Greetings from the Jabotinsky Institute to Public Citizen Number One

To mark the election of Reuven “Rubi” Rivlin as Israel’s tenth president, the Jabotinsky Institute in Israel sent him a gift – Only a Shout, the newly-released album of historic posters from the Institute’s archives.

The inscription reads: “With outstanding timing, just as Ze’ev Jabotinsky’s disciple was elected president, the Jabotinsky Institute published a first-time album of historical posters of the Jabotinsky movement.

“We are proud to present you with the very first copy of this book, which highlights activities beginning from 1925 of the movement from which you grew to reach the lofty position of Public Citizen Number One.” The inscription continues, “We are deeply grateful for your ongoing support over the years for the institution dedicated to perpetuating the heritage of the great Zionist leader Ze’ev Jabotinsky, “Rosh Betar,” defender of Jerusalem, commander of the Etzel, and father of the Zionist Revisionists.”

President Reuven Rivlin lays State of Israel wreath on Jabotinsky’s grave

Legendary Colonel John Patterson’s Ashes Brought to Israel for Burial in Avichail

The ashes of Colonel John Patterson have now been brought to Israel for reinterment. Patterson, renowned for commanding the British Army’s Zion Mule Corps as well as the 38th Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers (“the Jewish Legion”) during World War I, served as the right-hand man of Ze’ev Jabotinsky, founder of both the battalions.

Following a complex operation initiated by the National Heritage Department of the Prime Minister’s Office headed by Reuven Pinsky, the ashes of Colonel Patterson and his wife Frances Helena were brought from the Los Angeles mausoleum where they had been buried since the colonel’s death in 1947.

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As you may be aware, only some 50% of the budget of the Jabotinsky Institute in Israel is funded by the Israeli Ministry of Culture and Sport. In order to provide the total program of vital educational-cultural activities, the Institute depends upon the support of its friends and all those to whom the existence and activities of the Institute are close to their hearts.

Currently, appeals for funding are being sent to potential contributors, signed by Jabotinsky Institute Chairman Mordechai Sarig and member of the Board of Directors Eli Chazan. To bolster the effort, Assistant Chairman of the Board Amiram Bukspan has written letters and made additional attempts towards fundraising.

We have been blessed by the ongoing friendship of Mr. Muzi Wertheim, CEO of the leading soft drink company (Coca-Cola), who has tirelessly and generously supported the Jabotinsky Institute as a tribute to his deep appreciation for the legacy of Ze’ev Jabotinsky.

Prior to the death of renowned businessman and builder David Azrieli, the Institute became the recipient of a generous contribution from the Azrieli Fund, established by its namesake to support cultural enterprises. The significant donation was initiated at the request of the director of the Jabotinsky Institute. In gratitude, David Azrieli’s name is perpetuated on the thirteenth and most recently published volume of Ze’ev Jabotinsky’s Letters.

Members of the Institute’s Amuta provide outstanding fundamental support via their annual membership dues and donations. Today, over 300 members of the Amuta have received their membership cards for the Hebrew year 5775 (2014-15). Membership fees begin at 200 NIS and up. The Board of Directors is pleased to welcome new members to join the Amuta, who will become eligible to attend the General Meeting and cast their votes for those who will compose the governing board of the Institute.

The Board of Directors of the Jabotinsky Institute in Israel calls upon our friends to follow those who have already answered the plea to assist the Institute to carry out its crucial mandate of activities by making a minimum contribution of 200 NIS. We thank you in advance for your generous vote of support.

To make your donation, kindly phone the secretary of the Jabotinsky Institute (Sonia) at 03-5287320, Ext. 4, during the opening hours of the Institute.
Legendary Colonel John Patterson’s Ashes Brought to Israel for Burial in Avichail, from page24

The operation to bring Colonel Patterson’s ashes to Israel actually began in 2010. At that time, the pro-Zionist’s grandson Alan Patterson approached then-chairman of the Jabotinsky Institute, the late Peleg Tamir, and Institute director Yossi Ahimeir with the desire to reinter his grandparents’ ashes in the Avihayil Military Cemetery alongside the colonel’s fellow legionnaires.

Alan Patterson, who resides in the US, first connected with the Jabotinsky Institute in Israel on a personal visit there in 1999. At the time he met with Ze’ev Jabotinsky, the grandson of his namesake, for a close-up look at files on Colonel Patterson in the Institute’s archives. Following a subsequent letter from Alan Patterson, the Jabotinsky Institute director sent this message to then-Cabinet Secretary Zvi Hauser.

From the moment that Ahimeir approached the cabinet secretary, the process began to take movement. Attorney Hauser, who had spearheaded the National Heritage program under the aegis of the Prime Minister’s Office, immediately grasped the significance of the effort to bring Col. Patterson’s ashes for burial in Israel. A team was appointed that included Mr. Yehezkel Sibak of Moshav Avihayil, who determined the precise location in the cemetery for Patterson’s final resting place. The Prime Minister’s Office has announced that the official government ceremony will take place in November.

Together with Orde Wingate, Josiah Wedgewood, and Richard Meinertzhagen, Colonel John Patterson holds the distinction of being one of the few major British figures to aid the Jewish People in realizing their dream of independence.

The Jabotinsky Institute Archives contain a great deal of historical material related to Colonel Patterson, including personal correspondence from the 1930s revealing a close relationship between Patterson and Ze’ev Jabotinsky and his movement. Researcher Yossi Kister noted that Patterson was even a member of the executive board of Keren Tel Hai, and on a 1937 visit to Israel was closely involved in the creation of Metzudat Ze’ev. In 1940, Colonel Patterson came to Jabotinsky’s assistance in garnering support from the U.S. government for the establishment of a Jewish Army.

Nearly a century has passed since Patterson and Jabotinsky joined forces to found the Jewish legions during World War I. At this point in time, events have come full circle. Fifty years ago, Jabotinsky’s remains were brought from America for burial in Israel. Today, as well, the ashes of his non-Jewish comrade and partner Colonel John Henry Patterson have been brought for burial in the Land of Israel.

Greetings from the Jabotinsky Institute to Public Citizen Number One, from page 24

The newly-elected president quickly dispatched a thank-you message saying, “I have committed myself to concentrating on the essential foundations of our society, which involves building our national lives here on Israeli soil and our ability to create here a full life of partnership and action.”

Even before being sworn into office, the president-elect took part in a memorial ceremony for the victims of the Altalena held at the Nachlat Yitzchak cemetery. Following his inauguration on July 24, 2014, President Rivlin conducted his first public appearance at the commemoration of the 74th anniversary of the death of Ze’ev Jabotinsky.

In his previous positions, President Rubi Rivlin visited the Jabotinsky Institute in Israel on several occasions and events, including his memorable participation in the seminar devoted to “Israel” Princes.” Among his accomplishments on behalf of the Institute, Rivlin spearheaded the initiation of the project to renew the publication of the works of Jabotinsky in annotated edition.