

Daniel Jeremy Silver Collection Digitization Project

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Reel Box Folder 7 232b

Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, General Assembly 1967, speech on American college students in Israel, correspondence, notes, lists, and speech, 1966-1968.

THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM American Student Program

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LIST OF COURSES 1965/66

1. Biblical Narrative in the Pentateuch - readings from the Pentateuch and the traditional Jewish commentaries on the text, with emphasis on basic concepts and the style of Biblical narrative.

Dr. Nehama Leibowitz - Thurs. 8-10 a.m., Mazer 110

2. King and Prophet in the Bible - an examination of the roles and relationships of kings and contemporary prophets in various books of the Bible.

Dr. Uriel Simon - Monday 10 a.m.-12 noon, Mazer Hall A

3. Rashi Commentary on the Bible - exploration in depth of the renowned Bashi commentary on the text of the Bible.

Dr. Nehama Leibowitz - Monday 1-3 p.m., Lauterman Hall B

4. Ancient Jewish History - the history of the Jewish People from early Biblical times until the Bar Kochba uprising in the 2nd century C.E.

Mr. Hanoch Reviv - Sun. 10 a.m.-12 noon, Mazer 110

5. Introduction to the Mishna and Talmud - readings from selected texts of the Mishna and Talmud. For students who have had no previous background in Talmud.

Mr. David Tamar - Weds. 12 noon-2 p.m., Levy 117

6. Introduction to the Midrash and Aggada - readings from selected portions of Midrashic literature, with emphasis on their religious, moral and literary aspects.

Mr. Gavriel Cohen - Tues. 8-10 a.m., Lauterman 5

7. Motifs and Issues in Jewish Philosophy - survey of Jewish philosophy, from Rabbinic times through the Middle Ages and the Haskala eriod until the present day.

Mr. Israel Tashma - Mon. 2-4 p.m., Mazer 13

8. Readings in Jewish Philosophy - selected readings from three major Jewish philosophers: Yehuda Halevi, Moses Mendelson, Abraham Isaac Kook.

Mr. Israel Tashma - Sun. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Mazer 113

9. Modern Hebrew Literature - an overview of modern Hebrew literature as seen through the writings of selected modern and contemporary Hebrew authors. For students with an adequate knowledge of Hebrew.

"r. Yitzhak Shalev - Tues. 3-5 p.m., Lauterman 6

10. Israel: The Land and its People - the physical and economic geography of Israel as a background for an analysis of Israel society, including education and political structure.

Dr. David Sharon and guest lectors - Thurs. 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

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(REPORT)

Suggested Format

A STUDY ON THE AMERICAN ISRAELI ACADEMIC EXCHANGE

PURPOSE: (OBJECTIVES)

CLASSIFICATION OF STUDENTS: AND ACADEMIC INDIVIDUALS:

1 - Undergraduates - American, in Israel Predoctoral

2 - Post doctoral - American, in Israel

3 - Staff People - American, in Israel

4 - Undergraduates - Israeli, in the United States

5 - Graduate students - Israeli, in the United States

6 - Professors - Israeli, in the United States

7 - Research Personnel -Israeli, in the United States

A. OBSERVATIONS I

B. RECOMMENDATIONS

Syd Applebaum 845 West End Avenue New York, N. Y. Rabbi Daniel J. Silver The Temple University Circle at Silver Park Cleveland, Ohio Dear Dan: Below are replies to and comments on the questions sent to me by Philip Bernstein on March 17, 1966. (1) Jewish Students from the U. S. in Israel (Figures for June 1965) Total 245 Bar-Ilan University 11 Hebrew Union College 24 Hebrew University - 180 Rubin Academy of Music 20 Tel-Aviv University 3 Weitzman Institute elds of Interest Creative Arts 20 29 Language and Literature Philosophy Physical and Natural Sciences Law Psychology Social Work Judaic Studies and Special Programs all the rest. Special Programs: One Year and Summer Study Programs of the American Friends of the Hebrew University Annual Bulletin - enclosed. Israeli Students in the U. S. (Figures for June 1965) Total 1539 Female - 324 1215 Male

Began Studies:	1964/5	- 369
	1963	- 248
	1962 and	
	before	- 431
	Uncertain	- 491
Undergraduate	730	
Graduate	252	
Doctoral Degree	268	
Special	87	
Uncertain	202	
Engineering		- 388
Humanities		- 255
Medical Sciences		- 51
Physical and Natur	ral	
Sciences		- 247
Social Sciences		- 272
Business Adminis	tration	- 108
Agriculture		- 47
Education		- 144

Note: We do not have at present the distribution by universities. The big centers are New York, Los Angeles and Boston. I shall try to get the breakdown by schools if it is in existence.

(3) A listing by names, Israel universities and institutes of study in America

(See attached list "A")

Note: If you want the distribution by state and university and a separate listing of fields of study, please let me know.

(4) At this point I can only answer the question of costs and sources of covering these costs in a most general fashion. With regard to Jewish university students going to Israel, since most of these are in the Hebrew University framework, the attached publications answer that question.

Costs to the University above and beyond payment from students is covered by Hebrew University itself. Similarly, most of the Israel students studying in the United States pay their own way and support themselves by teaching, etc., with the exception of these sufficiently advanced to benefit from fellowships.

Rabbi Daniel J. Silver March 31, 1966 Cleveland, Ohio Page 3. In almost every case where university staff are involved the home university and the host university are assumed to participate in varying degrees. An actual survey based on questionnaires could be done but I think it would be worthwhile clarifying the value of such a survey first. (5) Regarding the Cleveland area, it is suggested that you contact the Israel student who is most active in that area, Mr. Joel Goldberg, 1689 Coventry Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44118. It may also be that Rabbi Marcus of the Hillel Foundation can be of assistance regarding the Israeli students. To the best of our knowledge there are no Israeli professors in Cleveland or Columbus. It may very well be though that Goldberg will know of somebody who is not known to us. With regard to the State University in Columbus, it has been intimated to me that neither the Israel students there nor the Hillel Foundation are particularly active in the fields in which we are interested and that the information obtained from them may not be as worthwhile as from other places. However, below is the name of the Israel student and also that of the Hillel Director: Rabbi Harry Kaplan Arye Donde 2147 Pessley Street B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation 46 East Sixteenth Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43201 Columbus, Ohio 43201 Regarding briefing of Israel students and faculty before going to the United States, my department initiated such a program about four years ago on a voluntary basis and we reached an estimated 150 students a year. I believe this program was discontinued last year although the interruption may have been temporary. The briefing consisted of a four-hour session with different lecturers on the nature of the American Jewish community, Israel foreign relations, and the Israel Students Organization. We also tried a very successful experiment of combining a tour of some of Israel's development areas with such a briefing. There is no formal briefing for faculty that I know of except for the departmental briefing which I assumeeveryone going out to earn a degree or undertaking specialized work must receive.

Rabbi Daniel J. Silver Cleveland, Ohio

March 31, 1966 Page 4.

As far as I am concerned, before pursuing any more statistics it would be worthwhile meeting to see exactly what bearing statistical information can have on the working of our committee.

Very best wishes.

Cordially,

SYD APPLEBAUM



Faculty of Israel Universities and Institutes of Study in America

Tel-Aviv University

Professor Shlomo Simonsohn 1 Lincoln Towers, Apt. 18 L 142 West End Avenue New York, N. Y. 10023

Professor Ben-Ami Scharfstein 310 West 105th Street New York, N. Y. 10025

Professor L. N. Posener Statistical Laboratory The Catholic University of America Washington, D. C. 20017

Mr. Tom Lewy 220 Park Street New Haven, Conn.

Mr. Dan Miron 542 W. 112th Street, Apt. 7K New York, N. Y. 10025

Mr. Nachman Sirkin 2 West 86th Street (Apt. 526) New York, N. Y. 10024

Mr. Haggai Horovitz c/o Barr, Apt. 6B 290 Riverside Drive New York, N. Y. 10025 Until end of summer of 1966

Until end of summer of 1966

Until mid or end of summer of 1966

Doing doctorate at Yale University until end of 1966

Doing doctorate at Columbis University until close to end of 1966

Will be in the United States until the end of 1966

Two or three years to prepare doctorate

Bar-Ilan University

Jacob Klein 3933 Pine Street Philadelphia, Pa.

Haim Gnizi 800 East 13th Street Brooklyn 30, N. Y.

Professor Hillel Barzel Near-Eastern Department Indiana University Bloomington, Indiana

Dr. S. Kotz Dept. of Industrial Engineering University of Toronto Toronto 5, Ont., Canada

Technion-Israel Institute of Technology

(The following individuals are on Sabbatical Leave)

Avraham Ben-Aroyo 110-50 71st Road Forest Hills, N. Y.

Luisa Bonfiglioli
Princeton University
Princeton, N. J.

Michael Cais California Institute of Technology Pasadena, California

Abraham Ginzburg Carnegie Institute of Technology Pittsburgh, Pa.

Shragga Irmay University of California Berkeley, California Lecturer - Faculty of Civil Engineering

Associate Professor, Dept. of Mathematics

Associate Professor, Dept. of Chemistry

Senior Lecturer, Dept. of Mathematics

Professor, Faculty of Civil Engineering

Technion-Israel Institute of Technology - continued (On Sabbatical Leave) - continued

New York University New York, N. Y.

> Chaim Mannehim University of California Berkeley, California

Pinchas Margalith Rutgers University New Brunswick, N. J.

Ury Oppenheim Block Engineering 19 Blackstone Street Cambridge, Mass.

Julius Preminger Michigan State University East Lansing, Michigan

William Resnick University of Minnesota Minneapolis, Minne

Josef Rom Avco-Everett Research Laboratory 2385 Revere Beach Parkway Everett, Mass.

Oded Schnepp
University of Chicago or
Mellon Institute
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Stephen Stricker National Bureau of Standards Washington, D. C.

Eliahu Traum Massachusetts Institute of Technology Cambridge, Mass.

Alberto Wachs
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Senior Lecturer, Dept. of Aeronautical Engineering

Senior Lecturer, Dept. of Food and Biotechnology

Senior Lecturer, Dept. of Food and Biotechnology

Senior Lecturer, Dept. of Physics (will return in June, 1966)

Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Electrical Engineering

Professor, Faculty of Chemical Engineering

Associate Professor, Dept. of Aeronattical Engineering

Professor, Dept. of Chemistry

Associate Professor, Faculty of Electrical Engineering

Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Civil Engineering

Professor, Faculty of Civil Engineering

Technion-Israel Institute of Technology - continued

(The following individuals are on Leave Without Pay)

Yerachmiel Argaman University of California Berkeley, California

Yoram Avnimelech 1927 E/West Highway Silver Spring, Maryland

Ezekiel Bahal University of Colorado Boulder, Colorado

Adir Bar-Lev Carnegie Institute of Technology Pittsburgh, Pa.

Meir Joselevich University of Minnesota Minneapolis, Minn.

Zeev Kronfeld California State College Long Beach, California

Bilha Mannheim 2904 Benevenue Berkeley, California

Raphael Pauncz University of Florida Gainesville, Florida

Avinadav Siev University of Illinois Urbana, Illinois

John Wolberg Cornell University Ithaca, N. Y. Instructor, Faculty of Civil Engineering

Lecturer, Faculty of Civil Engineering

Lecturer, Faculty of Electrical Engineering

Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Electrical Engineering

Lecturer, Faculty of Electrical Engineering

Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Civil Engineering

Lecturer, Dept. of Industrial and Management Engineering

Professor, Dept. of Chemistry

Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Civil Engineering

Lecturer, Dept. of Nuclear Science

Hebrew University

Dr. Yohanan Aharoni University of North Carolina

Dr. Yehoshua Bar-Hillel Dept. of Philosophy University of California San Diego and LaJolla, Calif.

Dr. Abraham Brown c/o R. M. Ryps 277 Neptune Avenue Brooklyn 35, N. Y.

Michael Bruno c/o Dept. of Economics Massachusetts Institute of Technology Cambridge, Mass.

Dr. Nathan Citri
c/o Prof. A. Saz
Georgetown University
School of Medicine
Washington, D. C. 20007

Dr. Moshe Davis
American Jewish History Centre
3080 Broadway
New York, N. Y. 10027

Dr. Imre Friedmann Dept. of Biology Queens College Flushing, N. Y.

Dr. Branko Grunbaum Dept. of Mathematics University of Michigan East Lansing, Mich.

Dr. Margit Hamosh
Lab. of General and Comparative Chemistry
National Institute of Mental Health
Dept. of Health Education and Welfare
Public Health Service
Bethesda, Maryland

Senior Lecturer, Palestinian Archaeology (until June 1966)

Professor, Logice and Philosophy of Science (until October 1966)

Lecturer, Philosophy (until September, 1966)

Senior Lecturer, Economics (until January 1966)

Lecturer, Bacteriology

Associate Professor, American Jewish History (until February 1966

Lecturer, Botany (until November 1966)

Associate Professor, Mathematics (until September 1966)

Lecturer, Human Biochemistry [until August 1966]

Hebrew University - continued

Dr. Eliahu Harnon c/o The Law School University of Pennsylvania 3400 Chestnut Street Philadelphia, Pa. 19104

Dr. Abraham Huss c/o Dr. L. Berkolsky 10 Fesser Way Lexington 73, Mass.

Dr. Erwin Jungreis 3250 Carlotta Street Baton Rouge, La. 70802

Dr. Daniel Kahaneman c/o Dept. of Psychology University of Michigan Ann Arbor, Mich.

> Dr. Azriel Levy Dept. of Mathematics Stanford University Stanford, California 94305

Dr. Assa Lipshitz
Chemistry Division
Argonne National Laboratory
Axogonoes
9700 Cass Avenue
Argonne, Illinois

David Macarov 54 Dwight Street Brookline, Mass.

Dr. Michael Michaely 261 Madison Avenue New York; N. Y. 10016

Dr. Laszlo Nebel California Institute of Technology Dept. of Embriology Pasadena, Calif. 91109

Dr. Shimon Ofer
Bell Telephone Laboratories
Murray Hill
New York, N. Y.

Lecturer, Law (until September 1966)

Lecturer, Meteorology (until June 1966)

Senior Lecturer, Inorganic and Analytical Chemistry (until October 1966)

Lecturer, Psychology (until October 1966)

Associate Professor, Mathematics (until October 1966)

Chemistry Lecturer, Inorganic Chemistry (until January 1966)

Teacher, Social Work (until January 1967)

Senior Lecturer, Economics (until July 1966)

Senior Lecturer, Anatomy (until September 1966)

Senior Lecturer, Experimental Physics (until August 1966)

Hebrew University - continued

Dr. Bezalel Peleg University of Michigan Dept. of Mathematics Ann Arbor, Mich.

Dr. Joshua Prawer Brandeis University Department of History Waltham 54, Mass.

Dr. Gideon Rakavy
California Institute of Technology
(c/o Prof. W. Fowler)
Pasadena, Calif.

Dr. Menachem Simiony 514 Lodge Street West Lafayette, Indiana

Dr. Gabriel Stein c/o Chemistry Department Boston University Boston, Mass.

Dr. Trude Dothan
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton University
Einstein Drive 52
Princeton, N. J.

Dr. Simon Halkin c/o Abraham S. Halkin 895 West End Avenue New York, N. Y. 10025

Chava Lazarus-Jaife
Centre for the Study of World Religions
Harvard University
42 Francis Avenue, Apt. 12
Cambridge, Mass.

Lecturer, Mathematics (until August 1967)

Professor, Mediaeval History (until October, 1966)

Associate Professor, Theoretical Physics (until September 1966)

Instructor, Inorganic Chemistry

Professor, Physical Chemistry

Instructor, Archaeology (until August 1966)

Professor, Hebrew Literature (until June 1966)

Instructor, Oriental Studies (until June 1966) List "A"

Hebrew University - continued

Jacob Marder
Dept. of Physiology
State University at Buffalo
Buffalo, N. Y. 14214

Nadav Halevi Wharton School of Finance & Commerce University of Pennsylvania Philadelphia, Pa.

Moshe Piamenta
c/o Dept. of Near Eastern & African
Languages
University of California - Los Angeles
405 Hilgard
Los Angeles, California

Instructor, Zoology (until October 1967)

Instructor, Economics (until August 1966)

Senior Lecturer, Arabic Language (until October, 1966)



April 5, 1967 Mr. Philip Bernstein Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, Inc. 315 Park Avenue South New York, N. Y. 10010 Dear Phil: Here is a revised copy of the report complete with new introduction including most but not all of your suggestions. I can't take it much farther on my own and the next step is up to the C. J. F. W. F. I had a wonderful time with you all the other night and I want to thank you again for dinner. I look forward to seeing you soon. Sincerely, DANIEL JEREMY SILVER DJS:rvf

AMERICAN ISRAEL ACADEMIC EXCHANGE

Over the centuries the Jewish people have maintained close ties between their communities. Each has drawn strength from the other. Each has drawn wisdom and insight from the other. In the twelfth and thirteenth centuries the Arab Jewries taught Europe the technique of philosophic analysis. At the same time Byzantine and Spanish Jewry sent scholars and Judges to Egypt and Palestine and the Jewries of the Rhineland provided Spain with rabbinic leadership. The Jews have always been occupied with the binding of ties. This same responsibility rests on us today.

Two relatively young Jewries need to develop deep and abiding relationships. The Jewish communities of Israel and the United States are emotionally quite close, but as the drama of 1948 recedes into history, sentiment alone is neither deep anough nor meaningful enough as the central bond. These two Jewries are bound economically and in terms of tourism and travel. Such ties are important but they must be undergirded by understanding and sensitive awareness. Academic interchange offers a significant opportunity to establish useful ties. The scholar's world is world wide. Academic exchange is now and will remain for the foreseeable future a numerically significant factor. Academic life is increasingly central in the decision making process. More than ever before the academic mind molds public opinion. The possibility of a prolonged stay abroad offers a rare chance to meet, to understand and to develop empathy and respect. It remains for Jewry to structure these exchanges meaningfully.

This report examines existing relationships between American and Israeli Jewish University personnel on the undergraduate, graduate and staff levels. It assumes the importance of trained academic people who are aware of the attitudes and assumptions of life in another major Jewish community. Since they publish frequently and guide community thought, the sympathetic understanding of university personnel is strategic if these two major centers of Jewish life are to remain close.

There is no guarantee that an Israeli student in America or that an American Jewish student in Israel will understand American Jewish life the better for his experience. Throughout this paper the assumption is that the basic virtue of academic exchange is academic. The student goes abroad the complete his education. The professor goes abroad to lend his knowledge to another university or to do research there. We are not concerned with the opportunity to sow a few wild oats or enjoy a paid for vacation under the guise of a sabbatical leave; nor have we dealth with the numerous work-study and ad hoc professional programs which have been developed in Israel outside the adademic frame. These programs are extensive (last summer over 3,000 American Jews were involved) and deserve a separate study.

Educational traffic moves for academic reasons. However, the existence of this traffic makes possible the exposure of intellectual leaders of Israel to American Jewry and of America to Israel and the development of important personal ties. We believe that there are ways in which present programs can be made more effective towards these ends; but it is our fundamental assumption that these programs can not be sustained or made successful unless they are primarily scholarly in the objective.

For purposes of clarity this report is divided into four parts:

- 1. American undergraduate and pre-doctoral students in Israel.
- 2. American post-doctoral and staff people in Israel.
- 3. Israeli undergraduates and graduate students in the United States.
- 4. Israeli professors and research personnel in the United States.

1.

During the 1966-67 academic year there were some 800 American

Jewish undergraduates in full time academic residence in Israel. The

largest group is represented by some 400 young men studying at various

Yeshivot. Some of these students have been in Israel since their early teens
and may remain for a decade or more. Their program is strictly religious.

A significant number will remain permanently

There were some 350 undergraduates at the Hebrew University; about

20 at Bar-Ilan; 20 at the Rubin Academy of Music; 20 at HUC-JIR and The
Jewish Theological Seminary Teacher's Institute and another 20 scattered at

Tel Aviv University. The Technion and the Weizmann Institute. Less than

75 American Jews are involved in graduate studies, mostly at various teacher's
institutes (J. T. S., Hayim Greenberg, Mahon Gold). This figure does not
include 80 students who attended the summer study session of the American
Student Program and an undetermined number who attended other summer
institutes— most of them planned in cooperation with the Department of Education.
and Culture of the Jewish Agency.

Of the 350 American students at the Hebrew University about 136 were involved in the American Student Program which screens and processes undergraduates. The Office of Academic Affairs of the American Friends of the Hebrew University is now screening all undergraduate and graduate applicants for the university. This is a desirable policy because of the occasional student (perhaps 1 in 10) who seeks Israel as an ascape or for some other unhappy psychological reason. The percentage of women to men is two to one. This may be attributed to current draft deferment requirements and to the disproportionate concentration of women generally in liberal arts, education and social studies programs. Most of the students come from the upper one-half of their college class. Few represent the upper ten per cent. The cost of an academic year at the Hebrew University is estimated at \$2250.00 which is not markedly more than tuition at private colleges in the United States. The American Friends of Hebrew University indicates that 50% of the A.S.P. students receive partial scholarships.

Enrollment in the A.S. P. program requires the successful completion of two years of college work in the United States and "some elementrary knowledge of Hebrew." The student spends his first four months in Israel in an Ulpan. The Ulpan is not sufficiently advanced to qualify the student for full participation in University life. Students have felt so weak in Hebrew that they have chosen to complete their university program in English or French literature taught in English or French. To deal with the problem the University during the academic year 1966-67 made available parallel English language courses in such departments as archeology. Psychology. Political Science, Philosophy, Sociology. When, and if, the student's fluency level permits, he is transferred, from the parallel course to the regular offering.

There is the language barrier and a preparation gap. Currently the University offers ten courses to the foreign student in the area of Jewish Studies (and requires at least two).

- 1. Biblical Narrative in the Pentateuch
- 2. King and Prophet in the Bible
- 3, Rashi Commentary on the Bible
- 4. Ancient Jewish History
- 5. Introduction to the Mishna and Talmud
- 6. Introduction to the Midrash and Aggada
- 7. Motifs and Issues in Jewish Philosophy
- 8. Readings in Jewish Philosophy
- 9. Modern Hebrew Literature
- 10. Israel: The Land and its People

This program is separate and distinct from the regular offerings by the Department of Jewish Studies because of the high level of preparation by graduates of Israeli secondary schools in Jewish history and literature and because of language difficulties. Recommendation: These courses are traditionally conceived and by and large parallel courses now offered on American campuses which have Chairs of Jewish Studies and by local Colleges of Jewish Studies. The A.S.F. requirements should focus more on modern Israel - its literature - its politics - its culture, etc.

Dormitory space is made available to foreign students. According to Chaim Yahiel, Director of the Israel Foundation for Cultural Relations of World Jewsy, an additional 320 dormitory spaces are planned for the 1967-68 academic year. At present there are only 1300 dormitory spaces in Jerusalem and 4000 Israeli applicants. The priority given American students is resented by the Israelis and makes for some ill well. Recommendation: If this program is to continue, funds will have to be provided to build sufficient dormitory space for all non-Jerusalemites. The less costly solution, simply to build an International House,

would defeat the human interchange aspects of this program.

The American student comes ill-prepared for Israeli university life.

Campus life is largely unknown. Classes are lecture courses. Examinations are European in their comprehensiveness and their dislike of individual opinion.

The student is pretty much thrown on his own and despite real effort, not enough is yet done by the sounsellor for foreign students to help these adjustments.

The American Student Program seems to have grown like topsy on the pattern of the traditional Junior Year Abroad. A self study is currently being carried out by the A.S.P. program of its results. There are indications that 10% elect to pursue careers in Israel and that a number are encouraged to enter Jewish Education, the rabbinate, etc. after this experience. The question must be asked: How many came into the program so motivated. Academically there is little doubt that a student's course work is interrupted by this year unless he is a Religion, Hebrew or Jewish Education major. Recommendation: Despite the emotional pluses of this Junior Year project, it suffers from the traditional academic weaknesses of all such programs. The committee believes that more emphasis should be placed on work towards a degree at the Hebrew University and that the Junior Year Program be as far as possible self-sustaining. Scholarship menies should be reserved for degree bound students. Recommendation: It would seem desizable to increase the summer student program so that students can have the Hebrew University enrichment without interrupting their academic careers. Only in this way can large numbers of men be reached.

Recommendation: It would seem desirable that the University encourage graduate students in the field of Jewish Studies to get their advanced degree in Jerusalem. There are presently only 9 such students in Jerusalem. There is

no faculty in the United States which can offer as broad a Judaic curriculum. The increasing number of professors of Jewish Study on American campuses should be solicited for their premising students, and fellowship monies must be made available to them. The cost of these fellowships ought to be born by the American Jewish community, perhaps through the National Foundation for Jewish Culture. The Hebrew University should be encouraged to graduate these students promptly. In some departments, The Hebrew University suffers from the European tradition which withholds the doctoral degree inordinately.

Recommendation: The emphasis in this report is on educational experience within the frame of another culture. In line with this emphasis the proposed American College in Jerusalem should be discouraged. Cultural awareness is never gained in a foreign compound. An academic life apart is apart and not the life of the Israeli student. Available monies should be spent on Fellowships at existing institutions.

There are a very small number of graduate students in Israel, a few working on special projects at the Weizmann Institute and the Technion, some rabbinic students from Hebrew Union College and the Jewish Theological Seminary and a number of teachers. The students in science are pursuing specific projects. The rabbinic students receive a smattering of courses depending largely on the personnel from their own seminary in Israel that year. The program of the teacher's institutes is well designed for a specific professional goal. These programs are not necessarily coordinated with those of the university campus.

Recommendation: Strenuous efforts should be made to integrate these programs as much as possible into the classes of the university.

There are few American professors in residence in Israel although the number is increasing. The total number is no more than 40. scattered except for small groups at the Weizmann Institute, in the medical faculty of the University and at the Technion. These men have specific research or teaching assignments and seem well integrated. The small number involved results largely from pay differential and a certain haziness on the part of Israeli universities in bidding for services of such men. Salary, rank, library privileges, teaching responsibilities, departmental obligations, are routine elements in academic placement. The Israeli universities have depended for too long on fraternal concern. The University is also rather stiff in its curriculum and many American professors are disappointed by the lack of professor-student contact. It would be extremely valuable if the Hebrew University could offer one, two or three year appointments to able Jewish professors, especially in the social sciences and the liberal arts. When these men return to the United States, they can be most helpful as liaison people between the Israeli academic community and the American. While in Israel they would offer their skills and a certain tendency toward experimentation. The present policy of a number of academic colloquiums is to be encourated.

There is no provision in Jerusalem for the mature American Jew who wishes to involve himself with university life. An increasing number of rabbis, teachers, Federation professionals and Jewish social workers spend sabbaticals in Israel, or could be encouraged to do so. Recommendation: There should be an address in Jerusalem to which these people could write for housing and personal information as well as to make plans for auditing courses or personal research. Library

space here would be his study. The information collected by this center might suggest to the gradute schools of social work, archaeology, Jewish Studies, Contemporary Jewish History, etc. seminars which would interest the serious senior American communal leader.

3.

During the 1966-67 academic year there were 1600 undergraduate and graduate Israeli students in the United States: 50% were undergraduates. 75% were male. At least half had been in the United States for more than three years. most of these students pay their way and earn what little they can under existing American immigration laws. The financial problem is an acute one. Many supplement meager reserves by teaching in American religious schools but this practice has not been particularly successful either for the teachers or their students and should be discouraged. There are serious language and psychological barriers and the Israeli students are by and large not trained teachers.

The program of the Prime Minister's office to brief Israeli students before departure was discontinued in 1965 and to the best of our knowledge has not been reconstituted. At present there is little correlation between their course of study and Israel's needs for academic and trained personnel. The Israeli student is often naive in the choice of an American university. There is little useful information available to him in Israel as to the quality of various faculties, language and course requirements, etc. Recommendation: An overseas college placement and information bureau should be created in Jerusalem which would help the student with precedures, explain realistically the financial obligations, provide orientation and most importantly an English ulpan. Because of language weaknesses, the graduate student often does not do well on the required Graduate

Record Examination and is rejected by a first rate school. Students should come who need specific adademic opportunities not available in Israel.

Recommendation: Fellowship monies should be granted only to those students who are following courses of study approved by some competent governmental or academic board. Graduate students especially should be directed toward fields in which Israel can provide employment opportunity. In addition we have the distinct feeling that if the granting of degrees were speeded up in many fields many would not find it necessary to go abroad.

The Israeli student should be briefed on the structure of an American university. He brings with him the image of a European university and often neglects to take those actions which protect the interests of his own country.

Thus, on some campuses where Arab students have organized effectively, Israelis have stuck to their studies and not responded. Recommendation: Continuous contact ought to be maintained between Embassy cultural attaches and Israeli students. Some are lonely, some need guidance, all need help in adjusting to American institutions.

On his arrival the Israeli should be oriented to the United States. There is nothing in Israel to prepare him for the American Jewish community and he will not understand the community until he understands the larger environment.

Recommendation: A study should be made of Israeli students now on campus to determine what information they would have found most useful. Based on this information, the Jewish Agency or some other appropriate body in conjunction with Columbia or N. Y. U. should sponsor annually a two week orientation to America session in August for the arriving students. Only at the end of this session should any attempt be made to explain the American Jewish community.

The Israeli student should be encouraged to live outside the International

Houses and to be part of his campus. Will it or not he represents his home

country on the campus and he should be aware that American students expect

him to be political.

The opportunity differential being what it is, there is probably no way to halt yerideh. However, continuing contact with the Embassy and specific information as to job opportunities in Israel on graduation would be of assistance. There is need for further study in this area and it is hoped that the Kadushin study, "The non-returning foreign student; the Israeli case," can be integrated into this report.

ought to be for more than an afternoon lecture. Friendship is an important

There are approximately 80 Israeli post doctoral and university staff
personnel in the United States for an extended period during any academic year.

The primary interest of the visiting scholar is in his research and professional responsibilities, yet it ought to be possible to take greater advantage of their presence than is now taken. A professor of methematics goes to Columbia. No one else knows that he is in the country. Surely faculties of mathematics in other parts of the nation would be eager to invite him to lecture. His very presence in Texas or California would alert a number of men there to the level of Israeli scholarship.

America is a vast continent and there is a disproportionate representation of Israelis at a few large eastern campuses. The emphasis should be on diffusion.

Recommendation: It would be advisable to establish in New York City, an American Center for the Study of Contemporary Jewry. Israeli and other social and political scientists would find this address a focus for their study and enlarging

their contacts. Seminars and publications would complement the similar center in Jerusalem. A secondary responsibility of this center would be to maintain contact with Jewish academic personnel in all fields. A list ought to be maintained of interested staff contacts on the larger American campuses who could encourage the appropriate department to invite such a man to lecture in his area of expertise. The center would disseminate availability information and coordinate lecture schedules. These men become a visible symbol of scholarly J Jewish life. If their feild is in law or the social sciences their research is probably drawn from the Jewish scene and hence doubly useful. Scholarly ties are developed all to Israel's credit. Whenever possible visits to a university ought to be for more than an afternoon lecture. Friendship is an important part of the academic enterprise. On the professorial and on the academic level the Israeli's first contact should be with his academic counterparts.

The important thing is to bring over highly qualified people who will make their own way academically. We recognize the need in the American synagogue, community center, College of Jewish Studies, for specific academic personnel who can interpret their disciplines or Israel to the American Jew, but believe that this program should be handled separately and men brought specifically for that purpose. The JWB lecture bureau might beffectively coordinate this effort.

DANIEL JEREMY SILVER



CONSULATE GENERAL OF ISRAEL
936 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILLINO 8 60611

CHICAGO, ILLINO S 60611 PHONE (312) WH 3-0265 קונסוליה כללית של ישראל

May 11, 1967

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Rabbi Daniel Silver
The Temple University Circle
at Silver Park
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver,

In our last meeting we discussed the project of one year study in the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. I do remember well your comments and criticisms and

I take this opportunity to answer them.

1) Absorbing students from abroad dosen't mean that the Hebrew University becomes a tool of the Zionist activities of the state; at the same time it dosen't mean lowering the academic level of the University as well as absorbing foreign students in the Universities of Columbia, Michigan or California. This dosen't necessarily lower the level there.

2) The lack of the knowledge of hebrew is one of the difficulties of such students, but a special Ulpan and the special courses are implemented to solve these problems. The great number of American students who go to study one year in foreign countries and get the support of the American Universities only proves that despite the language barrier both the students and the University are happy with these programs.

3) Students who have come to Jerusalem from the United States up to 1967, included excellent, mediocre, and weak students. This year more severe admittance

regulations were inforced.

4) Lastly, we reached an agreement with the University of California for sending a group of students, each year, to study in the University.

With best regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Aviv Ekrony
Consul for Cultural Affairs

cc: Shlomit Levin, Hamerkaz Latefutsot

FEDERATIONS AND WELFARE FUNDS, INC. NATIONAL OFFICE: 315 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10010 TELEPHONE: AREA CODE 212, 673-8200 May 15, 1967 PRESIDENT LOUIS J. FOX, BALTIMORE VICE-PRESIDENTS DR. MAX W. BAY, LOS ANGELES MAX M. FISHER, DETROIT JOSEPH L. GEDWITZ, CHICAGO ALAH V. LOWENSTEIN, NEWARK EDWIN ROSERBERG, NEW YORK CECIL USHER, HONTREAL JUDGE NOCHEM B. WINNET, PHILADELPHIA BECHETARY MRS. JOSEPH COHEN, NEW ORLEANS TREASURER

> Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver The Temple University Circle at Silver Park Clevelland, Ohio 44106

Dear Daniel:

Since receiving the second draft of your report I've spoken to Syd Applebaum a couple of times. In my judgment, it is right to the point for the problem dealt with in your paper and is an example of what should be paralleled in other areas. Syd wanted to send you his own comments, but when I saw him again he had not yet done so, and I don't want to hold off on this any longer. He has been bogged down both by the responsibility he has taken on to help in the preparation for the Conference which the Prime Minister will call to deal with Israel's economic and welfare needs, and which will be held in Israel next spring. He is also taking his final exams at the Jewish Theological Seminary.

If you can tell me when you will be in New York, I'll try to set up a meeting where a small, appropriate group can sit with you, discuss your findings and recommendations, and plan concretely for the action which should flow from them.

You've set an example of the kind of serious probing into the specifics of the problem, and I am eager to see that the full benefits are realized.

With renewed and warmest thanks and regards,

Cordially,

PHILIP BERNSTEIN Executive Director

CARLOS L. IBRAELS, NEW YORK ASSISTANT TREASURER BENJAMIN LAZRUS, NEW YORK

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PHILIP BERNSTEIN

Septh general assembly

NOV. 15-19
1967
SHERATON
CLEVELAND
CLEVELAND

UNCA, OF JEWISH DENATIONS & WELLAND FUN PB:rk

May 17, 1967 Mr. Philip Bernstein Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, Inc. 315 Park Avenue, South New York, New York 10010 Dear Phil: I have no immediate plans to be in New York but I could make it on the following dates: Friday, June 2, Monday, June 5, or Friday, June 9th. Everyone here is well and we all send our love. DJS:mgm

CONCIL STATE FUNDS, INC. 315 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10010

May 26, 1967

Dear Dan:

I've been out of the city, got back today, and want to reply immediately to your note about a meeting date in New York. Friday, June 2, and Monday, June 5, are not possible. I have to check on June 9 -- as you can well imagine, a number of the people we would want to involve are completely absorbed in the Israel situation, just as I have been.

The first volume of your father's writings arrived and I've begun to read it. It's a treasure.

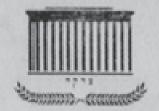
Joel just passed his doctoral oral exam yesterday and is on the final pages of his thesis -- so he's in the clear.

Florence sends her love to all of you.

Cordially,

PHILIP BERNSTEIN

Dr. Daniel J. Silver
The Temple
University Circle at Silver Park
Cleveland, Ohio 44106



The Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland

August 16, 1967

MEMORANDUM:

TO:

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

FROM:

LLOYD S. SCHWENGER, CHAIRMAN

CLEVELAND COMMITTEE FOR THE 1967 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

As you know, the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds will hold its annual General Assembly in Cleveland from November 15 through November 19, 1967.

During this period community leaders from all over the United States will come to Cleveland to participate in the deliberations.

Knowing of your interest in communal affairs, I am pleased to send you enclosed a copy of the preliminary program for this convention. I hope you will find the many sessions of interest to you. This advance schedule will give you an opportunity to select sessions you may wish to attend.

fr encl.

האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM

November 3, 1967

Rabbi Daniel J. Silver
The Temple
University Circle at Silver Park
Cleveland 6, Ohio
U.S.A.

Dear Daniel,

Thank you very much for sending me the offprint of your articls "Who Denounced the Moreh?" So far I've only had time to glance at it briefly, but it looks like a solid and fascinating piece of work.

I did manage to visit the United States for a few weeks last month, but my schedule was so tight that I couldn't even attempt to get in touch with you. We're making same progress in enlarging our overseas student programs, and I'm glad to say that we're getting a good deal of encouragement in this from Israeli sources, including the government.

What is happening with your report to the Council of Federations? Is it available yet? We are very interested, of course, in seeing it.

Keep well. A belated shana tova.

Cordially yours,

Dr. Yehezkel Cohen Dean of Students First Hebrew Congregation of Oakland

TEMPLE SINAI

2808 Summit Street . Oakland, California 94609 . 451-3263

Morris Henerson, Executive Director

Samuel G. Broude, Rabbi Sheldon P. Merel, Cansor

December 29, 1967

Rabbi Daniel Silver
The Temple
University Circle and Silver Park
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Dan,

Hope this finds you in good health and doing your usual excellent job.

I have received from Ed Paller a copy of your report to the CJFWF on the project of the Cleveland Federation in the poverty area. I am writing you to ascertain the following:

Do you have any additional information on the project, which you could send me?

Do you have available about a dozen copies of the report? I would like to share it with my colleagues here in the Bay Area.

I look forward to hearing from you - in the meantime regards to your family, and please say hello to Larry Forman.

cordially,

Rabbi Samuel G. Broude

January 3, 1968 Mr. Howard Burger Jewish Community Federation 1750 Euclid Avenue Cleveland, Ohio 44115 Dear Howard: The request in this letter from Rabbi Samuel G. Broude is self-explanatory. Can you be helpful to them? Sincerely, DANIEL JEREMY SILVER DJS:rvf

COUNTIL FEM SH FEDERATIONS AND WELFARE FUNDS, INC.
NATIONAL OFFICE: 318 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10010

TELEPHONE: AREA CODE 212, 673-8200

February 1, 1968

Fabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver The Temple University Circle at Silver Park Cleveland, Ohio 44106

Lear Rabbi Silver:

PRESIDENT

VICE-PRESIDENTS
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MORRIS GLASSER, CHICAGO
LAWRENCE E. IRELL, LOS ANGELES
MORRIS L. LEYINSON, NEW YORK
ALAN Y. LOWENSTEIN, ESSEX COUNTY
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JUDGE NOCHEM S. WINNET, PHILADELPHIA

SECRETARY MRS. JOSEPH COHEN, NEW ORLEANS

TREASURER CARLOS L. ISRAELS, NEW YORK

ASSISTANT TREASURERS BENJAMIN LAZRUS, NEW YORK MRS. A. LOUIS ORESMAN, NEW YORK

EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT PHILIP BERNSTEIN

We have now circulated the paper you presented at cur General Assembly to Federation professional and lay leaders.

This provides me with another opportunity to tell you how grateful we are for the contribution you made to the Assembly. The impressive description of actual projects undertaken provides excellent material for those who are concerned with how the Jewish community relates to programs and opportunities for achieving some progress in the war against poverty.

With warmest regards.

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Director of Community Planning

MB: fkr Encl (P vs P #10) Colfie Fwish FEDERATIONS AND WELFARE FUNDS. INC.
315 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10010
212, 673-8200

February 29, 1968

Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver The Temple University Circle Silver Park Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Fabbi Silver:

As you may know, I am staffing the Committee on College Youth and in that capacity I am planning a trip to Cleveland on March 11.

Bernard Olshansky of the Federation staff and a few others of our Committee plan to meet at lunch on that day. We plan to discuss local programs as well as national objectives.

Would it be possible for you to join us for lunch at the Federation?

Sincerely yours,

DAN ASHER

Consultant on College

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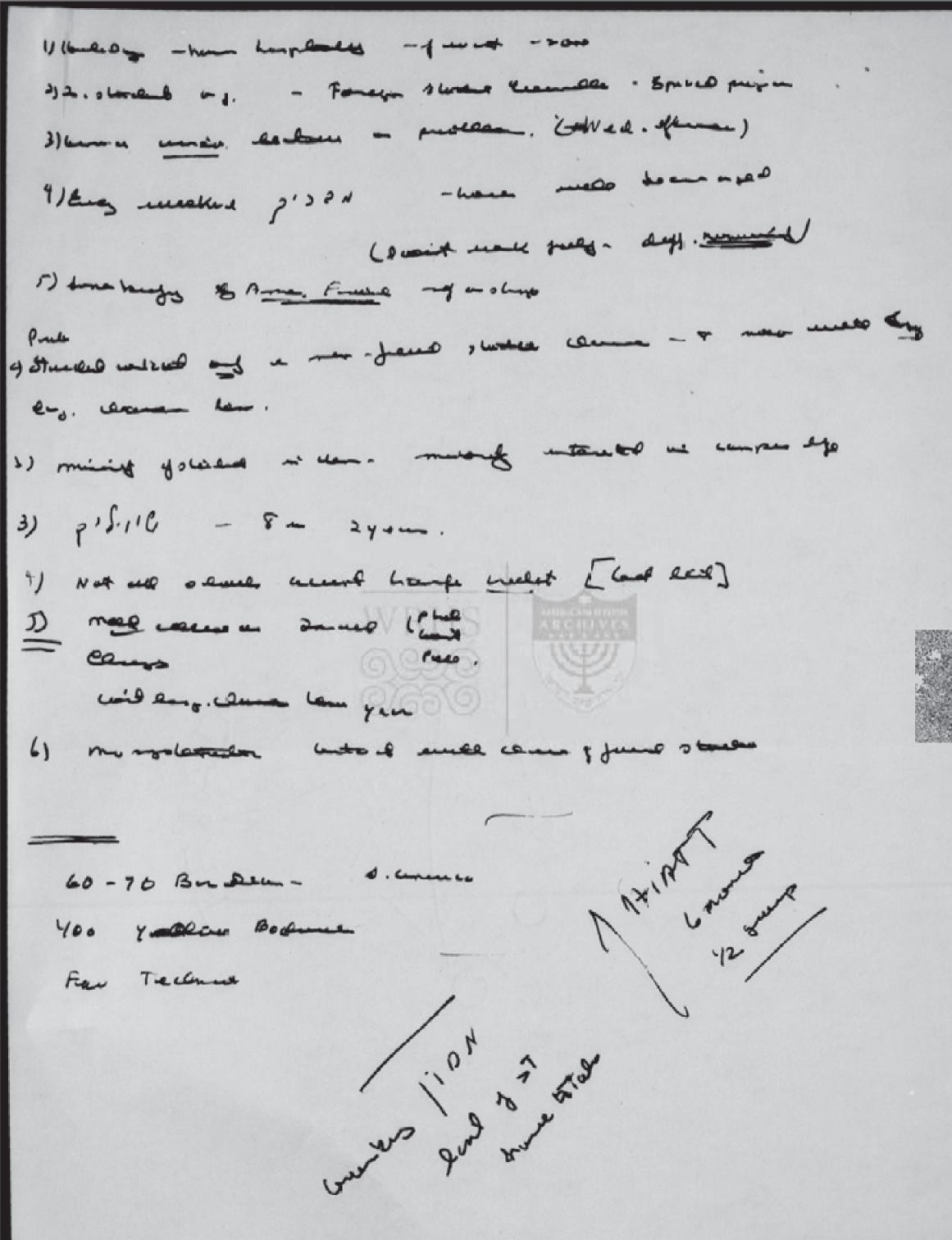
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STUDY ON AMERICAN-ISRAELI ACADEMIC EXCHANGE

Human beings cannot be mahaged - only rarely manipulated. No program can be constructed about American-Israeli reachings which guarantees the successful translation of feelings of values and information. The most that can be done is to change existing programs empirically and to suggest priorities based on need and feasibility.

This Committee was asked to investigate the traffic of academic personnel, both student and faculty, between Israel and the United States. It is our firm opinion that the overriding principle must be the appropriateness and the quality of the academic experience. An Israeli who is academically weak will not receive acceptance on his host campus. The doors will be shut to him and the virtue of having seen America is minimal. Similarly, the inappropriateness of the American student classes - that is their lack of top-grade requirement, is one of the reasons for the questioning of this undertaking. American students ought not to be sent to Israel who are not qualified in Hebrew before they go to Israel and whose academic standings are such as to make the level of their achievement questionable.

I - The American to Israel Exchange.

- (a) In the 1965-66 academic year there were some 300 undergraduate students in the Hebrew University of whom slightly less than one-half were on the American Student Program. The percentage of women to men was slightly less than 2 to 1. This is partially due to the draft, partially to heavy male concentration in the sciences and social sciences. In many of these disciplines there is no good reason for a student to spend the year abroad.
- (b) The students tend to come from the upper one-half of their American schools and to present a not overly large number of problem cases.
- (c) In addition to these students there are some 60 at Bar Ilan, a very few at Fel Aviv and Technion and some approximately 400 young men studying at various Yeshivot. American Undergraduates at Hebrew University are required to complete a first stage ulpan before they matriculate from classes. The ulpan does not prepare them for the regular courses at the University, consequently a special program in Jewish studies has

261 100

been devised and is taught in a simplified Hebrew. Students are urged to take a minimum of two such courses. They are free to choose other courses at the University. Far too many felt the language difficulty and took courses in French or Russian. In the 1966-67 academic year one or two english language courses will be taught in from six to ten (6-10) of the University Divisions.



September 8, 1966 Mr. Harold Manson American Friends of Hebrew University 11 E. 69th Street New York, N. Y. 10021

Dear Harold:

I understand that you are the effective head of the American students program here. Would you send down the practical details of the program. I need to incorporate them in a report to C. J. F. W. F. on American Israel academic relationship. My paper is the American version of what Moshe Davis is working on in Israel.

By the by, who is coming to the United States? I know Talmon is to be here. What are his dates? And who else?

Adele joins me in wishing you and yours a healthy and happy New Year. As always.

Sincerely,

DANIEL JEREMY SILVER

DJS:rvf

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MEETING ON AMERICAN JEWISH-ISRAEL UNDERSTANDING June 3, 1965 8:00 PM New York City

Present:

Philip Bernstein, Chairman

Kenneth Bialkin
General Aharon Doron
Ralph Goldman
Louis D. Horwitz
David Kochav
Mrs. Lucy Manoff
Herman Stein
Mrs. Mark Uveeler
Yehudah Shragai
Dr. Sheldon Singer

Absent:

Prof. Marver Bernstein Dr. Amitai Etzioni Mr. and Mrs. Milton Fried Prof. Eli Ginzberg Rabbi Jay Kaufman Dr. Bernard Mandelbaum

Mr. Bernstein expressed pleasure at the favorable response to the invitation to this first meeting of the group. He explained that the members were selected because of their experience and residence in both Israel and America.

He described the origin of the group, going back to the visits of the CJFWF Overseas Delegation to Israel, where considerable concern was expressed about the future of American Jewish-Israel relationships. This was particularly striking in the 1964 visit, with the feeling that the time is ripe to examine these relationships in depth and with continuity, with the belief that the relationship should not be merely that of benefactor and beneficiary. It was recognized that impressions received by tourists on both sides are often superficial and without real understanding.

Many Jewish groups are involved in many types of relationships, but no group is systematically examining the subject, with a sense of total perspective.

Israelis are concerned about the future relationships -and particularly about the possibility of a growing detachment. This
concern focuses in part on Israeli youth, who do not share the
attachments of their European-born parents and grandparents; and on
American youth, who likewise do not share the experience of their
European-born parents and grandparents.

Israelis likewise expressed concern about what is happening to American Jewish college youth, and about reports of intermarriage. For their part, Americans raise questions about issues of church-state in Israel, contrasts that confuse them regarding prosperity and poverty, relations with Arabs, etc.

The decision to bring together this group was reached at a meeting of the CJFWF Delegation with members of the Institute of Contemporary Jewry of the Hebrew University. It was agreed that two groups of perhaps 15 to 20 persons each should be formed, informally and unofficially, with each member serving in his personal capacity - one group in Israel and one in America. Each group would start to function independently. At a later stage the two could compare notes and then perhaps the two groups, or parts of them, could meet jointly.

The Israeli group began to meet in October 1964 and has held three sessions. They have formed subcommittees to explore specific questions. Professor Moshe Davis is its Chairman.

Mr. Bernstein asked each member of the group to summarize briefly his own relationship and experience with reference to Israel:

- Louis D. Horwitz -- lived in Israel as Director of JDC Malben from 1957 to 1963; now Director of the CJFWF Overseas Services Dept.
- Mrs. Manoff -- formerly Director of the Hebrew Arts Foundation; now Director of the Committee on Manpower Opportunities in Israel.
- Dr. Stein -- went to Israel in 1949 in connection with
 the movement of North African children, as a
 JDC staff member; then in 1957 in connection
 with the establishment of the Paul Baerwald
 School; currently, Dean of Western Reserve
 University School of Applied Social Sciences.
- Mr. Goldman -- lived in Israel, where he worked on the technical assistance program in the Prime Minister's Office for six years; then Director of the America-Israel Cultural Foundation; currently, Director of the Israel Education Fund.
- Mrs. Uveeler -- lived in Israel from 1921 to 1947; currently, doing university teaching.

Dr. Singer -- background in rabbinical training,
Hebrew teaching and psychology;
will settle in Israel later this year
to teach psychology at Tel Aviv University.

Mr. Shragai -- an Israeli, has lived in America for six years, helping to organize the tourist movement to Israel and has been studying at Columbia University, including writing on the subject of American Jewish-Israel Relations.

General Doron -- background in the Israeli Army, has been studying at Columbia University, will return soon to Israel to work in the field of education.

Mr. Kochav -- recently arrived from Israel in America; was in charge of economic planning in the Finance Ministry; is now on the staff of the World Bank in Washington.

Mr. Bialkin -- has been in Israel as a tourist and has maintained close personal and business relationships with Israelis in government and private enterprise; is an attorney.

Mr. Bernstein stated that those unable to be present at this first meeting had also responded very favorably to the formation of the group and to the prospect of participating in future sessions.

The group was asked to raise for discussion such points as seemed most important to them regarding American Jewish-Israel relations. All of the members participated, bringing out the following:

The group should seek to clarify issues and point ways to more meaningful relationships.

It is first necessary to identify and analyze the problems and issues, before discussing solutions.

It is necessary to ascertain what the facts are regarding these problems and issues; whether there are sufficient facts; what the gaps of information are; and how they can be filled. Too often such matters have been dealt with by slogans and generalities. There must be recognition both in America and in Israel of the lack of knowledge on important matters.

Knowledgeable and sensitive Americans are impressed during their visits to Israel with how little information regarding Jewish life is brought to the attention of the Israelis, and with the extent to which such information is lacking even among Israeli leaders. Israelis who visit America are struck by how different it is from the impressions they had in Israel.

Greater understanding may not necessarily bridge gaps and build closer relationships. People do not always approve of what they understand. Greater understanding may actually lead to greater distance.

Key questions are: what is the American Jew -- or, more accurately, what are American Jews like? And what are Israelis really like? There are marked differences. Israelis often look upon American Jews as members of a religious denomination, and on themselves as members of a nation, or as members of a national ethnic group. American Jews are compelled to develop an indigenous Jewish life in America, now that they are predominantly born in America of native-born parents, with the former European sources of Jewish life and culture destroyed. At the same time, Israel is developing an Israeli Jewish culture, not in an American image, nor in a European image.

American Jews are one of many minorities in a pluralistic society -- living in a more open society than they have known in the past. It is possible that there are values in this pluralism for Israel too, if these concepts, and the understanding of them, can be brought to Israel.

American Jews run the gamut from a lack of conviction regarding their Judaism, to deep commitment. It was said that in America Jews "live in a Christian culture and try to be Jews. In Israel Jews try to live like every other nation and still be Jews."

Further, on the question of what is a Jew, it was said that there are three approaches: (1) the religious, which to the Israeli is complicated, since it involves the Orthodox, Conservative and Feform, almost meaningless definitions in Israel. Some Israelis believe that it is essential for the American Jew to align himself to some kind of congregation, otherwise he is "nowhere." On the other hand, they believe that the Israeli's link to Judaism is natural, living and being educated there.

- (2) the philosophical and theoretical approach. This is meaningless to many Israelis, particularly to those from Oriental countries.
- (3) the practical approach involving specific and demonstrable elements.

It was stated that Israel depends on Eastern European sources of education, which are meaningless to a great part of the Israeli population. Many traditional approaches have nothing to do with modern Israel. To try to explain relationships of Israelis to American Jews would add an additional element of confusion to Israeli youth.

One of the changes taking place in Israel is the concern among leaders that a Jewish state in itself is not enough, and that more attention must be given to what the Jewish content of Israeli life will be.

Part of the problem, as noted, is the tremendous variety of differences among the American Jews. American Jewish communities are different from each other -- New York, New Orleans, San Francisco, and Chicago, for example. And there are vast differences among individual American Jews -- individually, culturally, educationally, economically, etc. The CJFWF is projecting the first comprehensive study of American Jewry to obtain some of the basic facts and to learn something more about the attitudes of American Jews -- the extent to which they identify with some form of Jewish life, and in what ways.

One of the changing facts is that many of the young generation of American Jews feel comfortable as Americans and as Jews. In a previous generation people often were leaders in Jewish life or in the general community, but not in both. Today, a Jew who is a leader in the total community is usually also a leader in Jewish life -- in fact, his Jewish leadership gives him greater prestige and importance in the general community.

In the light of these considerations on the differences of Jevish life in America and in Israel, there was extended discussion on relationships. Beyond gaps and shortcomings in understanding, reference was made as to whether there are "antagonisms" or "tensions" between American Jews and Israelis, or whether they are more accurately only "differences." A particular question is the feeling among Israelis regarding the fact that few American Jews have come to Israel to live. Many Israelis feel that they are in Israel to prepare it for all Jews. They read it in their newspapers and hear it on the radio. Some are said to regard American philanthropy as American Jewish "conscience money" because they have not gone to Israel. There is also the psychological reaction of people to receiving money. And there may be some feeling among Israelis about the hardships of those who came to Israel and the obligation of others to pay.

Israelis are brought up on an ideology regarding the independence of the Jewish people, building a state, and calling for immigration. It is natural for them, it was said, to feel that Israel is a place where the Jews should live. Israeli youth expect everyone to accept that idea. As they grow older, they realize that not everybody will come, but still feel they should. They believe that assistance is not only a matter of money. Israel is the Jewish homeland. "If everyone agrees, why don"t they come?" Youngeters ask why immigration from the United States is so small.

As American Jews in a free democracy identify themselves increasingly with America, it is feared that the link with Israelis may be weaker.

There is also concern about the lack of Jewish information and understanding among American Jewish youth. It was said that college youth have a "shocking" lack of information and understanding regarding Judaism and Israel.

One of the facts is that Israeli magazines and papers are mainly in Hebrew. There is no direct communication in them between Israeli and American youth.

The relationship between American Jews and Israelis was referred to as "brothers and sisters" rather than as a "marriage." "Marriage can result in divorce. American and Israeli Jews cannot be divorced."

It was said further "that the establishment of the State of Israel may mark a revival of international Judaism, giving it renewed vigor."

One of the questions is how to relate Israel to the total perspective of American Jews regarding Judaism and Jewishness. There are many elements in that perspective, and the State of Israel is one of them. The Jewish religion is another. Jewish communal life and Jewish communal organizations are still others. These elements have different relative importance for different people, and all of them must find their place among all of the influences that impinge on American Jews, including those of the American environment itself.

A problem pointed to is that "the basic contact between the two communities is an impersonal one." A problem is how to bring about greater direct personal contacts between Israelis and American Jews. Even the philanthropic relationship is impersonal. American Jews make contributions as individuals, but in Israel the recipients are organizations rather than individuals. The individual knows little about that philanthropy. He considers himself a worker and an earner.

Here in America, hundreds of Israeli students, and even officials, live for periods of time but do not have any contact with American Jewish life. They are islands of Israelis.

In examining these elements of relationships, a number of questions were posed:

What forces tend to draw American Jews and Israelis together?

What forces tend to widen the gaps?

What are American Jevish needs vis-a-vis Israel?

What are the needs of Israelis vis-a-vis American Jews?

What motivations underlie these needs?

What about the fact that one-half of Israel is of Asian and African origin -- a half which has virtually no representation in America nor contact with American Jews?

What are the mutual investments in the relationship between the American Jews and Israelis -- politically, financially, emotionally? What reciprocity is there? Who is getting what from whom? Who are the givers and who are the receivers?

What common denominators can be developed for American youth and Israeli youth?

What current channels are there for contacts between American Jews and Israelis:

- 1 -- Through what organization ?
- 2 -- With what substance?
- 3 -- Who is actually involved?

It was agreed that the next meeting should examine the channels for contacts, with a practical rather than a philosophical approach to the above questions; and that the next meeting should be held in September, at a date to be fixed.

In answer to the Chairman's question, several additional names were suggested to be invited to join in these discussions.

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March 6, 1968 Mr. Dan Asher Consultant on College Youth Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, Inc. 315 Park Avenue South New York, New York Dear Dan: Unfortunately I will be in New York City Monday, March 11th for a meeting of the Board of the National Foundation For Jewish Culture. Why don't you get from Harry Barron my New York schedule and we will plan to meet in the office one day. Sincerely, DJS:mgm Daniel Jeremy Silver