proposal, which would eliminate the word "Zionist" from the Committee's name. The views of the Zionist Organization of America, as expressed by its National Executive Council and as stated at successive meetings of the Public Affairs Committee by the ZCA's representatives, are well known to you. We hold that Zionism -- its name and its message -- should be proudly asserted, particularly at a time when it is under attack. We can only regret that our position on the change-of-name proposal, which position we continue to regard as sound and correct, has evidently not prevailed.

Since our Organization has decided to suspend the participation of its representatives in the Public Affairs Committee in the event that the new name is voted, and since the determination to proceed with the change has been made clear to us, you will surely appreciate our inability to participate.

With warmest personal regards, I am

Cordially yours,

Harold P. Manson

HPM:ha

March 27, 1957

Mr. Gideon Patt, Director
Dept. for Youth Activities
Zionist Organization of America
145 East 32nd Street
New York 16, New York

My dear Friend:

I wish I were free to comply with your request to write an article for "The Young Zionist" but the pressure of my work is so great that I have been compelled to deny myself such invitations and many others which have come to me. I simply cannot take on any additional responsibilities for some time to come.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

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

April 2, 1957

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

We received here copy of a letter dated March 25, sent by a group of Kfar Silver students to you in connection with the decision of the Curatorium to dismiss the headmaster, Mr. Arie Kotzer, effective the beginning of the next school year in September.

The copy was accompanied by a letter from the same students to Dr. Neumann, asking for a similar intervention in behalf of Mr. Kotzer.

Needless to say, neither the ZOA nor the Kfar Silver Curatorium will, as a matter of principle, discuss with the students the question of appointments and Dr. Neumann today sent a short letter addressed to the students thanking them for their communication, expressing gratification at their interest in the school and adding that any decisions arrived at by the Kfar Silver Curatorium and by the ZOA Administration will be taken in the best interests of the school and its future.

I sent Dr. Neumann's brief reply to Mr. Chaim Danieli, chairman of the Curatorium, leaving it up to him either to deliver Dr. Neumann's reply or to reply in behalf of the ZOA in his own name.

I thought you would like to have this information.

With warmest regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

Leon Ilutovich
Assistant Executive Director

LI/mf

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

1220

SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

NL=Night Letter

LT=Int'l Letter Telegram

VLT=Int'l Victory Let.

GQ CLAO08 NL PD=NEW YORK NY APR 8= of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME (45)•

DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

1927 APR 9 AM 9 40

DLR THE TEMPLE=

THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA RECORDS ITS PROFOUND REGRETS IN THE PASSING OF DR FRED FALMAN MEMBER OF ITS NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND SECRETARY OF THE CLEVELAND ZIONIST SOCIETY. STALWART ZIONIST DEVOTED JEW CONSECRATES TO THE UPBUILDING OF ISRAEL AND JEWRY, HE HAS WRITTEN A SPLENDID PAGE IN THE HISTORY OF HIS PEOPLE. HIS WISE COUNSEL WILL BE SORELY MISSED IN THE DAYS AHEAD MAY HIS WIFE BE COMFORTED IN HER BEREAVEMENT AMONG THE MOURNERS OF ZION AND JERUSALEM. MILTON SILBERMAN VICE PRESIDENT OF THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA WILL REPRESENT THE ADMINISTRATION AND MEMBERSHIP IN PAYING ITS RESPECTS AT THE SERVICES FOR THE DEPARTED=

DR EMANUEL NEUMANN PRESIDENT DR SIDNEY MARKS SECRETARY=

April 15, 1957

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

My dear Sidney:

I am enclosing an additional two check to the special Z.O.A.
fund. Please acknowledge them.

With warmest greetings for the Passover season, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl
encl.

ch: #26411 The Feldman Bros. Co. \$100.00 (4/1/57)
ch: #3558 The Kahn Plumbing & Heating Co. (3/21/57) \$25.00



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

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

April 18 1957

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
E. 105th Street at Ansel Rd.,
Cleveland 6, Ohio

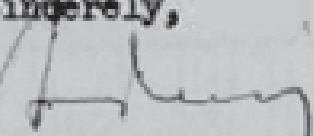
Dear Dr. Silver:

Many thanks for your letter dated April 15th together with the two checks. They are most helpful.

I trust that this letter finds you and your family in the best of health and spirits. Please extend to them my best wishes for a happy Passover.

With affectionate regards,

Sincerely,


Dr. Sidney Marks
Executive Director

SM/fs

April 26, 1957

Dr. Sidney Marks, Executive Director
Zionist Organization of America
145 East 32nd Street
New York 15, New York

My dear Sidney:

With the passing of Dr. Falkman, the Cleveland Zionist Society is faced with the serious problem of finding someone who will be able to take over the work of this very faithful and energetic Secretary.

We had a meeting of the Board of the Society last evening at which interim arrangements were made. It was felt by the Board that a large public meeting of the Society should be held some time in May and that such a meeting would serve many purposes.

I am wondering whether there would be available some outstanding personality during the month of May who could address such a meeting -- perhaps some prominent visitor from Israel or an important newspaper reporter fresh from the scene. Please let me know.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl

April 26, 1957

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

My dear Leon:

Thank you for your letter of April 2nd. I would be interested to know why the Caratorium of Rfar Silver took the action in the matter of dismissing Mr. Ariea Kotzer. Have you received any information?

With all good wishes I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

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

April 29, 1957

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

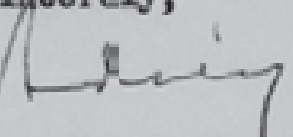
Many thanks for your letter dated April 26th. It was good to hear from you.

We are working on the matter of the speaker for the Cleveland Zionist Society.

Accept these assurances of my interest.

My affectionate regards.

Sincerely,


Dr. Sidney Marks
Executive Director

SM/br



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

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

May 13, 1957

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

The May issue of our official publication, "The Young Zionist" will be devoted to the Ninth Anniversary of the birth of the Jewish State.

Two men, six thousand miles apart, kept a rendezvous with destiny in 1948. I refer, of course, to the valiant leadership of David Ben Gurion in Israel, and your militant, decisive leadership on the American scene. I have written to the Prime Minister of Israel, asking him to write an article for the next issue of our publication, which goes to press on April 10th, entitled "Nine Years of Statehood."

I earnestly enlist your cooperation in writing an article for that same issue, on the same topic, from the point of view of the American leader who helped bring the State into being. Enclosed you will find the latest issue of "The Young Zionist" and copies of the first three issues.

May I anticipate that you will honor us with an article of about fifteen hundred words, not later than April 10th.

Very sincerely yours,

Gideon Patt, Director
Dept. for Youth Activities

GP/cg
Enc. (4)



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

May 29, 1957

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

Dear Abba:

I am enclosing copy of a letter I have sent to Dr. Schwartz which speaks for itself. I am most anxious to avoid this conflict of dates and, as it were, of loyalties. Could you possibly telephone Dr. Schwartz about it?

I don't know whether it would be possible to get the Waldorf Astoria Hotel to change the date of our convention for the following weekend. I note that it is the weekend immediately preceding Rosh Hashonah. Would it be possible, in that case, for you to attend? This is an important consideration. Please treat this paragraph as confidential and not mention it to Schwartz if you speak to him, since it is actually quite unlikely that we would be able to make the change.

With warmest regards, as ever,

Yours,

Emanuel

Emanuel Neumann

EN:TM

✓ Copy - Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

May 29, 1957

Dr. Joseph Schwartz
Development Corp. for Israel
215 Fourth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Schwartz:

I am deeply distressed by the unfortunate conflict of dates between the National Convention of the ZOA and the National Bond Conference. The date of the ZOA Convention was set months ago and until the other day, neither I nor the other officers of the ZOA had any inkling about the date of the Bond Conference.

I have already looked into the possibility of shifting the ZOA Convention, but it appears to be impossible, for many reasons. One of the reasons is the financial loss which would be involved - and in the case of the ZOA, this is not a negligible factor.

It would be tragic if a considerable number of our active workers and leaders would be unable to attend the Bond Conference, for we would like to go all out for it. As it happens, this will be a very special convention of the ZOA - in the nature of a 60th Anniversary Jubilee celebration - and many important speakers have already been invited. I would beg you most earnestly to consider the possibility of changing the date of the Bond Conference.

Apart from this, I hope we can get together for a chat either next week or the week after.

With warm regards, as ever,

Yours,

EH:TM

Emmanuel Neumann

June 3, 1957

Mr. Emanuel Neumann
250 West 57th Street, #413
New York 19, New York

My dear Emanuel:

I took up the matter of the conflict of dates with Mr. Helvarg of the Israel Bond office when he was with me in Montreal a few days ago.

I urged that the Bond meeting be postponed so that there will be no conflict with the ECA. I told him that it would be impossible for me to attend the Bond Conference if it is held at the time of the ECA Convention.

I am waiting to hear from the office.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:sl

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

Zionist Organization of America

Office of the President
146 EAST 32nd STREET
NEW YORK 14, N. Y.
MUrray Hill 3-9201

August 15, 1957

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Abba:

I wired you to Biarritz, but you had probably left for Spain. I hope you have been rested and refreshed and are coming back in good shape for the coming year.

First, let me thank you and Virginia for the congratulatory telegram you sent the children on the eve of their wedding. They are on vacation and seem to be exceedingly happy.

A word regarding our forthcoming Convention. The program seems to be shaping up very well. Governor Harriman will extend his greetings at the opening session, Thursday evening, September 12. We have secured as a guest-speaker, Lord Russell of Liverpool, a colorful personality and warm friend of our Cause. You will recall that he resigned his position as Judge Advocate rather than suppress the publication of his book, "The Scourge of the Swastika." More recently, he resigned as the Whip of the Conservative Party in the House of Lords, in protest against the withdrawal from Suez. In addition to addressing the Convention, he will speak for us in several other cities, thereafter. Eban will also speak; and probably a representative of the French Government.

Today we were also advised that Truman has agreed to appear and we expect official confirmation within a few days. Judge Sobeloff has accepted the designation as Chairman of the Convention Committee and has undertaken to secure a prominent Republican for Administration spokesman, if possible.

In the cable I sent you, I asked your opinion about Sherman Adams and also whether you could help us to get him.

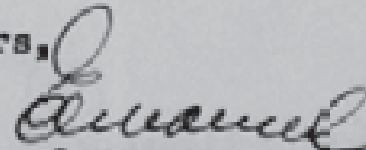
The idea of celebrating the sixtieth anniversary of the Zionist Movement seems to be taking hold and we expect an unusually large attendance. I do hope that you will find it possible, this time, not only to address the Convention, but to spend a little more time with us. I think it is important from many points of view.

I am writing this on the eve of my departure for a fortnight's vacation and do not expect to be in New York when you arrive, but Harold will be here and will certainly be in touch with you.

With affectionate regards to Virginia and yourself,

As ever,

Yours,


Emanuel Neumann

EN:BW

[Sept. 18, 1957]

GERSHON SWET

155 EAST 77TH STREET

NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

TEL: LEHIGH 5-3789

18-טן סעפטעמבער 1957.

ד"ר אבא הלל סילווער
ק ל י ו ל א נ ד

זעהר חשובער ד"ר סילווער!

איך שיק אייך דא סייך באריסט וועגן דעם אווענט
איך וואלדארף-אסטאריא לעצטן מוצאי שבת, וואס איז
היינט אווענט דערשיינען איז "אויפבאו", א אנגעזעהנער
דייטש-ידישער וואכענשריפט, וואס האט א גרויסע
צידקולייט איז דער גארער וועלט, אויף איז בכלל
א בלאט פון הויכע ניווא. איך בין דארט ביי זיי
סוף אסך יאהרן דער מוסחה אף ידישע ענינים.
איך בין איז יולי-אוגוסט געווען איז ישראל, וואו
איך האב פארבראכט פולע פינף וואכן. איך בין געווען
אין ירושלים ווען דער וואך בן-גוריון-גאלדסאז איז
געפיהרט געווארן.

וואס איז מיט אייער נסיעה קיין סאווייעס-רוסלאנד?

איך וואונש אייך א גליקלאך ניי יאהר

אייזער
ג' 16 / 16
גרסון סוועט

ע.ס. איך וועל נאך וועגן דער
קאנווענש-שטייבן. וואס עס וועט
דערשיינען-וועל איך אייך בוטיקן.
לעת עתה ווערן געדרוקט ארטיקלען
פון סיר וועגן דער רייזע קיין ישראל
אין יידיש, רוסיש, דייטש, העברעאיש.