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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
104	36	241

American Zionist Policy Committee, minutes of meetings, 1945.

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

AGENDA

 <u>Barry Shapiro calls meeting to order</u> -- Following explanation of necessity for calling meeting, will suggest that a Chairman for the meeting be selected. (Emanuel Neumann)

2. <u>Presentation of Emanuel Neumann</u>, who will give an account of some of the problems involved and aly the basis for the discussion.

3. <u>Discussion</u>. (Immediately preceding or during the discussion, D^r. Silver should be requested to advance some of his ideas on the subject of program.)

4. <u>Appointment of Program Committee</u> -- The Committee should take into account the discussion of tonight's meeting and then have a session prior to tomorrow morning's session, scheduled for 11 a.m., in which they are to bring in a report.

5. Appointment of a Nomination Committee -- Nomination Committee to select management of the members of Executive or Interim Committee. It should be the policy that the Committee elect its own officers -- Committee to bring in a report to tomorrow morning's meeting at 11 a.m. Suggested Agenda for Meeting of Greater New York Executive Committee of the American Zionist Policy Committee 55 West 42 Street, New York, N. Y.

Wednesday Evening, April 18, 1945

Hon. Emanuel Greenberg, Chairman

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I. A Review of the Current Situation - Dr. Emanuel Neumann.

Discussion to be postponed until the decisions are made with reference to the Metropolitan Inter-Regional Council.

II. To Determine " Regular Monthly Meeting Date for the Executive Committee, Acceptable to Representatives from the Four Regions.

III. Expansion of Membership in Greater New York.

IV. Financial Report.

Following report, discussion of fund-raising campaign in Greater New York to raise share of needed funds for the American Zionist Policy Committee - Harry L. Shapiro.

V. The Metropolit m Inter-Regional Council.

To date the four Regions have agreed to elect five men each to such a committee, which would carry on joint Zionist activity in behalf of the four Regions. It had been suggested that a reception be tendered by the four Regions through this committee for Dr. Chaim Weizmann and Mr. David ben Gurion, if and when they visit the United States. This idea, plus other potential activities, should be discussed.

VI. Discussion on Future Program.

MEETING OF THE GREATER NEW YORK EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE AMERICAN ZIONIST POLICY COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 18, 1945

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. with Judge Emanuel Greenberg presiding.

Present: Judge Emanuel Greenberg CEALD HAU

REPORT OF EMANUEL NEUMANN

The Chairman called on Mr. Mmanuel Meumann to give a report on the current situation. Mr. Meumann described some activity in various Regions and Districts, a review of the situation involving the establishment of the ZOA "pesce" committee, the situation at San Francisco, the Lewisohn Stadium Rally, etc.

THE ACERCIA The vhairman requested that discussion be forestalled on the report until after we had completed the business included in the agends of the meeting. He listed these items as: (1) the expansion of the membership in Greater New York, (2) the Financial Report and fund raising, (3) The American 4 ionist Policy Committee's relationship to the proposed Metropolitan Inter-Regional Council.

Mr. Ferry questioned the procedure with reference to the expansion of membership, indicating that we were not a membership organization but our Committee was set up primarily to concern itself with the political aspects of the movement.

Mr. Shapiro attempted to clarify the meaning of membership expansion in terms of securing key people in each District to associate themselves with the Committee in order to extend the influence of the Committee into every District in the four Regions in Greater New York. This was necessary in order that the Policy Committee might receive the support of the Districts whenever the next ZOA Convention is to be held. Mr. Neumann suggested that a committee be named in each Region which would review our position in each District and attempt to get support in the Districts where we have no support or to line up additional members in Districts where our support is yet inadequate.

Mr. Ferry suggested that a good procedure to follow for getting support would be to call a meeting of interested peoples from various Districts and explain the situation to them, seeking their support. Mr. Low felt that we should move very carefully and should work on an individual basis rather than calling a group meeting for the purpose. Mr. Low said that he had spoken with a number of Zionist District leaders in the past weeks who were interested in supporting our program but had not been asked to join the Committee.

Mr. Abremson said that he had written to eight sponsors of the Dr. Silver Testimonial Dinner from the Bronz Region and five of them had sent in application cards to the Committee. He stated that the overwhelming majority of District leaders in the Bronz are sympathetic to our point of view and if invited he felt they would go along with us.

Mr. Perry posed the question: Will the Policy Committee continue to function if Dr. Silver is returned to leadership in the Zionist Emergency Council?

Mr. Neumann expressed himself to the effect that there would be very good reason to continue the Policy Committee beyond such an appointment in order to carry the fight to the Convention. He said it would be most desirable to continue to have such a body in order to express the wishes of the rank and file of the 20A. It was necessary, he stated, that we have channels through which information and ideas may be disseminated and these channels ought to be through the active for the disseminated and these channels ought to be through the active for the poly of the poly of the country. For this purpose, we should expand our membership and add aditional names to our mailing list.

Mr. Percy felt that the word "member" would be misleading. We are not a membership organization and do not want to put ourselves in a position of being a competing organization of other Zionist membership organizations. We should find a different term for our affiliates. In our publicity, we should stress the word

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"committee" mather than "member".

Judge Greenberg felt that we should try to get key-men in each District to keep alive the policy of the Committee, the purposes of the Committee, and to keep before the Zionists our aims until the next Convention.

The decision of the meeting was to the effect that the chairman oppoint two members from each Region who will constitute themselves as a committee to develop ways and means of securing key Zionists in every District of their Regions to bring the influence of the Palley Committee into their respective Districts. REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING DATE Judge Greenberg brought forward the matter of determining a regular monthly meeting date and it was decided that Mr. Shapiro should make inquiries into the regular meeting dates of the Zionist groups and select a monthly meeting date which would conflict least with these meetings.

A Financial Report was given by Mr. Shapiro to the effect that as of April 1st, the income of the Committee had been 314, 461. The expense for the period was 316,172.84. As of April 1st, there was a deficit of 31,711.84. Mr. Shapiro pointed out that as of the moment we have a deficit of approximately 33,000. FOR ALGING The report, the discussion on fund raising ensued. Mr. Neumann stated that if the members of our Committee would call on those who attended the dinner, he felt sure that a sizable amount could be raised.

After a number of suggestions had been made, it was decided that these present at the meeting should assume the obligation of raising specific amounts. In canvassing the members present, the following commitments for fund raising were made:

> Emanuel Neumann \$5,000 Jacques Torczyner(with Chas.Wolf) 3,000 The Bronx (Abramson, Lebenson, Habinson) 1,000 J. I. Rudavsky 500 Kalman Ostow 1,000 Samuel Perry and Sol Low(LengIstand) 2,000

Mr. Levy guaranteed to secure substantial gifts from those people whom he had induced to attend the dinner.

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METROPOLITAN INTER-REGIONAL COUNCIL.

The Chairman called on Mr. Neumann to give the background for the understanding of the setting up of the Metropolitan Inter-Regional Council. Mr. Neumann stated that the setting up of such a body fould be a great benefit to the Policy Committee. If our people controlled it, it could be a very powerful instrument in our hands. He stated that if there had been a strong Metropolitan Zionist setup, in the part, what has happened would not have taken place. With this body, New York could be developed as a real center of Zionist thought, thus making it possible for the metropolitan area to be in a position to develop and represent real Zionist public opinion. He further stated that the program of building up Zionism in our area can be the salvation of Zionism in America.

The Chairman stated that if the council were set-up that our representatives on it should consider a reception to Dr. Chaim Weizmann and Mr. David Ben Gurion should they come to America. It was the feeling of the meeting that the members present should do everything possible in order to support the establishment of the

proposed Metropolitan Inter-Regional Council. SCUSSION O Mr. Perry Selt

Mr. Perry fielt that the most important matter to be discussed at the meeting was policy. He stated that he wanted to know definitely what our goal was. He explained that we had been working in a number of directions and he wanted our position on our major aim clarified.

Mr. Neumann said that one of our immediate objectives is to see to it that organized Zionism in this country follows in the spirit and along the lines which have been indicated in Dr. Silver's address of March 21st. This could be accomplished by getting the Emergency Council reorganized and Dr. Silver recalled to its active leadership.

Involved in such a procedure are many difficulties. If Dr. Silver weat beck under the sums conditions in which he was forced to resign the Council would be doomed to another breaklown. We ought to consider under what conditions Dr. Silver should go back of the is involved. My wort further of the former for the print headly to white the former forms the print headly to white the former former the print headly to white the former former the print headly to white the former former former the print headly to white the former former for former the print headly to white the former former former for former the print headly to white the former former former former former former for the print headly to white the former former former former former for the print headly to white the former former former for the print headly to white the former former former former former former former former former for the print headly to white the former former former former former former former former for the print headly for the former former former former for the print headly for the former former former former for the former former former former former former former former former for the former fo

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The conditions that would make for an effective procedure would be for Dr. Silver to have a working majority within the Council and also to set up some sort of an arrangement which would prevent the present ZOA leaders from interfering in the workings of the Council.

Mr. Neumann said that some of our people felt that it would be unwise for Dr. Silver to retarn to the Emergency Council but he pointed out that political happenings of great moment were transpiring now, that every day and every week and every month was crucial. In this crisis the Emergency Council is now floundering. Things are going from bad to worse. Some of our people feel that we ought to try to patch up something quickly now in order to save the Zionist situation.

Mr. Neumann felt that we ought to have the collective wisdom of our people on this subject. Mr. Meanman pointed out that he had asked Dr. Silver in January whether he would be prepared to be a candidate for the presidency of the ZOA and Dr. Silver had answered "If necessary, yes." If r. Neumann said that Dr. Silver felt that it was necessary to have the kind of administration in the ZOA which would bak up the kind of constructive policy we want. If it could be accomplished by Dr. Silver taking the presidency of the ZOA, he would be prepared to stand for election. It may be pessible that we might find some other candidate formafor the presidency of the ZOA who would carry on this work. Er. Silver had no fixed notions or opinions about it.

Dr. Silver did not believe that anything would orme out of the peace talk that was prevelent at the mement and that the political situation would become even worse before those persons in power relinquish that power.

Mr. Noumann felt that if Dr. Silver's friends and followers were agreed that he should not step into the Emergency Council but wait until the Convention and make sure of the ZDA Administration, that he would take this very seriously into account any monthle to before accepting return to political leadership.

Mr. Torszyner stated that we ought to set up a committee which would come out with definite proposals with reference to the Emergency Council, which would put the ZOA in a position that they would have to make counter proposals.

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Mr. Perry said that we preach militancy but we do not practice it because we have not taken aggressive steps in order to keep the ZOA leadership on the defensive.

Mr. Shapiro stated that the aggressive step was taken by the Policy Committee when it had 146 leading Zionists sign a telegram to the ZOA President. The setting up of the port of "pont" committee was a defensive step on the part of the ZOA following the telegram. He said that our tactics had been to keep the ZOA on the defensive at all times.

The Chairman stated that the popular sentiment among Zionists is against the present leaders of the ZOA and not with them. He did not believe that the present leaders would give up the reins of the ZOA. They are shadow boxing to keep the issue alive throughout the country until the Convention.

Mr. Abramson thought that the primary objective is to reorganize in the imergency and to reorganize if the ZOA. What has happened in the Emergency Council is a weapon in our hands in which we have the support of the Zionist constituency. The appointment of the peace committee by the Administration may destroy in one gesture a good deal of the gains which we have achieved. He thought it was important to counteract this move, to designate a peace committee from the rolicy committee, and thus forcing the ZOA into a position of consulting with this Committee on any peace proposels which they may bring forward.

Mr. Hudavsky felt that the peace committee of the ZOA is a maneuver and is not sincere. If we are to hold our people, we must find some method to conteract the proposal of the ZOA peace committee, when and if it makes one. We should go on record as indicating that ur. Silver should not deal with the ZOA peace committee but to refer any proposal to a committee of the American Zionist Folicy Committee.

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MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AMERICAN ZIGNIST POLICY COMMITTEE 55 West 42 Street, New York, N. Y.

Wednesday Evening, April 18, 1945

The meeting was called to order at 8:50 P. M.

Present: Judge Emenuel Greenberg, Cheirmen; Mercus Abramson, Emeruel Helpern, Leon Kohn, Arthur Lebenson, Max Levy, Sol Low, Harold P. Manson, Emeruel Neumenn, K. Ostow, Samuel Perry, Moses Rubinson, J. I. Rudavsky, Harry L. Shapiro, Jacques Torczyner, A. Tuvim.

Mr. Neumann gave a full and comprehensive review of the current situation.

Mr. Work which he had written a letter to Dr. Goldstein, which he has not yet mailed, expressing with great frankness his feelings on the controversy. The chairman opined that he would not write such a letter because the controlling body is not interested in the cause.

It was the feeling of Mr. that we should build up a record; that we should act as if we wanted a reconciliation. (This was out of order and the chairman requested that the agenda be followed).

The chairman stated that there was much constructive work to be done by the AZFC: expansion of membership in Greater New York; fund-raising; Metropolitan Inter-Regional Council. This would give the Policy Committee a working program.

Mr. For remarked that he did not see where membership fite in with our work since the Policy Committee was to concern itself with the political phase. Mr. Shapiro explained the end-result of such a membership drive, particularly in terms of the next ZOA convention.

a suggestion was made for the designation of Regional representatives. It was suggested that one or two influential people of each district be called in and discuss the matter, which could then be relayed to groups. The chairman said he would appoint a chairman of each Region and take up with him the plan of getting together with the representatives of each district in his Region and work out ways of getting key men in each district. It was pointed out that this undertaking should not be antagonistic and that before anything is done there should be a discussion of the entire matter with the chairmen and others. Mr. Neumann felt that we should put these people through a process of education. Mr. four said he had contacted districts and found key men were with us but were not asked to join. It was his thinking that if we had some sort of form it could be sent to key men.Mr. Torczyner thought group discussions were most ef-

Mr. said he wrote to eight sponsors of the Dinner from the Bronx district and five sent in enrollment cards in the Committee. He stated that an overwhelming majority are with us and that we can get membership.

foctive.

Mr. suggested that a committed be appointed or have Mr. Neumann or Mr. Shapiro head the committee. The Chairman said that if this met with the approval of the members he would appoint such a committee. Mr. Neumann declined.

Mr. (""Yeaked if, essuming Dr. Silver returned to the Council or the ZOA, would the Policy Committee continue to exist. Mr. Neumann felt that there would be good reason to continue the Policy Committee beyond V-Day to carry on the fight until the Convention. He said it might be very desirable to continue to have such a body in order to convey to the people the wishes of the Sionists.

Mr. And wanted to know what the purpose was in creating mass sentiment in favor of the Silver program. He said that when you go out for membership you find people believe in Silver but are not ready to become members. Thus, the wast mass of support is deliberately reduced by excluding those who are not members.

The chairman replied that we should try to get key men in each district to keep alive the policy of the Committee, the purpose of the Committee, and keep before the Zienists our aim until the next convention.

Mr. Neumann stated that we have to have channels through which information and ideas can be disseminated, and these channels ought to be active Zionist

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leaders in all districts all over the country.

Mr. W grid that we ought to change some things that are harmful to the movement. The word "member" is a misnomer. We should stress the word "committee."

Mr. suggested that we have more than one or two key men from each district. The chairman felt that two would be sufficient to control the work in each district. Mr. Neumann stated we should have one or two from each district whom we would want to serve on the committee; and there should be additional names of those to be placed on the mailing list.

The matter of determining a regular monthly meeting date for the Executive Committee was next taken up. It was Mr. Shapiro's feeling that d date should be set which would, as far as possible, least conflict with the four Regions. He will work out a date.

A financial report by Hr. Shapiro followed.

Open discussion on the matter of finances ensued. Mr. Neumann thought that the people who attended the Binner would make a contribution. Mr. for asked if we could get Dr. Silver to speak at the Long Island Convention. Mr. Shapiro said we need some people to follow through on the Dinner people. Mr. Ostow said he would undertake to raise \$1000. Mr. How will guarantee substantial gifts from those who came to the Dinner whom he was responsible for. Mr. Neumann suggested that each ought to undertake to try to achieve a certain minimum quote among the people who were at the Dinner. The chairman will sendalist of names. Mr. Tuvim said that there are about 350 contacts for contributions. He thought that the man who sponsored the tables would be the man we would have to work with. The chairman was assuming that every member attending tonight's meeting would take cars of his obligation. Mr. Neumann stated that he will undertake to secure \$5000 contribution. A contribution of \$500 was promised by Mr. Rudavsky. Mr. Perry promised several thousand dollars from Long Island. Mr. Torozyner felt he could raise \$3000. The Bronx people will raise \$1000. A record of the people who attended the Dinner will be given to the members attending the meeting tonight in order to contact them.

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The Metropolitan Inter-Regional Council was next taken up. Mr. Meumann gave the background of the Council. He said there is nothing more important for usat the present time than to get this body created. It is a very powerful instrument in our hands. He stated that if there had been a strong Metropolitan Zionist set-up in the past what has happened would not have taken place. Summarizing briefly Mr. Neumann said that/New York Zionists have/special place and responsibility because they are much closer to things than Zionists throughout the country. New York Zionists are in a position to represent Zionist public opinion. It can create in New York a real center of Zionist thought. Building up Zioniem in the Metropolitan area can be the salvation of Zioniem in America.

Mr. Abramson was amazed at the necessity of a Metropolitan Inter-Regional Council. This idea had been thought of for years but the Administration had blocked them; and the answer was the establishment of the Metropolitan office.

There was some discussion on the Lewisohn Stadium Rally and the San Francisco Conference.

The chairman stated that the Committee should consider a reception to Dr. Chaim Weizmann and Mr. David ben Gurion. should then Comme here .

Mr. Perry said we discussed the idea of expanding the Policy Committee and planning to raise the nacessary funds. He felt that one of the most important things of the Committee is to discuss policy and he wanted to know definitely what was our goal; he was confused about the matter. Mr. Neumann clarified this motter for him. He said that the major goal is to see to it that organized Zionism in this country follows in the spirit and along the lines which have been indicated and which Dr. Silver's address summarizes. The objective is to get American Zionists to move in Dr. Silver's direction. This can be accomplished by getting the Emergency Council/organized. Behind the Emergency Council there is the ZOA administration which is fully tied in and supports that kind of leadertime lot ship. The reorganization of the Council itself will be doomed to another breakto get down. On this point there are differences of opinion. Some think/the Emergency Council sizesid to recall Dr. Silver. Under what conditions ought Dr. Silver go back? Then they realize that the matter is infinitely more complicated.

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There is no use in trying to patch up now with the Emergency Council. Mr. Neumann felt that we must wait and go to the next Convention and begin at the bottom to see to that the ZOA has the right kind of Administration and/carry through. Some may say that this is unpatriotic. In the meantime, everything is happening. Every month now is crucial. The Emergency Council is floundering. We cannot what. They say we ought to try to patch up something quickly now in order to save the Zionist situation. Mr. Neumann said we ought to have collective wiedom. There is no point in Dr. Silver's going back to the Emergency Council with one or two of his supporters unless the Council is reorganized, that there is a fair prospect of

his having a working majority with him.

The question of willings and up and it was necessary to do this .

It was suggested by Rabbi Feuer that the Policy Committee should explore a basis for peace. Our Committee can come out for proposals for peace.

Mr. Neuman, "sked Dr. Silver (in January) whether he would be propared to be " candidate for the presidency of the ZOA, and Dr. Silver answered, "If necessary, yes." It is important that we have the kind of Administration in the ZOA which will back up the kind of policy we want. If it can only be accomplished by his taking the presidency, he would be prepared to do it. We may find another candidate for the presidency of the ZOA who would carry on the work. Dr. Silver had no fixed notions or opinions about it. His present mood is that he does not believe much will come out of the peace talk at present. The political situation will become even worse before the present power is relinguished. Dr. Wise Bas stated that if we do not get anything out of San Francisco we will all have to turn to Dr. Silver. Dr. Silver feels that if they "re prepared to go as far as necessary to effect " reorganization of the Emergency Council to get " working majority, that he would be prepared to consider it. On the other hand, Mr. Neumann felt that if his friends and followers were agreed that even then he should not step in but wait until the Convention and make sure of the ZOA administration, he would take this very seriously into account.

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Mr. Perry said that we preach militancy but do not practice it and we ought to work out policies along those lines.

Mr. Torczyner felt that we have to fight for the presidency of the ZOA and that we should appoint a committee for this purpose and make some very definite proposals, such as the reorganization of the Emergency Council as Dr. Silver wants it, etc. If we come out with very definite and logical proposals, they would have to make counter proposals.

The chairman did not agree with either one of the last two members. He did not feel that we should be a militant group and stated that the popular sentiment among Zionists regarding the leaders in the ZOA is against them and not with them. As for Mr. Torozyner's suggestion, they will not give up the rains of the ZOA. They are shadow-boxing to keep the issue alive throughout the country until the Convention.

Mr. Abramson thought the primary objective is to reorganize not the Emergency Council but to reorganize the ZOA. What has happened in the Emergency Council is a weapon in our hands in which we have the support of the Zionist constituency. By the appointment of a peace committee the Administration can destroy in one gesture a good deal of the gains we have achieved; that we will lose the weapon with which we anticipate to capture the Convention. He thought it was important and vital to counteract this move by the designation of a peace committee from the Policy Committee, thus forcing them in a position where any peace proposal by this peace committee has to be consulted.

Mr. Rudavsky said the movement is greater. We must consider its aspects, objectives, and maneuverings. The peace committee of the ZOA is a maneuver and is not sincers. We are interested, he said, in keeping our own people solidly united. We must find some method where if the ZOA peace committee does something it must deal not only with Dr. Silver but also with a committee of the American Zionist Policy Committee. He stated that Mr. Lipsky has some sort of a plan. He also felt that the general press ought to know that there was a meeting of the Executive and that we discussed the problem and in some general way say how we feel about it. /He mentioned a speech which Mr. Friech delivered

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last Sunday. He felt that we ought to appoint a subcommittee to study problems on maneuvers and make sure that we do not fall into some trap that they may be planning for us. He stated it was not only a matter of Dr. Silver alone. There are the rank and file of Zionists who are interested in the matter.

Mr. Shapiro recalled an incident in Er. Silver's candidacy of the ZOA. Dr. Silver said that he was willing to lead a movement to bring about reforms in the Zionist Organization.

The chairman said that the next move should come from the Emergency Council. He felt that if we keep Zionists acquainted with what is being done we are doing our share. He said we have to bide our time until we have the Convention.

Mr. Abromson was of the opinion that we should also designate a paace committee. He moved that an appropriate committee of five be appointed and that the appointment of such a committee and its objectives be given wide publicity. This was then changed to be recommende that such a committee be appointed. He wanted recommendation to come out of the committee (?) to the Executive Committee that such a committee be appointed.

Mr. Neumann suggested that a committee be appointed to study conditions under which unity can be established in the Zionist movement, and then such a committee can come out with unionization of two or three persons which must be respected if unity is to be achieved. (1) Dr. Silver must be remailed to the direction of the political effort. (2) This is impossible unless wonditions within the Emergency Council are made to insure that he will function without being up against an impossible met-up. (3) It must be assured that the ZOA shall give its complete cooperation to the policies which will be pursued.

Mr. Perry said that we must try out some constructive policies.

Mr. Torczyner said that the peace committee has dewided to make all communications directly to Dr. Silver. Dr. Silver should insist that peace negotiations should go through the Policy Committee.

Mr. Neumann felt that if we were to appoint a national policy committee consisting of heads of chairmen of a half dozen important regions throughout the country, that they would also be in a difficult position in discussion with them.

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The motion was carried. It will be conveyed to the National Executive Committee for action.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 P. M.



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AMERICAN ZIONIST FOLICY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GREATER NEW YORK EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 1945

PRESENT:

Judge Emanuel Greenberg (presiding), Marcus Abramson, Emanuel Halpern, Leon Kohn, Arthur Lebenson, Max Levy, Sol Low, Emanuel Neumann, Kalman Ostow, Samuel Perry, Moses Rubinson, Jochanon I. Rudavsky, Jacques Torczymer.

Harold P. Manson, Harry L. Shapiro, Abe Tuvim.

meeting called to order at 8:30 F. m.

REPORT OF EMANUEL NEUMANN

The Chairman called on Mr. Emanuel Neumann to give a report on the current situation. Mr. Neumann described activity in various Regions and Districts, a review of the situation involving the establishment of the ZOA "peace" committee, the situation at San Francisco, and the Lewisohn Stadium Rally.

THE AGENDA

The Chairman requested that discussion be forestalled on the report until after we had completed the business included in the sgenda of the meeting. He listed these items as: (1) the expansion of membership in Greater New York, (2) Financial Report and fund raising, (3) the American Zionist Policy Committee's relationship to the proposed Metropolitan Inter-Regional Council.

EXPANSION OF MEMBERSHIP

Mr. Perry questioned the procedure with reference to the expansion of membership, indicating that we were not a membership organization but our Committee was set up primarily to concern itself with the political aspects of the movement.

Mr. Shepiro attempted to clarify the meaning of membership expansion in terms of securing key people in each District to associate themselves with the Committee in order to extend the influence of the Committee into every District in the four Regions in Greater New York. This was necessary in order that the Policy Committee might receive the support of the Districts whenever the next ZOA Convention is to be held.

Mr. Neumann suggested that a committee be named in each Region which would review our position in each District and attempt to get support in the Districts where we have no support or to line up additional members in Districts where our support is as yet insdequate.

Mr. Pemry Suggested that a good procedure to follow for getting support would be to call a meeting of interested peoples from various Districts and explain the situation to them, seeking their support. Mr. Low felt that we should move very carefully and should work on an individual basis rather than calling a group meeting for the purpose. Mr. Low said that he had spoken with a number of Zionist District leaders in the past weeks who were interested in supporting our program but had not been asked to join the Committee. Mr. Abramson said that he had written to eight sponsors of the Dr. Silver Testimonial Dinner from the Bronx Region and five of them had sent in application cards to the Committee. He stated that the overwhelming majority of District leaders in the Bronx are sympathetic to our point of view and if invited he felt they would go along with us.

Mr. Perry posed the question: Will the Policy Committee continue to function if Dr. Silver is returned to leadership in the Zionist Emergency Council?

Mr. Neumann expressed himself to the effect that there would be very good reason to continue the Policy Committee beyond such an appointment in order to carry the fight to the Convention. He said it would be most desirable to continue to have such a body in order to express the wishes of the rank and file of the ZOA. It was necessary, he stated, that we have channels through which information and ideas may be disseminated and these channels ought to be through the active Zionist leaders in all Districts throughout the country. For this purpose, we should expand our membership and add additional names to our mailing list.

Mr. Perry felt that the word "member" would be misleading. We are not a membership organization and do not want to put ourselves in a position of being a competing organization of other Zionist membership organizations. We should find a different term for our affiliates. In our publicity, we should stress the word "committee" rather than "member".

Judge Greenberg felt that we should try to get key-men in each District to keep alive the policy of the Committee, the purposes of the Committee, and to keep before the Zionists our aims until the next Convention.

The decision of the meeting was to the effect that the chairman appoint two members from each Region who will constitute themselves as a committee to develop ways and means of securing key Zionists in every District of their Regions to bring the influence of the Policy Committee into the Districts.

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING DATE

Judge Greenberg brought forward the matter of determining a regular monthly meeting date and it was decided that Mr. Shapirc should make inquiries into the regular meeting dates of the Zionist groups and select a monthly meeting date which would conflict least with these meetings.

FINANCIAL REPORT

A Financial Report was given by Mr. Shapiro to the effect that as of April 1st, the income of the Committee had been \$14,461. The expense for the period was \$16,172.84. As of April 1st, there was a deficit of \$1,711.84. Mr. Shapiro pointed out that as of the moment we have a deficit of approximately \$3,000.

FUND RAISING

Following the report, the discussion on fund raising ensued. Mr. Neumann stated that if the members of our Committee would call on those who attended the dinner, he felt sure that a sizable amount could be raised. After a number of suggestions had been made, it was decided that those present at the mseting should assume the obligation of raising specific amounts. In canvassing the members present, the following commitments for fund raising were made:

Emanuel	Neumann	\$5,000
Jacques	Torczyner (with Charles Wolf)	3,000
	nx (Abramson, Lebenson, Rubinson) 1,000
Jochanos	n I. Rudavsky	500
Kalman (Ostow	1,000
Samuel 1	Ferry & Sol Low (for Long Island) 2,000

Mr. Levy guaranteed to secure substantial gifts from those people whom he had induced to attend the dinner.

METROPOLITAN INTER-REGIONAL COUNCIL

The Chairman called on Mr. Neumann to give the background for the understanding of the setting up of the Metropolitan Inter-Regional Council. Mr. Neumann stated that the setting up of such a body could be a great benefit to the Folicy Committee. If our people controlled it, it could be a very powerful instrument in our hands. He stated that if there had been a strong metropolitan Zionist setup, what has happened would not have taken place. With this body, New York could be developed as a real center of Zionist thought, thus making it possible for the metropolitan area to be in a position to create Zionist public opirion. He further stated that the program of building up Zioniam in our area can be the salvation of Zionism in America.

The Chairman stated that if the council were set up that our representatives on it should consider a reception to Dr. Chaim Weizmann and Mr. David Hen Gurion should they come to America. It was the feeling of the meeting that the members present should do everything possible in order to support the establishment of the proposed Metropolitan Inter-Regional Council.

DISCUSSION CN FOLICY

Mr. Ferry felt that the most important matter to be discussed at the meeting was policy. He stated that he wanted to know definitely what our goal was. He explained that we had been working in a number of directions and he wanted our position on our major aim clarified.

Mr. Neumann said that one of our immediate objectives is to see to it that organized Zionism in this country follows in the spirit and along the lines which have been indicated in Dr. Silver's address of March 21st. This could be accomplished by getting the Emergency Council reorganized and Dr. Silver recalled to its active leadership. Involved in such a procedure are many difficulties. If Dr. Silver returned under the same conditions in which he was forced to resign, the Council would be doomed to another breakdown. We ought to consider under what conditions Dr. Silver should go back, if Zionist public opinion forces the present leaders to invite him to return.

The conditions that would make for an effective procedure would be for Dr. Silver to have a working majority within the Council and also to set up some sort of an arrangement which would prevent the present ZOA leaders from interfering in the workings of the Council. Mr. Neumann said that some of our people felt that it would be unwise for Dr. Silver to return to the Emergency Council but he pointed out that political happenings of great moment were transpiring now, that every day and every week and every month was crucial. In this crisis the Emergency Council is now floundering. Things are going from bad to worse. Some of our people feel that we ought to try to patch something up quickly now in order to save the Zionist situation.

Mr. Neumann felt that we ought to have the collective wisdom of our people on this subject. He pointed out that he had asked Dr. Silver in January whether he would be prepared to be a candidate for the presidency of the ZCA and Dr. Silver had answered "If necessary, yes." Mr. Neumann said that Dr. Silver felt that it was necessary to have the kind of administration in the ZOA which would back up the kind of constructive policy we want. If it could be accomplished by Dr. Silver taking the presidency of the ZOA, he would be prepared to stand for election. It may be possible that we might find some other candidate for the presidency of the ZOA who would carry on this work. Dr. Silver had no fixed notions or opinions about it.

Dr. Silver did not believe that anything would come out of the peace talk that was prevelent at the moment and that the political situation would become even worse before those persons in power relinquish that power.

Mr. Neumann felt that if Dr. Silver's friends and followers were agreed that he should not step into the Emergency Council but wait until the Convention and make sure of the ZOA Administration, that he would take this very seriously into account before accepting an invitation to return to political leadership.

Mr. Torozyner stated that we ought to set up a committee which would come out with definite proposals with reference to the Emergency Council, which would put the ZOA in a position that they would have to make counter proposals.

Mr. Ferry said that we preach militancy but we do not practice it because we have not taken aggressive steps in order to keep the ZOA leadership on the defensive.

Mr. Shepiro stated that the aggressive step was taken by the Policy Committee when it had 146 leading Zionists sign a telegram to the ZOA President. The setting up of the EOA "peace" committee was a defensive step on the part of the ZOA following the telegram. He said that our tactics had been to keep the ZOA on the defensive at all times.

The Chairman stated that the popular sentiment emong Zionists is against the present leaders of the ZOA and not with them. He did not believe that the present leaders would give up the reins of the ZOA. They are shadow boxing to keep the issue alive throughout the country until the Convention.

Mr. Abramson thought that the primary objective is not to reorganize the Emergency Council but to reorganize the ZOA. What has happened in the Emergency Council is a weapon in our hands in which we have the support of the Zionist constituency. The appointment of the "peace" committee by the Administration may destroy in one gesture a good deal of the gains which we have schieved. He thought it was important to counteract this move, to designate a peace committee from the Policy Committee, and thus force the ZOA into a position of consulting with this Committee on any peace proposals which they may bring forward.

Mr. Rudavsky felt that the peace committee of the ZOA is a maneuver and is not sincere. If we are to hold our people, we must find some method to counteract the proposal of the ZOA peace committee, when and if it makes one. We should go on record as indicating that Dr. Silver should not deal with the ZOA peace committee but to refer any proposal to a committee of the American Zionist Policy Committee. He recommended that we appoint a sub-committee to study the problems of the maneuvers and make certain that we do not fall into the trap which they may be planting for us. This is not a matter of Dr. Silver alone, but of the rank and file Zionists who are interested in the matter.

The Chairman stated that the next move ought to come from the Emergency Council. We should keep the Zionists acquainted with what is being done but we should bide our time until we have the Convention.

RECOMMENDATION FOR FEACE COMMITTEE

Mr. Abramson moved that an appropriate committee of five be appointed and that the appointment of such a committee and its objectives be given wide publicity. When it was pointed out that the Greater New York executive was not empowered to appoint such a committee, Mr. Abramson changed his motion to recommend that the National executive be requested to appoint such a committee.

ar. Torczyner seconded the motion.

In appointing such a committee, ar. Neumann pointed out, that the members should be heads of Regions or important Districts throughout the country. If such men were called to serve on the committee, the ZOA would be in a difficult position if it refused to discuss the matter with them.

The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 p.m.

Suggested Agenda for Meeting of Greater New York Executive Committee of the American Zionist Policy Committee 55 West 42 Street, New York, N. Y.

Wednesday Evening, April 16, 1945

Hon. Emanuel Greenberg, Chairman

I. A Review of the Current Situation - Dr. Emanuel Neumann.

Discussion to be postponed until the decisions are made with reference to the Metropolitan Inter-Regional Council.

II. To Determine " Regular Monthly Meeting Date for the Executive Committee, Acceptable to Representatives from the Four Regions.

III. Expansion of Membership in Greater New York.

IV. Financial Report.

Pollowing report, discussion of fund-relating compaign in Greater New York to raise share of needed funds for the American Zionist Policy Committee - Harry L. Shapiro.

V. The Metropolit m Inter-Regional Council.

To date the four Regions have agreed to elect five men each to such a committee, which would carry on joint Zionist activity in behalf of the four Regions. It had been suggested that a reception be tendered by the four Regions through this committee for Dr. Chaim Weizmann and Mr. David ben Gurion, if and when they visit the United States. This idea, plus other potential activities, should be discussed.

VI. Discussion on Future Program.

AMERICAN ZIONIST POLICY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GREATER NEW YORK EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, MAY 22, 1945

Present: Judge Emanuel Greenberg, presiding; Isidore Fine, Phil Lassar, Max Levy, Emanuel Neumann, Moses Rubinson, J. I. Rudavsky, David Spiegel, Morris Weinberg, Morris Zelden.

Harold P. Manson, Harry L. Shapiro, Harry A. Steinberg, Abe Tuvim. The meeting was called to order at 9 P. M.

The minutes of the meeting of April 13, 1945 were read by Mr. Shepiro.

The chairman asked if there were any objections to the minutes. There being none, the minutes were adopted as read.

Mr. Shapiro asked the chairman whether in the future the minutes should be full or brief. The chairman felt that since the discussions are of a confidential nature and the minutes are not distributed, they should be full.

The chairman asked Mr. Shapiro to give a report of the meeting held with Dr. Silver at the Commodore Hotel on April 27. regarding the "peace" committee.

Mr. Shapiro explained that Dr. Silver was contacted by telephone and that it was agreed to select a group of leaders who represented Zionist masses, as indicated by Mr. Neumann at the last meeting, to confer on the matter. A summary of the decisions arrived at at the meeting was made by reading a letter which Mr. Shapiro sent to a few members who were not present at the meeting.

Mr. Fine asked if the letter was in the form of minutes. Mr. Shapiro re-

The chairman stated that no publicity should be given to the "peace" committee matter and urged that it be kept confidential.

MEMBERSHIP EXPANSION REPORT

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Mr. Perry was not present to give his report.

Mr. Spiegel reported on Brooklyn. He surveyed the Brooklyn situation and measured the Districts in terms of counting noses at a Convention and Hvided the Brooklyn Districts into three groups: (1) prependerantly in our favor; (2) to be counted out; (3) mixed feeling. The overall picture he would say that if

a Convention were held today he estimated that Brooklyn would go 80 per cent pro-Silver because the bigger Districts in the Region are strongly pro-Silver. He then gave a report on all the Districts, as follows: District #14 (Eastern Parkway) - almost unanimously pro-Silver. District #14 (Brownsville) - same holds 記書 法 就能接着 Teg and the strict #17 (Boro Park) - can count on Rudavsky. District #29 (Sea Gate) - can safely count on it almost unanimously. District # (Flatbush) -(Mr. Lasser here reported) - about 90 per cent. District #34 (Manhattan Beach) ours. District #37 (Rugby) - same holds true. (Mr. Lasser interposed by saying not completely - about 75 per cent). District #42 (Ocean Parkway) - safely ours. Mr. Spiegel stated that there are three Districts which can be marked off: District #19 (Bensonhurst) - possibility of getting one-half of the delegates. Bensonhurst is an important District in Brooklyn in number and influence. The aituation has changed since report was written and we can look for more support. The rabbi is with us. District #27 (Brandeis) - Arnold Razosky for the Administration. He is hard to break through; logical thinker. It is not an important District in terms of number. District #54 (Prospect) - Max Goldberg and E. Lassar lined up solidly for Administration but beginning to waver; Goldberg is wavering. One District which is neutral or undecided is District #23 (Parkside). Oscar Kahn is still against us.

The chairman asked what is being done about Districts that are dcubtful.

Mr. Spiegel stated that Williamsburg is unimportant - 86 members. Xmxkm Xmxm Kings District - we have one friend, Sidney Grossman. Not strong at present. ? - Thinks we will have that District. Stephen Wise District - 1000 members; can swing it. District #56 - there was a substantial representation at dinner; very sincere lot. At the time of the dinner they had not made up their minds but now see it the Eilver way.

As to the Districts where there is some doubt, Mr. Spiegel felt that we have to handle it quietly and on an independent basis. He said he believed we have been successful in lining up men who formerly were absolutely neutral or definitely against us and who are now receptive to listening to discussions and show

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definite signs and leanings towards our point of view.

The chairman asked what has been decided upon, whether any men were selected in each District.

Mr. Tuvim said there are Districts in Brooklyn where we have no representatives of the Policy Committee and there should be some.

The chairman said it is the duty of the designated people to see that this is done.

Mr. Lassar felt that he and Mr. Spiegel could do the work and wanted to know exactly what was to be done in order to make a man a member of the AZPC. and what the member receives.

The chairman said that they must be convinced that the man is pro-Silver. Mr. Spiegel believed caution must be exercised.

There was some discussion on how to judge a man as pro-Silver.

The chairman stated that key men should be designated in each District to carry on the work of the AZPC in the District.

Mr. Spiegel asked whether the sympathy of the Zionist leaders in each District should be secured, to enlist their aid for Silver work, which would be an assignment of a higher character and they might be willing to do this.

The chairman said you cannot split hairs that way.

Mr. Fine questioned the wisdom of such requests of the lay people. Could we inspire people to that extent to be of assistance to the movement? He knew that Dr. Silver's address at the dinner inspired the people, and if that inspiration could be maintained we would have an army of people continually inspired. He asked the officers what has been done or what is being done in that direction. He asked whether any inspirational letters had been sent out; he never received any.

Mr. Fine was told what literature, etc. has been mailed out.

Mr. Fine also said that he would like to see Sionists called together by us, talk to them, and put them wise as to what is going on.

Mr. Shapiro informed Mr. Fine that this is being done outside of New York but not in New York.

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The chairman stated that the group decided at the last meeting to keep alive the failure on the part of the Z.O.A. Administration to function at this most critical hour in Jewish history and also to keep alive the dispute between the Z.O.A. and Silver. This will certainly come to a head if we have a Convention. The time element between now and the Convention depends on when the war will be over. We still have to keep the issue alive before the Zionists, and the key men in each Zionist District must do this; meetings alone will not do it. Some of our most ardent Zionists are interested in the Z.O.A. and the U.J.A. If they are ardent pro-Silver they will carry the message.

Mr. Zelden said you might find pro-Silverites but they may not be able to do the job. He felt that in addition to fine key people there should be speakers on the Silver issue. Key men should arrange at least two meetings where a member of the Committee should be invited to speak. He mentioned the Bensonhurst District, which has a large number of members, as being one that will come along with us.

The chairman stated that each District presents its own individual problem. If you pick the right key man he will know what can be accomplished.

Mr. Lassar summarized Mr. Spiegel's report for the record. He said that Brooklyn will wind up with 15,000-17,000 members. If we get 80 per cent of Brooklyn we have a good start and something we can look forward to.

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The Bronx report was next given by Mr. Rubinson. He said that a dinner was being given in honor of Mr. Fertig on June 10, when the Amnual Conference will take place, and at a meeting it was unanimously agreed that Dr. Silver be invited to be the speaker. The Bronx is completely Silverites.

The chairman asked Mr. Rubinson how The Bronx is going towards Dr. Silver. Mr. Rubinson replied eaving about 90 per cent.

Mr. Max Levy gave a report on Manhattan. He said the situation in Manhattan is fairly similar. Manhattan is a very difficult problem. He said that in District #7 the chairman, I. J. Kaplan, who originally was a member of the Committee and extremely sympathetic to it, wants the Silver program to susceed but will not do anything about it. Kaplan is a peaceful person and wants to hold the movement together. They, two, are holding a Regional Convention on June 10. On their

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Arrangements Committee there are a number of men who come from Districts such as Yorkville which are particularly pro-Administration, and more particularly anti-Silver. When the program was made up for the Regional Conference they were authorized to invite Ben Gurion if he was coming here, and were unanimously urged to invite Dr. Silver. The Manhattan Region was prepared and did extend an invitation, by the unamimous decision of the entire Region, to welcome Dr. Silver at its Regional Conference. Mr. Levy said that there are some Districts you can depend on. We can capture District #7 because something was done recently which we have been urging for some time. We can now count on Hyman Reit as a Silverite, if not today then tomorrow. In view of certain things that have happened he bethe lieves Reit is ready to jump aboard; and if he does,/Manhattan Region will be with us. Except for Yorkville he expects this will come through.

Mr. Shapiro stated that Westchester was never represented on our Committee. Dr. Silver is to speak for the Z.O.A. Westchester Region anxXayx25 and forxtha XizraghixNexes on May 25, and he will speak to them about it. In advance of his speaking a group of forty men are giving him a dinner. They will pass a pro-Silver resolution asking for his recall to political leadership and will convey that resolution to the A.Z.E.C. and to the Z.O.A. Mr. Shapiro said, confiden-Jack Lukashok, tially, the president of the Region/stands with us.

The chairman stated that when you get key men in every community you are bound to get results.

Mr. Lassa: asked how many members in the entire metropolitan area are en-

Mr. Shapiro said there are 25,000 members.

The chairman added that Staten Island is part of/Manhattan Region. He will Thexeksirter try to reach Max Levy in Staten Island.

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Mr. Spiegel stated that from the various reports given tonight he thinks it is fair to say that much considerable of our work can be reduced by the appearance of Dr. Silver at a crucial time and we ought to ask the cooperation of

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Dr. Silver and that we should have this office see that Dr. Silver addresses in-

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The chairman said this would depend in how Dr. Silver feels and if Dr. Silver can possibly arrange to speak at those meetings.

Mr. Levy statedxthat pointed out that there is an inter-regional organization. FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Shapiro gave financial report, reading accountant's letter and statements. He said the financial position is bad. Generally, none of our people in New York, with the exception of Mr. Fine, Mr. Goodman, Mr. Ostow, have put forth any effort, and if this is not done this Committee will haven's not be able to function. We should go out and get money. Mr. Shapiro stated that the staff is merely receiving paper salary. Men are needed to go into the field. We have a heavy budget. We have to have the highest standard of work. But we need the finances to carry it through. Everyone must go out and dig up the funds.

Mr. Fine asked what the total amount received is. He was informed that the receipts amounted to \$18,098.78.

Mr. Goodman stated that the only kind of pay the four men were receiving was paper pay.

Total amounts collected (pledges paid up) are as follows:

Hollander	\$2500
A. Goodman	2500
Chas. Rosenbloom	2500
J. Goodman	1000
J. Foster	500

(fill in rest)

Mr. Shapirc said that it all boils down to this: unless we can back up the financial requirements, where will we drift?

The chairman remarked that several individuals at the last meeting promised to raise funds. If we do not get money we cannot operate.

Mr. Rudavsky said he will not be able to do anything for another week; then he will get busy.

Mr. Zelden stated that most of the people who ware at the dinner are able

to contribute. He said that out of 500 or 500 people about 350 are prospects. If we have a committee of twenty or thirty people the 350 prospects could be contacted and we would get money.

The chairman asked if this is the best plan.

Mr. Rudavaky said that he had no chance to do anything as yet.

Mr. Shapiro stated that we do not have enough people to work on it.

Mrx It was Mr. Goodman's feeling that the 350 prospects mentioned should be placed on cards and assignments made from them.

The chairman said this should be done to get results.

Mr. Zelden asked for volunteer people who could do the job.

The chairman asked who would undertake to handle the job.

Mr. Goodman said he does not have the time but he will do it.

Mr. Shapiro stated he would get in touch with Mr. Goodman Thursday morning.

Mr. Spiegel asked if the office worked up a minimum budget what would be necessary to carry the work on.

Mr. Shapiro said the original budget called for \$152,000. We cannot work on such a basis. We will need a minimum of \$50,000 to \$60,000, or \$5000 a month. Of course, if the Convention does not take place until next May or June, that is another story.

The chairman stated that between now and the next meeting something will have to be decided upon with respect to the future.

Mr. Rubinson suggested that the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee be made chairman of the Fund-Raising Committee.

METROPOLITCAN INTER-REGIONAL ZIONIST COUNCIL

A report of the Metropolitan Inter-Regional Zionist Council was given by Mr. Levy. He said delegates present at meetings were selected officially by each of the Regions, including Long Island, Manhattan, Bronx, Brooklyn, and Westchester. The delegates met and came to the very definite decision that the creation of an

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inter-regional body (in order to spare the sensibilities of the Region decided to call it a committee but is really an inter-regional body) for the formulation of on an inter-regional basis, and a sub-committee, of which he is chairman, prepare a formulation of purposes and organization, which was unanimously adopted at another meeting held a few days ago by all the delegates. In that committee there are one or two delegates at least who are desperately afraid that if the inter-regional committee should engage in any large-size public project it might introduce a political situation; however, hs felt that we could deal with the situation when we came to it. There are several things in view: (1) The proposal has been made, and adopted, to call a conference very shortly of inter-regional, regional, and durant offices for the discussion of public relations. The conference will be held possibly within the next month or two; the date has not been fixed. Since that meeting the question was raised by one or two influential members of the committee and friends of the committee whether we should hold that conference at all, feeling that we ought to move slowly. Officially the conference has been provided for. (2) In the interest of efficiency the confusion that now exists in the Metropolitan office of the Z.O.A. should be corrected. This means that the Inter-Fegional Committee intends to take over Metropolitan Bureau work through Metropolitan Zionist funds. Those who carry on Zionist work in the metropolitan area should at least have control of the Administrative. The guilton tell the regional organization what we propose to do about that. In answer to the objection some members made that if you approach the national office you may have the same obstructive interferences. Never in the past did there actually exist a functional inter-regional body which has the support and which comes into existence by the action of all. We set up a committee described in the formulation as an agency of the regions and provided for co-chairmen of the committee. The chairmen of the Regions shall preside at public inter-regional functions in rotation. The committee itself, of which the Regional chairman shall merely be honorary co-chairman, will be under the direction of the chairman and secretary. The temporary officers are Jacques Torczyner and Mr. Ross of Long Island.

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The chairman asked whether anyone wished to make any suggestions.

Mr. Spiegel wanted to know whether the general concept of an inter-regional council or committee has the blessings of all the Regions. From the standpoint of finances the problem is more complex than the way it has been presented here. He said that before long we believe to have control of the National Administration; and if that comes about we want to decide now whether we really want to have the Inter-Regional Council self-sufficient and independent financially speaking. It is a question of whether you want a strong centralized National Administration or whether you want to have your strength in the local groups. The M.J.F. can be a local project. In connection with this if we are part of a national movement, this is a cause. We have to be ready in the spirit of nationaliem to support our national leaders and have full confidence in surrantized them.

Mr. Rudavsky said that we are to be interested, in his opinion, at all times regardless who the national officers are in a strong Greater New York unit; if the national officers will be worthy they will receive a great deal of support. There are many things neglected in New York because of the fact that there is no Greater New York Committee. We are to be interested in this on its own merits and not as a stepping-stone to something else. This in itself is of great merit.

The chairman said that Mr. Neumann stated at the last meeting that if we had atreagth a strong Metropolitan Inter-Regional Council all that has happened would would have have happened.

SETTING UP OF OUR PEACE COMMITTEE

There was discussion on procedure to be followed for action in the Regional Convention.

Mr. Zelden asked what kind of policy should be adopted and what should the Regions demand now. He hoped there was no Convention. If the war does not cease we may not have a Convention. He said we should work out a system if the Convention is possible so that we have about 300 delegates. He felt that the Convention should take place.

The chairman said that we have to assume that the Government will not permit

the Convention.

Mr. Zelden stated that the election should be held by referendum.

Mr. Lassar asked what the constitution provided. Does it mean a hold-over. If there is no provision in the constitution for a situation such as is now developing, would it be safe to assume that the moment the O.D.T. allows conventions through priorities it would mean more restrictions are lifted, conventions will be held; would it mean the Convention will be held immediately after October 1945. He asked what provisions are made to amend the constitution.

Mr. Shapiro said that toward the end of June we understand there will be a pronouncement made on Palestine by the British Government - this is a rumor. A for sixty people Zionist Convention/will be called in Londom toward the end of June. Mr. Shapiro felt that the decision will not be a favorable one. In the face of that pronouncement we may be able to go to the Government and say that this group ought to be permitted to meet. That will give us a legitimate cause for meeting. We must deal with this situation. We will have to get the Zienists to demand it. The Rabbinical Assembly application was turned down by O.D.T. Rabbi Gordis made a special request to have the meeting, and the request was granted.

Mr. Lassar asked whether any political pressure could be brought to bear on the O.D.T. Could we go to the O.D.T. on the basis of a smaller delegate a group, using a place the O.D.T. may choose as not two crowded, and say the situation has arisen in Zionist ranks which demands a convention. Every Zionist group must show a necessity and there must be Zionists of influence to do it.

The chairman saidxtkat thought that the Rabbinical Assembly permission was secured upon the basis that the number of delegates that will attend will probably be less than fifty. That is theory.

Mr. Shapiro said last year there were 180 and they expected no more than 200.

The chairman felt it was safe to assume that no matter what happens there will be no Convention. He was ready to assume that no Convention will take place until the O.D.T. rulings change. We must consider what action shall be taken at the Regional Conventions. If one Regional Convention should pass a

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resolution demanding the recall of Dr. Silver to head the Emergency Council, along the same lines expressing our confidence in Dr. Silver, that is a form of resolution that should be passed by every one of the Regional Conventions. As a matter of fact, it should be sent to the Z.O.A. Administration and the Emergency Council and should be properly publicized in all newspapers where Regional Conventions are held. Publicity at Regional Conventions must be widespread. Passing the resolution without accompanying publicity will be of very little value.

Mr. Spiegel asked what the alternative could be for the Convention.

The chairman said that thought should be given as to whether a resolution should also be passed demanding that a Convention be held at the very earliest possible time permitted by the O.D.T.

Mr. Rudavsky felt that this is a time when we must have a united front -Som should demand unity. He did not think we could introduce the same form of resolution as we had in December, in January, when the situation was fresh. It should be done in a different form. He said there are those who talk about peace but do nothing to bring about peace, and at the same time urge the National Administration to do all they can to obtain permission for a Convention pointing out that the political Zionist situation is deteriorating and suggest that a Convention is needed.

The chairman, referring to the O.D.T. regulations, said the State Convention was not held on account of the war situation.

The chairman went on to say that a demand could also be made in the resolution for a report and action on the part of the Administration with respect to the peace overtures that were made.

Mr. Rudavsky thought we ought to get up a form for the resolution.

Mr. Zelden said that resolutions will help only to keep us before the public, it will not accomplish enything. After the peace committee was appointed Dr. Silver made the statement that the committee is not good and he would not meet with that committee. He maw a great danger to Zioniam if the Convention did not take place. Something should be done INXAFASE to force the issue for the Zionists that the present Administration does not represent the rank and file of the Zionists. He said this can be done in

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several ways: (1) We can demand of them to ask the Government to allow the Convention. (2) Demand that they get an opinion from the Zionists as to whether the present Administration should continue in office or not within the constitution. (Mr. Zelden asked whether constitution permits election through referendum). If a referendum provision is made in the constitution an election referendum can be submitted to the Zionist Districts whether they have confidence in it or not. (3) Ways and means should be made to indicated to the public and to the Zionists that they are continuing in office against the wishes of the rank and file of the Zionists. If it is done by resolution (asking Dr. Silver back to leadership) there will again be the essme answer. We must have something to indicate to the public and the Zionists that the present Administration does not possess the confidence of the rank and file of the Zioniste.

Mr. Lassar asked why a committee could not be formed tonight, with the help and and of Shapiro, Manson, for drawing up certain resolutions which have been discussed, which the Resolutions Committee will be asked to introduce at the Convention.

The chairman therefore appointed the following tarmittee to serve on the committee: Phil Lassar, J. I. Rudavsky, Moses Rubinson, Jacques Torczyner, Emanuel Neumann, chairman, Sol Cohen. Mr. Neumann will convene with the committee at once.

The chairman (?) asked how big Weatchester is. He thought that the number of members in Westchester should be embodied in the resolution in the early clause: WHEREAS, The Westchester Region consisting of _____ members. . . The chairman said it is important to meet before Saturday so that the resolution can be edited and ready for the Westchester Conference. The Resolutions Committee will meet tomorrow.

SAN FRANCISCO REFORT - Morris Weinberg

Mr. Morris Weinberg did not attend the meeting.

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Mr. Tuvim suggested in connection with Regional resolutions that Regions themselves on Regional stationery send the resolutions to all Zionist Regions in the country.

The chairman thought it might be a good idea for the AZPC, after the resolutions are passed in the metropolitan area, to put the resolutions together in each Region in the United States leaflet form and send them with a memorandum to **kkm warisseskersugkm**, listing total membership as represented by the Regions. Or, the resolutions could be multigraphed, bound together and sent to each Region. He thought it would be very effective if each District in the country received it.

FRISCH PROPOSALS

Mr. Neumann said he had given some thought to Mr. Frisch's proposals. Whether we in any way disparage his proposals or cast the least shadow of reflection of his motives, which are possibly of the highest, just the same one takes every such proposal that comes along cum grano salie, with critical analysis. Mr. Neumann mentioned dealing with them the four proposals, representing in the reverse order given. Number: Academic Academi

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Number 4. Adoption of the closed ballot in the annual elections. We had made and urged the adoption of the closed ballot time and again but they did not want it. Mr. Newmann felt it would be very difficult for us to oppose it; it is our proposal. He pointed out that the proposal being made now on the part of the Administration reflects, he believed, a certain fear that they may not control the Convention; and that in that event many of them may find themselves completely out of the picture. They are therefore now concerned about establishing a proportional representation. If they should turn out to be in the minority they would at least have part of the Executive Committee. Summing up Proposal No. 4, Mr. Neumann said that while it is a proper thing to have a closed ballot for election of the Executive Committee, the proposal is now put to stand possibly as a protection for the present Administration; in the event of a landslide they would still have a sufficient representation. This does not require constitutional amendment; it is purely a procedural matter.

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Mr. Spiegel stated that Mr. Frisch proposes these changes through constitutional amendment.

Mr. Neumannreplied that it is possible that a particular procedural matter can be put through without constitutional amendment.

Mr. Zelden said that if we have the majority the nominating committee will bring in the slate anyway.

Mr. Neumann stated that the nominating committee of the forthcoming Convention will be an Administration one which we are going to oppose.

The chairman said that it would be best for us to have an open vote for all officers; take no chances on closed ballot at all. As a matter of fact, they may be so weak when it comes to the Convention that it would do the Zionist world a lot of good to have everything they have done disapproved.

Mr. Neumann stated that we have time as far as procedure for the next Convention is concerned. The question is at the moment not whether at this Convention we should have open elections or closed ballot; we have time for that. The question at this time is whether we want to favor constitutional change for the future. On principle he was inclined to favor it.

Number 3. A formula which might provide rotating membership for a part or the whole of the Executive with the possible exception of past presidents of the organization. Mr. Neumann said that if you have to rate membership then certainly to it should be for the whole. It might have been meant by this that members/serve on the Executive serve for a certain term and shall not succeed themselves.

The chairman strongly objected to past presidents.

Mr. Neumann said that the trend of thought expressed in connection with Proposal No. 4 may be a precaution to protect themselves against the time when they find themselves in a minority. Following the line of thought into Proposal No. 3, it would mean that certain people would be elected for a period of time. He did not see any reason for it at all. The election of the Executive should reflect the Zionists. In principle Mr. Neumann was opposed to Proposal No. 3.

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Number 2. The limitation of the office of chairman of the Administrative to a two-year successive term. Mr. Neumann was not sure whether it ought not to apply to other officers; it might be desirable to apply to other officers. Every year or two the number of vice presidents increases; every ex-president becomes a vice president. These people can become permanent fixtures. As matters stand now there are twenty-five members of the National Executive, but there are also fifteen officers. The Administration consists of forty and all of the forty also vote in the Administrative Council. There are fifteen officers, most of whom are vice presidents; and each year the vice presidents increase. Once a man is on he is on forever. To Mr. Neumann this did not make sense. The change he would make is that anyone who has served as president is automatically entitled thereafter to be one of the honorary vice presidents.

Mr. Lassar felt that when a man is president he should become a vice president for two years following, the idea being to allow a man not to step out of the picture.

Mr. Neumann said there are four things you can do with an ex-president. If he good he should be is not kexge out. If he is good and you want him active elect him vice-president on his merits. Elect him as a member of the Executive. Elect him as an honorary vice-president. The constitution says that you may elect so many vice-presidents. The thing to do is limit the number of vice-presidents and have the vice-presidency mean something. Have two vice-presidents. They have as vice-presidents no particular function.

Mr. Fine said he would limit it to two vice-presidents.

Number 1. The enlarging of the Executive Committee which would enable more Regional leaders to participate in the conduct of the national affairs. Mr. Neumann felt that this is the crux of all the proposals and the most suspicious. They suddenly evake to the realization of the fact that the more Regional leaders it ought to participate. They want Regions to have more say. Why should this be necessary to enlarge the Executive Committee in order to provide participation of Regional leaders? As matters stand there are forty members of the Administration. Why should it not be possible for the Regions to be represented within the frame-

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work of these forty? Why this enlargement? If the body is increased up to seventy it becomes a pretty unwieldy body. The advantage it offers is that the Administration can now proceed to the suction sale places on the National Executive Committee without having to remove any of the people whom they already have who are part of the machine. They want to placeate them into the Executive and enlarge the Executive. The result: inevitably a body of that size, sixty or seventy, immediately will be the establishing of a smaller body within the Executive. He already has heard it talked about. This inner eabinet will become the real Administration. And there will be the Executive and the Administrative Council of 150. Mr. Neumann did not see any need for the Administrative Council. They will turn the Executive Committee into the Administrative Council. They will turn the Executive Committee which will be storm-proof. He was therefore very, very cold to the enlargement. Saw no reason for it. There are many ways of giving regions their share. Mr. Neumann pointed out that of the fifteen officers eight, a majority, are of New York. The slogan is "Break control of New York."

Mr. Lassar said that Boukstein and Dr. Levinthal are never at meetings; they vote on the Executive Committee but do not know the feeling of the people.

Mr. Neumann replied that it is possible within the framework of the forty to give due representation.

Mr. Neumann further stated that the Administrative Council ought to become a more active functioning body than it is; it is nothing at present.

The chairman requested Mr. Neumann to work out a form of resolution to be offered for adoption at each of the Conventions **xxxkexkeid** being held now for the different Regions. A special clause should be inserted in the preamble of the resolution giving the exact number of members of the Region. Since the Westchester Region meets on the 23rd the resolution form should be worked on tomorrow.

Mr. Neumann reported that Mr. Weinberg had informed him that the whole political outlook seems to be much worse than xxx had been dreamed of. He had from Itzrik Neitche (?) heard this evening/that someone received word from Hondon that what the British want to propose is 10,000 certificates a year for ten years. Dr. Weiznann is in a very depressel mood about the situation. Mr. Neumann said it is necessary not

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merely to consolidate the for c es within the Z.O.A. but we ought to gather in the Bergeon group, etc. and stage a last-ditch fight. He did not believe the Zionists generally realize how serious the situation is; if they did there would have been stronger reaction than we have had. He felt that if there were any possibility at all of holding the Convention we should fight for one now and not in the fall on the ground that there is already peace in Europe.

Mr. Zelden felt it was the consensus of opinion here that in the resolutions proposed to the Conventions of the Regions something should be said to the effect that the present leadership does not have the confidence of the present rank and file.

Mr. Neumann said that if we cannot hold the Convention the next best thing is to stage a Metropolitan Convention which would be attended by 500 or 600 delegates of the Zionists of the metropolitan area, which the O.D.T. cannot object to or prevent. If we do this it may serve as a club and it may produce results. A Convention of this kind, if properly staged, taking a full day or two beginning on a Saturday night and continuing all day Sunday, with proper election of delegates and proper program and committees to have present to give it necessary play, he felt could exercise tremendous moral influence on the Administration and on the Zionists throughout the country.

Mr. Spiegel made the following suggestion. The resolutions to be introduced at the Regional Conventions empower the Convention Committees to remain in force until the coming year with a view to permitting or allowing them to call special conventions as the occasion ar requires, because if something of a drastic measure is needed, an emergency develops, as a result of this situation - that Great Britain may limit the immigration visas - we would want a special Convention to express our selves to the National Administration.

The chairman thought it advisable to have the resolution passed at these Regional Conventions; that the Convention Committee be authorized to act as Interim Committee between now and any special convention which may be called of the various Regions or particular locality.

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Mr. Neumann suggested that at the Convention a committee should be appointed which shall have full power to represent the Regions and act in their name and take any steps necessary to bring about the necessary reorganization within the Z.O.A. pan Interim Committee.

Mr. Rudavsky said that if we can get resolutions in the Regional Conventions indicating Regions do not have any confidence in the present leadership, that would of a "stick" at the present Administration be enough/at the present moment.

Mr. Zelden felt that we can express dissatisfaction of the leadership in spite of the fact that the rank and file of the Zionists everywhere feel that Dr. Silver should be restored to political leadership. If we fear that such a resolution cannot be carried through how can you assume that a special convention of the Regions can be called and be legally recognized; You may antagonize some of the Districts who are with Silver. There is still a great danger that the Convention at that time will not be a success.

The chairman thought the idea could be carried out in Brooklyn.

Mr. Rubinson felt that too much was being taken up in one evening.

Mr. Levy suggested that Mr. Neumann, who was not present for a good part of the meeting be fully informed of what was determined tonight and he prepare a skeleton resolution.

Mr. Noumann sugge requested that Mr. Levy and someone from the office work out the resolution for with him.

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 P. M.

MINUTES OF MEETING OF SPECIAL WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE OF THE GREATER NEW YORK SECTION OF THE AMERICAN ZIONIST POLICY COMMITTEE

June 5, 1945

Present: Jacob Goodman (Presiding), Marcus Abramson, Sol Cohen, Isador Fine, Irving Galt, Joseph W. Greenlear, Sol Low, Emanuel Neumann, Kalman I. Ostow, Samuel J. Perry, Bertram L. Roberts, William Sadoff, Morris Weinberg.

Harold P. Manson, Harry L. Shapiro, Harry Steinberg.

In opening the meeting the Chairman, Mr. Jacob Goodman, indicated that at the last meeting of the Executive Committee of the Greater New York Section of the American Zionist Folicy Committee, action had been taken to convene this meeting. At the urging of Judge Emanuel Greenberg, Chairman of the Executive Committee, he had assumed the responsibility of calling the meeting and carrying out a program of fund raising for the Policy Committee. Mr. Goodman stated that at the present moment, the Policy Committee, as of June 1st, received \$22,398 and had had expenses of \$26,925, thus incurring a deficit of \$4,527. He felt that the way to raise the money would be to return to the sound tactics of members of our group contacting prospective contributors and seeking their gifts. In company with Mr. Lassar, he had called on a number of prospects and had within a short time secured \$425 in smaller contributions. ranging from \$10 to \$100. He stated that his District was thus far responsible for reising approximately \$4400 of the total amount reised. He asked those present to assume the responsibility of taking a number of cards which had been prepared and contacting the prospects indicated on the cards for contributions.

Harry Shapiro pointed out that the program of the Policy Committee was not in keeping with the plans originally set when the Policy Committee was first organized. The program had been restricted because of lack of finances and many projects which should have been undertaken had thus far not been carried through. He stated that we should immediately launch a broad national public relations program involving field representatives and speakers which would carry our story to the Zionist membership throughout the country. Though it did not mean that the Annual Convention of the ZOA would be held in October, yet we should assume that it would be held and develop our program in order to capture the votes of the delegates at that Convention. This can not be done unless the financial wherewithal is forthcoming. He then urged those present to cooperate with Mr. Goodman in raising a substantial amount of money to make the Folicy Committee the effective organization as had been planned.

Mr. Kalman Ostow felt that the Folicy Committee should send letters in advance of the members of the Ways and Means Committee calling on their prospects. It was his contention that this would be helpful in securing the contributions. Mr. Philip Lassar disagreed with Mr. Ostow's point of view and pointed out that it is necessary to contact personally those people from whom contributions are desired. He indicated that he and Mr. Jacob Goodman had, together, called on a number of people and had secured a substantial sum. He felt that the personal contact was the factor that would bring in the contributions.

Mr. Samuel Perry said that he would take the responsibility of organizing the fund reising for Long Island. He indicated that some of his people had raised approximately \$600 by contacting prospects in Long Island. They would continue until they had raised a sizable amount. He indicated that he would symbably sell a luncheon of the key-men in Long Island in order to secure con-54 butions and to interest a number of additional workers.

We. Sol Low stated that the contributions that were being given in the inna Island Region were being made to the Long Island Region, whose treasurer in turn would make out one check in the entire amount to the Policy Committee.

Those present then took the cards in their respective Regions and Dis-

he would send out a personal letter to these people in advance and would then call on them for their contributions.

The mesting adjourned at 5:00 o'clock.

AGENDA FOR MEETING OF WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE JUNE 5, 1945, 4 P.M. JACOB GOODMAN, PRESIDING

at last meeting president of breater My grup

I Chairman should make a proliminary statement on the necessity for the meeting.

Approximate financial standing of American Zionist Policy Committee to June 1st:

Income to date \$ 22,398 - From $fan 12 \pm 6/1$ Expense 26,925 Deficit 4,527 -

(\$11,500 additional pledged contingent to receiving ruling on Income Tax deductibility.)

II Call on Logenuel Neumann for a five-minute statement on necessity for expansion of the work.

III Assignment of cards.

IV Set date for report meeting.

UIL ATTED SOL LOW -DAVID OSTOW - Ladene BERTRAM L. ROBERTS + Kem Long Bench - ROBERT J. GLASS. Flushing WILLIAM SADOFF -V 2 PRWAY ISIDOR FINE ABE GOODMAN JACOB GOCDMAN BATHA- MARCUS ABRAMSON Day JOSEPH GREENLEAF Lougo, Samuel Inou 魚戲 虚果 얖 星眼的 \$ FRANCIS

WILL TRY TO ATTEND BENJAMIN DOFT MAX LEVY SOL COHEN BERNARD LIFTON ABE RUBINSTEIN JACQUES TORCZYNER A. R. LEBENSON CANNOT ATTEND MAX DOFT DAVID SPIEGEL MOSES RUBINSON RABBI IRVING MILLER EMANUEL HALPERN J. I. RUDAVSKY

ABRAHAM MAZER

KALMAN OSTOW

LEFT MESSAGE BERNARD FULLER SAMUEL JUDENFREUUD IRVING GALT SAMUEL PERRY LOUIS M. BROWN LOUIS GRIBETE (HOME ILL) EMANUEL NEUMANN SAMUEL NEUMANN SAMUEL ROSE NORRIS ZELDIN (SEC.FELT HE COULDN'T ; ATTEND)

J. BERMAN - NO ANSWER. UNABLE TO CONTACT.

At opened the meeting Remarks Harry Shapire Kilman Citor "letter" Makerry - Promised & Jokk Egethick Whi D. diets terhops - funchion Keymen 60000 Mr. how Contribute the Perint Region

AMERICAN ZIONIST POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES OF MEETING OF GREATER NEW YORK EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 1945

The meeting was called to order at 4:15 P. M.

PRESENT: Arthur R. Lebenson (acting chairman), Sol Cohen, Abraham Goodman, Jacob Goodman, Joseph W. Greenleaf, Louis J. Gribetz, Philip H. Lassar, Max Levy, Sol Low, Rabbi Irving Miller, Emanuel Neumann, Kalman I. Ostow, Samuel P. Rose, Moses Rubinson, Jochanon I. Rudavsky, Dr. Jacob B. Shohan, Abraham Tannenbaum, Jacques Torozyner, Morris Weinberg, Morris A. Zeldin;

Harold P. Manson, Harry L. Shapiro, Harry A. Steinberg, Abe Tuvim.

REPORTS ON THE LONG ISLAND AND BROOKLYN REGIONAL CONVENTIONS

Reports on the Long Island and Brooklyn Regional Conventions were given by Mr. Gribetz and Mr. Cohen, respectively.

Mr. Manson felt it would not be wise for the American Zionist Policy Committee to send out a release on the resolutions, as had been done previously, in view of latest developments. However, he felt that the resolutions should be publicized and suggested Mr. Cohen and Mr. Gribetz, with a covering letter to the editors of that the heads of the Regions/send the story/is the Yiddish and Anglo-Jewish press.

Rabbi Miller asked for a full report of what has taken place.

Mr. Levy read from the New York Times the proposals which were made.

Mr. Abraham Goodman reported on the Executive Committee meeting. He said it was a small meeting. Dr. Goldstein called on Judge Levinthal as chairman of the Peace Committee to report. Judge Levinthal made some preliminary remarks of interest to the effect that the results of the Peace Committee do not mean necessarily that there has been a change of heart or viewpoint of the Executive Committee. As for the terms of the proposals, he had spoken that afternoon with Dr. Wise and Dr. Wise had authorized him to say that he does not want the question of chairmen and co-chairmen on an equal status of chairmanship to become an issue; both should be of equal status. There will be some modification of the setup of the Emergency Council. Dr. Silver will be chairman of the Executive Committee; in addition to that there will be two vice-chairmen, in order to make room for two officers in the present setup, Greenberg and Shulman. Judge Levinthal stated that the Jommittee was motivated by one thing-to correct the situation and bring about harmony without eliminating personality. With respect to membership of the Emergency Council, he read a letter from Mr. Lipsky in which Mr. Lipsky said he had in mind eix nemes: two for Z.O.A.; two for Mizrachi; two for Poale Zion. Additions or adjustments can be made to bring about the necessary harmony desired.

For the purpose of carrying the proposals into effect and to meet other problems that might arise in the Jewish Agency, etc., it was suggested that a new committee should be appointed - new faces. In addition to this there will be an Interim Committee which will act between meetings of the Executive Committee. The Interim Committee to consist of officers of the new setup.

Mr. Neumarn said it was not definite in Levinthal's report, but for discussion here the following is the setup: two co-chairmen of the Council; one representative of each organization; Dr. Silver chairman of the Steering Committee.

Mr. Boukstein wanted to table the proposal, but Dr. Goldstein talked him out of it. Mr. Szold spoke against it and said that regardless of what happens he will be the guardian of the maximum principles of Zionism. He left instructions with Dr. Goldstein to register his vote in the negative. Mr. Boukstein spoke in the same vein.

Rabbi Greenfield of Hartford stressed the point that all this talk about people being behind this movement is merely a trumped up thing.

Mr. Shulman spoke in a manner which was non-committal. He was in accord with the Executive Committee registering a vote in favor of the recall of Dr. Silver but felt that the terms were not definite enough and details should be worked out.

Mrs. Epstein said she was against giving this publicity because it sort of tied the hands of freedom of the other parties. She was not too happy about it, but did not say it categorically.

Mr. Dewey Stone spoke vigorously for the proposal.

Dan Frisch was with us. He said it was high time we paid attention to what the country wants.

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Levinthal as chairman of the Committee supported it wholeheartedly and very ably. One man spoke in opposition - Irving Lipkowitz. He thought it should be left with the Committee to deal with it.

Goldstein made some very favorable introductory remarks. He took issue with Greenfield for minimizing the value of propagands.

The vote was about 4 against - Boukstein, Szold, Greenfield, Lipkowitz; Shulman abstaining. Thexa

The objections which were raised were, among other things, that nothing was sail in the report about the future of the Policy Committee. They are very anxious that there will be no further need for the American Zionist Policy Committee. Mr. Neumann took exception (to the proposals ?), and because of this he abstained from voting.

Fishman and Goodman were in favor of the proposals.

Sincoff asked Dr. Goldstein to register him for the proposals.

REPORT BY EMANUEL NEUMANN ON PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. Neumann met on Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Waldorf with Judge Levinthal. He spent most of the afternoon with him and with telephone conversations to Cleveland.

He had a meeting with three members of the Peace Committee - Judge Levinthal, Dewey Stone, Dam Frisch. To Frisch perhaps goes the major part of the credit for the activity of the Peace Committee. He drove them and kept driving them, and stiffening them when they were wavering on various accasions. He went beyond any of the other members of the Peace Committee. Mr. Frisch has taken issue at times, vigorously and wielently, with Hadassah and the Z.O.A. He got a few kicks too. He was very strong in the position taken.

Next to him was Goldstein in firmness in the matter; then Lipsky, Stone, Egra Shapiro.

Mr. Neumann stated that he told them in advance that until there is a completed program and details worked out he was not in a position to vote. He was looked upon as a representative of a group and would not commit the group to subscribe to

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a program which was not complete. At the meeting there was a serious breach because Szold and his immediate supporters voted against proposals which were varmly advocated by Judge Levinthal. Some important members did not turn up; Rothenberg, Weissman did not come. Mr. Neumann thought the proposals were important and in the right direction. For the first time we were seeing action. There are a good many points which are not clear and on which Mr. Neumann has reservations. However, he appreciates the effort the Committee has made to find a satisfactory solution.

With regard to the reservations, Mr. Neumann stated: (1) Vice-Chairmenships. He insisted that they ought to state that Mizrachi should have a vice-chairman, which they do not. It should be indicated in their statement that all the organizations will be represented. Mr. Greenberg said that he did not want any office; he would retire from politics. Mr. Shulman is left; and Mr. Neumann is afraid of what/might involve. As for the statement with regard to the the Steering Committee, it did not say that it may include others besides four heads of the organizations. The Steering Committee should include the two Committee co-chairmen and the heads of the four organizations. Since Dr. Silver will be in Cleveland at times when the Steering Committee will want to meet, it is conceivable that a vice-chairman would become almost automatically presiding officer of the Steering Committee. Regarding the question of enlargement, Mr. Neumann heard that Hadassah was incensed at the idea that they should have to submit to Dr. Silver for approval any member they wish to designate at the Council. Mr. Neumann had state 1 at the meeting that it is not intended that all members should be approved by Dr. Silver. Representatives of the Z.O.A. is a different matter. If the Zionist Convention were held today the composition of the representatives of the Z.O.A. in the Emergency Council would look quite different than it does now. Since we had never asked for the elimination of anybody, the only other method is additions. Since all this was not made clear - (a) how many to be added to the Council or Executive Committee; (b) how it matter shall be done - Mr. Neumann had to reserve decision until the thing was completed.

The Z.O.A. elected three representatives to the Conference in London: Goldmann, Levinthal, and Silver. It was understood that the efficers of the Emergency Council would go - Dr. Wise, Greenberg, and Shulman.

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Since the meeting Dr. Goldstein has appointed a/committee of three to continue the detailed negotiations, which Mr. Neumann suggested. The committee consists of Levinthal, Lipsky, and Rothenberg. Judge Levinthal is to have a meeting with Dr. Silver tomorrow in Atlantic City and insisted that Mr. Neumann should be present since they are interested in total peace and the Folicy Committee wanted him there as the representative of the Folicy Committee. At the meeting it was said by some of the people that it was assumed that in all honor the Folicy Committee would disband and **ikut** all aggression would cease. Mrs. Epstein said it was all right for them to publicize it for their constituents, but if they discussed it the Folicy Committee would turn its blast on them and they are afraid of that. They want the disbanding of the Folicy Committee. Mr. Neumann told them that if they want this discussed it should be done with the Committee of the Folicy Committee; he thought that would be the proper way. They have to deal with the Folicy Committee and not with Dr. Silver.

Mr. Neumann said in conclusion that he had heard the reports of Brooklyn and Long Island and felt very proud of those achievements. Dr. Goldstein was informed of the nature of the resolutions, and it did not hurt.

Mr. Neumann feels very proud to be a member of this group, which has shown itself to be a group of men who stood up for what they throught was right and have become a salutary power of influence in the Zionist Organization of America. At the present moment the most potent group within the Z.O.A. is this group representing the five Fegions. Without the Yiddish press we could not possibly have gotten to first base. On the other hand, without having the Zionist (cooperation ?) the Yiddish press could not have done it. He said the metropolitan area is cohesive.

The chairman asked Mr. Neumann about the unit wote of the Z.O.A. Mr. Neumann replied that this was not discussed.

Mr. Neumann stated that Mizrachi want us to know that they are not particularly happy the way in which the Yiddish press commented on the situation. With all praise to Goldstein and Levinthal, Mizrachi have certain demands to make and will not go back until these demands are granted. Mr. Heumann said we are not making

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new

any announcement and that they should appaint a committee and we will discuss it with them.

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Rabbi Miller asked for the floor at this point as he had to leave within a few minutes. He said that we all recognize the tremendous debt we owe to Emanuel Neumann. He could not find words to express appreciation of the earnestness and the consecretation to which he had dedicated himself to this task. It is "historic." Also, we must not forget the work that was done by the office group. He thought it could be safely said that the Administration has suffered a first-class defeat. These men, he stated, do not like Silver one whit more now than they did six months ago. They are just as distrustful of him. They are simply surrendering to the pressure of events. Goldstein was shown every day the dossier which consisted of the documents that were pouring in from all over the country; we do not know of the private letters that flooded the office. The man became sick at this spirit of revolt. Seriously, there is nothing to be grateful to these people for. They have been defeated; and by the same token we have won a great victory. It is essential that Dr. Silver reap the full fruits of his victory. Informally he thought we might say to Mr. Neumann that he should express to Dr. Silver our feeling that, barring such circumstances that would vitiate the whole spirit of the agreement, he ought to go back as chairman of the Emergency Council. He said this from the point of view of Zioniem. He must go to London', and he cannot go unless he enters into the work. They have given this work over to Dr. Silver at a very hard time. They will be on the watch to see if he will "bresk his neck. In three or four or five months they will not hesitate, if things do not improve, to say that Dr. Silver is not the man. The direction must be clear. The effort must be unmistakable. The country has been clamoring for Dr. Silver's return out of the most sincere desire manifested in this country in the capacity and the ability of & man. Dr. Silver should be proud of this. In the history of American Jewry, not to say of the country, Dr. Silver has been called to service. Dr. Silver cannot ignore it. And we, of course, cannot in any way advise him to ignore it. We should communicate to Dr. Silver that he has won a victory, that he ought to resume service, and he can leave it to Mizrachi to fight it out. Rabbi Miller said (1) there should be no vice-chairmanship. (2) There should be very clear instructions from this group to Mr. Neumann in going to see Dr. Silver that the future of the Policy Committee is absolutely unaffected. As a collective group we are happy that one of our demands has now been effected, namely, the recall of Dr. Silver to leadership. But we have other demands: infusing a new spirit into the Zionist movement. We must make that very clear to Dr. Silver. He will still need a new Zionist organization to put into effect what he wants. There is no Convention; we will have to wait until the Convention comes on. We should declare that we go on with our task of bringing order into the Zionist Organization, democratizing the Organization.

Mr. Neumann raised the question of names for the Emergency Council and the Executive Committee. He said that Dr. Silver requested specifically that he put the matter up to the group and that he get advice, recommendations, and reactions of it.

Mr. Manson issued a statement to the effect that he will not accept any position as officer.

Mr. Neumann stated that they will agree to naming two additional members of the Z.O.A. and Hadaasah on the Council. He said that he had advised Dr. Silver that in his opinion we need at least two more on the Executive Committee. He doubted of our whether they would agree to three. As he saw it, have two/people on the Council and an alternate or two alternates. The Executive Committee of the Z.O.A. has a right or could have a right of instructing its representatives on the Council how to vote on important issues.

Mr.Neumann said personally he does not see his way to serving on the Council. He had given the matter a good deal of thought. If he goes on the Council and also on the Executive Committee, in the nature of things he will be letting himself in for much more than he can undertake after all these months. He has neglected everything else. He is not in a position to continue to give the time and energy which will be required of him if he goes there. He said there are others who have not been quite absorbed with the work, are fresher, and could give the proper sup-

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port to Dr. Silver and carry on. He would be glad for a while to be on the side-

Mr. Low thought that a first-class job was done both theoretically and otherwise and hoped that we will continue on the same basis. Representatives who will represent us will represent the Z.O.A. in the United States because it has been proven that we have done what the Z.O.A. membership wants done. He would not like to see us go back on that policy. Mr.Low suggested that a small committee be appointed to germer go over the names and to see why Mr. Neumann cannot accept and find a way of having him accept the office. He strongly objected to anyone on the nominating committee nominating himself.

Mr. Rudavsky deeply regretted the remarks made by Mr. Neumann. He could not see the Emergency Executive without Emanuel Neumann. He said he is a symbol and he must be there. Mr. Rudavsky moved that Emanuel Neumann be drafted as the first designee.

Dr. Shohan said he followed in Rabbi Miller's steps. One of the questions he is asked when he first came here was man this a promotion of for is it a policy committee? Are we interested in one man or in principles? The answer is that we are interested in principles. Insofar as Dr. Silver stood for the principles, we were for him. Dr. Silver is not a free agent. His recall was brought about by this Committee and by the sentiment of the grass roots, and he owes them something. Dr. Shohan said kaxknams in working with the U.P.S. he got to know the people in it. He has no use for them. Dr. Shohan said we should give our pass terms. Unless we get what we want we are not interested. He doubted very much if Dr. Silver would come back under conditions which would betray us in this room and the thousands of Zionists we represent. He felt that the Policy Committee should go on. From the experience of the last four months we have no Zionist movement in America worth a hoot. He said we have a job to do here to make it possible for decent people to enter the Zionist movement.

Mr. Shapiro stated that we have a Peace Committee and that Dr. Silver will not act through that Committee only. This should be borne in mind in discussions.

The chairman read a letter that Dr. Silver wrote to Mr. Sol Cohem.

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Mr. Shapiro gave the names of those on the Peace Committee, as follows: Rabbi Leon Fram of Detroit, Samuel Goldstock of Pitteburgh, Samuel J. Keiser of Baltimore, Abraham Goldstein of Hartford, Judge Greenberg of Brooklyn, Samuel J. Perry of Laurelton, Marcus Abrameon of the Bronx, Jacques Torczyner of Manhattan, Joseph Lerner of Newark.

Mr. Rudavsky said we have to think in terms of Zionism. He said we can do nothing so far as reorganizing the Z.O.A. because there is no Convention. But we cannot let the Zionist policy die. For this reason we are accepting the peace terms. They are our terms. They will not have the majority, and they will not be able to do what they please. Until the next Convention the Zionist Policy Committee should remain in force. This is an official body. It will strengthen the hands of Dr. Silver.

Mr. Gribetz said Dr. Silver resigned from the Council because he felt that the existing Council was antagonistic to his policy, which presupposes that Dr. Silver had policies which he could not put into effect. Dr. Silver's policies now have a better chance of success. In the resolutions passed by Brooklyn and other groups not only was the name of Silver mentioned but also his policies. Mr. Gribetz assumed that the Fegions and the groups which have adopted favoring the return of Dr. Silver were particularly and primarily stimulated to do this because Dr. Silver symbolizes a specific policy and his return will bring back that policy. It is important to stream that. Almost everyone was thoroughly apprised of what was at stake. He said Mr. Neumann is satisfied in refraining from eliminations and that the additions make it possible for Dr. Silver not only to return but put his policies into effect satisfactorily. He precumed Mr. Neumann had his reasons. Mr. Gribetz said we have taken the essential steps through the return of Dr. Silver in the implementation of the addition of the decent, high-minded, important groups in Jewish life. He doubted very much that the peace could be approved until the details shall have been worked out in full. Policies mless they are decided in advance are frequently frustrated by little details. He said that the palicies of the Folicy Committee will shape themselves as time progresses, but we have one

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major objective, i. e., for the present time to go forth on the policy Dr. Silver has pursued in the past.

Mr. Low (?) stated that we should look upon this as an achievement of our first victory. We dare not put obstacles in the way of peace. The reaction against us will be too strong and we will go under. Everyone craves for peace. Mr. Low (?) said that problems may come up on personnel.

Mr. Lassar said that when he first heard of the peace moves that were made he stated very distinctly and definitely that this Committee must not be disbanded. He suspected that the Z.O.A. Executive will say that we are constituting ourselves as a Committee to carry on the work of capturing the entire Zionist movement and that we already have drawn blood in forcing the recall of Dr. Silver. At least until the Convention meets and an expression by the Zioniste throughout the country is heard, Mr. Lassar felt that a unanimous expression should go back to the Z.O.A. Executive that this Committee will not be disbanded. Recussted this suggestion be put in the form of a motion.

The chairman said a vote would be taken.

Mr. Tuvim suggested that it be made in the form of recommendation to the National Council.

Mr. Lassar moved to that effect. Recommend to the National Council that the Folicy Committee continue to function.

It was seconded by Mr. Goodman. Unanimously carried. in the Council,

As for nominations, Mr. Neumann said it is a national matter and should properly come before the National Council. However, since the Council could not be called together, Dr. Eilver was anxious to have some expressions of opinion. Mr. Neumann therefore suggested that while mexic nominations are not made the group express some ideas to Er. Silver. Recommendations would be useful. recommended

The chairman said that Mr. Neumann weesto continue on the Emergency Council. Recommendation unanimously carried.

For the second recommendation, Mr. ? sold that since the Council is of national scope is would be proper to explore possible candidates who were not present; otherwise it would seem as though it was run by New York.

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Mr. Rudavsky said it is a matter of vital importance. The Council meets in New York. Let us forget geography. He had in mind Mr. Abe Goodman, who is a New Yorker but spends part of the year outside of New York.

Motions closed.

Mr.Neumann said the Council has twenty-six members. He hoped there will be two additional members on the Council, both of whom shall also go on the Executive Committee of the Council; also, one or two alternates, which is extremely important. The name of Elihu Stone was mentioned to serve as an alternate. He also suggested expressing approval of several names, leaving a choice perhaps to Dr. Silver and to the Peace Committee. Mr. Neumann repeated his appreciation of the unanimous vote. However, he stated that he already had advised Dr. Silver that he cannot accept.

Mr. Tuvim declared that Dr. Silver will not go back to the Council without a clear majority.

Mr. Abe Goodman felt greatly honored by the expression on his behalf but had to farm concern himself with reality. He said he lives out of town. He believes we will have a problem here. He said we are giving Dr. Silver a very bare working majority. He must have that majority constantly at his albow. Much as Mr. Goodman appreciated the honor bestowed upon him he cannot accept. However, he wit is perfectly willing to act as a substitute. It will be physically impossible for him to attend all meetings. He suggested in the spirit of recommendation that Mr. ani Mr. Fishman Elihu Stone/be considered; he would be an alternate.

Mr. Rudavsky suggested that we vote for four or five names, and the following were given: Elihu Stone, Emanuel Neumann, Jacob Fishman, Irving Miller, Abe Goodman.

The chairman asked all those in favor/ Carriadix Suggestion carried.

Mr. Zeldin spoke on the Brooklyn resolution. He said it was decided officially that it should not be published for forty-eight hours because peace was still pending. If nothing comes out of the peace negotiations then it should be published.

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Mr. Goodman, in discussing this question, was miniful of the remarks made by Dr. Shohan. They justified Dr. Shohan of the stitude on the part of the socalled old leaders of Zioniam in America. Instead of showing appreciation of new forces they consider the new forces as "upstarts." One of the problems the Policy Committee should cal with is that question. There is no monopoly of Zioniam; we want to bring in new forces. We should great it not with a feeling of suspicion, although the Policy Committee should stand on guard. Our purpose is to bring about harmony in the movement. We have to preserve the whole movement. Mr. Goodman thought the question should be approached in a new spirit. There are some that are irreconcilable; they joined because they want political modification. A wiser policy on our part would be to establish good will. He said the Policy Committee could be used to show that we can recognize friends. Mr. Goodman believed that Mrx <u>andx faminitarFringh</u> FREEXX.Therefore Structure Friends. Mr. Goodman believed that Mrx

Mr. Dewye Stone could be brought into our ranks; that Mr. Eaniel Frisch could be brought back. It was his feeling that with wisdom with xegard xeathex entires Zienist and good will a great deal of good could be done for the Policy Committee. He said we have to prove to those people that we are not what they think we are.

Mr. Zeldin said that they wanted to put a time limit on their resolution; that the resolution should be kept as a club in order to force the issue.

Mr. Manson suggested that while the text of the resolution is not published a short report be given to the papers to the effect that the resolution was adopted overwhelmingly cemanding the recall of Dr. Silver and that it was critical of the Administration. He said it would not hurt fro Dr. Goldstein and others to be shown privately the text of the resolution.

Mr. Lassar stated that the delegates said if there is no peace in fortyeight hours the resolution can be published; however, care must be taken in what is published. The original text of the resolution was withheld for forty-eight hours at the request of the delegates because there were runners of peace negotiations, but the eriginal resolution (s) can be published if and when necessary.

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Mr. Neumann advised the forming of the Metropolitan Council.

Mr. Goodman was not clear on the Peace Committee, how it operates.

Mr. Shapiro said the men on the Committee were called to a luncheon meeting for this Thursday to discuss the peace situation.

The meeting adjourned at 6 P. M.



AGENDA

Meeting of Greater New York Executive Committee of the American Zionist Policy Committee 55 West 42 Street, New York, N. Y.

Tuesday Afternoon, June 26, 1945

I. REPORT ON THE LONG ISLAND REGIONAL CONVENTION

II. REPORT ON THE BROOKLYN REGIONAL CONVENTION

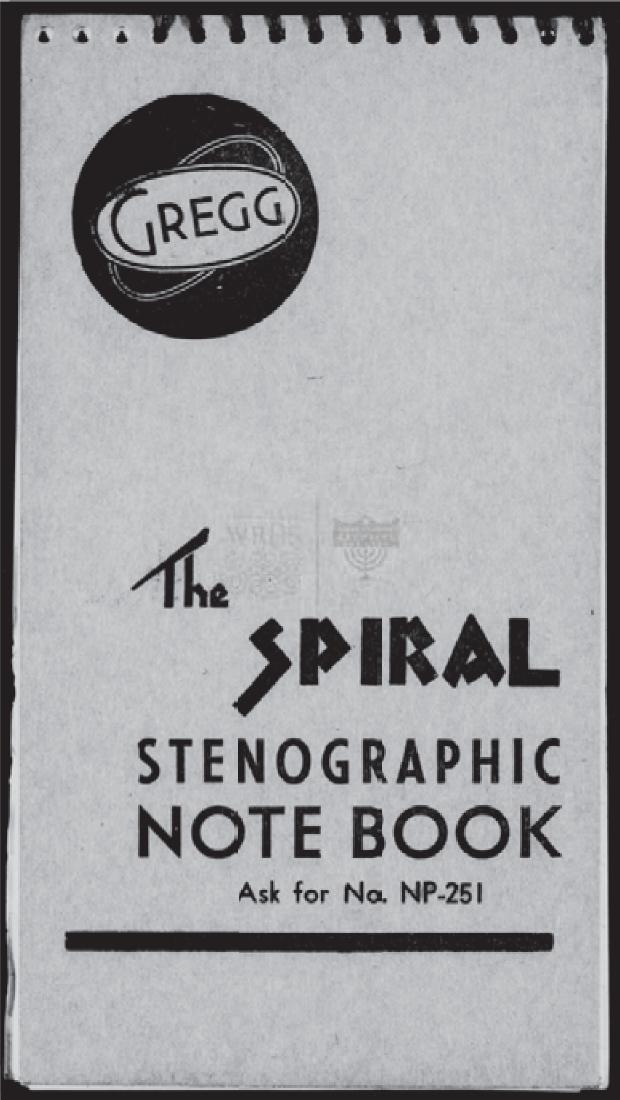
III. REPORT BY EMANUEL NEUMANN ON PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

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Executive Committee

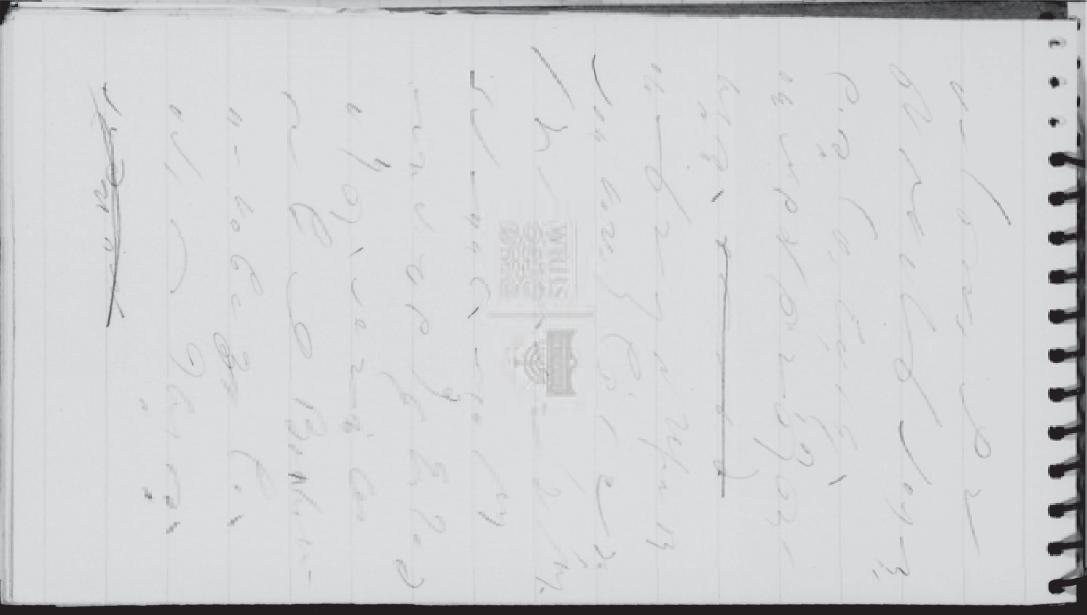
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- Jack B. Cohen
- Sol Cohen
- Jacob Goodman
- Judge Emenuel Greenberg, Chm.
- Louis Gribetz
- Emenuel Helpern
 - Leon A. Kohn
- Arthur Lebenson
- Max Levy
- Sol Low
- Rabbi Irving Miller
- -Emanuel Neumann
- Samuel J. Perry
- -Moses Rubinson
 - -J. I. Rudewsky
 - -David Spiegel
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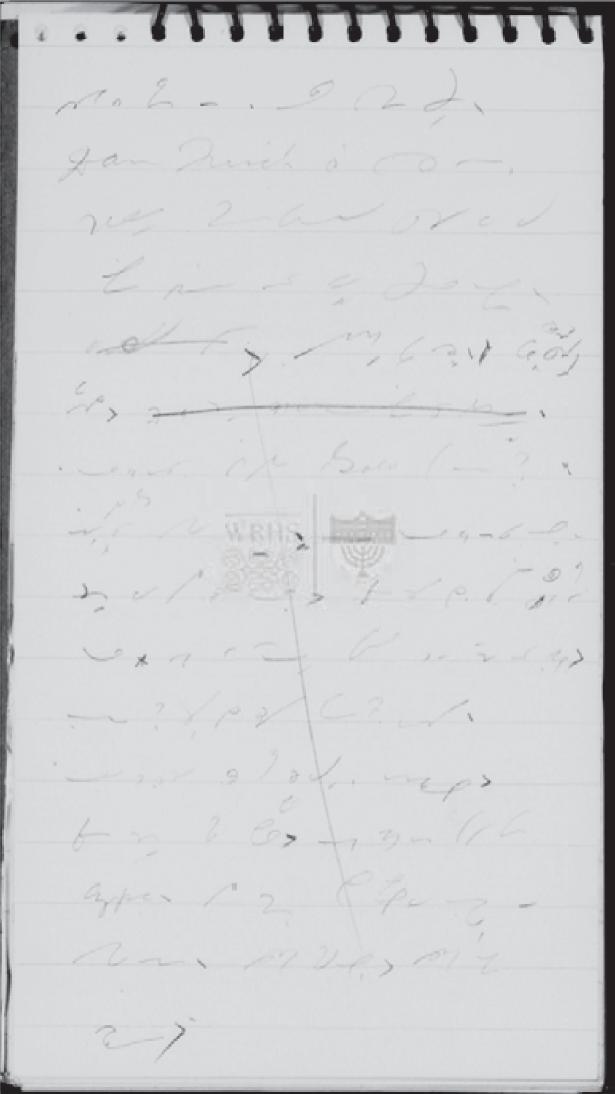
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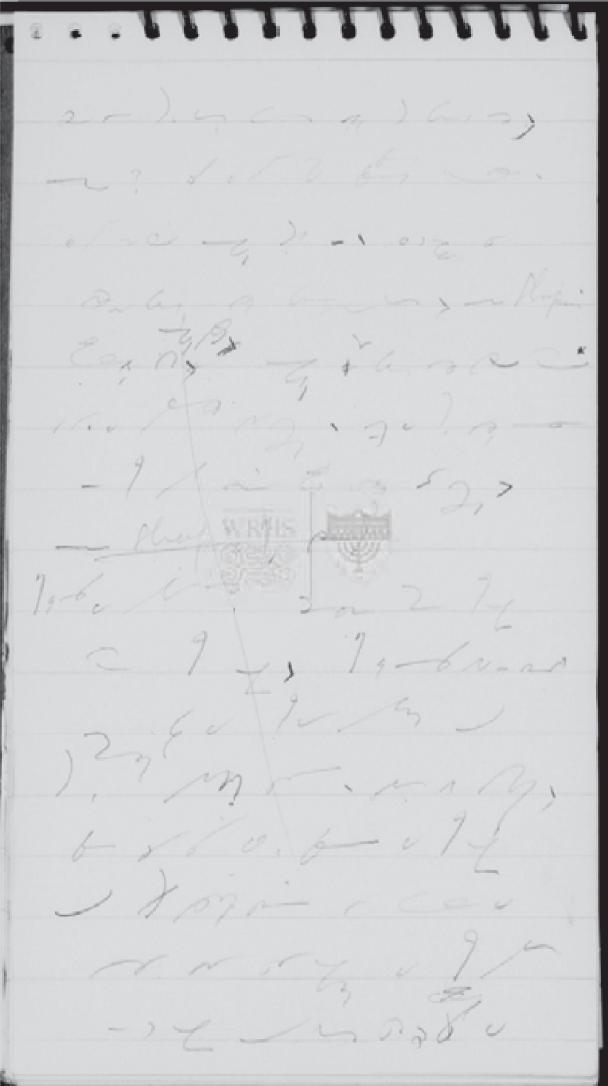


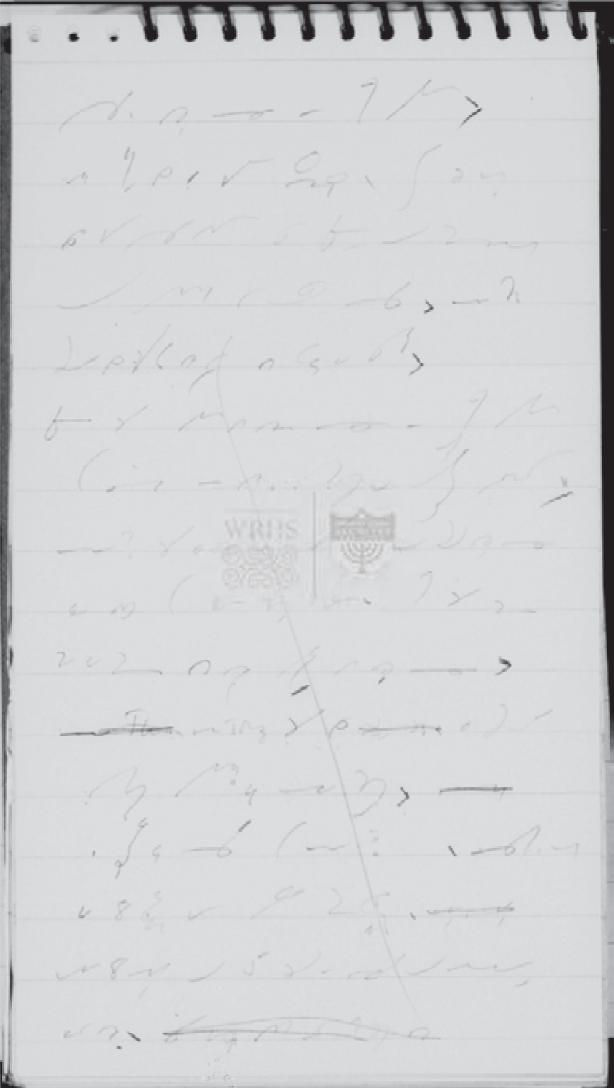
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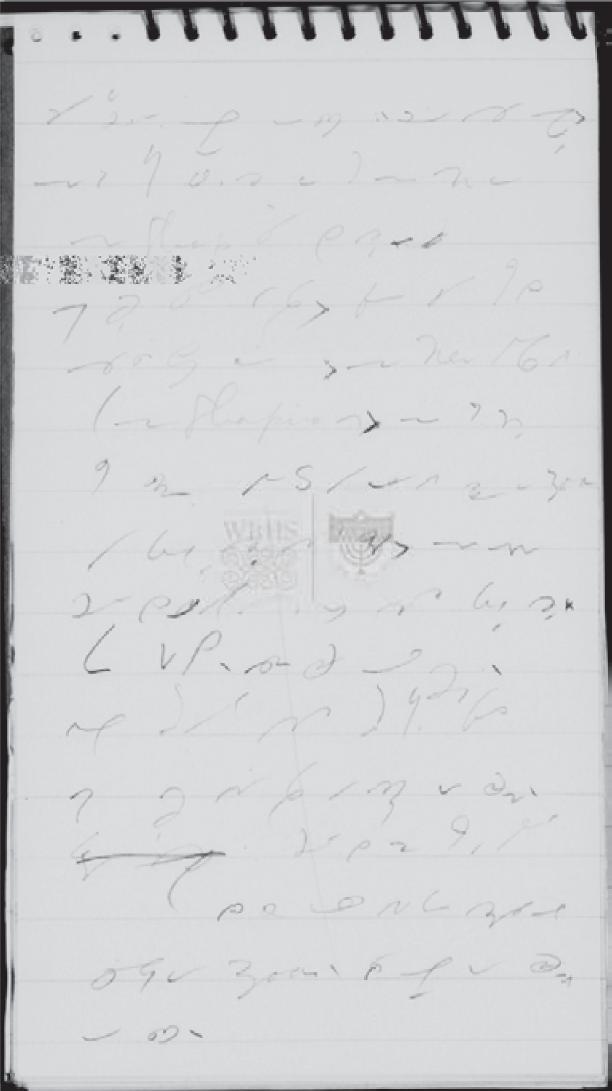
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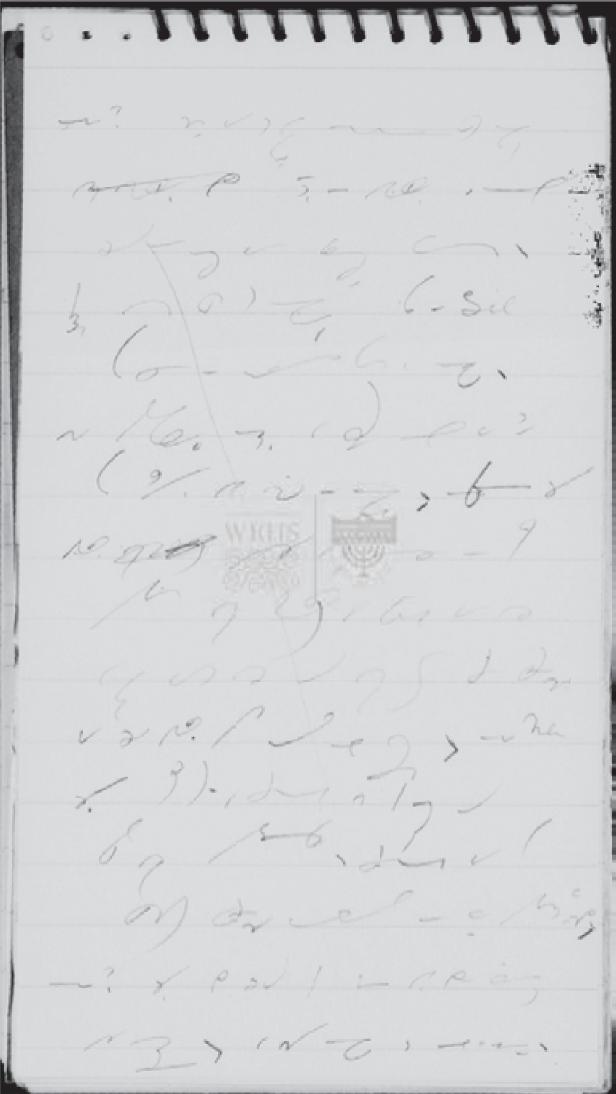




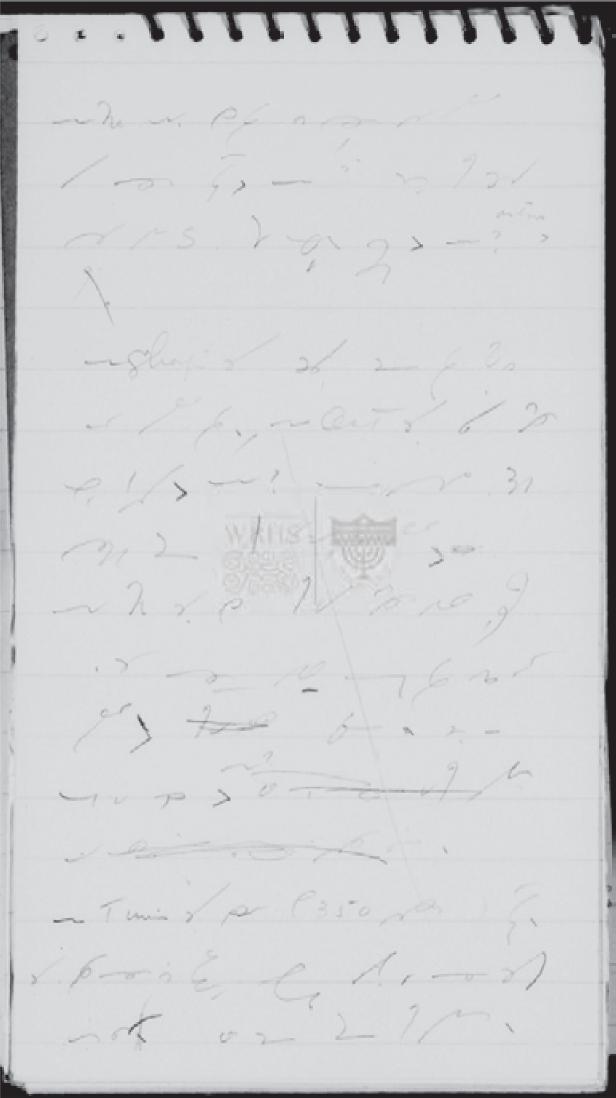




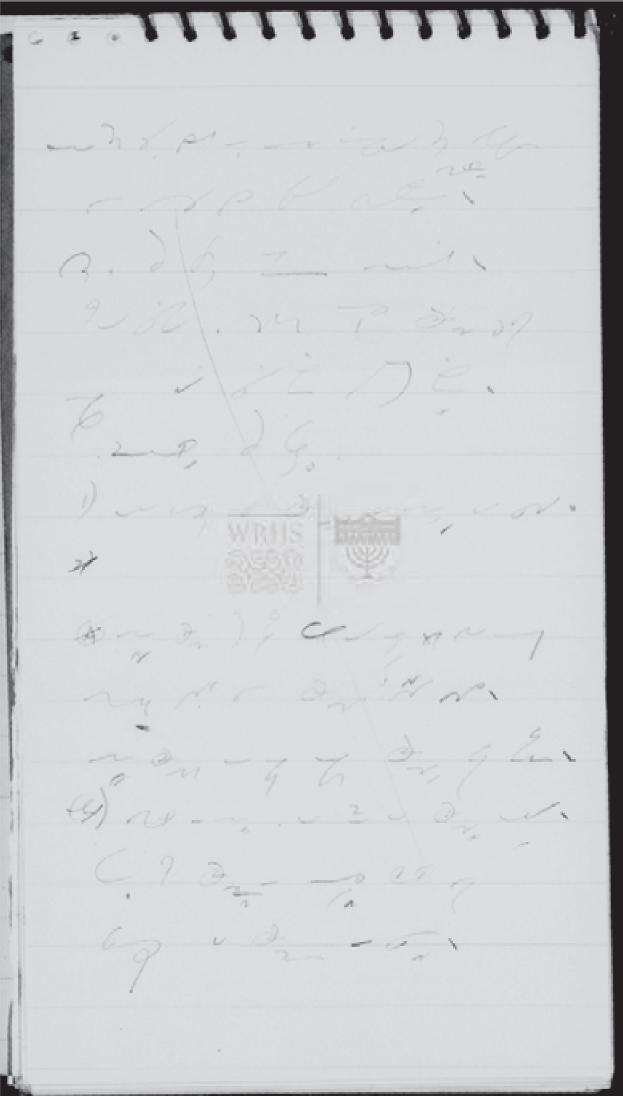




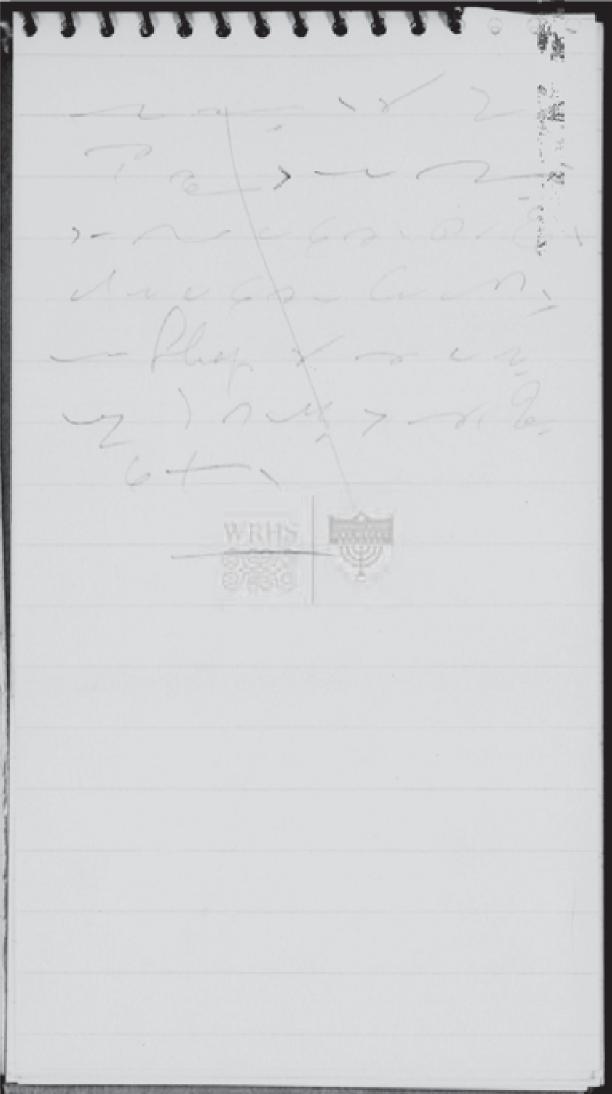
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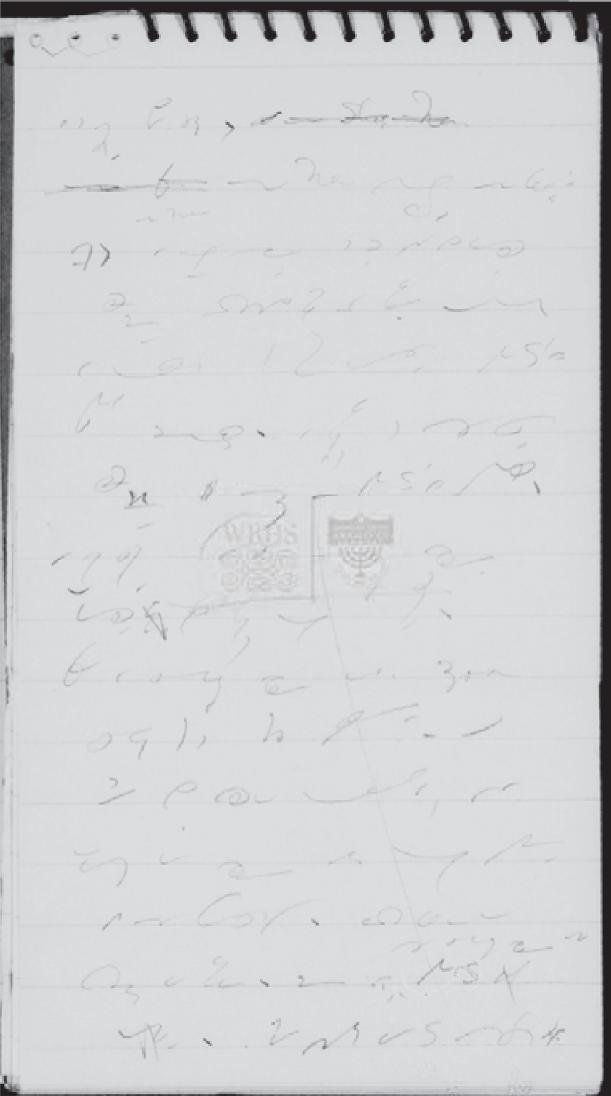


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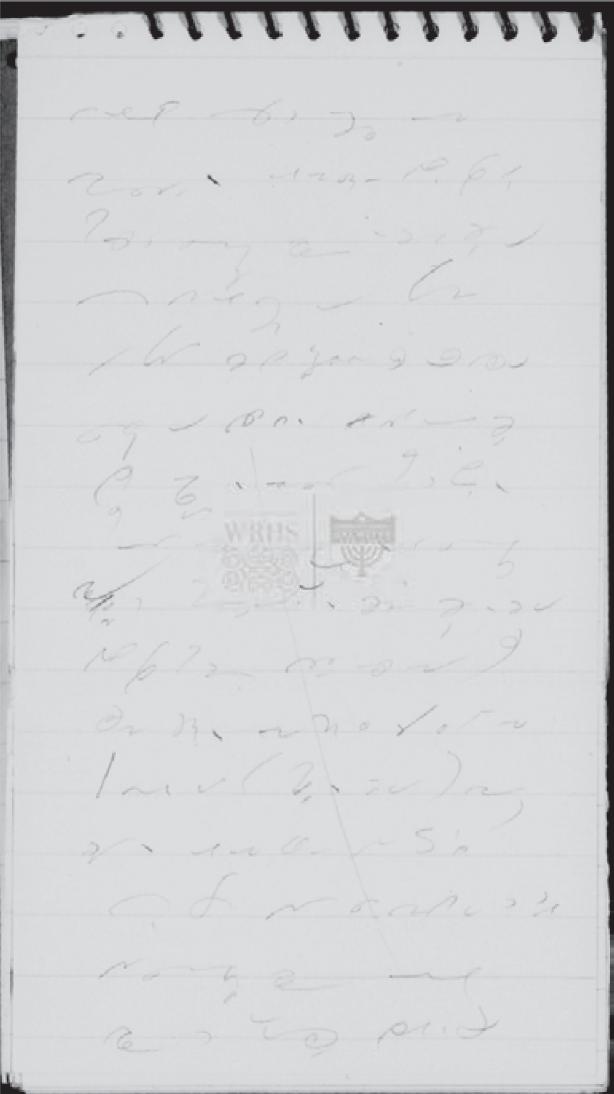


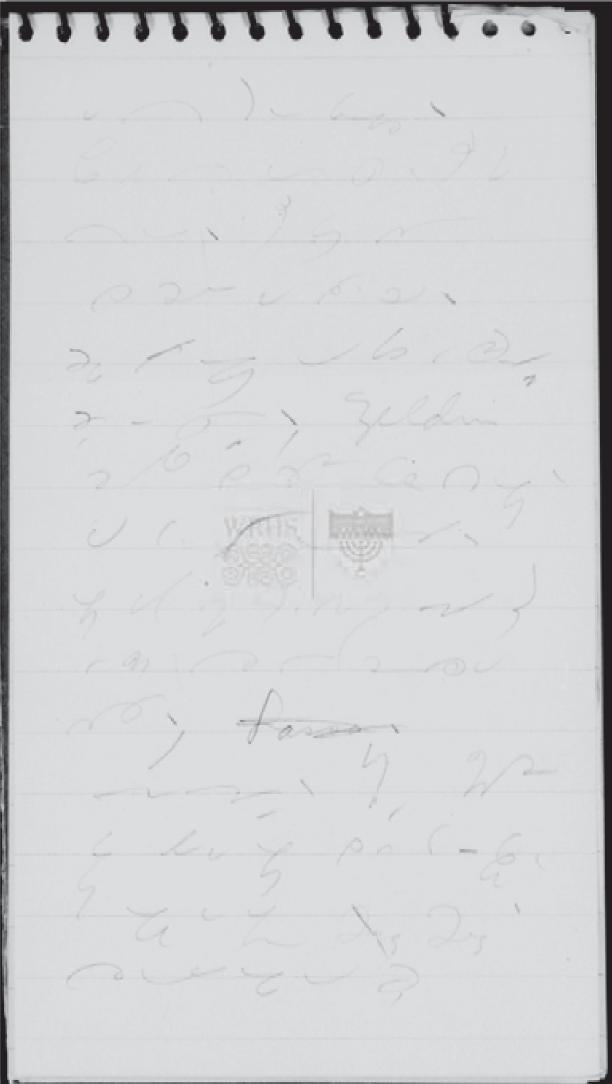
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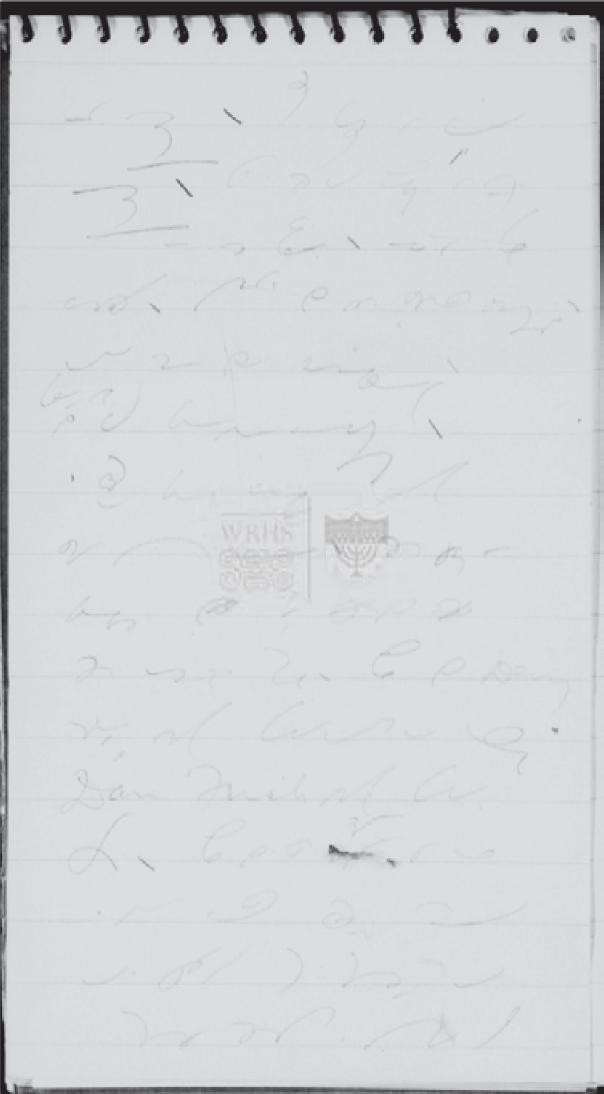


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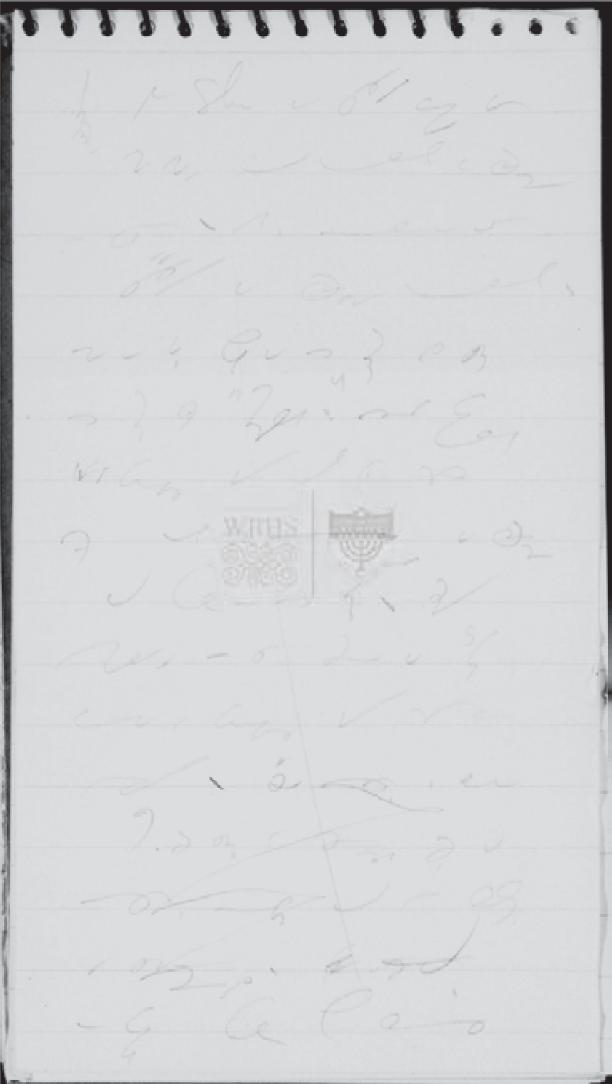


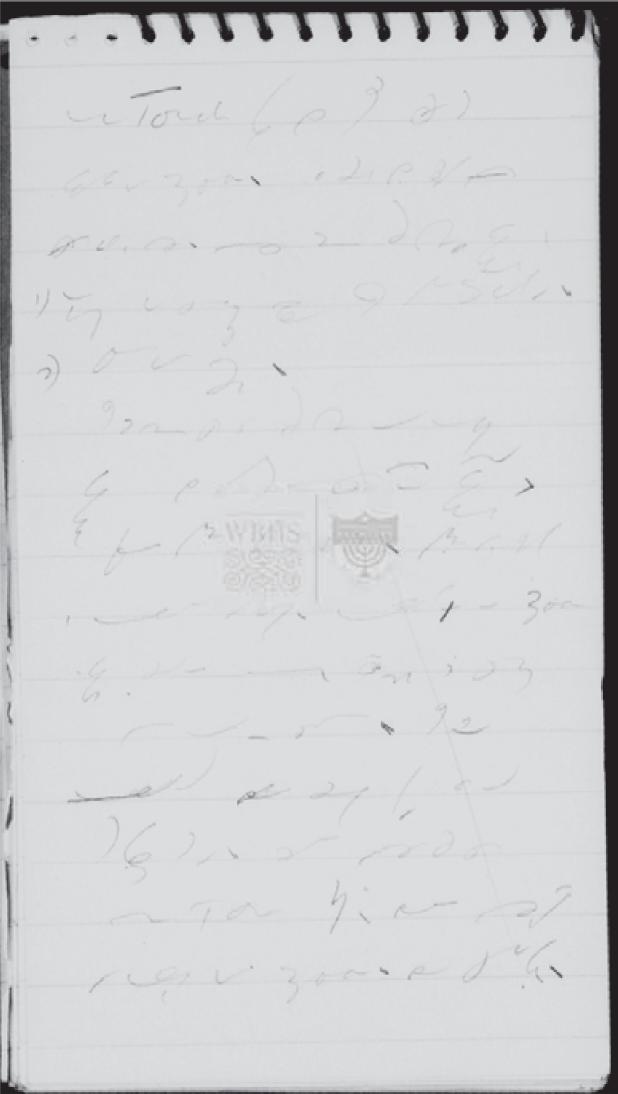


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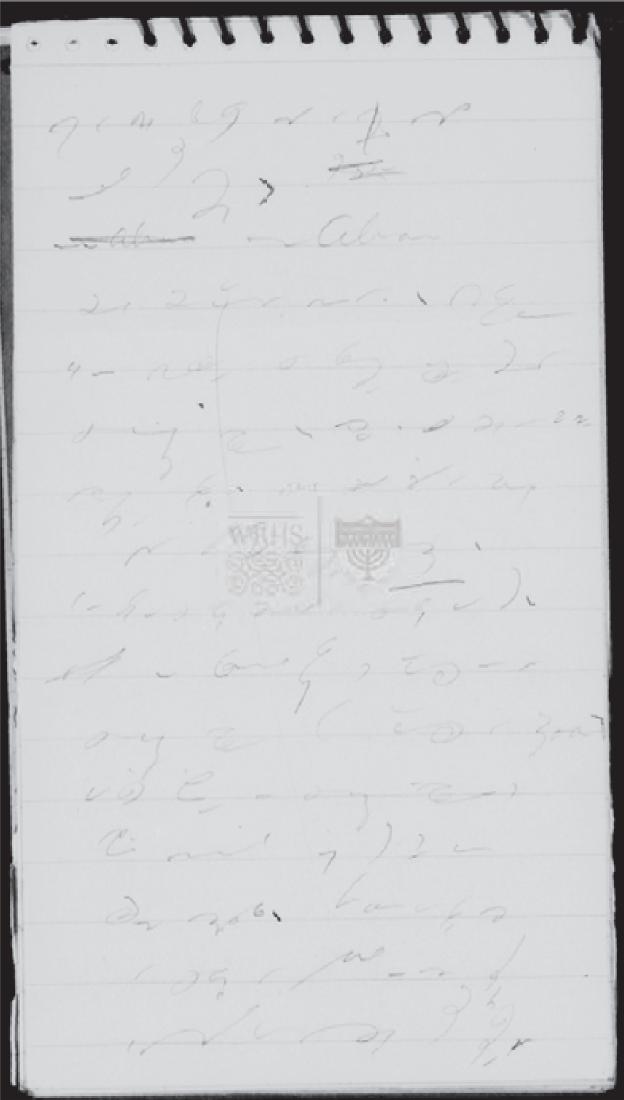


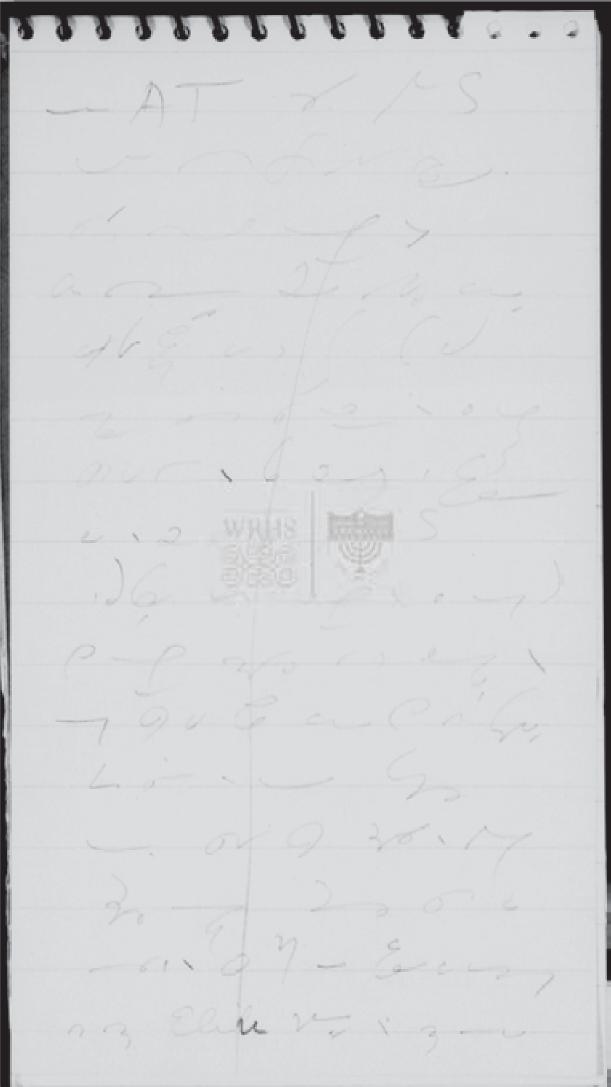
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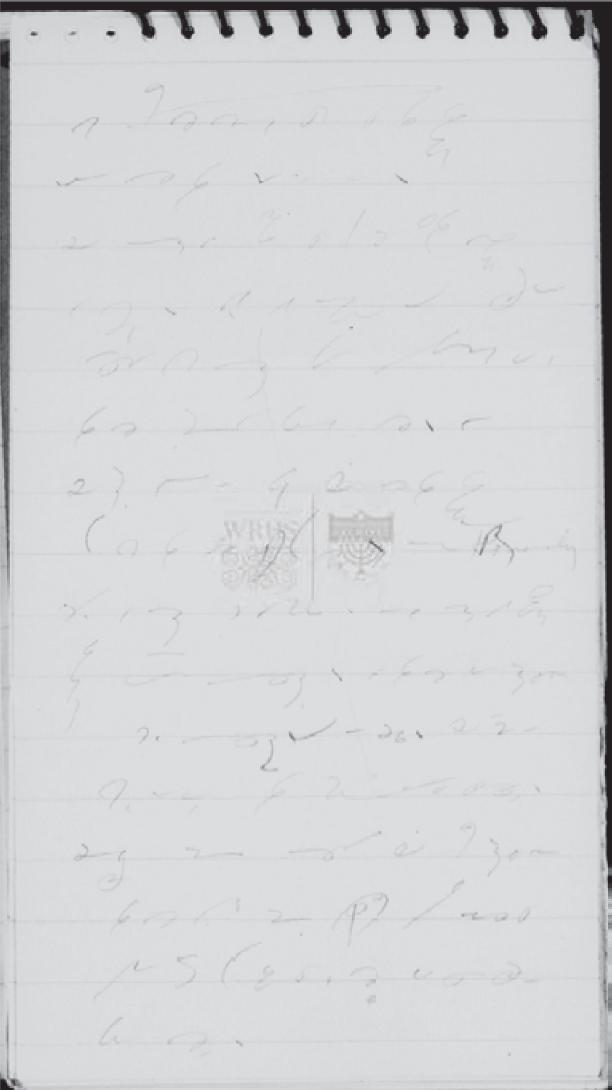


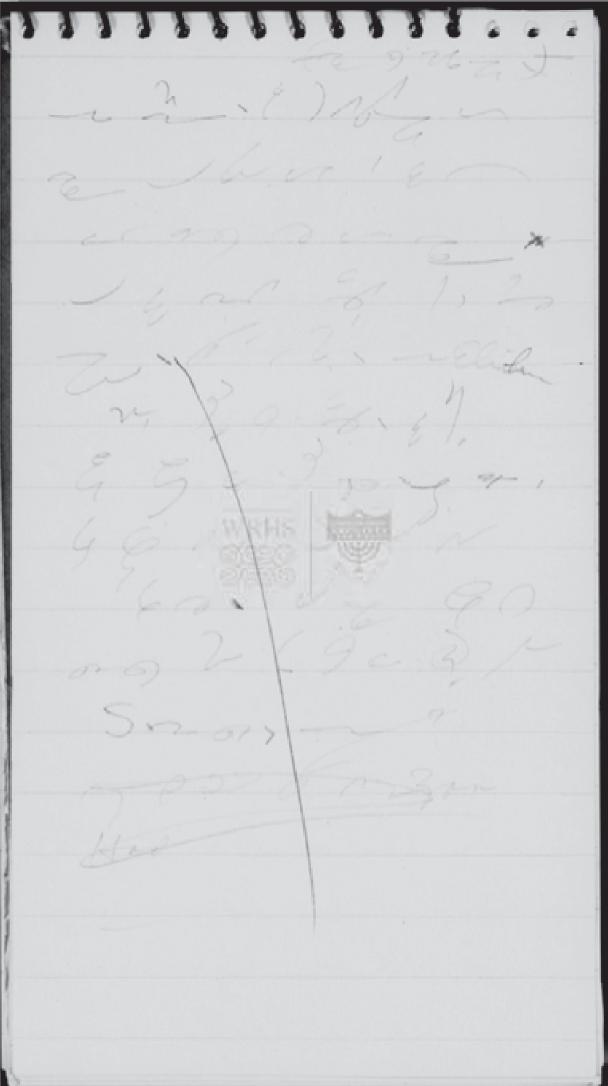


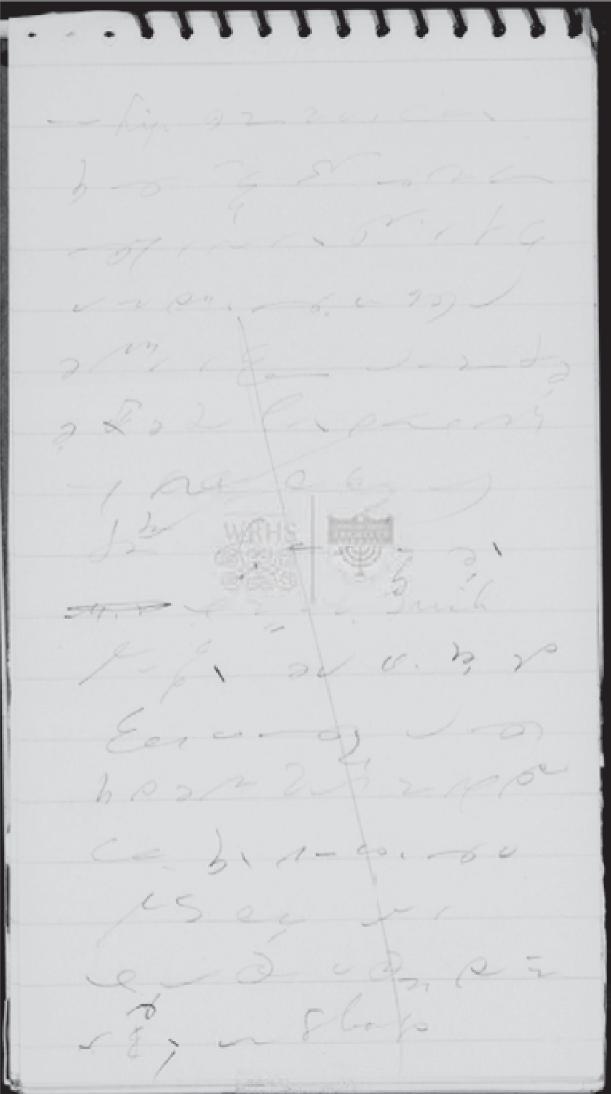
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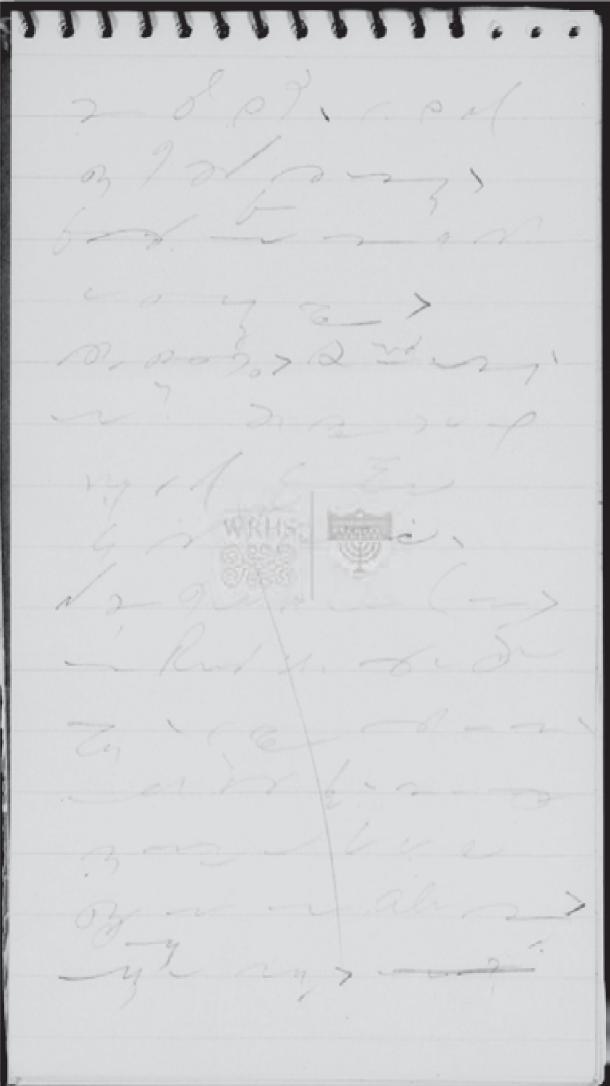




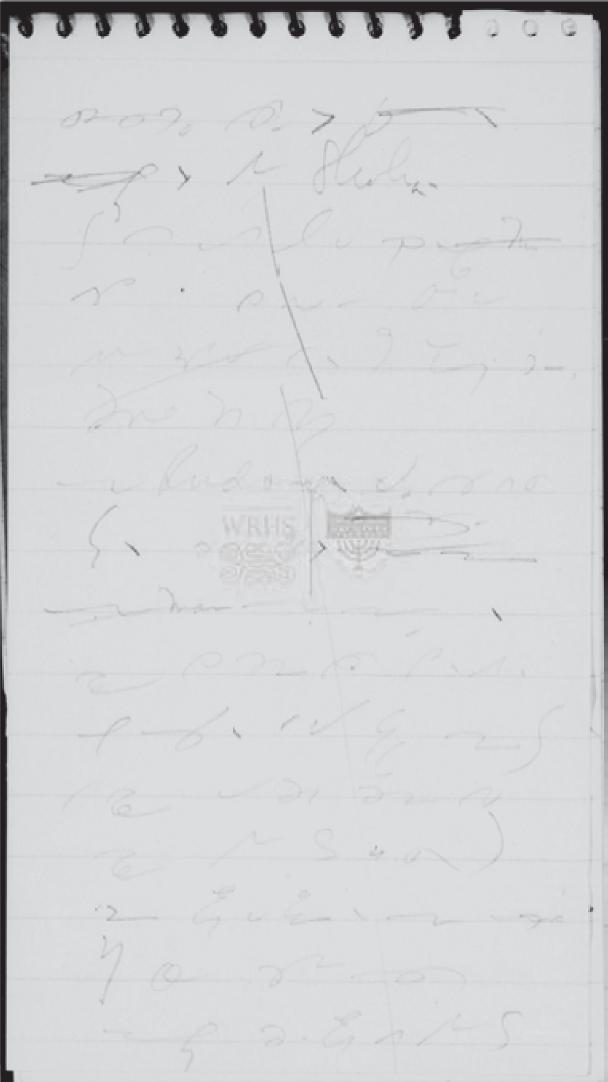




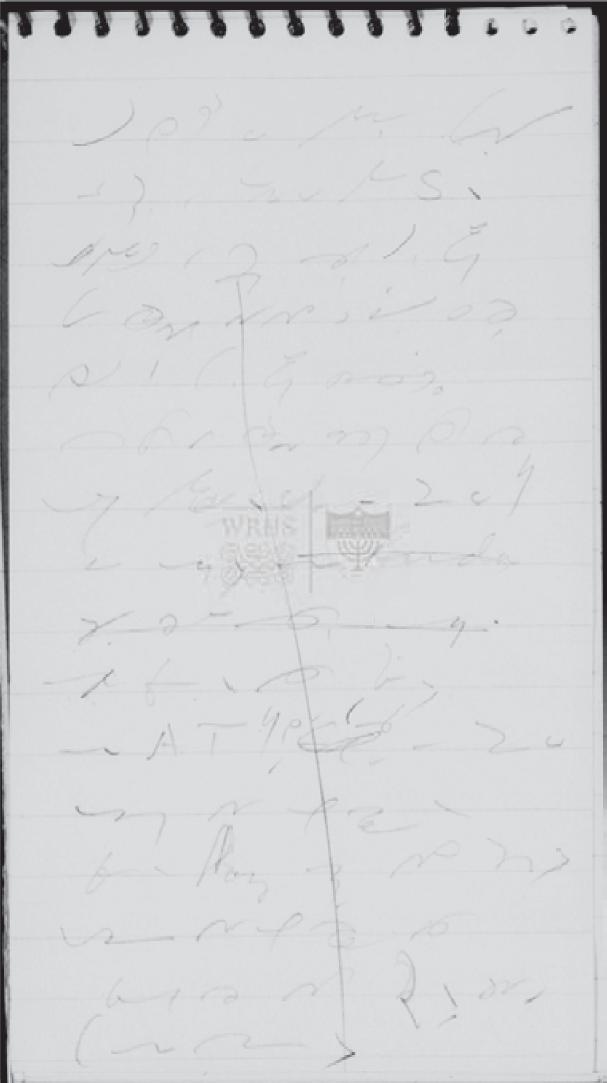




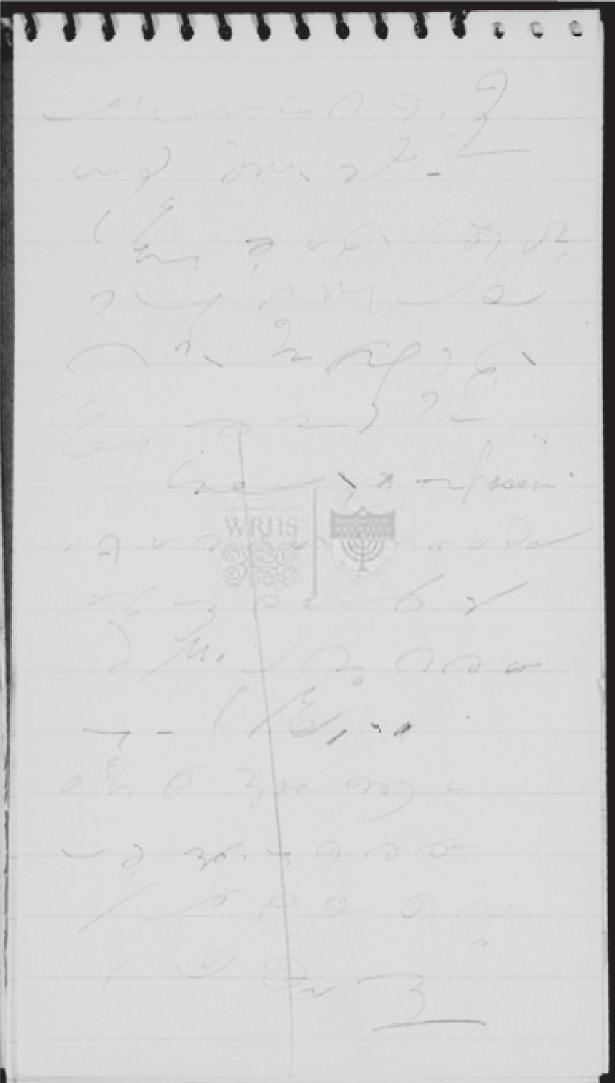
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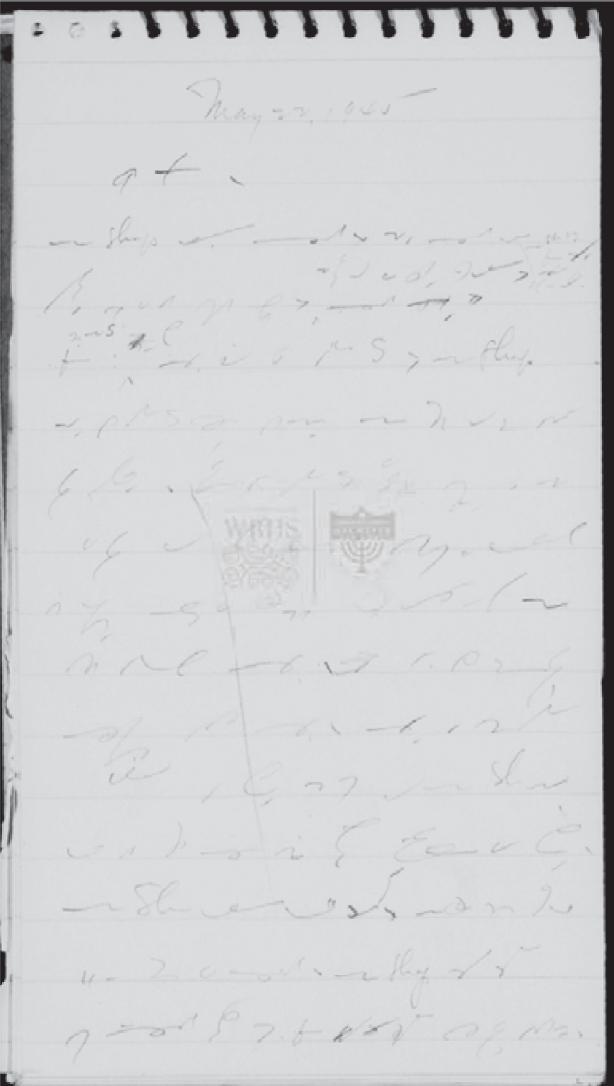


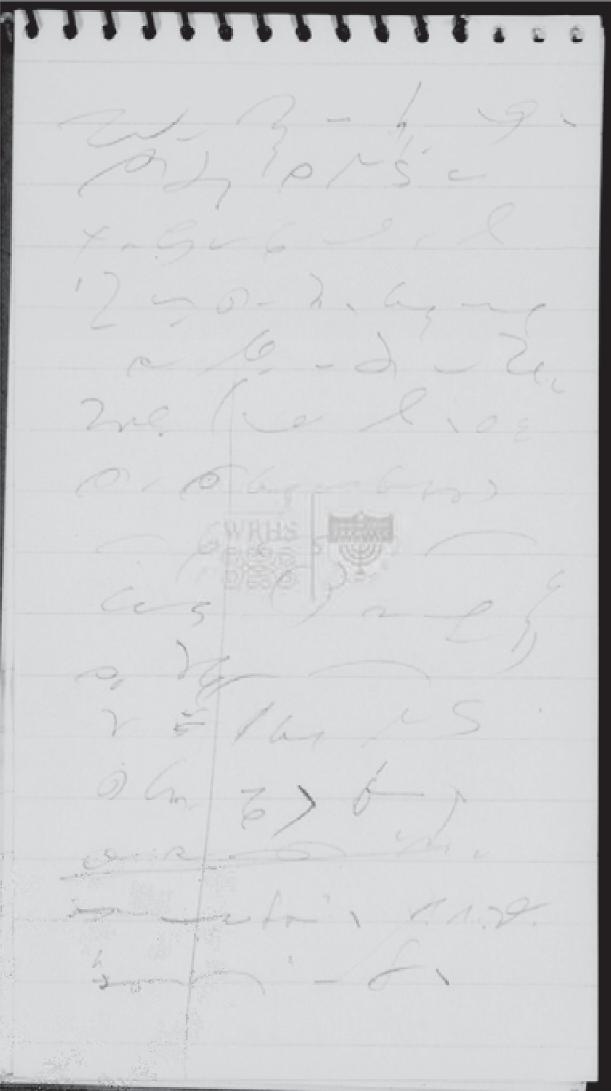
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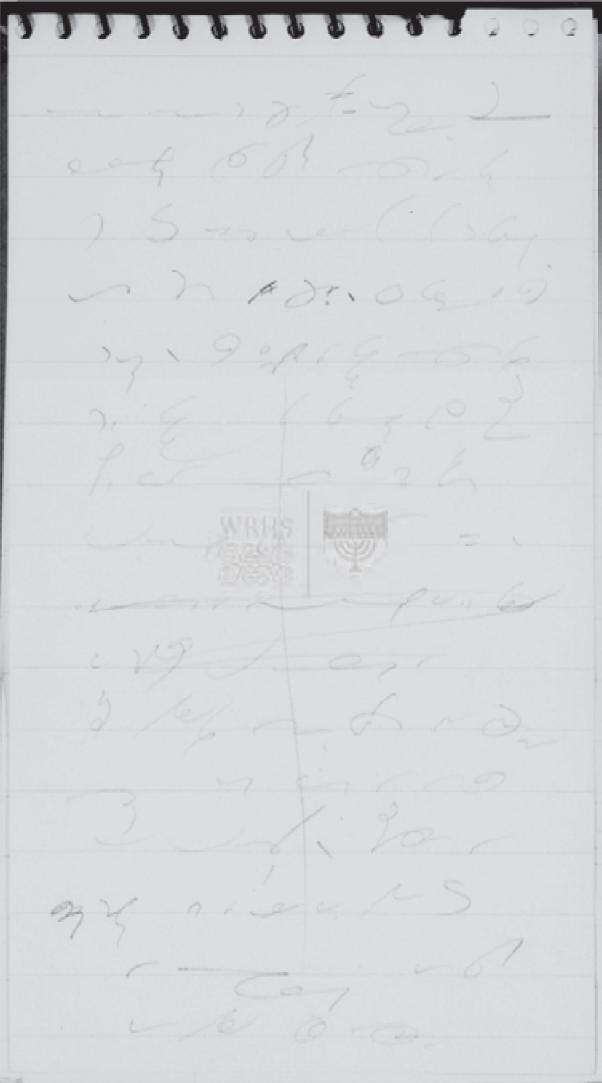
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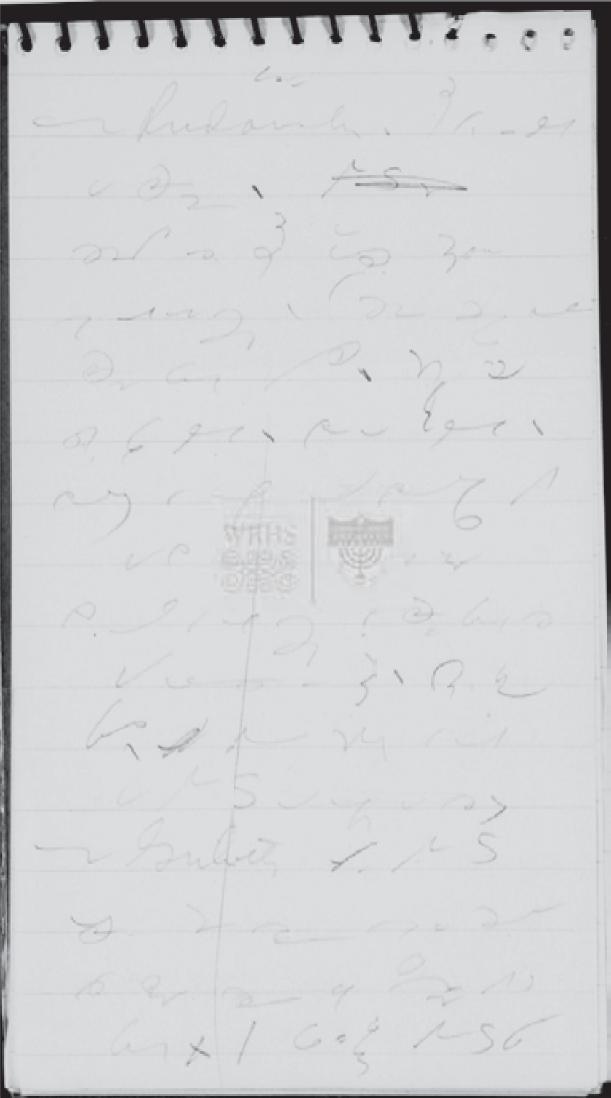
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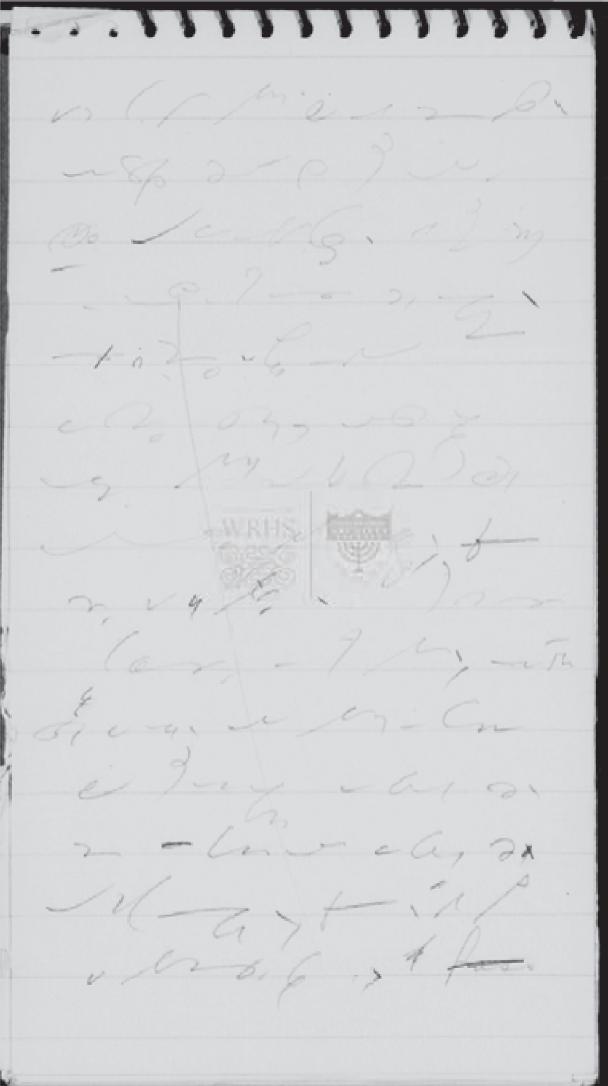


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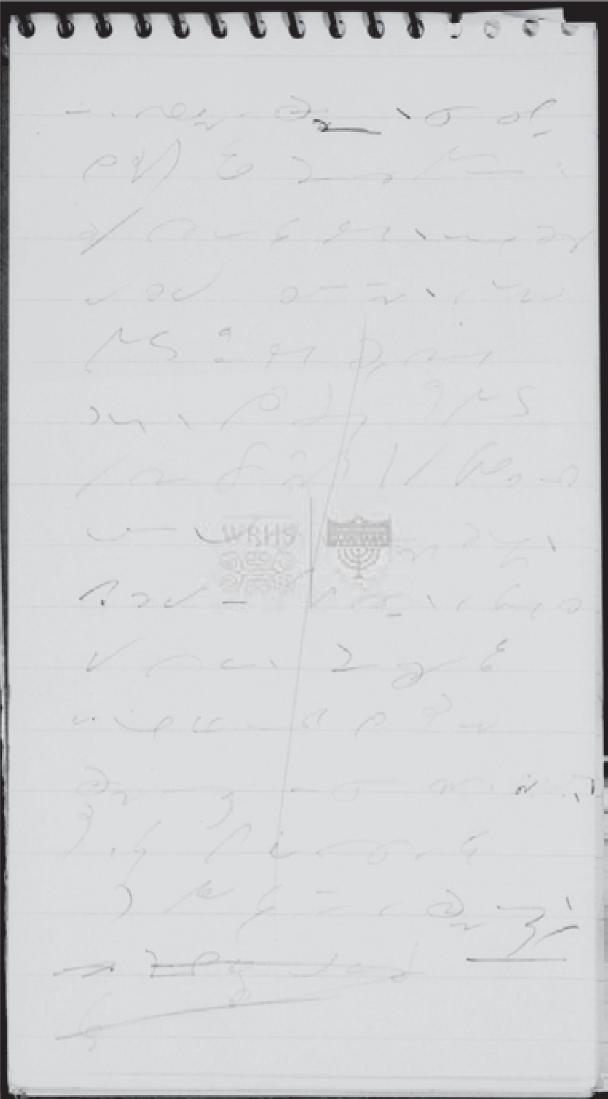
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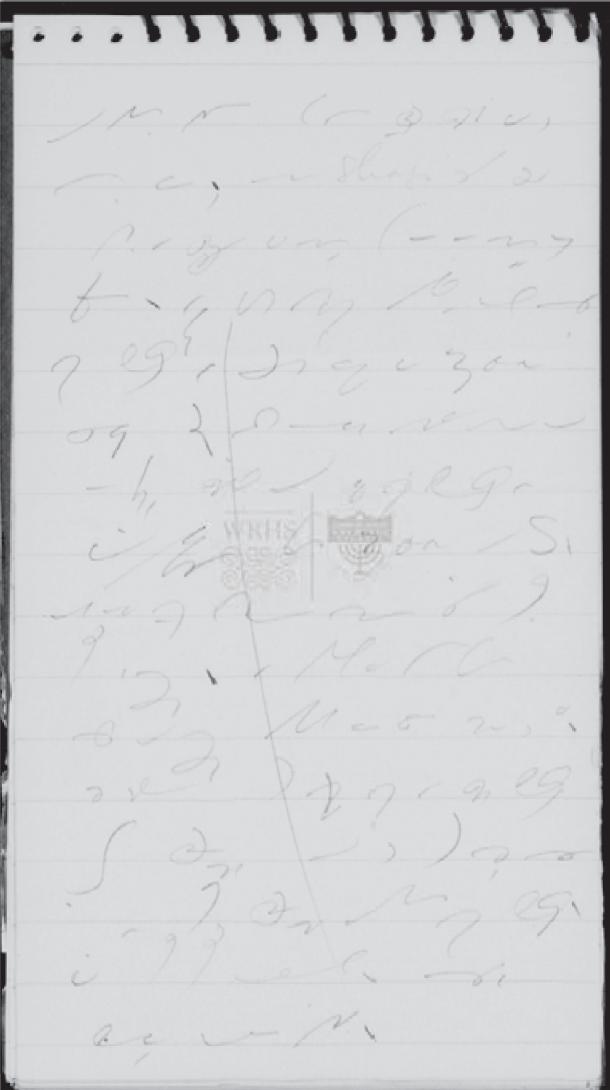
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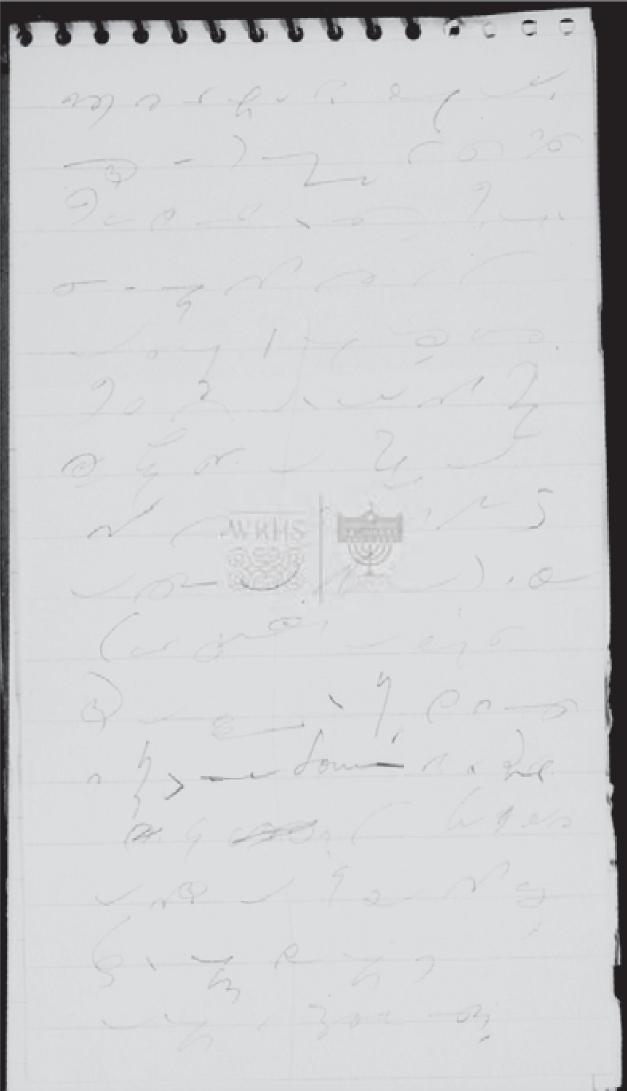
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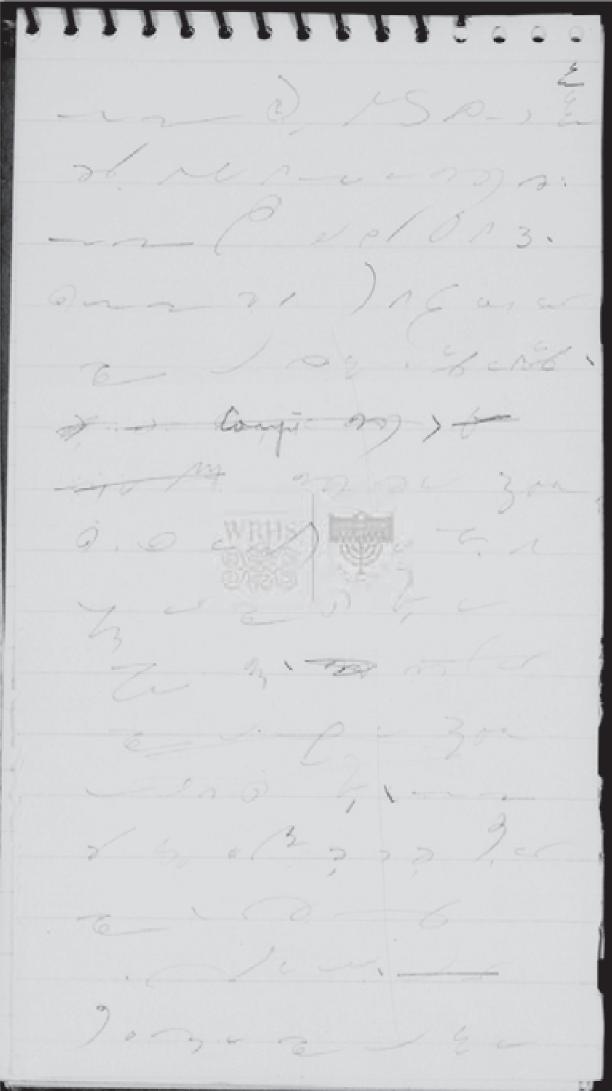


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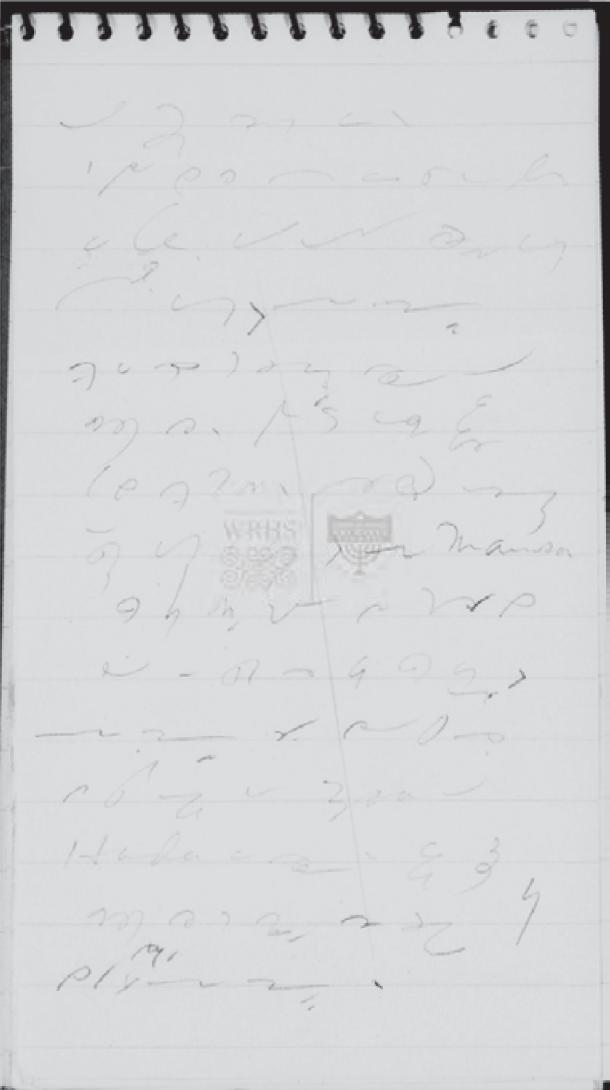
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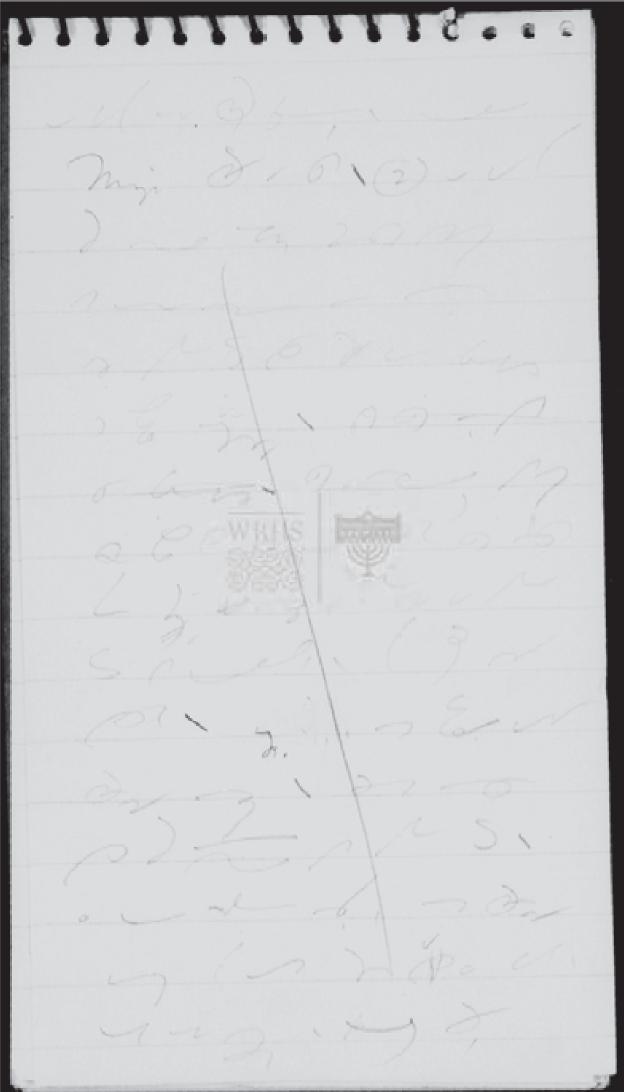
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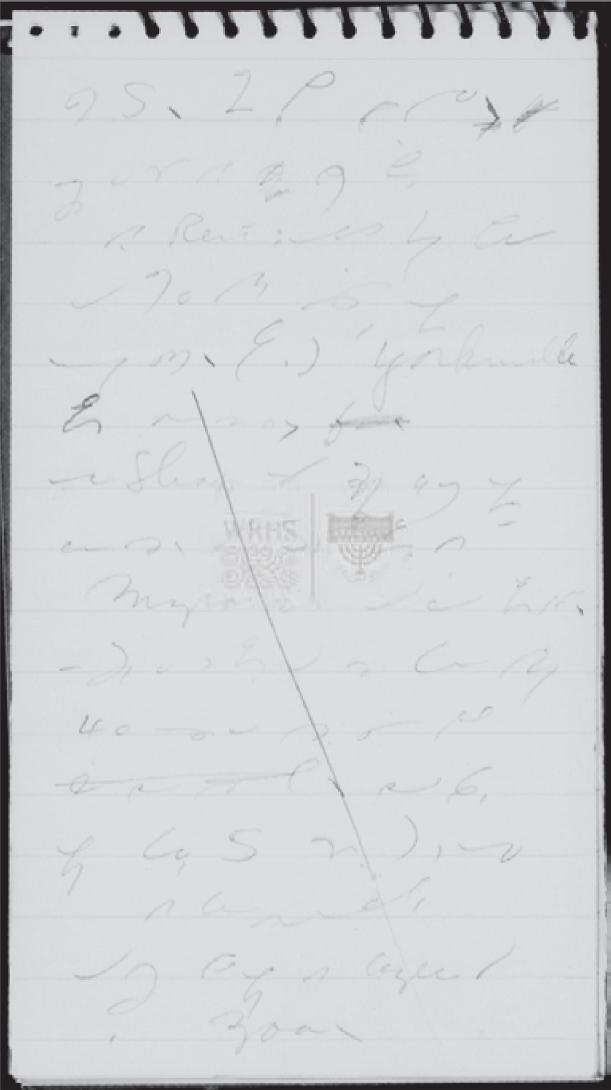


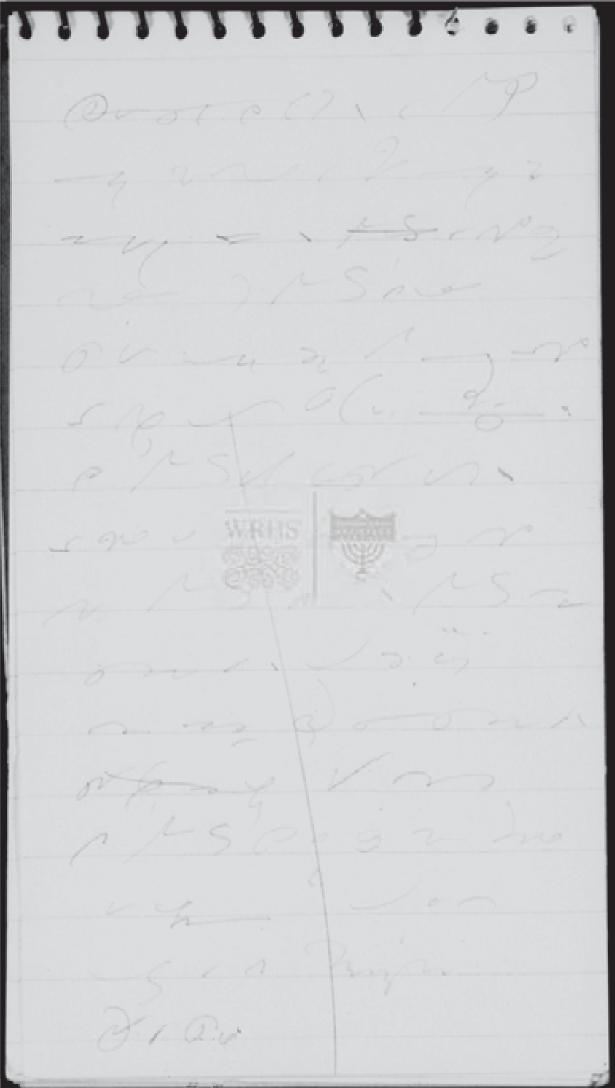
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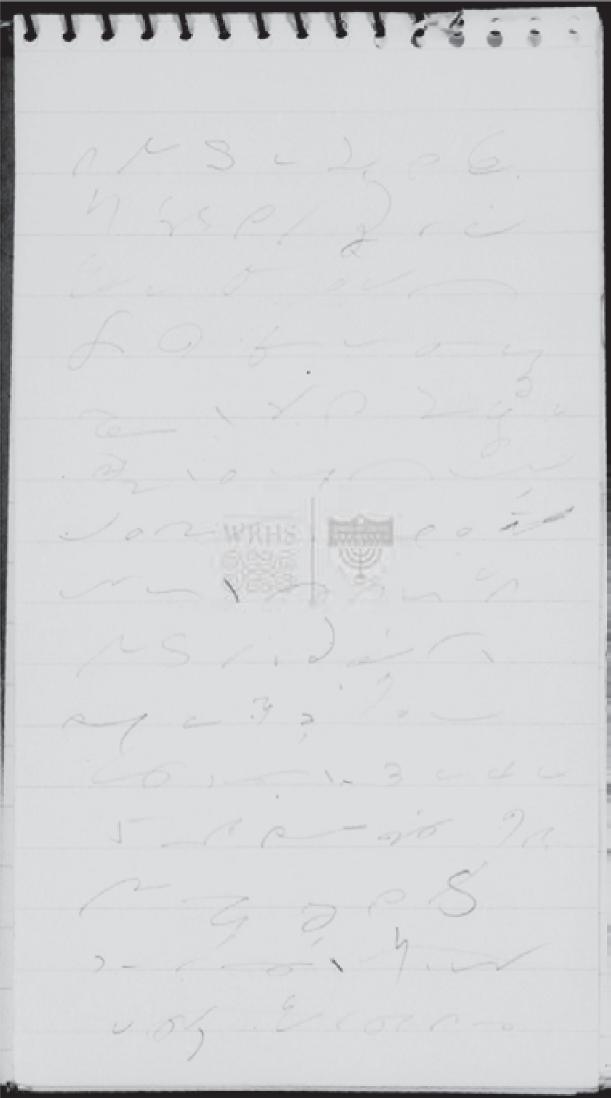
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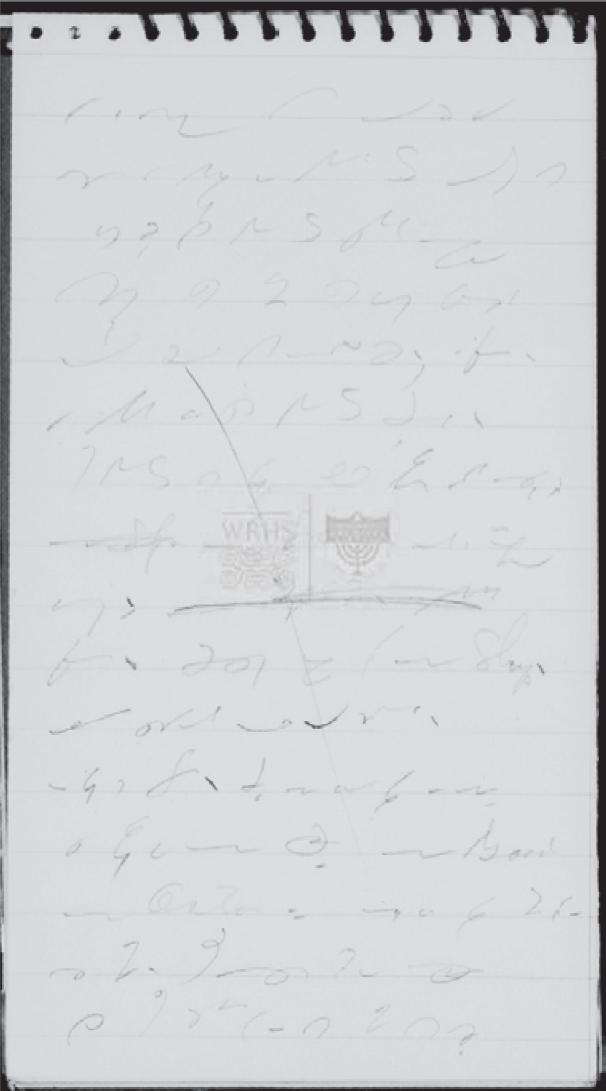


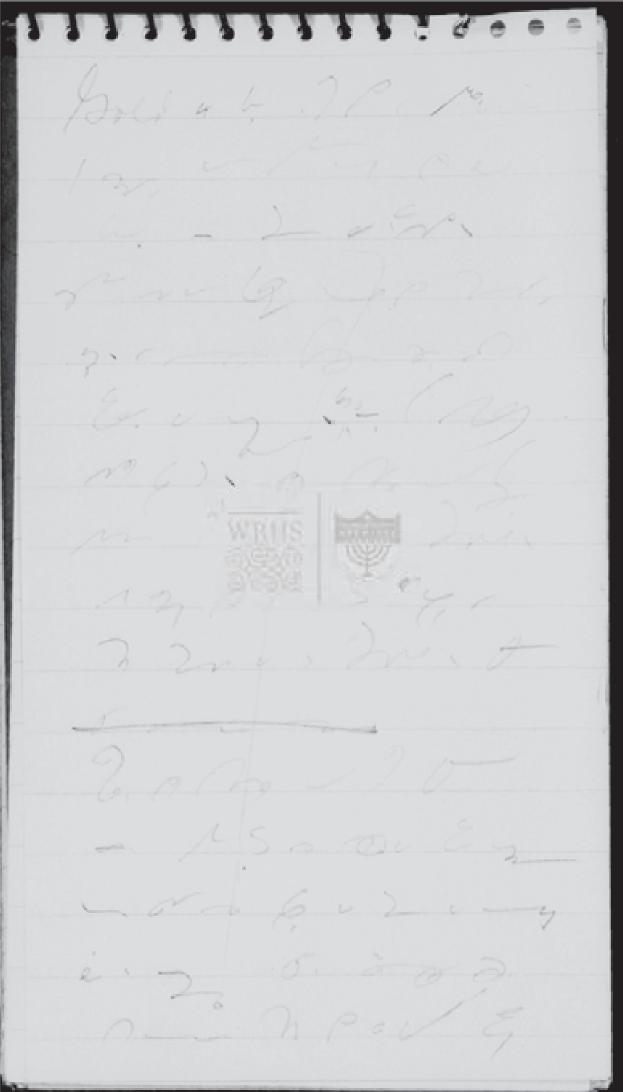


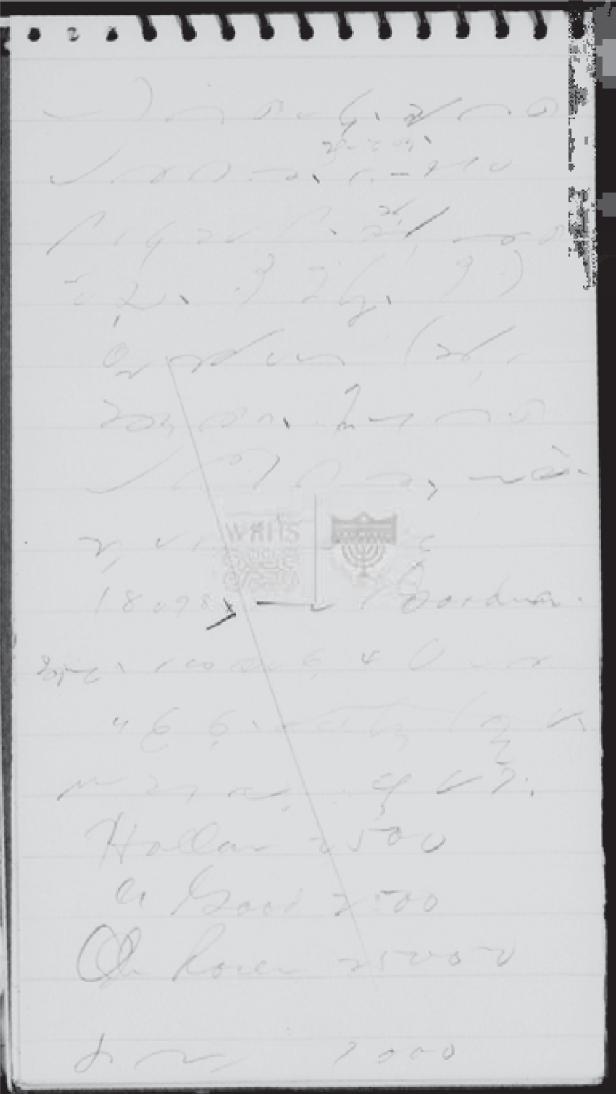


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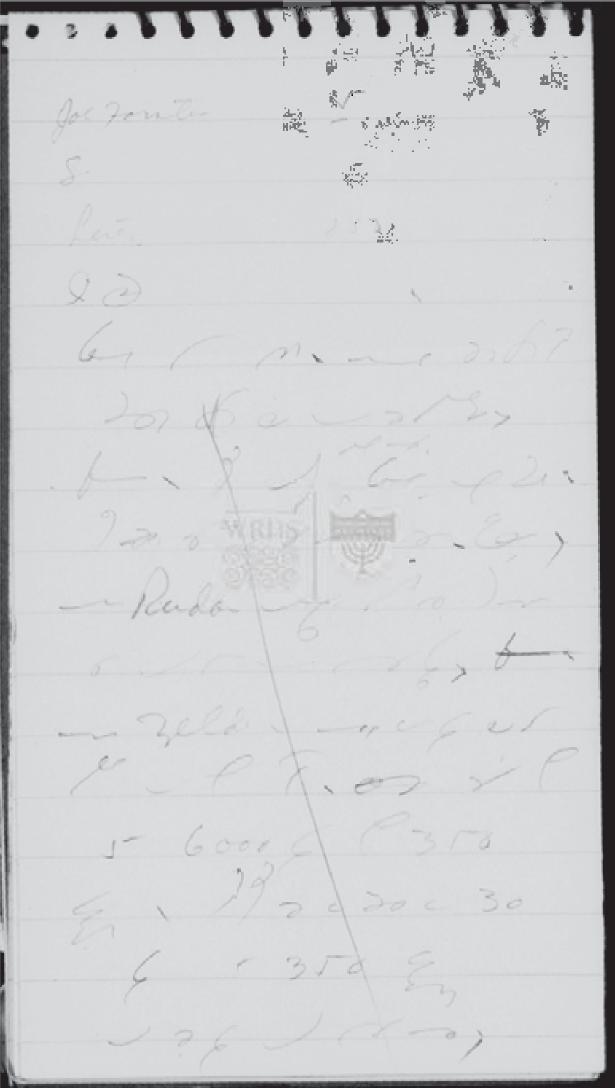




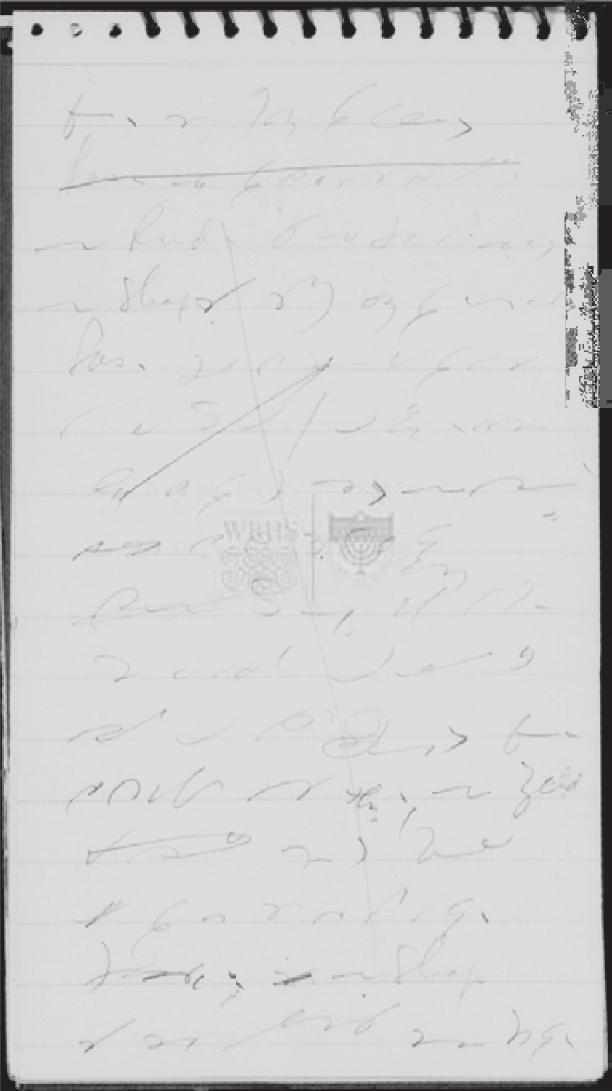


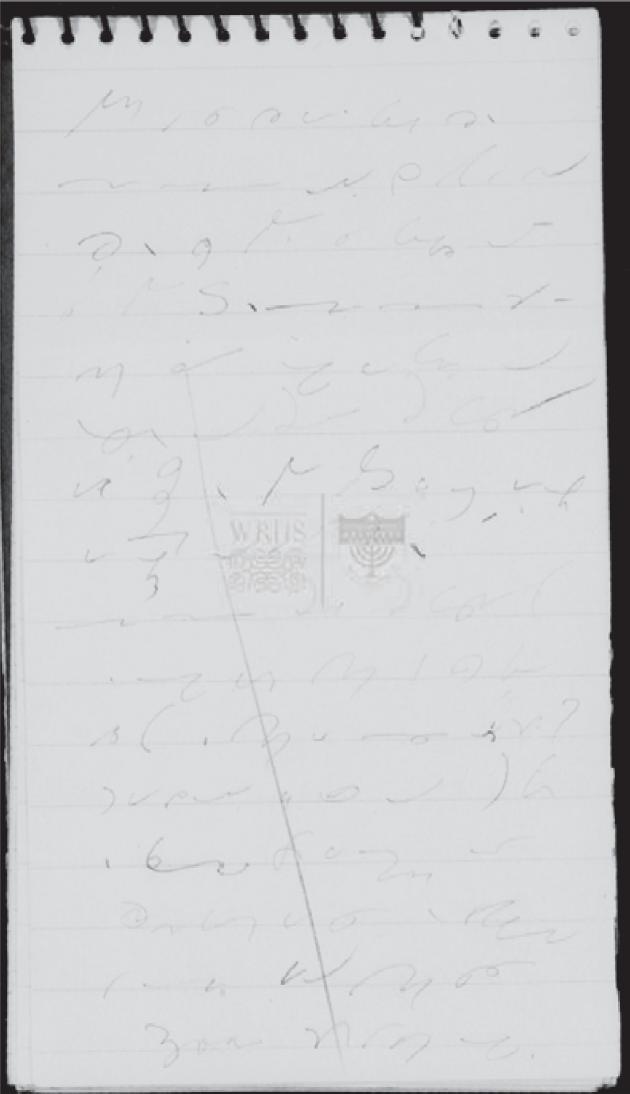


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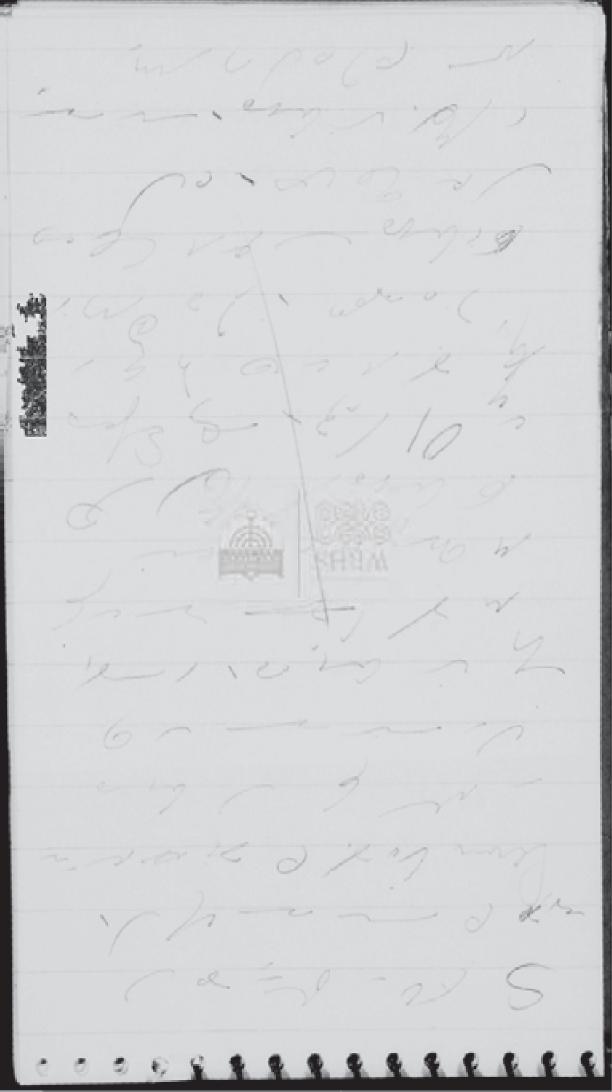


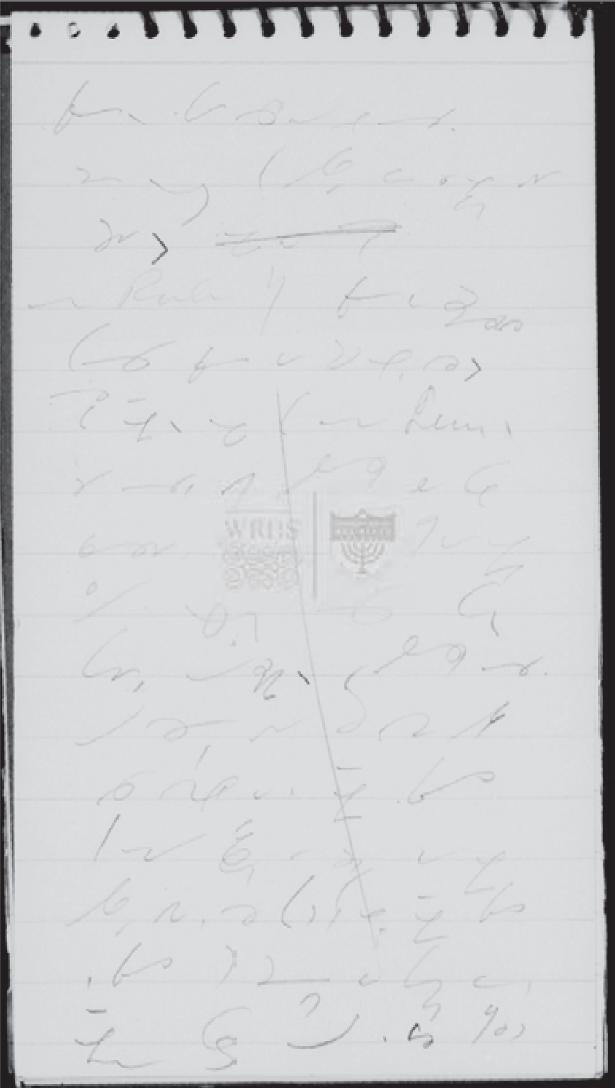
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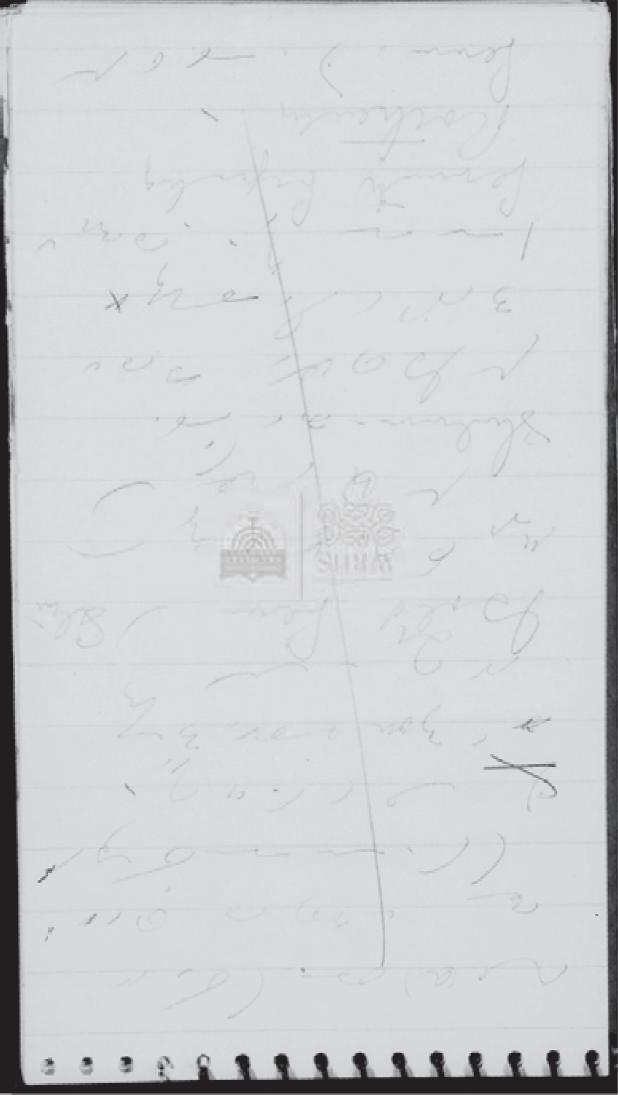




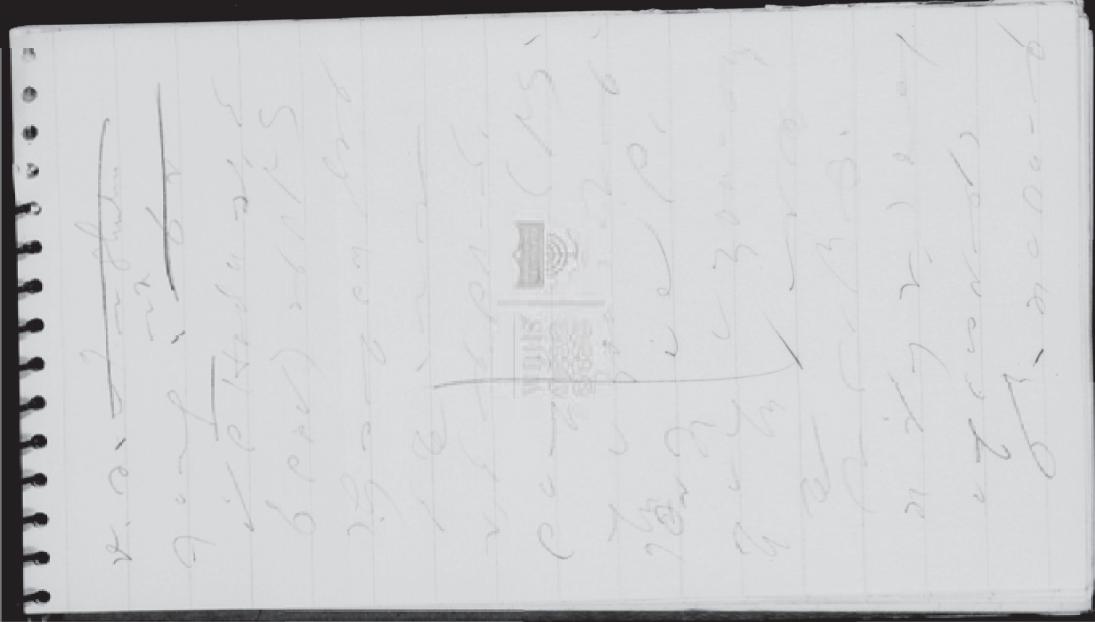
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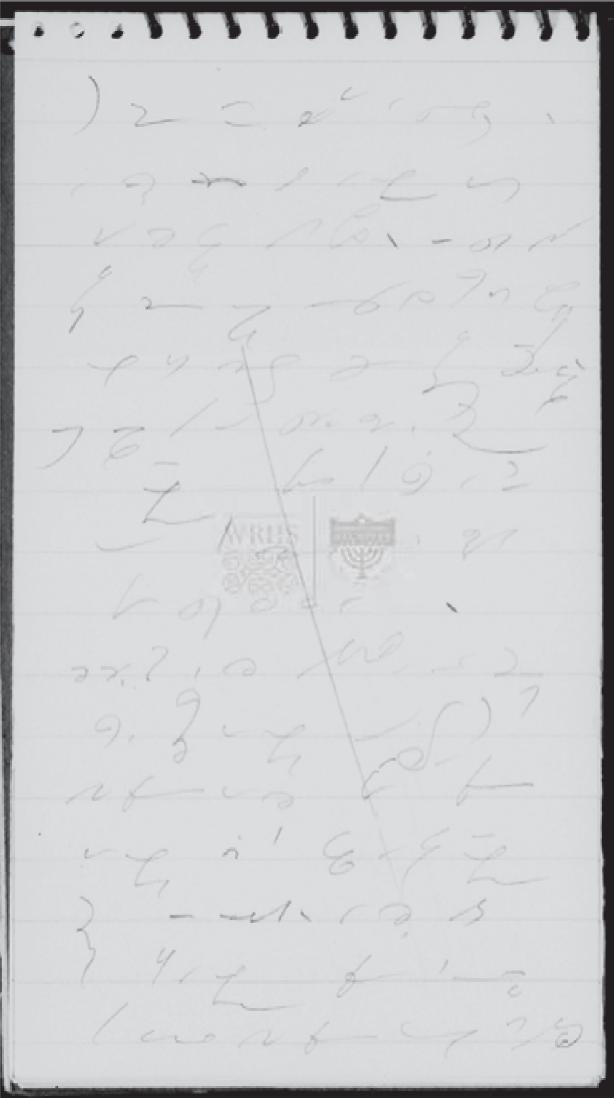


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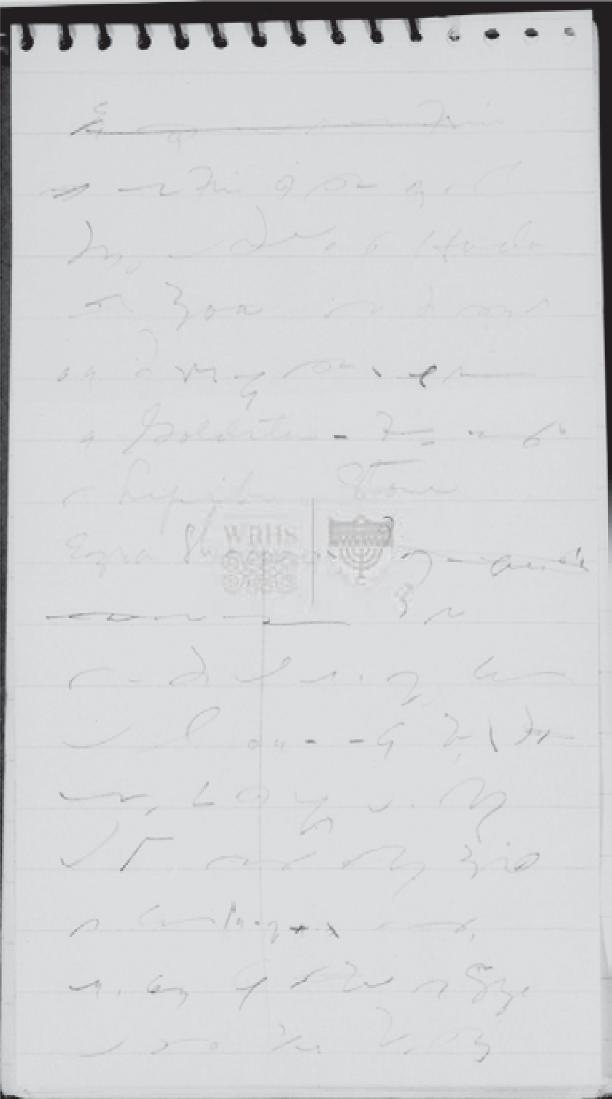
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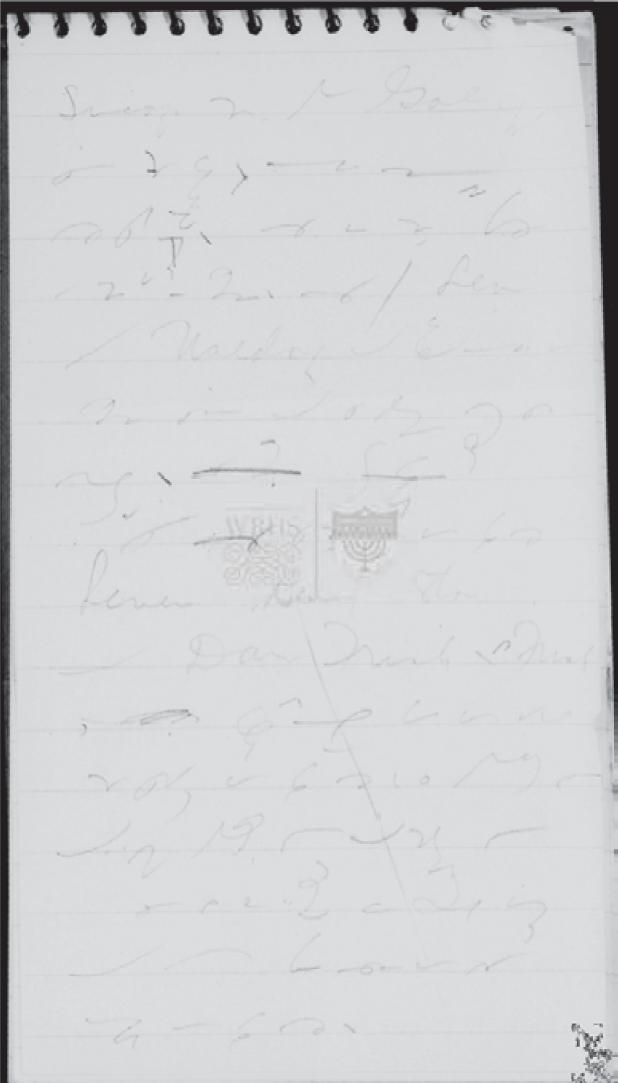


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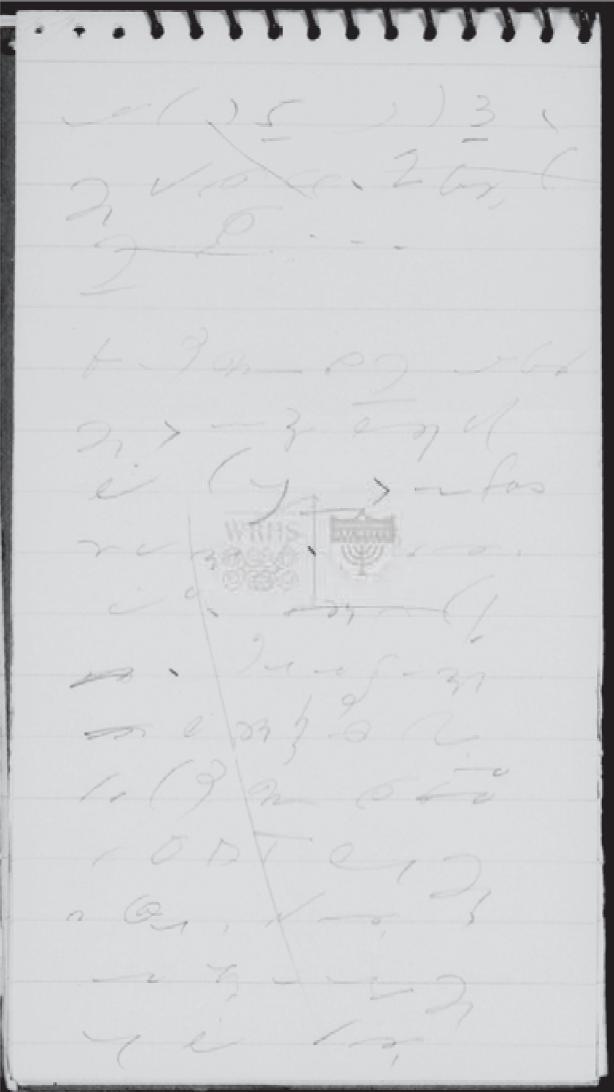


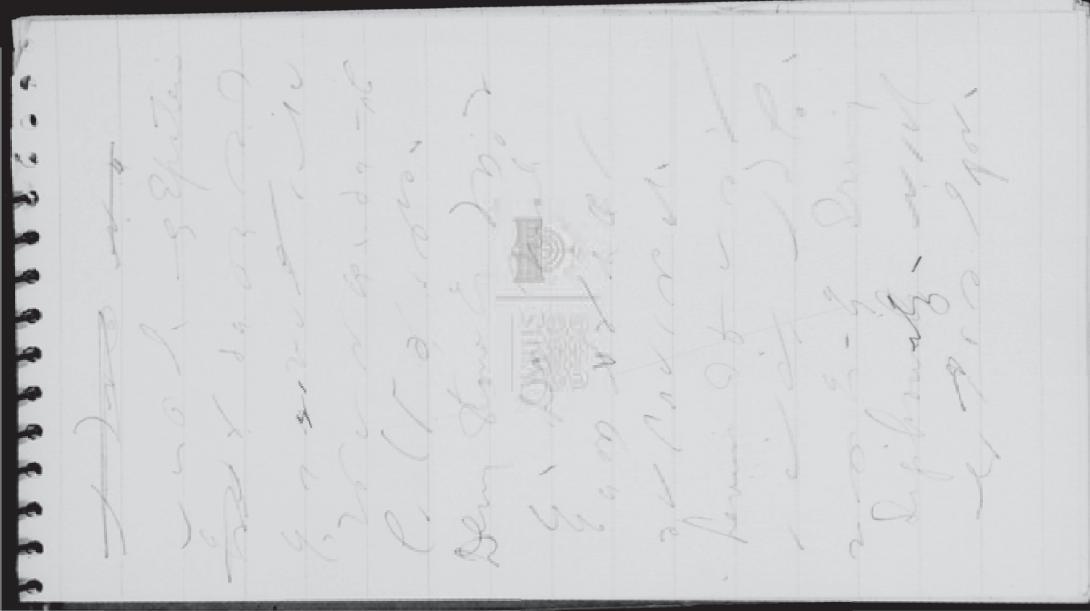
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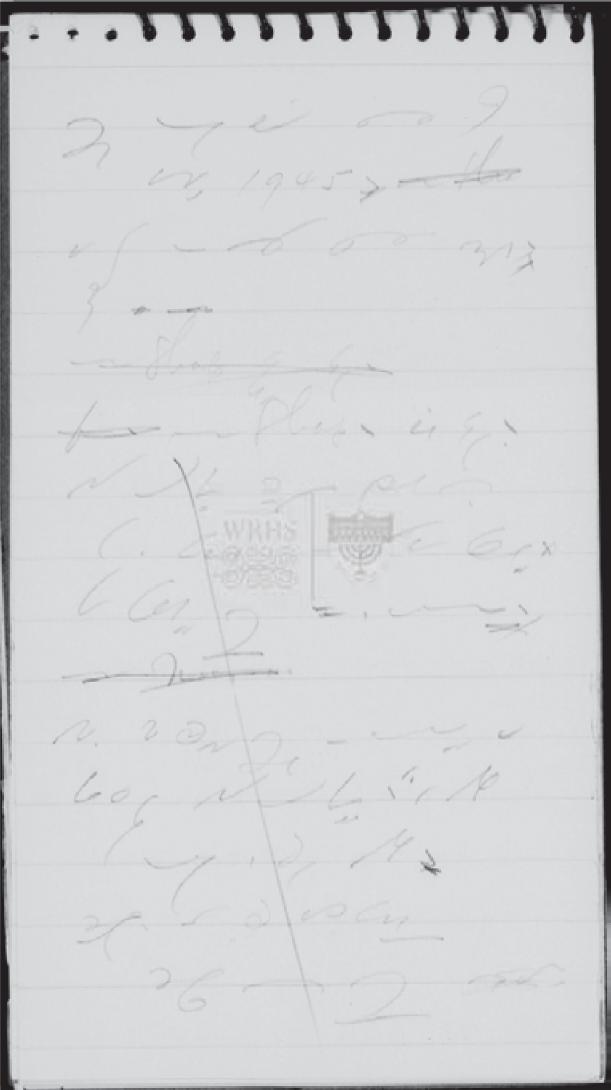


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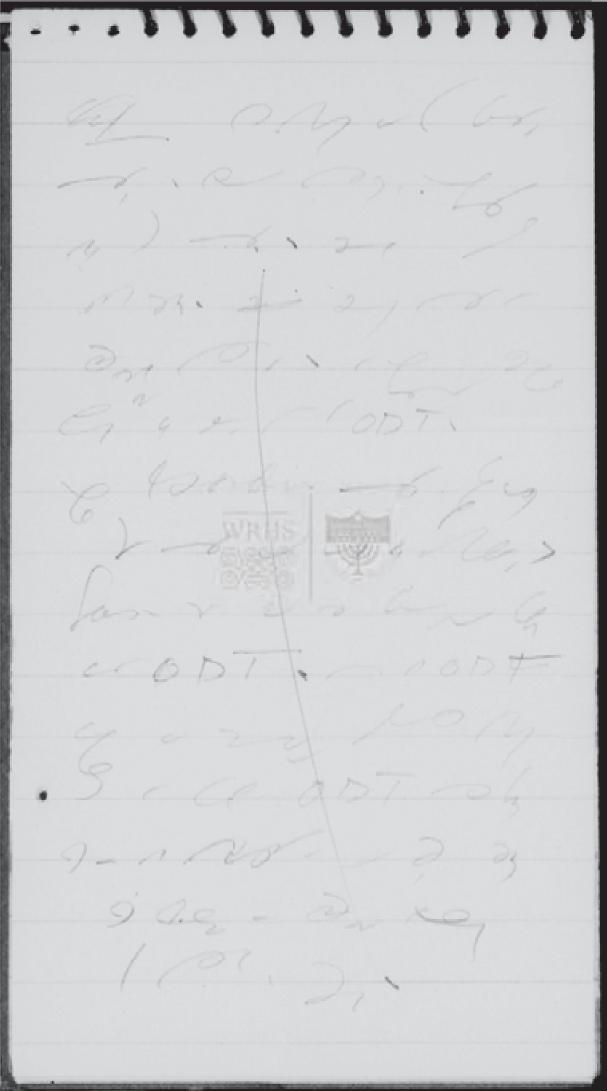
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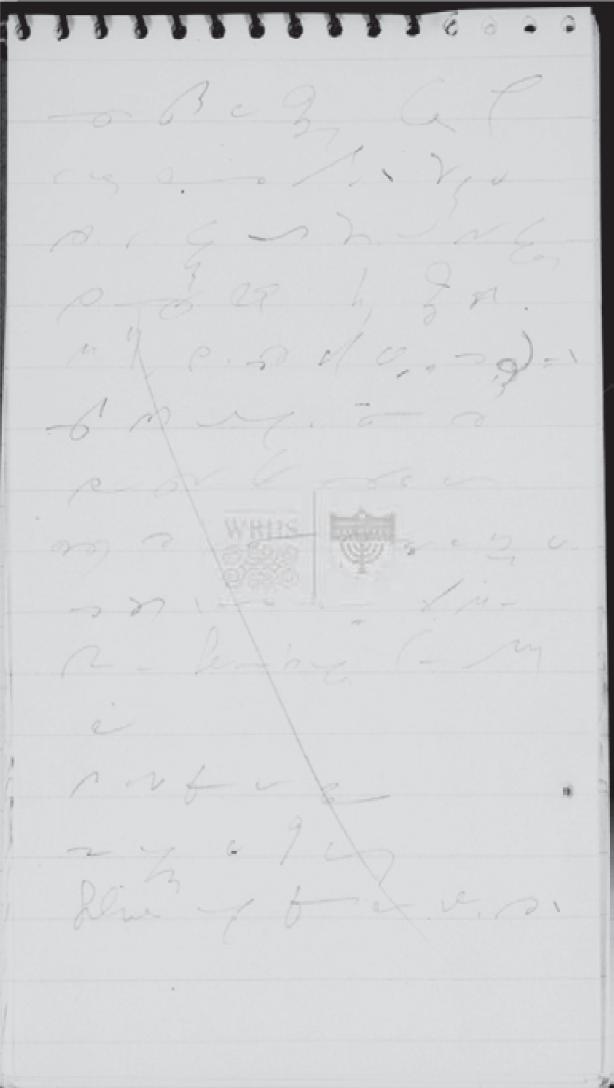


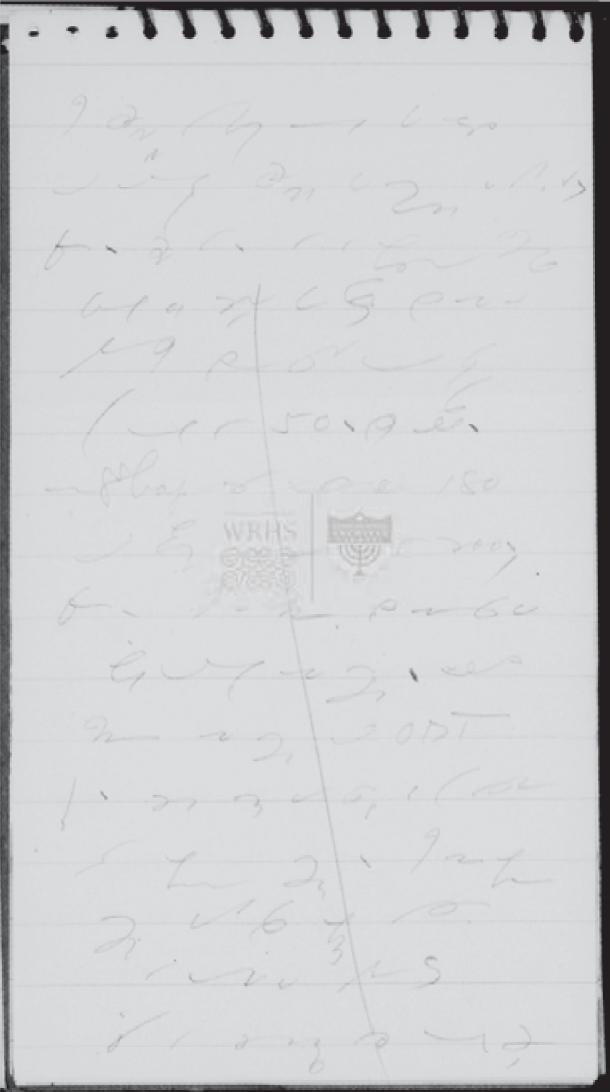




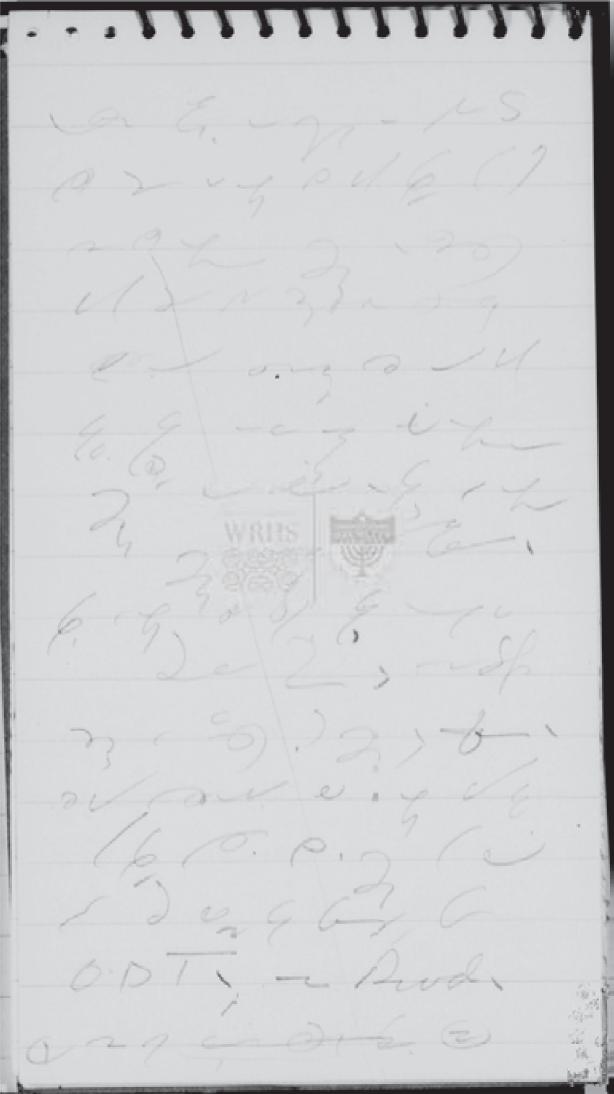
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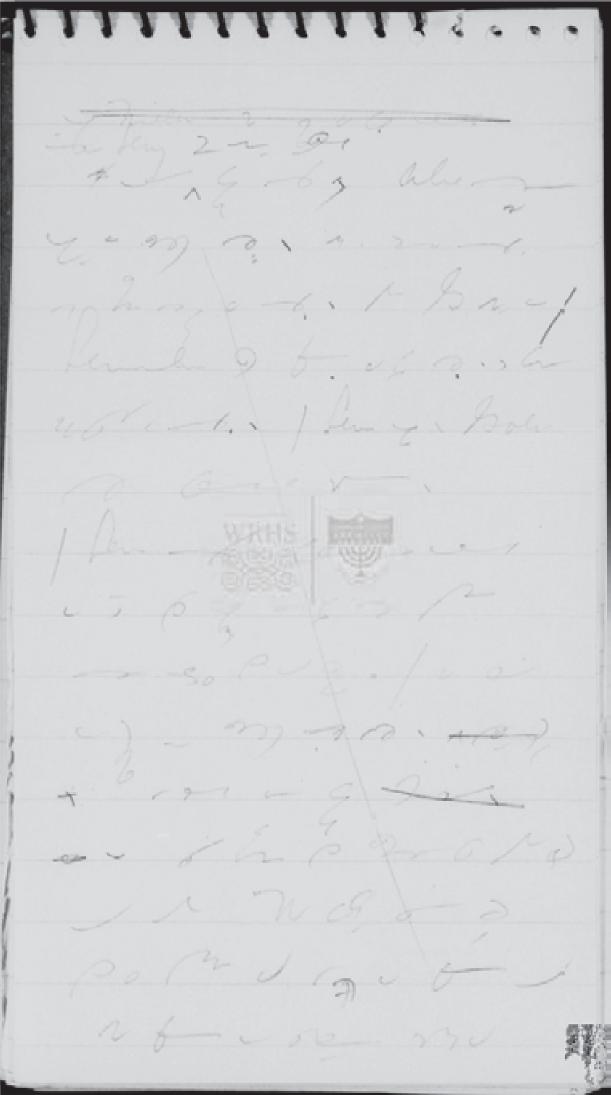


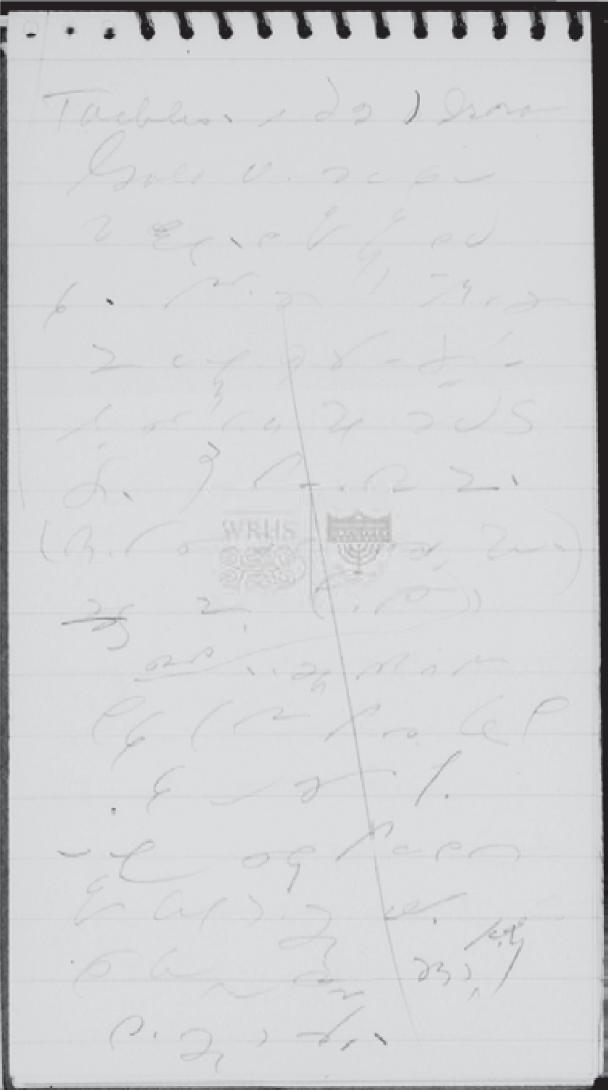


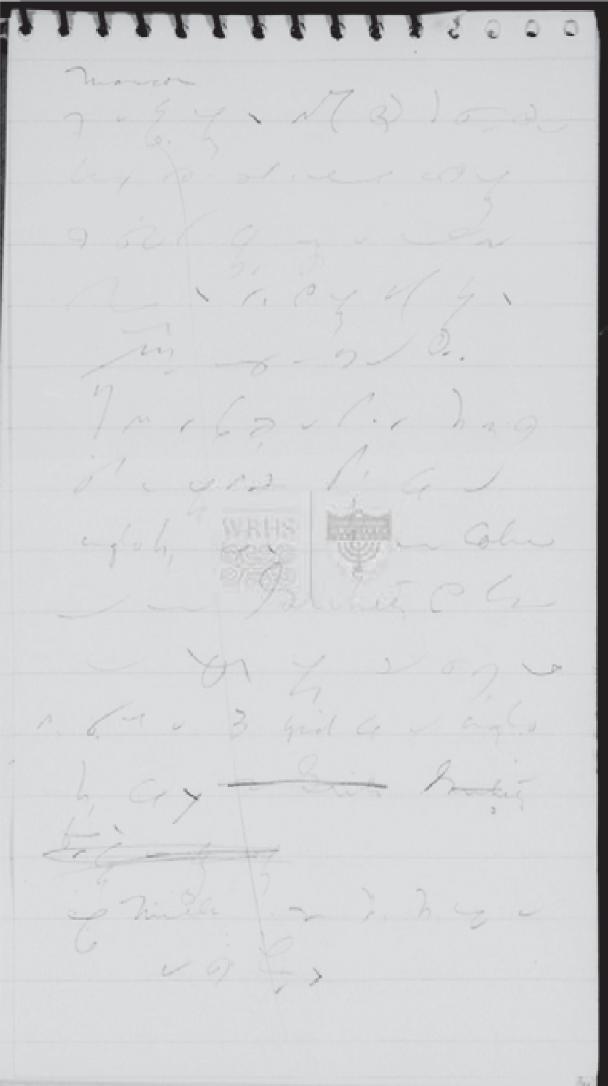


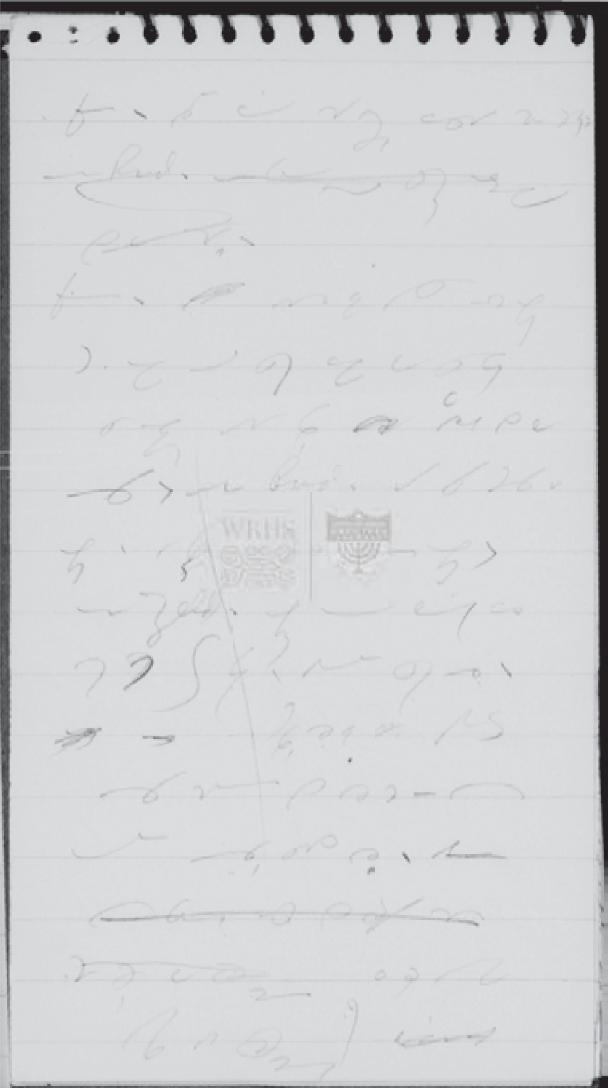
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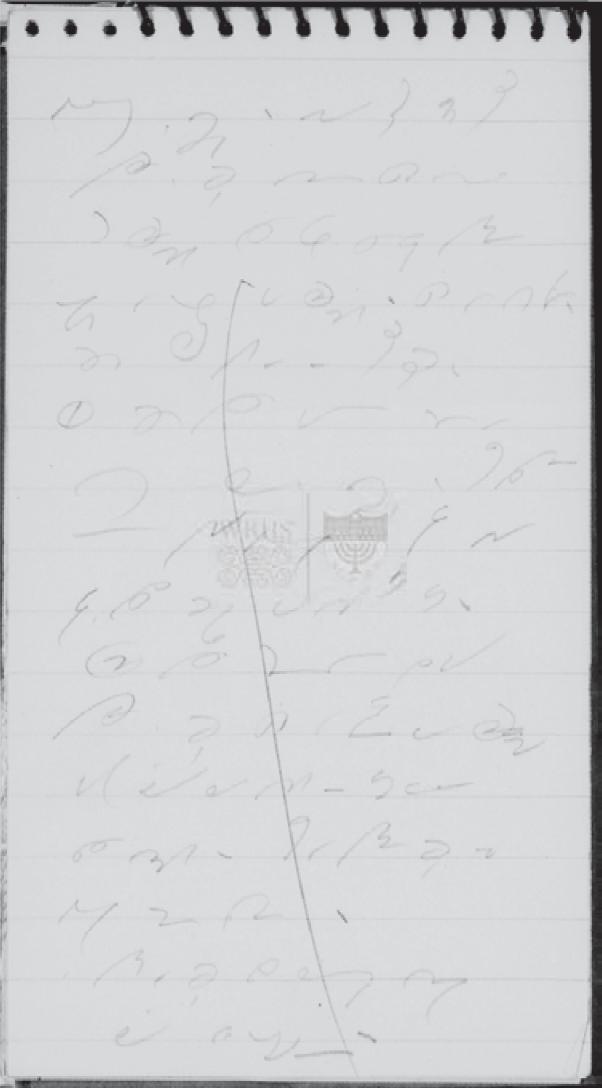


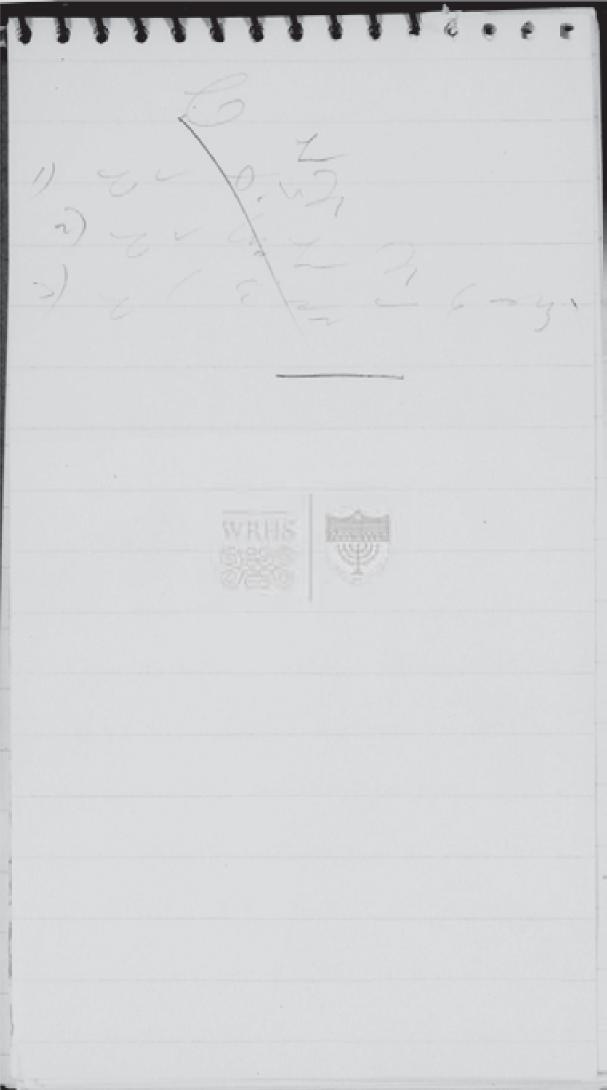


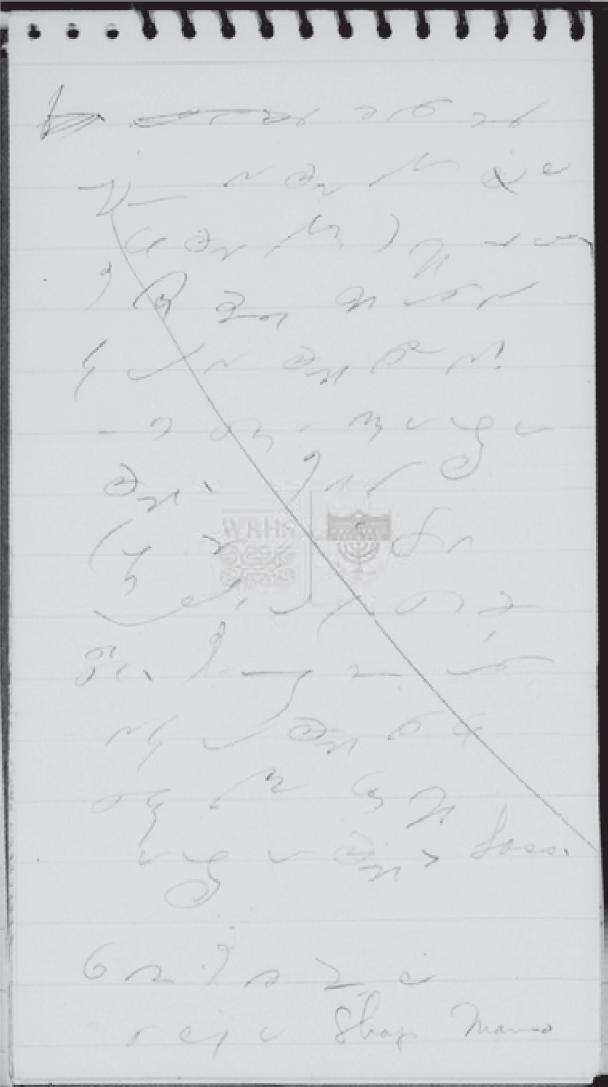




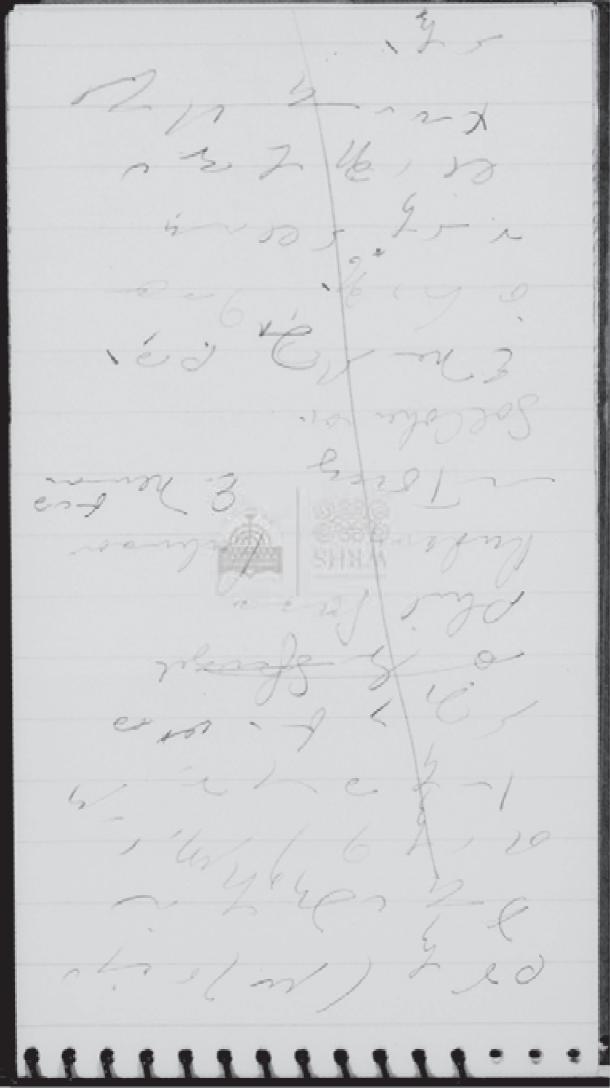
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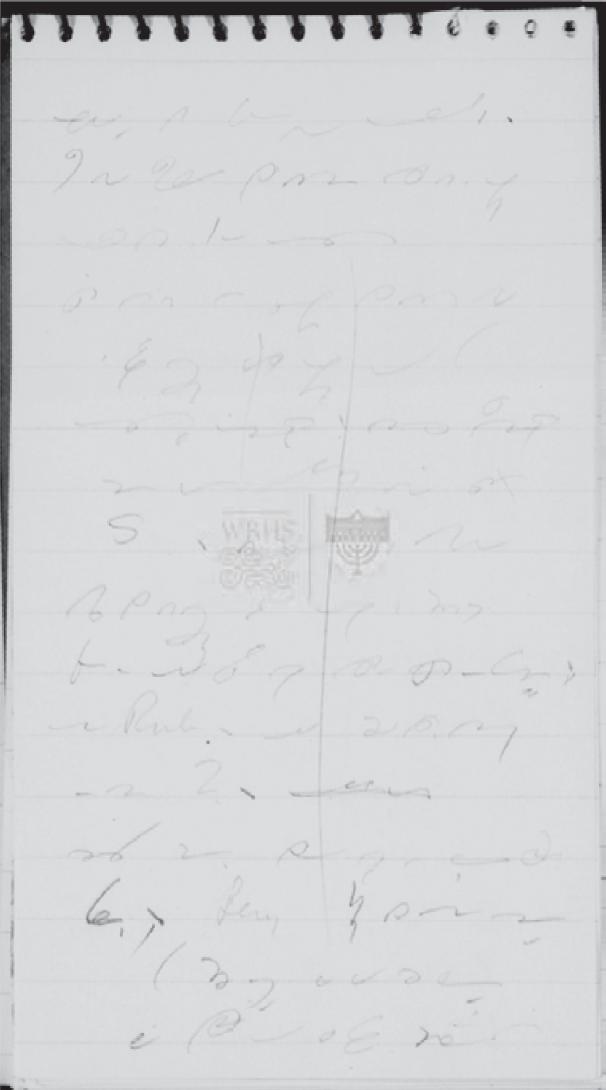




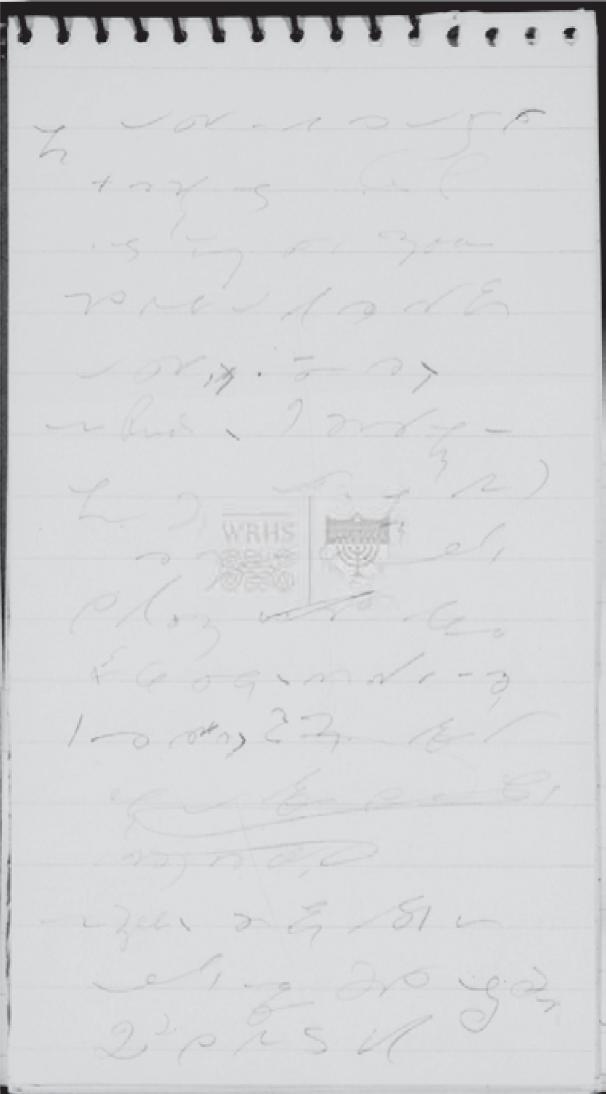


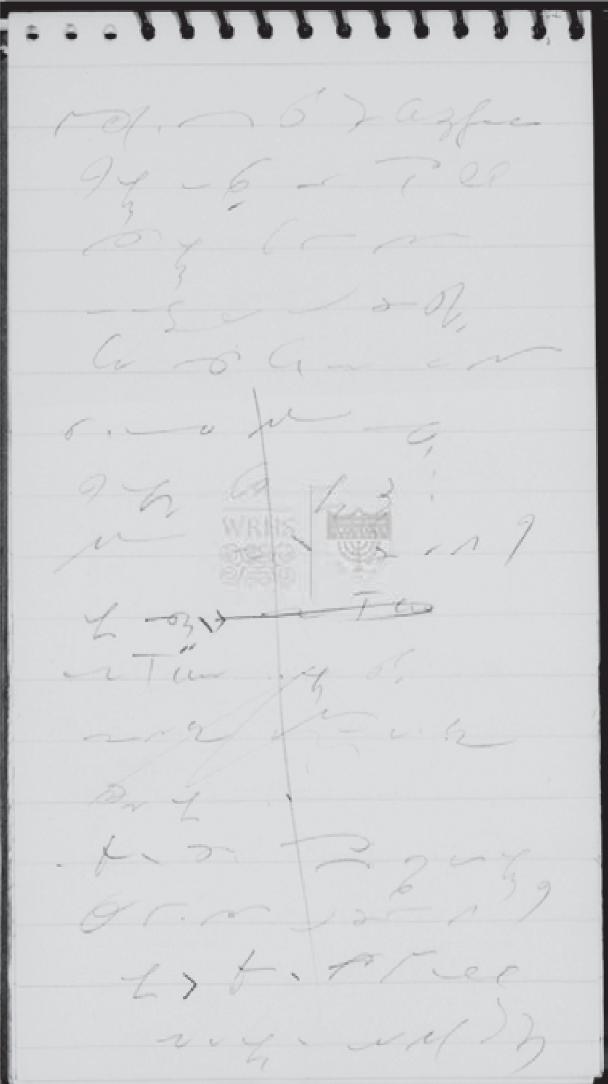
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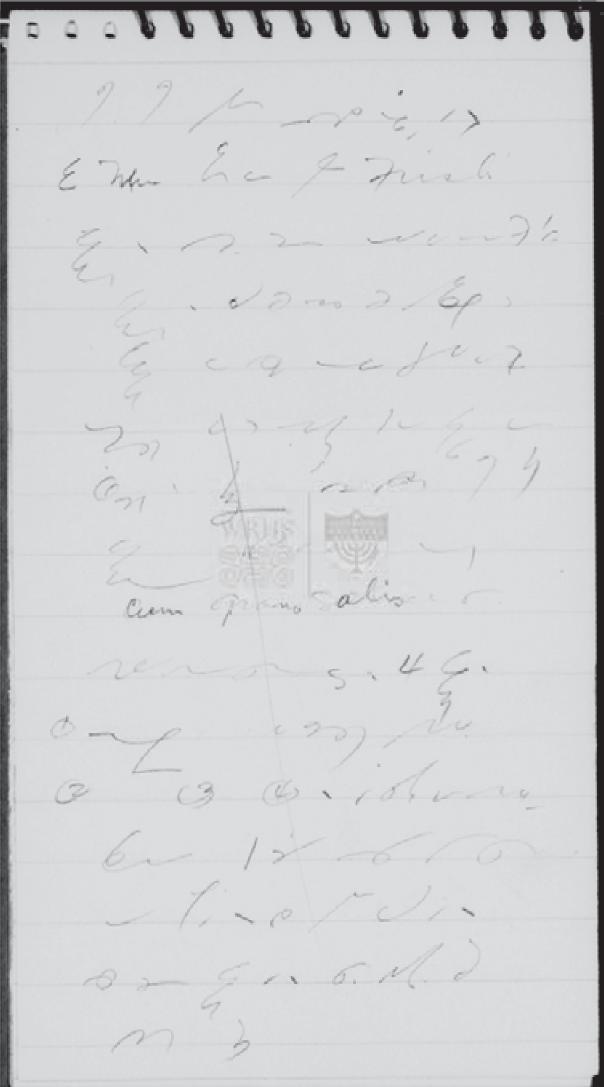


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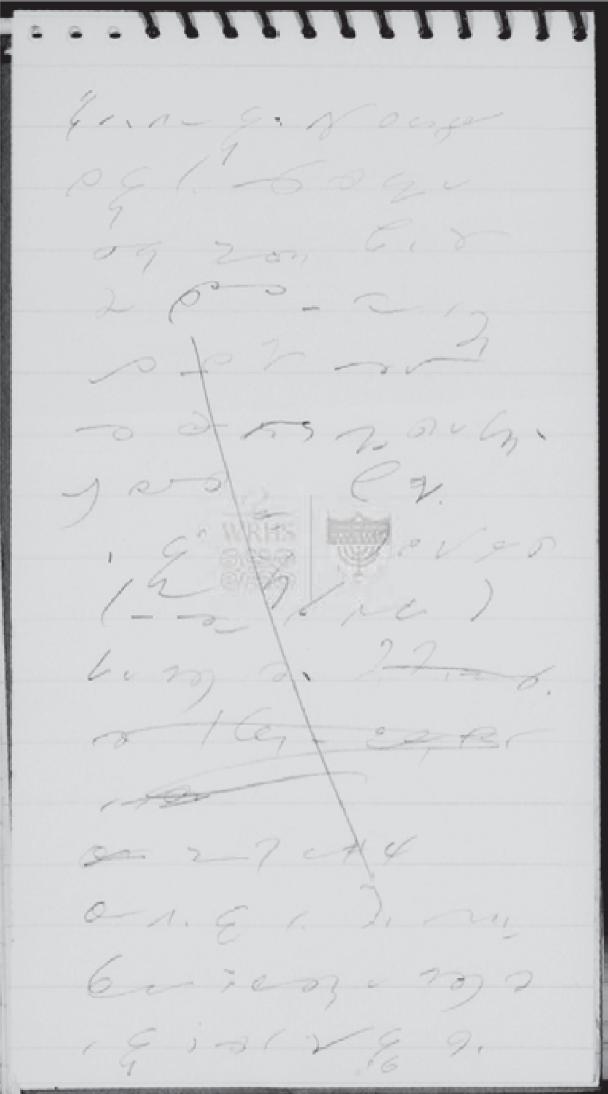


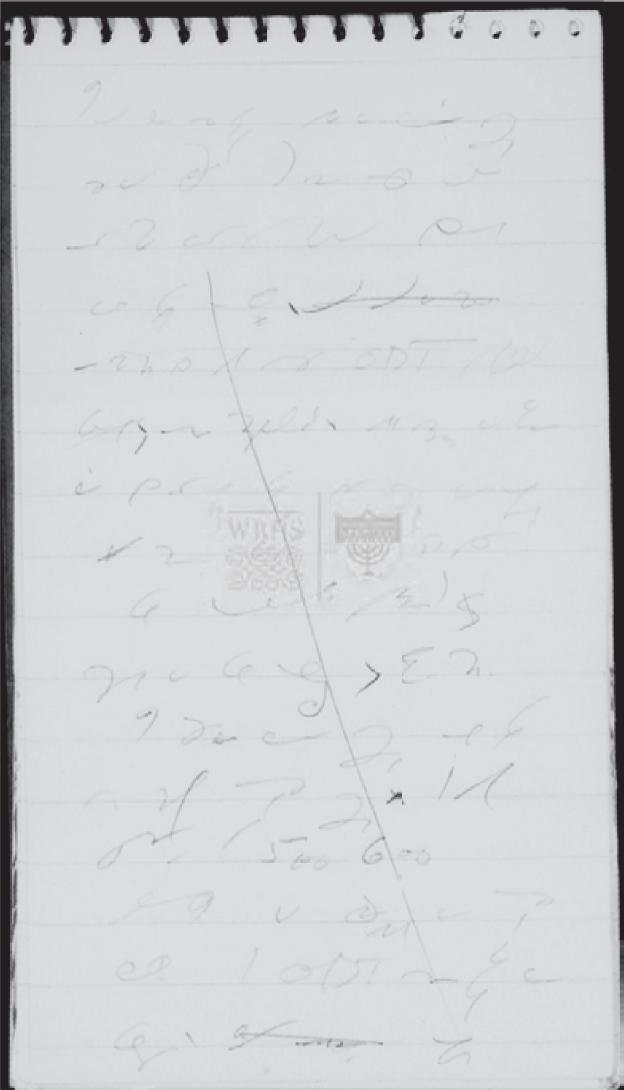


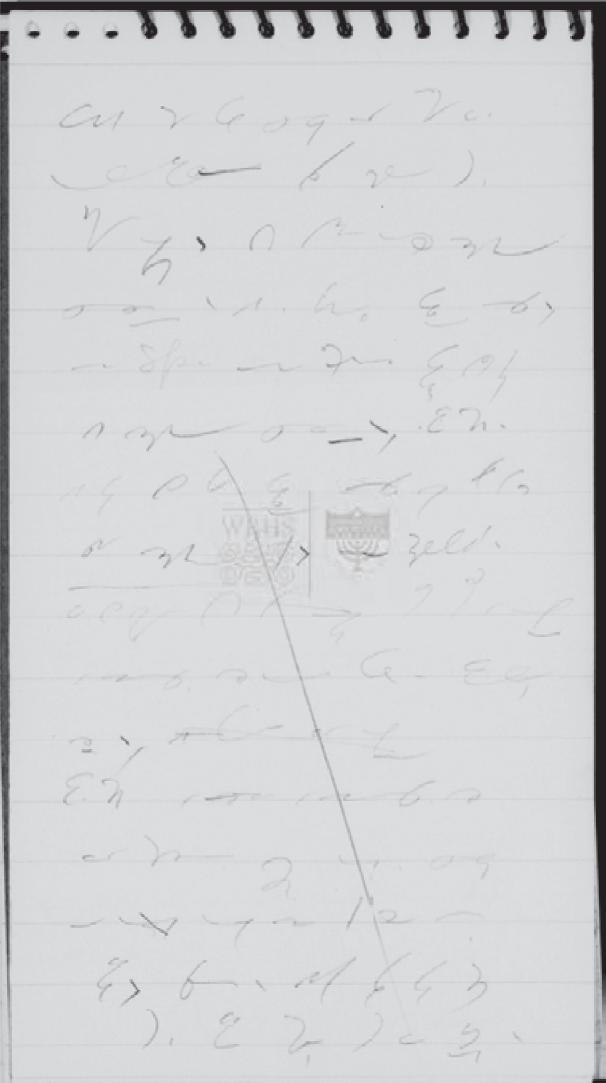
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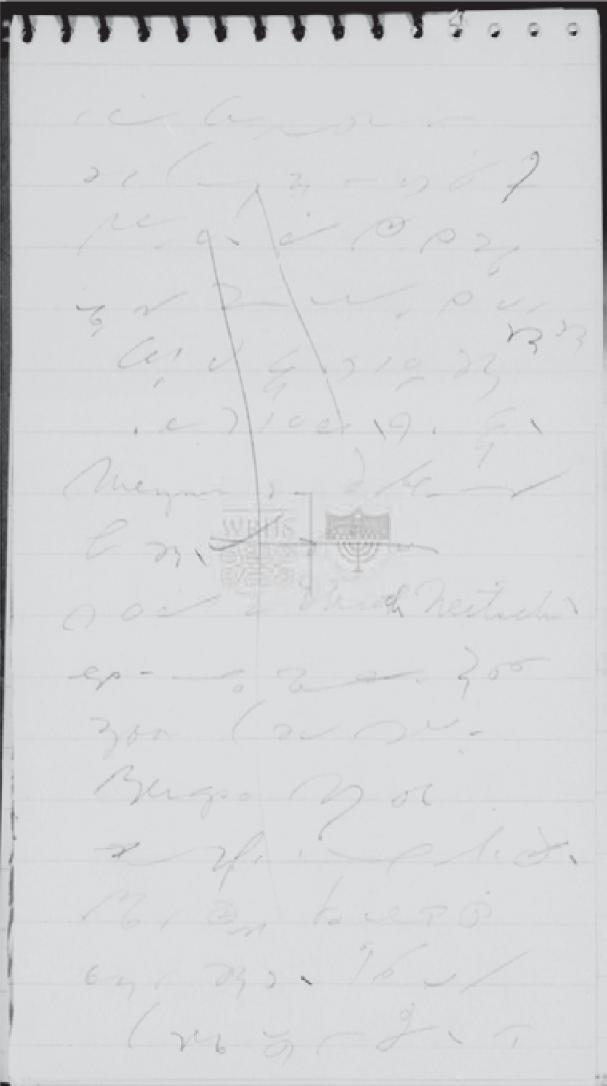


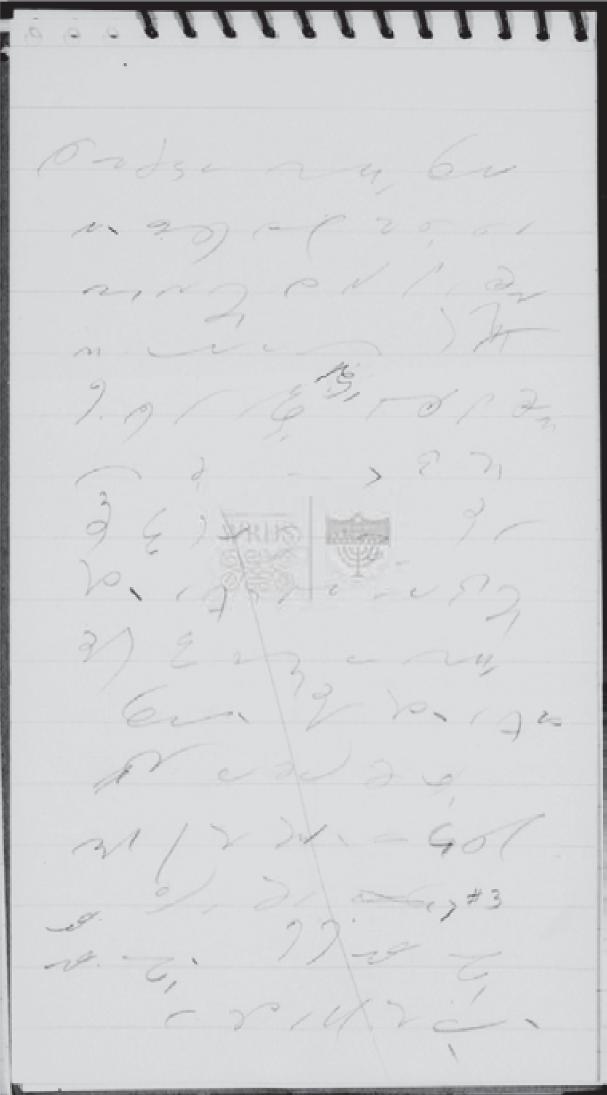
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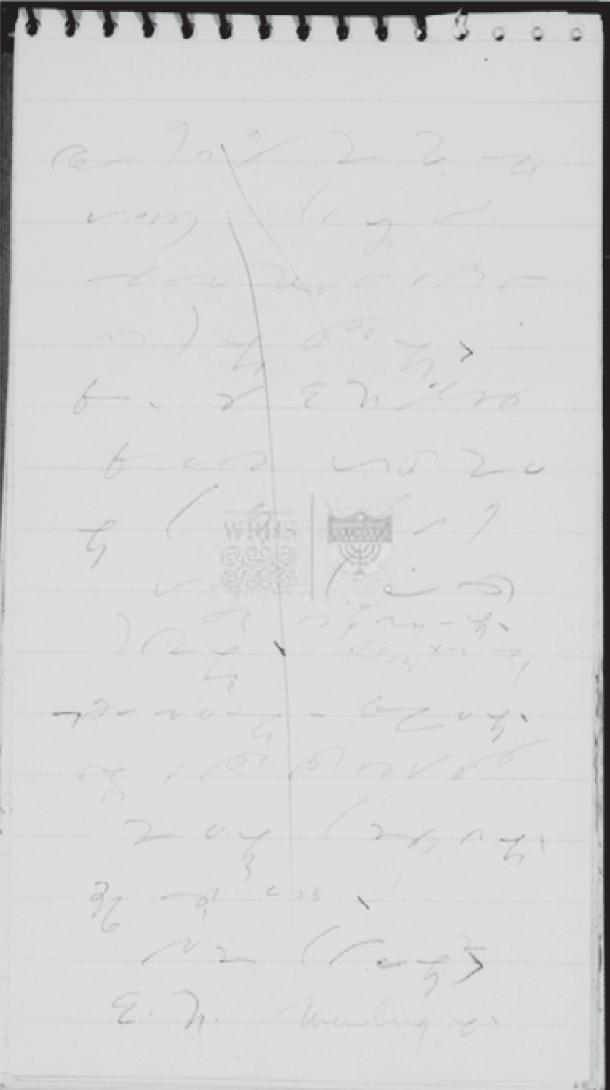


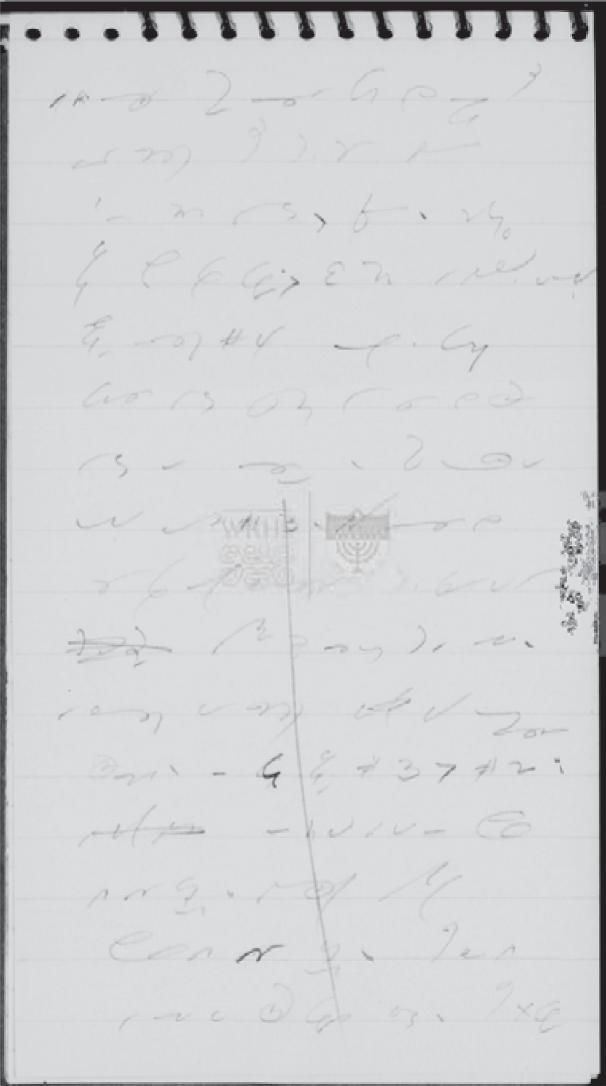


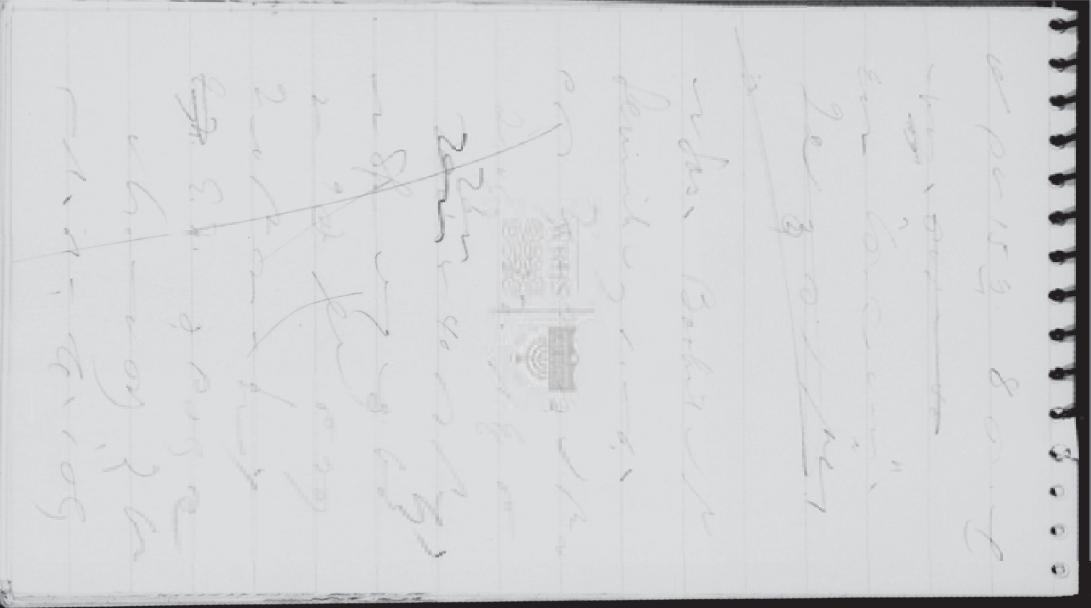


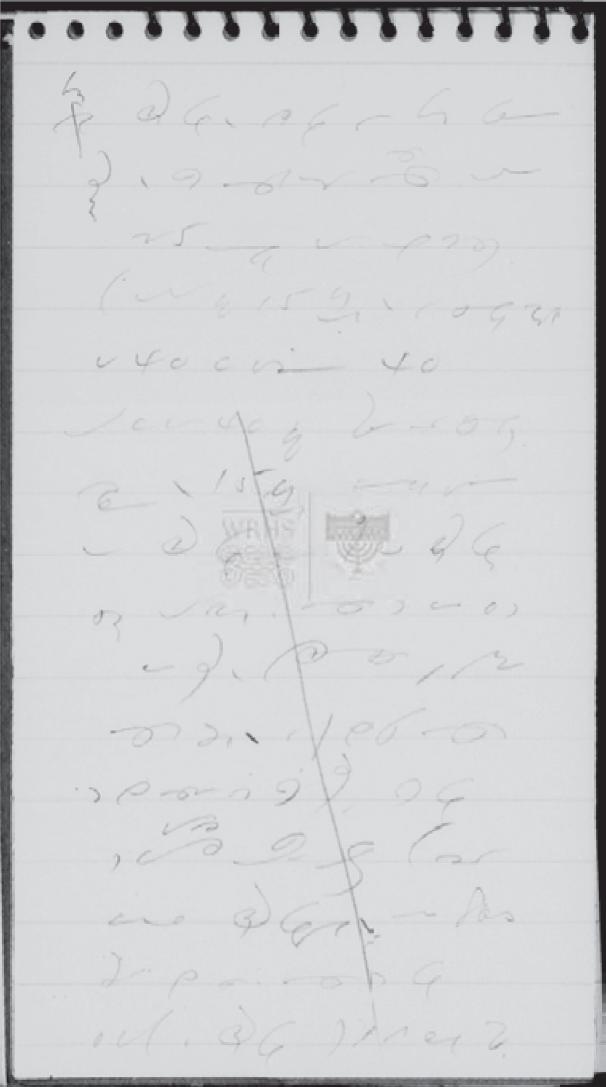


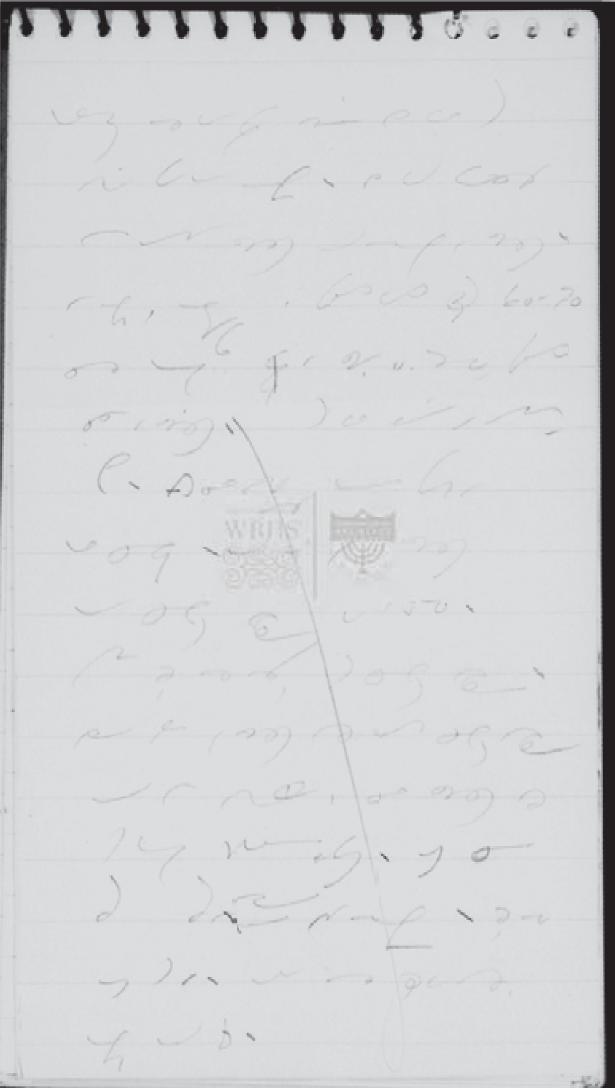












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