

Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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Series II: Harold P. Manson File (Zionism Files), 1940-1949, undated. Sub-series A: Main Manson File, 1940-1949.

Reel	Box	Folder
103	36	197

United Palestine Appeal, 1943-1944.

Western Reserve Historical Society 10825 East Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44106 (216) 721-5722 wrhs.org American Jewish Archives 3101 Clifton Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45220 (513) 487-3000 AmericanJewishArchives.org RABBI MILTON STEINBERG Park Avenue Synagogue-50 E. 87th Street New York City

December 28, 1943

Mr. Henry Montor American Zionist Emergency Council 342 Madison Avenue New York City

Dear Mr. Montor:

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As you have heard, Rabbi Milton Steinberg became ill while in Texas on a tour of Army Camps on behalf of the Jewish Welfare Board. He has been, and still is, hospitalized in Dallas, Texas due to a bad case of flu and a touch of pleurisy.

Although he is doing very nicely now, it will be several weeks before he will be able to return to New York. His physician has insisted that when Rabbi Steinberg does return, he confine himself to Park Avenue Synagogue activities only for several months.

In view of that, Rabbi Steinberg has authorized me to write, on his behalf, this letter of resignation as Chairman of the Committee on Intellectual Mobilization. Rabbi Steinberg feels that the work of the Committee is too important to be without a Chairman who can give it the active and constant attention it needs. He considers it necessary, therefore, that someone else be appointed as Chairman instead of him.

Rabbi Steinberg is sure that you will understand and appreciate the reason for his resignation and that you will accept it without question.

Sincerely yours,

(signed)

Lillian Graham, Secretary to Rabbi Milton Steinberg

January 6, 1944.

Dr. Milton Steinberg, Baylord Hospital, Dallas, Texas.

Dear Milton:

It was but recently that I learned of your illness and that you have been compelled to interrupt your tour through the Southwest. I trust that by the time this note reaches you that you will be well on your way to complete recovery. You must have been going at too hard a pace. I am afraid that is true of a great many of us in these critical days.

I fully realize that you will want to be relieved of many responsibilities during your period of recuperation and I am, therefore, regretfully complying with your request to turn over the chairmanship of the Committee on Intellectual Mobilization to someone else. I will want you, of course, to remain on the Committee, perhaps, as Co-Chairman, with the understanding that you will not be burdened with the actual responsibility until you are ready to resume it. In the meantime, we are casting about for someone to take over the work.

Please get well soon. With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

January 6, 1944

Rabbi Leon I. Feuer c/o Zionist Orga mization of America 1720 16th St., N.W. Washington, D.C.

My dear Leon:

I hope that you have gotten over your cold. Take care of yourself.

I assume that you will be in Washington by Monday of next week so that we can work together in Washington on the Palestine Resolution. In the meantime there are a few things which have to be done in New York. As you know, Rabbi Milton Steinberg, who was chairman of the Intellectual Mobilization Committee is hospitalized in Texas and will not be able to carry on his work when he returns to New York. It is important that we get someone to head off that committee.

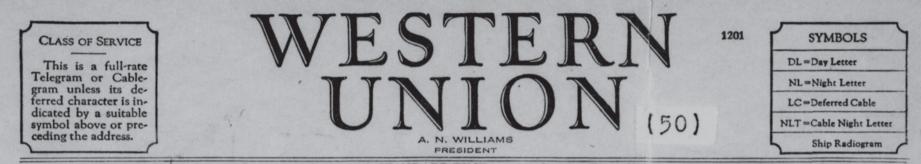
From what was said at the staff meeting Monday morning, Rabbi Bernstein wishes to be relieved of the chairmanship on Christian Chergy. I would suggest that you have a talk with Rabbi Bernstein about it. He might carry on with the work. If not you may wish to consult him as to a possible successor, or cast about yourself for some recommendations. That holds true also of Steinberg's committee. It would of course be highly desirable if you could persuade Lowenthal to take the chairmanship of that committee, but from what you said, he is unwilling to do so. As I understand it from what Mrs. Cohen writes, she attempted to divide the work into three categories, Lowenthal to head the writers, Hans Jacobs to head radio commentators and Salo Baron or some else like Professor Horace Kallen to head off the academicians. Please look into this thing right away. I understand that you are bringing back Magida for work among the Christian . Clergy.

Have you contacted Pierre Van Paassen about the matter which we discussed?

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS: BK



The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination WP343 38 5 EXTRA=LD NEWYORK NY JAN 11 1944 650 P DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER= DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

ROOSEVELT HOTEL=

HASTEN TO JOIN OUR FRIENDS IN URGING YOU TO CONTINUE AS UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL, CHAIRMAN OF THE FEEL WITH OUR LEADERSHIP INDISPENSABLE CO-WORKERS THIS YOUR AT RITICAL C WHOLEHEARTED COOPERATION= WE PLEDGE JUNCTURE ALL 53 ARLINGTON ST BROCKTON DEWEY D STONE MASS



WP176 142 15 EXTRA=LD NEWYORK NY 11 227P DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER= ROOSEVELT HOTEL=

IN VIEW OF FACT THAT FAR GREATER SUM BEING SOUGHT THIS YEAR BY UNITED JEWISH APPEAL AND INASMUCH AS UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL AND UNITED JEWISH APPEAL CONSTITUTE EXTREMELY VITAL IN RELATION TO WHOLE PALESTINE PICTURE, BELIEVE IT FRONT ESSENTIAL THAT YOU CONTINUE IN POST OF CHAIRMANSHIP OF UPA BELIEVE IT WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE IN THIS CRUCIAL YEAR TO LOSE BENEFIT OF YOUR EXPERIENCED LEADERSHIP WHICH WOULD STRENGTHEN ENTIRE PALESTINE FRONT IN UNITED STATES ALL OF US WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO SHARE YOUR BURDENS SO THAT YOU MAY CARRY ON SUCCESSFULLY IN NEW POST WHICH YOU HAVE ASSUMED. CONFIDENTLY HOPE THAT IN SPIRIT WHICH HAS ANIMATED YOU IN ACCEPTING ZIONIST BURDENS YOU WILL ADVISE US BY WIRE THAT YOU WILL BE WILLING TO CONTINUE AS UPA CHAIRMAN= 200 VARICK ST NEW YORK IRVING MILLER ABRAHAM GOODMAN LEON GELLMAN DAVID WERTHEIM JACOB SINCOFF SOL COHEN.

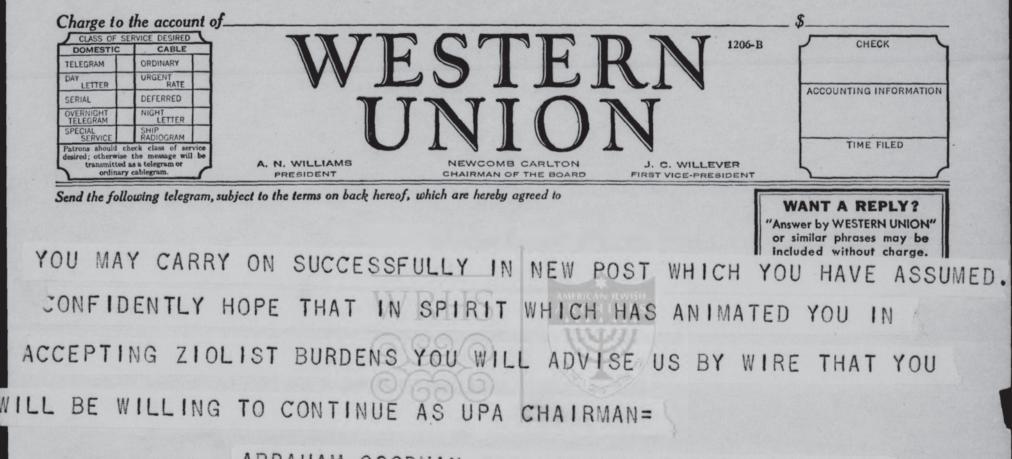
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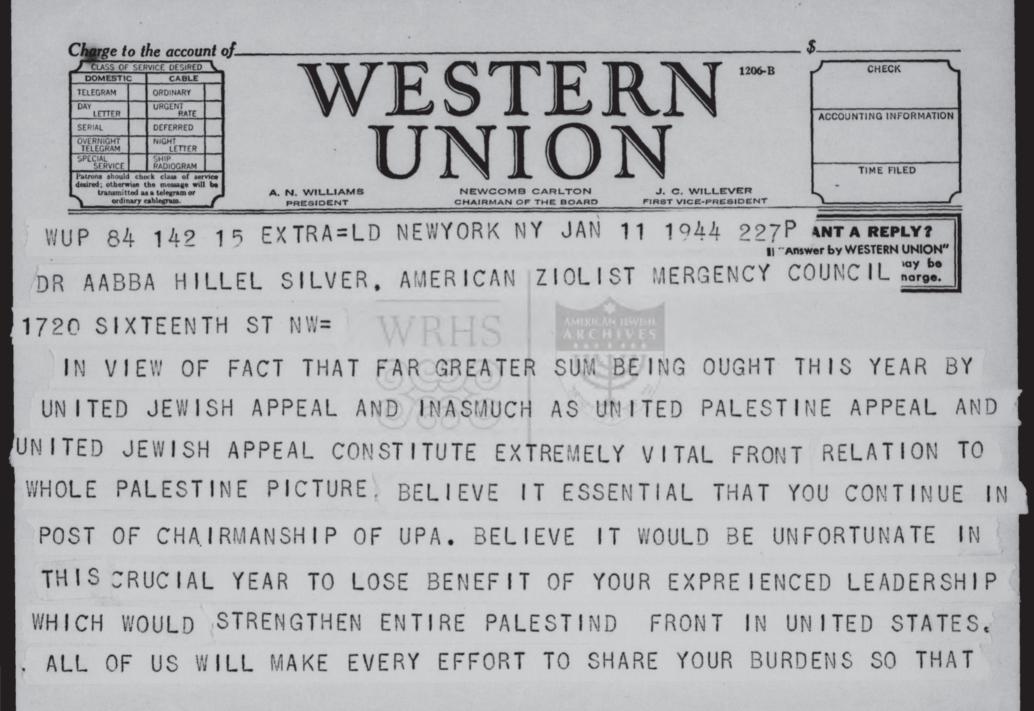
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19 Street Address_ nya City Mour

February 2, 1944

1943-44 - upa

Honorable Cordell Hull Honorable Henry Morgenthau, Jr. Honorable Henry L. Stimson

War Refugee Board Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

The Administrative Committee of the United Palestine Appeal, meeting in New York on February 1st, noted with a sense of deepest appreciation that the President of the United States has created a War Refugee Board for the purpose of dealing immediately with the needs of wartime refugees, with special reference to the plight of Jews among them. As Americans, we are proud of the manner in which our Government has proposed to act.

The United Palestine Appeal is the instrument through which the Jews of America make available funds for the upbuilding of the Jewish homeland in Palestine, to which hundreds of thousands of refugees and immigrants have been enabled to come. The agencies financed by the United Palestine Appeal have established foundations in Palestine which will provide an opportunity for many more refugees to find haven and security.

The officers of the United Palestine Appeal wish to make available to the War Refugee Board the facilities of its organization in the execution of plans that the Board may formulate. They wish also to assure the Board that the agencies in Palestine will be very eager to place their facilities at the disposal of the Board in a manner to assure the greatest cooperation in the rescue and rehabilitation of refugees as speedily as possible through the opportunities that Palestine affords.

Our officers stand ready to meet with you at your earliest convenience to implement this earnest offer of cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

James G. Heller National Chairman

JGH:MFE

Copy

UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND (Keren Hayesod)

MIZRACHI PALESTINE FUND

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND (Keren Kayemeth)

41 EAST 42nd STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y. • Telephone: MUrray Hill 2-3320 • Cable Address-Palfund

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Executive Director HENRY MONTOR February 18, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver Chairman, Executive Committee American Zionist Emergency Council 342 Madison Avenue New York City

Dear Dr. Silver:

At the meeting of the Administrative Committee of the United Palestine Appeal held on February 1st discussion was given to the relationship of the United Palestine Appeal to the War Refugee Board. This subject had arisen in connection with discussions originating in the United Jewish Appeal with respect to the effect upon it of the War Refugee Board's creation.

The sentiment of the Administrative Committee was that the matter of Palestine's relationship to the War Refugee Board should be a subject for consideration by the American Zionist Emergency Council.

I am sending you herewith:

(a) A copy of the letter which was written by Rabbi Heller to the members of the War Refugee Board on the vote of the Administrative Committee of the U.P.A.;

(b) A copy of a Minute of a meeting which I had with Miss Florence Hodel, Assistant to Mr. John W. Pehle, Acting Executive Director of the War Refugee Board in Washington on February 4th;

(c) A copy of a Minute of a meeting with Mr. Pehle by Mr. Moses A. Leavitt of the J.D.C. and myself on February 10th.

I should have wished to be present at the next meeting of the Emergency Council in order to answer such questions as might arise insofar as the U.P.A. and U.J.A. are concerned. Unfortunately, however, I am going to be in Maine next week in connection with my U.J.A. responsibilities. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

February 18, 1944

With kindest personal regards, I am

Cordially, yours,

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Henry Montor Executive Director

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THE PRESIDENT'S WAR RELIEF CONTROL BOARD WASHINGTON BUILDING WASHINGTON 5

March 25, 1944

James Brunot Executive Director

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My dear Rabbi Heller:

At the meeting of the President's War Helief Control Board on March 23. I presented for the Board's consideration the question raised in our telephone conversation of March 17, in regard to the use of funds provided by United Palestine Appeal for purposes inconsistent with Section 501.7 (b) of the Board's regulations. The facts, as presented to the Board, are as follows:

The United Palestine Appeal, using funds made available in part through the United Jewish Appeal and in part from the fund raising activities of the Jewish National Fund, allocates certain sums to the Jewish National Fund and to the Palestine Foundation Fund. From those allocations these two organizations, during 1944, have agreed to supply amounts up to \$250,000 each to support the activities of the American Zionist Emergency Council. The latter organization will use these funds to conduct an educational program now chiefly directed towards the maintenance of free Jewish immigration into Palestine. This activity includes publication of "Palestine", various pamphlets and advertisements, sponsorship of mass meetings, and other measures to consolidate public opinion and stimulate official action.

After careful consideration, the Board decided that financing the activities of the American Zionist Emergency Council in the manner described would constitute a violation of its recently amended regulation prohibiting the combining of political action or propaganda with authorized activities of registered agencies. The Board requests, therefore, that arrangements be made (1) to distinguish appeals for support of the activities of the Emergency Council from those for funds to be used for welfare or relief purposes and (2) to conduct fund raising activities for the Emergency Council in the mane of that organization or some other agency not registered by the Board as a welfare or relief agency.

In reporting this action I wish to express our appreciation of your cooperation in calling this question to our attention. I want to assure you, also, that the Ebard's action was taken with full recognition of the importance of the work of the Emergency Council in relation to other activities of the United Palestine Appeal. We realize that a separate appeal involves very real disadvantages from some points of view. We believe, however, that these are clearly outweighed by the desirability of a clear-cut separation between relief appeals and those for other purposes, even though the ultimate objectives are closely interrelated.

If the facts presented for the Board's consideration, as outlined in this letter, are inaccurate we shall be happy to have a corrected statement presented. If the facts on which the Board based its action are substantially correct we will appreciate your advising us, in due time, of the measures taken to conform with the Board's request.

Sincerely yours, (signed) James Brunot