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Zionist Organization of America, correspondence, 1969-1977.

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January 7, 1969

Congressman

The Honorable Ogden Rogers Reid
House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

202-224-3121

My dear Mr. Reid:

I recall with pleasure your visit to The Temple some years ago and our evening at the opera. I am writing to you now on behalf of The Cleveland Zionist Council of which I am president and the Jewish Community Centers of Cleveland. Each year we sponsor jointly an Israel Independence Day celebration. This year our meeting will take place on Tuesday evening, April 22nd which is, in fact, Yom Ha-atzmaut. We would very much like for you to be our principal speaker.

In the past we have had excellent meetings. The evening will consist of your speech, some choral music and a few remarks by myself as chairman. We will, of course, defray your expenses and will be happy to make available an appropriate honorarium. Will it be possible for you to be with us on that day? I would deem it a privilege to share the platform with you and hope that I can extend the hospitality of my home to you.

With all good wishes for the new year, I remain

Sincerely,

DANIEL JEREMY SILVER

DJS:rvf

ZIONIST COUNCIL OF CLEVELAND

Affiliated with American Zionist Council



March 5, 1969, meeting of the Cleveland Zionist Council was called to order at 8:45 p.m. by Vice President Savransky. Present, in addition, were: Leonard Narrow, Mrs. Jack Marks, Mrs. Joseph Merlin; Mr. & Mrs. M. Hearshen and Mrs. N. Wang of Hadassah; Julius Cogen of L.Z.O.A.; Mrs. M. Spero, Mrs. Yulish and Mrs. S. Lecht of Mizrahi Women, Mrs. S. Shore of Pioneer Women; Mr. Yosef Feigenbaum of B'nai Akiva and Leonard Schwartz.

Yom Atzmaut - Leonard Narrow

To date there is no speaker for the Celebration. Entertainment is being handled by J.C.C. and every thing is under control. Letters have been sent out regarding the Ed Braverman Memorial Award.

Aliyah Sunday - March 16, 1969

Julius Cogen reported for Dr. Baum ~~who~~ speaker of Hillel will be David E. Goldberg. Food arrangements and hostesses being provided by Mrs. Spero and Mrs. Tavens. Publicity on campus is being provided for. J.C.C. arrangements for interview is being handled by Mr. Brauner. Suggested coffee and pastry be provided at J.C.C. Mr. Cogen reported that a Kibbutz Aliyah Desk has been established in New York.

Information Seminar Committee - Mrs. Hearshen, Mrs. Shore and Mrs. Wang

The Seminar will be held March 30, 1969, at the Temple. Registration will take place 12:30 p.m. Fee is \$1.00. Sessions will begin at 1:00 p.m. Speakers will be Mr. Yitzah Leor of Israel Consulate, Dr. James Sheldon and Mrs. Max Matzkin. Invitations have been mailed to organizations and individuals. The next mailing will include the program of the day as well as admission cards.

Correspondence

Invitation to Zionist Council Leadership to apply for American Zionist Council Israel Seminar.

Delegate Assembly and Z.O.A. co-sponsoring next Delegate Assembly meeting March 18, featuring Father Flannery.

New Business

Suggested Daniel Mann be invited for April or May special meeting to discuss Confederation of Zionist Organizations.

Meeting adjourned 10:15 p.m.

Mrs. Estelle Shore,
Secretary pro Temp



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

WILLIAM E. MINSHALL

April 18, 1969

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I am writing to welcome to Cleveland Congressman Jim Fulton of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, whose staunch support and work in Congress for the good people of Israel I have admired through the years.

I wish I could be with you on this pleasant occasion as I know with what competence and high ability Jim Fulton has served as a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Jim Fulton has long been one of the outstanding supporters of the State of Israel and the good Israeli people in the United States Congress.

With my best wishes to you for a most successful meeting.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William E. Minshall".

William E. Minshall
M. C.

Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver
Chairman, Celebration of Israel's 21st Anniversary
The Temple
University Circle at Silver Park
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

April 23, 1969

The Honorable William E. Minshall
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman Minshall:

We were pleased to have Congressman Jim Fulton
with us yesterday and I was pleased to read to the
group your kind letter. With all good wishes, I
remain

Sincerely,

DANIEL JEREMY SILVER

JAMES G. FULTON

COMMITTEE:
SCIENCE, ETC.

FULTON BUILDING
FULTON STATION
PITTSBURGH 22, PA.

GRANT 1-0800
EXT. 625

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

30 April 1969

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Thank you for your cordial welcome to Cleveland Tuesday evening,
22 April 1969, which I appreciated.

The audience for the 21st Anniversary Celebration of Israel's
Independence of the Cleveland Zionist Council and Cleveland Jewish
Community was enthusiastic, and an excellent audience considering
the rainy evening.

Please thank your officers and members again for the wonderful
inspiring evening, as it made an occasion we will long remember.

Personal regards,

Sincerely,

Jim Fulton

JGF:rmc

May 6, 1969

The Honorable James G. Fulton
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

My dear Congressman Fulton:

It was a privilege to welcome you to Cleveland
and to introduce you to our Israel Independence
Day audience. Your speech left a fine impression
and I am delighted that you could be with us.

Sincerely,

DANIEL JEREMY SILVER

DJS:rvf

ZIONIST COUNCIL OF CLEVELAND

Affiliated with American Zionist Council



September 17, 1969

Rabbi Silver
The Temple
105th and Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

Dear Rabbi Silver,

At this Tuesday evening Cleveland Zionist Council meeting, we will be discussing the coming of Nachama Lipschitz, noted Russian, Yiddish and Israeli concert star to the Cleveland community Tuesday, October 21, at the Music Hall.

It is felt that the Cleveland Zionist Council should actively support her appearance here, both from a moral and financial point of view.

This performer recently escaped from the Soviet Union and is about to tour the United States. By supporting this concert, the Cleveland Zionist Council not only indicates their interest in this type of cultural event, but also has the opportunity to raise funds desperately needed to supplement the meager income normally received.

Unless you find serious objection to this endeavor, we shall assume it meets with your approval.

Sincerely,

Gilbert Savransky (ps)

Gilbert Savransky
Executive Vice President

*Estelle Shore
(Mrs. Sanford) (ps)*

Mrs. Sanford Shore (Estelle)
Educational Chairman

Mrs. SS/ps

To: Organization Presidents

From: Gilbert Savransky, Executive Vice President

Please be advised that at this time we must call upon you to enlarge your representation the Cleveland Zionist Council to ten (10) delegates.

Due to the national and local Federation of the Zionist Council, many areas of endeavor will be encompassed, therefore necessitating a vitalized and even more energetic Council.

Elections, as well as program plans, will soon be in effect. In order for your organization to be properly represented, we request that the names, addresses and phone numbers be set in immediately.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Send names of delegates to Mrs. Norman Singer
3485 Tullemore Road
Cleveland, Ohio 44118



[October 20, 1969]

ZIONIST COUNCIL OF CLEVELAND

Affiliated with American Zionist Council



October 20, 1969, meeting of the Cleveland Zionist Council was called to order by Gilbert Savransky, Executive Vice President. Present, in addition, were: Anita Hearshon and Belle Wang of Hadassah, Estelle Shore of Pioneer Women, Yosef Feigenbaum of Bnei Akiva, Leonard Narrow and Julius Cogen, Frances Frey of Z.O.A. and David Lev, Shaliach.

Decided to send letter to member organizations of Council to enlarge delegations to Council to ten (10).

Before first election of officers, copies of Federation by laws should be sent.

An attempt is being made with the assistance of David Lev to form all Jewish Youth Groups into a Jewish Youth Council - first meeting to be held Wednesday, October 22, at J.C.C. First point of Youth Council will be Yom Ha Atzmaut Celebrations. Report on rally for Soviet Jewry - feeling was that it was poorly organized. Recommended that it should be eliminated next year.

David Lev explained his position in Cleveland. He has been hired by Jewish Community Federation and the Youth Division of the Jewish Agency to

- 1) combat Arab propaganda on campus's and with youth
- 2) visit campuses to build attitude of youth toward Israel
- 3) promoting visits to Israel under the various programs available
- 4) developing Zionist Youth House on campus is; Oberlin - Case Western Reserve.

Ultimate goal is to make it possible for American and Israeli youth to communicate. He is not a member or part of J.C.C. staff. His desk is at J.C.C. only as a matter of convenience.

J.N.F. request youth of Box Collections.

American Zionist Council Mail --

Cleveland Aliyah Committee includes Rabbi Spero, Rabbi Marcus, Dr. Weinberg. It was requested these people and Rabbi Forman receive the mail of Zionist Council.

The letter recommended five areas the council should be working on at this time.

- 1) Aliyah Conference
- 2) Yom Ha Atzmaut 1970 - American Zionist Council will select ten major communities that they will help. (Gil Savransky recommended this year, youth be included in Celebration and that large committee be formed. Leonard Narrow met with Mark Feder. Require largest possible hall - Fairmount Temple or Knesset Hall.)
- 3) American Zionist Council is sponsoring a ten day tour of Israel in late January for people associated with the communication industry (newspaper, broadcasters, P.R. people) They requested we furnish names of such

[Oct 20, 1969]

Cleveland Zionist Council Minutes Continued
Page 2

people in our community.

- 4) Institute on Christian Clergy. On this subject Anita Hearshen announced a meeting to be held Friday with Howard Burger, Gil Savransky, Belle Vang and Estelle Shore to discuss going forward on this program. Julius Cogen suggested we compile our own list of clergy. Get speaker, send mailing asking if interested in attending a Middle East and Israel seminar and gemble.
- 5) Library Bookshelves for pro Israel books to be purchased for college libraries. The cost is \$35 per unit. After selecting the libraries, they should be placed with much publicity and fanfare.

Meeting adjourned.

Mrs. Sanford Shore (Estelle)
Secretary pro temp





ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

GREATER CLEVELAND DISTRICT

~~22045 TAYLOR ROAD~~
3730 Meadowbrook

CLEVELAND 18, OHIO

PHONE: FA 1-5575

Mr. Harry Steinberg
American Zionist Council
515 Park Ave.
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Mr. Steinberg,

I was instructed to write to you concerning our Israel Independence Day celebration of the Cleveland Zionist Council on Sunday evening, May 10th, 1970.

As chairman of the planning committee, I would appreciate any help you can give me relative to this celebration. We in Cleveland sponsor this annual event in conjunction with the Cleveland Jewish Community Center. The usual format is, the Center provides the entertainment and the Zionist Council provides the speaker. This year, in addition to the regular program, we would like to involve the Zionist youth of the community.

We would greatly appreciate it, if you could help us get a speaker of note and prominence. And, if you have any ideas of how to involve the Zionist youth on the program, we would be most grateful.

I understand that Cleveland is one of the target cities of the American Zionist Council's effort to put over an outstanding and meaningful Yom Haatzmaut celebration this coming year. We are ready for your help.

Sincerely yours,

Leonard Narrow

Leonard Narrow
Chairman, Planning
Committee

AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL

515 PARK AVENUE

Telephone PL 2-7745

NEW YORK N. Y. 10022

Cable Address: AMZIONIST

October 31, 1969

Mr. Leonard Narrow
Chairman, Planning Committee
Israel Independence Day Celebration
Zionist Organization of America
3730 Meadowbrook
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Mr. Narrow:

This acknowledges your recent letter re the Israel Independence Day Celebration of the Cleveland Zionist Council to be held on May 10, 1970, with the co-sponsorship of the Jewish Community Council.

You are correct in that we consider Cleveland to be one of the more important centers in which the AZC would wish to see meaningful Independence Day Celebrations this year, of the kind which will make an impact on your Jewish and general community, and hopefully do something also for the image of your Zionist community.

The AZC will be prepared to provide you with an important personality to address your Celebration, although at this time it is not possible to tell you which person will be available, or even whether he will be an American or an Israeli. We shall of course invite your suggestions as to your preferences, and the order in which they should be approached.

The condition that we attach to our assistance is simply that we want your Zionist community (which represents the Zionist image in Cleveland) to receive adequate visibility in this endeavor, and that a leading Zionist personality (with Zionist organizational credentials) be involved in a prominent aspect of the Celebration itself. Please let us know if your "partner" is amenable. Also, if there is any Resolution or Statement to emanate from the meeting, it must, of course, be one which is acceptable to your Zionist Council.

As for youth participation - this should cause no problem once our AZC is involved inasmuch as we could stimulate such involvement both through the AZYP as well as via our own national Zionist constituent bodies.

I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Harry A. Steinberg
Executive Director

CC: Mr. Daniel Silver
Mr. Gil Savransky

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

American Jewish League for Israel • Bnai Zion • Hadassah, Women's Zionist Organization of America • Religious Zionists of America (including Hapoel Hamizrachi Women and Mizrachi Women) • Labor Zionist Movement (including Poale Zion, Farband, Pioneer Women) • Progressive Zionist League—Hashomer Hatzair • United Labor Zionist Party (Achdut Avodah-Poale Zion) • United Zionists-Revisionists of America • Zionist Organization of America

הסוכנות היהודית — אגף אמריקאי

THE JEWISH AGENCY-AMERICAN SECTION, Inc.

515 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022

PLAZA 2-0600

CABLE ADDRESS: JEVAGENCY

February 18, 1970

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

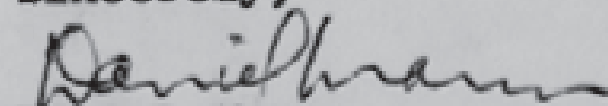
As you know we have established the American Zionist Federation with all of the organizations participating. In March we will send out suggestions for the setting-up of local Federations and the election of delegates to the First National Convention in Philadelphia at the end of May. Establishing the Federation is obviously not a panacea -- on the contrary, the tasks and challenges will be greater than before but it is providing an opportunity for unifying our present strength and reaching out to new elements, to a degree which we had not had heretofore, or at least in recent years.

The main purpose of this letter is not Federation but rather Soviet Jewry. Our Interim Chairman, Rabbi Israel Miller, has asked me to write you (and the other colleagues of the Cleveland Zionist Council with whom I have been in close contact during the past year and who are listed below) to urge your active participation in the regional conference on Soviet Jewry which will take place at the Sheraton in your city the week-end of February 28 and March 1st under the auspices of your CRC together with the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry. I need not tell you how active the Zionist movement has been in the conference since its inception. Rabbi Miller is one of its past Chairman and Rabbi Herschel Schacter of Mizrachi is now its new Chairman. We know that the Zionist groups in Cleveland are equally active and concerned so this is simply to add a word of encouragement so that there will be full participation of our groups both from Cleveland itself and from the area to be represented at this regional conference.

Since we note from your minutes that you will have a meeting of the Zionist Council this coming week, we would appreciate your giving some time and attention to this matter.

Our thanks for your cooperation and best personal regards.

Sincerely,



Daniel Mann
Coordinator, Interim Board
American Zionist Federation

DM:bt

cc: Mr. Gilbert Savransky, Mrs. Max Hearshen,
Mr. Julius Cogen, Mrs. Jack Marks, Mr. Leonard Narrow

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

Zionist Organization of America

CLEVELAND ZIONIST DISTRICT



2055 LEE ROAD

CLEVELAND, OHIO 44118

PHONE: 371-2629

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Sandford Curtiss

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Simon Kadis
Conrad Morgenshtern
Jack Pearl

SECRETARY

Leonard Narrow

TREASURER

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Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver
Stanley Weisberg
Milton Wish
Harvey Wynbrandt
Bennett Yanowitz

March 11, 1970

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I know you are familiar with the Teen-Age Summer Camp Program at Kfar Silver in which quite a number of Cleveland teen-agers have participated in the past years. These young people have left Israel at the end of the summer with a deep feeling of love and kinship for the country and its people.

In order to bring this educational experience to as many youngsters as possible, the Cleveland Zionist District is able to offer partial scholarships of \$200 per child. Our only requirements are that the youngsters be chosen by your synagogue on the basis of performance or leadership in your school, that the synagogue match ZOA scholarship funds, and that the youngster be no older than 16 years of age in order that he or she may participate in our Masada Youth Group upon returning to this country.

The Zionist Organization of America also owns and operates two camps in this country, both of which have a Masada Teen-Age Leadership Machon. Camp Yehuda is in Leonidas, Michigan and Camp Masada in Rensselaerville, N. Y. Both camps are for boys and girls 8 to 17 years of age. Cost of the Michigan camp is approximately \$550 and we are able to offer a scholarship of \$50 for Camp Yehuda. Kfar Masada costs \$675 and we can offer a scholarship of \$75.

I hope The Temple will be able to participate in this scholarship program for Kfar Silver or the Z.O.A. camps in this country.

Sincerely,

Sandford Curtiss
Sandford Curtiss
President

SC:vf

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

Zionist Organization of America

CLEVELAND ZIONIST DISTRICT



2055 LEE ROAD

CLEVELAND, OHIO 44118

PHONE: 371-2629

July 7, 1970

PRESIDENT

Sanford Curtiss

VICE PRESIDENTS

Ernest O. Brody
Joel Garver
Simon Kadis
Conrad Morgenstern
Jack Pearl

SECRETARY

Robert Goldberg

TREASURER

Sam White

NAT'L VICE PRESIDENT

Gilbert Sarransky

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Maurice Saltzman
Gilbert Sarransky
Nathan Shafren
Michael Shapiro
Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver
James Simmons
Barnett Task
Sanford Wasserstrom
William A. Weiss
Eugene Weissbluth
Milton Wish
Bert L. Wolstein
Bernard J. Wyman
Bennett Yanowitz
Arthur Zolten

Dear Rabbi Dan:

Please accept my personal congratulations on your election to the Board of Directors of the Cleveland Zionist District for the coming year.

This is a year of deepening crisis for the State of Israel and for our own Zionist District. Each one of us must maintain our interest and vigilance to the outside dangers. As I stated at the Annual Meeting, the backbone of ZOA will be strengthened by what we do as an organization in the community this year.

We need your involvement in bringing to fruition many of the fine projects that have been started.

Our relationships with our youth...support of the Kfar Silver Concert...the economic and investment program...membership...the fight against anti-Zionism and anti-Israel forces that threaten to sap our strength...These are challenges that must be met fervently. With your help, it will be done.

Two important projects are immediate. One is the selection of Committee posts for Board members. Each member should select his committee in order of preference on the accompanying sheet and return it to us as soon as possible.

The second project is the ZOA National Convention which convenes in New York City on September 3-6 at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. We hope you will attend as a delegate to guarantee a strong delegation representing our District. Names of delegates must reach the office no later than July 20th in order that necessary credentials may be sent out before the Convention. Please note that expenses for attending the Convention are tax deductible.

In the meantime, please join with us in making the coming season one of the finest and most active in our history.

Sincerely,

Sanford Curtiss
Sanford Curtiss
President

SC/vf
Encl.

ZIONIST COUNCIL OF CLEVELAND

Affiliated with American Zionist Council



September 4, 1970

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

On September 24, 1970, at 8:15 P.M. at Temple Emanu El, the Cleveland Zionist Council will hold a public meeting to formally initiate the establishment of the Cleveland Zionist Federation.

At that time, we would be most honored and privileged to have you join with us, as one era concludes and hopefully a new Zionist advent occurs.

We especially would like to publicly express to you that night the total appreciation of the Zionist Council for your participation and efforts in behalf of the Council during your tenure of Presidency.

Your prompt response will be greatly appreciated.

Most Sincerely,

Gerald Baum

Dr. Gerald Baum
Zionist Federation
Constitutional Chr. Pro-tem

Estelle Shore

Mrs. Sanford Shore
Program Chairman

es/es
Mailing address
Mrs. Sanford Shore
18407 Scottsdale Blvd.
Shaker Heights, Ohio 44122

September 9, 1970

Dr. Gerald Baum
Zionist Federation Constitutional Chr. Pro-tem
% Mrs. Sanford Shore
18407 Scottsdale Blvd.
Shaker Heights, Ohio 44122

Dear Gerald:

I am grateful for your kind invitation to attend the initial meeting of the Cleveland Zionist Federation on Thursday, evening September 24th. Unfortunately, I cannot. A congregant, Adrian Fink, is running for Congress and I have a long standing commitment to attend his campaign dinner at the Cleveland Sheraton. You know I wish the Federation well. As chairman of the Israel Task Force I am sure we will work closely together on many urgent projects. You know you can count on my support in all Zionist activity.

Sincerely,

DANIEL JEREMY SILVER

DJS:rvf

MINUTES OF THE CLEVELAND ZIONIST DISTRICT BOARD MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23rd, 1970 AT THE HOME OF CONRAD MORGENSTERN,
20150 SHAKER BLVD.

PRESENT: Dr. David Barben, Mrs. David Barben, Avery Cohen, Sol Comet, Jerome J. Curtiss, Sandford Curtiss, Adrian B. Fink, Dr. Simon Fisher, Simon Kadis, Mrs. Simon Kadis, Conrad Morgenstern, Alec Nathanson, Jack Pearl, Gilbert Savransky, Michael Shapiro, James Simmons, Sam White, Milton Wish and Mrs. Gerda Levine; Guest: Mrs. Gilbert Savransky.

Since Minutes are mailed to all Board members, reading of last month's Minutes was waived.

Conrad Morgenstern reported on the progress the Zionist Federation had made both nationally and locally in establishing itself. He explained its purpose and function and announced that two Clevelanders, Gilbert Savransky of ZOA and Anita Hearshen of Hadassah had been named to its national Board. The following were appointed as delegates to the Federation: Sandford Curtiss, Joel Garver, Simon Kadis, Jack Pearl, Gilbert Savransky, and Bernard Wyman. Alternates would be Mrs. Frances Frey, Mrs. Ziona Kadis and Leonard Narrow. Gilbert Savransky will serve as Chairman of the delegation and will be responsible for urging all delegates to attend meetings. Alternates will be permitted to attend all meetings, but will have no vote unless a delegate is absent.

Mr. Morgenstern submitted the revised Constitution to the Board. It was moved and seconded that the Constitution be adopted, but that the authorized delegates of the ZOA may make necessary changes in grammar, etc. This motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. Morgenstern briefly mentioned the recent JNF luncheon at which Herman L. Weisman, newly elected ZOA President spoke. He reported that a private meeting took place between Mr. Weisman and ZOA leaders afterwards and that he looks forward to a very productive relationship with Herman Weisman.

Simon Kadis reported on the recent 73rd national Convention, which took place in New York City September 3rd - 6th. He urged Board members to attend Conventions, which are always exciting and interesting and which give everyone an opportunity to participate in the workings of the organization. He announced that next year's Convention will take place in Pittsburgh and expressed the hope that a large delegation from Cleveland will attend.

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Savransky described their experiences in the Workshops which preceded the Convention.

Mr. Morgenstern discussed the Rabbis' Call proclamation, and asked that Board members discuss membership drives and sermonic appeals with their rabbis. It was also agreed that the Rabbis' Call would be published in the Cleveland Jewish News.

[Sept 23, 1970]

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Mr. Morgenstern appointed the following Committee Chairmen:

Membership Committee: Gilbert Savransky and Sanford Wasserstrom

Public Affairs Committee: Avery Cohen, Chairman; Conrad Morgenstern, Co-Chairman

Program Committee: Simon Kadis, Chairman; Frank Colb, Co-Chairman

Publicity Committee: Sandford Curtiss

AZF Committee: Gilbert Savransky, Chairman; Joel Garver, Co-Chairman

Mr. Morgenstern invited Board members to make suggestions for President of the important Women's Committee. It was agreed that a meeting with all Chairmen will take place shortly after the holidays.

The financial report was given by Mrs. Levine, who also reported on Masada.

Mr. Morgenstern discussed an ad which had recently appeared in the New York Times and spoke of local efforts to insert this ad in the Plain Dealer. It is hoped that this can be done within the next few days.

Mr. Morgenstern summed up recent political events in the Middle East, including the hijackings of four planes and expressed the view that this is a unique opportunity to rally the American Jewish public to the cause of Zionism. He urged Board members to interest others in membership in ZOA. Adrian Fink apprised the Board of a telegram he had sent to the White House expressing concern for Israel, and subsequent phone conversations he had had with government sources.

Mrs. Levine was instructed to send a letter of thanks to WEWS-TV for giving Clevelanders the opportunity to see and hear Mrs. Golda Meir.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerda Levine
Secretary pro tem

GL/vf

[1970]

MINUTES OF THE CLEVELAND ZIONIST DISTRICT BOARD MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15th AT THE HOME OF GILBERT
SAVRANSKY, 28475 BELCOURT ROAD.

PRESENT: Avery S. Cohen, Frank Colb, Sol Comet, Jerome Curtiss, Sandford Curtiss, Adrian Fink, Robert Goldberg, Simon Kadis, Mrs. Simon Kadis, Conrad J. Morgenstern, Gilbert Savransky, Mrs. Belle Savransky, Bernard Wyman, and Mrs. Gerda Levine; Guest: Dr. Michael Eisenstadt.

Minutes of the previous Board meeting were accepted as read.

Gilbert Savransky reported briefly on the National Executive Committee meeting held in New York December 5th and 6th. He also spoke about a meeting held by the Committee of 100, composed of Z.O.A. leaders from throughout the country for the purpose of increasing the organization's membership. The NEC has asked each Board member to bring three new members into the organization, and Mr. Savransky urged the local Board to implement this directive.

Sandford Curtiss reported that he had been appointed Chairman of the Zionist Federation's Nominating Committee. A representative of each of the seven constituent groups would be named an officer, and he had been asked to nominate a Z.O.A. member for Vice-President. He also informed the Board that Dr. Jerry Baum has been nominated as the Federation's President, Mrs. Belle Wang of Hadassah will serve as a Vice-President, as will Mrs. Eppie Shore of Pioneer Women. Mr. Curtiss was directed to consult with two additional Board members of the Z.O.A. in order to find a suitable nominee. This group will also make a recommendation to the Board by the next Executive Committee meeting on the six persons who will be serving on the Federation Board. There followed a lengthy discussion on the Federation, particularly as it may affect the membership rolls of constituent organizations and Mr. Morgenstern told the Board that he had written to Dr. Baum concerning a proposed resolution on rules governing individual membership in the Federation, to which he had not yet received a response.

The Taft Testimonial was then discussed, with Mrs. Levine giving a rough outline of projected working plans. The following will act as Co-Chairmen: Sandford Curtiss, Adrian Fink, Joel Garver, Simon Kadis, Conrad Morgenstern and Gilbert Savransky. After some discussion it was agreed to hold an Executive Committee meeting on Wednesday, December 23rd, at 8:15 P. M., to discuss further plans for this event.

Avery Cohen discussed some aspects of public affairs.

Mrs. Levine reported on plans for the summer teen-age camp and on the progress of Masada.

Treasurer Frank Colb gave a financial report.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerda Levine
Secretary pro tem

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

Zionist Organization of America

CLEVELAND ZIONIST DISTRICT



2055 LEE ROAD • CLEVELAND, OHIO 44118 • PHONE: 371-2629

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FIRST ANNUAL

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver Award

CONRAD J. MORGENSTERN, General Chairman

February 22, 1971

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

Dear Rabbi:

I thank you very much for your generosity and we certainly appreciate all of the assistance which you have given us.

I will not forget the cordial and helpful way in which you have received my many requests for assistance.

Sincerely,

CONRAD J. MORGENSTERN

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Chairman

Frank Collb
Sandford Curtiss
Robert Goldberg
Simon Kadis
Jack Pearl
Gilbert Savransky
Co-Chairmen

CIVIC COMMITTEE

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Jordan Band
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Rabbi Armond E. Cohen
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M. David Fedman
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Irwin Marmorstein
Judge Harry T. Marshall
Mrs. Conrad J. Morgenstern
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Albert B. Ratner
Max Ratner
Judge Manuel Rucker
Rabbi Rudolph M. Rosenthal
Mrs. Gilbert Savransky
Lloyd S. Schwenger
Mrs. Abba Hillel Silver
Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver
Saul Stillman
Harry H. Stone
Irving I. Stone
Norman Wein
Judge Daniel H. Wasserman
Jerome A. Weinberger
Bennett Yanowitz
Sidney Zilber

(Committee in
formation)

CJM/vf

February 24, 1971

Mr. Max M. Axelrod
Fidelity Building, Room 515
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

Dear Max:

I have forwarded your check to the Cleveland Zionist District office of the Zionist Organization of America, which is sponsoring this event, the Abba Hillel Silver Memorial Award. They will acknowledge receipt of the check.

I am sorry you will be unable to be there that afternoon. With all good wishes, I remain,

Sincerely,

DJS:mgm

Daniel Jeremy Silver

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

September 9, 1971

Amnon Golan, Director
Public Relations and Information Department
Tel Aviv University
Ramat Aviv, Tel Aviv

Dear Mr. Golan:

I am sure you understand how relieved we all are that the Tel Aviv/Kent program is now assured. Also, we are optimistic that the projected minimum of thirty participants will be surpassed perhaps by a sizable number. Final registration will be December 1 and I shall contact you immediately so that you will be able to plan accordingly.

There are several items that need clarification at this time:

1. I accept with pleasure your invitation to teach a three semester hour course titled "Introduction to Modern Art". In order to do this I will need to know what kind of facilities, library and visual aids are available. I note that there is an excellent museum, perhaps affiliated with TAU. A lecture room equipped to show slides may be available through the museum. Also, is there an available slide collection? If not (and perhaps in any case) would it be possible to meet with students in museums in which there are modern and contemporary art collections? Further, would you send me the addresses of the appropriate curators or directors of museums (and possibly galleries that might cooperate). The problem is, of course, that we are dealing with a visual field and the usual facilities of a university are not necessarily suitable. While I might be able to locate some slides here, the collection would be limited and, therefore, the course would suffer in quality. I almost hesitate to bring up still another idea; in your opinion would it be possible to bring in some Israeli contemporary artists and craftsmen for lectures and also visit their studios (for example, Jaffe is close by)?

2. I am pleased that we have received from you a list of courses. There are a few questions, however. It is not clear whether the ulpan constitutes the "3 to 6 credits of Hebrew language studies". I am in complete agreement that students must participate in the ulpan, but if the 3 to 6 hours of language

Mr. Golan
Page 2
September 9, 1971

requirements is over and above this amount, than this is a modification of one dimension of our original understanding which made study of the Hebrew language beyond the ulpan option. Perhaps all students will want to participate, but some already will have met their university language requirements and others, because of major field requirements, should have the opportunity to continue, at least in part, the range of course offerings required here. I am sure we can iron out this problem, if it is one. However, the latter point is important. I note that your overseas student catalogue of courses is more extensive than the one listed by you. The list that you sent me is particularly commendable in providing students with an insight to the culture of Israel, but I find it disappointing that such courses as the following have not been listed:

Introduction to Philosophy
Introduction to International Relations
Introduction to Statistics
Introduction to Logic
Introduction to Economics
Geography of the Middle East
Legacy of the Classical World
Government and Politics in China and Japan
Political Systems in Developing Countries: The
African Case
Theories of Personality
Jewish Philosophy
Developmental Psychology
Comparative Study of Youth Cultures

All of the above courses could be used as substitutions for general requirements at Kent. Some, indeed, could apply to major fields. It is, of course, understood that there may be insufficient enrollment to insure the offering of all of the additional courses, but if TAU could expand the curriculum I can very quickly send you a course enrollment analysis so that under-enrolled courses can be eliminated.

A list of instructors, for our enrollment purposes, also would be helpful.

3. I am delighted to hear that the students will be staying in Kfar Hamaccabia. I have been told that these are quarters built for athletes participating in the annual athletic events and are of excellent quality and close to the university. Will there be sufficient units if we exceed the minimum thirty by a substantial number?

Mr. Golan
Page 3
September 9, 1971

4. There is only the briefest mention of "trips". I assume this refers to the field trips which will be offered by TAU as part of the educational experience. Again, so that we can be explicit as possible with our students, may we have a description of this portion of the program? Is it essentially what is listed under Extra Curricular Activities?

5. As a means to bring up the credit hours to a level consistent with two quarters of involvement and also to provide a means to evaluate their educational experience, all of the students will be required to take six hours of seminar to be completed when they return to Kent. Therefore, there will be a need for an informal gathering place in the evening large enough to accomodate the entire group. I am hopeful that such a space will be available in the dormitory area, if not at the university. Would you verify?

6. Is my assumption accurate that there will be some kind of office space available for my assistant and me?

7. As we had discussed earlier, Kent is providing for a teaching fellow who will serve as my assistant and also have primary responsibility for the six hour seminar mentioned above. He or she will, of course, need living quarters. It would be most desirable if my assistant stayed at Kfar Jamaccabia. Of course, the room will be paid for. Can this be arranged?

8. There are, of course, some personal questions. My wife and 12 year old daughter will be staying with me. We will need a two or three bedroom apartment, hopefully, close to the University. Does TAU provide such living accommodations, and if not, do you have a housing service that can provide such a service? If neither service is available I would appreciate it if you can provide an address of an agency that can be of help. Of course, we will be willing to pay a reasonable rental (although I do not know what "reasonable" might mean in Israel).

9. I apologize for the length of this letter, but I hope that under the circumstances it is understandable. There are other questions that you may not be able to answer, such as whether it is advisable and/or financially feasible to bring in an automobile. Perhaps if you can send me the address of the proper office, such as the tourist office, I will be able to correspond directly with them.

Mr. Golan
Page 4
September 9, 1971

I am sure you will understand why some of the questions I have raised require a quick answer. And, also, I am hopeful that this letter does not conceal the anticipation with which the participating students and my family and I look forward to the beginning of the program.

Sincerely,

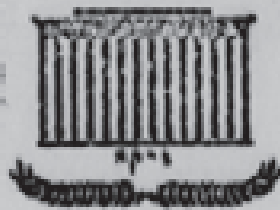
Harold Kitner

Harold Kitner
Director, Tel Aviv/Kent Program

HK:eb

cc: Howard Berger
Howard Rieger
President Robert I. White
Benjamin McGinnis





The Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland

1750 EUCLID AVENUE • CLEVELAND, OHIO 44115 • PHONE (216) 861-4340

September 10, 1971

Amnon Golan, Director
Public Relations and Information Department
Tel Aviv University
Ramat Aviv, Tel Aviv

Dear Mr. Golan:

I am just back to my desk after spending some time in Europe following my stay in Israel, and I have been pretty well brought up to date on the situation at Kent State. In view of the difficult situation we both faced during our conference, I think it may be well for me to put into writing the nature of our agreement so that there should be no ambiguity in the future.

We are obligating ourselves to subsidize the proposed Kent State-Tel Aviv program to the extent of \$2500, which we understand represents one half of the guarantee required by Kent State to underwrite the necessary faculty supervision. As I indicated to you at our conference, our funds for work with college youth, and more specifically, our major commitment to the exchange program between the School of Applied Social Sciences and Case Western Reserve University and Tel Aviv University really exhausted our available funds for the present year for this type of program, and it took a good deal of effort to enable us belatedly and after much difficulty to meet the emergency brought to our attention. I trust that the total amount of \$5000 will be sufficient, but if for any reason more is required, I am afraid that it would be quite impossible for us to go back once again to our people here. As Basil Herman stated during our conference, no one here at Federation had made any financial commitment of any kind and indeed, I have specifically stated that our financial help for this year would be limited to the Case Western Reserve - Tel Aviv program, and it has not been altogether a comfortable matter to reopen this affair with our people, after I had stressed to them the importance of the CWRU project and that they were not going to be asked for further support.

Nevertheless, I very much want to be of every help I can and, sharing your feeling that it would be most unfortunate if Kent State were to feel deserted at the last moment after guarantees had somehow been made to them, I worked out with you the arrangement that now seems to make the project possible.

....more

Amnon Golan, Director

-2-

September 10, 1971

I know that Dr. Kitner has written to you in detail raising a number of points in conjunction with the program. He takes the forthcoming program most seriously, as all of us here do - and I am quite confident Tel Aviv University does as well. In view of past difficulties and the importance of Kent State, you will forgive my emphasizing that every effort be made at your end to ensure that careful attention be given to the program's academic integrity and its utilization as an enriching experience.

I have the temerity to raise these issues with you only because I was so deeply impressed by the skill and dedication you brought to our conference. I must confess to you that I came to the meeting not very confident that we could work something out, but I was persuaded to do all I could because of the obvious energy and imagination you brought to bear on solving the problem before us. I therefore write to you asking that that same crucial care now be expended as we move into the implementation process.

When a successor to Basil Herman is selected to take charge of the work in America for Tel Aviv University, I trust that he will have some opportunity to meet with us, so that there can be more clarity than has been true in the past about how projects with communities can be undertaken, and the role of Federation in relating to them.

Best wishes for a constructive and peaceful New Year.

Cordially,

Sidney Z. Vincent
Executive Director

rp



The Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland

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

September 15, 1971

Dean Harold Kitner
101 Bowman Hall
Kent State University
Kent, Ohio

Dear Harold:

I received a copy of your letter to Amnon Golan dated September 9, 1971. I think that you have raised the most important questions and I would be very interested in knowing the kind of answer you receive.

In order to keep you informed of our activities on this end, I shared your letter with Sidney Vincent and as you arranged, Howard Berger received a copy directly. Sidney Vincent has written to Amnon Golan to indicate our real interest in this program and other endeavors in this area, and to request that Tel Aviv University grant as serious attention to this issue as is possible. I think that the answer to your letter will largely determine what role we can play in specific portions of the arrangements. In any case, I do hope you take Rabbi Silver up on an offer for several of us to play a role in the orientation process. I think this phase of the program can play a vital part in its success.

As you know, I will be on vacation from September 18 to October 12. I will be back in the office on October 12, but if you have any questions that need to be answered prior to that time, please feel free to contact Howard Berger of our staff.

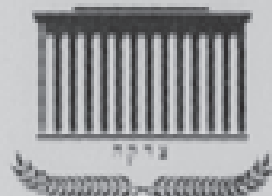
I am looking forward to future developments in this program.

Sincerely,

Howard M. Rieger

cc: Howard Berger
Rabbi Daniel J. Silver

lh



The Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland

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

September 15, 1971

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Enclosed you will find copies of two letters which I think will be of some interest to you. I think the letter from Harold Kitner indicates that Kent State University is moving ahead in line with some of our recommendations. In addition, I think Sidney Vincent's letter will probably have some impact upon Amnon Golan in terms of the manner in which he handles this matter.

I am sending a letter to Harold Kitner (a copy to follow) which requests that he begin planning for his orientation phase of the program and consider some of the source materials here in Cleveland that we spoke about when we met at The Temple Branch. As soon as I hear from him on this matter, I will let you know.

Sincerely,

Howard

Howard M. Rieger

lh

*my secretary
finished it
so it is enclosed
too jkr*

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

Zionist Organization of America

CLEVELAND ZIONIST DISTRICT



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November 29, 1971

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William A. Weiss
Eugene Weissbluth
Sam White
Milton Wish
Bernard Wyman
Bennett Yanowitz

Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver
The Temple
Ansel Road at Silver Park
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

Dear Rabbi Silver:

It gives us great pleasure to inform you that in recognition of your efforts to recruit members for the Zionist Organization of America during the past year, you will be presented with a Membership Award at a meeting to be held on Wednesday, December 8th, at 8:00 p.m. at the Temple on the Heights.

We hope it will be possible for you to receive this Award personally. However, if it is not possible, will you please designate someone to accept this Award for you. You may want to call Mrs. Levine to inform her if you are able to join us or if you will have someone else accept for you.

Sincerely yours,

Michael Eisenstat

Michael Eisenstat, M.D.

Max M. Pomerantz

Max M. Pomerantz, M.D.

Membership Co-Chairmen

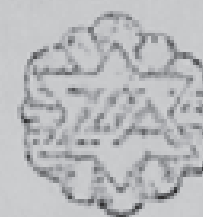
vf

*Called Mrs. Levine 12/1/71
Rabbi S. could not be there
personally - someone else
can accept*

"Service to American Jewry and Israel through Zionism"

התאחדות הציונים בלשונות זרות

Zionist Organization of America



145 EAST 32nd STREET • NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016 • MU 3-9200 • CABLES: ZIONISTS, N.Y.

In Israel:
ZOA HOUSE
1 DANIEL FRISCH ST., TEL-AVIV
CABLES: ZOAGUSE, TEL-AVIV

June 13, 1972

Dear

We have learned that a letter critical of the Mollie Goodman Academic High School, established in Israel by the Zionist Organization of America, has been sent to your attention. A similar letter was sent to parents of the students enrolled in the school for the 1972-73 term.

The charges in the letter are untrue. Also, while the letter implied that it represented the school's entire student body, our investigation has determined that it was sent by a handful of students, goaded by a disgruntled ex-employee.

Understandably, our immediate concern is the consternation the letter evoked among the parents of students enrolled for next year. Therefore, we have prepared a letter to those parents in response to the charges. Since the student's letter was also sent to you, we are enclosing a copy of our response for your information.

The entire situation is most unfortunate. As our letter to the parents indicates, the experience of the preponderant majority of the students at the school has been wholesome and worthwhile.

If you wish to inquire further into the issue, please do not hesitate to call this office.

Sincerely yours,

Chaim Danieli

Chaim Danieli
Chairman of the Board in Israel

enc.

LET US MEET IN ISRAEL...

75TH ZOA JUBILEE CONVENTION

JULY 12-19, 1972

Jerusalem • Tel Aviv • Caesarea • Kfar Silver



In Israel:
ZOA HOUSE
1 DANIEL FRISCH ST., TEL AVIV
CABLES: ZOAHOUSE, TEL AVIV

145 EAST 32nd STREET • NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016 • MU 3-9200 • CABLES: ZIONISTS, N.Y.

June 13, 1972

Dear parent:

I regret the necessity to write you, in my capacity as chairman in Israel of the Board of the Mollie Goodman Academic High School, with regard to a letter I understand you have received from a small group of Mollie Goodman students. That letter, purporting to represent the entire student body, makes a number of harsh allegations concerning the staff, curriculum, facilities and general conditions at the school.

I can appreciate your bewilderment over the letter, and the doubts it may have evoked in light of your child's acceptance for the 1972-73 term. I am writing you, therefore, not with the specific intent of trying to defend Mollie Goodman against the students' charge -- the school's reputation needs no "defense" -- but instead to allay any apprehensions that your child may experience difficulties as mentioned in the letter.

First, a word on who sent the letter, which is signed, "The Mollie Goodman Student Body." The signature is misrepresentative; we have learned that the letter was formulated by three students who were instigated by a disgruntled former employee.

What can one say about the students who did, in fact, compose and mail you the letter? The almost daily newspaper headlines testify to the restive nature of today's youth, who often feel compelled to flex their muscles in protest against the establishment. As is the case on so many American campuses, those students who protest -- simply for the sake of protest -- do not represent the views or feelings of their peers.

A more accurate picture of the atmosphere at Mollie Goodman can be ascertained in these excerpts from letter sent to the school's administration by two students there. Each speaks eloquently for itself.

- more -

LET US MEET IN ISRAEL...

75TH ZOA JUBILEE CONVENTION

JULY 12-19, 1972

Jerusalem • Tel Aviv • Caesarea • Kir Silver

"I have continuously heard students say that high school is irrelevant, it doesn't prepare you for the outside world. Mollie Goodman, however, sure does..... The dormitories are really convenient, the campus magnificent. I can sum up the year as being fantastic."

"The end of this term is numbered by only a few more weeks, and I am regretting the time I will have to leave Israel. This year has been one of the most fulfilling years of my whole life. I have found a dream come true to me....."

With the above in mind, allow me to answer the matters raised in the students' letter:

There was a complaint concerning the fact that the Mollie Goodman School shares the ZOA campus with Kfar Silver Agricultural High School, whose student body is primarily Israeli. The letter spoke of the language barrier and of supposed hostility and distrust between the two student bodies.

In response, I would again quote from letters from two other Mollie Goodman students:

"A lot of the Kfar Silver kids thought all American Jews were wealthy and spoiled, and at first they weren't too eager to have anything to do with us. We had our own hangups about what we thought Israel and Israelis would be like. . . . It took a while for them to get to know and understand us for what we really are, and for us to get rid of our dreams and adjust to the day-to-day realities. When we were ready to do this, we discovered that Jews in Israel are culturally together."

"You gain a tremendous amount by living with a diversity of people. There is a small society, a small school, where you come into direct contact with various persons and ideas The discussions you get into are priceless. I met people whom I shall never forget and will cherish the experiences my entire life."

To this, I would add that we are aware of the difficulties arising from the language barrier. But intrinsic in the philosophy of the school is the learning of Hebrew as the language of Israel, the Jewish State. An important supplement to the 10 hours a week of classroom Hebrew study is the integration of Mollie Goodman students with those of Kfar Silver regarding social, recreational and dining facilities. As the students quoted above indicate, that integration program has worked, and worked very well.

The letter charged that the counselors at the school are "no professionals," and that the head counselor's academic credentials consisted of working in a bookshop. This is not true. All of the counselors are professionally qualified; the head counselor, in fact, held a Master's degree in psychology and sociology from an American University and performed his work at Mollie Goodman with great success.

- . The letter made reference to a "chronic drug problem" which created "psychological difficulties." Again, this is not true. First, as you well know, all applicants are interviewed by an educator and a psychologist to weed out any students who have had previous experience with drugs. During the past year, despite our precautions, several students were discovered to be smoking marijuana; in accordance with school regulations, they were expelled.

This year, two eminent psychologists at Bar-Ilan University have been engaged by Mollie Goodman. They have widespread experience in counseling and educating students on the danger of drugs.

- . The letter complained about the Mollie Goodman curriculum, charging that "one cannot enter college because the school is unaccredited." This is most certainly not the case. The Mollie Goodman curriculum is accredited and supervised by Israel's Education Ministry. Further, there has not been one instance among the more than 200 students who have attended the school in which full credit for general courses taken there have not been given by any American high school or university.
- . The letter stated that some of the teachers lacked teaching experience, and that others "do not speak proper English." In truth, every instructor hired for the school has an academic degree qualifying him to teach. Were the matter of the letter not so serious, one might find its reference to some teachers' alleged problems with the English language almost amusing. I say this because each teacher this year, with the exception of the principal, was an American. The principal, an Israeli, is studying for his Ph.D. in the United States.
- . The letter complained about the quality and extent of touring. In response, I can only list a few of the cities and sites in Israel which students visited this year: Jerusalem (four overnight trips), Tel Aviv (two overnight trips), Galilee (four days), Kibbutz Neve Ur (one week), Eilat, Caesarea and Lake Kinneret.
- . The letter said students "never learned how to comprehend Israel and its people." It is difficult to debate something of this nature. However, my discussions with the students show exactly the opposite. And I would offer, to substantiate this contention, that last year's graduating class must have "comprehended Israel and its people" rather well: of a total of 17 students, 10 remained in Israel -- eight entering Israel universities and two others taking out Israel citizenship and enlisting in Israel's army.
- . The letter spoke of the allegedly inferior quality of the dormitories ("passable"), classroom ("separated from each other by a folding door"), laboratories ("poorly equipped") and clinic ("no medical facilities at all"). The best way to dispel these myths -- for that is what they are -- is to extend a personal invitation to you to

visit the campus, a breathtaking compound of modern architecture situated on 520 landscaped acres of sprawling lawns, orange groves and farmland (for the Kfar Silver students). I promise you, there is nothing to hide.

- . "Passable" dormitories? How "passable" is a dormitory which costs 800,000 Israel pounds to erect? As for classroom, there is only one room that is separated by a folding partition (and this year the partition is being removed to convert the room into a lab); all other classes are conducted in separate rooms. The laboratories are all approved by the Education Ministry; Kfar Silver students studying agricultural science have utilized them for more than 15 years. The complaint on the clinic is most spurious. It is equipped and approved by the Israel Health Department; a nurse is on call; a physician visits twice a week.
- . The letter stated that the dinning hall "does not provide the right food" and that students "are underfed or don't get the right number of vitamins." On the last, a dietician from the Israel Health Department supervises the menu, one which is augmented by Israel fruits and vegetables ("Jaffa" oranges, for instance) which you can buy in your neighborhood supermarket. Of course, some of the food is different -- it is Israeli! But the school's program is geared to teach American students about all aspects of Israel life; its culture, literature, mores. . . and food. (And, as you know from the school application, each student agrees in advance to be prepared for food "different from that which mother gives you.") I would suggest, too, that no American student has had any more of a problem adjusting to Israel cuisine than an Israeli visiting the United States has had in adjusting to hot dogs, hamburgers and pizza.
- . The letter complained about the library. It is true that until now ours has been a temporary one. But a new library, costing 250,000 Israel pounds, is now being completed, and the ZOA has already received many contributions for books to fill its shelves.
- . Finally, the letter refers to the turnover in staff, which it says affects the school's stability. There is an element of truth in this claim, but the whole picture is not clearly presented. It is a fact of Israel life that many teachers from the United States return there after a stay of a year or two, or look for higher-paying positions elsewhere in Israel. This is a problem, regrettably, with which we must live. But it is an equally true fact of life that the Mollie Goodman School seeks, screens and hires only the best-qualified and most experienced teachers available. The school has never dismissed a good teacher willing to remain.

Finding the right principal is a doubly hard task. The same problem prevails as with teachers: the school's principals have been unwilling to stay for an extended period. This year, we believe we have solved that problem by hiring Norman M. Pianko, a former dean of students at Berriman Junior High School in Brooklyn who settled

permanently in Israel. Mr. Pianko, who assumed his post with Mollie Goodman this April, is a graduate of New York University and St. John's University (with a degree in supervision and administration of secondary schools).

In addition, we have reassigned to Israel Yehuda Goldenberg, whom you know well as director of the Mollie Goodman program in the United States, as administrative director of the campus. He will relieve Mr. Pianko of certain administrative duties and, in so doing, free him to concentrate primarily on building and improving the school's curriculum.

As I stated at the outset, it is terribly unfortunate that a handful of young people (rebels, malcontents -- call them what you will) saw fit to overlook the once-in-a-lifetime experience of a year's study in Israel to pour out their personal frustrations in a letter maligning the Mollie Goodman School. It would stand to reason that if they were so unhappy there, they would have left before the term was out. The very fact that they remained would indicate that the school is light years away from the institution they have tried to depict.

And what have they learned, with all their bitterness? They have been exposed to Israel -- its land and its people. They can now speak Hebrew and have an intensive schooling in Judaic studies. They have broadened their perspectives in mingling with Israeli youths their own age in a land in which they share a common Jewish destiny.

On our part, we can only conclude that we will continue to develop the school, build it, expand it, improve it, with the aim of giving more youths the opportunity to come to Israel to study. . . . and to grow as Jews.

I look forward to greeting your (son/daughter) there this fall.

Sincerely,

Chaim Danieli

Chaim Danieli
Chairman of the Board in Israel

June 22, 1972

Mr. Herman L. Weisman
Zionist Organization of America
145 East 32nd Street
New York, N. Y. 10016

Dear Herman:

The enclosed letter was forwarded to me the same day as your request to list my name in the annual Rabbis' Call to the American Jewish Community. You, of course, have that permission, but I would like some explanation of the letter. At the very least it would indicate that no one at the school is working with any kind of real purpose on the problem of worship. As you can see this letter is being widely circulated and can do the school, Kfar Silver, some real harm. I would like a full and honest report.

Hoping this finds you in good health I remain

Sincerely,

Daniel Jeremy Silver

DJS:mp
Encl.

Zionist Organization of America

145 EAST 32nd STREET • NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016 • MU 3-9200

Office of the President

June 29, 1972

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

Dear Daniel:

Thank you for your letter of June 22nd. With respect to the students' devastating letter of criticism of the Agricultural and Mollie Goodman High School at Kfar Silver, I would say that if I told you everything I knew, the report would be honest but cannot be represented as "full." A full report will have to be deferred until after our return from the Convention in Israel which will provide an opportunity for going into all relevant questions. What I can do at this time is confine myself to highlights.

1. Of course, the letter of criticism has done and will do "some real harm." The way it was written and circulated, indicates that such was the intention of the writers. I and others in the ZOA leadership (the delegates to the 28th Congress) spent a day at Kfar Silver in the middle of February. I and others got acquainted with what appeared to be a fair cross-section of the student population. Based on what was told me personally and in the light of conversations held by others which were reported to me, there was some "griping" (which indicated areas requiring attention for improved management and administration) but the students' praise of the school exceeded by far their criticism.

At this time conflicting statements have been made to me as to whether the students' letter represents the views of three activist students, whether they were promoted into this effort of peremptory circulation of their criticism by a disgruntled and discharged employee, or whether it, indeed, does represent the feelings and attitudes of the graduating class or most of it. Whether it is one or the other, is by now academic. But it would be interesting, for the sake of accuracy, to discover what the truth is.

Rabbi Daniel Jereym Silver

June 29, 1972

2. In the event that you did not see the letter of reply by Chaim Danieli, Chairman of the Board in Israel, I am enclosing copies of his communications of June 13th. To the extent of available information, the Danieli communications were mailed to all those who were indicated recipients of the students' letter.

3. There was a meeting in Long Island of a considerable number of parents of children who are planning to attend the coming year, as well as parents of children already attending, with a smaller sprinkling of students. This was the day before yesterday. It was attended by Mr. Goldenberg of the ZOA staff and by Mr. Martin Altman, an active ZOA member of that Region.

I received a report from both Mr. Goldenberg and Mr. Altman yesterday. It would seem that as a result of that open discussion which lasted until midnight, no students would be withdrawn by the parents who attended.

4. A member of the Administrative Board, Mr. Harold Greenwald, who just returned from Israel and whose grand-niece graduated this year, spent a lot of time on this matter. Mr. Greenwald is a very calm, level-headed lawyer, but I never saw him so disturbed as he was when reporting the situation to me. Based on his report, I would say that the ZOA administration would be wise not to assume that the criticism can be brushed off as extravagant or misguided. I prefer to view the letter of the students, which I find distasteful, as having served a useful purpose in dramatizing issues concerning management which were simmering for some time but which were not taken as seriously as they should have been. Although others may disagree, I feel that Mr. & Mrs. Bilas (the General Director and his wife) have outlived their usefulness. If inquiry on the spot will confirm that their continuation is a detriment to the institution, they will have to go. In addition, there will have to be a substantial change in the present method of overseeing the management of the schools. At present, there is a committee in Israel and a committee here. Without faulting the composition of either, my present opinion is that there should be one central Board of Directors and a full time Supervisor stationed at the school and responsible to this centralized ZOA Board.

5. I share your concern about the failure to make any significant use of the beautiful Synagogue located on the premises and the virtual neglect of worship. Based on my own experience at the Brandeis Camp Institute, I would say that

Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver

June 29, 1972

this should prove the easiest defect to cure. Efforts are already being made to engage a new Rabbi, a young man who would have a better chance of establishing communications with the student body. I can see no reason why Synagogue services could not be made attractive to the young people to assure regular attendance by most, if not all, leastways, at Sabbath services and all holidays. That is about all I can say on that subject at this time.

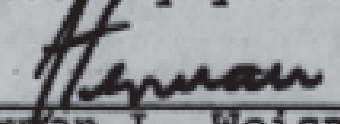
It is a pity that this crisis should come to a head just at this time. On the same day that I received word of the letter, I was informed of a favorable decision by the Ministry of Education regarding plans to expand the educational facilities at Kfar Silver. For more than a year, I have been having conversations in the Ministry of Education concerning plans to make greater and more effective use of our facilities. We now have 520 acres and a total student population of 400. Accommodation to the needs of the times indicates the need for a program of expansion having in broad terms the following targets:

- i. An Agricultural High School.
- ii. An Agricultural-Technical High School (accenting vocational training in the field of agro-mechanics).
- iii. The Mollie-Godman Academic High School.
- iv. An Agro-Biological High School (a High School of Science).

The Ministry suggests this expansion pursuant to a four year program. This fall, a beginning will be made by having four additional classes for agro-technical subjects. The program as a whole will require a couple of million dollars for additional buildings to house classrooms, laboratories and dormitories for the expanded student and faculty population. When the program is worked out and approved by the Ministry of Education, we will have an assurance of a subvention of approximately 50% of the increased cost. All of this has to be made more definitive, but I thought I would indicate what is under consideration in the embryonic stage of present planning for expansion.

I am sorry that my preoccupation with cleaning up office matters and ZOA matters prior to my leaving, required dictation of this answer in a hurry. I hope it is responsive to what you require, at least for the time being. Best regards.

Sincerely yours,


Herman L. Weisman

encl.

July 5, 1972

Mr. Herman L. Weisman
Zionist Organization of America
145 East 32nd Street
New York, N. Y. 10016

Dear Herman

I want to thank you for your informative and open letter.
It gives me great confidence that whatever is wrong at
Kfar Silver will be straightened out.

I look forward to hearing from you on your return.

Sincerely,

Daniel Jeremy Silver

DJS:mp



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affiliate of american zionist federation

13947 Cedar Road, (Room 202), Cleveland, Ohio 44118 (216) 321-0160

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

A.A.C.A.

AMERICAN MIZRACHI
WOMEN

FARBAND

HADASSAH

PIONEER WOMEN

POALE ZION

RELIGIOUS ZIONISTS
OF AMERICA

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION
OF AMERICA

BNEI AKIVA

HABONIM

HASHACHAR

MASADA

January 29th 1975

Rabbi Daniel J. Silver
The Temple Branch
26000 Shaker Blvd
Cleveland, Ohio 44122

Dear Rabbi Silver:

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation for your appearance as our opening speaker at the Information Seminar this past Sunday.

Your presentation was very well received, as always, and we are most grateful for your contribution to an informative and inspiring afternoon.

Thank you so very much for giving of your valuable time to such an important issue. With warm regards, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Estelle Shore, President
Cleveland Zionist Federation

ES:tlb

THE JERUSALEM PROGRAM OF THE WORLD ZIONIST ORGANIZATION

The aims of Zionism are:

The unity of the Jewish people and the centrality of Israel in Jewish life; • The ingathering of the Jewish people in its historic homeland Eretz Israel through Aliyah from all countries; • The strengthening of the State of Israel, which is based on the prophetic vision of justice and peace; • The preservation of the identity of the Jewish people through the fostering of Jewish and Hebrew education and of Jewish spiritual and cultural values; • The protection of Jewish rights everywhere.



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affiliate of american zionist federation

13947 Cedar Road, (Room 201), Cleveland, Ohio 44118 (216) 321-0160

February 18th 1975

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

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POALE ZION
RELIGIOUS ZIONISTS
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ZIONIST ORGANIZATION
OF AMERICA
BNEI AKIVA
HABONIM
HASHACHAR
MASADA

Rabbi Daniel J. Silver
The Temple Branch
26000 Shaker Blvd
Cleveland, Ohio 44122

Dear Rabbi Silver:

At our Information Seminar on January 26th, David Friedlander, our National Advisor from the American Zionist Federation in New York, taped all of the speeches at the seminar. He has sent me a copy of the transcript with an extra copy of your speech. David would like to consider including your address in the next publication of the AZF NEWS & VIEWS (copy of latest edition is enclosed) which will appear sometime in March 1975.

If this is agreeable to you, he would appreciate it if you would go over the transcript and make any additions and/or corrections. Where the recording was not quite clear it is so noted in the transcript by either "?", a space, (unclear) or (indistinct)". Please return the transcript to me at the above address when you have been able to look it over and if you consent.

We would like to mention again that it was a privilege to have you participate in our seminar.

Cordially yours,
CLEVELAND ZIONIST FEDERATION

Thea Spiegel
Executive Director

TLS:ms
Encls.

THE JERUSALEM PROGRAM OF THE WORLD ZIONIST ORGANIZATION

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really don't believe that he needs it. He is one of the outstanding leaders in the Jewish community; ~~one~~ who gives great strength to the Jewish community during a period of travail and particularly when Israel seems to be threatened and is threatened. He's been in the forefront of the battle to explain the Israel situation to the Jewish and to the non-Jewish world. He is, as you know, the rabbi of the Temple of Cleveland. There's a list of items here which would take more time than what his speech is going to be. So without any further ado, I introduce to you Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver.

RABBI DANIEL JEREMY SILVER: ~~Thank you, Bennet.~~ I want to share with you ~~this afternoon~~ some of the concerns that I've had increasingly over the past months. We have tried to coordinate the work of Israel public relations with the Task Force of our federation. I think that the first item on the agenda ought really to be ^a~~the~~ question that we have not had to ask until recent months. How far is the Cleveland Jewish community or the American Jewish community prepared to go in defending the interests of Israel? On the 11th of December, the London Times, as many of you know, published a political advertisement which was submitted to them by the so-called Committee on Justice in the Middle East. The chairman of that committee is an Iraqi by the name of (indistinct), a lecturer in mathematics at the

University of London. The advertisement bore the big, bold headline: Shouldn't Britain Come First? It went on to list the long since familiar calumnies of Israel (indistinct)... of indiscriminate bombings and the refugee camps, and all that sort of stuff. It concluded as it had began, with an attack on the British Jewish community for sending charitable contributions, untaxed alms as he put it, out of England, at a time of great economic stringency for the British Commonwealth of England--it ended with this question: Shouldn't Britain's money remain in Britain to build more homes and improve social services and help pensions?

The attack, of course, was on the United Jewish Appeal, on all the kinds of activities which went on. The British Board of Deputies, which is the equivalent on a country-wide basis of our Jewish ...Federation, responded immediately and angrily. They sent a delegation to see the publisher of the Times. They sent letters of protest to the Attorney General and the Race Relations Board, asking that legal action be taken against the Times for printing this inflammatory material.

The net result of all of this was to give a £3000 advertisement and £1,000,000 for its publicity. It turned out that the Guardian, another major London newspaper, had refused this particular advertisement. It turned out that the London Times printed two very long editorials on the rights of publishers to solicit (?) advertisements,

freedom of political advertisements, and the Times went on, to view the second political advertisement.

The issue, as it was seen by the British Board of Deputies, through the voice of its president, Gordon Fisher (?), is the following. I give you his exact quote: "Arab blackmail money is now being used in an attempt to disorganize and destroy the Jewish community. It is pitiful to see a once great newspaper which has an enviable reputation throughout the world, fall so low as to accept an anti-Semitic advertisement which other newspapers contemptuously refused. In publishing such an advertisement, fully aware of the extent of Jewish philanthropic endeavor in this country on a non-sectarian basis, the Times is performing a disservice to its readers who expect from it a high standard of journalism ethics. The Times can take little comfort in the fact that the advertisement was an unqualified approval to those who (indistinct).... wait for two days in the hope that the Times will reappraise its stand with the realization that they have caused incalculable harm. (indistinct).... for it is not necessary in this great country of freedom where a man walks with his head high within the law. The present Arab campaign to discredit the Jewish community and make it a scapegoat for the economic and social ills of Britain, does nothing to help her at all. It will deter the Jewish community from its openhanded commitment to succor the needy wherever they be, at home or abroad."

It's a good statement. I'm fascinated by the fact that over the long years there have been many political advertisements in the London Times sponsored by many similar committees on justice in the Middle East, spreading all kinds of lies about Israel and the British Board of Deputies did not feel the urgent need to respond as it did. I would suggest that the response was not so much to the attack on Israel as to the fact that their own office was being (unclear), to the fact that their own activities were being threatened, their/^{cherished}pattern of activities, and their whole position within English society was even less secure than before.

It doesn't take us a great deal of foresight for seeing the possibility of a very similar undertaking happening in the United States. We have the same kind of economic problems: high unemployment, recession; we have the same groups who are concerned that not enough money is going to our own welfare..... The Arab world must know--it hired the best public relations consultants on Madison Avenue--it must know that the best way to divert attention from the impact of the oil gouge upon the American economy and the real cause of our inflation and our depression, is to attack the American Jewish community and to use as a symbol the Jew with the moneybags, with the great millions of dollars we raised for relief in Israel. The fact that several hundred millions of dollars raised annually for the U.J.A. and for all the other activities does not begin to compare

in terms of dollar outflow to the thirty-five billions of dollars in the negative balance of trade for the oil, will be passed over.

What these public relations people will count on is the existence as in fact there is of the universal substrate of anti-Semitism in the American community, the Christian community, and they will count on them to fixate on this particular issue.

To me one of the interesting and unknown factors in the months ahead is how our American Jewish community will react when put to the test. It seems to me to be an unalterable fact that Arab propaganda in the United States is for the first time not only threatening the understanding in America of Israel, but it is threatening the security, or will threaten the security or seem to threaten the security of the American Jewish community.

I would remind all of you here who come here as Zionists, that it's never been proved that the majority of the American Jewish community are committed to Zionism. In the 1930s and early 1940s it was a minority who were committed to the Zionist cause. It was in the emotion-packed years when death camps were opened that a majority began to rally around. It's only been in the good years, in the fat years, in the years before October of '73 that everybody was getting some (unclear) out of the existence of Israel--a sense of

pride, whether or not they generous or committed in any kind of way.

When it becomes an issue of "my livelihood, my business, my status with my non-Jewish friends (in quotation marks)"--it's not all clear how our establishment, how our membership^{in the Jewish community} will react. It's beginning to cost. There is a very well known national firm of certified public accountants that is interested in the oil business, is interested in Arab business, which circulated to its local branches just a few weeks ago, saying that no more contributions will be given by its local branches to the United Jewish Appeal. A number of the Jewish partners in this firm in Atlanta, Washington and elsewhere, have taken issue with this directive from the national office. The directive is there. Obviously men are putting their livelihood, their relationship with their corporation on the line on this issue. That's business. Such measures have been taken by two of the major banks in the United States.

What is not so visible is the ripple effect of the desire for the Arab money and Arab business. How many Jews will not be promoted into (unclear) positions? How many Jews will not be employed in the first instance? How many Jews who are in sales have discovered that they can no longer meet the sales people or see certain kinds of contacts?

When these pressures begin to exert themselves on the American Jewish community, and when the public pressure,

created by the kinds of advertisements that I suggested to you begin to circulate, we're going to need in our community a strong, committed group who is willing to look at the issue not so much as a threat or seem to threaten the security of American Jews, but in terms of what needs to be done in behalf of Israel.

Having said that, I'm suggesting to you that for the first time in the last months, the Arab word has broken out of what was heretofore a rather narrowly described sound barrier, and it is being heard by many who are willing to hear, to a degree that they were not heard before. Up till now, the Arab word was heard--and I'm speaking of propaganda ^{being} here, not in terms of understanding--the Arab word was/heard by those who do business in the Middle East, which included the oil companies, which includes the missionary societies. It was heard by those who do academic business in the Middle East--the archeologists who center on Middle Eastern studies. It was heard by the diplomats who had offices and contacts in the Middle East. It was heard by the hard-core anti-Semitic groups in the United States ~~wixkxak~~who are always looking to find more grist for their mill. And it was heard by those who are professional third world groups.

Beyond that, it really made very little impact. Much was written in a propagandistic kind of way, but it was almost an exercise in futility. If you look back at the Gallup polls and the Yankelovich polls in the last twenty-five,

twenty-six years, you find that from 1948 to 1973 there were no perceptible changes in the American population in their attitude towards Israel. After October of 1973 there is a perceptible change. There is now a group of people or groups of people who are receptive to Arab propaganda; some to the propaganda which is simply that our interests in Israel (indistinct) , some to the more pernicious propaganda that begins with the statement that our interests in Israel are derived entirely from a domestic lobby of the Jews, and we have no other vested or serious interests in Israel.

Let's look at it for a minute. Let's remember that we're talking now of the establishment; of the people of business and fiscal power: the banks, the large corporations; people who have contact in government, people who move in and out of government at the highest levels--the banks, the large law firms which do the law business of the banks and the big corporations, and the corporations who have something to say on the national level.

UP till now, the Fulbright (indistinct) kind of claim that America had no real strategic interest in this country, that Israel was a nice country--it had decent people, it had a nice culture, but that basically in the hardheaded world of international affairs, America had no reason to be involved pro-Israel. American bread was all buttered on the Arab side. The only reason we were in-

way of their business, or so it seems.

involved with Israel to the extent we were, was the Jewish lobby. That lie didn't get a response from the business community, the banking community of any size, because it didn't seem to make any difference. They were doing good business with Western Europe; there were some business relationships with Israel. Very little had been developing within the Arab world itself. The arms manufacturers were not able to sell their arms easily (indistinct), and as a result, they couldn't see the cogency of this argument.

May I assure you that within the last six or eight weeks every major corporation in Cleveland, every major bank in Cleveland, every major law firm in Cleveland, has either been visited by or has visited the Arab countries and has met purchasing agents, trained people with multi-million dollar contracts in their pockets, and counterparts who are interested, and they've talked. Their greed has come to the fore. They can't sell their products because this is the one ready market with ready money. The Arabs talk to them about not doing business with Israel, about America standing in the way of business, about their readiness to deal with the West (indistinct) to Russia. Now it seems very visible to them that the only interest America has in Israel is either a humanitarian one or a one, or one that is derived entirely from our emotion. Our hope stands in the way of their business, or so it seems.

I'll give you a vignette. It's taken from one of many number of conferences which have been sponsored around the country by the Department of Commerce and various trade associations took place in Huston. I quote it simply because there was a Jewish business man there who made a full report of it. There was to be a business conference on doing business with the Middle East and North Africa. Interestingly, Israel was not represented. Most of what transpired at this business conference was perfectly legitimate. It's important for us to do business with the Arab world--they have the money with which to buy things that we have. The business men came to sell, and the Arabs came to buy. At one point, one of the business men who was there representing the president of an export-import company, began to give a speech--at one point he started to tell an anecdote about an Arab leader who had been driven out of his home by the Israelis. At that point, the man who was the official representative of the Department of Commerce got up and reminded the speaker that this was not to be a political affair, and went on to say in the course of his interruption, that as an official representative of the American government, he wanted to remind everyone who was there that America was encouraging business throughout the world, but that America did not recognize and did not tolerate any type of boycott, any kind of activity by one business in one country or a group of countries which said you could

do business with them only if you refused to do business with another country. The obvious reference of the Arab was against Israel. He sat down.

Immediately, one of the representatives of the Arab-American Chamber of Commerce, an Arab diplomat, got up and he said three things. First, he said there is no evidence that a boycott has been activated by the Arab countries which involved American corporations; two, that American (indistinct) the boycott in the first place with China, with North Korea and with Cuba; and three, that anybody who wants to do business with the Arab world has to do so on Arab-world terms. He was widely applauded by the American business men who were there.

I'll give you as a vignette also the recent visit of David Rockefeller, chairman of the Chase National Bank in the Middle East. He's there now. One of his first stops was Tel Aviv. Mr. Rockefeller, who is a very urbane man, went to the Tel Aviv Museum and gave a very urbane lecture on art and culture in which he praised the Jewish contributions to culture and art. When he was in Jerusalem, he refused a request of the Israeli government for a multi-million dollar long term loan. More significantly, he refused the request of the Israeli government that the Chase Bank establish a branch bank in Israel.

He went down to Cairo. The very first day he was in Cairo, he and the Egyptian Export Bank announced that Chase and the Egyptian bank were undertaking the multi-million dollar joint venture in banking, investment banking.

What I'm suggesting to you is that in this business community, which is so powerful in this business world in which we live in the United States, there is now a receptivity to the Arab world which has never existed before, and that any propaganda on our part, any argument on our part designed to reach this world, which does not try and make clear the large strategic interest of the United States in Israel, will fall on deaf ears, if indeed even that is listened to.

What these men see are sales and profits. They are being encouraged, of course, by the American government (indistinct)

So we have a new problem. It's a problem in which Israel and its little problems--little to heads of multi-million dollar corporations--become a nuisance. They don't want to listen; just as they didn't want to listen to the Arab world before '73, now they really don't want to listen to the Israeli world. It's not a question of facts, it's a question of receptivity. Some of them will take the Fulbright no American (indistinct)

it's all over; we're involved in things we shouldn't be, and we're involved because of the Jewish minority. Others will simply say, "Well I hope that there will be peace. I think

we've tilted towards Israel. I think we ought to have a more even-handed policy, and our own government, Kissinger and Ford isn't talking in even-handed terms."

What happens to this second group, a much larger group that is really apolitical that wants to keep and do business, is that they seize upon a word here or a headline there to satisfy what they need. How often in the last eight weeks or ten weeks have we seen a newspaper article or listened to a television tape in which Sadat is quoted as saying that he will make peace with Israel? That's as much as most Americans have read. Having read that, recognizing that there is no peace and hearing (indistinct) Kissinger once in a while about the intransigence, the inflexibility of Jerusalem, they are prepared to accept the positions, without really looking, that it is Israel who stands in the way of peace. Oh yes, there's a problem P.L.O. but they're going to become more moderate once they get control of a piece of territory. That's the most amusing argument of the twentieth century, a century which has seen Hitler in control in Germany, Stalin in control of Russia, Ho Chi Minh in control of China, Diem and Thieu in control of South Korea (?), and still speak of a moderating influence of political control, simply hasn't learned the first lesson of political life.

That apart, in this age of instant political solutions, instant language, instant , instant everything,

is we think that having heard Sadat say we wants peace, that that proves the case. What we have not heard, and what we as Jews must make if we can the non-Jewish community hear, is what he is really saying. He said on television (indistinct) Barbara Walters and everyone who was listening, "I am prepared to make peace with Israel when--"/the ^{it's} "when" that nobody listened to. The first when, is when Israel has reversed itself and has moved out of the Sinai, has moved out of the West Bank, has moved out of the Golan--sometimes he said, has moved out of Jerusalem, and sometimes he has not said it.

In any case, if an American business man hears this he says, "That's all right. That seems reasonable." There was originally to be a partitioned area in Palestine between the Arab state and the Jewish state--that's our solution. He's also always added, "and when Israel recognizes Palestinian rights and negotiates directly with the P.L.O." He said that as recently as this week in a published interview in (indistinct) in Paris.

What does this mean? The recognition of Palestinian rights means in the code of the Arab world, the recognition of Palestinian national rights to all of Palestine combined--that's the East Bank, the West Bank and Israel. Negotiations with the P.L.O. means negotiations with a group which has from the very beginning acted with complete consistency and declared itself satisfied with nothing less than the extermination of Israel as a Jewish national home.

These "whereases," these "ifs," these subordinate clauses the American public has not listened to. Often they have not been reported in our press. In any case, the headline is "Sadat wants peace." So Sadat becomes the moderate; Faisal becomes the moderate; Hussein becomes the moderate, and Israel becomes the intransigent and the inflexible. When in fact all Jerusalem is doing is to react to a reality. The western ostrich, mesmerized by oil and by markets, and by all such things, simply puts its head in the sand and refuses to see.

There was a fascinating article, which I recommend to all of you in this month's Commentary magazine. It was written by Bernard (indistinct) who is the Cleveland (indistinct) Professor of Near Eastern Studies at Princeton University, one of the most distinguished of all Near East historians and Arabists in this country. He is one of the editors of the Encyclopedia of Islam, one of the editors of the Cambridge History of the Islamic World. The man is....

He gives a very clear undertaking of how Palestine became an issue; the creation of Palestinian nationalism. Among other things, he talks about the mystery of how the P.L.O. has become on the one hand the friend of all the internationalist terrorist groups, and can yet be seen by the western world as a moderate nationalist movement in liberation.

What he says in the course of this article bears our listening, our reading. One of the problems seems to

be that those who report on the Arab world don't know Arabic. Like so many who report from Israel from the bar of the King David Hotel, I suspect that many of the people reporting the Arab world, are reporting from the bars of the Hilton in Cairo or wherever they may be. They are unprepared, and as a result, they depend upon English language handouts.

He makes an interesting example. At Rabat (?), at that famous October conference at which the heads of the Arab states agreed to declare the Palestine Liberation Organization the official responsible agency of national affairs on behalf of the Palestinians, the Arabic text of the agreement which was signed by the so-called moderates, among others, read: "We affirmed that any Palestinian land that was liberated in the pursuit of the struggle in its different forms, will return to its lawful Palestinian owner under the leadership of the P.L.O. We affirm the right to set up independent national authority on liberated land." The emphasis here is obviously on the pursuit of a struggle in its different forms. It's a claim to an ongoing struggle which will not be satisfied with anything that is interim.

The English language handout doesn't deny this, but it puts forth a text which we can read a much more hopeful construct into. "We affirm the right of Palestinian people to establish independent national authority under the Palestine Liberation Organization, as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people on any liberated

Palestinian territory." There is no reference in the English text to the pursuit of the struggle in different forms, in the ongoing..

What I'm suggesting to you (indistinct) is simply this: that as the Arab world is now being reported in our western press, the best possible construct is being put on any and all of their actions: We want peace. Business men want peace in order to gain markets and sales. The government wants peace in order to be able to guarantee to the business people the markets and the sales.

Our correspondents are, for the most part, incapable of listening to and reporting accurately what they hear, because of the language barrier. I suspect, though I've met no proof, that some of the Arab millions are now going into the pockets of some of these reporters. Reporters are not notoriously well paid, and it wouldn't take a great deal of money to buy some of these people. Some of them have been too close to an line in their reporting... people of this kind, not to be suspect. But in any case, I try to suggest to you that as we deal with Israel public relations in the near terms, we must keep several things in mind. That we are in fact doing what must be done for Israel and not reacting out of timidity or fear of our own positions--American Jews in the first instance. And secondly, that we put forward the arguments which will be effective; the arguments which lead us to give to various humanitarian

causes in Israel, are not effective in this world of dollars and oil and arms. If we can make clear the strategic interests of the United States in Israel, we will at least have scored some points.

I don't think that we're going to be very effective in terms of public relations in the near term. The Arab oil is too near, the Arab gold is too dazzling; the persuasiveness of the new group of Arab bureaucrats who are here and there and everywhere in the United States, is very very effective. They come on with much less energy and determination and militancy than some of our Israeli diplomats--they can afford to.

In any case, many are mesmerized by the mystery of the East and by the markets of the East. I wonder just how effective we are going to be.

I think this too must be said, and I say this in conclusion. We've got to remember that we're dealing on many many levels of challenge. As you know, you have in Cleveland all kinds of pro-Arab activities which are associated with names like Molly Mackrin and Joe McKenna (?), and they have all kinds of committees for justice and peace in the Middle East, northern Ohio committees of one kind or another. They are constantly putting out bulletins and going on talk shows of one thing or another. We have become fixated by these people; stirred by them to the point where

stereotyped and parodied in character. But they're really

we forget that the real battle in the short term is with the people who have authority and who have power. That excessive letter written to the newspapers, or excessive phone call which goes out over the air, doesn't do us that much good. We don't have to respond with anger for every little bit of publicity that these people get. They're simply not that important. But that they do have one activity which must be of concern to us--that is their activity in the schools; their activity with youth and church groups. They are reaching large numbers of people.

In October of this year, the American Association of Arab University Graduates met in Cleveland. It was a very well organized meeting of some 500 men and women of very high levels. Many of them were business folk and university people. Sayaid (?) of the Palestine National Council came to them and spoke of the need to destroy Israel, and they applauded. So much for moderation within the Arab community.

We taped their session. One thing which came out loud and clear was their theme: go to the schools, go to curriculum committees; see to it that a new construct is put in the textbooks on the Middle East. I must say that I (indistinct)... Some of the illustrations which they cited remind me of illustrations of Jews and Judaism that were in the textbooks not so many years ago. The Arabs are also stereotyped and parodied in character. But they're really

not interested in that. What they are interested in is seeing to it that the events of the last twenty-five years are put in such a way that there is no sympathy for Israel.

David Rockefeller, to return to one of my unfavorite bankers--just before he left for the Middle East, hosted the economic minister of Kuwait at a dinner in Washington for diplomats and others. At that dinner the Kuwaiti gentleman gave checks for \$100,000 to Johns Hopkins University and the University of Pennsylvania and Georgetown University. He wasn't interested in solving the economic problems of higher education. What he was interested in doing was giving a push to the department of Near Eastern studies in these areas, which would encourage them to believe that if they write the right kinds of checks and hold the right kinds of meetings for high school teachers and college teachers and the like (indistinct)

The department of Near Eastern studies in most universities is an Arabist department. People have to be pro Arab in order to do their work, their field work... The attempt to politicize these departments, to make them effective in terms of schools, is going to be one of the problems we are going to have to face.

On the larger level--this I think is the level with which we have to concern ourselves with primarily--oil and gold, a kind of limited problem. There's going to come a time in the not so distant future when Americans are

going to have to take some other kinds of positions vis-a-vis the money matters. There's a time in the not so distant future when business men are going to learn that it's hard to do business with an Arab, the same way Israel has learned it's hard to do business. Until that time comes, we're going to have to concentrate on making clear to our non-Jewish friends, particularly those in significant positions, that there is a valid strategic interest of the United States in support of Israel, and that this strategic interest goes far beyond democracy, freedom, holocaust and humanitarian issues which are so important to us....

This is my opinion, and it's unfortunate that it's so--only this kind of argument will have great weight in the near term. We're going to have to be very very careful. We're going to have to make our contacts with peace people and our congress people effective. It's not going to be easy.

Israel has made a request for \$2.5 million in foreign aid. The United States is in a recession. Seven per cent plus of our people are unemployed. The argument is going to be very telling on Capitol Hill as to why we should send two and a half million dollars abroad which is losing us markets, when we can better spend that two and a half million dollars on the poor for relief and for welfare here at home?

only time will tell.

Obviously one of the....of Rabin with Kissinger... oil ... is insufficient support for this foreign aid program as opposed to Israeli... But Kissinger cannot deliver unless there is broad support in the communities.

That means we've got to be organized here and in all the cities of Ohio. There has to be ongoing contact. We can't browbeat these people endlessly for little things. We've got to patiently work with them and patiently educate them, know who they are and work with them, and try and keep the issues very very clear.

I've exceeded by a little bit my time limit. These are the things that are in my heart. If you have any questions (indistinct) be very happy to try and answer them.

*

QUESTION: How do you see the role of Nelson Rockefeller in the Middle East struggle?

SILVER: I think that Nelson Rockefeller's role in American foreign policy is going to be a major one. What the impact is as far as the Middle East, I don't know. He has obviously had a very close relationship with Kissinger. He obviously is bringing in his own people in government at particularly important levels. His relationships with his brother are close. His banking and oil... are well known. What the long term results are, I think only time will tell.

February 25, 1975

Mrs. Thea Spiegel
Executive Director
Cleveland Zionist Federation
13967 Cedar Road
Cleveland, Ohio 44118

Dear Mrs. Spiegel:

I am on my way to Israel and really don't have the time to properly review the lecture that I did at the Zionist Federation Day. Thank you for your willingness to publish it. From time to time I do speak about Israel and I would be happy to have you print the material.

Sincerely,

Daniel Jeremy Silver

DJS:mp

Sincerely yours,

Leon Gutsevitch
Executive Director

LET US MEET IN ISRAEL...

80th ZOA NATIONAL CONVENTION • JUNE 1-5, 1976

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NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

May 20, 1977
(ZOA's 80th Year)

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

Re: Booklet on Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
Published by Kfar Silver in Israel

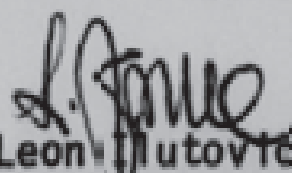
Dear Danny:

Enclosed is an attractive Hebrew booklet published by Kfar Silver in Israel on the occasion of the Abba Hillel Silver Day held on the campus last January. It was distributed to the entire student body and faculty and was mailed to organizations, institutions and public figures in Israel.

We have received a limited number of booklets from Israel, which I am mailing to a select group of Hebrew-reading ZOA leaders.

I hope you will find it interesting.

Sincerely yours,


Leon Blutovich
Executive Director

LI:kyb
Enc.

LET US MEET IN ISRAEL...

80th ZOA NATIONAL CONVENTION • JULY 6 - 13, 1977

Jerusalem • Tel Aviv • Caesarea • Kfar Silver

May 31, 1977

Mr. Leon Hutovich
Zionist Organization of America
4 East 34th Street
New York, N. Y. 10016

Dear Leon:

Thank you for the Kfar Silver booklet on Dad. I have added it to the archives. I trust all is well with you. With all good wishes I remain

Sincerely,

Daniel Jeremy Silver

DJS:mp