



## Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

Series V: Writings, 1909-1963, undated.

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United Jewish Appeal, New York, 1953.



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The urgent needs of Israel today are economic undergirding and security. Israel has not fully recovered from the tidal wave of unselected immigration of the last few years which more than doubled its original size. A quarter of a million of the new immigrants still dwell in the economic wasteland of temporary villages under primitive conditions. Had the citizens of Israel been less generous in their open door policy towards their unfortunate brothers from lands of persecution and menace, they would not now find themselves saddled with such crushing economic and social burdens. Their generosity and their sense of Jewish responsibility and solidarity should be matched by ours.

Few countries in the world today can get along without foreign aid. In the first five post-war years the United States gave aid to many nations, including the oldest and most powerful in Europe, of more than 30 billion dollars in order to bolster their economies and to strengthen the free world. Last year some 7 billions of dollars were thus spent. The new State of Israel, recovering from the ravages of invasion and war, harrassed by the continuing Arab boycott and blockade, confronted with the necessity of absorbing 700,000 impoverished refugees and of defending its frontiers at the very time that it was setting up the machinery of government and laying the bases for its agricultural and industrial development, received since its founding, aid in the amount of 276 million, half of which was in the form of a loan from the Export-Import Bank, which is being repaid at  $3\frac{1}{2}\%$  interest. These figures should be borne in mind because a mischievous propaganda is being spread abroad to the effect that the American government has especially favored the State of Israel and has poured fabulous sums of money into that country.



Israel is profoundly grateful for the aid which it has received from this country, which was the first to grant it recognition and which did so much to bring it into existence. By so doing, it has assured for itself and for mankind a faithful and dependable ally for freedom and democracy in a most critical and strategic area of the world. The recent violent outbursts and denunciations ~~both~~ both of Israel~~xx~~ and of Zionism on the part of the Soviet bloc are clear proof of this fact. Whatever aid the United States will deem it wise and just to extend to Israel in the future as part of its foreign aid program will, of course, be deeply appreciated by the hard-pressed young State of Israel.

But the primary responsibility for the economic strengthening of the State of Israel is, of course, ours, and we shall not relinquish it. We have set our hand to a great historic task, one of the noblest and most magnificent of mankind, and we shall not relax until the task is fittingly done. We have much at stake, ~~in~~ not the least of which is our fair name and the pride of an ancient, creative and undefeated people.

If we strengthen Israel economically, we are also contributing ~~ing~~ to its security. A strong Israel will be a deterrent to any attempts at aggression on the part of any unreconciled neighbor, and will insure peace in a part of the world where an outbreak of war may be difficult to localize.





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*Rabbi, The Temple, Cleveland, Ohio*

**EDWARD M. M. WARBURG**  
*General Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal*

*and other distinguished figures will address the UJA's*

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**SATURDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 10**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1953**

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