



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

Featuring collections from the Western Reserve Historical Society and
The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.

Series IV: Sermons, 1914-1963, undated.

Reel
166

Box
60

Folder
978

The Suez affair - Munich on the Nile!, 1956.

Sunday, October 7, 1956
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

THE SUEZ AFFAIR -- MUNICH ON THE NILE!

by

DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER

What has created, dear friends, the Suez Canal which is in the minds of people all over the world? Why is the free world so disturbed about it? Why have international conferences been summoned to consider and to take action? Why is the matter, at the moment, up before the Security Council of the United Nations in the presence of the Prime Ministers of all the great powers of the earth?

The answer is quite simple. The Egyptian dictator, Nasser, has unceremoniously seized the Suez Canal which runs through the territory of Egypt and has abruptly terminated its international control which has been in effect for close on to ninety years.

The Suez Canal of course was not built by Egypt. It was built by the French. When the concession to build the Canal was granted to Ferdinand de Lesseps, back in 1854 and again in 1856, the concession to build a Canal across that Isthmus, connecting Port Said on the Mediterranean and Suez on the Red Sea, in order to enable ocean-going ships to pass through on their way to the Orient from Europe, instead of going around the Continent of Africa -- when that concession was granted to the French Diplomat, de Lesseps, Egypt was actually part of the Turkish Empire. It was governed from Constantinople and the concession was received from the hereditary Turkish Viceroy in Egypt. The Canal was built by a French Company, which has administered it ever since its completion in 1869.

A few years later the British bought up a sizable bloc of stock from the Cadif of Egypt through a very skillful diplomatic maneuver on the part of Benjamin

Disraeli, who was at that time Prime Minister of Great Britain, which gave Great Britain virtual control of the company. But its Board of Directors has constantly been International in character and today, on that Board is one American, one Dutchman, five Egyptians, nine British and sixteen Frenchman.

The concession was granted for 99 years and still has twelve years to run. And through the years the Egyptian government received a share of the revenues of the income of the Canal. Perhaps not as large as it felt itself entitled to, but no government of Egypt has ever asserted the right of seizure, until Col. Nasser took over the Canal without consulting anybody and Nationalized it.

Great Britain has, for years, maintained troops in the Canal zone, especially during World War I. The defense of the Canal became so critical, so important to the free world that the allies handed over the military defense of the Canal to Great Britain and the Canal zone became a vast military base from which, you will recall, General Allenby waged his campaign against the Turks in Palestine. It remained an important point for the allies to defend, in the second World War. But with the close of the second World War, and Nationalist agitation in Egypt demanded the withdrawal of British troops from the Canal Zone and after considerable conflict and controversy an agreement was finally reached in 1954 by the terms of which Great Britain withdrew all of its 80,000 troops from the Canal zone.

Now why was Nasser not willing to wait the 12 years until the Canal would automatically become Egyptian property under its sole, sovereign control? Here again the answer is quite simple. Dictators cannot wait. They ride into power on the wave of so many extreme promises which they make to their people that they must deliver before long. They must bring to their people certain triumphs and victories and achievements to justify the seizure ~~of~~ of power on their part. The governments which preceded that of Nasser were either corrupt - as the government of King Farouk - or weak like the government of President Naguib. Nasser promised the Egyptian people vast economic improvements which the people in Egypt are so desperately in need of. Great Land Reforms - great building and irrigation projects.

Now these laudable programs are very difficult and slow of realization. ^{It} ~~They~~ takes a lot of time - it requires hard work - and planning - and must encounter considerable resistance. It is easier, by far, to beguile the masses with dreams of conquests - with the glow of prestige - and military adventures of one kind or another are really the only way -- or perhaps dramatic political triumphs -- by which the masses can be kept, at least for some time, pacified and content, and their attentions diverted from the real pressing problems -- their day by day problems of improving their economic lot.

Nasser scored heavily when he forced Great Britain to evacuate the Canal zone and in this he was greatly helped by the United States Government. Our government believed that Nasser represented a progressive force in Egypt. He was a true reformer they believed. He would be a dependable ally. He was a strong man and people in our State Department are frequently captivated and have a great weakness for strong men. They build their hopes upon strong men, - hopes which have time and again been defeated - frustrated, upon a strong man saving a situation in that troubled part of the world. I say that Nasser scored heavily when he succeeded in having the Great Empire - Great Britain - remove all of its forces from the Canal zone. But getting the British out was not giving bread to his people and the glamour of that achievement could not last indefinitely, and his reforms were not succeeding very well and ~~they~~ needed another dramatic triumph to bolster up his regime and to increase his prestige in the whole Arab world, for Nasser, like all dictators, is not content to limit ~~his~~ activities, domestically as it were, and to confine his reforms and his power within the frontiers of his own country. They all have the bug of expansionism. He has dreams of the hegemony of the Arab world. Hitler dreamt of a Pan-Germanism and Nasser is dreaming of a Pan-Arabism. He sees himself as the Fuehrer of a great Arab world from Northern Africa to the gates of India and there is a Nationalism very rife in that Arab world today, especially in North Africa, which can easily be capitalized upon and it has a rallying cry, just as Hitler

had the rallying cry of 'The Yuden' 'The Yuden' - so Nasser found a rallying cry in the State of Israel. The State of Israel must be destroyed! Arab ambitions can never be satisfied in the world until the State of Israel is destroyed. Just as Hitler maintained that the German people can never be saved until the Jews are exterminated. To accomplish his purpose of crushing Israel he needed arms. Now he could buy some of these arms in the Western world. They were prepared to sell it to him. In the early days they actually did sell him some arms. But the vast quantity of arms which he required had to be paid for in cash and he did not have the money and the west would not sell him these vast quantities of arms unconditionally. They knew that he did not require these arms to defend Egypt. Egypt was not being threatened by anyone. But in the back of his mind he had the hope of arming himself to attack Israel. They were not prepared to cooperate with him - the Western powers - in this ambition of Nasser and so they put conditions upon the sale of arms to him, which of course he could not accept and would not accept.

And so this man, who had no ^{particular} scruples about Communism, or anything else for that matter, turned to the Soviet Union. And the Soviet Union was very glad to accommodate him. To sell him the arms. Because that was their long hoped for and looked for opportunity to infiltrate the Mediterranean world - to penetrate the Middle East - to establish themselves economically - and then politically, in that part of the world. And with the selling of arms goes much more than the mere selling of arms -- with it goes technicians and engineers and close economic and diplomatic relationships. The Soviet Union saw the opening of a ~~good~~ glorious new chapter of Soviet-Communist penetration in that great part of the world and they were prepared not to ~~assist~~ insist so much on the price, nor on cash payment - they were prepared to take a mortgage on the cotton futures of Egypt. And so more than two hundred and fifty million dollars worth of jet planes and Illyusion Bombers and sixty-ton tanks and submarines were made available to Egypt - the country which needed them not at all - the country which needed bread and medicine and hospitals

and schools. And Nasser mortgaged the future -- the economic future of his country, in order to acquire these arms, so that he can proceed to carry out this program to attack Israel and by scoring a victory over Israel to establish himself as the leader - the Fuehrer - of the whole Arab world.

Well, such vast quantities of arms have to be, so to speak, 'digested'. You have to train pilots - you have to train technicians - mechanics. You have to train an army -- it can't be done overnight. So while Nasser was 'digesting' these vast armaments which he had acquired, he turned toward a second great dream -- namely that of building the Aswan High Dam on the Nile in order to irrigate vast new tracts of land -- hundreds of thousands of new acres of land for his people. A legitimate ambition which he might have carried out if it weren't for his prime objective - military prowess and victory. And so rumors were set afloat that the Soviet government is also prepared to finance the building of this Dam. Prepared to advance some \$200 million dollars of the \$600 million required. And quickly -- to counteract this offer, so-called, of the Russians, - our own government offered to negotiate with Nasser on the financing of the building of this Dam. But Nasser continued his flirtations with the Communist world with Tito - with China - to a point where our government began to revise its opinion about this progressive liberal and reformer and withdrew its offer. And about the same time, the Soviet government indicated that it was not prepared to finance the Dam at all. And so, in anger, and to save face, and to divert the attention of his people from a great diplomatic defeat which he had suffered, Col. Nasser seized the Suez Canal, telling his people that from the Suez Canal he would derive the revenues which would help him to build the Dam. And as far as the anger of the United States Government or people is concerned, he said, "They can choke in their fury".

of Nasser

This action/aroused the West, of course. He was not only flaunting international agreements and disturbing a century-old international arrangement, but he was in position now, if he carried out - or if he was allowed to carry out - his threat, or maintain this position which he had taken, he was in position actually to strangle

the economic life of the countries of Europe if he so chose -- if he chose to blockade the Canal. The Canal is a very important artery of trade for Europe. Forty ships daily, pass through that Canal. Sixty five million tons of oil, pass through annually, through that Canal. The life-blood of ^{the} industry of western Europe. And the allies now realize that Nasser is quite capable to impose such a blockade whenever he wanted to -- whenever he wanted to force a concession from them -- because he had done it! He had done it in 1951 when he put a blockade on Israeli shipping in the Suez Canal. They knew about it. They talked about it. But they didn't do anything about it. Because it wasn't their ox that was gored. Israeli shipping was blockaded. Well, we could meet that ~~kind of a~~ situation by passing some kind of a resolution in the Security Council and let it go at that. They did not realize that one step leads to another. That with a dictator, what succeeds once, he will try again, except on a larger scale.

Under the Convention of 1888 under which the Canal is being operated by the Suez Canal Co., the Canal ^{was} ~~is~~ to be kept open for all shipping - of all the nations of the world - in time of peace and in time of war. No one had the right to blockade it.

And so Great Britain and France and the United States reacted quite violently to this action of Nasser. They would not tolerate, they said, such high-handed methods for here is another Hitler, coming to power, they said. Hitler too, began piece-meal, first the militarization of the Rhineland, and then Sudetenland, you will recall, and the rape of Czechoslovakia, and then came Warsaw and then came the second world war! They finally came to realize that this man whom they had been wooing and pampering - finally came to see him in his true colors - a ~~workless~~ ruthless, ambitious dictator on the make! who would play off the East against the West and Communism against Democracy and the whole world if necessary, to satisfy his ambitions. And so quickly, they summoned an international conference in London and decisions were arrived at for an international control of the Canal and the Australian Prime Minister, Menzies and a committee was dispatched to Cairo to inform

Nasser of these proposals, which of course Nasser rejected out of hand, because by now he had an ally - a powerful ally - the Soviet world behind him. And a second conference was called and a Suez Canal Users Association was brought into being, determined for a show-down. They would send their own ships through the Canal with non-Egyptian pilots - they would collect their own tolls - if necessary they would boycott the Suez Canal altogether - take the ships around the Continent of Africa.

And the world was waiting for a show-down. But the show-down hadn't come. And it is not likely to come. Actually there is another Munich in the making. Another defeat for the free world. Another triumph for dictatorship and the Soviet world because of the disunity of the West and because of their clear and palpable blunders - diplomatic blunders.

The blunder, of course, - the basic blunder - was to build up this Nasser, to a point where he was able to play the game of blackmail. The blunder was to withdraw the British troops from the Canal zone without making first sure of an international control of that zone and without insisting upon Nasser to make peace with Israel in the Near East, and give up his military dreams of conquest. The blunder was that when Nasser acquired that \$250 million dollars^{worth} of arms, the west did not reply at once, by arming Israel to a point where Nasser's arms would be futile in any attack upon that country, and so to lower the prestige of Nasser and to make him look ridiculous in the Arab world. That was not done. And the disunity among the Western powers, is of course clear to anyone. I do not know who is responsible for it, but clearly our own government is not without its share. With an eye perhaps on the coming elections and in the hope that no action of our government would destroy the great slogan of the peace objectives of the present administration, our State Department let it be known, right off the bat, that in this issue it will not use any force. Well, if you tell Nasser that you are not going to use any force against him, your through! Force, my friends, does not necessarily mean war. There are other kinds of force that can be brought to play upon a nation that does not observe

international law. The charter of the League of Nations make provisions for such use of force in the case of threats to peace and breaches of peace. ^{There are} Many steps before the use of military force. There is complete or partial disruption of economic relations with a guilty country. There is the severance of diplomatic relations. There are blockades. There are all forms of pressures that can be ^{and} used ^{could} in the case of a small country like Egypt, ~~can~~ be used most effectively. And at first it was our government that while we are opposed to military force we are for the use of other pressures, but it wasn't many days before we announced that these other pressures are not to be used either. That we have no intention, for example, to use our surplus cotton in the markets of the world to put a pinch on the economic life of Egypt. We would not even compel, we said, American ship owners, whose vessels use foreign nation's flags, to comply with the request of this Suez Canal Users' Association. We even granted visas to Americans to go to Egypt ~~as~~ to act as ~~pilot~~ pilots for the Egyptian government while we denied American Newspaper Men visas to enter China to learn something about the conditions in that country.

And so our allies were left high and dry and as a result, as in all such cases, where the West is unwilling or unable to act, they referred the matter to the United Nations, where the Soviet veto will effectively block any action which might in any manner, embarrass, Nasser. This practice of our government to initiate an act, and get others to go along, and then withdraw from sharing an active responsibility in it is unfortunately not an isolated instance here. We did exactly the same thing in the case of the Baghdad Pact where we urged the world to create ~~a~~ the northern tier of States, Turkey, Iraq, Iran - against the Soviet Union's possible aggression - and then we refused to join it.

The situation is grave. Grave because this most recent evidence of Allied disunity may, still further lead to a weakening of NATO, of the military and political alliance of the Western world and it may endanger the position on the economic interests of the free world in the whole of the Middle East..

And to the young Republic of Israel what is taking place poses a real danger.

On September 13th, Prime Minister Eden declared, in the House of Commons:

"What will be the next step if Col. Nasser is allowed to succeed in this action (the Suez action)? I have no doubt what it will be, and I do not think the House has any doubt. Israel!"

And the danger is great for Israel even if Nasser fails in this Suez affair because he will then try, in his desperation, to restore his lost prestige among his people and the whole Arab world, by making war on Israel and use that vast armament which he has at his control.

The Western world has built up a great GOLEM in Nasser. But in my humble judgment, it is not yet too late to destroy that Golem, and it need not be done through war, but through unity among the Western powers and through a new policy with reference to the whole Middle East.

And we earnestly hope that the series of defeats which the West has suffered in recent months in connection with the seizure of the Canal will have brought home to the political leaders of the western world, a few elementary truths which they should have learned a long while ago.

In the Middle East, the West is dealing now, not with the legitimate demands of a nascent Arab nationalism. The national ambitions of these Arab countries, Egypt, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Lebanon, Trans-Jordan - the national ambitions of these Arab countries have been fully realized. They are recognized as independent and sovereign states and are in complete control of their domestic and foreign ~~affairs~~ policy. What the West confronts today in the Near East is not resistance to colonialism - that's a false slogan as applied to this country at this time - what it faces there is the unbridled ambition of an Egyptian dictator and adventurer who has been augmenting his power and his prestige and is now seeking to establish his hegemony over the whole Arab world and some Arab governments have come to realize this and to suspect it and to fear it. Nasser is a sprouting dictator whose sympathies are clearly with Moscow and Peiping and whose techniques are exactly those which Hitler used in his rise to power. Nasser, like Hitler, has been helped by the West, to reach

his present position of bold and arrogant intractability in the fond hope that they would then be able to use him to check the spread of Communism. Communism, of course, has not been checked. Nasser, has in fact, proved to be the very key which opened the Middle East to Communist infiltration, and he is making possible the realization of the historic Russian expansionist dreams in the Mediterranean.

And another elementary truth which should now be clear to the statesmen of the world - of the free world - is that the problems of the Middle East cannot be solved without reference to the State of Israel. Small as that State is, such attempts to bypass Israel, and by so doing, of course, imperil it, have unfortunately been made time and again -- they were made in the case of the Baghdad Pact, ~~and they~~ a regional security pact from which Israel was deliberately excluded -- this was the case in the arming of some of the Arab countries while a virtual arms embargo was imposed upon Israel -- and even more recently, in the case of the Suez Canal - international conferences were called and associations were set up to counteract the seizure of the Suez Canal which pointedly and unreasonably excluded Israel - all the Israeli shipping was blockaded in the Suez Canal. Such attempts to achieve peace and stability in a region of the world in which Israel is an important part and at the same time to ignore Israel are doomed to failure. Israel, in my humble judgment, must be regarded as a focal point in any feasible peace strategy in the Middle East. You will never weaken Nasser unless you strengthen Israel. And it is as simple as all that.

diplomatic

And the Western world can recover the initiative which it lost in that part of the world only as it comes to acknowledge this simple fact ~~which~~ and proceeds to act accordingly.

And this too, should be clear to the statesmen of our own country. And I say this without any bitterness at all - because I believe that the leaders of our country are following their best light and their best judgment - but they may be wrong - and events have proved them to be, time and again, unfortunately, wrong - 9

in the case of the Middle East, perhaps also in the case of other parts of the world.

It should also be clear to the statesmen of our own country that any role of leadership which it wishes to play in this troubled area will not succeed unless our country is prepared to assume their definite and specific commitment. There can be no leadership without obligations. A major foreign policy which does not carry with it definite and calculated involvements is foredoomed to failure. Nor can a country long retain the confidence and trust indispensable to leadership when time and again it advances with its allies and retreats alone. We will not be able to lead the world by proxy. This is true of Suez. It is also true in the case of Israel. For example - if our government is persuaded - as I think it is now persuaded - that the vast armaments which the Soviet Government has poured into Egypt and other Arab lands in the Near East, have seriously endangered the young and democratic State of Israel which the United States helped to establish and was the first to recognize, and that this dangerous situation calls for urgent rectification, then it should not pass the buck to other governments to correct the imbalance. Such a position possesses the virtue neither of rightness nor of forthrightness.

And here is another elementary truth which ought to be acknowledged now. The free world cannot on the one hand undertake to see or to give arms to countries in all parts of the world - our country has granted arms to thirty-six nations - nearly two billion dollars in military supplies went to nations between January and June of this year from our own government - about two-thirds of these supplies to Europe. I say, the free world cannot on the one hand undertake to sell or to give arms to countries in all parts of the world as part of an over-all policy to strengthen these countries against possible aggression -- realizing that an arms race is actually on - an arms race of vast proportions between the East and the West -- and on the other hand deny the right to the young republic of Israel to acquire weapons to defend itself against threatened aggression on the ground

that this would encourage an arms race! You cannot blow hot and cold at the same time, and you cannot win battles for democracy with a broken lance of a specious formula.

And finally my good friends, it should also be frankly acknowledged now, that the agreements which were negotiated through the commendable efforts of the Secretary of the United Nations - for the faithful observance of the truce on the borders of Israel - have not yielded the peace and the tranquility which it was hoped would result from them. Because these agreements - it should be acknowledged finally - are unrealistic in the extreme. They may be valid for a brief interim period - as part of a brief armistice period - but this period has unfortunately already lasted more than eight years - and such agreements cannot take the place of a permanent peace settlement. Nations that do not want peace will not long observe a truce. And regrettably, let it be said. Let it be acknowledged by the statesmen of the world. ~~Neither~~ Neither the United Nations, nor the western powers have ever used their full power and authority during these years to induce the Arab states to negotiate a final peace settlement with Israel. Any more than they used their full authority and the sanction called for by the charter of the United Nations to compel Egypt to lift the blockade against Israeli shipping in the Suez Canal. They arouse themselves to indignation and to action only, and I am afraid belatedly, when their own toes were stepped upon.

It is clear, - it should be clear to everyone/ right-thinking person that Israel has never been the aggressor against any of its Arab neighbors. Israel doesn't claim an inch of territory from Egypt. Israel does not now hold an inch of territory which belonged to Egypt at any time. Egypt has no claims against Egypt. There can be no motive for such aggression on the part of Israel. It was always Israel which was attacked. Therefore it serves no purpose at all to brand every act of self-defense on the part of the attacked people of Israel as an act of reprisal. Just what exactly is expected of the people of Israel? Is it expected that they should sit there - on the borders - on those tense, flaming borders - ~~and~~ as clay

pigeons, to be shot at at will by Arab terrorists? And then to have the families of the slain and the wounded comforted by the fact that ~~the~~ a representative of the United Nations has duly rebuked the nation to which the assailant belonged? And is this to continue indefinitely? How long is this situation to continue? Is this all that the United Nations is capable of doing? And all that the Western powers will permit it to do? This desperate and provocative arrangement has nothing to recommend it and it can be explained only by the fact that the Western powers are angling for other fish in the troubled waters of the Middle East.

Clearly, the events of the past few years on the borders of Israel have shown that these acts of premeditated murder are not the result of any isolated Arab soldier ^{having gone} ~~going~~ berserk, but of Arab governments who have gone berserk - governments who day by day incite their populations with inflammatory propaganda against Israel - who refuse to negotiate any peace settlement and who never weary of proclaiming to the world that their unalterable resolve is to wipe Israel off the face of the earth! This is governments gone berserk!

To help the Arab governments to regain their political sanity and to check the unbridled ambitions and adventures of Arab dictators/^{of the type of Nasser} who are playing Moscow's game in the Middle East, the State of Israel should not only be helped to arm itself to a point where its preparedness will act as a deterrent to would-be aggressors but should be given the security of a binding pact with the free world. And this is far more important than arms; for the cost of military preparedness for a small state like Israel is an economic burden too difficult to bear indefinitely.

A new policy, my dear friends, is clearly indicated on the part of the Western world if it hopes to maintain its position in the Middle East. ^{And} a policy which cannot be clearly, firmly adopted with any prospect of success unless it takes into consideration deliberately and straightforwardly, the legitimate interests of the free and democratic State of Israel, aroundwhom all these military adventures and military alliances are being organized and encouraged, there can be no peace in the Middle East until there is peace in the Arab world and Israel. And that peace is possible if the Western world

will begin to think less of oil and more of the rights of free people who are struggling to live in freedom - and they would like to live in peace with their neighbors.

Much more important than what will come out in reference to the Suez Canal - and they may patch up some kind of face-saving device - both for Nasser and for the West -- much ~~in~~ more important than that - and if a lasting arrangement is sought -- would be a final agreement on the part of the free world to make the position of Israel so secure in the Near East that Arab governments will give up their thoughts of aggression and military adventure.

In my humble judgment this is bound to come. It may not come now. It must come ultimately.



1/ What created crisis - Why is free world disturbed - Conferences - ^{sermon 899}

Why - Security Council -

2/ Answer quite simple - Eg. dictator - unlawfully seized - runs their territory - abruptly terminated with. crushed

90 yrs

Suez Canal not built by Eg - French -

When the concession - Ferdinand de Lesseps - 1854-56 - to build - Isthmus - connecting Port Said on Med. + Suez on Red Sea - to enable ocean-going ships -

Eg. was part of Turkish Empire - governed from Constantinople - Concession received from Turkish hereditary Kanoy - Said Pasha

The Canal built by a French Co - administered - Since 1869 - while British - 51 years block - Israel - 1955 - virtual control - 7 Co - Board Directors - To-day - 1 Dutch; 1 Greek; 5 Egypt; 9 British - 16 French

Concession 99 yrs - still has 12 yrs to run.

- Through the years - Eg. received a share of income - perhaps not as large - Never asserted right of seizure - Nasser

3. England troops + Canal zone - Wald has I - Refuse - Allies handed over - West military base - Allenby - Wald has II - Agitation - Agreement 1954 - Withdrawn - 80,000.

4/ Why was not Nasser content to wait 12 yrs - Dictators cannot wait - Triumphs sketches - Gerts which preceded - Farouk - Napoli -

Nasser promised - Econ. Improvements - Land Reforms - vast
Building and Irrigation Projects

Difficult - Resistance - Take time - much hard work

It is easier - beguile masses - dreams of conquest fresh

Military adventures - the only way - Dramatic pol. triumphs

5/ Nasser scared heavily - when he faced J. B. Swenot - Hebbly

U.S. - Progressive - True Reformers - splendid ally

Strong Man - Weakness for - builds its hopes -

6/ But getting the British out - bread - glow could not last - indig

Reform was not necessary - Needed another achievement

to bolster his regime - increase his prestige - Arab World

- For Nasser - like all dictators - not content - within our borders

- domestic role - Expansion - Hegemony of Arab World -

- Hitler's dream of Panfemianism - Pan Arabism - Führer

- Nationalism ripe - N. Africa to India - why not just -

- He had a rallying cry - unite + unite ^{Every} ~~Israel~~ - (Heller)

7/ Needed Arms! Could buy them in West - Cash - Conditions -

Turned to Soviet - Glad to accommodate - Open doors - ^{Needed}

Mutiny in Githu - \$250 - Jet plane - Bombs - Tanks - ~~submarine~~

Had arms - and an ally!

8/ While "digesting" his arms - Nasser - turned - dream

Aswan High Dam - Rumors - finance - U.S. offered

to negotiate on financing

But Nasser's continued flirtation with Com. bloc - China -

caused our govt. to withdraw its fls Russia ^{at about}
In Augs - to save fls - to divert attention from defeat -
Seized Canal - "choke in their jug"

9) Crossed West - Flaunting of Int. Arrangement - (Night Hawks)
40 ships daily - 65M. tons of oil - (Blockade)
Of course - Blockade Israel - 1951 - Their ox was forced
Had they acted in 1951 - probably

10) Under Convention of 1888 - Open to all - at all times - no fls

11) And so G.B. France - U.S. reacted violently - breakers
They would not tolerate such high-handed methods - treasures
Another Hike - Rheinland - German Poland - II had his
They finally saw this was - When they would and sampled
two others - Ruthless dictators in the East
An Inter. Conf. London - Deputies - Austrian Prime Minister
Menzies - Cairo - proposals for Inter. Control
A Second Conf. - A Suez Canal Users Assoc. - Send
their ships - non-Eg. pilots - Collect tolls - Inter. boycott
Suez
Show-down!

12) But actually another Unwind is in the making
Another defeat for Free World - Another triumph for Dict. + Fasc
Disunity of West - + Blunders -
The Blunders in building NATO up - enabling him to play
game of blackmail - By troops - Control - Israel - aggravates - now

Disunity - Dead to every one - Responsible an arm (4)
giant - not without the share.

(Secy. Dulles) - eye on election press - right if let (no Fare!
Other pressures! But soon - even Surplus often war Chait
would not even confer Am. ship owners whose vessels are partially in-
foreign flags to comply - (Pi lots 7 even relation
- Black separate depts with

13/ Our Allies left high and dry - As a result - as in all
such cases - when West is unable or unwilling to act -
U.N. - Soviet Veto will effectively block any action which
might in any manner embarrass Russia.

① Baghdad =

14/ Situation is grave - allied disunity may lead to a fatal
weakening of Nato - Pol. & M. Policy alliance W. Wald
may encourage positive interests of Free Wald in Middle East
15/ To any republic of Israel - poses a real threat!

Sep. 13 - Eden -

" What will be the next step if At. Nations is allowed
to succeed in the action (Secy) ? I have no doubt
what it will be, and I do not think the House has -
Israel ^{by}

The danger is there even if he fails - will try to restore
lost prestige among his people Israel will by
making war on Israel + use that West purchase around

16/ Polen - But not for data

~~We earnestly hope that the series of defeats which the West has suffered in recent months in connection with the seizure of the Suez Canal has brought home to its political leaders a few elementary truths which they should have learned a long while ago.~~

11) In the Middle East, the West is dealing now, not with the legitimate demands of a nascent Arab nationalism. The national ambitions of these Arab countries have been fully realized. They are recognized as independent and sovereign states and are in complete control of their domestic and foreign affairs. What the West confronts in the Near East is not resistance to colonialism but the unbridled ambition of an Egyptian dictator and adventurer who has been augmenting his power and his prestige and is ^{now} seeking to establish his hegemony over the whole Arab world. Some Arab governments have come to realize ^{this} and to fear and resent it. Nasser is a sprouting dictator whose sympathies are clearly with Moscow and Peiping and whose techniques are exactly those which Hitler found so useful in his rise to power. Nasser, like Hitler, has been helped by the West to reach his ~~present~~ position of bold and arrogant intractability in the fond hope that they ^{would} ~~will~~ be able to use him to check the spread of communism. Communism, of course, has not been checked. Nasser has, in fact, proved to be the ^{very} ~~key~~ which opened the Middle East to communist infiltration and is making possible the realization of the historic Russian expansionist dreams in the Mediterranean.

Another elementary truth which should by now be clear to the statesmen of the free world is that the problems of the Middle East cannot be solved without reference to the State of Israel. Such attempts to by-pass Israel and by so doing imperil it, have unfortunately been made time and again. This was the case with

the Baghdad pact and ^{is known to be} one of its fatal weaknesses, ^{this is the case} and with the arming of some Arab countries while a virtual arms embargo ^{is} ~~was~~ imposed upon Israel. More recently, international conferences were called and Associations were set up to counteract the seizure of the Suez Canal which pointedly and unreasonably excluded Israel. Such attempts to achieve peace and stability in a region of the world of which Israel is a vital ^{and important} part and at the same time to ignore Israel are doomed to failure. Israel must be regarded as a focal point in any feasible peace strategy in the Middle East. The Western world can recover the diplomatic initiative which it lost in that part of the world only as it comes to acknowledge this simple fact and ~~will~~ ^{to act} proceed accordingly.

It should also be clear to the statesmen of our own country that any role of leadership which it wishes to play in this troubled area will not succeed unless our country is prepared to assume ^{these} definite and specific commitments. There can be no leadership without obligations. A major foreign policy which does not carry with it definite and calculated involvements is foredoomed to failure. Nor can a country long retain the confidence and trust indispensable to leadership when time and again it advances with its allies and retreats alone. We will not be able to lead the world by proxy. ^{this} It is true of Suez. It is true ^{also} in the case of Israel. If ^{our} government is persuaded that the vast armaments which the Soviet Government has poured into Egypt and other Arab lands in the Near East have seriously endangered the young and democratic State of Israel which the United States helped to establish and was the first to recognize, and that ^{this} ~~the~~ dangerous situation calls for urgent rectification, then it should not pass the buck to other governments to correct the imbalance. Such a position possesses the virtue neither of rightness nor of forthrightness.

Here is another elementary truth which should be acknowledged. The free world cannot on the one hand undertake to sell or to give arms to countries in

- 3 -

- our own country has granted arms to 36 nations - Nearly 2 1/2 in military supplies went to these nations bet. Jan. & June 1956

all parts of the world, as part of an over-all policy to strengthen them ~~xxx~~ against possible aggression -- realizing that an arms race of vast proportions is, in fact, on between the East and the West -- and on the other hand deny the right to the young republic of Israel to acquire weapons to defend itself against threatened aggression on the ground that this would encourage an arms race! You cannot blow hot and cold at the same time, and you cannot win battles for democracy with a broken lance of ^a specious formula.

It should also be frankly acknowledged that the agreements which were negotiated through the commendable efforts of the Secretary of the United Nations *for the faithful observance of* the truce on the borders of Israel have not yielded the peace and tranquility which it was hoped would result from them. These agreements are unrealistic in the extreme. They may be valid for a brief ~~ad~~ interim period. But the period has already lasted more than eight years. They cannot take the place of a permanent peace settlement. Nations which do not want peace will not long observe a truce. Regrettably, neither the United Nations nor the Western powers have ever used their full power and authority during these years to induce the Arab states to negotiate a final peace settlement with Israel, any more than they used their full authority and the sanctions called for in the Charter of the United Nations, to compel Egypt to lift the blockade against Israeli shipping in the Suez Canal. They roused themselves to indignation and to action -- belatedly, I am afraid -- only when their own toes were stepped upon.

It is clear to every right-thinking person that Israel has never been the aggressor against any of its Arab neighbors. There can be no motives for such aggression. It was always Israel which was attacked. Therefore, it serves no purpose at all to brand every act of self-defense on the part of the attacked Israeli as an act of reprisal. Just what exactly is expected ~~xxx~~ of the people

of Israel? Is it expected of them that they should sit there on their *tense* borders as clay pigeons to be shot at at will by Arab terrorists and then to have the families of the slain and wounded comforted by the fact that a representative of the United Nations has duly rebuked the nation to which the assailant belonged? And is this to continue indefinitely? Is this all that the United Nations is capable of *doing* and all that the Western powers will permit it to do? This desperate and provocative arrangement has nothing to recommend it. It can be explained only by the fact that the Western powers are angling for other fish in the troubled waters of the Middle East.

Clearly, the events of the past few years on the borders of Israel have shown that these acts of premeditated murder are not the result of any isolated Arab soldier going berserk, but of Arab governments gone berserk -- governments who day by day incite their populations with inflammatory propaganda against Israel, who refuse to negotiate any peace settlement and who never weary of proclaiming to the world that their *unalterable* resolve is to wipe Israel off the face of the earth!

To help the Arab governments to regain their political sanity and to check the unbridled ambitions and adventures of Arab dictators who are playing Moscow's game in the Middle East, the State of Israel should not only be helped to arm itself to a point where its preparedness will act as a deterrent to would-be aggressors, but should be given the security of a binding pact with the free world. This is far more important than arms, for the cost of military preparedness for a small state like Israel is an economic burden too difficult to bear indefinitely.

*A new policy is clearly indicated in the Middle East -
an end to blockading it*

The Temple Bulletin

Published Weekly by
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio



Vol. XLIII

OCTOBER 7, 1956

No. 1

Reel #6

Opening Sunday Morning Service

10:30 o'clock

76

WRHS
RABBI SILVER



will speak on

- ① Book Sale
- ② Communion in the
Confession
- ③ Parted in Traffic Lines

#899- The Suez Affair - - Munich On The Nile!

Friday Evening Services
5:30 to 6:10

Saturday Morning Services
11:00 to 12:00

The Temple Bulletin

The Temple

Congregation Tifereth Israel
(Founded 1850)

Rabbis:

Abba Hillel Silver, D.D., Litt.D., D. H. L.

Daniel Jeremy Silver, A. B., M. H. L.

Associate Rabbi
Director of Religious Education

Ass't. Director of Religious Education
MILDRED B. EISENBERG

Executive Secretary
LEO S. BAMBERGER

Librarian
MIRIAM LEIKIND

Organist and Choir Director
A. R. WILLARD

Editor
SOPHIA LEVINE

Published weekly, except during the summer vacation.
Entered as second-class matter November 12, 1931, at the
Post Office, Cleveland, Ohio, under the Act of March 3,
1879. Fifty Cents per Annum. Member, Union of American
Hebrew Congregations.

Ansel Road and East 105th Street
SWEETBRIAR 1-7755

THE TEMPLE BOARD — 1956-1957

A. M. Luntz President
Leo W. Neumark Vice-President
Eli Goldston Vice-President
A. J. Kane Treasurer
Max Eisner Associate Treasurer

Mr. Louis Balantzow
Mr. Edward Bloomberg
Mr. James J. Brown
Mr. Jerome Curtis
Mr. Marcus Feder, Jr.
Mr. Max Feldman
Mr. Arthur Friedman
Mr. Edward D. Friedman
Mr. Sam M. Friedman
Dr. M. E. Gans
Mr. Alan S. Geismer
Mr. Samuel H. Givelber
Mr. George V. Goulder
Mr. Merrill Gross
Mr. Philmore Haber
Mr. Joseph Hartzmark
Mr. Milton Kane
Dr. Robert Keller
Mr. Julie Kravitz
Mr. Gilbert A. Margulis
Mr. David N. Myers
Mr. Jerome Newman
Mr. Sam Schumann
Mr. Robert Selden
Mr. Ernest Siegler
Mr. William Shipley
Mr. Edward Silverberg
Mr. Louis Weitz

Representing The Temple Women's Association
Mrs. W. B. Cohen
Mrs. Harry Cohn
Mrs. Albert Goodman
Mrs. Isadore Horvitz
Mrs. Lambert Oppenheim
Mrs. Merril Sands

Representing The Temple Men's Club
Dr. Joseph R. Gould
Mr. Lawrence Lurie
Mr. Abe Nebel

Representing The Mr. and Mrs. Club
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Morgenstern

Representing The Alumni Association
Miss Barbara Leiner

HONORARY MEMBERS

Mr. Alfred A. Benesch
Mr. Joseph A. Guggenheim
Mr. Herman Moss
Mr. Sidney Weitz

FIRST SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

This Sunday, October 7, marks the opening of the regular Sunday Morning Services in The Temple at 10:30 o'clock.

Speaking on "The Suez Affair—Munich on the Nile!" Dr. Silver will discuss the serious implication of the seizure of the Suez Canal by the dictator of Egypt and the threat to peace and the free world.

Members of The Temple and their families are urged to attend these services regularly throughout the year.

The Temple doors open at 10:00 A. M. Prior to the services an organ recital of sacred music is given by Mr. A. R. Willard.

Nursery facilities are provided for pre-school children whose parents wish to attend the Sunday morning services, provided these children are at least three years of age.

HIGH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

The Temple High School officially opened the 1956-57 school year September 30. Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver welcomed the students and announced that the enrollment was greater than that of any previous year in the history of the High School.

Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver also outlined extensive plans to maintain academic and special activity interest at a peak throughout the school year. In addition to having a choice of participating in Debating, High School Newspaper or Student Council, as an extra curricular activity, the student body may now have the opportunity of taking part in the newly created Choir or Drama groups.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver extended his blessings to the entire high school for a successful and enjoyable school year.

New members of the High School Faculty include Mr. Myron W. Goldman, who will act in the capacity of supervisor, and Mr. Roland Kraus, who will organize and guide the Drama Department.

As in the past, the High School has a full calendar of social and cultural activities planned for the year. The Student Council is presently making preparations for the annual Parent-Teacher luncheon scheduled for October 14 in Mahler Hall.

MUSIC FOR SUNDAY

Organ	Fantasia in A Minor	Bach
	First Organ Sonata - Pastorale	Guilmant
	Eglogue	Salome
Opening Psalm—Mah Tov		Spicker
Bor'chu (Congregational)		Sulzer
Sh'ma - Boruch (Congregational)		Traditional
Michomocho (Congregational)		Sulzer
Kedusha		Spicker
Silent Devotion—May the Words		Binder
	Mrs. Strasser	
Before the Address		
Toras Adenoy—Etz Chayim		Spicker
	Mr. Hakola and Choir	
Olanu-Va-anachnu		Goldstein
	Mr. Humphrey and Choir	

The Temple Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Contributions

TO THE ABBA HILLEL SILVER PARK FUND

A special contribution in memory of Miss Ida Amster, by Mrs. Nathan Seidman, California, and Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Seidman and Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Seidman.

TO THE ABBA HILLEL SILVER CHARITABLE AND EDUCATIONAL FUND:

In memory of Dr. Sam S. Berger, by Alan L. Littman.

TO THE TEMPLE MUSEUM FUND:

In memory of Dora Eichner, by Mr. and Mrs. Bernard H. Edelman; in honor of the anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Flesheim, by Mr. and Mrs. Lambert Oppenheim; in memory of Isaac Evans, by Mr. Joseph Prashker, New York, New York; in memory of beloved mother, Rae Synenberg Cohen, by J. Harmon Cohen.

TO THE TEMPLE LIBRARY FUND:

In memory of David Burstein, by Mrs. Rae Burstein; in memory of Dr. Carrol H. Verovitz, by Mrs. Jeanette Mandel; in memory of Dr. Carrol H. Verovitz, by Dr. and Mrs. Charles S. Adelstein; in memory of Emanuel Zwick, by Mr. and Mrs. Irwin Rubin.

TO THE LESLIE AND LINDA HAAS MEMORIAL FUND:

In memory of Jacob Hascal, by Mr. and Mrs. Lee Rotman.

TO THE TEMPLE FLORAL FUND:

A contribution 'In appreciation' by Mrs. Sanford Arsham.

TO THE SOPHIE AUERBACH SCHOLARSHIP FUND:

In memory of father, I. J. Benesch, by Mr. and Mrs. Milton Benesch; in memory of Sam Kluga, by Mrs. David Wolpaw.

TO THE IGNATZ ASCHERMAN MEMORIAL FUND:

In memory of Ignatz Ascherman, by Mrs. Helen Green and sons, and Mr. and Mrs. Emil Ascherman, all of New York City.

TEMPLE WOMEN'S ADVISOR

Editors: Mrs. Oscar Bergman, Mrs. Irving Konigsberg, Mrs. Leon Newman, Mrs. S. Lee Rotman

SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AN OUTSTANDING SUCCESS

On Tuesday, September 25th, The Temple Women's Association raised the curtain on its Sixtieth Anniversary Year with an exciting Fall Festival. Mahler Hall was dominated by a 40-foot runway, used to advantage by charming children and attractive models, to display articles made and sold by the Tuesday Activities Committees.

Mrs. Harry R. Horvitz was producer and director of this successful affair, assisted by Mrs. Edwin I. Coben. The dialogue was written in rhyme by Mrs. Alfred Brock and Mrs. Allan M. Unger. The effective publicity was handled by Mrs. Leon Newman and Mrs. Lee Rotman.

Mahler Hall was given a Department Store atmosphere, complete with "Elevator", by Mrs. Milton Meyers and Mrs. Karl Tobias and a committee of talented women consisting of Mrs. Charles S. Adelstein, Mrs. Earl Behrens, Mrs. Bernard S. Davis, Mrs. Leon Diamond, Mrs. Julian Kassen, Mrs. Hayden Kline, Mrs. Paul Oppenheim, Mrs. William Orkin, Mrs. Oscar Ross, Mrs. Irwin J. Schwartz, Mrs. William Slavin, Mrs. Maurice Stoller, Mrs. Alvin Udelson, Mrs. Aaron Weitzman, Mrs. Henry Wolfson.

A snack in the Silver Grill was arranged by Mrs. Richard Adler and Mrs. Marc Goldstein and served by hostesses under the direction of Mrs. Ben Baron, Mrs. James Lissauer, Mrs. Lucille Shaw and Mrs. Lawrence Skall.

The models were professionally instructed by Mrs. Morton Barrisch and the efficient shoppers trained by Mrs. Maurice Koblitz, Jr., who also performed a specialty number. Another

specialty number was sung by Mrs. Alan Littman, Jr.

This wonderful program was made possible by the concentrated efforts of the sewing Chairmen under the direction of Mrs. Herbert Zipkin who worked through the summer making the articles and ordering the merchandise that was displayed. The Chairmen are: Quilts: Mrs. Lee August, Jr. Art Needle: Mrs. Jerome Braun and Mrs. Samuel A. Roth. Knit and Crochet: Mrs. Edwin Linoner and Mrs. John Samuels. Novelties: Mrs. Al Sherman and Mrs. Moe Weiner. Lilliputian: Mrs. Ben Fried and Mrs. Isidore Horvitz. Toys: Mrs. Ronald Benjamin and Mrs. Edwin Woolf. Aprons: Mrs. Henry Berger and Mrs. Lloyd Koenig. Specialties: Mrs. Charles S. Adelstein, Mrs. Ben Baron, Mrs. M. J. Koblitz, Jr., and Mrs. David Rosenberg. Community Sewing: Mrs. Will Englander, Mrs. Isaac Evans, Mrs. Arthur Friedman and Mrs. Nicholas Goodman. Israeli Gifts: Mrs. Lambert Oppenheim and Mrs. Herman Jacobson. Gift N' Gadget: Mrs. Sanford Noll and Mrs. Merrill Sands. Stationery: Mrs. A. C. Galvin and Mrs. Isidore Silber. Gift Wrapping: Mrs. Harold Friedman, Mrs. George Klein, and Mrs. Oscar Roth.

The afternoon ended in high spirits as Mrs. Abba Hillel Silver and Mrs. Daniel Jeremy Silver awarded door prizes to the lucky women whose names were picked from a hat box.

We are proud of our opening meeting and proud of the spirit, talent and efficiency of this committee which numbered over one hundred and fifty.

Thanks to all of you for a superb production.



AUTOGRAPH PARTY

The Temple Women's Association will be privileged to hear Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver review his newly published book "Where Judaism Differed", on Wednesday, October 10th, at 1:00 P.M. at Mahler Hall.

The book is 'An Inquiry into the Distinctiveness of Judaism'. It seeks to probe the differences and the similarities between Judasim and the other major religions.

Following his talk, Rabbi Silver has consented to autograph copies of his book.

Refreshments will be served. Guests are invited without charge.

If you wish a personally autographed copy of "Where Judaism Differed" but are unable to attend you may fill in the coupon below and mail it, with your check, to Mrs. Merrill Sands, c/o The Temple, 1855 Ansel Road, Cleveland 6, Ohio.

CHANUKAH GIFTS TO SERVICEMEN

The Temple Women's Association will again this year send Chanukah gifts to the sons and daughters of Temple members who are serving in the armed forces.

Because of postal regulations for overseas mailing, these names should be submitted without delay.

Send names and addresses by writing to Mrs. S. S. Reich, Chairman, 3290 Warrensville Center Road, or telephoning to The Temple Office, SWEETBRIAR 1-7755.

Please print

Name

Address

Zone No.

Enclosed find \$4.75 (\$4.50 plus 25c mailing charge) for my autographed copy of "Where Judaism Differed".

The Temple Bulletin
The Temple
Ansel Rd. at East 105th St.
CLEVELAND 6, OHIO

Entered as Second Class Matter at the Post Office
Cleveland, Ohio



Are You Among The Builders?

The campaign for the new Temple Annex is in full swing. Dozens of solicitors are out in the field actively soliciting all the members of our congregation. When you are approached we hope that you will respond generously. Only a full-hearted contribution on the part of every member of The Temple will enable us to reach our goal.

We should like to start building our new Auditorium, Classrooms, Library, Kindergarten and Nursery Rooms—all urgent and vitally needed projects—some time this Fall.