

# The Israel Lobby Archive

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UNITED STATES ATTORNEY GENERAL  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Kennedy:

In this morning's issue of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, there is the following news item:

"FEDERAL LAWYERS NEAR DECISION ON WHETHER TO REQUIRE THE AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL TO REGISTER AS AN AGENT OF THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT. HIGH JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS WEIGH THE RISK OF OFFENDING JEWISH OPINION IN THE U. S. SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FULBRIGHT ALSO EYES THE COUNCIL'S ACTIVITIES."

As an American of the Jewish faith, I feel a deep affinity religiously with people of my faith in Israel and elsewhere in the world. However, I could not in keeping with my loyalty to my country, the United States, countenance our Justice Department's failure to enforce the law against any one person or organized group of persons, simply because of a religious belief and the grossly misinterpreted "mythical" concept in this instance of such a thing as a "Jewish" vote. However if the highly organized, well financed and pressure force of the satellites of the Israeli government in this country, under many names and guises, has convinced our present government that there is such a thing as a "Jewish" vote (which they assert exists in strategically large electoral vote areas in the East and California) I am hopeful that an honest government, with honest officials, fulfilling the complete oath of their office, will not succumb to such pressures and enforce the law of the land.

"The risk of offending Jewish opinion" has two sides to the coin and there are a far greater majority of Americans of the Jewish faith who would resent the failure of our government to enforce the law of the land for the fatuous reason (even though politically mistakealy expedient) of "offending" a setment of the people. There are many laws and court decisions which offend some citizens of the United States, but once they become the law of our land, then it is the duty of our Justice Department to vigorously enforce a it and I sincerely hope that you and other "high justice department officials", will do just that in keeping with your oath of office and the hallowed traditions of our blessed land.

Cordially yours,

I. EDWARD TONKON

CC: Hon. John Tower  
Hon. Ralph Yarborough  
Hon. J. William Fulbright  
Hon. Bruce Alger

# TELEGRAM SPECIAL

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
ADMINISTRATIVE BRANCH  
TELEGRAM OFFICE  
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ROBERT F KENNEDY, ATTORNEY GENERAL

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JUL 2 - 1963  
INTERNAL SECURITY DIVISION

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WASHDC  
REFERENCE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT CONCERN WITH JEWISH OPINION IN  
DEALING WITH DECISION ON REQUIRING AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL  
TO REGISTER AS FOREIGN AGENT. KAS A JEW I URGE  
DECISION BASED ON LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS ONLY. I DOUBT THAT MOST  
JEWS SUPPORT ZIONISM AND NONE SHOULD OPPOSE COMPLYING WITH  
US LAWS. ZIONISM CONSTANTLY SEEKS TO INVOLVE ALL JEWS IN  
POLITICAL OBJECTIVE. REGISTERING ZIONIST  
COUNCIL FOCUSES ON TRU NATURE OF ZIONISM AND WOULD UNDERSCORE  
THE STATUS OF AMERICAN JEWS ON AMERICANS BY NATIONALITY  
JEWS BY RELIGION, WHO MUST BE FREE FROM THE POLITICAL  
INVOLVEMENTS THAT ZIONISM WORKS TO THRUST ON THEM BECAUSE OF

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
JUL 1 1963  
RECORDS BRANCH  
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M. M. P.  
E. A. R. A. Sec.

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URGENT

E. A. R. A. Sec.  
INDEXED

*Miss Bowmar  
Mr. Wilton 7/23*

MRS. MOISE S. LEVY  
4031 OVERBROOK LANE  
HOUSTON 27, TEXAS

July 11th, 1963

Mr. Robert Kennedy,  
The Attorney General of The United States,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

The Wall Street Journal for June 28th contains an article regarding the Federal Government nearing a decision requiring the American Zionist Council registering as an agent of the Israeli Government. I trust that the Justice Department will not be deterred from making an impartial ruling in this matter. Americans, of whatever faith, believe firmly that America is their country, and America alone.

Faithfully yours,

*Sara W. Levy*

Mrs. M. D. Levy

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JUL 18 1963

INTERNAL SECURITY DIVISION

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RECORDS BRANCH			
INTERNAL SECURITY DIV.			

*E. A. R. A. Sec.*

# TELEGRAM SPECIAL

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ADMIN. RECORDS BRANCH  
TELEGRAM OFFICE

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ROBERT F KENNEDY

DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC

ITEM IN WALL STREET JOURNAL OF JUNE 28TH UNDER HEADING OF WASHINGTON WIRE STRONGLY SUGGESTS THAT LEGAL DETERMINATION OF LIABILITY OF AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL TO REGISTER UNDER FOREIGN AGENTS REGISTRATION ACT OF 1938 DEPENDS ON "RISK OF OFFENDING JEWISH OPINION IN THE U.S.". I AM UNAWARE OF ANY PROVISION IN THE STATUES OF SUCH A CRITERION FOR THIS LEGAL DETERMINATION OF FACTS. I AM ALSO UNAWARE OF ANY PROVISION IN THE FABRIC OF AMERICAN NATIONAL POLITICAL LIFE FOR THE NECESSITY TO CONSIDER THE "OPINION" OF ANY SO CALLED NATIONAL MINORITY GROUL IN THE FORMULATION OF POLICY DECISIONS AFFECTING THE NATIONAL SECURITY. I URGE YOU TO LOOK TO THE WISDOM IN THE OLD BROMIDE THAT THE ONLY THING TWO JEWS CAN AGREE UPON IS THAT ANOTHER JEW IS WRONG.

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REGISTRATION SECTION

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JUL 1 - 1963  
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AS AN AMERICAN OF JEWISH FAITH I DEMAND THAT THE ADMINISTRATION FULFILL ITS DUTY UNDER THE FOREIGN AGENTS REGISTRATION ACT OF 1938 AND MAKE ITS DETERMINATION VIS A VIS THE AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL ON THE BASIS OF THE LAW AND THE FACTS AND NOT FANCIFUL POLITICS

RICHARD L HOFFMAN 211 HIBBARD RD WILMETTE ILLINOIS.

945A EDT JUL 1 63



July 1, 1963

Senator Paul H. Douglas  
Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator Douglas:

I have today sent the following letter to Mr. Robert F. Kennedy, Attorney-General, Department of Justice, Washington 25, D.C., and wish also to call this matter to your attention:

"Dear Mr. Kennedy:

"In Friday, June 28th issue of the Wall St. Journal, there is an article that "High Justice Department officials weigh the risk of offending Jewish opinion in the U.S." on the decision "whether to require the American Zionist Council to register as an agent of the Israeli government."

"I am writing as an American Jew to protest any decision that affects U.S. policy in order to curry favor with any group of our citizens.

"You would do a grave injustice to five million American Jews, should you make any decision affecting the welfare of our country in order to risk offending a supposed Jewish opinion."

Very respectfully yours,

*Jack M. Douglas*



July 9, 1963

Senator Everett Dirksen  
Senate Office Building  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Senator Dirksen,

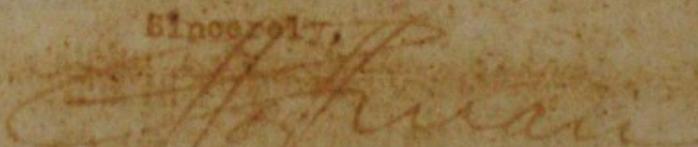
I have enclosed a copy of a telegram I sent to Attorney-General Kennedy over a week ago. So far there has been no response, either directly to me or through that part of the press which comes to my attention.

If you agree with me that any legal determination colored by politics is a danger to our system of law, and if you also agree with me that this of all such legal determinations is a delicate one in the extreme, perhaps then you would be kind enough to inquire of the Justice Department whether a) the import of the Wall Street Journal was accurate and b) if so, whether the Justice Department intends to change its policy and c) if not, how such a policy is justified.

Implicit in this request is a further request, if the Justice Department attempts to justify such a policy, to enlist your help in altering such a policy.

Your attention to this important matter is deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,

  
R. L. Hoffman

MARTIN PASKUS, 1897-1929  
WILLIAM S. GORDON, 1907-1944  
ARTHUR S. HYMAN  
JOSEPH C. SLAUGHTER  
CHARLES H. LIEB  
LEONARD H. MANDEL  
LOUIS S. RESNICK  
ROBERT R. SLAUGHTER  
FREDR. B. STOLZ

PASKUS, GORDON & HYMAN  
COUNSELLORS AT LAW  
733 THIRD AVENUE

*Handwritten:* 7/11  
*Handwritten:* MB

CABLE ADDRESS "PACOLAGO"  
TELEPHONE AREA CODE 212  
TN 7-3800

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

July 3, 1963

Hon. Robert F. Kennedy  
Washington, D.C.

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JUL 12 1963

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

INTERNAL SECURITY DIVISION

My attention has been called to the following item in the Wall Street Journal of recent date.

"Federal lawyers near decision on whether to require the American Zionist Council to register as an agent of the Israeli Government. High Justice Department officials weigh the risk of offending Jewish opinion in the U.S. . . ."

You, of course, are not responsible for the Wall Street Journal's report, but it impelled me to express to you my anxiety to have those in authority bear in mind that there is a great difference between the view of American citizens of Jewish faith as a whole and those among them who constitute the Zionist Organization of America. Americans of Jewish faith, like Americans of all other faiths, wish to have the laws of our country, and the regulations adopted pursuant to such laws, enforced without fear or favor.

I think you may assume without reservation that if you conclude that the American Zionist Council is an agent of the Israeli Government and required to register as such, you will not offend Jewish opinion, although you may make a small segment unhappy. What is best for America is best for all its citizens.

Yours faithfully,

*Handwritten signature:* Arthur D. Hyman

ABH:kb

REGISTRATION SECTION

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2 JUL 5 1963 M. B.  
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F. A. B. A. Sec.

TELEGRAM  
SPECIAL

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
ADMIN. RECORDS BRANCH  
TELEGRAPH OFFICE

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1963 JUL 5 PM 1:14

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K LLD091 PD KANSAS CITY MO 3 924A CST

ROBERT KENNEDY, ATTORNEY GENERAL

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WASHDC

WE WISH TO PRACTICE OUR RELIGION OF JUDAISM WITHOUT ANY INVOLVEMENT  
WITH A POLITICAL SUBSIDIARY OF ANY FOREIGN STATE, THEREFORE  
, WE URGE THAT YOU AS ATTORNEY GENERAL LOOK SERIOUSLY AT THE  
AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL FOR POLITICAL INVOLVEMENT WITH THE  
STATE OF ISRAEL AND THUS NECESSITATING IT TO REGISTRAR AS A  
FOREIGN AGENT

MR & MRS HARVEY LANERO

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JUL 5 - 1963

INTERNAL SECURITY DIVISION

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2 JUL 5 1963  
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INTERNAL SECURITY DIV.  
E. A. R. A. Sec.

Sinclair Jacobs  
200 Montgomery Ferry Drive N.E.  
Atlanta 9, Georgia  
July 8, 1963

*A.P.T. 20.*

*mess. B. 7/23*

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JUL 18 1963

INTERNAL SECURITY DIVISION

The Honorable Robert Kennedy  
Attorney General of United States  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Kennedy:

Recently I noted in the Wall Street Journal, under caption "Washington Wire":

"Federal lawyers near decision whether to require the American Zionist Council to register as an agent of the Israeli government. High Justice Department officials weigh the risk of offending Jewish opinion in the United States. Senate Foreign Relations Chairman Fulbright also eyes the Council's activities."

I cannot subscribe to the idea of generalizing "all Jews support Zionism" and that Jews would object to compliance with the law". I do hope you will give this serious consideration and do whatever is right, proper and according to the laws of the United States; you will go forward for the betterment of our land.

With high greetings,

Respectfully yours,

*Sinclair Jacobs*  
Sinclair Jacobs

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F. A. R. A. Sec.

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This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

# WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

SYMBOLS	
DL	Day Letter
NL	Night Letter
LT	International Letter Telegram

BF-1201 (4-60)

1963 JUN 28 3 5 05

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination

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DC188 D HSB510 PD HOUSTON TEX 28 133P CST

SENATOR RALPH YARBOROUGH 460  
OLD SENATE OFFICE BLDG WASHDC

URGE YOUR INFLUENCE TO INSURE JUSTICE DECISION ON FOREIGN AGENT  
REGISTRATION OF AMERICAN ZIONIST COUNCIL NOT BE DETERMINED  
ON RELIGIOUS OR POLITICAL GROUNDS WHICH INPUGNES JEWISH CITIZENSHIP.  
AS JEWS WE OBJECT TO ZIONIST IMPOSITION UNDER CLOAK OF CHARITY

MARJORIE AND R  
YMOND ARSHT 1404 NORTH BLVD.

146-1-51-14032  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
JUN 28 1963  
RECORDS BRANCH

[back to DOJ orders the AZC to Register as a Foreign Agent](#)

