



Daniel Jeremy Silver Collection Digitization Project

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Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland, Israel Information
and Education Task Force, correspondence, memoranda, and
reports, 1969-1978.

April 1, 1971

DATES OF INTEREST TO THE CRC & I & E TASK FORCE

Thursday, April 1 Jewish Welfare Fund Opening Dinner - Senator William B. Saxbe, Speaker

(X) *Dr. Shubert Spero - "Mid East Crisis"- American Association of University Women - Special Meeting - Wayne Savings & Loan

Friday, April 2 Dr. Louis Rosenblum - "What Can We Do for Our Brothers in Russia?" - Temple Emanu El - 8:30 P.M.

*Arie Altman, Israeli political analyst - "What are Russia's Plans in the Middle East" - Temple on the Heights - 8:30 P.M.

Saturday, April 3 *Allan Morris - "Israel" - Boy Scouts of America - Ner Tamid Award - Annual Meeting - North Chagrin Reservation - 2:30 P.M.

Alvin Gray - "Soviet Jewry" - Jewish Community Welfare Council of Erie, Pa., Special meeting of Teen Organization - Anshe Hased Congregation - 10 A.M.

Sunday, April 4 Statewide Rally on Soviet Jewry - sponsored by Hillel & Ohio State Mobilization Re: Soviet Jewry - Columbus, Ohio - will be addressed by Governor Gilligan & Mayor Sensenbrenner

Monday, April 5 *I & E Steering Committee Meeting - The Temple - 8:30 A.M.

CRC Officers - Federation - 12 noon

*APPME Executive Committee Meeting - Home of Dr. Jerome J. DeCosse, 21200 Brantley Road - 8 P.M.

Tuesday, April 6 Housing Task Committee - Federation - 12 noon

(X) *Professor John Trevor - The Exchange Club - Pick Carter - 12 noon

(X) *WERE-Radio - Steve Clark--Electric News Magazine - Edwin Wright on Israeli-Arab Conflict - 6:15 P.M.

Wednesday, April 7 Housing Subcommittee of Cleveland Heights Assembly - Federation - 12 noon

Public Welfare - Federation - 12 noon

Thursday, April 8 *Mark Linzer & Linda Feldman, Oberlin College - Israel Kibbutz Program participants to be featured at Campaign Cabinet meeting - Federation - 12 noon

Friday, April 9 *NBC-TV-TODAY -- Rabbi Marc H. Tannenbaum, National Director of Interreligious Affairs of the American Jewish Committee will participate in discussion of ecumenism & interrelationships of Judaism and Christianity - 8:00 AM

(X) *WERE-Radio - Howie Lund--Morning Watch - Dr. John Trevor - Professor of Religion at Baldwin-Wallace on Israel - Arab conflict - 8:50 A.M.

April 1, 1971

DATES OF INTEREST TO CRC & I & E TASK FORCE

Saturday, April 10	First Day of Passover
Sunday, April 11	<p>*WKYC-TV - <u>Projects</u> - James Jennings, instructor in classics at the University of Akron special guest for visit of the historical Holy Land - Hosted by Ken Goodman - 8 A.M.</p> <p>Jewish Youth Council Speaker - "Soviet Jewry" - Masada of ZOA - Teen Agers Special Meeting on Soviet Jewry - Main Cleveland Heights Public Library, 2345 Lee Road, 2 P.M.</p>
Sunday, April 18	Ida Kaminska - Commemoration of Warsaw Ghetto uprising - program focusing on Soviet Jewry - Kangesser Hall, Park Synagogue - sponsored by JCC's Yiddish Cultural Committee - 7:30 P.M.
Monday, April 19	<p>*I & E Steering Committee Meeting - The Temple - 8:30 P.M.</p> <p>*Rabbi Shubert Spero - Colloquium on the Middle East - Hiram College - 2:10 P.M.</p>
Tuesday, April 20	<p>Urban Affairs Subcommittee - Federation - 12 noon</p> <p>② *Bennett Yanowitz - "Israel" - Council on World Affairs - Home of Mr. & Mrs. Fred Crosby, 2630 Richmond Road - 7:30 PM</p>
Wednesday, April 21	*Rabbi Rob Soloff - to speak at Baldwin-Wallace under sponsorship of the Jewish Chatauqua Society in the evening. Attempts being made to set up dinner with Jewish students prior to speech.
Friday, April 23	* <u>His Land</u> - being shown at Temple Eman El after Friday night service - approximately 9:15 P.M.
Sunday, April 25	<p>*Israel Independence Day - Salute to Israel Parade sponsored by Jewish Youth Council - starts at 3 P.M. at Severance Center - ending at Cain Park with rally.</p> <p>*Dr. Al Demb - "Mid East Crisis" - Business & Professional Hadassah - Hadassah House - 3 P.M.</p> <p>Alvin L. Gray - "Soviet Jewry" - Mayfield Hillcrest Synagogue - Couples Club - 9:00 A.M.</p>
Monday, April 26	Annual Ministers' Institute - Fairmount Temple - Guest Speaker--Dr. Jacob Neusnez
Thursday, April 29	Jewish Welfare Fund Campaign Closing Dinner
April 29 & 30	② *AIPAC - 12th Annual Policy Conference - Mayflower Hotel - Washington, D.C.
Friday, April 30	*B'Yachad Retreat
May 1 thru 3	Conference on "The Public Schools & American Democratic Pluralism - The Role of the Jewish Community" - Hotel Barbizon Plaza, N.Y.

April 1, 1971

DATES OF INTEREST TO THE CRC & I & E TASK FORCE

Monday, May 3

*I & E Steering Committee meeting - The Temple - 8:30 A.M.

CRC Officers - Federation - 12 noon

Wednesday, May 5

(X) *WERE-Radio - Steve Clark--Electric News Magazine - Sy Kenen
- Middle East - (on tape) 6:00 P.M.

(X) *Si Kenen - Student Union--Wilder Hall, Oberlin College -
with students & faculty bussed in from Baldwin-Wallace -
7:30 P.M.

Thursday, May 6

(X) *WERE-Radio - Howie Lund--Morning Watch - Si Kenen on Middle
East - 8:50 A.M.

(X) *Si Kenen - addressing faculty-student brunch, CWRU & guests
from John Carroll - 11:30 A.M.

(X) *Si Kenen - Cleveland State University address with faculty
guests from CCC - 2:00 P.M.

(X) *Si Kenen - Kent State University Student Union address with
faculty & students bussed in from Hiram College



*Dates of special interest to I & E Task Force

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*Exel
Schwartz*

A G E N D A

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
I & E TASK FORCE

Monday Morning, April 5, 1971
The Temple, 8:30 A.M.

Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver, Chairman, Presiding

I. INTERNATIONAL SITUATION

II. ROUND UP COMMUNITY CALENDAR

III. REPORTS

- A. Plans for AIPAC meeting April 29th - 30th - Harry Stone can report.
- B. Distribution of literature at Severance Center - UJA Time Capsule - David Sarnat can report.
- C. Status of FYI (at printer's) - Bob Silverman can report.
- D. Joint programs with Tel Aviv University - SASS and Kent State - Howard Berger or Howard Rieger can report.
- E. Speakers Bureau - Ashland College - Professor Trevor - Contacts with Baldwin Wallace College by HLZ and appearance of Rabbi Spero
- F. Monitoring Activity
 - 1. New talk show monitoring group under chairmanship of Maxine Levin.
 - 2. American Jewish Congress revitalizing new letter writing group.
- G. Lake Erie College Project - Kibbutz - David Lev can report
- H. Replacement of shaliach and college coordinator - Howard Berger can report

IV. ACTION - Subvention of college students

The Committee will recall there have been requests for financial assistance by college students who want to spend at least the summer in Israel. One of our principals is to try to help as many young people as possible reach Israel and yet there are no particular guidelines established for assisting specific individuals who are not part of Task Force Programs. Are there ways we should be assisting?

One suggestion at a previous meeting was that we may find a way to reduce the cost of the plane fare. Inquiries indicated that no charter flights are allowed to fly into Israel. The local El Al office suggests the following:

A charter flight to Paris with approximately 120 people be engaged. The approximate cost round trip -- \$250.00 per person.

Individuals then continue to fly from Paris to Tel Aviv on a student rate with El Al with the round trip cost being \$144.00 per person.

Or, a total of \$394.00 round trip against the regular El Al price of \$575.00

We have learned that Detroit is discussing the same problem. Conversations with Detroit and with the American Zionist Youth Foundation might prove feasible along these lines.

V. NEXT MEETING DATE - Monday morning, 8:30 A.M., April 19th.

Two principal agenda items. Consideration of David Lev's final report, which will be distributed to Steering Committee members in advance and initial discussion of the application for further funding beyond June 31st from the Endowment Fund so that the Program of the Task Force can be continued.

VI. POSSIBLE DATES FOR FULL COMMITTEE MEETING - Please consider Monday, May 3rd and Thursday, May 6th. This meeting has to be held prior to the Endowment Fund Committee meeting of the Federation scheduled in May.

A G E N D A

Steering Committee
Israel I & E Task Force

Thursday, April 22, 1971
The Temple, 8:30 A.M.

Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver, Chairman, Presiding

I. INTERNATIONAL SITUATION

II. COMMUNITY CALENDAR

III. REVIEW OF I & E BUDGET AND DISCUSSION OF REQUEST TO ENDOWMENT FUND

Up to date ~~recaps~~ ^{will be} ~~will be available~~ ^{being} for the Steering Committee's review. This should provide some guidelines as to a recommendation from the Steering Committee to the full Task Force meeting May 3rd, which in turn will be presented to the Endowment Fund Committee meeting May 19th.

IV. COMMUNITY SHALIACH

David Lev's report is completed and ~~has~~ ^{is being} reproduced. It ~~is~~ ^{will be} available for distribution to the Task Force in preparation for the May 3rd meeting ~~and~~ ~~copies are available for distribution to the Steering Committee at this time.~~

On T { Suggestions and comments are encouraged. Committee members will recall that the Steering Committee decided unanimously it did wish to engage a community shaliach for the next two years and Federation Staff has started to negotiate with the American Zionist Youth Foundation.

V. NOTIFICATION REGARDING AIPAC MEETING IN WASHINGTON APRIL 29th

Letters of invitation have gone out and a number of people have signified their intention of attending. Howard Berger can report on who those people are and specific efforts that are being made in order to encourage the attendance of our local congressmen and senators.

Leon Weinman

VI. REACTION TO HIGHLIGHTS

The HIGHLIGHTS mailing with a new format recently was distributed. This seems to be a much livelier piece and we are already accumulating material for the next issue. Suggestions are welcome as to how to continue to improve it. Committee members will recall we had decided to experiment with six issues on a monthly basis.

VII. SUGGESTED COMMUNITY MEETING DIRECTED TO WOMEN

Mrs. Roy Eckardt, co-author along with her husband of several books dealing with the Mideast in a very friendly manner, is available the latter part of May to talk to a group in Cleveland. It would seem that she would be especially effective with a group of women. The staff is prepared to follow through and work this out with the American Jewish Committee, who have indicated interest, if there are no objections from the Steering Committee.

VIII. DISCUSSION OF DR. TREVOR

Hank Zucker has been in touch with Dr. Bonds of Baldwin-Wallace about Dr. Trevor and some of his recent pronouncements about Israel. There is agreement that Dr. Trevor appears to have picked up a persecution complex. The decision to be made is whether or not we should take a much stronger stance with members of the news media and the non-Jewish clergy, indicating that we have had just about enough of Dr. Trevor and if they won't police their own ranks, we will start to take a much more aggressive stance.

IX. JAPANESE BOYCOTT

There seems to be no question that several Japanese firms are part of the Arab Boycott. The Conference of American Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations has suggested that communities take a stance on this matter and make known their

feelings to appropriate individuals. They are not at this time calling for actual boycotts, merely expressions of concern. Does the Committee have any suggestions to make at this time regarding this matter?

rb





The Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland

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April 27, 1971

MEMORANDUM

TO: Israel Information and Education Task Force

FROM: Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver, Chairman
Nelson Stern, Co-Chairman

This is a reminder of the I & E Task Force meeting to be held this coming Monday Evening, May 3rd at The Temple Branch, 26000 Shaker Boulevard at 8:15 P.M.

We are enclosing two pieces of information as background for the meeting:

1. A report from our Community Shaliach, David Lev, covering his two year experience in Cleveland which is coming to a close within the next few months.
2. An excerpt from a recent memo from the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council which succinctly brings us up-to-date on current Mid-East negotiations.

In addition to the aforementioned, we will be receiving a report of the Annual AIPAC Meeting to be held in Washington this weekend and will be reviewing our request to the Endowment Fund Committee for further financing of our Task Force Program.

We hope that you will make every effort to attend this meeting. Our meetings are held infrequently and we can promise you a full agenda with many interesting aspects.

Thank you.

rb

[Apr 28, 1971]

TO: Israel Information and Education Task Force

FROM: David Lev, Community Shaliach

BACKGROUND

Our coming to Cleveland was co-sponsored by the American Zionist Youth Foundation, the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland and the Jewish Community Center of Cleveland. Expenses have been shared by the AZYF which pays for transportation, living allowance, medical care and incidentals (outside of Cleveland), the Federation which pays for mail, telephones, printing, secretarial help and incidentals in Cleveland and the JCC which furnished housing.

Duties in the Cleveland area have been to work with Jewish young people in order to strengthen their understanding of Israel. Working under the assumption that a trip to Israel combined with an educational program is an extremely effective vehicle for heightening Jewish awareness and increasing knowledge and concern about Jewish life and Jewish survival - we did everything in our power to encourage large numbers of suitable young people to visit Israel. The other aspect of our assignment was to work with the college community in order to mobilize students for programs focusing on Israel and combatting Arab propaganda.

Doing our job we tried to work behind the scenes, supplying the students with ideas, knowledge and information and making ourselves available to share our experience. At the same time we tried to create means by which the work will continue even without our presence if absolutely necessary.

We arrived in Cleveland on September 1, 1969. It was immediately apparent that some time needed to be spent in orientation both for ourselves and the community. Cleveland never had such a "shaliach" and the "shaliach" never had such a job.

This report covers the time between September 1, 1969 and April 30, 1971.

ISRAELI PROGRAMS

During this period we assisted some 450 students to visit Israel on one of the many work, study and travel programs. Out of this number 19% went for a year in Israel, 16% for six months and 65% for less than six months.

The year long programs included study in one of the universities or high schools in Israel, or joining the Sherut La'Am Program, where college graduates volunteer (similar to the Peace Corps) to work for nine months in new development areas with new immigrants after going through a seminar and studying Hebrew for three months. Among shorter programs are a six month kibbutz Ulpan program where participants work half a day and study Hebrew for half a day. The shortest programs (8 to 10 weeks) are summer programs. Many students joined the Archaeological Dig, Summer in Kibbutz Program, Folk Dance Institute, Israeli Art Seminar, Leadership Training Seminar and College Summer Session. Many of the students decided to go to Israel, not in a group, but working as temporary workers on different kibbutzim, and touring the country on their own.

In addition to the 450 students who went or are still in Israel, some 60 students have been accepted to one of the summer programs for '71 and will be leaving for Israel at the end of June and the beginning of July. Many are now being processed

and this number grows from day to day. We still have some 150 pending applications and hope that out of these a large number will visit Israel in the near future.

Almost every one of these students was interviewed. Together with the number of students which were rejected and those who decided for various reasons at the last moment not to go we interviewed altogether approximately 600 to 700 students. An interview takes between half an hour to three hours and can need from one to three sessions. In addition to the interview, every Sherut La'Am participant undertook a psychological test and interview by a trained social worker, which was done with cooperation of Jewish Community Center staff. Every student and his parents applying for study in an Israeli high school needed to be interviewed separately and followed up with an interview together.

During the interview, we attempted to detect psychological and/or drug problems and those whose trip included stay on a kibbutz needed to be made aware of the different problems they might encounter in such an experience. The kibbutz structure, the importance of work, food, accommodations, social adjustment, drugs were described in detail. We talked about the city life in Israel, meeting Arabs, the problems of integration of new immigrants. These interviews, in addition to educating the individuals being interviewed, provided for myself a unique insight into the life of American Jewish families.

Prior to summer departure date, we sponsored for all participants a seminar which included films on Israel and a description of life in that country. Ample opportunity was provided for asking questions.

We prepared an interview evaluation on every participant, gathered together medical forms, questionnaires, money, personal effects and arranged for these items to be transmitted to the proper authorities and received in return letters of acceptance, flight information and such data. From spring until student departure in mid-summer, our activity is largely occupied with this kind of detail work.

In order to promote Israeli Programs, we mailed direct information to over 7,000 students. In some cases, more than one mailing was accomplished. Information was disseminated to all the Hillels on the local campuses, placement departments of the universities, the temples and synagogues and counselors in high schools. We published advertisements in student newspapers, the Cleveland Jewish News, agency and synagogue bulletins.

While students were in Israel, we were called upon from time to time to be helpful in helping solve specific problems which occurred and which were brought to our attention by their parents.

It should be pointed out that there are some difficulties involved in interviewing candidates for these programs. Most of them were unable to come to our office during regular working hours. Consequently, a number of these were interviewed at night or during weekends. We interviewed students on the campuses in placement offices of universities. In some instances, especially at Kent and Case Western Reserve, we were able to stipulate interviewing hours. Other campuses, including Oberlin, were visited on a more sporadic basis whenever the need or occasion warranted.

In the fall, upon the return of summer program participants, a questionnaire was distributed. Thirty seven expressed their wish to share their experiences in Israel by talking to different groups. Some of these were interested in speaking to high school students, some to college students, some to adults and the others

(Apr 28, 1971)

to various youth movements and, of course, a significant number were interested in appearing on mass media. This does not include 29 participants of the Bureau of Jewish Education tour who also expressed their desire to speak and who did not respond to this question on the questionnaire knowing that we knew of their involvement. The names of all students interested in speaking have been transmitted to the Jewish Community Federation's Speakers Bureau.

Forty eight participants expressed their interests in joining a group of alumni of Israeli Programs. These names have been given to the Zionist youth movements of the community and many of these are becoming involved in activities on campuses.

Sixty three were interested in receiving literature on Israel. Their names have been put on a special mailing list.

A number of meetings were arranged with returnees. We met with a group at Kent State University, and at Case Western Reserve University Hillel we met with students from Cuyahoga Community College and Cleveland State University. We met with high school students at the Jewish Community Center. In these meetings we attempted to evaluate their experiences in Israel and to continue the personal contact.

Prior to leaving for Israel, three students did appear on a local TV show, and upon return two panels of three students each appeared again on TV and an additional group appeared on radio telling about their experiences in Israel.

We believe that the experience of visiting Israel is one of the most intensive and serious ways of educating our young people and bringing them closer to their Jewishness and to Israel both from a rational and emotional point of view.

It may be that the economic situation in the United States and lack of financial assistance for those who want to experience Israel and are unable to do so because of lack of money will diminish the numbers of participants in trips in the immediate future, but our hope remains that by the end of the summer of 1971 there will be from 600 to 800 students in Cleveland who have during the past two years experienced Israel. This is a fact that will make our future work on the campuses and in our communities much easier.

WORK ON THE COLLEGE CAMPUSES

We are making a distinction in evaluating our work between the period prior to the Kent State University tragedy and the period from that time to the present.

Prior to the Kent State tragedy, most of the students were strongly involved politically and were willing to be organized for different causes to participate in meetings, workshops and demonstrations.

After May, 1970, there was a distinct shift in attitude. Most of the students were not interested any longer in political activity, organizations, meetings and it became practically impossible to create any kind of climate which lent itself to organizational development. This is the situation remaining at this particular time although it is impossible to predict whether such a pervasive attitude will continue. Many students have expressed feelings that the mood on the campus will shift once again but this is speculation. In more precise terms, if we saw our problem before May, 1970 as saving the Jewish students from any groups or influences which might cause them to lose their Jewishness, the problem now would be to involve the apathetic student in almost any activity, and this would include Jewish activity as well.

Prior to May, 1970, it was possible to organize in a relatively easy fashion several pro-Israeli groups on the campuses. At Case Western Reserve University, a group of 30-40 students organized into a University Committee for Israel. At Kent State, some 20-30 students were organized into a committee for Peace and Democracy in the Middle East. At Oberlin, there existed a strong group of alumni of Oberlin College Hebrew House individuals which continued being active as a group.

Numerous activities including lectures, literature tables, monitoring Arab and pro-Arab activities were formulated. We participated in a special two day seminar for campus leadership with participation of over 30 students from five colleges. Also participating and talking about problems in the Middle East were Bennet Kleinman and Mr. Leor, Consul of Information from the Israel Consulate in Chicago. Their focus was to provide the students with information to counteract pro-Arab activity and information on the campuses.

Beginning with the current academic year, it became increasingly difficult to organize groups who would be meeting on a regular basis. Consequently, we shifted to working with a nucleus of students who are active only when there is a special need for a special activity. In working with these individuals and with small Jewish groups on the campuses, the need for coordination between the different campuses became apparent, and we participated in the creation of a Northern Ohio Union of Jewish Students which now has contacts on approximately 16 campuses in northern Ohio (north of Columbus including Ohio State University), and one of whose purposes is the publishing of a Jewish Students Newspaper. It is also interested in programming for movies, speakers and similar activities. Two editions of the newspaper have been published and a third is expected to be distributed shortly. It is still early to judge if this will be the proper vehicle for youth themselves to join together to heighten their own awareness of their Judaism, and if this organization can be the tool to reach out to masses of indifferent Jewish students. Indications at the moment are encouraging.

CAMPUS INFORMATION

We stimulated the appearance of a number of speakers on the campuses, among whom were Israeli's Ben Aharon, First Secretary of the Embassy in Washington, Y. Leor, Consul for Information from the Consulate in Chicago, E. Lador, the Cultural Consul from the Consulate in Chicago, Kamal Munsur, a Druz journalist, M. Soshar, a spokesman for the West Bank Military Government and numerous others, each of whom spoke on several campuses and met with students and faculty members.

We maintained in our possession approximately 90 different publications. Such material often needed to be updated in order to have current student appeal and needed to be specially fashioned and directed to different age groups and interest groups. Special material was needed for the New Left, different material for distribution during Arab activities, non-political and positive information for the general public, specially written material for church groups, etc.

We distributed thousands of leaflets, brochures, booklets either directly to interested students and/or faculty members. We did this in some cases by setting up information tables stacked with literature in student union halls, by posting on bulletin boards, and handing out to students during any activities directed to the Mid East.

[Apr 28, 1971]

ISRAELI STUDENTS ORGANIZATION

Working cooperatively with the Jewish Community Center, we assisted the Israeli Students Organization which in turn was a tremendous help in our work on the campuses.

This organization comprises approximately 40 members, the majority of whom are medical doctors who practice in local hospitals or are involved in post-doctorate research, especially in chemistry. There are also a number of these students who are working towards their doctorate degrees and some undergraduates. Within this group we organized and cooperated with Israeli teachers who are in Cleveland as a result of a program of the Department of Education of the Jewish Agency.

Many members of the Israeli Students Organization are knowledgeable in regard to the Middle East and are ready and willing to participate in any way that they can be helpful. Our office supplied them with information about Israel, arranged meetings with out of town Israeli guests and utilized their activity in several activities which were anti-Israeli in nature. In many cases, their presence was important and decisive.

We worked with the Speakers Bureau of the Israeli Student Organization and scheduled members to speak before diverse groups including classes at Kent State University, Case Western Reserve University Medical School, Case Western Reserve University Department of Architecture, Case Western Reserve University Law School, Oberlin College, high schools, and various Jewish and non-Jewish organizations. We also made arrangements for their appearance with the mass media. This activity is in variance with their regular activities which consist primarily of social gatherings especially at the time of the holidays and conducting Hebrew lessons for their children.

Because of age and language barriers, contacts by Israeli students with American students is often negligible, and by and large, they do not participate in campus extra-curricular activities, but in these instances their contribution in combatting Arab propaganda on the campuses was significant.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

We cooperated with and assisted local youth organizations with Israel programming. In this context the organization of the Jewish Youth Council under the direction of Leonard Rubin, Director of Extension Program of the JCC, played an important part in directing youth movements toward more Jewish orientation. As added assistance, we accepted speaking engagements with high school groups of temples, B'nai B'rith Youth Organization, public schools and numerous other varied groupings.

The Zionist Youth Movement was extremely helpful in the interpretation of Israel to many young people. Recently the Zionist groups of Habonim, B'nai Akiva, Hashachar and Massada have formed a Zionist Youth Council, and we have served as a resource for this group. They have already scheduled one seminar and are preparing to hold another which will focus on Zionist ideology in the seventies and which it is hoped will continue to encourage their participation in further activity of the American Zionist Federation.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

There has been participation in a number of special projects which deserve mentioning. These include the following:

Oberlin Hebrew House

Last year, during January, 30 students conducted a Hebrew House at Oberlin College. They lived together for a month, studied Hebrew, heard lectures about different aspects of Israeli life, participated in Israeli cultural events and in general received a much deeper understanding of what life in Israel consists of. We helped with the planning, the scheduling of speakers and in locating an Israeli resident.

Case Western Reserve University Hebrew House

Here also we assisted with the program in locating a resident, counselor, providing literature, scheduling speakers and acting as a general resource for the project. Leonard Rubin of the Jewish Community Center was the prime staff person in the development of this program.

Oberlin and Case Western Reserve University Intersession Program in Israel

A group of 37 students from Case Western Reserve and Oberlin spent intersession 1971 in Israel for a 30 day work study tour program. They worked on a kibbutz, participated in a seminar in Jerusalem and toured the Negev. We were involved in the initiation and development of the program and in cooperation with the American Zionist Youth Foundation assisted in planning and executing the project. We were involved in locating participants at Case Western Reserve and were instrumental in making the contact between that group and students from Oberlin.

Lake Erie College Winter Center in Israel

Eight non-Jewish girls visited Israel for a work study program of ten weeks from Lake Erie College. This program received widespread national coverage through local newspapers, the New York Times and TV in the New York area. The students went through serious preparation meeting together for a number of weeks for two hour periods in preparing themselves for the trip. Mrs. Adrian Fink was very active in the formation of this project at Lake Erie College. The program was assisted in its development through the cooperation of the Kibbutz Aliyah Desk and direct contact with Kibbutz Barkai.

1970 Israel Independence Day Celebration

Last year we were active and participated in the march and rally that took place in Cain Park expressing solidarity on the part of many young people with Israel. We estimate that approximately 3,000 youth participated in the march and rally. It was organized by the JCC staff and co-sponsored with the Cleveland Zionist Council. We were active in the creation of the idea, assisted in the plans and helped provide the speakers.

Student Mobilization Committee

In the winter of 1969-70, the National Convention of the Student Mobilization Committee was held in Cleveland. Several thousand delegates from all over the United States converged in Cleveland, and although the convention was geared to anti-Vietnam War activity, some leftist groups attempted to pass a strong anti-Israel resolution. By quickly mobilizing a group of Israeli students and

[Apr 28, 1971]

local pro-Israel Jewish students, it was possible to block the passing of such a resolution. This incident is noteworthy in that it was one of the very few times that an anti-Israel resolution has been bypassed and not passed by such a group.

Pompidou Demonstration

We cooperated in the organizing of a group of 47 students from five campuses. We traveled to Chicago to demonstrate in connection with the visit of French Premier Pompidou. Not only was the demonstration itself considered a success, but the 14 hour bus ride served to advance cooperation and communication between involved students from different campuses in this area.

Avivim School Bus Incident

On the occasion of terrorists on the Avivim School Bus which killed eight children and wounded many more, we cooperated with the Bureau of Jewish Education in the draping of all its school buses in black and in passing leaflets to interested people in various locations throughout Cleveland. With the assistance of B'nai Akiva members, this activity received considerable TV and radio coverage.

Petitioning for the Release of Prisoners

Hundreds of faculty members and students signed petitions for the release of an Israeli professor and his friend who had been hijacked and kept prisoners by the Syrians. An Ad Hoc Student Committee committed to freedom for the Damascus 2 was formed and for a period of time was extremely active on the campus. We assisted this committee in every possible way.

Students on Vacation Visiting Cleveland

We were involved in and actively assisted the education and knowledge of Israel on the part of Cleveland students who returned from out of town colleges to their homes for vacation periods. We met with several such groups, one being a Park Synagogue students group which expressed a strong desire to spend more of their vacation time directed to Israeli activity.

Combatting Arab and New Left Anti-Israeli Propaganda

With the assistance of Israeli students and numerous American Jewish students, we attempted to monitor all anti-Israeli activities in order to present our point of view, but at the same time being careful not to perform in such a way that we merely added to the audience. There are indications that several anti-Israeli activities did not take place through knowledge that they would be monitored and an opposition voice raised. From time to time letters were forwarded to the editors of college newspapers and subsequently published, and efforts were made to encourage equal time to pro-Israeli information on college radio and TV stations.

Developing Leadership on the Campuses

One of our goals was an attempt to develop leadership among Jewish students on the campuses. Students possessing leadership qualifications were encouraged to attend leadership conferences in Washington, regional meetings in Chicago, meetings with the Prime Minister of Israel, Mrs. Golda Meir, in New York and through the assistance of the Israel Information and Education Task Force several students were assisted in attending a Leadership Training Seminar in Israel.

COOPERATION WITH THE JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

Our offices were located at the Jewish Community Center and we worked in close cooperation with its staff. Everything possible was done to assist us in our work. Because the primary thrust of our work was focused on the college campuses and in developing interest in short-term educational experiences and trips to Israel, it was not possible to provide the JCC with all the services which the Center might desire and, indeed, deserve.

At the JCC, we spoke to many groups regarding Israel. Such groups ranged from Golden Agers, Young Adult, Singles, Women, to special interest groups and others interested in Israel. Among the topics discussed were "the political problems in Israel", "women in Israel" and various additional rather generalized pictures of life in Israel. We participated in a bi-weekly program "Let's Talk Israel" in which lecturers discussed various topics about the Mid East. As heretofore mentioned, we were not able to assist the various JCC departments in Israeli programming. Presumably this deserves a separate Israeli shaliach who will come bringing expertise in this field and could devote all his time to the Jewish Community Center.

RELATIONSHIPS WITH HILLEL ORGANIZATIONS

Wherever possible, we have attempted to assist Hillel with their Israeli programming. We participate regularly in their staff meetings and have received the use of the Hillel building and Rabbi Marcus' cooperation in all of our activities. We believe the same spirit of cooperation exists with the Hillel directors and staff of all the area colleges. It should be pointed out that there is some strain in relationships between students associated with Hillel and non-Hillel students at Kent State University, but some of this has been able to be bridged through staff effort. We have tried to continue to help build better relationships at Kent in our own programming and hope that some evidences of this have shown through in programming around Israel which has been a common denominator in the interests of both groups.

SERVICE TO ADULT GROUPS

It is realized that this aspect of our work does not carry top priority. At the same time it was impossible to remain separate from the mainstream of Jewish communal life in Cleveland, and we received many, many requests to talk on Israel. Although we did not divert any appreciable time to the introduction of Israel to Jewish and non-Jewish adult groups, it was a part of our performance and needs to be mentioned in this report. Speaking engagements covered a wide range and included among others the Cleveland Histadrut Organization, Pioneer Women, the Jewish Community Center staff, the JCC Public Affairs Committee, chapters of Hadassah, chapters of B'nai B'rith Lodges, Mizrahi chapters, a church in Lorain, scientists at NASA, faculty at Case Western Reserve University Law School, Young Leadership Groups in Cleveland and Canton, and numerous other organizations. The subject matter of various presentations included "Ideology of Youth in Israel", "Memories of a Judge in Occupied Territories", "Prospects of Peace in the Middle East", "Education in the Kibbutz", "Eichman's Trial" and "Current Events" which covered a variety of topics. Even a lecture was provided to a group of local lawyers on "Introduction to Israeli Law".

There were various appearances on the Alan Douglas Show, on WCLV, WHK, WXEN and a radio station in Canton. Articles about our activities appeared in the Cleveland Jewish News, the Cleveland Plain Dealer, the Cleveland Press and the Sun Press.

[Apr 28, 1971]

CONSULTATION ON ISRAELI AFFAIRS

Due to the fact that there is no Israeli Consul in Cleveland, and that the shaliach is one of the very few Israeli presences in Cleveland, we did participate from time to time in specific activities which do not fall into any particular category. Among these should be mentioned participation in the planning and the development of Fairmount Temple's "Expo '70", cooperation from time to time with the activities of the Israel-American Chamber of Commerce answering inquiries regarding investments in Israel, and responding to inquiries regarding new ways of selling Israeli products in the United States.

PROGRAMS CURRENTLY IN PROCESS

There remain a number of projects which are either in the formulative stage or well on their way to development. Some of these remain no more than an idea at the moment and could well provide a springboard of activity for a successor. These include increasing the number of pro-Israeli books in college and public libraries, an essay contest about Judaism in Israel with adequate prizes, providing Israeli movies on the campuses, a development of a Cleveland Educational and Recreational Center in Israel, more use of display boards on the campuses, further development of cooperative programs between local universities and Israeli universities, and numerous others.

Oberlin College, Cuyahoga, Case Western Reserve and Kent State now have Hebrew lessons as part of their curriculum. At Oberlin a free university course is offered on "Kibbutz". Negotiations have been started between Kent State and Tel Aviv University on the possibility of an exchange student program. It is our opinion that anti-Israel propaganda remains strong only at Kent State University, although some aspects exist at both Cleveland State and Baldwin Wallace.

Development of a Jewish student's newspaper is important and should be encouraged. The numbers of students going to Israel are growing. Obviously, much needs to be done. The techniques and methods which have proven to have worked in the past may need to be reshaped and changed in tune with what is suitable for the present. Opportunities are limitless. The only limits are set by the resources of the community and what it wants.

SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS

- (a) The location of the office of the next shaliach should be explored very carefully. Much of the interviewing, meetings with students and parents, interviews, need to be done in close proximity to the Jewish community and, to a great extent, is done at night. Consequently, some accessibility to office space in the Heights is important. At the same time, the mainstream of what is happening on area college campuses focuses on the Hillel organization and Federation, and consideration needs to be given to the problem of adequate staff coordination and communication, so that the community shaliach becomes part of a working team addressing itself to the problems of the Jewish college student. This is a basic problem and one that we were not able to resolve to absolute satisfaction in these exploratory first two years.
- (b) This two year experience has indicated the large amount of administrative work involved in processing applications for young people going overseas and providing adequate secretarial staff needs to be re-examined and re-evaluated.

- (c) In order to provide maximum flexibility, it is suggested that the shaliach be provided with a modest amount of funding within a budget so that he can feel free to move ahead on certain activities wherein decisions need to be made rather quickly and where the expenses are not of significant amounts.
- (d) Two years is an extremely short period for a tour of duty for the shaliach. This is especially true when at least half a year is necessary for orientation and some time at the end of the time span in breaking in a new replacement. It is suggested that if possible the arrangements for a new shaliach include the option of extending the time period of the mission from two to three years so that the community gets the greatest amount of return for its investment.
- (e) The introduction of the shaliach to the community and the providing of maximum visibility is of utmost importance. Consequently, every effort should be made that at least a month is spent when the "old" shaliach can acquaint his successor with the community and help build bridges both with people and institutions which will benefit both parties.



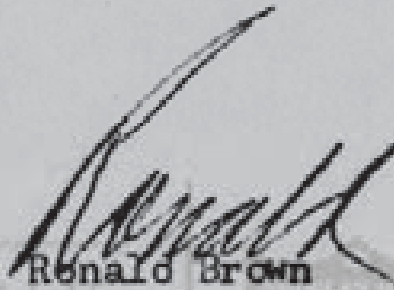
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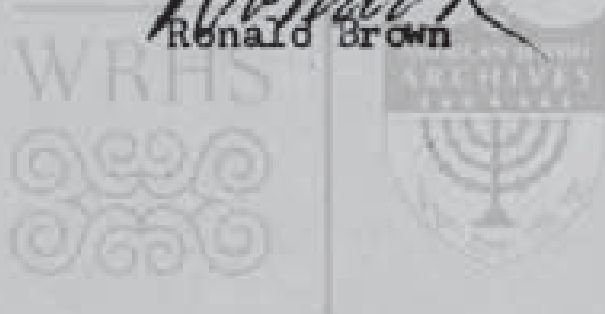
RONALD BROWN
CLEVELAND

May 4, 1971

With this copy of letter to Fay Fine I would like to inaugurate a plan to keep you a bit more closely advised of the thinking goin on within the Education Sub-committee.

Of course the implication is that we will get the benefit of your comments whenever you feel that you have something to say.


Ronald Brown



May 4, 1971

Mrs Fay Fine
Jewish Community Federation
Cleveland

Dear Fay:

Regarding the Education Sub-committee of The Israel Task Force, I believe we agree that it is good to continually evaluate the job we are doing. Recognizing the outstanding overall accomplishment of the whole Task Force and its various components, we should be eternally dissatisfied with what we are doing and aim ever higher.

In the light of our most recent sub-committee meeting and the meeting of the whole Task Force on May 3rd, I have reviewed the present position of our sub-committee and want to place before you and Howard and Rabbi Dan the various programs with which I think we should be concerned.

These should be examined critically. Disagreement should be encouraged. We should use the following list as a starting point to the development of an agreed-upon course of action covering the next few months or perhaps through the balance of the year - - subject of course to further change or correction whenever such change seems appropriate for the achievement of our long range goals.

Here is the list (Not in the order of importance):

1. Goodman, you and I will meet with Nouis leadership to discuss with them their involvement in a program to take successful programs from one campus and get them started on other campuses in our area. Examples are: The Kent Jewish Student Movement Seminars on Israel; the Chatauqua Film; The Development of Jewish Youth Study Groups to research answers to the Palestine Liberation Organization "Basic Facts" Sheet; etc.
2. Place copy of "Instructor" Curriculum in hands of Ruth Fink for study and comment; also give her Bibliography for study and comment. Then you and I will meet with her. Consider asking her to meet with us and Margolies and Jewish Public School Teachers. This action is aimed at coming up with a Curriculum on Middle East for Public Schools (Junior and Senior High Schools)
3. In this same connection we should attempt to obtain copies of curricula currently being used in Public Schools in this area which treat with the Middle East to answer the questions: "What are they doing now?". Meet with Jewish Public School Teachers to explore their role in helping the community.
4. You and I will consider the results of the "Paller-Fine-Tor"

meeting with the 76 Kent students who said they wanted to learn more about Israel.

5. Meet with Prof. Turner of Hiram to learn how the colloquium she developed so successfully can be employed or adapted for use on other campuses.

6. Meet with those responsible for the successful Baldwin Wallace 5 Day Program to discuss how such a program might be adapted for use on other campuses and what steps should be taken to achieve this goal.

7. Our sub-committee should consider how best to use the Bibliography which has now been developed.

8. Recognizing the value of "one to one" contacts on campuses we should formulate plans, with the approval and help of CCI, for the employment of the Coordinator as a person who can 1) develop good leadership to help him and work with him on each campus, and 2) develop a supervisory plan which will enable the Coordinator to develop a Course of Action on each campus with his people on that campus and then follow through to see that this Course of Action is producing the desired results, and to change or alter it if necessary.

9. At the same time I would assume that our leadership (Zucker, Vincent, Silver etc) will develop a continuing relationship with the top leadership of each college and university in our area and keep us advised of their achievement and of obstacles they run into.

10. We should develop ongoing communications with neighboring communities to encourage their activity on local colleges and universities and to exchange experiences.

Let us meet together now and shape up this program or whatever program comes out of the discussions we need to have.

Ronald Brown

May 5, 1971

Mr. Ronald Brown
13435 North Park Boulevard
Cleveland, Ohio 44118

Dear Ronald:

I am delighted to receive copies of your correspondence with Fay Fine and I will give you whatever suggestions come to mind. I don't know how good they will be, but that you can judge for yourself.

Sincerely,

Daniel Jeremy Silver

DJS:mld

June 10, 1971

Mr. Howard Berger
Cleveland Jewish
Community Federation
1760 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

Dear Howard:

Gil Savransky sent me the enclosed list. It is a register of professors who are going to visit Algiers, Tunis and Cairo under State Department sponsorship this summer. You will notice that Dr. Shoemaker of Baldwin-Wallace College is the organizing person.

There are several Jews on the list. Someone in their home communities should contact them to find out how they were chosen, what can be done to counteract propaganda, etc. The list is confidential information.

As always,

D JS:mgm
Encls.

Daniel Jeremy Silver

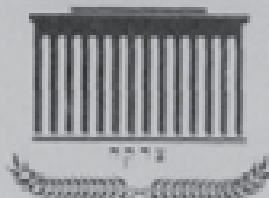
a note...

from HOWARD R. BERGER

Rabbi Dan

we want to send out 1 sheet
to N.Y. clergy. All
Set to go - with
cover letter. Please
view attached - want to
we'll reproduce.

Wm.
Pis set as now Tuesday
That



The Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland

1750 EUCLID AVENUE • CLEVELAND, OHIO 44115 • PHONE (216) 861-4360

October 1, 1971

M E M O R A N D U M

To: CONCERNED CLERGY

From: Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver, Chairman
ISRAEL INFORMATION & EDUCATION TASK FORCE

The United Nations is now considering the question of the status of Jerusalem -- a question which is of great concern to us as clergy. We have gathered together various pieces of information which we feel may be helpful to you in understanding the issues involved. ^{Some of the enclosed items may be of particular interest AND YOU} ~~to your community, and we would be pleased to provide additional~~ copies.

wish to make *Don't forget to your community*

Please let me know if we can provide you with any further information, or be of assistance to you on this most vital issue.

/mls

*information given
on 10/5/71*

[Sept 6, 1974]

A true story:

In 1972 G.F., the only Rep. member of the House of Rep. came to
the Senate to review the 20A Act. He spent some time
with the RZA of CWAU - most of the members of the House -
to find out the G.F. was a conspirator who was trained to
give support to the U.N. During this period G.F. and
Israel should not be forced by the U.S. to
negotiate with the U.S. rather than with
Egypt as the "TERRITORIAL QUESTION" - the
main reason AN UNWILLING COLLABORATION
with Russia - and, unwillingly, made
of his interest, and of many members
of the Committee is fully ready to accept the

T.A. to President

The fact was to be seen - Sec. Rogers was not at all
it - The U.S. policy had not changed - It was not to
change - It was not to be changed any more in the
any of U.S. policies - the fact that the U.S. was not going to change its policy
DEMOCRATIC fact that the U.S. was not going to change its policy

President

In 1974 the new fact committee was quietly called

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for the US. to be really unilateral danger.

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perhaps the right equivalent -- to suggest the medium
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2 use center (LT, RN, GP) good for found? --
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then but on body -- center same for the board

CENTER OF AMERICAN life
used by and before after
has been also for CAN which
after

have many and same of subject

is a middle of relation middle Yes even
could be seen middle on present middle to
bid to found -- is because can location
contract with location
Third World new middle
an active foreign policy --
define of concern global middle

But we are upset it is important for all of us
to remember that - President and the world are
all in NATIONAL INTEREST - to perpetually renew
the power into peace - fundamental AMERICAN

INTEREST

Since from 1900 into P.N. because in new states
we need - we have! Yes we need the new
state - But we need the same the same
- in 1971 Security Regulations - to 24 new states
we need a MUTUAL AID TREATY
we need of the new states which
don't need the new states which need the new states
[I.S. & the new states which need the new states
regulation of the new states which need the new states
to appear of the new states which need the new states
we need the new states which need the new states
discovery]

Diplomats white states which need the new states
Diplomats white states which need the new states
- conflict in the new states which need the new states

CALCULATED NATIONAL ADVANTAGE ——— WORTH
TERMS

An OPEN - EARNING MAN - & a good politician -
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- known field, democracy, strength and
AFFORDABLE ——— needed ready to a found
and seen in land as was well of used
as Alibi ——— needed on PRACTICAL ——— last
as President he must have REASONS OF STATE and
with oil, a negative balance OF TRADE, THE
possibility OF WATCH DOWN AND INDUSTRIAL SALES TO
M.E. also must RIGHT
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the has been sympathetic to do well ——— then
and left up with 14% ——— building fact
have committed resources and energy as
some ignore (IN THE US DEM.
but from defendant

Why is Congress of America support for Israel -- was
 needed to try to win of INTERNATIONAL VIEWS of Israel
 as a point of political ORIENTATION -- This would
 has reinforced a basic American sympathy -- but
not real reason

Real reason -- 600 soldiers

M.O. Strategic reason -- David Ben-Gurion

2) push to the
 secret arm -- not
 a decision

Congress rules to support ~~substantial~~ limit --
 Reason "to support" -- agreed to ~~limit~~
press

FAIR 1 S.A. was broken
 FAIR under USSR's authority -- degree of dependence
 success -- my efforts -- all that matters and
 forced [since 1947 --]
 inside - stop
 my method

[since 71

- just over 9
 small

3) 2 weeks of time - to have

ambassadors have succeeded to a degree - Middle East
last meeting - moderate - reversible Israeli security -
ISRAEL should not be ~~influenced~~ ^{Followed} by the
US to negotiate with the UN,
NATION THEN WITH EGYPT on the
TERRITORIAL QUESTION

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- low calculation word - hermits negotiate
low ascending document of low recessed
not and

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up of the area

2) limited will not only go USA - 2
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as seen
can justify

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only the degree of knowledge but depth of knowledge
of many humanity to see

critical point, critical refugees

to be at ITF document

- 1) spatial - focus -
- 2) units - infinite - unstable

contacts -

Can - more of reality

use will make sense and
use in unstable

cell - not much on world - many

letter - most copying closed - wanted for me
and the field notes

17/1/17





A G E N D A

Presc
WU NOW'S Division
OAKLAND -

Israel I & E Task Force
Community Relations Committee

Tuesday, May 25, 1976 8:30 A.M.
The Temple, University Circle

Rabbi Daniel J. Silver Presiding

I. FOREIGN AID AUTHORIZATION BILL

The Foreign Aid Authorization Bill for fiscal years 1976-77 is now scheduled for final action next week in the Senate, and the week of June 1 in the House of Representatives. AIPAC is still urging that HR13680 and Senate Bill S3439 be brought to the attention of all senators and representatives.

Allen Zeilinger may wish to add a word or two on the subject.

II. ISRAEL BOOTH AT OHIO STATE FAIR

Last year, on very short notice, the Columbus Federation in cooperation with Ariel Karrie, their shaliach, developed a booth at the Ohio State Fair, dealing with the subject of Israel. We are now in receipt of a full evaluation of last year's experience as well as a general request for recommendations for the future.

Howard Fieger can report on the evaluation of last year's project and present some material from the Columbus Federation.

A. Presentation of Summary

B. Questions & Discussion

C. Action (Note to Rabbi Silver: I believe the Israel booth was a poorly planned project last year, and it may be inadvisable for us to continue to participate when there really is no community input other than contributing dollars.)

[May 25, 1976]

III. INFORMATION ON NAAA CONVENTION

Since the date of the last Task Force meeting, a good deal of the material that was made available to Federation dealing with the NAAA Convention has been transcribed and analyzed. We are now in a position to present a fairly complete report on that Convention, which has also been delivered to the National Israel Task Force at its last meeting.

A. Presentation of Material

B. Questions & Discussion

IV. FINAL REPORT FROM BARRY COLEMAN

Barry Coleman, our community shaliach for the last three years, will be leaving for his return trip to Israel during the month of July. Barry has prepared a final report to deliver to the Task Force, which should serve as a basis for discussion about our future shaliach program. In addition, Barry does have one or two small requests for funding which will be presented.

A. Presentation by Barry Coleman

B. Questions & Discussion

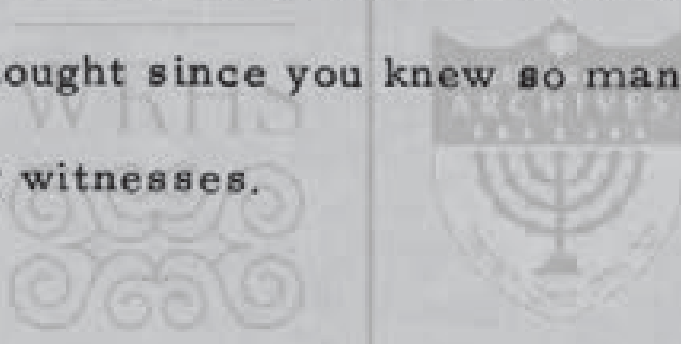
C. Action on Proposed Scholarship for Social Work Program in Israel - 1 - 2 - 3

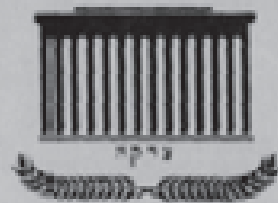
V. ADJOURNMENT

Rabbi Dan:

5/19/76

Mr. Larry Pollack from the Anti-Defamation League called
Home phone: 371-3295 Business: 663-4888 Says this is very important
He has been working with the U. S. Dept. of Justice, Immigration and
Naturalization trying to get information on Nazi war criminals that are living
in this country. The Department is finally getting on this. He has been
contacted by a man named Harold E. Jacobs, who is a criminal investigator
for the U. S. Dept. of Justice, Immig. etc. and is located in Room 1917 of
the Federal Bldg. , 522-4774. Basically this man is looking for concentration
camp survivors from the Ukraine, Latvia, Poland that could serve as witnesses.
Says that there are 65 known Nazi war criminals living in the United States,
most of them in Cleveland. Congressman Holtzman has been doing a lot of
work on this. He thought since you knew so many people you might be of
some help in finding witnesses.





The Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland

1750 EUCLID AVENUE • CLEVELAND, OHIO 44115 • PHONE (216) 861-4360

July 15, 1976

MEMORANDUM

TO: Israel Education and Information Task Force

FROM: Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver, Chairman

I believe you will find the enclosed of interest; we may use it for a basis of discussion at our meeting this Monday.

President Morton L. Mandel

Vice-Presidents Julius Paris

Max Ratner

Sue H. Weiner

Treasurer A. T. Bonda

Associate Treasurer Henry J. Goodman

Executive Director Stanley B. Horowitz

NATIONAL JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY COUNCILJOINT PROGRAM PLAN 1976-77
Proposed Draft Section on

ISRAEL AND THE MIDDLE EAST
incorporating changes ordered
by the
Commission on International Community Relations Concerns

prepared for review by the
Plenary Session

1 The cautious hopefulness engendered by the interim Sinai agreement
2 between Egypt and Israel and by the orderly compliance with its terms has
3 largely evaporated. Much of the hope generated by the stationing of U.S.
4 personnel in the demilitarized areas, the resumption of delivery of sophisti-
5 cated weapons to Israel from the U.S. to maintain the balance of military
6 force in the area, the seeming deepening of the rifts between Egypt and the
7 Soviet Union and Egypt and her more radical Arab allies, and the shouldering
8 aside of the Soviet Union by the United States as the major diplomatic
9 influence in the area, gave way to heightened apprehensiveness. Progress
10 toward further agreement was stymied as the issues were thrust into the
11 Security Council, by-passing Geneva; by inviting PLO participation the
12 Security Council scotched any possibility of meaningful negotiations.

13 The Arabs, abetted by their Communist-bloc allies, pressed for the
14 isolation of Israel, using their domination of the UN voting structure with
15 ruthless determination. Rebuffed in their attempt to exclude Israel's
16 representatives from participating in the General Assembly, they sought to
17 turn world opinion against Zionism by labeling it a form of racism. Israel
18 demonstrated anew her desire for an accord by offering to accept a non-
19 belligerency agreement rather than a formal peace treaty; but no Arab regime
20 or movement would recognize the legitimacy of Israel as an independent Jewish
21 State. That refusal remains the crucial impediment to any movement toward a
22 settlement.

1 tiations of the PLO or any other organization that refuses to recognize the
2 legitimacy of Israel or rejects 242 and 338 as a basis for the negotiations.

3 WE RECOMMEND that these identities of view on
4 basic issues be emphasized by Jewish community
5 relations agencies in their programs of public
6 interpretation.

7 Within the parameters of the U.S. policy of commitment to support of
8 Israel's security and U.S. adherence to the foregoing principles, there are
9 substantial differences between the U.S. and Israel: e.g., as to the location
10 of the "secure and defensible borders" that both view as necessary; as to the
11 appropriateness of the Israeli position regarding the Palestinians; as to the
12 Israeli policy on settlements in the areas occupied since the 1967 war; as to
13 the possible inclusion of the PLO in negotiations should the PLO affirmatively
14 recognize Israel; as to the effect on prospects for movement toward peace of
15 U.S. arming of Egypt and sales of arms to other Arab states. In various ways,
16 ranging from forthright expression of disagreement - as in the case of the
17 clear-cut statement by U.S. Ambassador Scranton that the U.S. regards Israeli
18 settlements in the occupied areas and, most significantly, Israeli construc-
19 tion and other activity in East Jerusalem, as impediments to peace - through
20 more subtle and at times indirect indications, the U.S. has signified its
21 displeasure with aspects of Israeli policy or taken actions in disregard of
22 Israeli protests. Some of these expressions and actions have lent themselves
23 to interpretation as pressure, diplomatic or economic or strategic, on Israel
24 to conform its policies and tactics to U.S. views; and to evaluation as
25 evidence that the U.S. government is pursuing its wider diplomatic goals in
26 the Middle East at the expense of what Israel deems its vital interests and
27 by means that many Americans regard as more conducive to strife in that area
28 than to peace.

U.S. Policies

1 Repeatedly, during the past year, U.S. officials including the Presi-
2 dent, the Secretary of State and the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations
3 affirmed America's unshakable commitment to the security of Israel, and
4 American actions in the United Nations and elsewhere repeatedly attested to
5 the firmness of that commitment. Yet, aspects of U.S. diplomacy have run
6 counter to Israel's view of what is required for her security and appear to
7 some observers incompatible with the asserted U.S. policies.

8 The United States has consistently supported Israel in the United
9 Nations -- even when it found itself alone -- and in diplomatic negotiations,
10 denouncing the infamous General Assembly resolution labeling Zionism a form
11 of racism and racial discrimination, opposing a General Assembly resolution
12 condemning Israel's "continued occupation of Arab territories," boycotting
13 of a conference on racism under UN auspices in Accra, Ghana, withdrawing from
14 a UNESCO conference in Paris in protest against a resolution adopted there
15 calling Zionism a form of racism, consistently opposing General Assembly and
16 Security Council invitations to the PLO to participate -- and, most dramatic-
17 ally vetoing resolutions condemning an Israeli air attack on terrorist camps
18 in Lebanon and altering the basis for peace negotiations established by
19 Resolutions 242 and 338.

20 The U.S. has been generous with economic and military aid to Israel,
21 to the extent of an aggregate of about \$10 billion over a period of four
22 recent years.

23 On fundamental issues in dispute between Israel and her Arab neighbors,
24 the U.S. and Israel have been in consistent accord: on the indispensability
25 of agreement between the parties on the terms of a settlement of their differ-
26 ences; on UN resolutions 242 and 338, making the process of agreeing on
27 borders and all other aspects of the settlement a unitary one, as the only
28 acceptable framework for such negotiations; on the exclusion from the nego-

1 We are persuaded that the U.S. commitment to Israel's security is firm,
2 grounded in a deep sense of moral obligation and affinity with a sister demo-
3 cracy, the sole free nation in the Middle East, the only stable government,
4 and the only dependable ally amidst a congeries of volatile Arab dictatorships
5 vying for dominance in the Arab world, shifting allegiances as opportunism
6 dictates.

7 We deem it our responsibility as American Jewish
8 community relations agencies to interpret this to
9 the American public through all media and channels
10 of communication and contact, with a view to the
11 fostering of a public opinion and of governmental
12 positions that will assure Israel needed economic
13 and military aid and U.S. diplomatic support, without
14 conditions or demands that Israel regards as detri-
15 mental to her security. We RECOMMEND that all our
16 agencies intensify their efforts to these ends in
17 the coming year.

18 Congress

19 Support for Israel in Congress continued to be evidenced not only by
20 the virtually unanimous denunciation of the UN anti-Zionist resolution and
21 companion resolutions calling for reexamination of the basis for further U.S.
22 participation in the UN General Assembly; but more concretely, in consistent
23 Congressional support of economic and military assistance to Israel at levels
24 beyond those recommended by the Administration, in Congressional opposition
25 to arms sales to Egypt, and in other ways.

26 At the present time, domestic issues and in this election year --
27 political competition deflect the attention of federal legislators away from
28 international affairs, while budgetary stringencies cause requests for aid to
29 be scrutinized more sharply than ever. On the other hand, Congress is growing

1 tiations of the PLO or any other organization that refuses to recognize the
2 legitimacy of Israel or rejects 242 and 338 as a basis for the negotiations.

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4 basic issues be emphasized by Jewish community
5 relations agencies in their programs of public
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22 Israeli protests. Some of these expressions and actions have lent themselves
23 to interpretation as pressure, diplomatic or economic or strategic, on Israel
24 to conform its policies and tactics to U.S. views; and to evaluation as
25 evidence that the U.S. government is pursuing its wider diplomatic goals in
26 the Middle East at the expense of what Israel deems its vital interests and
27 by means that many Americans regard as more conducive to strife in that area
28 than to peace.

1 on Middle East policy by 45 per cent of the respondents, as against 24 per
2 cent in 1974; church groups by 25 per cent as against 9 per cent in the
3 previous year.

4 On the other hand, a smaller percentage in 1976 felt that Jews as a
5 group have "too much power in the U.S." And this difference seems to reflect
6 a real change in perception, for the percentages that felt that such other
7 groups as organized labor, big business, oil companies, and "Arab interests"
8 had too much power held constant between 1975 and 1976.

9 The Harris poll in late November, 1975, which reflected the surge of
10 pro-Israel anti-Arab feeling evoked by the infamous Zionism-racism resolution
11 of the UN, revealed a sharp reversal of what Harris had observed earlier as
12 a "lagging" of sympathy for Israel since the Sinai interim pact with Egypt.
13 It may have been a temporary shift, its impact spent by the time of the
14 Yankelovich poll in January, or the two polls, asking different questions,
15 may have probed slightly different attitudes. The Harris finding that only
16 9 per cent of his respondents could find justification for the anti-Zionist
17 resolution has its own significance in any case; as does the reasoning cited
18 by Harris as typical: "The Jewish people are entitled to a homeland of their
19 own."

20 On the whole, American public opinion seems consistently more pro-
21 Israel than pro-Arab, the disparity becoming accentuated when the Arabs engage
22 in political anti-Jewish excesses. The depth and intensity of these feelings,
23 however, are conjectural. The danger grows that, impatient for an end to the
24 problem, fatigued by the assault on their minds and emotions, people may
25 demand an imposed solution. That could be calamitous. Even a diminution of
26 American concern about the Middle East would constitute a serious erosion by
27 default, as it were, of support for Israel and a boon to Israel's hostile
28 neighbors, who would doubtlessly gladly trade what small support they command
29 among Americans for American indifference toward Israel.

1 more assertive about its role in foreign affairs.

2 There is in these circumstances heightened need
3 for -- and we RECOMMEND that Jewish community rela-
4 tions agencies give high priority to -- the establish-
5 ment and cultivation of ongoing relationships with
6 Congressional delegations from their areas, for
7 interpretation of our views on the Middle East and
8 of our wide concerns about the many Jewish community
9 relations positions dealt with in this Joint Program
10 Plan.

11 Public Opinion and the Media

12 The principal finding of periodic polls conducted over the past two
13 years (beginning April, 1974) by the Yankelovich organization as part of a
14 special NJCRAC Israel Task Force sponsored project in the charting of trends
15 in public opinion is that American public opinion about the Middle East has
16 remained remarkably stable. More than half of those polled would be on
17 Israel's side in any Arab-Israel war, compared to less than one-tenth who
18 would favor the Arabs; about three-quarters regard Israelis as people they
19 can get along with; about the same proportion see the PLO as terroristic,
20 undemocratic and anti-U.S.; about one-third say Israel is right in refusing
21 to negotiate with the PLO, another one-third think Israel is wrong to refuse,
22 and the remaining one-third have no opinion on that score.

23 A change was recorded since two years ago in the perception of the
24 influence over U.S. Middle East policy exercised by Jews. Forty-nine per cent
25 of those responding to that question in January, 1976, thought Jews had "too
26 much" influence; the comparable percentage in April, 1974, was 29. But that
27 change probably reflects a general increase in public awareness of the role
28 of interest groups in our system rather than an altered view of the role of
29 Jews specifically: organized labor was seen as exercising too much influence

1 Editorial opinion in general paralleled public opinion in its preference
2 for Israel over the Arabs; though there were indications in recent months of
3 some hedging on some specific issues. Some nationally circulated journals and
4 nationally syndicated columnists became increasingly critical of what they
5 persisted in mislabeling lack of Israeli forthcomingness with its own proposals.

6 Public Opinion, the Palestinians and the PLO

7 Whatever the ratio of pro-Israel to pro-Arab sentiment in the American
8 public, it has become evident in recent months that an awareness of the "Pales-
9 tinians" and of their claim to the "right of self-determination," is growing;
10 and that this awareness creates an expanding base for perception of the Pales-
11 tinians as a national group with "rights" to national existence not less
12 claimant than those of Israel.

13 A heavily financed and extensive Arab propaganda campaign, exploiting
14 the recent demonstrations and disorders in the West Bank area and the April
15 elections in which many leftist and pro-PLO candidates were victorious, has
16 succeeded in blurring the Palestinians, the putative representativeness of the
17 PLO, and the Israeli occupation of the West Bank into an integral issue.

18 It is necessary for Jewish community relations agencies to intensify
19 their efforts to interpret the Palestinian-PLO-West Bank complex of issues,
20 along the following lines:

21 The Palestinians do, indeed, have legitimate
22 interests; Israel has always cited the resolution
23 of the problem of the Palestinians as one of the
24 conditions of a true Arab-Israel peace, and has
25 offered repeatedly to make substantial contributions
26 toward such a resolution within a general settlement.

27 The PLO claim that it seeks "liberation" of
28 Palestinian territory goes back to 1964, when
29 the West Bank was Jordanian; it could only have

1 meant then -- and means today -- "liberation" of
2 the territory that is Israel; in short, Israel's
3 elimination as a state.

4 Israel cannot in conscience be asked to deal
5 with terrorists committed to her destruction
6 and engaged in systematic murder of her people.

7 The policy of the U.S. government is to refuse
8 to consider PLO participation in any discussions
9 affecting relations between Israel and her Arab
10 neighbors so long as the PLO refuses to recognize
11 Israel as a legitimate state and to renounce terrorism.

12 Israel's administration of the occupied areas
13 has accorded the inhabitants the greatest measure
14 of self-government, as attested by the extension
15 of the franchise for the April 1976 elections in
16 spite of the certain knowledge that it would benefit
17 dissident elements.

18 Israel's occupation and administration of the areas
19 is in accord with international law, which recognizes
20 and regulates such occupations resulting from war.
21 Disposition of occupied territories is conventionally
22 negotiated as a condition of peace between the belli-
23 gerents. Israel has consistently sought such nego-
24 tiations. It is the Arab refusal to recognize Israel
25 or to negotiate peace with her that prolongs the state
26 of war and inhibits settlement of the territorial issue.

27 The Israeli policy of creating settlements in the
28 West Bank area does not evidence Israel's determination
29 to annex the area. While the settlements are elements

1 in Israel's defensive strategy, they do not pre-
2 judice negotiation of a border in connection with
3 any forthcoming peace agreement. The continued
4 existence thereafter of predominantly Jewish commu-
5 nities within the borders of an Arab state at peace
6 with Israel would be no more remarkable than the
7 present existence within Israel of communities of
8 Arabs holding Israeli citizenship.

9 Arms for Egypt

10 Although the Administration, rather than confront a Congressional veto
11 of the proposed sale of C-130 airplanes to Egypt, gave assurances that no
12 further arms sales to Egypt would be made this year, it clearly had in view
13 the establishment of a continuing arms supply relationship.

14 U.S. policy rightly seeks good relationships with both the Arab states
15 and Israel. In the frame of reference of the U.S.-USSR global relationship,
16 the Egyptian abrogation of the treaty of friendship and mutual assistance
17 with the Soviet Union must be accounted a victory for U.S. diplomacy.

18 However, Egypt already has more troops, planes and ships than Israel.
19 If she has no aggressive designs, she has no need for more arms. She is
20 obtaining arms from France, Britain and other nations; having the option of
21 turning to these other sources, Egypt will not be made more subject to U.S.
22 influence because she is armed in part by the U.S., as Israel is because of
23 her exclusive dependence on the U.S.; at the same time, there would be no
24 assurance that U.S. arms sold to other Arab states would not be transferred
25 to Egypt were hostilities to erupt.

26 We believe that our country's demonstration of its determination to
27 keep Israel's military strength at a level sufficient to repel any Arab
28 military attack has been a major factor in persuading President Sadat of
29 Egypt to seek rapprochement with the U.S. and that, in time, it may persuade

1 other Arab states to follow suit. We believe that any U.S. act that en-
2 courages Egypt or other Arab states to regard that determination as waning
3 can only encourage Arab intransigence, buttress Arab hope for ultimate mili-
4 tary victory, harden the Arabs in their refusal to recognize Israel's right
5 to exist, and thus impair the ability of the U.S. to act as mediator and
6 impede movement toward peace.

7 If Egypt is genuinely concerned to preserve the peace and to press for
8 domestic reconstruction of her economy, she should seek loans and grants for
9 tractors and factories, not tanks and missiles.

10 We favor economic aid to Egypt for internal re-
11 construction, being convinced the improvement in
12 the conditions under which her people live will con-
13 tribute toward a desire for peace with Israel and
14 conduce toward reciprocally beneficial relationships
15 between the two nations.

16 We are convinced that for the U.S. to become a
17 supplier of substantial arms to Egypt would be detri-
18 mental to the U.S. pursuit of a peaceful settlement
19 in the Middle East.

20 The Zionism-Racism Resolution

21 Although gleefully brandished before the world by the Arabs as "proof"
22 of Israel's culpability, and exploited by them and by the Soviet Union as
23 justification for anti-Jewish actions in the guise of "anti-Zionism," the UN
24 General Assembly's resolution branding Zionism as racism repelled the entire
25 western world. Except for Portugal and Mexico, every western nation voted
26 against the resolution. Its naked immorality and maliciousness was too much
27 even for some of the Third World states that ordinarily form parts of the
28 automatic Arab-Communist bloc. It passed 72-35, but there were 32 abstentions
29 and three absences; thus, the approving votes were a bare majority of the

1 Assembly -- the narrowest absolute majority by which any of the anti-Israel
2 resolutions steamrollered through by the Arab-Communist bloc had been adopted.

3 Public reaction in the U.S. was one of massive outrage and condemnation.
4 There was an outpouring of denunciation by religious spokesmen, editorialists,
5 columnists, radio and TV commentators, public personalities and others. In
6 Congress, both houses condemned the resolution in strong language, the Senate
7 unanimously, the House by one vote short of unanimity. A Harris poll in late
8 November (previously noted) showed what Harris called "revived" sympathy for
9 Israel, flowing from public apprehension of the resolution as "more aimed at
10 Jews than at the concept of Zionism."

11 This recognition of the anti-Semitic thrust of the resolution has been
12 accompanied by much evidence of ignorance and misunderstanding of Zionism as
13 an ideology and as a movement. Fortunately, there has been, at the same time,
14 a show of genuine interest, especially among Christians, in learning about
15 Zionism (Jewish ignorance and misunderstanding of Zionism also were revealed
16 as extensive and in need of correction).

17 Having launched the "big lie" that "Zionism is racism," the Arab-
18 Communist-Third World anti-Israel coalition may be expected to repeat it and
19 trade upon it on every possible occasion. Its introduction into the December
20 1975 meeting of the UN Food and Agricultural Organization disrupted the de-
21 liberations of that agency. Its assiduous cultivation by the Arab propaganda
22 apparatus will give it currency for a long time. To combat it, it is

23 RECOMMENDED

24 That the vote on the anti-Zionist resolution in
25 the UN General Assembly be interpreted as a demon-
26 stration of the repugnance and rejection with which
27 it is regarded throughout the free world and as evidence
28 that it is recognized by all reasonable and sensible
29 people as masked anti-Semitism.

1 The interest in Zionism kindled by the disputation over the resolution
2 must not be allowed to dissipate through inattention. Appreciation of the
3 uniqueness of the Jewish relationship to the State of Israel and the Jewish
4 attachment to the Land of Israel and to Jerusalem can be enormously enhanced
5 by an understanding of Zionist philosophy, aspirations, purposes and achieve-
6 ments. There has been a considerable output of material on Zionism, suitable
7 for study and discussion groups. It is RECOMMENDED

8 That material on Zionism, designed especially for
9 Christian audiences with minimal orientation to Jewish
10 life, be developed and made widely available.

11 That Jewish community relations agencies at all
12 levels utilize existing relationships with Christian
13 churches and other Christian bodies, or initiate such
14 relationships, to encourage and cooperate in the study
15 and discussion of Zionism by Christians.

16 That companion materials for intra-Jewish education
17 be developed and that study of them by Jewish groups
18 and individuals be similarly encouraged.

19 Arab-Communist Bloc Voting in the UN

20 Arab efforts to "outlaw" Zionism and to de-legitimize Israel as a
21 state will continue. Failure of the Arabs and their cohorts to bar Israel's
22 participation in the last UN General Assembly will undoubtedly spur them on
23 to new efforts to shut her out of its next meeting, and from other UN organi-
24 zations. Also to be expected are further attempts to revise or repudiate
25 UN resolution 242.

26 Jewish community relations agencies are urged to
27 prepare American public opinion, and to stimulate
28 opposition by influential groups and spokesmen, by
29 continually interpreting the make-up of the UN General

1 Assembly and its procedures, which enable the Arab
2 nations, comprising three per cent of the world's
3 population, to cast 16 per cent of the votes, and
4 by their influence over the Moslem members, their
5 ability to use oil blackmail against some industrialized
6 nations, their command of a sizeable number of African
7 votes and their reliance on support by the Communist
8 bloc, to push virtually any resolution through.

9 UN votes, under these conditions, are exercises of sheer voting strength,
10 having no relevance to reasoned judgments, morality, international welfare or
11 any consideration other than the advancement of Arab political objectives.
12 The result has been a decline of the United Nations as a responsible inter-
13 national deliberative body and the erosion of its usefulness as an instrument
14 of peacemaking.

15 We believe that United States withdrawal from the UN
16 or from the General Assembly would disserve the interests
17 of the United States, of Israel and of the world commu-
18 nity. We RECOMMEND rather that the United States be
19 urged to continue its firm stance in all UN bodies in
20 support of human rights and international justice and
21 to take every opportunity to denounce automatic bloc
22 voting in disregard of the merits of issues.

23 We always have supported and continue to support the humanitarian pur-
24 poses of UN agencies created to deal with food, the quality of the environment,
25 population control, nuclear armaments, etc.

26 We urge our government, when these purposes are
27 subverted to political ends against the interests of
28 the United States and of Israel, as in the case of
29 UNESCO, to revise the level of its support and to

1 consider means of pursuing the useful humanitarian
2 and other purposes for which the agencies were created
3 through bilateral and other relationships outside the
4 UN structure.

5 We urge our government to reexamine its bilateral
6 aid and other relationships to countries that vote
7 consistently against U.S. interests in the UN.



16 AUG

A G E N D A

Israel I & E Task Force
Community Relations Committee
Jewish Community Federation

Monday, July 19, 1976, Noon (Lunch)
Jewish Community Federation

Rabbi Daniel J. Silver, Chairman, Presiding

I. INTRODUCTION OF RONY SAPIR & SENIOR SEARCH PROJECT (Rony Sapir Reporting)

Our new shaliach, replacing Barry Coleman, is Roni Sapir. (For general information about Sapir's background, see attached resume.) Roni has already been working actively to follow up on details for the Senior Search Project, which we hope to establish with Kibbutz Amiad in Israel. Roni does have a number of additional matters that he would like to bring to our attention at this time.

A. Presentation by Sapir

B. Questions & Discussion

C. Should there be formal action in relation to pursuing this program?

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II. KENT STATE UNIVERSITY - HAIFA UNIVERSITY PROGRAM (See handout)
(Michael Novick Reporting)

As some of you may recall, an attempt was made a number of years ago to establish a relationship between Kent State University and Tel Aviv University for the purpose of developing a semester program in Israel. That program did take place, and after two years was not repeated for a variety of reasons, including difficulty with planning in Israel; the existence of an Egyptian as International Programs staff person at Kent State University; and related other problems. It appears now

CD.
Michael
Goldman

Michael
Amey

Sept 13
Jan 3

[July 19, 1976]

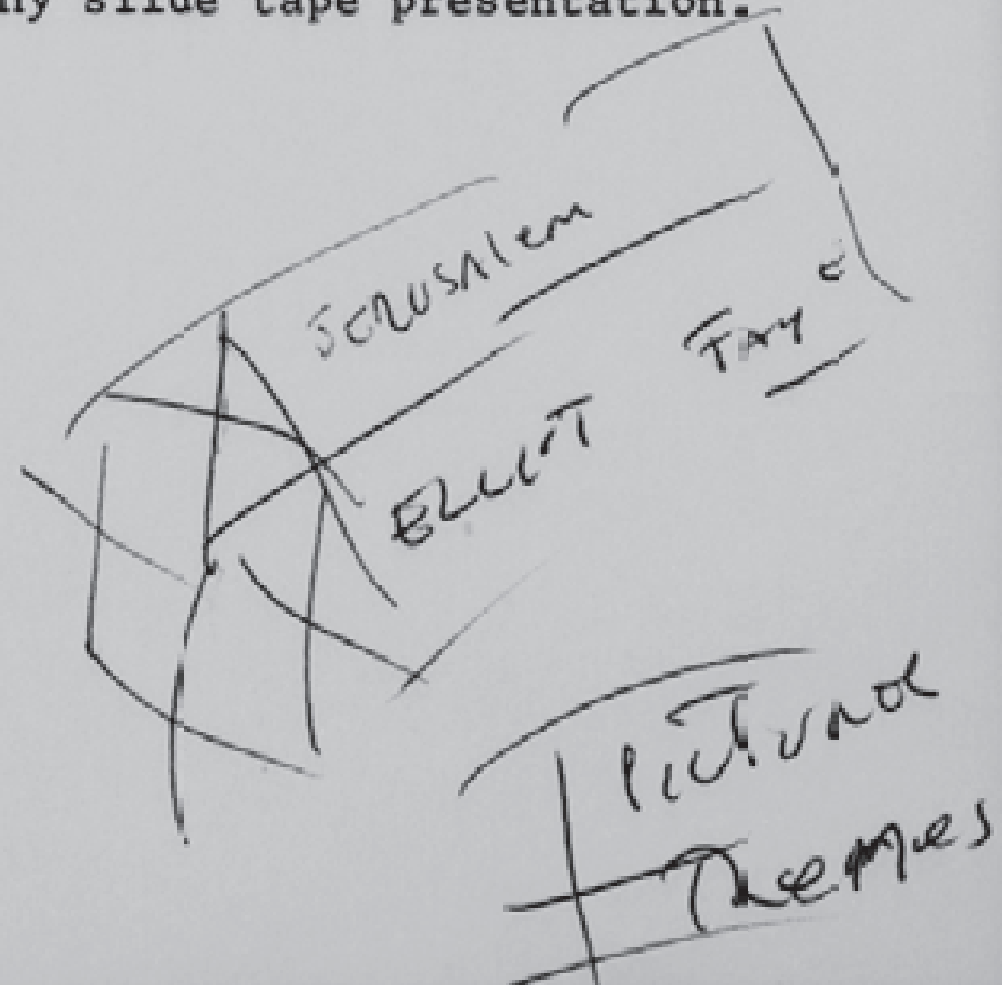
that the Kent State University faculty is actively working to develop a program with Haifa University, and Michael Novick and Ron Sapor attended a planning meeting on Wednesday, July 14, *Michael Novick is* and ~~are~~ prepared to report on the status of the program at this time.

- A. Presentation by Michael Novick.
- B. Questions & Discussion
- C. Should there be some specific involvement between the Cleveland Federation and Kent State University faculty?

III. SLIDE TAPE PRESENTATION ON ISRAEL - (Roy Rosenbaum Reporting)

During the past year, Federation staff and volunteers have prepared a slide tape presentation on Arab Jewry; Soviet Prisoners of Conscience; and a brief background on Zionism. It may be possible to develop one or two background pieces on Israel for use with our Speakers Bureau. Roy Rosenbaum would like to present us with some slide material, and then seek input as to what matters should be highlighted and what subjects should be focused upon in any slide tape presentation.

- A. Presentation by Roy Rosenbaum
- B. Questions & Discussion
- C. Suggestions for emphasis



IV. NJCRAC STATEMENT ON MIDDLE EAST AND ISRAEL

Prior to today's meeting, there was a mailing which included the NJCRAC Statement on the Middle East. For the purpose of our local program, this should be examined at this time, and any questions about priority and emphasis should be discussed.

A. Questions & Discussion

V. HIGHLIGHTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST - (Howard Rieger Reporting)

The recent events in Uganda and the newspaper commentary which has broadened around that, the Lebanese issue and Arab disunity in general, would make a good focus for the next issue of Middle East Highlights. Howard Rieger will bring us up-to-date on how this material will be handled.

VI. PROBLEMS AT AKRON UNIVERSITY

It has come to our attention in the recent past that there are a great number of difficulties with Arab propaganda at Akron University. In order to become more familiar with these problems, Howard Rieger has spoken to the staff of the Jewish Federation in Akron, and is prepared to bring us up-to-date on this subject and whether or not there are any implications for the Cleveland Jewish community.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

KENT STATE - HAIFA UNIVERSITY PROGRAM
(prepared from material made available by Kent State University)

Kent State University is now offering an opportunity for undergraduate students to participate in an educational experience at Haifa University during the upcoming Fall quarter (September 13, 1976 - January 3, 1977). The program is aimed at college students who have already completed one year of academic studies, however, incoming freshmen will also be considered for the program on an individual basis. During the course of the program, students will have opportunities to integrate their educational experience within the social and cultural structures in Israel. Shortly after classes begin, participants will prepare for a series of five field trips, designed to add another dimension to the academic studies and special interest of the students.

The University of Haifa is known for its strong programs in the social sciences, psychology, education and social work. In addition to being affiliated with the Kibbutz School of Education, the University offers interdisciplinary programs at the Maritime Study Center and the Arab-Jewish Center.

This special program is being coordinated through the Department of Study Programs for Overseas Students at the University of Haifa. Students may enroll for 12-18 quarter hours of credit through Kent State University. Undergraduates from other universities will be able to enroll for transfer credit.

The first phase of the program, an introduction to Israeli culture, will enable students to study Hebrew and to become aware of cultural aspects of the country. Later, in mid-October, when formal University classes begin, students will select from such courses as: History of Judaism in Late Antiquity (538 B.C.E. - 640 C.E.), Zionism-Ideology in Practice, Social Problems in Israel, the Kibbutz, the Arab-Israeli Conflict, etc. All instruction will be conducted in English by professors of Haifa University. Moreover, students will be able to arrange for courses and/or special investigations in the fields of Early Childhood and Elementary Education, as taught by on-site Kent State University professors, Dr. Richard Goldman and Dr. Helvin Arnoff.

The final phase of the program will involve student sharing of special investigations and projects under the guidance of KSU staff, in an effort to integrate the Israel experience.

The total cost of the program, including air and land travel, tuition, room, and field trips (excluding food), is \$2,090. Students may register by contacting: The Center For International and Comparative Programs, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio 44202.

July 19, 1976 -- sj

OUR NEW SHALIACH - Aharon (Rony) Sapir

Born October 20, 1946 in Tel Aviv

Finished high school in Holon in 1964. During that time, active in the Boy Scouts and "Maccabi-Hatzair"

In 1958, finished course of youth leader in Kfar Silver

Joined the army in 1964. Served 2-1/2 years (paratroopers)

Fought in the Six-Day War in Jerusalem; slightly wounded.

Taught in nature study centre in Sde Boker (Negev) for 1-1/2 years.

In the summer of 1969, shaliach to a summer camp of U.A.H.C. in Pennsylvania.

From 1969-1971, studied at Hebrew University in Jerusalem (geography and archeology)

In 1971, a teacher of "Yediat Haretz" (geography of Israel) in the Institute for Counsellors from Abroad. At the same time, in the afternoons, social counsellor for American students in Jerusalem.

From November, 1971 to December, 1975, map maker and air photo surveyor in private company in Tel Aviv.

In 1973, fought in the Yom Kippur War (Sharon's Division)
Wounded twice

Married to Susan (a Torontonion) in 1971; have one son, 17 months old

*Introduce Michael Novick -
Recent graduate of Federation Recruitment Program
in Baltimore*

Sept 2, 1976



C O N F I D E N T I A L

PROGRAM BUDGET - ISRAEL TASK FORCE

July 1, 1975 to June 30, 1976

Terminal Facilities

The program activities of the Israel Task Force, translated into budget implications, account for approximately 50% of the \$30,000 that is available annually to the Committee for its operation. Approximately 50% of the funding supports staff, both secretarial and professional, through the employment of a community shaliach, a secretary for the Israel Task Force, and related expenses. The program phase of the budget, for convenience, may be considered in several categories, as follows:

INDIRECT SUPPORT OF NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND INTERPRETATION IN THE NON-JEWISH COMMUNITY

Through the indirect "subsidization" of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee and the American Academic Association for Peace in the Middle East, the Israel Task Force has made available to a variety of opinion-makers, libraries and the media, important resource material in the form of the Near East Report, the Quarterly Academic Journal of APPME, Myths & Facts, and related material.

These expenses, for the fiscal year, amount to \$4000

EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION

The Israel Task Force has developed its own program of education and interpretation for the general and the Jewish communities. Included in this program are the composition, printing and distribution of several issues of "Highlights in the Middle East," sponsoring of communitywide meetings, such as the rally after the U.N. Zionist Resolution, entitled, "We Are All Zionists," the production of slide tape presentations, newspaper ads, and related distribution of articles of interest from a variety of sources in the media.

These costs have, during the last year, amounted to \$2,000.

ISRAEL PROGRAM EXPERIENCES

One of the important areas of activity for the Israel Task Force has been the provision of Israel experiences for young people, both Jewish and non-Jewish in our community. These programs have ranged from the Miami-Dade County High School in Israel, a program with a solid academic base in the school systems of the Eastern suburbs, academic programs in Israel sponsored by Kent State University, and a variety of other experiences. Intensive use is made of these students upon their return to Cleveland. The strength has been the linking of public schools with Israel programming and consequent impact upon local curriculum.

Another important aspect of this program has been to bring Israeli youngsters to Cleveland to serve in an interpretation program in the non-Jewish community, and also to send Cleveland emissaries to Israel for a similar purpose.

The total cost of this phase of Task Force activity for the fiscal year is \$6,000.

LIAISON WITH OTHER COMMUNITIES AND NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

An important function of the Israel Task Force in Cleveland is to maintain liaison with similar bodies throughout the State of Ohio and, in fact, throughout the Middle West and at the national level. An important annual event has been the convening of the Ohio communities, as well as an annual Midwest Israel Task Force meeting.

Cost for these related programs has been \$800.

MONITORING OF COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

In addition to its activities in interpretation and education, the Israel Task Force has attempted to maintain contact and observe a variety of community activities, such as Arab-sponsored conferences, programs on the Middle East in the various universities, sessions of various service groups in Cleveland (Kiwanis, Rotary, etc.) and the provision of speakers where appropriate.

Cost of this program has been \$700.

MEDIA MONITORING

A regular process of monitoring of local and national printed media is an important part of the Task Force agenda. In addition, to local papers and the New York Times, regular subscriptions are entered in a variety of journals, for use as a resource in the person-to-person program, Middle East Highlights, and related uses.

Cost of this program has been \$500.

MISCELLANEOUS \$800.

[1976]

II. MIAMI-DADE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL IN ISRAEL - Rabbi Eric Hoffman or Alan Zeilinger, Reporting

An evaluation meeting was recently held, with Rabbi Hoffman chairing the deliberations, aimed at evaluating the Task Force's participation in subventing the Miami-Dade County High School in Israel program, which locally is carried out in cooperation with a number of Eastern suburban school systems. Rabbi Hoffman (or Alan Zeilinger) is prepared to report on the deliberations of that committee, and to make a recommendation for future support of the Miami program by the Israel Task Force.

A. Presentation by Hoffman or Zeilinger

B. Questions & Discussion

C. Action

(Note to Rabbi Silver: The Subcommittee will recommend a continuation of the \$5,000 support, which was the level of last year's spending, and a consideration of a wider community-based program which would coordinate a variety of Israel program experiences.)

AIPAC
III. REPORT OF THE BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE - Elmer Rucker Reporting

As members of the Task Force, you will recall that Elmer Rucker was asked to chair a Budget Subcommittee in order to establish priorities for Task Force expenditures for this coming year. After two meetings, and the review of a program budget for the Task Force, the Subcommittee is now prepared to make its recommendation for the consideration of the full committee.

A. Report by Elmer Rucker

B. Questions & Discussion

C. Action

(Note to Rabbi Silver: It appears that the Budget Subcommittee will be recommending a general continuation of the level of expenditures of last year, with a further recommendation that attempts to expand funding through alternate sources be found, especially in the area of Israel youth programming.)

IV. TELEVISION SURVEY FOR ISRAEL CONTENT - Howard Rieger Reporting

At a previous meeting of the Task Force, it was determined that a second newspaper monitoring survey be conducted during the September-October time period, and that an attempt be made to conduct a television monitoring of the news broadcasts. We are now ready with an outline of a television monitoring project which is presented to the Task Force for its input.

A. Presentation by Howard Rieger

B. Questions & Discussion

*Michael
OSTROV*

V. PURCHASE OF ISRAEL-ORIENTED FILM FOR NON-JEWISH AUDIENCES
Rony Sapir Reporting

Recently, the Federation staff has had the opportunity to deal with a Black Evangelical group which will be taking a tour to Israel during the month of October. As part of an orientation for this group, Rony Sapir presented a film which was highly

recommended by Jewish sources, which presents Israel from an Evangelical point of view. The reaction of the Black audience was so positive that we are proposing the Federation purchase this film for use in general with non-Jewish audiences, especially those preparing Israel trips.

A. Presentation by Rony Sapir

B. Questions & Discussion

C. Action

VI. ADJOURNMENT



ag



September 3, 1976

memo

TO : NJCRAC Member Agencies

FROM: Albert D. Chernin, Executive Vice Chairman

RE : Progress on Anti-Boycott Legislation; Action Needed

The prospect for enactment of effective federal anti-boycott legislation, such as NJCRAC and its member agencies have been urging for the past year, has brightened considerably in the last few days; with several major hurdles remaining.

Export Administration Act Amendments

Last Friday, August 27, the Senate overwhelmingly approved the Stevenson-Williams amendment to the Export Administration Act. This measure makes the participation of American firms in certain aspects of the Arab boycott illegal by prohibiting them from discriminating against other American firms which deal with Israel (tertiary boycott) and by forbidding the disclosure of religious affiliation of owners, officers and employees in response to Arab boycott demands. The amendment also mandates the reporting of any participation in the boycott.

In the House, the International Relations Committee this week approved an even more stringent measure (the Bingham-Rosenthal amendment), which would make it illegal for an American company to certify to the Arabs its own refusal to deal with Israel (secondary boycott). This has yet to be adopted by the full House; after which both this and the Senate amendment will go to Conference Committee, where it is hoped that both measures will be incorporated in the Export Administration Act extension bill, which both houses must then approve for passage.

Tax Penalties for Participation in Boycott

A Senate-House Conference Committee has already approved an amendment to the pending Tax Reform Bill which would deny certain tax benefits to U. S. companies complying with the Arab boycott of Israel. Such tax benefits include foreign tax credits, deferral of taxation on foreign earnings and tax benefits for exports from the United States. These benefits would be denied companies in direct proportion to their business dealings with Arab states engaged in the boycott.

Taken together, the foregoing measures -- which provide both penal and economic sanctions -- would constitute a major advance in our campaign against the economic warfare that has been waged against Israel for 28 years.

Action Recommendations

Of the two Export Administration Act amendments, the Bingham-Rosenthal bill obviously gets more directly at the fundamental aspect of compliance by American

firms with the Arab boycott. It is expected to reach the House floor for action soon after Labor Day. Make sure your Congressman knows you expect him to vote for it. We will keep you informed of further progress of the legislation and alerted to any need for further action when it gets to the conference stage.

The tax reform bill, incorporating the anti-boycott amendment, is likely to reach the floor of both houses in the next few days. The amendment has been strongly opposed by the Administration and by business spokesmen as creating impediments to U. S. business, courting economic reprisals, and impeding U. S. efforts for Middle East accords. A veto of the entire tax bill has been threatened if the bill reaches the President's desk with the amendment included.

It is important, therefore, that the amendment be approved by floor votes in both houses by the largest possible majorities. If a veto then appears likely, we will send you appropriate recommendations for further action.

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INT(c), ITF(c), EAC



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September 10, 1976

Dear Friend:

Friends of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee in Cleveland always look forward to our annual meeting -- so please note the date: Wednesday, October 6th, 12:00 Noon, Federation Building, 1750 Euclid Avenue.

This will be a chance to hear the Executive Director of AIPAC, Morris Amitay. Mr. Amitay will give us an up-to-date analysis of United States' policy in the Middle East, the situation in the Congress, and the positions of the Presidential candidates. Honorary Chairman, Irv Kane, will of course be with us.

As a former senior Senate Legislative aide, as well as a U. S. Foreign Service Officer, Mr. Amitay's presentation and question and answer period which will follow should be enlightening to all of us.

We urge you not to miss this important meeting, where we will also take the opportunity to make our annual appeal for the kind of contributions which AIPAC needs to continue its vital work.

Please return the enclosed card telling us you will attend.

Sincerely,

Joel Garver
Bennet Kleinman
Joe Koppelman
Julie Kravitz
Albert B. Ratner
Elmer Rocker
Alan F. Zeilinger

Home - Moved

Enclosure

MJA/bb

[1976]

EVALUATION OF BEACHWOOD-MIAMI-DADE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL IN ISRAELINTRODUCTION

On Tuesday, September 7, 1976, an Evaluation Committee, consisting of Rabbi Eric Hoffman, Chairman, Mel Allerhand, Robert Silverman, and Allen Zeilinger met with two students and the parents of a student who have participated in the High School in Israel program. The purpose of this meeting was to evaluate the impact of this program upon the participants and to determine the level of support that would be recommended to the Israel Information & Education Committee for 1976-77.

INPUT FROM PARENTS & STUDENTS

The general assessment of the participants in the program is that the curriculum is intensive and highly structured, although not compulsory. The students have daily homework assignments, with an emphasis upon historical material. The academic aspects of the program is supplemented by field trips, with a heavy emphasis on archeological subject matter. There is very little Hebrew language instruction in the program, and because of this, an occasional frustration on the part of the students, because of inability to either assign this less than a first priority, or, if it is considered a priority item, to have the opportunity to learn the language adequately. There was a heavy emphasis upon written papers, and the faculty was willing to introduce both sides of the Arab-Israel dispute for detailed consideration by the student.

[1976

In the religious realm, there ~~was~~^{are} adequate opportunities and, in fact, encouragement by faculty members for students to learn about the Jewish religion, and to actually become involved in religious services and general observance. From a social point of view, there was an initial gap between the Cleveland contingent and the Miami delegation, which was ultimately overcome. Close personal relationships with Israeli host families and Israeli peers were easily developed and proved to be a very positive aspect of the program.

From a structural standpoint, there appeared to be some difficulty with implementation of independent study projects because of the availability of only one tutor, and it would be helpful if this aspect of the program could be strengthened.

GENERAL EVALUATION

The observation of the parents was that there were very positive changes in respect to both knowledge and self-assurance of students who participated in the program. Personal motivation of students in the area of Hebrew and Judaic study have been noticed, with many individuals now planning to either attend college in Israel or to participate in programs of shorter duration for college credit. It was pointed out that there should be a strengthening of the followup contact with students after the program for general support and guidance for future activities. In addition, use of program alumni should be incorporated into a general promotional effort, both for recruitment and publicity.

[1976]

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Subcommittee recommends that the level of support for 1976-77 for the High School in Israel program be maintained at about the \$5,000 level of last year, but that a general experiment for subsidizing the total cost of the program be implemented. It is recommended that instead of advertising the \$1,725 cost, the cost be advertised at \$1,200 per student, and that there be an indication that enrollment is limited. The thought behind this recommendation would be that if ten students were to participate, the cost would still be \$5,000, but the committee would be able to determine whether the relatively high cost of the program has proven to be an impediment in the area of recruitment. Should more than ten students indicate a willingness to attend the program, every effort will be made to find some method for financing the additional participants.

It is also recommended that an attempt be made in the community to create a unified approach to Israel program experiences, working with other agencies, such as the Jewish Vocational Service in the area of scholarship interviews, with the Bureau of Jewish Education for general promotion in the religious schools, and with the Israel Program Department at the Federation. In addition, new program efforts, such as a Senior Search Project on Kibbutz Amiad and programs for other age groups, could be considered.

It is also recommended that the Community Relations Committee Education Subcommittee could be looked to for liaison with the public schools in the area of program promotion.

The Arabs have used boycott as an economic weapon since the establishment of the State of Israel. Boycotts are not unknown in diplomatic struggles and the continuance of a primary boycott in which Arab interests refuse to do business with Israel is not the concern of proposed Federal legislation.

The Arab boycott has in recent years attempted to effect a secondary boycott which involves the blacklisting of businesses which trade with Israel or use components which are made in Israel and a tertiary boycott which involves the blacklisting of firms which trade with other domestic firms which do business with Israel. The secondary and tertiary boycotts affect relationships between American business and can have an effect on the relationship between American Jews and other Americans. Implicit in all the boycott activity has been the denial of businesses to companies with Jewish principals. A number of state governments, and our Federal government, consider such boycott procedures as an acceptable intrusion in American economic life and are seeking ways to control such activities.

President Carter has stated that he favors ". . . federal legislation to combat the Arab Boycott, " Having expressed his support for the bills now before Congress, he further noted, ". . . that there must be effective implementation of these laws by the executive branch. Compliance with the Boycott abandons those principles of equal protection and equal rights upon which the United States was founded, "

The Business Roundtable, an organization of the chief executives of 170 major U. S. corporations, has agreed on the need for anti-boycott legislation. Stating that the "fundamental right of the United States not to cooperate in restrictions which are inimical to its ethical principles or its national interests, " the Roundtable has agreed that the secondary and tertiary boycotts should be eliminated; that discrimination against U. S. citizens, production of blacklists for use by foreign countries,

and refraining from doing business with U. S. citizens based upon agreements with foreign countries, should all be made illegal.

The present Federal laws do not cover many unacceptable boycott activities and enforcement devices are ineffective because they rarely include penalties for compliance. Arab boycott pressures have increased markedly in recent years and the Congress and a number of state governments moved to enact relevant legislation. Strong bills passed both houses of Congress as amendments to the Export-Import Act but the Ford Administration allowed the act to die in Conference Committee. Pressure against such legislation developed from a number of business and banking interests who have strong trade ties.

Last year the State of Ohio strengthened its anti-discrimination bill. Since then a number of individuals have claimed that the operation of this Ohio law places an undue burden on Ohio based business. Proposed national legislation includes a preemption feature which would equalize the impact of American policy throughout the states.

Boycott legislation was one of the first concerns of the new Congress. HR1561, the Bingham-Rosenthal Bill; S92, the William Proxmire Bill; S69, the Stevenson Bill, are currently being considered. Question to such regulations has come from businesses and banks which have large investments in the Arab world and who are eager to please their customers. Their argument is that the business of business is to make a profit and that business ought not to intrude itself in political issues. However, compliance with boycott is a form of support of one set of national interests and an abandonment by business of the free enterprise system.

There is no doubt that boycott legislation will emerge from this congress. The issue is the effectiveness of such laws. Much will depend upon the position of the administration.

Here is a checklist of those areas in which loopholes may greatly lessen the effect of the potential legislation.

Negative Certificates of Origin: Such certificates indicate that goods are not made in a particular country. There is no objection to a certificate of origin that e. g. these goods are made in the U. S.

Foreign Subsidiaries: If foreign subsidiaries are exempted from boycott regulations any such law will be easily circumvented for there will be no control over overseas activity.

Unilateral Selections: A selling company should not have to provide for review a full list of suppliers because such a document becomes in effect a "whitelist" or "blacklist."

Disclosure: Does the act require the Department of Congress to disclose acts of compliance with boycott requests? If not, administrative inaction might easily castrate the best law.

Each day, new issues present themselves. Matters such as how proof of participation in a boycott can be demonstrated without written documentation, are constant challenges to the individuals drafting the legislation. Nevertheless, the importance of a strong national policy is clear; Americans cannot be turned against Americans on issues of international trade, and the only solution is to deal with this as a major constitutional issue. For Cleveland the following actions have been considered:

1. Develop an educational effort directed to the Jewish community in order to make the issues clear and to seek involvement of the community in an action program aimed at supporting strong legislation.

2. Engage non-Jewish business leaders in an informal person-to-person effort aimed at explaining the issues and our point of view.
3. Establish contact between the community leaders and Congressional members in order to interpret the community's position.
4. Influence similar action on the part of federations in other communities.



[May 1978]

a note...

from HOWARD M. RIEGER

Rabbi Don -

Here is copy of agenda.
I expect to be back
but in case I'm still
out of town, Roy has
the material. Obviously
the Hillel & Schodachs
requests should be
eliminated as per
your suggestion.

Howard.

A G E N D A

Israel I & E Task Force Meeting
Community Relations Committee
Jewish Community Federation

Thursday, May 25, 1978, 8:30 a.m.
at the
Jewish Community Federation

Rabbi Daniel J. Silver, Chairman, Presiding

I. WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

A number of interested individuals have been invited to the Task Force meeting for the opportunity of hearing Asher Naim, Consul General of Israel, who will speak on the subject of current developments in the Middle East.

II. PRESENTATION BY ASHER NAIM (Consul General from Philadelphia)

A. Presentation

B. Questions & Discussion

III. WORLD TRADE WEEK PROGRAM - Joseph Brodecki Reporting

The Israel Trade Week Banquet, sponsored by the City of Cleveland, will be held tonight at the Cleveland Plaza Hotel, and a full-day seminar on Doing Business with Israel is scheduled for tomorrow at Cleveland State University. Joseph Brodecki will present the details of both of these events.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF ADVERTISING PROGRAM (Exhibit A) Rabbi Shubert Spero Reporting

During the last few months, a national advertising program for Israel interpretation has resulted in full-page ads being placed in a number of newspapers of national circulation.

[May 25, 1978]

Rabbi Shubert Spero, the chairman of the local Zionist Federation, has asked for an opportunity to lead the Task Force in a discussion of the advisability of such a program in Cleveland. Several examples of past ads are available at each person's place.

- A. Presentation by Rabbi Spero
- B. Questions & Discussion
- C. Consensus on Approach to be Taken in Cleveland

V. SCHOLARSHIP REQUESTS - Roy I. Rosenbaum Reporting

A number of scholarship requests have been made to the Task Force, including a request for a lump sum grant in support of a Hillel summer trip to Israel, and Roy Rosenbaum will present the details.

- A. Presentation of Request
- B. Discussion
- C. Action

VI. AGRICULTURAL EXHIBIT AT THE OHIO STATE FAIR

Last year, the Task Force, with a grant from the Endowment Fund Committee, placed an Israel Agricultural Exhibit at the Ohio State Fair. Since the hardware for the exhibit still exists, it is conceivable that the Task Force could once again have a display at the State Fair, and the nature of this decision will be presented to the Task Force by Alan Zeilinger.

[May 25, 1978]

- A. Presentation by Alan Zeilinger
- B. Questions & Discussion
- C. Action

VII. REQUEST FROM CLEVELAND HEALTH MUSEUM

As reported in the past, the Cleveland Health Museum is willing to develop an exhibit on medical care in Israel, but needs approximately \$3,000 for support beyond funds available through the Museum for this purpose. Roy Rosenbaum has the details of the proposal.

- A. Presentation by Roy Rosenbaum
- B. Questions
- C. Action, as Follows:

Approval by the Task Force a \$1,500 grant and authorization that the Task Force approach the Endowment Fund Committee for the remaining \$1,500.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

ZIONISM

A Response to the United Nations



Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver
Chairman
Israel Information and
Education Committee
Jewish Community Federation
Cleveland, Ohio

ZIONISM

A Response to the United Nations

Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver
Chairman
Israel Information and
Education Committee
Jewish Community Federation
Cleveland, Ohio

There were 72 yes votes, 35 no votes and 32 abstentions. The 72 yes represented the Communist world, the Arab world, and a significant number of states from the so-called Third World. The 35 no's were cast by the states of Western Europe, some of the countries of Latin America, the British Commonwealth and the United States. Abstentions came from the non-Communist countries of South-east Asia, a majority of the countries in South America, and a few of the newly independent sub-Saharan nations of Africa. The November 10 vote by the General Assembly of the United Nations, of course, had to do with the definition of Zionism "as a form of racism and of racial discrimination."

This decision was denounced as "outrageous" by our ambassador to the United Nations. Secretary of State Kissinger declared that the United States would act as if the vote had not been cast. If the near unanimity of editorial comment condemning this decision accurately mirrors the reaction of the American people, then we must say that our neighbors recognized the big lie for what it is and reacted intelligently to a crude and cruel display of power.

Veteran observers of the United Nations explained the vote as due to Arab initiative combined with Communist ideology; to votes bought by oil and promises of oil; to old-fashioned anti-semitism; to knee-jerking anti-Americanism and to ignorance. Zionism has become one of a number of shibboleths loose in our world — colonialism, imperialism, zionism — which are part of a mindless litany chanted by angry folk to damn anything and everything they hate. Whatever the ugly reasons, the

vote was cast and this action has further weakened support of the United Nations in the West; not only because of its patent injustice, but because it commits the General Assembly to anti-Israel activity during a previously proclaimed "Decade Against Racism."

I was encouraged by the understanding of our neighbors and by their ability to recognize the big lie and the patent cynicism of this diplomatic maneuver; but if the many knew that the vote was wrong, few could explain why. There is much confusion as to the meaning of Zionism. There is a need for understanding which takes us beyond the currently popular definition: "Zionism is a program for the national liberation of the Jewish people."

Let me suggest a definition of Zionism based upon four themes: that Zionism is the natural outgrowth of Biblical thought, particularly of Biblical messianism; that Zionism differs from Biblical thought in one major respect, it is activist; that Zionism is a program for an unredeemed world; and, finally, that Zionism is a program designed to rehabilitate the individual Jew, the Jewish people and Judaism.

God's initial summons to a Jew, to Abraham, required him to leave Ur of the Chaldees for a new land. Abraham was told simply: "Go to the land that I will show you, and be a blessing." Once Abraham had settled in that land God made a covenant with him. In return for his pledge of obedience God promised Abraham that this land "will be yours, and your seed forever."

When God confronted Moses at the Burning Bush, He placed two obligations upon him; to bring the children of Israel out of Egypt and to lead the tribes to the Promised Land. When the tribes of Israel affirmed God's word at Sinai, they accepted the bonds of a covenant relationship, inextricably bound up with land. God spoke. The people assented. God warned: "If you accept these commands you are duty bound to them; if you obey them it will be well with you, you will live in security on your land; if you are disobedient I will close up the heavens, there will not be rain; I will drive you off the land." Land is an essential category in the covenant's understanding of reward and punishment.

Biblical prophecy is best explained as an interpretation of Jewish history which elaborates a single insight: the fate of Israel and Judah are not determined by ordinary consideration of political power, but by the quality of national obedience to the covenant regulations. 'If ye are willing and obey ye shall be secure in the land; if ye be disobedient and sinful you will be driven off the land.' When Israel and Judah suffered defeat, the prophets interpreted the successive disasters as God's doing, consequent on the nation's sinful living. It was not that the army was weak, but that the nation had been disobedient. Once exiled for their sins, this people, accustomed to covenant thinking, expected to return if and when they showed themselves worthy. If they were repentant and proved themselves loyal God would forgive them and bring them back home.

ZIONISM (continued)

The word used in Biblical thought for repentance, *teshuvah*, comes from a root *shuv*, which implies both contrition and the physical act of returning to one's place. *Teshuvah* suggests etymologically as well as conceptually that repentance is both a moral stance and a posture which will lead to a return to the land. Exile was always *galut*, a state of alienation from God. To travel to the Holy Land is *aliyah* a going up; and to leave the land is *yeridah* a going down. One was closer to God in the land than off the land.

On Passover, our annual celebration of redemption, we end the Seder with the hope: "next year in Jerusalem." Our hope, indeed, all of Jewish messianism, is rooted in the concept of freedom and security on our land. Jews sanctified this connection of land and covenant, not simply out of piety and doggedness, but because it expressed their/our understanding of redemption. Judaism insists that redemption is possible in the here and now as well as in the world-to-come. We do not accept the image of life as an endless trial, a hapless burden, with all blessings reserved to come after life. Because of this considered theological position our promises must necessarily be understood in terms of a particular people in a particular place at a particular time. A well ordered society cannot exist in the abstract. Any redemption this side of the grave must involve a particular place and a particular people. I must add that even those traditions which looked upon this life as a *via dolorosa*, a way of tears, who believe that there can be no happiness this side of the grave, instinctively apply categories of space to heaven by turning it into a restricted subdivision reserved for like-minded folk.

Zionism grows out of Biblical thought, particularly out of Biblical messianism; but Zionism differs from Biblical thought in that it is activist. Zionism is not satisfied to fold the hands and say a prayer for the coming of the messiah. Zionism is not satisfied with liturgies of confession and breast-beating designed to convince God of our contrition. During every century after the destruction of the Temple, pious folk went up to Jerusalem to offer their prayers in the holy city for Israel's early return to Zion, for redemption. The *Avelei Zion*, or Mourners for Zion, believed that by offering devotion at the ruins of the Temple and exposing their misery they would move God to speed the coming of the messiah. Sons of a people inured to political impotence, it did not occur to them that they might buy a farm and cultivate the land and so hasten its redemption. Their faith, Biblical faith, knew that God was in full control of history. The prophets did not organize politically for the economic and social development of Judea; their political program was limited to summoning Jews to repentance and righteousness. If and when Israel lived obediently, God would let Israel live in peace.

Biblical and medieval thought is pious and submissive. "Not by power nor by might, but by My spirit." Modern thought is activist and eager to be up and doing. In many ways the social gospel of contemporary Christianity is a parallel development to Zionism. In both, man is seen as an active partner with God in the work of creation. Neither is satisfied that the poor will always be among us, that conditions must remain as they are until God intervenes.

During the General Assembly debate an Arab diplomat, Abdallah al-Sayegh, informed the Assembly that Arabs have no quarrel with Judaism. Arabs, he said, applaud Judaism, but Zionism is not an essential element in the Jewish tradition, indeed, it is a bastardization of that tradition. His proof? The existence of opposition to Zionism within the Jewish camp. Al-Sayegh claimed that the racism resolution simply repeated what "Jewish intellectuals" had often said. Al-Sayegh spoke with a forked tongue, but he was right to this extent: during the nineteenth century significant numbers of Jews were opposed to practical Zionism for reasons of orthodox piety. They were the heirs of those who had believed with every fiber of their being that God would bring the messiah and create the Jewish State on His own, in His time. Conditioned to impotence and to the concept of a supernatural redemption such pious folk looked on practical programs of renewal as either blasphemous or pointless. It was as if Israel no longer trusted God. Further, many had known at first hand the devastating consequence of earlier "Zionist" activities; more than once a charismatic had proclaimed himself to be the messiah and had raised people's hopes only to dash them when his apostasy proved false. But we must be clear on this. These pious folk were no less Zionist for all their fears of practical programs. They prayed every day for their return to Zion, and as the possibility of establishing a national home by political means emerged as a realistic possibility, the vast majority of these traditionalists fell behind it. It should be added that the first practi-

cal Zionists of the nineteenth century were orthodox rabbis from Eastern Europe, men like Yehudah Alkalai and Zvi Hirsch Kalischer, who argued that it was an act of strict piety to begin the reclamation of the Holy Land. They argued from the nature of *teshuvah*, repentance. We do not expect God to forgive us without evidence of a change of heart on our parts. Repentance must precede forgiveness. The initiative must be ours. Must we not show some initiative if we expect national forgiveness? Let our people go to the Holy Land. Let them establish farms and found cities and build schools. God will see that we are eager to please Him and He may turn towards us and complete our beginning.

Zionism is a natural outgrowth of Biblical thought; Zionism diverges from Biblical thought in that it is activist; and Zionism is a program for action within the context of an unredeemed world.

Until the second World War two political analyses were current among Jews. The Jews of the West, particularly those of France, England and the United States found themselves in a world which by contrast to the past seemed a paradise. The once excluded were now citizens. Instead of being locked into a ghetto they were free to move about. If you read the so-called theological writings of the newly enfranchised bourgeois Jews of the West, you will find many who believed that the messianic times were at hand. "In the 19th century civilization began," Isaac Mayer Wise. "In a matter of a few years universal peace will reign," Isaac Mayer Wise. "The old barriers between people are coming down," Isaac Mayer Wise. I do not pick out Isaac Mayer Wise to pillory him or to parody him. He is simply typical of tens of hundreds of bourgeois Jews who had escaped from oppression and who now found themselves in a dazzling world full of freedoms and possibilities. Such liberated Jews, with their growing bank accounts and enlarged sense of belonging, could not believe that their brave new world required Jews to give much thought to their Jewishness, much less to the creation of a Jewish National Home. This was a time for men of progressive attitudes to cooperate, not separate. They could not imagine Jews leaving the golden streets of New York or Cleveland for the barren wastes of a backwater province of the Turkish empire. They believed in the melting pot. Why erect fences? They believed in a universal brotherhood of men of good will. Why take Jews out of that community? They had just escaped from a state of their own, the ghetto. Why create a new Jewish State?

Yes, there was opposition within the Jewish community to Zionism. The bourgeois Jew of the West read his history as a drama of progress, beginning with the French Revolution, with liberty, equality and fraternity, and developing into the promise of America. The Zionist read the nineteenth century as a time of promises made and promises broken. The principalities of Germany which had emancipated the Jew under Napoleonic pressure locked them up again after the Congress of Vienna. Yes, the universities taught new ideas, but these included new theories of anti-semitism based upon pseudo-scientific theories of race. Far from receding, anti-semitism had grown over the years into a powerful political force. In Vienna perhaps the most cultured city of the age, an anti-semitic party, so-labeled, which had only one plank in its platform, "to deprive the Jews of control of Vienna," won the mayor's seat and a majority of the city council. Nationalist parties throughout Europe began to popularize the theme that Jewish attitudes were subversive to the fundamental values of the nation. It was claimed that Jewish writers and artists introduced insidious ideas which subverted the purity and idealism of Germany or Austria or Poland or France. There was not less hate but more. The position of the Jew was not only insecure but hapless. If the Jew advanced, politically and socially, he incited envy and the envious used anti-semitism to eliminate competition. If the Jew failed to Westernize and remained an outcast he was pilloried as alien, a fossil, an anachronism.

Not all Jews were limited by their particular experience. A liberated Jew, the son of a privileged Austrian Jew, Theodore Herzl, clearly understood the bleak future for the Jew in Europe. Herzl was sent to Paris by his newspaper. There, at the cradle of liberty, he had his moment of truth. The headlines dealt with the Dreyfus Trial. The Jew Dreyfus, an army captain, had been convicted of treason on trumped-up charges manufactured by the high military eager to find a scapegoat for their own incompetence. Herzl was moved by this patent miscarriage of justice and transformed by the sight of tens of thousands of Frenchmen wearing black arm bands, marching down the Champs Elysees shouting "a bas les Juifs," down with the Jews; cursing the Jews as the arch enemy and anti-Christ. Then and there Herzl realized that anti-semitism was not simply a long-lived poison whose venom was

(continued)

ZIONISM (continued)

losing its sting, but a virulent and active disease for which there was no known remedy. Jews had to have a home of their own because Europe could never be a secure home. Jewish life would be crippled as long as it depended on Europe's diseased political environment. It was a time for action. "A people can be helped only by its own efforts, and if it cannot help itself it is beyond succor." It was a time to build a state. Herzl did not foresee *Mein Kampf* or Dachau or genocide; but he and his fellow Zionists attacked the naiveté of the bourgeois Jews who believed that the dark days were over. These were not messianic times. Jewish life had to be strengthened in Israel and out. "Zionism is a return to the Jewish fold even before it becomes a return to the Jewish land." Until the Jew had a place he could call his own, a national home where he would always be welcome, where his spirit could unfold naturally, his spirit would remain constrained and his political situation precarious.

The final element in Zionism is its program for the rehabilitation of the individual Jew, the Jewish people and of Judaism. When the bourgeois Jew of western Europe and the United States looked about, he was satisfied. He had had a certain success. He had made it. The bourgeois Jew lacked a keen sense of *K'lal Yisrael*, of the unity of the Jewish people. He preferred not to look at the poor Jews of eastern Europe, who, unfortunately, had not had his advantages. They were a strange people. They spoke a jargon called Yiddish. He might send them charity, but he certainly did not want them as neighbors. They were not his kind.

When the Zionists looked at the Jews of the ghettos and of eastern Europe they, too, did not like what they saw, but they refused to put these Jews out of mind. Zionism expresses fraternity and mutual responsibility. The Zionists saw in the pale of settlement what Robert Coles and others have taught us to see in the ghettos of our western cities — men and women brutalized by a cruel and impoverished environment and by experiences which have rendered them incapable of fulfilling their potential as human beings. The Zionists did not try to hide the unfortunate characteristics of the huddled masses. Yes, many of them were far too shrewd; yes, many of them were idle, never having been able to earn a living; yes, many of them cringed when a muzik walked by; and yes, there was much in their home life which was not pretty. The Zionists saw the Jew as he was and the Jew as he might be. Zionism was proposed as a movement for the rehabilitation and spiritual renewal for the Jew. Hebrew instead of Yiddish. Schools on farms instead of the medieval heder. New role models, the Maccabees and the Biblical Judges to complement that old scholar bent over his books. Until the second World War, most of the money raised by the Zionist movement was spent in Europe, not in Palestine. It was spent to purchase farms where young Jews could go and learn agriculture, to establish vocational schools where young Jews could learn the skills of a modern society, to establish community centers where young Jews could express the Jewish spirit in a modern context. Zionism saw the potential of the Jew to be a human being and was convinced that as a human being the Jew would not only be happier but be a better citizen of the world. Zionism was a program for Jewish renewal, but that hardly makes it racist.

Every program espoused by men of sensitivity for the renewal of their particular nation was espoused by one or another Zionist for the renewal of the Jewish people. Tolstoy told his fellow Russians to go back to the land and sweat the corruption of the city out of their souls with honest labor. Zionists like A. D. Gordon said to the Jew: "Labor is our cure. Centuries ago you were driven off the land. Life in the crowded cities has corrupted the Jewish soul. Let us go back to the land. Work with our hands. The poisons of the ghetto will be sweated out of our bodies by our daily labors under the sun. You will find your back straightening, your mind clearing."

The Jewish communities of Europe had known all the usual divisions between rich and poor; and all the usual abuses. Community was imposed from above rather than by democratic means. Zionism suggested programs to end all class divisions. Ben Zvi, Borochoy and others wrote of true community, of an end to privilege, of socialism, of the *kibbutz*, of sharing labor and benefits.

Though secular learning had replaced medieval scholasticism and superstition in much of Europe, Judaism was still deeply enmeshed in kaballah and the superstitious overlay of medieval life. The Ahad Ha-Am's of Zionism looked upon the rebuilding of the national home as an opportunity to create modern cultural and academic institutions which would reshape and unlock the spiritual energies of an historically creative people. Theirs was the Zionism of "a great cultural institution in Palestine, attracting to itself a large number of gifted Jewish scholars working in a Jewish atmosphere, free from repression and not unduly subject to extraneous influences, becoming a source of new inspiration to the Jewish people as a whole and bringing about a true revival of Judaism and Jewish culture" — a Hebrew University.

Zionism was not created to solve a refugee problem. That need came later. Zionism was a reform of all of the institutions of a people determined to remain a people because ours is not yet a utopian age. Zionism was created to renew the Jewish people and to enlarge the possibilities of the Jewish spirit.

Al-Sayegh was right to this extent; in the West, particularly among those who had bettered themselves economically, Zionism was mistrusted and misunderstood. He was wrong when he implied that there is today any major division of mind among Jews about Zionism. Beginning when Great Britain closed the doors to Palestine in the 1930's and ending when the allied armies opened the gates of the death camps, a series of incredibly bitter lessons transformed all Jews into Zionists. Herzl's analysis made in the nineteenth century proved out in the twentieth. Jews emerged from World War II having learned two lessons: First, that we could not trust the good will of the West. Great Britain had closed the doors to Palestine precisely at the moment when Jews most desperately needed to come. The United States had kept its doors shut tight precisely during the decade when Hitler's refugees needed a place of refuge. Second, that anti-semitism had the power to turn people into efficient butchers of Jews. We cannot put out of mind Hannah Arendt's phrase describing the activity of Eichmann, "the banality of evil." These two lessons, hard-learned by many Jews, turned all who cared about Judaism into Zionists, committed to the renewal of the Jewish creative spirit, to the intensification of Jewish life, to Jewish learning and programs of identity, to the survival of Jewish people.

Today there is a fifth element in Zionism and it is this — pride of accomplishment. Jewish pioneers turned a parched, blighted land into a fertile place. Jewish vision erected in an empty medieval land remarkable institutions of culture and true community. What we saw in the Jewish national home was significant to us, not simply because of national pride, but spiritually, as a symbol of what is possible in our world. Israel was the microcosm. If our people, the castouts of Europe, could take an unwanted piece of the earth and turn it green and build on it a graceful civilization, then what was not possible for mankind given will and determination? In some mysterious way our commitment to Israel is a commitment through Israel to the possibilities of human life. Zionism is a statement of hope in mankind's future.



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