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American Zionist Emergency Council. 1943-1949.

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MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees Date January 10, 1948

From Abe Tuvim

URGENT -- PLEASE FOLLOW THROUGH

Attached you will find copy of an advertisement which is to appear within the next day or two in a number of New York and Washington newspapers.

The advertisement deals in clear and unmistakable terms with the vicious attempts being made by Great Britain to renew the war against Israel and wipe out by bullying threats and military maneuvers the victories won by the heroic forces of Israel. What Britain could not accomplish through its support of the Arab armies, it now seeks to win by a series of maneuvers and by the use of force.

Only an aroused public opinion in America can bring a halt to these nefarious schemes. Surely the American people whose hard-earned dollars have been poured into British coffers have the right -- and the duty -- to demand that our Government use its great influence to put a stop to British efforts to reduce the United Nations to complete impotence and to destroy the Jewish State.

We call upon you to act at once.

Use the material submitted herewith as an advertisement in your daily newspapers and local publications.

Have men and women of influence in your community write to your Congressmen and Senators calling their attention to these latest attempts by the British to undo by threat and force what has been accomplished by devotion and sacrifice.

Make this material available to your editorial writers and radio commentators. Ask your ministers and rabbis to preach on the subject and wherever possible arrange for publicity covering such sermons in the local press.

Ask for public expressions by your local, county and state elected officials.

Ask friendly societies and organizations which have meetings scheduled within the next few days to adopt resolutions to be released to the public press. These resolutions should embody the pertinent points in our charges against Britain and should call upon our Government to use its best efforts to put a halt to Mr. Bevin's vicious attacks. The resolution should be sent to the State Department and to the President of the United States.

PLEASE PUT INTO OPERATION AS MANY OF THE ABOVE DIRECTIVES AS YOU MAY FIND APPLICABLE TO YOUR LOCAL SITUATION. DO THIS AT ONCE. DELAY MAY BE COSTLY TO ISRAEL.

Please be good enough to let us have a report on all your activities.

Kindest regards.

AT:RB
Enc.

BRITAIN'S NEW WAR AGAINST ISRAEL

The British Government is launching a new war against Israel -- even as direct armistice negotiations between Egypt and Israel are getting under way.

The evidence is clear and unmistakable:

Great Britain has admitted that British troops have been sent to the port of Aqaba in Transjordan. A long-standing truce has been in effect between Israel and Transjordan. It would seem that the British Government is concerned lest this truce eventuate into a permanent peace between the two countries. If the British-dominated Transjordan Arab Legion should re-enter the war at any time in the future, it will be clear that Great Britain alone will be responsible.

There are reports that large numbers of British fighters and bombers are being landed at Mafrak, Transjordan and that British armed strength is being concentrated on the Egyptian-Palestinian frontier. Large units of the British navy are being moved into the area and are maneuvering not far from Israel's shores. In addition, Israeli spokesmen have disclosed that Britain has been training troops in Tripolitania under conditions identical to those to be found in Israel.

British propagandists are trying to make it appear as if current British military moves were "provoked" by the shooting down of R.A.F. planes by the Israelis. It should, therefore, be remembered that the aforementioned British troop movements to Aqaba were first disclosed by Israel almost two weeks ago.

Great Britain has persisted in sending planes into the battlefront areas of the Palestine war, but assumes an air of righteous indignation when the inevitable happens and British aircraft are shot down. It will be recalled that both Winston Churchill and Anthony Eden recently arose in the House of Commons to question the necessity and propriety of sending Royal Air Force planes over such a "dangerous and delicate" area. Nevertheless, Mr. Bevin continued to send British planes into this "dangerous and delicate" area. Why?

Furthermore, it has now been revealed that British arms deliveries to Egypt during the last few months have amounted to £50,000,000 (\$200,000,000) and included shipment of the most modern jet fighter planes, naval vessels, heavy artillery tanks, heavy caliber shells and aviation gasoline. All this took place at a time when Great Britain was publicly avowing "strict neutrality" and maintaining that it was not sending arms to the Arab countries.

The Political Offensive

These military moves should be considered in relation to the panic propaganda which British officials had attempted to disseminate in this country on the basis of Israel's so-called "invasion" of Egyptian territory and the consequent "obligation" of Great Britain to come to Egypt's aid under the terms of the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty of 1936. Great Britain had obviously hoped to induce the United States to join a renewed British move to bring about the imposition of sanctions against Israel by the Security Council. In order to achieve this, Britain warned that if she failed to bring about the international action she desired, she would be "compelled" to act unilaterally in support of Egypt.

But -- to the great embarrassment of the British -- Egypt, while confirming that Britain had offered to provide her with military aid if she would invoke the 1936 Treaty, decided to let the British do their own fighting for a change. Instead of invoking the Treaty, Egypt proceeded to reaffirm her earlier denunciation of it and, at the same time, asked for direct armistice negotiations with Israel.

Great Britain has thus been forced into the open and stands revealed before world opinion in her true role -- the real enemy of Israel. She can no longer cloak her own selfish ambitions behind the actions of the Arab states whom she had encouraged to make war on Israel. The Arab aggressors have been defeated, and Britain must either become reconciled to a settlement which will keep Israel's political independence and territorial integrity intact, or commit British arms and troops to a new war against Israel.

Britain is seemingly choosing the latter course and is currently flooding the American press with distortions and misrepresentations of the situation in the Middle East. We believe, therefore, that the American people would profit from a review of the facts in the war Britain has waged with the primary objective of obtaining the Negev for her own use and exploitation.

This Is The Record:

1. Immediately after the adoption of the partition resolution by the United Nations General Assembly on November 29, 1947, the British authorities in Palestine systematically and deliberately opened the frontiers of that country to armed Arab bands who entered for the express purpose of engaging in a military struggle with the Jews in order to upset the decision of the United Nations by force of arms.
2. Britain also actively participated in this aggression by supplying the Arab states with financial aid, by creating a stockpile of war supplies and equipment for the Arabs, by providing officers and administrative help to the invaders. Simultaneously, Britain made every effort to prevent the Jews from arming for their own defense.
3. When -- despite all of these British maneuvers -- the Arab attacks did not succeed and the State of Israel was proclaimed on May 14, 1948, Great Britain encouraged the Arab governments to launch full-scale military invasions of Palestine with the declared aim of over-running and subjugating Israel. The attack was led by the Transjordan Arab Legion, a military force completely equipped, financed and officered by Great Britain.
4. In the early days of the war, when the invaders were on the move, Great Britain did nothing to bring hostilities to a halt, but, on the contrary, maneuvered ceaselessly in the Security Council to keep the Arab states from being punished as aggressors. At that time Great Britain saw no violation of the United Nations Charter, although the action of the Arab states in invading Palestine was explicitly denounced as international aggression by United States Delegate Warren Austin (May 22, 1948). Then the British worked indefatigably to induce the Security Council to refrain from taking the action which was clearly indicated.
5. However, when the tide turned and the Israeli Army repelled the aggressors, there were immediate British moves for truces, Israeli troop withdrawals and -- finally, the bitterest irony -- attempts to impose sanctions against Israel for successfully defending its own territory.
6. After Israel inflicted a series of decisive defeats on the Arab armies and, in the course of one military engagement, attacked legitimate military objectives on Egyptian soil, Great Britain threatened unilateral military action against the Jewish state.

It is against this background that Britain's current moves should be viewed.

America Must Take A Stand

Whether or not Mr. Bevin continues his vendetta against Israel depends largely on the stand which our own Government will now take. The United States, which has accorded recognition to Israel and which has pledged itself to support Israel's claims to territorial integrity, will surely not ignore the latest British efforts to renew the political and military offensive against Israel. Nor can our Government overlook the fact that Great Britain's current moves to frustrate the peace which now seems to be in the making between Israel and the Arab states, along with her threats of unilateral military action, flaunt the United Nations and its efforts to hasten a settlement between the Arab states and Israel.

American interest in peace in the Middle East can best be served by a firm warning to the British Government to desist from its present policy of war and intrigue against Israel.

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

342 Madison Avenue

New York 17, N. Y.

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES



זכר אלה יעקב וישראל

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees

Date January 6, 1949

From Abe Tuvim

Enclosed you will find a press release issued today by the American Zionist Emergency Council on Great Britain's anti-Israel role and its persisted efforts to destroy the Jewish State.

During the past year, both in the councils of the United Nations and in the public press, the British have been responsible for a series of maneuvers, the clear objective of which has been to undermine the UN partition decision of November 29, 1947, and ghettoize the Jewish State.

The record of these acts is outlined in the release sent herewith and you are most urgently requested to give this material the widest possible public attention.

It should be made the subject of sermons in both Jewish and non-Jewish houses of worship and wherever possible these sermons should be publicized by press releases; it should be placed in the hands of high public officials, county, state and national, to be used by them for speeches and statements for the press and radio; it should be made available to radio commentators, editors and columnists and publicized by all other methods at your disposal.

We cannot and dare not underestimate the perfidious ends to which Mr. Bevin's anti-Jewish policies will continue to strive. Only an aroused and fighting public opinion expressed through the press, radio and the public and legislative halls of America can serve to keep strong the backbone of American resistance to present and future British schemes to injure or to destroy the Jewish State.

There is a big job ahead. Mobilize all our friends and our workers. Carry out this program without delay. If you need additional releases or other material they will be supplied to you. Call on us for any help you think we can give to make your campaign successful.

Kindest regards.

AT:RB
Enc.

PRESS RELEASE from AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

Associated Organizations

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi Organization of America • Labor Zionist Organization of America-Poale Zion
United Zionists-Revisionists of America • Hashomer Hatzair • Achdut Havodah-Poale Zion (United Labor Zionist Party)

342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ZIONIST MEMORANDUM ON BRITISH ROLE IN WAR AGAINST ISRAEL
CHARGES BRITISH GOVERNMENT IS ACTIVE ALLY OF ARAB STATES

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BRITISH THREAT OF UNILATERAL ACTION IN SUPPORT OF EGYPT IS DESIGNED TO INDUCE
U.S. INTO JOINING SANCTIONS MOVE AGAINST ISRAEL, ZIONIST COUNCIL DECLARES

New York, Jan. 6 -- The American Zionist Emergency Council today released the text of a memorandum charging that "the most recent actions of Great Britain with regard to Israel have established conclusively that the British Government is in fact an active ally of the Arab states in their war against Israel." The Council is headed by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman, and represents all Zionist organizations in the United States.

The memorandum, which is being submitted to members of Congress and other leaders of American public opinion, assails the British Government's threat of unilateral action in support of Egyptian warfare with Israel and declares: "Great Britain obviously hopes to induce the United States into joining a renewed British attempt to bring about the imposition of sanctions against Israel by the Security Council, and in order to achieve this, Britain warns that if she fails to bring about the international action she desires she will be 'compelled' to act unilaterally in support of Egypt."

Noting that Israeli accusations concerning British troop movements to the port of Aqaba in Transjordan have now been confirmed by British sources, the memorandum states: "Having committed itself to the support of Egyptian warfare against

(more)

Israel, it would seem that the British Government is now concerned lest peace materialize between Transjordan and Israel. If the British-officered, British-supplied and British-financed Transjordan Arab Legion should re-enter the war at any time in the future, it will be generally understood that Great Britain alone will be responsible."

Declaring that "at this time the American Government and people would profit from a review of the British record in the war against Israel," the memorandum presents a six-point outline of that record, as follows:

"1. Immediately after the adoption of the partition resolution by the United Nations General Assembly on November 29, 1947, the British authorities in Palestine systematically and deliberately opened the frontiers of that country to armed Arab bands entering for the express purpose of engaging in a military struggle with the Jews in order to upset the decision of the United Nations by force of arms. At the same time, British representatives in Arab countries incited and encouraged the Arab states to greater efforts against the Jews and the United Nations resolution.

"2. Britain also actively participated in this aggression by supplying the Arab states with financial aid, by creating a stockpile of war supplies and equipment for the Arabs, by providing officers and administrative help to the invaders. Simultaneously, Britain made every effort to prevent the Jews from arming for their own defense.

"3. When - despite all of these British maneuvers - the Arab attacks did not succeed in overcoming Jewish resistance and the State of Israel was proclaimed on May 14, 1948, Great Britain encouraged the Arab governments to launch full-scale military invasions of Palestine with the declared aim of over-running and subjugating Israel. The attack was led by the Transjordan Arab Legion, a military force completely equipped, financed and officered by Great Britain.

"4. In the early days of the war, when the invaders were on the move, Great Britain did nothing to bring hostilities to a halt, but, on the contrary, maneuvered ceaselessly in the Security Council to keep the Arab states from being punished as aggressors. At that time Great Britain saw no violation of the United Nations Charter, although the action of the Arab states in invading Palestine was explicitly

(more)

denounced as international aggression by United States Delegate Warren Austin (May 22, 1948). Then the British worked indefatigably to induce the Security Council to refrain from taking the action which was clearly indicated.

"5. However, when the tide turned and the Israeli Army turned back the aggressors, there were immediate British moves for truces, Israeli troop withdrawals and --finally, the bitterest irony -- sanctions against Israel for successfully defending its own territory.

"6. Now that Israel has inflicted a series of decisive defeats on the Arab armies and has, in the course of one military engagement, attacked legitimate military objectives on Egyptian soil, Great Britain threatens unilateral military action against the Jewish state."

Pointing out that the United Nations truce "is being used by Egypt as a mere device to continue in occupation of territory outside the national boundaries of Egypt," the memorandum states: "In the circumstances, the Israeli Government is naturally concerned with the need to eliminate the aggression within its territory and the threat to its existence. Any military action undertaken by Israeli authorities and designed to expel the Egyptian invaders from its national territory and to eliminate this threat is a lawful and necessary exercise of sovereignty and is fully consonant with the fundamental right of self-defense accorded under international law to all sovereign States and referred to in Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations.

"As long as the necessity for such self-defense has not passed, it would be unjust and unfair to interfere with the conduct of military operations by one party only, permitting the Egyptian forces to occupy parts of Palestine but prohibiting Israel from taking action against the bases of the enemy's attack. If this attitude were sanctioned, it would amount to nothing less than assurance to the aggressor that he may indefinitely continue his attack in the knowledge that he will never suffer a counter-attack on his homegrounds.

"We cannot believe that the Government of the United States or the American people would for one moment sanction so biased and unfair an approach.

"It is generally understood today — despite the distortions and misrepresentations of British propagandists — that Israel has no designs on the territory of any of its neighbors and retains but one objective in its current defense of its political and territorial integrity: peace. The prolongation of the conflict, and the resulting strain on the young state's economy, has created an unendurable situation for Israel and its people — a situation which cannot be further continued if Israel is to maintain itself economically. It has no alternative but to compel Egypt to negotiate peace — and this all-important fact must be considered in connection with Israeli military operations in the Negev.

"Finally, it is respectfully suggested that the Government of the United States should refuse to lend itself, either directly or indirectly, either in its diplomatic relations with the parties to the Palestine controversy or as a member of the General Assembly, the Security Council, and the Palestine Conciliation Commission of the United Nations, to any attempt to restrict the freedom of Israel to eject the Egyptian invaders. Instead, it is respectfully suggested that the Government of the United States, both in its direct relations with the parties to the controversy and as a member of the United Nations, should pursue the aim of achieving an armistice and peace between Egypt and Israel on the basis of mutual respect of the respective territories of the two States."

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees Date January 5, 1949

From Abe Tuvim

In furtherance of the memorandum sent to you on December 22nd with reference to the situation on Cyprus, we enclose a radio script for a fifteen-minute period which we hope you can use for radio time to bring wide public attention to the inhuman attitude of Great Britain toward the Jews on Cyprus.

We suggest also that wherever the arrangement can be made, the spokesman for the radio script be a non-Jewish community leader sympathetic to our cause. The material in the script may also be used to very good advantage for editorial comment, news stories and other public opinion purposes.

We again offer a program of activities to be entered into and urge you to do everything possible to carry out the following:

1. Ask leading non-Jewish citizens of your community to send wires and letters of protest to the British Ambassador at the British Embassy in Washington.
2. Try to bring about the publication of editorials in your local newspapers on this subject.
3. Ask your Christian religious leaders to preach on the subject and supply them with the necessary background material.

Please keep us informed concerning all of your activities regarding this most pressing question. The illegal detention of our people on Cyprus is another clear indication of Britain's anti-Israel attitude. We must do everything we can to expose it.

Kindest regards.

AT:RB

RADIO SCRIPT ON CYPRUS

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In stark contrast to the recent season of "Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men," I should like to tell you the story of 12,000 human beings who have experienced little peace in their lifetime, and even less good will. I am referring, of course, to the 12,000 hapless survivors of every Nazi concentration camp in Europe, who, forty-four months after the termination of the war, are still imprisoned behind barbed wire enclosures and machine gun emplacements... this time on the Island of Cyprus. Confined in close quarters, like cattle, and deprived of all the comforts -- and, indeed, most of the necessities -- of existence, these Jewish men, women and children are faced with the terrifying prospect that for them life will continue in this dark, disillusioning pattern for an indefinite period. For these 12,000 there is no escape. On all sides of them is the turbulent sea. Beyond the seas there is life and hope, but beyond the barbed wire there are guns and death.

Of the 12,000 Jews now languishing on Cyprus as the unwilling guests of His Majesty's Government, more than 3,000 are women and 1,000 children. The rest of the group -- about 8,000 in all -- is composed of men of so-called military age, who, under a British interpretation of a United Nations ruling, are being detained because their entry into Israel would supposedly be a violation of the Palestine truce. It is important to note that the British interpretation which keeps these 12,000 derelict souls imprisoned on Cyprus has not been accepted by the United States Government or by any of the other neutral members of the United Nations. Nor was this arbitrary British interpretation approved by Count Bernadotte who, you will recall, was appointed as the United Nations Mediator in the Palestine problem, and who, in that office, was charged with the establishment of a truce and its successful execution.

On a number of occasions prior to his death, the late Count Bernadotte -- who could hardly be accused of unfriendliness to the British Government -- denied that the forceful detention of Jews on Cyprus was due to any request by the United Nations Mediator. Yet, many months after the late Mediator expressed this opinion, and adoption by the United Nations of a resolution urging that the truce be replaced by an armistice between the warring parties in Palestine, the Jews on Cyprus still trudge their weary way as hopeless prisoners of a new persecution.

Who are these many thousands deprived of their freedom and their right to live normal lives? What crime have they committed? Whose law have they violated? These questions are not at all difficult to answer. The 12,000 prisoners are the victims of Adolf Hitler, victims who were a little more dexterous, a little more courageous, a little more astute, a little more fortunate than 6,000,000 of their kinfolk who were slaughtered by the Nazi executioner. These are the living. These are the one-out-of-every-twenty who managed to hide in the dark forests of Poland, the caves of Hungary, the hiding places of occupied Europe. These are the surviving skeletons of Maidenek, Buchenwald, Dachau and Treblinka. These are the ones snatched from the chopping block by the victorious allied armies.

How did they get to Cyprus? They were brought there by ships... British ships. Herded like cattle, beaten and machine-gunned by His Majesty's glorious Navy, they were transported to their present barbed wire enclosures because they dared quit a cruel and inhospitable Europe for the one place on earth where they were assured the right to enjoy freedom and a dignified existence. These are the poor Jews whose luck ran out on them. Although they thwarted death, they could not quite recapture life.

I should like to tell you the story of one of the inmates on this barren island penitentiary. His name was Shlomo Chaimson. His lot was little different

from that of the other 11,000 adults on Cyprus. Somehow, he was able to snatch his body and soul from the gaspits and torture chambers of a number of Nazi execution camps. When the European war ended, Shlomo Chaimson found himself -- at least figuratively -- a free man. Yet, when he tried to move about freely, he discovered that he was still a prisoner of sorts... an unwanted, stateless Displaced Person tied down by endless restrictions, curfews and new occupation edicts. Unable to return to the city of his origin -- where anti-Semitism broke out anew -- he was faced with the realization that he could recapture life only in a new environment -- a new land.

It was during his tiresome and seemingly endless DP days that Shlomo Chaimson made the decision to set out for Palestine -- the land of his people. This decision had now become doubly complicated, for during his long period of waiting, love came into his life. In the camp of his internment, he met a girl and married her. Now more than ever, he was determined to reach Palestine.

Together they traveled the clandestine route southward. The road was long and tortuous. Traveling at night -- through thick woods, past carefully guarded borders, over snow-covered mountains -- they made progress toward their destination. This time, luck was with them. After a journey that lasted many months, Shlomo and his wife managed to reach a southern European port where, with thousands of others, they were smuggled aboard a vessel heading for the Holy Land.

For several days, the little unseaworthy ship was tossed on the high seas. Finally, they came within sight of their destination. The Holy Land loomed far off on the horizon as a thin sandy strip. But poised between their vessel and the shoreline were several small visible objects which, as they approached, turned into sleek ironclad destroyers of His Majesty's fleet. Shlomo and his fellow passengers fought vainly against the British boarding parties. After a brief struggle, they were overpowered and brought into the port of Haifa. Displaying an efficiency learned in many such encounters, the British military

authorities hastily marched the so-called "illegal" immigrants onto other ships which lay anchored nearby. Within a day they were again on the high seas -- this time their destination was Cyprus.

On Cyprus their life was one of watchful waiting. Many thousands of other displaced Jews had preceded Shlomo Chaimson and his wife. They too were watching the calendar and the list of eligibles that were occasionally included in the small immigration quotas for Palestine. On May 14, the British surrendered their mandate over the Holy Land. Simultaneously the State of Israel was proclaimed. At long last, it was expected that Cyprus would be cleared of its 25,000 Jewish prisoners in a one-way passage that would end on the soil of the new Jewish State.

What had been expected, however, did not take place. The British ruled that all men of military age would be detained on Cyprus indefinitely -- on the grounds that their entry into Israel would be a violation of the truce that had been established by the United Nations. Almost half of the 25,000 Jewish detainees on Cyprus were included within this category. Shlomo Chaimson was one of those who was forced to remain behind. It is true that under the British ruling, women and children were free to leave. Most of them, however, chose to stay behind with their husbands and fathers rather than break up their families and proceed to Israel.

A number of families did make the difficult decision to break up and meet in the new Jewish State. Among those who departed was the wife of Shlomo Chaimson who was heavy with child and was to give birth within a few months. Somehow the husband managed to convince his wife that it would be wiser and healthier if their first-born were brought into the world on the soil of Israel. With many misgivings, Shlomo's wife left Cyprus on one of the last boats to quit the island of despair.

It must be remembered that this prison island is almost escape-proof. The area in which the detention camps are situated is surrounded by three rows of

barbed wire, ten feet high, spaced at intervals of 100 yards or so by watch towers manned by machine guns. Yet, despite this armed vigilance, a number of escapes have been attempted. As the months dragged by and the British refused to relent in their decision to retain men of military age, the attempts became more frequent. In almost all instances, these heroic, but fool-hardy detainees failed. Only a few weeks ago, Shlom Chaimson made an effort to break out of the barbed wire and reach the sea. He was shot to death only 30 feet away from the last fence. Among his effects was found a telegram announcing the birth of his only son, two days earlier.

Thus ended the short, unhappy life of one of the world's little-known people. The story of Shlomo Chaimson was not an unusual one on the island of Cyprus. Its tragedy becomes stark only when it is contrasted with the smooth pattern of our orderly lives here in the United States. But on Cyprus, this dark tale is one of many tragic narratives. In that world of gloom the unbearable is normal.

To the people on Cyprus, one day is very much like the other. They wake up. They wash. They walk around. They converse. They eat. They read. But most of all they wait. Some of them have waited for almost two years. Some of them for no more than seven months. Yet, the duration of their waiting is relatively unimportant. What is vital is the need for an immediate change of heart among the people with the guns and the barbed wire. What is needed now is the immediate mass transfer of every person interned on Cyprus to the land of Israel -- in whose name they sacrificed so much and for so long.

We can all help in the realization of this dream. By sending a card, letter or telegram to the British Ambassador in Washington, we can convey our feeling that the people interned on Cyprus have been there far, far too long. Only by a concerted effort on our part can we hasten their departure. That is the least we can do to alleviate the anguish and suffering of human beings who have lived so long with suffering, pain and tragedy.

* * *

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees Date December 22, 1948

From Abe Tuvim

ACTION ON CYPRUS

Today's press includes the following dispatch from London: "The British Government has no intention of relaxing at present its practices governing the release of Jewish refugees interned on Cyprus . . ." (JTA).

Despite all personal appeals, the British Government is continuing its illegal and inhuman policy of holding more than 11,000 men, women and children on Cyprus — only a day's journey by sea from Israel, which is willing and anxious to receive them. This attitude is all the more outrageous when we consider that even those lame arguments which were advanced by the British Mandatory Government in "justification" of its Cyprus deportation policy no longer exist. The British Mandate for Palestine has been dead for a half year.

Furthermore, the 11,000 Jewish refugees on Cyprus are still treated as criminals. Their living conditions are intolerable. They are subjected to degradation, penned up and guarded by soldiers, denied the most elementary requirements for human dignity and self-respect. This is being done to people who merely wished to end their DP existence and to live as free men in their own homeland.

Great Britain's criminal policy must not be permitted to continue. We must now redouble our efforts to bring about the release of the Cyprus detainees and their resettlement in Israel. To that end we are suggesting the following program of action:

1. Ask leading non-Jewish citizens of your community to send wires and letters of protest to the British Ambassador at the British Embassy in Washington. After your public officials and other Christian leaders become aware of the facts concerning the refugees on Cyprus, many of them will be glad to register their protest with the British Government and to demand the release of the internees and their emigration to Israel.
2. Try to bring about the publication of editorials in your local newspapers on this subject. In addition to the facts contained in this memorandum, you will shortly receive other background material on this issue. Please make this material available to your editors, columnists, and radio commentators. If newspaper comment results from your efforts please make certain that copies of the editorials are sent to the British Ambassador in Washington.
3. Ask your Christian religious leaders to preach on the subject and supply them with the necessary background material.
4. Try to obtain local radio time, preferably for a non-Jewish leader. If you succeed in making such arrangements with your radio station and are in need of script material, please communicate with us and the draft of an address will be forwarded to you without delay.

Finally, we urge you to keep us informed concerning all of your activities regarding this most pressing question.

Regards,

ATUB

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL
342 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees **Date** December 14, 1948

From Abe Tuvim

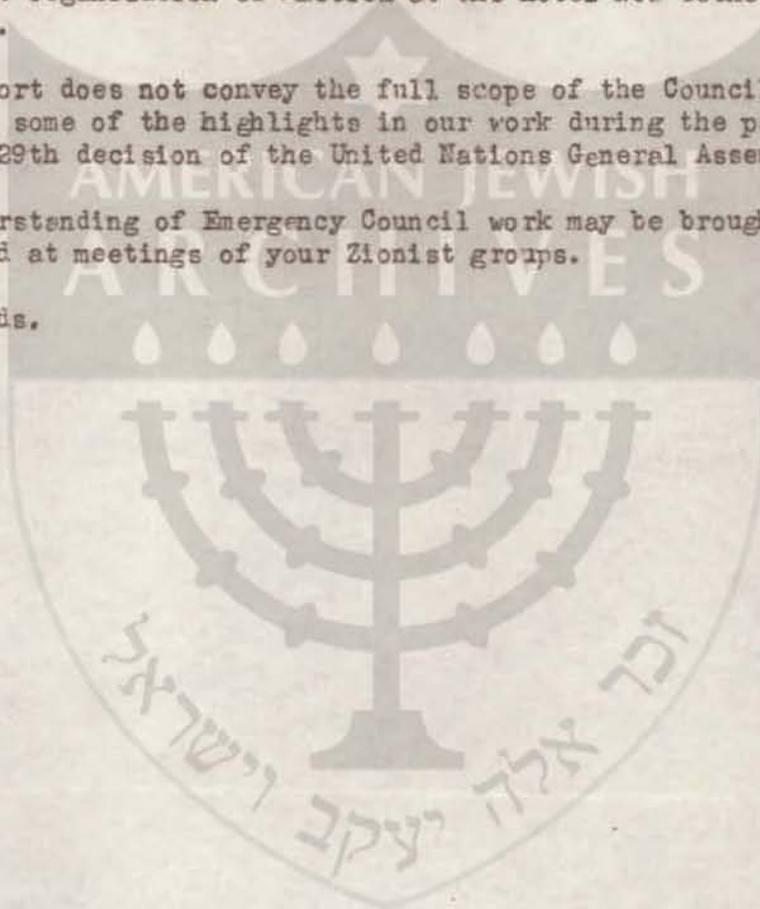
Attached you will find a report of the activities of the American Zionist Emergency Council which was delivered at a meeting of the Administrative Council of the Zionist Organization of America at the Hotel New Yorker on Sunday, December 12th.

While the report does not convey the full scope of the Council's activities, it does indicate some of the highlights in our work during the period following the November 29th decision of the United Nations General Assembly.

A better understanding of Emergency Council work may be brought about if the report is read at meetings of your Zionist groups.

Kindest regards,

AT:RB
Enc.



REPORT OF ACTIVITIES OF THE
AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

by

ABE TUVIM
Executive Director

Delivered before the Administrative Council
of the Zionist Organization of America
Sunday, December 12, 1948

The American Zionist Emergency Council has just completed another year of activities, many of which played a most vital role in the political achievements of the Jewish state since the partition decision of the United Nations General Assembly. Throughout this entire period the Emergency Council worked in close cooperation with the Jewish Agency for Palestine and the representatives of the Government of Israel, thereby ensuring coordinated efforts in Israel's behalf.

Before the last echo of the affirmative votes at Lake Success passed into history on November 29, 1947, a conspiracy was already being hatched to undermine the partition resolution. One of the chief functions of the Emergency Council is to detect and anticipate adverse developments and to be prepared to meet them. Consequently, only a short time after the partition decision the Council found it necessary to call a national conference in Washington which was held on February 16, 1948 and which sought to prepare our people for the treachery ahead.

That conference served to re-mobilize our political forces and to serve notice on our enemies that we were taking up their new challenge.

We began a widespread campaign of education -- with articles and occasional full page advertisements in the nation's press, with speakers over the radio and on lecture platforms throughout America, with a program enlisting the active support of our friends in Congress and other leaders of public

opinion. This campaign resulted in a stream of favorable editorial comment in the press and continued sympathy on the part of the general public.

The March 19th reversal of the United States was a severe shock for our people. Our movement had gone through years of unabated emotional strain -- campaign had succeeded campaign -- and the partition resolution had given many the long-awaited feeling that the job was over, that the time had come to enjoy the fruits of victory. The U. S. about-face, therefore, produced a rude awakening for the battle-weary veterans of our political struggle.

Furthermore, the State Department propagandists represented the new U. S. proposals for "truce" and trusteeship in a very "reasonable" light and they proceeded to circulate arguments defending the new policy as vital to "American interest". We were, therefore, faced with a two-fold task. Not only was it necessary to restore the fervor and effectiveness of Zionist campaigning, but it was also necessary to direct our campaign against our own U. S. Administration.

That we succeeded in this is a tribute to our leadership. But it is not the victory of any single man, even though one man foresaw the tasks ahead and sought, in a thousand and one ways, to prepare our people for it. No, this was not merely a victory for Dr. Abba Hillel Silver -- or for any single party in Zionism. It was a victory for all parties. It was also a demonstration of the unity and discipline which the American Zionist Emergency Council has brought about in the ranks of Zionist parties. In view of this record, it is somewhat strange that some individuals and groups should have put forward the contention that the Emergency Council has outlived its usefulness. It has become quite clear, however, that such individuals and parties have been actuated, not by realities, but by internal political considerations. We may indeed be thankful that there have been men like Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann who have fought, and who continue to fight, to maintain the one body capable of coping with the political problems confronting American Zionism.

The struggle to reverse the reversal was long and arduous. At no time prior to this campaign was there such a sharp and immediate public reaction to events concerning Palestine. The press was almost unanimous in its denunciation of the Administration. All over the country veterans joined Zionist groups in protest marches. In New York half a million people turned out for one of the most stirring demonstrations ever held in the city. Police estimates established that there had never been a larger or more effective parade of this type. Its message reverberated around the world.

The veterans parade was followed by a day of mobilization and prayer, when Jews gathered in thousands of synagogues throughout the country. Following this, the Government and the United States Delegation to the United Nations were flooded with letters, telegrams and postcards. It was learned that in one day the State Department alone received 86,000 wires and it is generally believed that it received over a million wires within two months after the reversal.

On April 12th the World Zionist Actions Committee issued its proclamation announcing to the world that with the termination of the Mandate the Jewish State would be established. And on May 15th the State of Israel came into being and was immediately recognized by President Truman. The preceding months of toil had not been in vain! We gave expression to the joy felt by the entire Jewish people at the memorable rally in Madison Square Garden, and in other rallies throughout the country.

But, although we were happy over the realistic act of the President of the United States, we were not lulled into inaction. We knew that sinister forces were still at work and while we were ready to give thanks to the President for his act of recognition, it was still necessary to attack those forces. Our campaign continued.

An indication of the extent of that campaign may be obtained by recalling the reaction in Congress. It was at that time that Senator Bridges, ably

supported by others in the Senate, demanded that American economic aid to Britain be investigated in order to ascertain whether such aid was being used by Britain to arm the Arabs and whether American money was being used to defeat the purposes expressed time and again by the Government. Senator Bridges' demands created consternation in British circles.

We began another series of full page ads. One of them was called "Operation Amputation" and it exposed the long series of maneuvers by the British, aided and abetted by the U. S. State Department, to circumvent the United Nations decision.

At the same time, we began the effort to bring about the inclusion of planks on Israel in the Democratic and Republican party platforms. This was no easy task. It occupied the best minds and the best abilities of our movement. Our enemies then, as now, were active in the land. But organized Zionism again prevailed, and it prevailed only because under the courageous direction of our leaders the Jews of America had achieved political maturity. They were no longer being carried in the vest pockets of those who came, hat in hand, to ask for favors. We were a fighting force -- a determined force, a force to be reckoned with.

Then we came to the Bernadotte period. Even we of the Council, who should have grown accustomed to critical situations, found ourselves in the midst of one which was most difficult. There is no intention here to speak ill of the dead. But it must be said that, wittingly or unwittingly, Count Bernadotte did not serve the purpose for which he was chosen. Long before his report was made -- long before his untimely and regrettable death -- we knew that we could not look forward to a just resolution of the problem from him. We said so in no uncertain terms. But there was no question that the manner of his death provided our enemies with a rallying point for their nefarious schemes against Israel.

That we overcame the effects of the assassination of Count Bernadotte and re-established our position in public opinion is a tribute to Zionist resiliency. When we thought of the heroism of fighting Israel, when we thought of those boys and girls in their teens writing an unforgettable chapter of history, it was little enough for us to try to overcome any political setback, and we did.

The Bernadotte report, and its unequivocal endorsement by Secretary Marshall was another, in the series of United States reversals. It called for another campaign. We asked the Jews of America to cry out against this last-minute effort to make a ghetto of the Jewish State -- an effort to restrict its growth and development -- to deny it the right and the possibility to repatriate and rehabilitate the Jewish refugees for whom there is no future except in Israel.

Another series of ads was spread throughout the country. Perhaps the most effective of these was the one which, by the reproduction of four maps, showed most graphically what the enemies of Israel were endeavoring to accomplish. It is generally believed that this ad went a long way toward bringing about a clear understanding of the problem. At the same time, hundreds of thousands of additional telegrams and letters were pouring in on Washington. Every candidate for local, state and federal office was approached by representatives of the Jewish communities and the Zionist bodies. The unity of the Jewish community was at its highest point. Even groups which in the past had hardly shown an active interest threw themselves into this desperate effort.

At the same time, other activities were being carried forward. Both candidates for the Presidency of the United States were being asked to reaffirm the Palestine planks in their platforms. They were being asked to do this in every city and town in which they appeared. They were literally bombarded with demands for this re-statement, not only by Jews but by non-Jews as well. The press of the country took up the issue and radio commentators showed no hesitancy in pointing up the fact that neither of the candidates had acted as yet.

The names of the individuals who intervened in our behalf would constitute a "Who's Who" in the political and business life of America.

Finally, the resistance broke. On October 22nd, Governor Thomas E. Dewey issued his now-famous letter to Mr. Dean Alfange, chairman of the New York State chapter of the American Christian Palestine Committee, in which the Palestine plank of the Republican party was reaffirmed. The wall of silence, which had been set up months earlier on the basis of the so-called bipartisan foreign policy, was broken down completely on October 24th when President Truman made public his position and stated in unequivocal terms that no changes in Israel's boundaries would be countenanced unless these were acceptable to Israel. (This story is easy in the telling but you cannot have even the vaguest conception of all the pain and effort which were poured into those long and dark days.)

But even then we weren't out of the woods. Suddenly Israel faced the threat of sanctions. The victim of Arab-British aggression was to be punished because it had defended itself successfully. The President happened to be in New York at the time and within a matter of hours men with a sense of justice joined in a united effort to urge the President to disown this desperate attempt by Britain and representatives of the State Department to punish the innocent and bring victory to the defeated aggressor.

We know now that the President came through. We were grateful to him and we let it be known that we were grateful, just as we did when the statements were made in the last week of the campaign and we sent telegrams of gratitude to both candidates.

Our work is far from over. There is still a long and treacherous trail ahead of us. Our enemies are only temporarily subdued and we must not permit our satisfaction over recent developments to blind us to what is ahead. It is for this reason that our communities are kept on the alert. We must remember that we have a formidable array of force against us spending millions of dollars

each year. The British Information Service -- the Institute of Arab-American Affairs -- the missionary groups -- the oil interests -- the Council for Judaism. When you realize this you must also realize that the financial outlay required to establish our movement so favorably in the mind and heart of America has been small indeed.

Only recently we organized a campaign for editorial comment urging the admission of Israel into the United Nations. I can report that that campaign has been a remarkable success. And in telling you about this I must pay tribute to the newspapers of America for their overwhelmingly fair treatment of this problem. Of course there have been exceptions. But many of these, too, have altered their policy in our favor. I should also pay tribute to the men and women who broadcast news and comment over the radio. In the American Zionist Emergency Council we have a special department which was created for the purpose of combatting unfair press and radio comment. It costs us many thousands of dollars each year for clippings and radio reports. But this has been money well spent, for today the unfriendly reports have been reduced to such an extent that the ratio is approximately one in twenty as against approximately ten in twenty a few years ago.

We must continue this and the other work being carried on. We must keep our President on the alert against attempts which most certainly will be made by anti-Israeli elements in the State Department to nullify his orders or avoid carrying them out. The battle is far from won; and even though there are men among us who feel that the time has come to lessen our activities and reduce the scope of our work, I am sure that the more realistic minds will prevail.

We cannot go back to chaotic days of "partyism" in dealing with the political and educational necessities of the day. We could never have achieved the degree of success of which we may justly be proud if we had not established the Emergency Council, uniting the parties and providing political discipline, which is absolutely essential.

I cannot close this report without mentioning the invaluable aid which we have received from cooperating organizations. Chief among these is the American Christian Palestine Committee which today has hundreds of chapters in the cities and towns of America and has an enrollment of more than 25,000 Christian leaders, among whom are 6,000 ministers. A report of the A.C.P.C.'s activities would take just as long as this entire report. Most of the Zionist leaders who are here are fully aware of the great achievements of the A.C.P.C., whose growth has been encouraged by the AZEC and by the Zionist communities. Excellent relations are also enjoyed with the American Association for the United Nations and the great federations of labor which on innumerable occasions have been most helpful.

And thus I bring this report to a close. Actually I should not be making it. This recital of only a portion of our work should have been made by Harry L. Shapiro who recently assumed a post of great responsibility in the United Palestine Appeal and the United Jewish Appeal. It was under his direction and with the benefit of his tremendous ability that this work was carried on. And there were others too, whose contributions were truly magnificent.

We face a future in which great efforts are indicated. It would be very pleasant to be able to report to you that the emergency is over. But you know how far this is from the reality. Not only is there much to be done politically, but our job in the field of winning and keeping friends for Israel is one which must command our energies. Even after Israel attains full recognition and admission into the family of nations, its needs will be gigantic. I do not refer only to its economic requirements, which must be met largely in the United States. The world will have a critical eye focused on this new state. The task of interpreting its aims, its hopes and its efforts cannot be a one-party task. It must be the job of a united Zionist movement, such as is found in the American Zionist Emergency Council. Perhaps it may be necessary to change the name, but

regardless of the name, the task will remain. We have every reason to be confident that it will be carried out. The cooperation we have received from all our parties and communities has made possible the victories of the past and will make possible the achievements of the future. This cooperation has always been highlighted by the leadership of the Zionist Organization of America. The staff of the ZOA has extended invaluable assistance. The directives of the Emergency Council have been followed meticulously. Without this help we could not have gone as far as we have. It is surely in order to express, on behalf of the American Zionist Emergency Council, the deep and abiding appreciation we feel for your cooperation, your readiness and ability to carry out our common tasks so splendidly.



~~AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL~~
342 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees *Date* December 16, 1948

From Abe Tuvim

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

Enclosed you will find 1) a copy of the Draft Constitution of the State of Israel, and 2) a recent letter to the New York Herald Tribune by Mr. Herbert Bayard Swope on the question of the Arab refugees.

If you already have received a copy of the proposed Constitution, you may wish to pass this one on to some interested person.

Best regards.

AT:RB
Encs.

Haifa Refugees

NOVEMBER 29, 1948

Arab Broadcasts Blamed for
Exodus of Natives

To the New York Herald Tribune:

On the question of the Arab refugees, there has been much confusion of thought and a general tendency to blame the Israelis for the plight of the refugees. The opposite is nearer the truth. I point out "The London Economist" recently printed an article "to ascertain how much of the present plight of the refugees is of Jewish and how much of Arab making and whether it could have been avoided." "The Economist," whose standing is of the highest, says:

"The events of the first exodus are described as follows by a British eye witness:

"During the subsequent days the Israeli authorities who were now in complete control of Haifa . . . urged all Arabs to remain in Haifa, and guaranteed them protection and security. So far as I know, most of the British civilian residents whose advice was asked by Arab friends told the latter that they would be wise to stay.

"Various factors influenced their decision to seek safety in flight. There is but little doubt that for the most potent of these factors was the announcements made over the air by the Arab Higher Executive, urging all Arabs in Haifa to quit. The reason given was that upon the final withdrawal of the British the combined armies of the Arab States would invade Palestine and drive the Jews into the sea, and it was clearly intimated that those Arabs

who remained in Haifa and accepted Israeli protection would be regarded as renegades. At that time the Palestinian Arabs still had some confidence in the ability of the Arab League to implement the promises of its spokesmen."

At a meeting of the Security Council on April 23, Jamal Bey Hussein for the Arab Higher Committee said, "The Arabs would not submit to a truce . . . but they rather preferred to leave their homes in the town . . . and leave the town, which they did. We have never concealed the fact that we began the fighting."

Again, Emil El-Ghory, representative of the Arab Higher Committee at the meetings of the General Assembly of the United Nations, in a press interview published on Sept. 6, 1948, in the Arabic newspaper "Telegraph" of Beirut, said, "The problem of these refugees is the direct result of the policy of resistance to partition and to the establishment of the Israeli State. This policy was unanimously adopted by the Arab governments, and it is they who have to bear responsibility for the solution of the refugees problem."

These reports have not been stressed or published here. They should remove the misconception that the Israelis are the cause of the Arab refugee plight.

HERBERT BAYARD SWOPE.
New York, Nov. 26, 1948.

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL
342 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees *Date* December 17, 1948

From Abe Tuvim

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

Attached is the text of a statement issued a few days ago by the Government of Israel listing British violations of Security Council orders and proving that Britain has supplied war equipment to the Arab countries during the period of the Palestine truce.

These facts, which have already been published in part by some of the nation's leading newspapers, should be called to the attention of your local newspaper editors and radio commentators. It is especially important that your Committee be prepared to make editors and commentators aware of these British truce violations when British propagandists next try to charge Israel with having disobeyed the orders of the Security Council. May we suggest, therefore, that you make copies of the attached statement for possible future use.

Regards.

BRITAIN VIOLATES UN BAN ON ARMS SHIPMENTS TO PARTICIPANTS IN PALESTINE WAR

A Statement Released on December 14, 1948 at the UN Session
in Paris by the Israeli Information Service

Hector McNeil, British Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, stated in the House of Commons on December 13, 1948 that the British Government had "meticulously observed" the embargo on arms and war equipment to the countries of the Middle East. There is no doubt that this statement is fully in accordance with the facts as far as Israel is concerned. There is, as well, no doubt that Britain has supplied various kinds of war equipment to the Arab countries during the periods of the Palestine truce -- i.e. between June 11 and July 9, 1948, and from July 18 to date.

Reliable information reaching official Israeli quarters from various sources proves that Egypt, Iraq and Transjordan have received a considerable amount of British arms during the last six months. Some of the more striking examples of British violations of the orders of the Security Council of the United Nations are given herewith:

1. During the truce and prior to the middle of October, 20,000 rounds of six pounder ammunition, 5,000 rounds of twenty-five pounder ammunition, and approximately 2,000 to 3,000 rounds of larger than twenty-five pounder ammunition were supplied by Britain to the Egyptian army. Egypt is known to have requested an additional British supply of heavy and medium artillery ammunition which may have been supplied in the meantime.
2. During the month of August, British naval authorities in Egypt sold small arms ammunition to the Egyptian army.
3. After the Egyptian army requisitioned a large number of airplanes belonging to the Egyptian MISR Airlines, Britain sold eight Vikings to MISR Airlines. This was done after the Egyptian company found itself unable, owing to the embargo on the supply of arms to the Middle East, to secure from the United States replacements of airplanes easily useable for military purposes.
4. There is reason for strong suspicion that after Glubb Pasha's visit to London last August, certain types of equipment of a British medium artillery regiment which had been evacuated from Palestine to Misrata in Tripolitania, was transferred to Egypt for use in the Negev operations.
5. On June 6 and June 17, respectively, the SS Bardistan and SS Derryheen arrived in Basra, Iraq, from the United Kingdom and landed British war equipment.
6. At a secret meeting of the Iraqi Parliament on September 14, the Prime Minister informed the house that the British military authorities had delivered to the Iraqi army surplus U.S. war materials, which they controlled in sufficient quantities to equip an armored brigade.
7. On July 5, 20 British "Fury" fighter bombers equipped with special bombsights and 25 pound bombs landed at Rashid airfield in Iraq. They were piloted by Iraqis who had been specially trained in Britain to fly these planes.
8. In August a number of British "Fury" aircraft which had been held camouflaged on Mosul airdrome, reached Mafraq in Transjordan, for delivery to the Iraqi airforces.
9. When, late in August, the Iraqi airforces had to curtail their activities because of shortage of gasoline, the RAF in Iraq supplied them with fuel from their own stores on a lendlease basis.
10. British equipment unloaded at Basra, Iraq, during the month of August included thirty 25 pounder guns, 160 cases of rifles, 15 gun tractors and 30 mobile wireless stations with their spare parts.
11. During the truce the SS Corinthus and SS Luristan unloaded British small arms and small arms ammunition at Basra.
12. During the month of August, the No. 9 British base ordnance depot in the Suez Canal Zone supplied ammunition to the Arab Legion. This ammunition was secretly shipped to Aqaba and then airlifted to Amman, Transjordan.
13. Large quantities of arms from the United Kingdom, including 2,000 rifles, reached Amman during the month of October.

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees Date November 29, 1948

From Abe Tuvim

The following telegram was sent today to the chairmen of large communities throughout the country:

"ISRAEL MAKING APPLICATION UN MEMBERSHIP TODAY OR TOMORROW.
URGE THAT YOU DEVELOP FRIENDLY EDITORIAL COMMENT BASED ON
CONSTRUCTIVE ISRAEL CONTRIBUTION TO UN, JUSTICE OF ITS
CLAIMS AND CONSISTENCY WITH POSITION OF PRESIDENT TRUMAN
AND STATEMENT OF UN DELEGATE JESSUP FOR UN. ALSO URGE THAT
FRIENDLY EDITORIALS UPON PUBLICATION BE SENT WHITE HOUSE
AND STATE DEPARTMENT TOGETHER WITH TELEGRAMS FROM IMPORTANT
PEOPLE YOUR COMMUNITY URGING PRESIDENT STATE DEPARTMENT
AND US DELEGATION UN USE EVERY INFLUENCE TO BRING ABOUT
FAVORABLE ACTION ON ISRAELI APPLICATION IN BOTH SECURITY
COUNCIL AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY."

We urge you to follow the suggestions contained in this wire as soon as possible.

Regards.

AT:EB

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees

Date November 29, 1948

From Abe Tuvim

In a recent memorandum we brought to your attention the new book, "The Birth of Israel", by Dr. Jorge Garcia-Granados, former Guatemalan Ambassador to the United States, member of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine, and now Chief of the Guatemalan Delegation to the United Nations. We stressed the importance of stimulating the sales of this book. We are happy now to report to you that many communities responded splendidly to our directive and that a pre-publication order for 6,000 copies was placed with the publisher, Alfred A. Knopf.

Many communities, however, particularly those outside the New York area, have not responded as anticipated, and have as yet not thrown themselves behind the project of promoting and publicizing Dr. Granados' book. The Zionist leadership is particularly interested in gaining the widest possible readership for "The Birth of Israel", which it considers not only one of the most significant, but one of the most readable and informative books ever written on the subject, and which has been hailed by critics as one of the notable literary achievements of the year.

"The Birth of Israel" is now available in book stores throughout the country. We cannot urge you too strongly to buy it for your own information, to get behind its sales, and to urge Zionist groups to purchase it in quantities to give their friends, Jews and non-Jews. Dr. Granados will go down in history as one of the most valiant champions Israel has ever known. As far as it was in the power of any one man in the United Nations, Dr. Granados helped make possible the establishment of Israel. It was Dr. Granados who fought fiercely in the UNSCOP against a unitary Arab Palestine; who fought for the Negev to be given to the Jews; who goaded his colleagues into examining matters in Palestine which they would have preferred to bypass; and who helped bring them to the inevitable conclusion that a Jewish state must exist.

He tells this story with amazing frankness in his book. Equally fascinating are his revelations of the bitter behind-the-scenes maneuvers among the great powers after the partition vote of November 29, 1947, and of the historic battle to prevent the establishment of the Jewish state, carried up to the very moment of its proclamation in Tel-Aviv.

Dr. Granados himself is an extraordinary personality, and those who have met him know him to be a warm, vivid and memorable figure. Many of you may have occasion to talk with him during his forthcoming lecture tour throughout the country.

We urge you again to promote the purchase of this enormously interesting book in your community in every way possible. It will help our cause immeasurably and in all justice to Dr. Granados, his book should receive the greatest support and distribution. It belongs in every Zionist home. Please do all you can to buy and increase the demand for "The Birth of Israel" through your local bookstores. The man -- and his story -- should be known everywhere.

AT:QLD

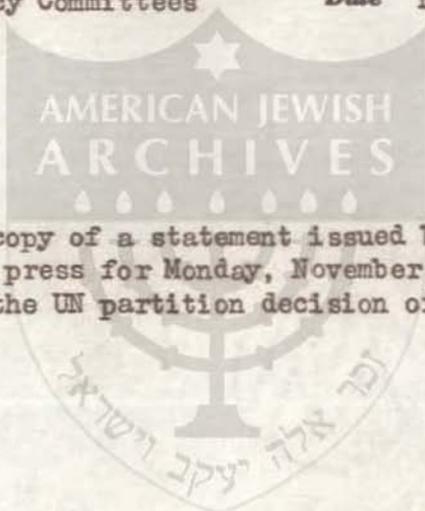
AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL
342 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees

Date November 26, 1948

From Abe Tuvim



Attached you will find a copy of a statement issued by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver which was released to the press for Monday, November 29th, in observance of the first anniversary of the UN partition decision of November 29, 1947.

Kindest regards.

AT:RB
Enc.

PRESS RELEASE from AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

Associated Organizations

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi Organization of America • Labor Zionist Organization of America-Poale Zion
United Zionists-Revisionists of America • Hashomer Hatzair • Achdut Havodah-Poale Zion (United Labor Zionist Party)

342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

FOR RELEASE: MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1948

DR. SILVER PAYS TRIBUTE TO COURAGE AND SACRIFICES OF ISRAEL

AND JEWISH PEOPLE IN STATEMENT MARKING

FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF U.N. PARTITION RESOLUTION

--- --
CALLS FOR "WORK, SKILL AND UNFAILING SUPPORT"
OF NEW STATE BY JEWS OF THE WORLD
--- --

New York, November 28 --- In a statement marking the first anniversary of the United Nations' partition resolution, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of the American Zionist Emergency Council, today asserted that the Jewish people must "remain mobilized and alerted" in support of the new State of Israel.

Declaring that it was certain that as a result of the courage and sacrifices on the part of the State of Israel and the Jewish people, "what has been established has been firmly established and what has been achieved is irrevocable," Dr. Silver expressed the hope that the coming year would see the admission of Israel into the United Nations and the establishment of peace and prosperity in the Holy Land.

The full statement, issued on behalf of all official Zionist bodies in the United States, represented in the American Zionist Emergency Council, follows:

"The year which has elapsed since November 29th has been one of the most momentous in Jewish history. Three unprecedented events give it its tremendous importance: the recognition by the United Nations of the right of the Jewish people to establish their state in Palestine, the proclamation of the State of

(more)

Israel by the Yishuv, and the remarkable and successful military defense of this State by the people of Israel.

"This year was characterized by vacillation and indecision on the part of governments and of the United Nations itself but also by unshaken steadfastness and resolution on the part of the State of Israel and the Jewish people. It is certain that as a result of the courage and sacrifices, what has been established has been firmly established and what has been achieved is irrevocable. The great political hurdles have been manipulated. The organization of the State has been consolidated. Many serious problems still remain but none that cannot be solved by work, skill and unflinching support on the part of the Jews of the world. We must remain mobilized and alerted. One of the deepest satisfactions of this year has been the unprecedented flow of Jewish immigration into Israel. With increasing financial support from us the State of Israel will be able at the present rate quickly to empty the DP camps of Europe and offer a haven to many other endangered Jews in other parts of the world.

"This has been a year of struggle, achievement and victory. We must now tense ourselves for the long pull ahead. I trust that the coming year will see the admission of the State of Israel into the United Nations and the establishment of peace and prosperity in the Holy Land."

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees **Date** November 26, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

I assume that you are aware of the reorganizations which have recently taken place in the various branches of our movement. Following my election as Executive Vice-Chairman of the United Palestine Appeal, I submitted my resignation as Executive Director of the American Zionist Emergency Council. This, then, is my last memorandum to the Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees.

In leaving the offices of the Emergency Council, I wish to express my thanks to all Local Committee Chairmen and leaders who have given me their fullest cooperation and assistance during the past five years. I am profoundly aware of the fact that the numerous activities launched by the Council during my executive directorship could not have been carried through successfully without your efforts, and I accept my new responsibilities in the United Palestine Appeal with a sense of gratitude to the community leadership of our movement.

I am confident that my successor as Executive Director, Mr. Abe Tuvim, a capable and devoted servant of our movement, will receive the same full measure of cooperation from you and that the work of the American Zionist Emergency Council will be carried forward with undiminished vigor.

HLS:MSR

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees Date November 22, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

On Saturday, November 20 the United States Delegate to the United Nations made a statement of policy on Israel. We are now able to provide you with suggestions for the resolutions which should be adopted in connection with the November 29 anniversary of the United Nations decision. We also suggest that the points listed below be emphasized by speakers at meetings held in observance of the anniversary.

We urge that you incorporate the following ideas in your resolutions:

1. The United Nations decision of November 29, 1947 favoring the creation of a Jewish State in Palestine has been recorded as one of the great events in the long history of the Jewish people. We take pride in the fact that it was the leadership of our Government which made this event possible. In observing the anniversary of the United Nations decision we are deeply conscious of the fact that its objective -- the establishment of the Jewish State -- has been realized by the Government and people of Israel who single-handedly defended their political independence and territorial integrity against the military aggression of the Arab States.
2. During the first six months of its existence the State of Israel has already absorbed tens of thousands of Jewish immigrants and has carried forward a tremendous resettlement program under the fire of the enemy. We are hopeful that the remainder of the homeless and displaced Jews of Europe, as well as the persecuted Jews in Middle Eastern countries, will be enabled to emigrate to Israel speedily, thereby ending the Jewish refugee problem. We are profoundly aware of the great cost of this immigration and resettlement program and pledge our greatest efforts and fullest resources to secure the funds for the successful completion of this task.
3. We express our satisfaction over the reaffirmation by the Government of the United States of its support of the original United Nations decision of November 29, and its declaration that no alteration shall be made in the boundaries of the Jewish State without Israel's consent. We commend the President of the United States for stating this policy clearly and forthrightly, and we welcome the statement of the United Nations Delegate before the United Nations on Saturday, November 20 as an indication that the President's views begin to be reflected in American policy.
4. In conveying our gratitude to the President for standing firm on the question of Israel's territorial integrity, we

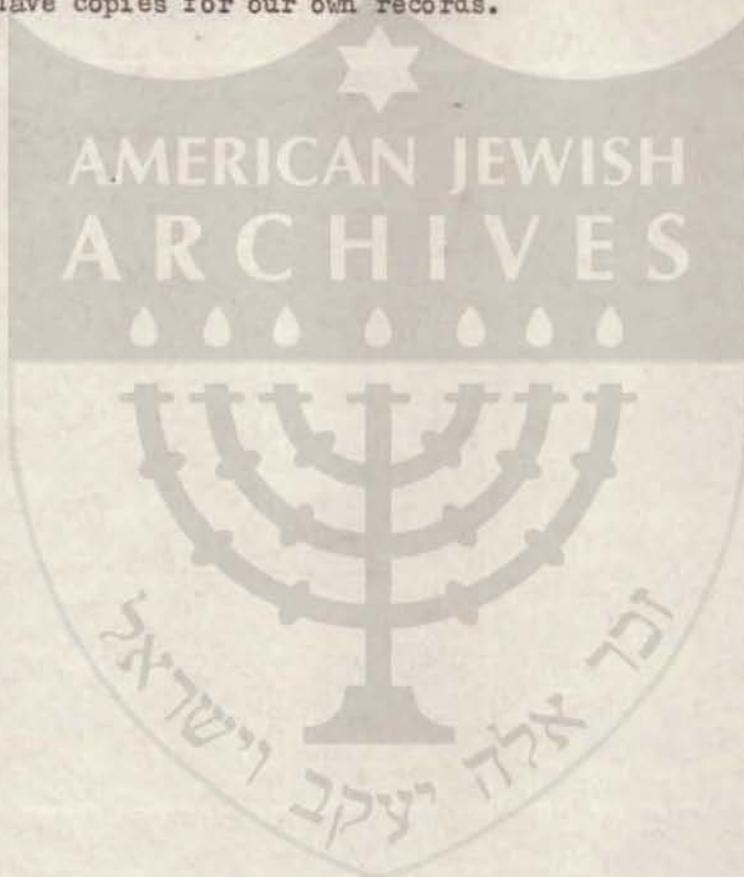
respectfully urge him to remain on the alert lest his policies be frustrated by officials of his own Administration who have, in the past, sought to nullify his positive acts concerning Israel.

5. Recognizing that the best hope for lasting peace in Palestine now lies in direct negotiations between the Government of Israel and the Arab states, we respectfully urge the President to use the full weight of his authority to advance such direct peace conferences between Arabs and Jews.

Please make certain that copies of all such resolutions adopted in your community are sent to the President at the White House in Washington. We would also like to have copies for our own records.

Regards,

HLS:MSR



MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees

Date

November 18, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

Monday, November 29 will mark the first anniversary of the United Nations decision in favor of the Jewish State. The Zionists of your community -- along with non-Jewish friends and supporters -- will undoubtedly wish to join in a public observance of this occasion.

At the moment, the international political situation regarding Israel is still unsettled, and the course of action to be taken by the United Nations in the immediate future cannot be predicted. In these circumstances, the anniversary observance cannot take the form of a celebration, but should instead serve as a day of rededication to the achievement of justice for Israel.

We, therefore, suggest that this be the theme of the public meeting which we urge you to hold on Monday, November 29. This should not be a mass demonstration. We advise instead a meeting in a local auditorium enlisting the participation of your Jewish leaders, as well as prominent non-Jewish friends.

The primary purpose of such meetings will be to convey to our Government the feelings of American Jewry on the latest political developments concerning Israel. The situation in Paris is still fluid and the final stand of the United States is not yet known. Until that stand is revealed we are in no position to provide you with specific suggestions concerning the point to be emphasized by your speakers and by your resolutions. We shall, of course, communicate with you along these lines as soon as the situation in the United Nations becomes clarified. In the meantime, we urge you to move ahead with the technical arrangements for your meeting.

Regards.

HLS:RB

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees

Date October 27, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

The enclosed press release issued today by the American Zionist Emergency Council expresses the gratitude of our movement to President Truman and Governor Dewey for their recent statements reaffirming the platforms of their parties with respect to Israel.

We are sending you herewith the full text of both declarations. Governor Dewey issued his statement on Friday, October 22 in the form of a letter to Dean Alfange, chairman of the American Christian Palestine Committee of New York.

The exchange of letters between Governor Dewey and Mr. Alfange follows:

Hon. Thomas E. Dewey
Governor of the State of New York
Albany, New York

October 20, 1948

Dear Governor:

As Chairman of the American Christian Palestine Committee of New York, I have been gravely concerned with the fast-moving events which concern the fate of the State of Israel and the stability of the peace of the Middle East.

I recall that in September, 1947 you approved the majority report of the United Nations Special Committee which recommended a partition of Palestine. This report was adopted by the resolution of the UN Assembly on November 29, 1947.

In June, 1948 the Republican Party, assembled in convention in Philadelphia, adopted the following platform: "We welcome Israel into the family of nations and take pride in the fact that the Republican Party was the first to call for the establishment of a free and independent Jewish commonwealth. The vacillation of the Democratic Party on this question has undermined the prestige of the United Nations. Subject to the letter and spirit of the UN Charter we pledge to Israel full recognition, with its boundaries as sanctioned by the UN and aid in developing its economy."

At this moment when the fate of Israel is at stake, the reaffirmation of your endorsement of the Republican Party's platform pledge in respect to Israel would be most reassuring.

Sincerely yours,

Dean Alfange, Chairman
American Christian Palestine Committee
of New York

October 22, 1948

Hon. Dean Alfange, Chairman
American Christian Palestine Committee
9 East 40 Street
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dean:

I have your letter of October 20 and I want to assure you that I, too, have been deeply disturbed by the events in Palestine. As you know, I have always felt the Jewish people are entitled to a homeland in Palestine which would be politically and economically stable. My views have been clearly expressed over the years and I did, indeed, approve the majority report of the United Nations Special Committee which recommended partition of Palestine.

In my acceptance speech at Philadelphia I pledged my whole-hearted support of the Republican platform and that certainly included the Palestine plank. My position today is the same.

The Jews have brought twentieth century civilization to Palestine. They have shown that the Holy Land can be industrious and abundant. Since the creation of Israel the Jewish people have made great sacrifices for their goal of independence and freedom.

Organizations such as the American Christian Palestine Committee of New York can give great moral support to the people of Israel in attaining their objectives -- peace and security in their hard-won homeland. Toward that end I wish them every success.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Dewey

- - - -

The New York Herald-Tribune of Saturday, October 23 reported Governor Dewey's action as follows:

DEWEY STANDS BY UN PLAN ON PALESTINE

By Murray Snyder

Governor Thomas E. Dewey in effect repudiated the Truman Administration's Palestine policy yesterday.

Without referring directly to the Administration's indorsement of the Bernadotte plan to take the Negeb region away from Israel, the Governor said his own position in support of the original United Nations partition plan was unchanged.

He reaffirmed his "wholehearted support" of the Republican platform pledge last June of "full recognition (to Israel) with its boundaries as sanctioned by the United Nations and aid in developing its economy".

He recalled that he previously had approved the UN partition recommendations, and ranking Republicans, who had sought a

reaffirmation of his position for its campaign value, said that in this statement of approval, issued September 11, 1947, he said: "It may be that certain adjustments will have to be made in the actual boundaries, but, on the face of it, the partition recommended seems a minimum for Jewish needs".

This major break between the Republican Presidential candidate and the Democrats on foreign policy was disclosed in an exchange of letters between Mr. Dewey and Dean Alfange, chairman of the American Christian Palestine Committee of New York. The letters were released at Dewey-Warren headquarters at the Hotel Roosevelt.

It was regarded as of particular significance because, if Mr. Dewey is elected on November 2, his policy is likely to supersede the present policy of the United States when the General Assembly begins its postponed discussion of the Palestine question...

- * * -

President Truman issued his statement on Sunday, October 24. The full text follows:

The Republican candidate for President has seen fit to release a statement with reference to Palestine. This statement is in the form of a letter dated October 22, 1948, ten days before the election.

I had hoped our foreign affairs could continue to be handled on a nonpartisan basis without being injected into the Presidential campaign. The Republican candidate's statement, however, makes it necessary for me to reiterate my own position with respect to Palestine.

I stand squarely on the provisions covering Israel in the Democratic platform.

I approved the provisions on Israel at the time they were written. I reaffirm that approval now.

So that everyone may be familiar with my position, I set out here the Democratic platform on Israel:

"President Truman, by granting immediate recognition to Israel, led the world in extending friendship and welcome to a people who have long sought and justly deserve freedom and independence.

"We pledge full recognition to the State of Israel. We affirm our pride that the United States, under the leadership of President Truman, played a leading role in the adoption of the resolution of November 29, 1947, by the United Nations General Assembly for the creation of a Jewish State.

"We approve the claim of the State of Israel to the boundaries set forth in the United Nations' resolution of November 29 and consider that modifications thereof should be made only if fully acceptable to the State of Israel.

"We look forward to the admission of the State of Israel to the United Nations and its full participation in the international community of nations. We pledge appropriate aid to the State of Israel in developing its economy and resources.

"We favor the revision of the arms embargo to accord to the State of Israel the right of self-defense. We pledge ourselves to work for the modification of any resolution of the United Nations to the extent that it may prevent any such revision.

"We continue to support within the framework of the United Nations, the internationalization of Jerusalem and the protection of the holy places in Palestine."

I wish to amplify the three portions of the platform about which there has been considerable discussion.

On May 14, 1948, this country recognized the existence of the independent State of Israel. I was informed by the Honorable Elishu Epstein that a Provisional Government had been established in Israel. This country recognized the Provisional Government as the de facto authority of the new State of Israel. When a permanent Government is elected in Israel it will promptly be given de jure recognition.

The Democratic platform states that we approve the claims of Israel to the boundaries set forth in the United Nations resolution of November 29, 1947, and consider that modification thereof should be made only if fully acceptable to the State of Israel.

This has been and is now my position.

Proceedings are now taking place in the United Nations looking toward an amicable settlement of the conflicting positions of the parties in Palestine. In the interests of peace this work must go forward.

A plan has been submitted which provides a basis for a renewed effort to bring about a peaceful adjustment of differences. It is hoped that by using this plan as a basis of negotiation, the conflicting claims of the parties can be settled.

With reference to the granting of a loan or loans to the State of Israel, I have directed the departments and agencies of the executive branch of our Government to work together in expediting the consideration of any applications for loans which may be submitted by the State of Israel.

It is my hope that such financial aid will soon be granted and that it will contribute substantially to the long-term development and stability of the Near East.

- - - -

The New York Times of October 25 reported the President's action in the following dispatch:

TRUMAN REAFFIRMS HIS ISRAEL STAND IN REPLY TO DEWEY

By Clayton Knowles

Washington, Oct. 24 -- President Truman declared tonight that he would approve no change in the United Nations partition of Palestine, effected last fall, that in turn was not acceptable to the State of Israel.

Apparently supplementing the position taken by Secretary of State Marshall last month before the United Nations, the President, referring to the Democratic platform plank on the Holy Land, declared:

"This has been and is now my position."

At Paris on September 21, Secretary Marshall called upon both sides in Palestine to accept "the Bernadotte plan in its entirety", asserting that it offered "a generally fair basis for settlement of the Palestine question". He stated that "no plan could be proposed which would be entirely satisfactory in all respects to every interested party".

In his statement tonight, issued just before he boarded his campaign train for his last big appeal to the voters, the President noted that the Palestine situation was again before the United Nations. He said that these proceedings looked toward "an amicable settlement of the conflicting positions of the parties in Palestine".

"In the interests of peace," he said, "this work must go forward. A plan has been submitted which provides a basis for a renewed effort to bring about a peaceful adjustment of differences. It is hoped that, by using this plan as a basis for negotiations, the conflicting claims of the parties can be settled".

While he thus took cognizance of what is transpiring at Paris, the whole tone of the President's statement was regarded as tentative, when compared to the strong stand taken by Secretary Marshall last month. At that time, the Secretary said:

"The United States considers that the conclusions contained in the final report of Count Bernadotte offer a generally fair basis for settlement of the Palestine question. My Government is of the opinion that the conclusions are sound, and strongly urges the parties and the General Assembly to accept them in their entirety as the best possible basis for bringing peace to a distracted land".

It was noted that, at no point, did the President place his endorsement upon the Bernadotte proposals as "sound" as had Secretary Marshall, contenting himself instead with saying that they offered "a basis of negotiation".

The President's statement came in answer to a statement by Governor Dewey on Friday in which he reaffirmed his endorsement of the Republican Party's platform plank on Israel. This statement, limited to two paragraphs, apparently made Mr. Truman angry, for he referred to it in his very first words...

The President's statement, while pegged on Governor Dewey's answer to a request by the American Christian Palestine Committee of New York, followed a series of newspaper advertisements by Zionist groups calling upon Mr. Truman to clarify his own position.

One such advertisement, running a full page, was paid for by the American Zionist Emergency Council of New York. Calling attention to the position taken by Secretary Marshall, this advertisement asked:

"Mr. Truman: where do you stand on this issue?"

This advertisement directly challenged Mr. Truman to repudiate his Secretary of State.

"Which is it, Mr. President?" the advertisement asked. "The policy which you have stated in the past, which determined our Government's stand in November, 1947, and which is also the declared policy of your party -- or the policy most recently expressed by Mr. Marshall, which is in violent contradiction to it?"

"We respectfully await your answer."

HLS:MSR
Enc.



AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

Constituent Organizations

Hadassah, Women's Zionist Organization of America
Mizrachi Organization of America
Poale Zion-Zetse Zion of America
Zionist Organization of America

342 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.
MUrray Hill 2-1160

October 21, 1948

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
Temple Emanuel
Denver, Colorado

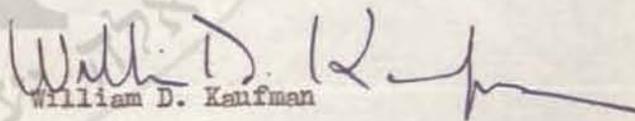
Dear Rabbi Friedman:

Many thanks for your information concerning Cedric Foster's recent unfavorable radio broadcast. We have sent for the broadcast in question and will peruse it most carefully. If we deem it advisable, we will then make our feelings known to him.

Mr. Foster used to be anti-Zionist quite a while ago. During the last twelve months, however, he adopted a more friendly attitude and was most fair to our point of view. This recent departure is something of a surprise to me.

Please feel assured that if Mr. Foster has strayed from the straight and narrow path, we will have our people in Boston express our sentiments to him in person. Mr. Foster is with the Yankee Network which has its headquarters in that city.

Sincerely yours,


William D. Kaufman

WDK:LD

Remanaged
AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL
RECEIVED

October 19, 1948

American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York 17, New York

Gentlemen:

One of the members of my Congregation was quite disturbed by a radio broadcast on Friday morning, October 15th by Cedric Foster, which reached Denver at eleven o'clock in the morning under the sponsorship of our Public Service Company of Colorado. During the course of that broadcast, which discussed events in Palestine, Foster referred to the fact that Count Bernadotte had been brutally murdered by the Jews.

The woman who reported this to me was quite disturbed, particularly in view of the fact that most of the radio commentators and most newspaper editorials had been pre-eminently fair, by alluding constantly to the fact that Bernadotte had been murdered by an outlawed Jewish terrorist organization, not by the Jews intoto. She wondered whether any representations could be made to Mr. Foster, asking him to be at least as fair in his presentation as most of his colleagues have been.

I forward this matter for your consideration and whatever action you deem necessary.

Sincerely yours,

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

F/s

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees Date October 22, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

Two outstanding books dealing with Israel are now available to the American reading public: DESTINATION PALESTINE by Ruth Gruber (published by A. A. Wyn, \$2.50) and THE BIRTH OF ISRAEL by Jorge Garcia-Granados (published by Alfred A. Knopf, \$3.00). We urge that you make every effort to ensure that these two exceptional works receive the widest publicity in your city and that they obtain the largest possible reading audience.

DESTINATION PALESTINE

In a memorandum dated September 9th I indicated the current importance of Miss Gruber's DESTINATION PALESTINE. Great Britain's continued hostility to Israel makes it imperative that the American public receive this reminder of recent British activities. The British Government will find it difficult to maintain its current "impartial" pose in the United Nations if large numbers of Americans review the recent history of British behavior towards Jewish refugees, which is graphically recorded in Miss Gruber's book.

Those of our local emergency committees which have distributed this book have already found that it has made many new friends for our cause. Unfortunately, a number of local committees have thus far failed to respond to our request that they arrange for bulk purchases of the book for local distribution. I again urge you to do this speedily and to present complimentary copies of DESTINATION PALESTINE to your leading public officials, churchmen, editors, educators, public and school libraries, etc.

If your local newspapers have not yet published reviews of the book, I suggest that you present copies to the literary editors.

Orders for DESTINATION PALESTINE may be placed with us at the publisher's discount rate of 40%.

THE BIRTH OF ISRAEL

THE BIRTH OF ISRAEL by Dr. Jorge Garcia-Granados is being published today, Friday, October 22nd. It is unquestionably one of the most significant volumes on the entire subject of Palestine. Dr. Granados served as a member of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine and heads the Guatemalan delegation to the United Nations. His book is the first detailed eye-witness account of how Israel came into being -- what happened in the UNSCOP, what took place in the closed meetings of United Nations committees. This informal history of the genesis of Israel is fascinating from every point of view, and we are hopeful that it will be on the best-seller lists within two weeks.

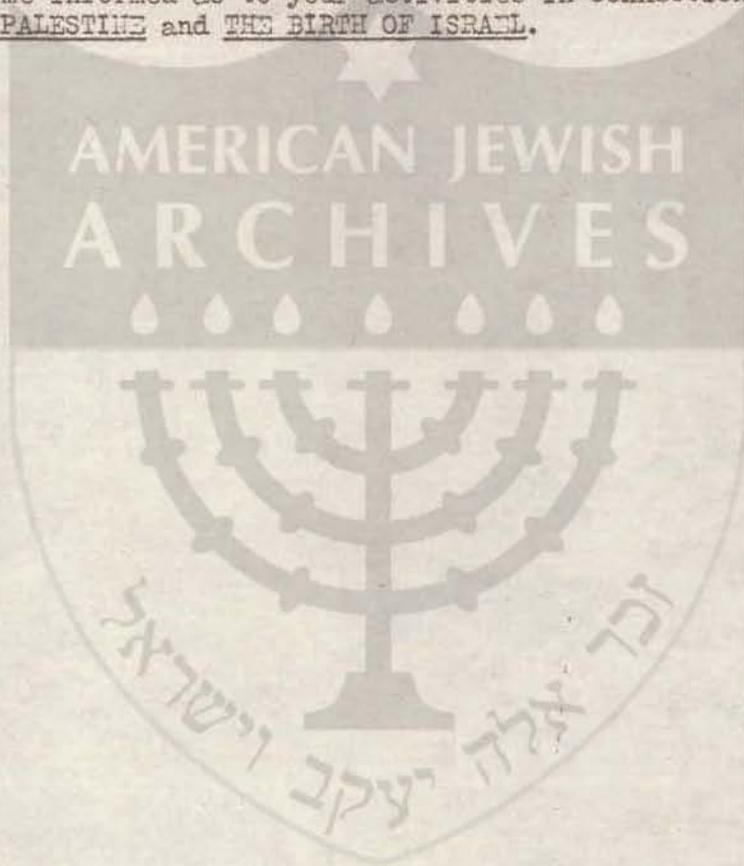
In order to accomplish this, your help is needed. We urge you to promote the purchase of this book in your community. PLEASE DO NOT PLACE ORDERS WITH US at this time; rather, make all purchases in local book stores. Only in such a way will the sales of the book be reflected in the book market.

We are enclosing sample copy for a postcard which your local book sellers may use in publicizing Dr. Granados' work, Visit your largest book concern and emphasize the great interest which your community will have in the book. This firm may wish to mail postcards to its regular customers, as well as to the members of your local Zionist and Jewish organizations. We believe that your leading book dealer will wish to cooperate with you inasmuch as the cost of postcards and mimeographing is relatively low. (You may wish to supply the mimeographed postcards to the dealer yourselves, if necessary). Should your leading dealer reject this proposal we suggest that you approach your second largest book concern on this matter.

Please keep me informed as to your activities in connection with both DESTINATION PALESTINE and THE BIRTH OF ISRAEL.

Regards.

HLS:RB
Enc.



AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL
342 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees **Date** October 15, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro



Attached is an article by Sumner Welles dealing with the Bernadotte proposal.
It is a splendid analysis.

If you wish additional copies they are available in limited quantities.

Regards.

HLS:RB
Enc.

OCTOBER 12, 1948

U.S. Support of Bernadotte Plan Is Criticized as Poor Expedient

Welles Says Proposal to Give Negeb to Trans-Jordan Is Scheme to Restore British Power in Levant; Small Nations Urged to Balk Plot in U. N.

By Sumner Welles

Former Under Secretary of State

The British and American attempt to stampede the United Nations into immediate adoption of the Bernadotte plan for Palestine was fortunately blocked. But the narrow margin by which the Assembly's Political Committee defeated this maneuver emphasizes the urgency of the need for a just and final settlement.

The failure of the United Nations to show itself capable of establishing an independent, secure and viable Israeli state diminishes confidence in its authority, increases doubt that justice inspires its proceedings and deprives the survivors of the European mass murders of hope for the future.

So long as uncertainty enshrouds the fate of Palestine the acts of violence that are due to that very uncertainty will help the sowers of hate to stimulate anti-Semitism here and be advanced as reasons why this country should disinterest itself in the fate of Israel.

The present situation can only incite Arab imperialists and Jewish terrorists to renewed aggression. It tempts both the Soviet Union and the Western powers to intervene in Palestine as a strategic move in their contest for control of the Near East.

Count Bernadotte rightly saw that the Palestine problem, as he said, was "a spark capable of setting off a mightier conflagration." By accepting the task of mediator he served the highest interests of humanity.

Israel Called Justified

Yet the British government is disingenuous in claiming that his assassination constitutes any valid reason for the approval by the United Nations of his plan for Palestine.

The government of Israel is wholly warranted in rejecting the Bernadotte recommendations. The insuperable obstacle to their acceptance is the proposal to take the Negeb from Israel, and to reduce the territory of the Jewish state to less than one-half of that allotted to it by the Assembly's partition resolution of a year ago.

Were this proposal to be accepted, a basic feature of the original partition resolution would be nullified, for Israel would then be unable to provide new homes for more than a handful of refugees.

If a Palestine solution is to prove lasting, Israel must become a prosperous and a contented nation. With Israel deprived of the agricultural and mineral resources that the Negeb affords, of its port on the Red Sea, and of its opportunities for resettlement and for expanding development, the new state cannot even be viable.

The Negeb proposal represents the latest in the long series of attempts made by Mr. Bevin, with the support of the British Foreign Office and Imperial General Staff, and of the State Department and National Security Council in Washington, to restore British hegemony over the Near East. By the cession of the Negeb to Trans-Jordan, Britain would obtain the use of that territory for her own military and economic purposes.

If any major power is now per-

mitted to monopolize this strategic area, the peoples of Palestine can have no assurance of real freedom and there will be scant likelihood of peace in the Near East.

Secretary Marshall's indorsement of the Bernadotte plan affords further cause for dissension between the Soviet Union and the United States. It provides new and powerful motives for the growth of anti-American sentiment in Israel.

American Policy Criticized

The United States was chiefly responsible for the Assembly's approval of the partition resolution of last November. Time and experience have demonstrated that this government was wholly justified in the official statement it then made, "that this partition plan . . . offers the most practicable and most just present solution of the Palestine problem." They have confirmed the wisdom of its further declaration that this partition plan represented "a decision which comes very close to being law."

Yet, in line with its sorry record of the past eleven months, the United States now again ignores what it so recently considered "the most practicable and most just present solution" for Palestine. It spurns a resolution which less than a year ago it termed a "decision which comes very close to being law." And under the guidance of those military influences now primarily responsible for American foreign policy, the United States supports Mr. Bevin in his insistence that Israel's boundaries be revised not for the sake of economic stability, not for the sake of justice, not for the sake of peace, but solely to suit Britain's strategic plans.

We are witnessing the same tragic spectacle as that seen in the League of Nations in the early thirties, when Britain and France placed momentary expediency above collective security by refusing to repress aggression. That subordination of the permanent interests of all peoples to what were so mistakenly considered national interests destroyed the League of Nations and made the second world war inevitable.

There is presented a great challenge to some courageous and far-sighted spokesman for the lesser powers, like Herbert Evatt, to arouse the smaller countries in the United Nations to the need of making their impartial judgment prevail over all efforts of the great powers to further their selfish interests at the expense of the long-term interests of humanity.

By demanding both in the Political Committee, as well as in the Assembly, that the original partition resolution be upheld, and by insisting upon its enforcement by the Security Council, the lesser powers can strike a mighty blow for the United Nations and for future peace.

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AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL
342 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees

Date

October 8, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro



Attached is a reprint of an editorial which appeared in the New York Times. You will note that this is a radical departure from the first editorial which approved the Bernadotte plan. The reprint is available in limited quantities.

Regards.

HLS:RB
Enc.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1948.

ISRAEL AND THE NEGEB

The Israeli Government has protested, and we believe rightly, against that part of the proposals of the late United Nations mediator, Count Bernadotte, which would give the Negeb—the desert area south of Beersheba—to the Arabs. It is no reflection on the martyred Bernadotte's memory to say that he erred in suggesting this division. He was attempting, to the best of his abilities and with the utmost courage, to suggest a settlement that both parties to the Palestine dispute would ultimately accept. But what he did in this instance was to dash some of Israel's highest hopes.

The Negeb, from one-third to one-half of Palestine, depending on how Palestine is defined, may have supported as many as 300,000 people in ancient times. In modern times it has been largely uninhabited, except for a few thousand Arabs who raised and pastured camels there. Within the past few years Jewish settlers, pushing south, have irrigated a little of this long-sterile land. Like our own Southwest, much of it will produce crops if it can have water; and there is on paper a well-thought-out plan to bring water to it from the upper Jordan. It might support from half a million to a million or more pioneers, who would enrich the whole country without displacing large Arab populations.

Secretary Marshall has accepted the Bernadotte proposals as "a generally fair basis for settlement" and has urged the General Assembly to "accept them in their entirety." We believe this is one of those times when a bit of inconsistency will do our foreign policy no harm. The development of the Negeb by Zionist pioneers—and they are the only people likely to do it on a large and scientific scale—would enrich the whole Middle East. It would not injure the Arabs, unless they feel that any Israeli prosperity would hurt them.

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL
342 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees **Date** October 7, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro



Attached is a memorandum prepared by the Israel Mission to the United Nations. It states in detail the importance of the Negev to Israel.

It would be helpful if the information which it contains could be transmitted to newspaper editors and radio commentators.

Regards.

HLS:RB
Enc.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE NEGEV TO THE STATE OF ISRAEL

1. The territorial changes proposed in the Mediator's report result in an entirely inequitable apportionment of land between Israel and the neighbouring Arab State. They would cut off about two-thirds of Israel's territory, deprive her of the only land reserves available for development, cripple existing and potential prospects for the scientific utilisation of natural resources, and stunt Israel's progress and growth for generations to come. The beneficiary of these changes, which, according to the plan is to be an enlarged state of Transjordan, emerges from the proposed arrangement with an area more than 19 times that of the State of Israel.

2. It is for these reasons, which are elaborated upon in this memorandum that the government of Israel will oppose any plan separating the Negev or any part of it from the territory of the State of Israel.

Area

3. The area of the Palestine Mandate was first partitioned in 1922, when more than three-fourths of the country - some 34,740 square miles - were excluded from the main provisions of the Mandate to form what is now known as Transjordan. The area of Palestine remaining for Jewish settlement was thus reduced to about 10,000 square miles. In the second partition of Palestine, approved by the General Assembly last November 29th, 1947, about 5,678 square miles were assigned to the Jewish State. However, of this area, more than 3,800 square miles are in the Negev, the undeveloped area of Southern Palestine.

4. The Mediator's report now proposes not an adjustment of the situation but an entirely new partition plan under which Israel would be granted Western Galilee (most of which she now occupies and controls), but would lose not only the entire Negev, but also a part of South Judea. The net result would be to reduce Israel's territory to an area of about 2,180 square miles. On the other hand, Transjordan would under the plan gain all the Arab areas of Palestine, as well as the Negev, and her total area would approximate 42,500 square miles.

Population

5. The incongruity of this territorial division becomes even more glaring when one takes into account that Transjordan's existing population is about 350,000 (to which would now be added the 600,000 or 700,000 Arabs of Arab Palestine) whereas the Jewish population of Israel is already close to the 800,000 mark, and constantly expanding by the immigration of Jews in need of a homeland.

Land Use

6. The foregoing quantitative considerations are themselves startling and compelling arguments against any such drastic revision of the United Nations partition plan, but of even greater significance is an examination of the uses to which the lands in question may be put. According to a statement by Justice Emil Sandstroem of Sweden, the Chairman of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine, the UNSCOP had considered that since the cost would be considerable,

it would not be possible for the Arabs to develop the Negev area, which had in consequence been assigned to the Jewish State. Transjordan is already the possessor of large tracts of barren land. Its annexation of the Negev would mean nothing more than the acquisition of another item in a collection of arid and uncultivated wastes. Humanity would gain nothing from the perpetuation of sterility. But for Israel, the Negev holds out the promise of agricultural, scientific, industrial and economic development, with important benefits to the Near East as a whole.

Agriculture and Industry

7. Israel has an urgent need for land upon which to settle the many hundreds of thousands of Jews who will immigrate in the next few decades. The soil of the Negev, neglected for many centuries, is itself arable. The factors for development of this area are water and the ingenuity to unite it with the soil. In 1943, the Jews successfully established three experimental settlements in the Negev. Another 15 were established toward the end of 1946. Today there are 27. Water is made available by pipeline, and by the capture and storage of winter rains in reservoirs. Thus, at Revivim, the southernmost Jewish settlement, the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine in 1947 inspected a large dam and reservoir and witnessed the fruits of this agricultural venture. Moreover, for several years, engineers have been at work on plans for large-scale irrigation projects which will open large tracts of land for new settlement. The hydro-electric development involved in these irrigation plans will bring low-cost power to the Negev, and furnish an economic base for industrial enterprise. To put these areas of Jewish settlement under the political domination of an Arab ruler would be sowing the seeds of fresh conflict. To sever the Negev from Israel is to separate it from those whose needs guarantee its maximum use.

8. In previous discussion of the Palestine problem it has been argued on the Arab side that the pressure of Jewish immigration would force the Jewish State to become expansionist, and to threaten the existing territory of the Arab States. If the land reserve of the Negev were taken away from the State of Israel, and this large area ceases to be available for Jewish settlement, Arab fears would be intensified, and the prospects of pacific co-operation between Israel and its neighbours would be prejudiced. It must be emphasised that the inclusion of the Negev in the State of Israel is the population safety-valve for any partition plan, and therefore a major factor making for peace and operating against population pressure.

Natural Resources

9. Much of the Negev is unknown and unexplored. As a result of Jewish effort and expenditure, some signs of mineral wealth have been noted. Whether the Negev has oil or mineral resources in any significant quantity is undetermined; but if such is the fact, it would be inequitable to deny the State of Israel a potential so essential for its development. The State of Israel has no coal or iron, nor any important mineral deposit. Its manufactures and industry are therefore dependent in considerable measure on the import of raw materials. The small size of the Jewish State limits its agricultural development. Accordingly, all industrial resources must be exploited to their utmost. The proper scientific utilisation of the Negev's resources would help balance the Israeli economy. In this connection, it is relevant to point out that the Arab States are already rich

in oil, and should not be permitted a monopoly on all potential oil sources.

Dead Sea

10. A major industry in Palestine has been the extraction of potassium and sodium salts from the Dead Sea by the Palestine Potash Company, which is a largely Jewish enterprise. The Company had plants at both ends of the Dead Sea. Under the partition plan approved by the General Assembly last fall, the northern plant was to be left in the Arab State (it has since been destroyed thanks to the initiative of the Transjordan Arab Legion). But the General Assembly deliberately revised the boundary lines between the two states to ensure that the southern plant would be in the State of Israel, and that a stretch of west coast of the Dead Sea would be in Israeli territory, to be available for the expansion of the potash plant. But if the Negev were to be taken from Israel, then all access to the Dead Sea would be denied, and Israel would lose one of its major industries and one of its most important exports.

Aqaba

11. Severance of the Negev from Israel would also cut off Aqaba, once King Solomon's seaport on the Red Sea. The waters here teem with fish, and there are possibilities for large-scale commercial exploitation of a natural resource now neglected. The vital importance of Aqaba to Israel's future is recognized by all who foresee the expansion of commerce and industry in Israel, and the building of rail and highway communications across the Negev. Under Israeli control, Aqaba is to be developed as a port and will be Israel's outlet to South Africa and the Indian Ocean - Israel's window to the Orient.

Conclusion

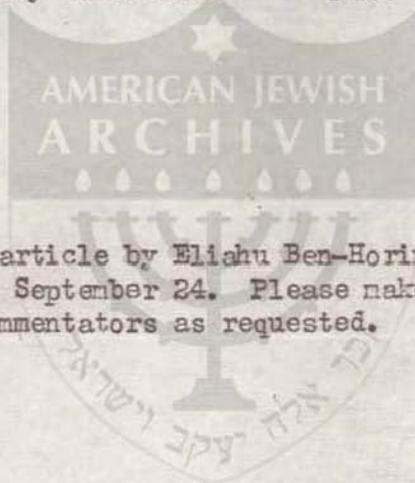
12. These are but a few of the considerations which played a part in the decision of UNSCOP and later of the General Assembly to award the Negev to Israel. They are considerations which cannot be brushed aside. The Negev is juridically an integral part of Israel's territory and cannot, within the terms of the Charter, be cut off without Israel's consent. Nothing has happened to weaken the legal or moral validity of the General Assembly's decision in this regard. The Arab States resorted to armed force to resist it, but they failed. Not a single Negev settlement within the boundaries of the State of Israel fell into Arab hands, nor are the Arabs in control of any part of the Negev contained within Israel. It would be a grotesque paradox if the General Assembly would now obligingly turn the defeat of Arab aggression into victory, and grant to the Arab States the very fruits they failed to wrest in a war fought against no less than the authority and judgment of the General Assembly itself.

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL
342 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees *Date* September 27, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro



Attached hereto is the article by Eliahu Ben-Horin which I promised to send you in my memorandum of September 24. Please make it available to editors, publishers and radio commentators as requested.

Regards.

HLS:FB
Enc.

NOTE: Advance copy of article,
to appear in forthcoming
issue of The New Palestine.

IF BERNADOTTE WERE STILL ALIVE

by

Eliahu Ben-Horin

The shadow of the Bernadotte assassination hovers heavily over Palestine. In distorted form and proportions, it fills the Palais de Chaillot in Paris. The well-meaning Swedish nobleman of yesterday has become the great martyr of today. His proposals for the settlement of the Palestine conflict, concluded on the eve of his tragic and untimely death, are presented to the General Assembly in a halo of sanctity and martyrdom. As Secretary Marshall said in his speech in the Palais de Chaillot advocating the acceptance of the Bernadotte proposals: ". . . He gave his life to this effort."

Thus, a plan for the solution of an extremely involved and tragic problem, offered by one man -- no more gifted and infallible, no less weak and erring than many other men -- has become an almost sacred political testament.

The proposals of the living Count Bernadotte could have been freely discussed, changed, severely criticized, accepted or rejected. The proposals of the assassinated Bernadotte are proffered to the world community as a dictate which must be accepted in toto, in order to provide an everlasting monument to the Mediator who lost his life in the service of the world organization of nations.

All this, of course, is, at best, illogical sentimentality. Mahatma Gandhi, assassinated, was as right or as wrong in his political precepts as Mahatma Gandhi, alive. Leon Trotsky, Abraham Lincoln, Jean Jaures and Folke Bernadotte did not become wiser by being assassinated. A few hysterical hotheads in Palestine, in India, in the United States or elsewhere in the world can take away a human life of great value but they cannot change the march of history. Nor can the abominable act of the Jerusalem murder alter by one iota the actual merits of the Bernadotte plan for Palestine.

It is only after we remove the shadow of the Bernadotte assassination from our thoughts and consider the Bernadotte plan as if the late Mediator were still alive -- as we all sincerely wish he were -- that we shall be able to judge his proposals on their merits.

The most striking feature of the Bernadotte plan, in my judgment, is the absence of any central idea guiding its author. Count Bernadotte offers us a compromise. That much is clear. But what was the main motive behind the framing of a compromise? Did Bernadotte himself believe that his new proposals were likely to bring about peace and amity between the Jews and the Arabs; secure the peaceful existence of a viable state of Israel; and contribute to stability and progress in the Middle East? Or did he, without believing that himself, simply want to put an end to a Don Quixotic mission which obviously defied all efforts at mediation and settlement?

Count Bernadotte's first conclusion, namely that peace must return to Palestine and that in general, peace is better than war, will, of course, be wholeheartedly accepted by peace-loving people everywhere. However, when one goes beyond this platitude, one looks in vain for a workable plan which has better chances of peaceful implementation than the original United Nations decision.

The parties to the conflict will gladly accept those proposals which suit their respective purposes, as indeed they have already done.

The Arabs, rejecting the plan, as a whole, have graciously consented to accept the recommendation establishing the right of repatriation for Arab refugees, and also the recommendation on the special status of Jerusalem (which "translated into Arabic" means that Jerusalem should be excluded from the area of Israel). Israel has welcomed Count Bernadotte's confirmation of the reality of Israel's independent existence, not that this very striking aspect of Middle Eastern life actually needed additional confirmation. Israel has, however, questioned the plan's territorial suggestions with regard to the Negev and Jerusalem.

Mr. Ernest Bevin, on the other hand, announced in Parliament that Britain "supports the Bernadotte plan in its entirety" (what he undoubtedly liked most was the cutting off from Israel of the entire Negev) but, at the same time, managed so to read the plan as to conclude that "it does not involve the recognition of Israel . . ."

In other words, we are now exactly where we have been all the time. The Arab League, faithful to its best traditions, has unconditionally rejected the Bernadotte proposals. Israel is willing to sit down and talk peace. Great Britain would carefully remove the sugar-coating and serve us the bitter pill. The United States of America, or at least Secretary Marshall, is ready to utilize the political testament of the martyred Bernadotte as an avenue of escape from the conflict over Palestine which has embittered American political life for years.

The fact of the matter is that in the Palestine controversy, which has now grown into a matter of world-wide dimensions, there is only one party for whom this is a question of life and death. That sense of urgency was probably the strongest psychological factor behind Israel's victories in the Arab-Jewish war. It is the most potent element in Israel's approach to the Bernadotte plan, as well.

For Israel and Zionism, there always has been and there still is an irreducible minimum beyond which they cannot go: the complete sovereignty and viability of the State of Israel. This is the criterion by which Israel will take its stand on the Bernadotte proposals. The late Mediator's plan offers recognition of Israel's sovereignty but he undermines the viability of the Jewish State. For Israel without the Negev is a state in a strait jacket. There will be no room for immigration and colonization. It would be a death sentence to all the hopes of the Jewish DP's in Europe and of the million Jews in Arab lands. No government in Israel that accepted such a settlement would remain in office for a fortnight.

There was constructive political thought behind the UNSCOP partition proposal adopted last November by the General Assembly. It was intended to solve

the Palestine question and, with it, the problem of Jewish homelessness in the world. The Negev was the main ingredient in the solution, since it was to provide the space for new agricultural settlement and development. Take the Negev away and the solution is gone.

The Count's proposal for the disposition of the Negev is the clearest example of the absence of any central idea guiding him in the formulation of his plan. No explanation is given for taking the Negev from Israel and bestowing it upon the Arabs. There can, indeed, be no explanation. King Abdullah does not know what to do with the vastly underpopulated 35,000 square miles of Transjordan's present area. Count Bernadotte could not claim that King Abdullah needed more "lebensraum". Nor could he claim that the Arabs would develop the desert land of the Negev into a productive agricultural area, as the Jews intend to do. The real motive behind this proposal could obviously not be mentioned: it would provide military bases for the British, close to the Suez Canal, under Abdullah's nominal protection.

AMERICAN JEWISH

Israel may be willing to bargain on the other proposals of Count Bernadotte; the status of Jerusalem, the free port in Haifa, the internationalization of the Lydda airport, but not on the Negev. Some people, especially our good old friends, Mr. Ernest Bevin and Sir Alexander Cadogan, have seized upon the Bernadotte assassination as a God-given opportunity to stampede Israel, on the one hand, and the United Nations, on the other, into unconditional acceptance of the Bernadotte plan. Unfortunately, the United States delegation to the General Assembly seems to have fallen into this trap. Fortunately, the Israeli Government has kept a cool head.

The assassination of Count Bernadotte -- let us recapitulate -- is a terrible crime, for which nobody but the assassins are responsible. As for the Bernadotte proposals, we must discuss them, analyze them, accept or reject them, as if Bernadotte were still alive. Or in the words of Dr. Frank Kingdon's column in the New York Post: "It is up to the U. N. to show that the assassin's bullets did not murder justice".

9/27/48

אלה יעקב וישו

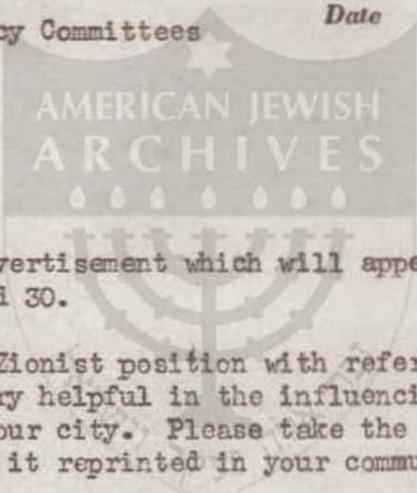
AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL
342 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees *Date* September 28, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES



Attached is copy of an advertisement which will appear in a number of newspapers on September 29 and 30.

It is a statement of the Zionist position with reference to the Bernadotte proposal. It would be very helpful in the influencing of public opinion if this ad could appear in your city. Please take the matter up with your committee and try to have it reprinted in your community.

Regards.

HLS:RB
Enc.

(Text of Advertisement)

ANOTHER REVERSAL -- ANOTHER BETRAYAL

In a sudden burst of speed, the British Government and our Administration are seeking to bring about the earliest adoption of the last Bernadotte proposals on Palestine by the General Assembly of the United Nations. The Bernadotte report recommends that the Negev, consisting of two-thirds of the State of Israel as set up by the United Nations Resolution of November 29, 1947, should be torn away from Israel and handed over to the Arab invaders, preferably Transjordan. It also proposes that Jerusalem be placed under United Nations control, without any corridor connecting it with Israel.

These proposals were put forward by Count Bernadotte merely as a basis for discussion, as his report makes clear. However, both Foreign Secretary Bevin and Secretary of State Marshall have chosen to ignore that fact and have urged acceptance of the Bernadotte plan in toto. The reason for this blanket endorsement and for their haste in trying to achieve the immediate adoption of the plan is transparent. The British Foreign Office, whose longstanding hostility to the Jewish state has produced a lamentable record of deceit, is currently trying to make capital out of the assassination of Count Bernadotte -- and our State Department is collaborating. They are attempting to railroad Count Bernadotte's plan through the General Assembly -- as a monument to his memory -- while his tragic death is still fresh in the public mind.

Such cynical exploitation of a criminal act, committed by outlaws whom the State of Israel is trying to hunt down and root out, is what we have come to expect of Mr. Bevin's Foreign Office. But it is unworthy of our country and its traditions of justice. We do not think we are asking too much when we call upon the United States Government to deal with the Bernadotte proposals solely on their merits and quite apart from the tragedy of September 17.

An Unjust, Unworkable Plan

When viewed objectively and dispassionately, the Bernadotte plan is manifestly unjust and unworkable. By cutting away the Negev from Israel, the plan would reduce the Jewish state in size by no less than 3800 square miles, while a mere 420 square miles of rocky and hilly western Galilee would be added to it "in compensation". Thus, the entire State of Israel would consist of approximately 2400 square miles -- a tiny area incapable of absorbing and supporting the hundreds of thousands of Jewish refugees who are desperately seeking emigration to Israel.

Moreover, if it were removed from Israel the Negev would be doomed to remain a desert wasteland; for the Jews alone are prepared to make it habitable by costly and extensive irrigation projects -- something which is not to be expected from King Abdullah, whose 35,000 square miles are largely underpopulated and uncultivated.

Not to be overlooked also is the fact that cutting away the Negev would deprive Israel of the waters and minerals of the Dead Sea and thereby seal off an important avenue for economic development which the new state sorely needs. It would also deprive Israel of access to the Red Sea and render it extremely difficult for Israel to engage in commerce with the Far East and with Africa.

Perhaps one of the real reasons why it is now proposed to take the Negev from Israel and hand it over to Britain's puppet, Abdullah, is to be found in recent reports of oil deposits in that area. Surely the industry of Israel could use such a fuel reserve without remaining forever at the mercy of British-Arab production in Iraq.

Last year the British induced our State Department to argue in the United Nations that the Negev should be removed from the Jewish state area. After the Jewish Agency agreed to the transfer of sizable portions of the Negev to the Arab state, the State Department ceased its agitation. On November 22, 1947 Herschel V. Johnson, our delegate to the United Nations, declared: "We think that the Jewish Agency has made, from its point of view, an equitable and fair proposal, and whatever reservation the United States delegation maintains with respect to this area (the Negev) is withdrawn."

Has anything happened since November 22, 1947 to warrant a change of this clearly-expressed attitude on the question of the Negev? Why, then, should our Government be a party to the latest British attempt to cripple Israel?

The Jerusalem Proposal

The Bernadotte proposal regarding Jerusalem is surely the most unrealistic of statements when viewed against the background of recent events in the Holy City. After having repulsed the wanton attacks of the British-led, British-supplied Arab Legion and after having endured months of siege and privation, the Jews of Jerusalem will hardly consent to leave their city unprotected in the midst of hostile Arab surroundings, unconnected with the State of Israel, and with no greater security for life and property than would be forthcoming from the nominal "control" of the United Nations. The Jews of Jerusalem and of Israel know only too well what it means to be dependent on Arab respect for United Nations authority. The almost daily flaunting of that authority by the Arabs has not served to reassure them that a better attitude will be demonstrated in the future. The Jews know that it was their own strength -- their fight on the battlefields against overwhelming odds -- rather than United Nations "control" which saved New Jerusalem and its inhabitants from destruction. They are not prepared to expose themselves to such murderous attacks again.

Israel Cannot Submit

For all of these reasons -- and there are many more -- Count Bernadotte's proposals must be rejected. It should be added that the British and American officials who are now working for the adoption of this plan are incredibly naive if they expect Israel to submit to it. No self-respecting nation would passively accept its own dismemberment -- and Israel is a self-respecting nation. Having successfully defended their political independence, having spilled their blood in expelling the invaders from their territory, the citizens of Israel will surely not permit any part of their land to be presented to an Arab potentate. They had accepted the United Nations partition decision of November 29, 1947 -- at great sacrifice to their legitimate rights and aspirations -- because they believed that this was a final compromise solution. But they will not accept a third partition of Palestine.

The United Nations should consider well the full implications of the proposals which Mr. Bevin and Mr. Marshall have endorsed so heartily. What they are suggesting is that military aggressors receive in a gift package what they failed to win by force of arms, and that a nation which successfully defended its territory against international gangsterism be penalized for its efforts. That, in effect, is what Mr. Bevin and Mr. Marshall are advocating. We fervently hope that the United Nations will refuse to become a party to this immoral scheme.

The Bernadotte recommendations do not even possess the virtue of Arab agreement to commend them to the serious attention of the United Nations. The Arabs have already rejected the proposals. The Bernadotte report and Mr. Bevin's statement make it clear that the plan would have to be imposed. If a solution is to be imposed in Palestine, why not that solution which has the backing of world opinion -- the United Nations decision of November 29, 1947? Why does Mr. Marshall seemingly prefer to impose a new, unjust, unworkable plan rather than a just, workable compromise which has received the overwhelming approval of the nations of the world, including the United States?

The Latest Pledge and the Latest Performance

Mr. Marshall's unequivocal endorsement of the Bernadotte report can only be regarded as another unwarranted reversal of United States policy, such as took place on March 19, when the Administration suddenly attempted to scuttle the partition decision and proposed a trusteeship for Palestine.

President Truman is seeking re-election on a platform which declares: "We approve the claims of the State of Israel to the boundaries set forth in the United Nations Resolution of November 29 and consider that modification thereof should be made only if fully acceptable to the State of Israel."

How does President Truman reconcile this plainly-stated pledge with the position taken by his Secretary of State?

The American people have a right to know.

9/29/48

STATEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL
WITH REFERENCE TO THE BERNADOTTE PLAN,
ISSUED IN PARIS SEPTEMBER 22, 1948

The Israeli government is giving the most serious study to Count Bernadotte's important report to the General Assembly. The people of Israel are eager for peace with their Arab neighbors, and they will earnestly explore all proposals which are put forward as a basis for a final and lasting peace.

While it is welcome that the report expresses the central fact of Israel's independence and vitality as a state, it would nevertheless be premature at this stage to accept its conclusions in their entirety. Careful study and discussion are obviously essential.

Thus, one of the conclusions which calls for the most critical scrutiny is the suggestion that the Negeb be excised from the state of Israel. The United Nations special committee on Palestine, after an exhaustive study of the Palestine problem, recommended that the territory of the Negeb be included in the Jewish state. This recommendation was accepted by the General Assembly. To exclude the Negeb from the state of Israel would be to take away two-thirds of its area, to reduce it to a miniature state, to constrict its growth and to deny to the Jewish people the only available land reserve which offers the prospects of large-scale development.

In any discussion of the report, the future of Jerusalem will be the subject of special interest. Besieged by foreign Arab armies, the people of Jerusalem were cut off from food and water, suffering many casualties, and were finally rescued from starvation and death only because the State of Israel established a land bridge from the coast. Under the circumstances, the people of Israel and especially of Jerusalem will not look with equanimity on any plan which would jeopardize the fate of the 90,000 Jewish inhabitants of that city by cutting them off from direct contact with Israel.

The government of Israel will presumably have an opportunity of making its official comment on these and other important features of the report before the appropriate organs of the General Assembly.

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees

Date September 24, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

Attached is a statement issued by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver yesterday as Chairman of the American Section of the Jewish Agency. It is an analysis of some features of the Bernadotte plan.

Yesterday we sent you a news release of a telegram which Dr. Silver had dispatched to President Truman pointing out to the President that the Marshall statement before the General Assembly on Israel was a violation of the Administration's pledged word on Israel as well as of the Israel plank in the Democratic Party platform, and appealing to him to prevent the imposition of the terms of the plan, which deprives Israel of almost two-thirds of its territory as allotted by the United Nations General Assembly decision of November 29, 1947.

The present situation is a critical one for Israel and I urge you to do the following:

1. On September 8, I sent you a memorandum requesting that you have the leading citizens and organizations send letters to the President asking for de jure recognition and economic aid to Israel. Please broaden the scope of communications to the President and have as many letters and telegrams as possible sent to the President dealing with the new situation. These letters and wires should be sent by both Jews and non-Jews. The line which the communications to the President should take can be drawn from Dr. Silver's statement and from the text of his telegram to the President. It is imperative that you begin your work on this immediately!
2. In a previous memo to you we requested that you contact local and state political leaders asking them to urge

the President to take positive action on Israel. In view of the fact that the Marshall statement is a violation of the pledged word of the President, you will immediately intensify this aspect of your work. The committees which are to call on the political leaders should approach the problem in the forthright manner which the situation demands.

3. I hope that you have made contact with the newspaper editors, publishers and radio commentators in your community. In order that they may have a correct perspective of the problem as it now exists, since the assassination of Bernadotte and the introduction of his plan into the General Assembly in Paris, they should be given the background material which is contained in the statement of Dr. Silver. A number of American newspapers have come out in favor of the Bernadotte plan without recognizing its full implications. It is your job to correct their approach. Within a day or two I will send you a brief article written by Mr. Eliahu Ben-Horin which will appear in the next issue of The New Palestine. It is also excellent material for similar usage.
4. In a memorandum which I sent you on September 16, I requested that you contact your Congressmen and Senators with a view to having them contact Mr. William W. Martin of the Export-Import Bank urging him to have the Bank approve the loan to Israel. I would appreciate your sending me any reports which you may have with reference to this activity.

Regards.

HLS:KB
Enc.

STATEMENT OF DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER

CHAIRMAN OF THE AMERICAN SECTION OF THE JEWISH AGENCY

The tragic assassination of Count Bernadotte by outlaws, and the feeling of condemnation which it has universally aroused, are being used by the enemies of Israel as an opportunity to cripple the Jewish State, if they cannot destroy it altogether, by drastically constricting it in size and depriving it of its necessary natural resources. They seek to do this under the slogan that Count Bernadotte's recommendations must be adopted and effectuated in full as a monument to his memory and in the claimed interest of "peace".

These recommendations, which Count Bernadotte himself admitted in his report were not within his province as Mediator to make, require calm analysis in order to understand how disastrous their implementation would be for the Jewish cause in Palestine and the State of Israel.

The first recommendation to be noted is that the Negev, consisting of two-thirds of the State of Israel as set up in the Resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations on November 29, 1947, should be torn away from Israel and handed over to the invading Arab States, preferably Trans-Jordan. The Jewish State, whose total area under the November 29 Resolution is only 5,770 square miles, is thus to be further reduced in size by no less than 3,750 square miles; while a mere 400 square miles of rocky and hilly Western Galilee is to be added to it in compensation.

Moreover, the territory thus proposed to be taken away from Israel is practically empty of inhabitants because of lack of water, although it can be made habitable by costly and extensive irrigation works which the Jews alone are ready to undertake and finance. It provides the only available land reserve for the expected and necessary large Jewish immigration into Israel; the rest of Israel, as well as Western Galilee, being already thickly inhabited. If the Negev should now be lost to Israel, it would be condemned to continuing sterility as a desert, just as is the vast and empty area of the largest part of Trans-Jordan; and for the same reason, namely, Arab apathy. The Jewish plan for its irrigation and development would be aborted, and the capacity of the truncated remnant of Israel to absorb new immigrants would be greatly reduced. In this way, the persistent objective of the enemies of Israel, which has ever been to prevent or severely limit Jewish immigration into Palestine, would be achieved.

Nor is this the only disastrous effect which the implementation of this recommendation would have. Three other highly important effects should be noted:

1. The Negev includes the southern and more than half of the western shores of the Dead Sea and provides the only access of the State of Israel to the waters and minerals of that Sea; the rest of the shore of the Sea being outside the boundaries of Israel and mostly in Trans-Jordan. So important to the life and development of Israel was free access to and the right to extract and exploit these minerals deemed to be by the General Assembly of the United Nations that the Assembly by its November, 1947 Resolution actually included within the State of Israel even more of the shore area of the Dead Sea than was recommended by its Special Committee on Palestine. These minerals, in fact, constitute perhaps the only reserve of valuable minerals available to Israel. Millions of Jewish capital have already been sunk in the building of plants both at the northern and southern ends of the Dead Sea for the extraction of these minerals. Competent

experts are agreed that these minerals can form the basis of a varied and highly skilled chemical industry in Israel for the benefit not only of its inhabitants but of the world at large. The proposal now is to make all this impossible and to turn the whole of the Dead Sea with its minerals over to the Arab States.

2. The territory in question gives the State of Israel access to and a part of the shore of the Gulf of Akaba on the Red Sea and thus renders possible the development there of an Israeli port to serve the commerce of Israel with the Far East and Africa, without the necessity of routing such commerce through the British controlled Suez Canal with its heavy tolls. The excision of this territory from Israel renders this prospect hopeless.

3. There are well-founded reports to the effect that the territory in question contains valuable deposits of oil. This is perhaps the real reason why it is now proposed to take this territory away from Israel and hand it over to a puppet of Britain. But this oil constitutes the only reserve of fuel for the industrialized State of Israel which must otherwise depend for oil upon the mercy of the British-Arab production in Iraq and the very high prices charged to Israel for such oil as it may be allowed to have from such production.

Another recommendation of Count Bernadotte deserving special notice relates to Jerusalem. The recommendation is that Jerusalem with its besieged 90,000 Jews should be put under United Nations control without any corridor connecting it with Israel. The November, 1947 Resolution of the General Assembly likewise proposed to put Jerusalem under United Nations control. But this was on the supposition that the Arabs would respect the decision of the Assembly and let Jerusalem live. Events, however, have proved that this expectation was and is illusory. Jerusalem was wantonly attacked by the Arab States with British supplied bombs and artillery immediately after the British withdrew from Palestine on May 15, 1948, despite the United Nations Resolution, and has been under siege and attack ever since. Its water and food supplies have been cut off. The Jews have sustained thousands of casualties in defense of the beautiful city which they have built and which contains not only their most sacred shrines, but their great University, their hospitals and other educational and philanthropic institutions. The heroism of the Jews of Jerusalem, men, women and even children alike, in the face of the murderous Arab attack constitutes an epic by itself. Now it is proposed to turn these people, after all their sacrifices and privations, over to the mercy of the Arab invaders; for that is what Count Bernadotte's recommendation amounts to. The Arabs can no more be expected to respect the nominal "control" of the United Nations over Jerusalem in the future than they have respected it heretofore. The world must still remember the outrage of the destruction of the pumping station at Latrun, which provided Jerusalem with water, at a time when that pumping station was officially under United Nations supervision and after the Arabs had specifically agreed to the resumption of its operations under the so-called Truce; and only this morning the press carries news of the brutal assault upon a convoy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem under United Nations auspices by the Legionnaires of the Trans-Jordan Legion, which convoy was proceeding under the express agreement of the Arabs under the Truce.

It is inconceivable that the Jews of Jerusalem and Israel will ever again consent to leave Jerusalem in the midst of a hostile Arab sea, unconnected with Israel and with no greater security for their lives and property than would be involved in the nominal "control" of the United Nations.

It is interesting to note the reasons given by Count Bernadotte for his devastating recommendations. He says in his report that "it cannot be ignored

that the vast difference between now and last November (the time of the General Assembly Resolution) is that a war has been started and stopped and that, in the intervening months, decisive events have occurred." But this war was unquestionably started by the Arab States surrounding Palestine, six of whom are members of the United Nations, in open and proclaimed defiance of the United Nations and its Resolution. If this war has now been stopped to any extent, it has been by Jewish valor and heroism, and not by anything that the Mediator or the United Nations have done. The combined armies of the invading Arab States, whom the United States, through its representative, has branded as aggressors in the Security Council of the United Nations, have been thrown back by the embattled Jews and have, indeed, been saved from complete rout only by the very timely "Truce" which the Security Council imposed on July 15. It seems now, however, that either as a reward for their aggression or to compensate them for their unexpected defeat, the State of Israel is to be dismembered and two-thirds of its territory and practically all its mineral wealth given to the aggressors. While the City of Jerusalem, with its overwhelmingly Jewish population and great Jewish institutions, is to be turned over to the mercies of its surrounding Arabs while under nominal United Nations "control".

Count Bernadotte recommends this treatment of Jerusalem because "of its religious and international significance." But it had the same significance on June 27 of this year when he proposed that Jerusalem should be turned over completely to the Arab State of Trans-Jordan. He then apparently believed that its international significance should be forgotten in favor of the Arabs. It was only when it became evident that the Jews would prevent the carrying out of his recommendation of June 27 by force of arms that the present, new recommendation was advanced. But it amounts in effect to the same thing as the old recommendation, and the Jews are doubtless ready to defend themselves against it, too, by force of arms.

9/23/48



MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees Date September 17, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

For your information, herewith is Dr. Silver's statement dealing with the assassination of Count Bernadotte:

"Every right-thinking person will be horrified by the news of the assassination of Count Bernadotte and Colonel Serot in Jerusalem. This shameful and dastardly crime is aggravated by reason of the fact that the lives of the Count and his French observer, representative as they were of the authority of the UN, should have been inviolate. It comes as the culmination of a series of outrages directed against UN personnel including the murder of Mr. Wasson, the American Consul in Jerusalem, of the two French UN observers at the hands of Saudi-Arabians in Gaza, as well as of two other UN officials. We await further details concerning the identity of the assassins of Count Bernadotte and Colonel Serot. The Jewish Agency is transmitting to the Secretariat of the United Nations and to the bereaved families of the Count and of Colonel Serot the expression of their profoundest sorrow.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver"

HLS:EB

American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue, New York City

THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM WAS SENT TO THE CHAIRMEN OF LOCAL EMERGENCY COMMITTEES

DAY LETTER

NOVEMBER 19, 1947

UNITED STATES DELEGATION TO UNITED NATIONS PRESSING FOR TRANSFER OF NEGEV TO ARAB STATE THUS ENDANGERING SOLUTION. IMPERATIVE THAT LARGE NUMBER OF TELEGRAMS BE SENT IMMEDIATELY TO PRESIDENT TRUMAN AND ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE LOVETT ALONG FOLLOWING LINES BUT IN YOUR OWN WORDS: QUOTE WE ARE DISTRESSED TO LEARN THAT UNITED STATES DELEGATION TO UNITED NATIONS IS PRESSING FOR EXCLUSION OF THE LARGE AND IMPORTANT AREA OF NEGEV FROM THE JEWISH STATE CONTRARY TO UNSCOP MAJORITY RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH OUR GOVERNMENT HAS ENDORSED. SUCH REVISION WOULD SHARPLY REDUCE JEWISH AREA, THUS CURTAILING ABILITY OF JEWISH STATE TO ABSORB IMMIGRANTS. IT WOULD ALSO REDUCE THE POSSIBILITY FOR FUTURE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RENDER THE JEWISH STATE UNVIABLE. WE MUST PROTEST MOST VIGOROUSLY AGAINST THIS UNWARRANTED STAND BY UNITED STATES DELEGATION WHICH IS PARTICULARLY SHOCKING IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT IT FOLLOWS OUR GOVERNMENT'S FORTHRIGHT SUPPORT OF UNSCOP MAJORITY PLAN WHICH EVOKED GENERAL PRAISE AND SATISFACTION. FURTHERMORE THE PRESENT UNITED STATES POSITION ENDANGERS THE UNITY WHICH HAS THUS FAR PREVAILED IN UNITED NATIONS ON PALESTINE ISSUE. WE APPEAL TO YOU TO INTERVENE IMMEDIATELY SO THAT THIS INJUSTICE SHALL NOT BE DONE UNQUOTE. PLEASE ENLIST THE FULL STRENGTH OF ALL GROUPS IN YOUR COMMUNITY, BOTH JEWISH AND NON-JEWISH, IN THIS TELEGRAM CAMPAIGN WHICH MAY HAVE TO LAST A NUMBER OF DAYS IN VIEW OF THE POSSIBILITY THAT IF DEFEATED IN THE SUB-COMMITTEE, THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION MAY ATTEMPT TO REOPEN THE QUESTION OF THE NEGEV IN THE FULL UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE. THIS IS CRUCIAL. ACT WITHOUT DELAY. REGARDS.

HLS:MLD

HARRY L. SHAPIRO
AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.

THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM WAS SENT TO CHAIRMEN OF LOCAL EMERGENCY COMMITTEES:

NIGHT LETTER

NOVEMBER 29, 1947

VICTORY AT LAST. UNITED NATIONS HAS JUST APPROVED PLAN ESTABLISHING SEPARATE JEWISH AND ARAB STATES IN PALESTINE. THE EMOTION ALL OF US ARE EXPERIENCING CAN COME BUT ONCE IN LIFETIME. WE OF AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL WISH TO SHARE THAT FEELING OF PROFOUND JOY WITH YOU AND OTHER LOCAL AMERICAN ZIONIST LEADERS, WITHOUT WHOSE EFFORTS AND DEVOTION THIS GREAT MOMENT IN HISTORY MIGHT NEVER HAVE ARRIVED. YOU MAY TAKE JUSTIFIABLE PRIDE IN ROLE YOU AND OTHER AMERICAN ZIONISTS PLAYED IN OUR MOVEMENT UNDER DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER'S LEADERSHIP. MAGNIFICENT WORK OF AMERICAN SECTION OF JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE UNDER DR. SILVER'S CHAIRMANSHIP IS NOW A MATTER OF HISTORY. A SUPREMELY DIFFICULT TASK HAS BEEN PERFORMED WITH SINGULAR BRILLIANCE AND EFFECTIVENESS BY AMERICAN SECTION. OUR THANKS GO OUT TO ALL LEADERS OF OUR MOVEMENT WHO HAVE MET THE CHALLENGE OF THESE DIFFICULT MONTHS AND HAVE ACHIEVED FOR JEWISH PEOPLE NEW DIGNITY AND RESPECT AMONG NATIONS OF WORLD.

WE DO NOT BELIEVE FOR A MOMENT THAT OUR STRUGGLES AND HARDSHIPS ARE OVER. THERE MAY BE VERY TRYING DAYS AHEAD FOR THE JEWISH STATE. BUT WE ARE CERTAIN THAT ZIONISTS OF AMERICA WILL REMAIN UNITED AND ON ALERT DURING COMING MONTHS TO INSURE THAT JEWISH STATE SHALL BE ESTABLISHED SECURELY.

FOR THE PRESENT, HOWEVER, LET US CELEBRATE OUR ACHIEVEMENT. VICTORY CELEBRATIONS IN YOUR COMMUNITY ARE CERTAINLY IN PLACE. KEEP US POSTED ON YOUR PLANS. LONG LIVE THE JEWISH STATE!

HLS:EB

HARRY L. SHAIRO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

AMERICAN ZIONIST POLICY COMMITTEE
55 WEST 42nd STREET
NEW YORK 18, NEW YORK
TELEPHONE: LACKawanna 4-7319

Translation of a special dispatch by S. Dingol in The Jewish Day,
April 8, 1945. (Similar dispatches have appeared in the Jewish
Morning Journal and the Jewish Daily Forward)

PEACE IN ZIONIST RANKS COULD BE ACHIEVED WITHIN TEN MINUTES, SAYS DR. SILVER

ZIONIST LEADER ASSERTS THAT THE DISPUTE WITHIN ZIONIST LEADERSHIP
COULD BE SOLVED EASILY WITH GOOD WILL ON BOTH SIDES. - DOUBTS
WHETHER THE COMMITTEE NAMED BY DR. GOLDSTEIN WILL ACHIEVE THIS

The furor which has arisen in American Zionist circles over Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver's forced resignation from the leadership of the American Zionist Emergency Council, and the protests and demands for his return to leadership which have come from all parts of the country, have finally brought about a decision by the Executive Committee of the Zionist Organization of America to name a committee which will explore the possibilities of restoring peace in the Zionist movement.

Dr. Israel Goldstein, President of the Zionist Organization of America, named a committee of five, with Judge Louis E. Levinthal as chairman, for that purpose. The four other members of the committee are: Daniel Frisch, Louis Lipsky, Ezra Shapiro, and Dewey Stone.

When the membership of the group was made public, the American Zionist Policy Committee, which supports Dr. Silver's policies, issued a statement expressing no confidence in the committee because, with one exception, it is made up of Dr. Silver's opponents, and "not a single member of the committee represents the forces in American Zionism which have publicly demanded the recall of Dr. Silver."

Dr. Silver was in New York on Friday afternoon and we made use of the occasion to meet with him and get his opinion on the possibility for peace in the Zionist leadership, and on the committee which was named by Dr. Goldstein.

Dr. Silver asserted that peace in the Zionist leadership can be achieved very easily.

"Peace in American Zionism can be brought about within ten minutes!" Dr. Silver declared. "If Dr. Wise and I were to discuss the matter and if it were made clear that the question of prestige is not involved, but that this concerns the best interests of Zionism, then I don't think we would have much difficulty in understanding each other, provided that outside influences will not be involved."

"And what is your opinion on the peace committee?" I asked Rabbi Silver.

"The American Zionist Policy Committee, with which I am in complete harmony, has already made a statement about that," Dr. Silver answered. "We are not opposed to a peace committee that really wants peace. But when such a committee is named, it should be made up of neutrals who are not involved in the controversy, or it should be a mixed group, representing both sides, who would arrive at an understanding among themselves. Unfortunately the makeup of this committee is such as would tend to prolong the dispute, rather than achieve early peace. One member of the committee, speaking from a Zionist platform, could find no better word than "Fascist" to describe me. Another member of the committee has travelled throughout the country to speak against me at Zionist meetings. Such a 'peace committee' can have only one interest--to keep the present ZOA leadership in control and to keep me as far as possible from the Emergency Council."

"Do you believe that the ZOA Executive was insincere in making this peace attempt?" I asked Dr. Silver.

"No, I would not say that. I believe that many members of the Executive were sincere in requesting that peace be brought about. But because the makeup of the committee was left in the hands of outspoken opponents of mine, what emerged was not a peace committee, but a group which will try to bury every possibility for achieving peace."

4/10/45

AMERICAN ZIONIST POLICY COMMITTEE
55 WEST 42nd STREET
NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

A CHALLENGE TO AMERICAN JEWS

The Roosevelt and Churchill Reports bring us bitter disillusionment and throw light on the helplessness of the American Zionist leadership.

Excerpts from an article in the Jewish Morning Journal by David Eidelsberg
March 5, 1945

Mr. Churchill's remarks on the Palestine question are by no means insignificant. They may not have been openly hostile but they were certainly not friendly. Their implications were deeply disheartening to us and their tone was one of flattery to the Arabs. We would be making a fatal mistake not to take Mr. Churchill's remarks seriously. So clever a statesman and so adept a master of words as the Prime Minister does not use phrases carelessly.

What precisely did Mr. Churchill say? He assured his listeners that there had been no general conference about conditions in the Middle East, and as proof of that, he pointed to the absence from Cairo of the Regent of Iraq and the Emir of Transjordan. He then discussed his luncheon with that "most remarkable man, King Ibn Saud" and said, "Although we did not reach a solution of the problems of the Arab world and of the Jewish people in Palestine, I have hopes that, when the war is over, good arrangements can be made for securing the peace and progress of the Arab world and generally of the Middle East..."

The cynical implications of this one sentence are horrifying. It is far from a frank and open statement but it makes several things very clear. In the first place, Churchill obviously did discuss the Palestine problem with the King of Saudi Arabia, though the two reached no agreement. In the second place, Churchill deliberately omits all mention of the interest of world Jewry in Palestine. He restricts himself to mentioning the problem "of the Jewish people in Palestine." That is very different from the problem of the Jewish people in relation to the political future of Palestine. We are face to face here with the sadly familiar policy enunciated by English statesmen every so often: that the present Jewish population of Palestine represents England's fulfillment of her promise to the Jewish people, and that now the Yishuv must be fitted into the general scheme of the Arab world. This is the policy behind the White Paper and behind all the ignoble schemes of the Colonial Office affecting the future of the Jews in Palestine. It is notable that although Mr. Churchill's sentence begins by mentioning "the problems of the Arab world and of the Jewish people in Palestine," it ends by forgetting the Jews and looking forward to "the peace and progress of the Arab world" only. In the course of a few seconds the Jewish problem had been forgotten!....

What is clear is this: as far as the British Government is concerned, it is not ready to give any recognition to the Jewish people at the coming United Nations' Conference, and it is not retreating even one step from the policy laid down in the White Paper of 1939. The doors of Palestine remain shut in the faces of homeless Jews; the political situation becomes constantly cloudier and "the architect of the Jewish future" (as Mr. Churchill will be remembered to have described himself recently) is busy building Arab defenses against the Jews.

The situation is a grave one but we must force ourselves to understand and evaluate it properly. We are a most unfortunate people, but we need not be a foolish one. We will be both foolish and disloyal to ourselves if we here in America silently accept Mr. Churchill's cynical edict on our future.

American Zionism is disorganized to its very core. The attempts that are being made to hide this fact are more dangerous than the fact itself. Our political activity is paralyzed; our present leadership has neither a program of work nor a plan appropriate for this grave period. It hasn't the strength to undertake the tremendous battle which must be waged in the next few weeks. Those leaders who had fought for Zionism energetically and with vision, and who have great achievements to their credit have been thrust aside, and we now remain with a leadership which for years distinguished itself by its helplessness and its tendencies towards appeasement. It is a leadership of obstructionism, of petty personal jealousies, of exceptional ability in forcing out the only persons who can work and who wish to work and who have shown how to work. All that this present leadership can tell us is to do nothing - it has already received promises from the White House. All should be left in "his" hands ...

It may be that the promises from the White House are sincere and binding, worth quite as much after election as before; it may be that American political and State Department leaders are less expert than Mr. Churchill at using words to conceal the truth. All this may be true - but is this the time simply to sit and wait for a friendly glance or a sympathetic hint which may or may not come? Have we left everything in the hands of the "architects" of our future in London and Washington, and is there nothing we ourselves should do? What small people in the world conducts its affairs in such a manner? Is there any other nation that satisfies itself with ambiguous hints and promises, that bases its national policy on whispered requests to "leave it to me?"

If we accept the policy of waiting and leaving everything to the "architects" till after the war, while all around us the world goes up in flames, then we must follow the present Zionist leadership and do nothing to disturb its peace. But if we realize how grave and how urgent this moment is, how disastrously near we are to losing Palestine, then we cannot afford to wait for a Zionist Convention, which may perhaps not take place at all this year. The Zionist masses throughout this country must at once take it upon themselves to recall those persons who, through base maneuvering and personal intrigues have been driven from leadership. These men of action who know how to storm American public opinion must once more be given the reins of our work and we must rally around them, strengthen their hands and follow in the paths they point out.

There are only a few weeks left before that San Francisco Conference at which there will be represented many a small people with far less right to representation than ours. We must at least fight for representation, we must at least press and urge that the Conference include our cause on its agenda. The fact that this Conference is taking place on American soil gives us great opportunities for work, opportunities which we could not possibly have had in Yalta or Cairo. Those opportunities can be utilized if we have leaders speaking in our name with courage and with vision.

We must win passionate American sympathy for our attempt to keep the voice of the Jewish people from being silenced at the United Nations' Conference, to keep our claims, our needs and our just demands from being ignored, as they have been at all conferences until now - even in the report of our great friend, President Roosevelt. The fate of Palestine is in the balance now and we dare not tolerate anyone who tells us merely to be quiet and to wait. Mr. Churchill's cynical speech, President Roosevelt's evasions are a challenge to all Jews, a challenge which we must accept with the dignity and the courage of a self-respecting people.

PRESS RELEASE
ABBA HILLEL SILVER TESTIMONIAL DINNER COMMITTEE
SUITE 704
55 WEST 42nd STREET
NEW YORK 18, N.Y.
TELEPHONE - LA 4 - 7319

FOR RELEASE: MONDAY, MARCH 19, 1945

BARKLEY, LAUSCHE, NIEBUHR, TAFT AMONG SPEAKERS AT TESTIMONIAL TO
DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER

LEADERS FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE PARTICIPATING IN TRIBUTE

New York - - Leaders from all walks of life will join in honoring Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, of Cleveland, at a Testimonial Dinner to be held on Wednesday evening, March 21st, in the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel Commodore, New York City. Speakers at the dinner will include Senate Majority Leader Alben W. Barkley (D., Ky.), Rabbi Wolf Gold, leader of the World Mizrahi organization, Governor Frank J. Lausche (D., Ohio), Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr, of Union Theological Seminary, David Pinski, leader of Labor Zionism, Senator Robert A. Taft (R., Ohio), and Dr. Silver. Dr. Emanuel Neumann, Zionist leader, will serve as the dinner chairman, and the invocation will be delivered by Rabbi Leon I. Feuer of Toledo.

Scores of messages paying tribute to Dr. Silver for his vigorous leadership of American Jewry and his great contributions to American life generally over many years of devoted service have been received by the dinner committee.

Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, of the Methodist Church, said in his message: "Dr. Silver's distinguished leadership has been an inspiration to the religious forces of the nation. He has revealed both courage and understanding, and has never forgotten the equally important factor of sympathy. In these hours in which we seek to build a new world, the moral principles he has enunciated are the essential foundation upon which such a structure may be reared. Christians, everywhere, I am sure, will join me in this brief word of tribute and gratitude."

Dr. Daniel L. Marsh, President of Boston University and Executive Chairman of the American Palestine Committee, said: "Dr. Silver is not only a distinguished and useful leader of the Jewish people in America and throughout the world, he is also one of this generation's greatest American citizens of any faith or of any racial inheritance."

Honorary sponsors of the dinner are: Irving Abramson, president, N.J. State C.I.O.; Sholem Asch, noted author; Senator Alben W. Barkley, (D. Ky.); Senator Ralph O. Brewster, (R. Me.); Senator Harold H. Burton, (R. Ohio); Gedalia Bublick, prominent Yiddish journalist; Fred M. Butzel, Detroit community leader; Representative Emanuel Celler, (D. N.Y.); Prof. Abraham Cronbach, of the Hebrew Union College; Solomon Dingol, prominent Yiddish journalist; Rabbi Abraham J. Feldman, Hartford, Conn. community leader; Rabbi Leon I. Feuer, Zionist leader; Isidor Fine, Brooklyn community leader; Jacob Fishman, veteran Yiddish journalist; George I. Fox, New York community leader; Rabbi Leon Fram,

Detroit Zionist leader; Dr. Solomon B. Freehof, noted Jewish scholar and religious leader; Prof. Carl J. Friedrich, of Harvard University; Dean Charles W. Gilkey, of Chicago University; Rabbi Robert Gordis, president of the Rabbinical Assembly of America; William Green, president of the A.F. of L.; Joel Gross, national co-chairman, United Palestine Appeal; Rabbi Harry Halpern, president, Brooklyn Zionist Region; Prof. Ralph S. Harlow, of Smith College; Herman Hoffman, president, Independent Order B'rith Abraham; Rabbi Max Kirshblum, leader of Mizrachi; Dean Winifred G. Leutner, of Western Reserve University; Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein, leader of Mizrachi; Dr. Walter C. Lowdermilk, Assistant Chief, U.S. Soil Conservation Service; Hon. Paul V. McNutt, U.S. Manpower Commissioner; Dr. Daniel L. Marsh, president of Boston University; David Louis Meckler, editor of the Jewish Morning Journal; Abraham Miller, vice-president, Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union; Rabbi Irving Miller, Zionist leader; Bishop Francis J. McConnell of New York; Representative John W. McCormack, (D. Mass.); Hon. Vincent J. Murphy, Mayor of Newark, N.J.; Isidore Nagler, vice-president of the I.L.G.W.U.; Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam of the Methodist Church; Judge Bernard Rosenblatt, president of the Palestine Foundation Fund; Joseph Schlossberg, Labor Zionist leader; Dr. Ferdinand Sonneborn, New York community leader; Dean W.C. Sperry, of Harvard University; Rabbi Milton Steinberg, Zionist leader; Elihu D. Stone, veteran Zionist leader; Senator Robert A. Taft, (R. Ohio); Morris Weinberg, publisher of The Jewish Day; Hon. Sumner Welles, former Undersecretary of State; Rabbi Samuel Wohl, Cincinnati religious leader; Samuel Wolchok, president of the United Wholesale and Retail Employees Intl. Union; Prof. H.A. Wolfson, of Harvard University; Max Zaritsky, president of the United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers Union.

Co-chairmen of the dinner are: Prof. William F. Albright, of Johns Hopkins University; Hon. M. Maldwin Fertig, president of the Bronx Zionist Region; Rabbi Wolf Gold, leader of World Mizrachi; Hon. Nathaniel L. Goldstein, Attorney-General of New York State; Judge Emanuel Greenberg, Brooklyn community leader; Prof. Horace M. Kallen, of the New School for Social Research; Prof. Mordecai M. Kaplan, of the Jewish Theological Seminary; Emanuel Neumann, Zionist leader; David Pinski, leader of Labor Zionism; Hon. Carl Sherman, former Attorney-General of New York State; Charles J. Rosenbloom, treasurer of the United Palestine Appeal; Justice Meier Steinbrink, N.Y. State Supreme Court Justice; Pierre van Paassen, noted author.

#12 - 3/19/45

DENVER DISTRICT

Zionist Organization of America

January 17, 1945

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E. & C. Bldg.
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CHARLES ROSENBAUM

HERMAN SHORE

DAVID UCHILL

HARRY ZINN

Dear Z. O. A. Member and Friend:

You are cordially invited to attend our first membership DINNER meeting to be held at the B. M. H. Synagog at East 16th Avenue and Gaylord Street, Thursday, 6:30 P.M., January 25, 1945.

The dinner will be catered by Mrs. Gelfand at \$2.00 per plate.

A most interesting and unusual program has been arranged as follows:

1. Dinner.
2. Selections of Palestinian Folk Songs, through the courtesy of the sixteen voices of the Farband Choir (of radio fame).
3. "The Zionist Crisis - what does it mean?" by Robert S. Gamzey, managing editor, Intermountain Jewish News.
4. Latest Sound Movie about Palestine (15 minutes).
5. Rena Waxman, radio star, will give a 15-minute rendition entitled "The Eight Men".

We are counting on your attendance to this important event. Rest assured you will enjoy an evening of pleasure you will long remember.

Very earnestly and sincerely,

Louis E. Gelt
President, Denver District
Zionist Organization of America

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadessah, Women's Zionist Organization of America
Mizrachi Organization of America
Poale Zion-Zeire Zion of America
Zionist Organization of America

342 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.
Murray Hill 2-1160

January 19, 1945

Dear Rabbi:

It is generally believed that the President will leave shortly after the Inauguration on January 20 for the long-anticipated conference with Prime Minister Churchill and Marshal Stalin. There are many good reasons to believe that one of the most important items on the agenda at this historic gathering will be that of the immediate rescue of surviving Jews in war-torn Europe and the future status of Jewish Palestine.

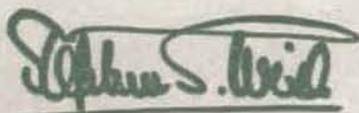
In order that the President, on the eve of these deliberations, may once again be impressed with the vital concern of the vast majority of the American public, both Jewish and Christian, with the primacy of Palestine as the solution to the problems of immediate rescue and permanent rehabilitation, the American Zionist Emergency Council has undertaken several steps in which it has enlisted the cooperation of numerous other bodies. You probably have already received the special call from the Synagogue Council of America on this subject.

We now urgently appeal to you to help this great and urgent effort by devoting your sermon on the Sabbath of January 26-27 to the theme set forth in the attached text of a suggested prayer. May we also recommend that you make reference to the following: Ezekiel 37, Psalms 126, 137. We urge also that announcements be inserted in the local newspapers on the nature of your sermon and the text of the special prayer which will be recited.

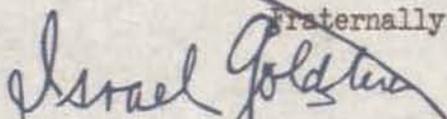
In addition, it is suggested that appropriate telegraphic messages, in accord with the spirit of the special prayer enclosed herewith be addressed to President Roosevelt by your congregation, as well as by all men's, women's, youth and other groups and the religious school affiliated with your congregation. Such messages should be sent addressed to the President, The White House, Washington, D.C., not later than Monday, January 29.

We would profoundly appreciate your cooperation in this endeavor which we regard as of utmost importance at this time.

Will you be good enough to indicate on the enclosed card that we may count on your assistance in this program?

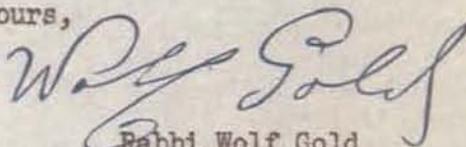


Rabbi Stephen S. Wise
Chairman,
American Zionist
Emergency Council



Rabbi Israel Goldstein
Chairman,
Committee on Synagogue
Petitions

Fraternally yours,



Rabbi Wolf Gold
Chairman,
Committee on
Religious Forces

רכוננו של עולם הרם קרנו של נשיא ארצות הכרית וְחַרְשׁ עֲלֵינוּ אֵת
נְשִׂאוֹתָיו לטובה להצלחה לחיים ולשלום.

היה לו למחסה בלכתו אל מועצה מנהיגי עמי הפדות לקרב את הנצחון
ולהשלים צדק וישר בעולם. חזקה ואמצחו בדרכו, נחמו בחסדך, חסר ממנו
מכשול. שמור צאתו ובואו שלא תאנה אליו רעה, ושלה ברכה וזוּצִלְחָה בּמִפְעָלָיו.

אנתן מלך רחום וחנון פקר רוחך במועצה דברי העמים המאוחרים. חזק
את רצונם ומרצם לדכא עריצות ולהעביר זרון מן הארץ, לרפא את פצעי המין
האנושי, לחקן את מעשי העוול שנעשו לעמים המשוועדים ולחדש את כל חברת
י האדם על יסודות החפש והאחווה.

אבינו שבשמים האר עיני הנשיא שיראה בענינו ואמץ לבבו שיריב את
ריבנו במועצת ראשי מדינות הפדות. הער את לבו דברי החפש למצוקת בני
ישראל האומללים בקרבנות האדם. כי נפשנו קצרה מהרב ומשכי ומדבר ומכל
צרה ויגון, ונשארנו מעט מהרבה. פחה את אזני המנהיגים שישמעו את קול
דמי אחינו המזומתים, את זעקת השכולים ואת נאקת המופקרים להרג, למען
נעור לבם לכקע דרכי הצלה. פקח עיניהם לראות ולבב להבין שהעולם לא
ידע שלום עדי פפתחו הרצובות רשע ויחרו אנודות מוסה וישלחו רצוצים
חפשים וכלה זרון מן הארץ.

אבינו מלכנו מחסנו. חזק את רוח הישר בלב מנהיגי ארצות הדרור,
שיאשרו מחדש את בריה האמנה שנחנו עמי העולם לישראל להשיב את שבות
ציון. פקח עיניהם לראות ולחמך בזכוחנו לחקים מדינה עברית בארץ ישראל
מן ועד באר שבע, שינוהו שמה בלי מכשל ופגע אחינו הגולים לבנות שם
את חייהם ולחדש את מורשתם הישנה של חיי אמונה צדק ודרור.

למען הרבבות שסחו על קדוש שמך, אשר קברוניהם לא נודעו ואפרם
לא נקבץ, חן חסדך על המנהיגים הנאודים שיביאו פדות לבני אדם ולבני
ישראל ויקרבו מלכותך בארץ. ברוך אתה ה' שומע תפלה. אמן.

SUGGESTED PRAYER FOR THE SABBATH OF JANUARY 26-27

O God, Thou great governor of all the world and guardian of nations, we invoke Thy blessing upon the President of the United States and pray Thee that his re-inauguration into office may be the harbinger of a wise and fruitful administration and mark the beginning of an era of enduring peace. Be Thou with him as he embarks upon his sacred mission to confer with the other leaders of the great liberating nations, to aid in the achievement of speedy victory and in the planning and establishment of a world order of justice and righteousness. Grant him fortitude and vigor, sustain him in health, guard him from danger and protect him in hardship in his going forth and in his coming back, and glorify his endeavors with noble accomplishments.

O Champion of the oppressed, bestow Thy spirit upon the councils of the great leaders of the United Nations. Strengthen within them the resolves to vanquish tyranny and eradicate oppression, to heal the wounds of mankind, to right the wrongs wrought on the enslaved peoples and to rebuild human society on the four-fold cornerstones of freedom everywhere on earth.

O Heavenly Father, we pray Thee to grant vision and courage to the President of our great republic that he may espouse the cause of the oppressed of all nations and remember the oft-forgotten people of Israel. Awaken Thou the hearts of the spokesmen of freedom to the plight of the most grievously stricken victims of the foe of humanity. Behold, they are banished from their homes, driven without food, shelter or hope to the hiding places of the earth, tortured and massacred. May the blood of the dead, the lament of the bereaved and the wail of the doomed stir the souls of the great leaders to open every avenue of rescue to the captive children of Israel. May they realize that the world will know no peace until all who are enslaved are set free, until all who are homeless are given refuge and until all who are downtrodden are restored to human dignity, and iniquity has vanished from the face of the earth.

(more)

O Lord God, strengthen the sense of justice in the hearts of those who are charged with the fashioning of a new world, that they may reaffirm the pledge of the restoration of Zion made to the people of Israel by the nations of the world, that they may see and espouse our right to establish a Jewish Commonwealth in a free and undivided land of Israel, whither our uprooted and homeless brethren may go unhindered and unafraid, to rebuild their lives and to restore their ancient heritage of faith, freedom and righteousness.

In the name of the multitudes who have died for the sanctification of Thy Name, whose graves are not marked and whose ashes not gathered, we implore Thy grace upon the great spokesmen of freedom. Gird them with fortitude and steadfastness to achieve the deliverance of humanity and Israel and to enhance the establishment of Thy kingdom on earth. Praised art Thou, O God, Who hearest our prayers. Amen.



American Zionist Emergency Council

342 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.
Murray Hill 2-1160

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, Women's Zionist Organization of America
Mizrachi Organization of America
Poale Zion-Zeire Zion of America
Zionist Organization of America

September 11, 1944

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
930 Humboldt Street
Denver, Colo.

Dear Rabbi Friedman:

There can be little doubt that the future of the Jewish National Home will be decided during the year 5705. As United Nations forces move forward to final victory over the enemy, a definitive pronouncement on Palestine becomes more imminent. It is, therefore, extremely important that the Jews of America, a vast majority of whom are on record in favor of the Zionist program, join in a final, all-out drive to bring about the implementation of that program.

During the past year the American Zionist Emergency Council has been mobilizing public opinion behind the drive to repeal the White Paper policy and to bring about the establishment of a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine. The Council's efforts have covered a variety of fields and have produced many gratifying results. We feel that this activity should be reviewed now, so that, confident in the knowledge that American Zionist political work is being conducted with a high degree of effectiveness, the American Jewish community will give its fullest support to the Council's program during the crucial months which lie ahead.

We are, therefore, taking the liberty of sending you the enclosed brief survey of the Council's political work, and hope that you will see fit to relay this information to the members of your congregation during the High Holidays.

With heartfelt wishes for a New Year that will bring with it peace for the world and redemption for the Jewish people, I am

Sincerely yours,

Harry L. Shapiro
Harry L. Shapiro
Director

HLS:BP
Enc.

THE AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL - A YEAR OF ACTIVITY

The American Zionist Emergency Council came into being a year ago, during the darkest period of recent Zionist history. At a time when certain official quarters went so far as to attempt a ban on open discussion of the Palestine question, the major Zionist bodies in the United States -- the Zionist Organization of America, Hadassah, Mizrachi and Poale Zion -- joined in re-organizing the American Emergency Committee for Zionist Affairs and establishing the Council as the political and public relations arm of the entire American Zionist movement. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Stephen S. Wise were named co-chairmen of the Council and immediately set out to mobilize public opinion behind Zionist aspirations through a broad public relations program.

A number of special departments, directed by experts in their respective fields, were established. These included departments dealing with Community Contacts, Information (Press and Radio), Publications, Speakers, Research, Intellectual Mobilization, Christian Opinion, American Jewish Religious Forces, Special Events, Labor Relations, etc. A permanent bureau was set up in Washington and almost immediately official circles began to recognize that a dynamic force was on the scene -- a responsible organization voicing the sentiments of an overwhelming majority of American Jewry.

More than 300 local emergency committees were formed throughout the country, and in December, 1943, the first conference of local committee chairmen was held in Cleveland, where detailed plans to enlist American public opinion in support of the Council's work were formulated. The heads of these local groups returned to their cities, inspired to carry out the most effective program of education in American Zionist history. Hundreds of editorials in papers ranging from country journals to metropolitan dailies, scores of resolutions, rallies, radio addresses and articles by Jewish and non-Jewish leaders resulted from the educational activities carried on in the local communities.

Another highly successful conference of local committee chairmen took place on May 23rd and 24th in Washington.

On the political front, the most important step was the introduction of the Palestine resolutions in both Houses of Congress. Of course this involved risks, but the Council was convinced that the risk of inaction was even greater.

During the hearings before the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Zionist leaders presented our case in a brilliant manner, and the local committees did magnificent work. From every state in the Union, thousands of letters, post-cards and telegrams were sent to the members of Congress. Seldom had Washington seen such amazing public interest in a piece of legislation.

While action was deferred at the request of the military, it should be made clear that these measures are not dead. When the proper moment arrives, the Council will press for action on the Palestine resolutions.

As a result of the widespread public agitation and education brought about by the Palestine resolutions, the "conspiracy of silence" on the Palestine question was broken, and on March 9th President Roosevelt authorized Dr. Wise and Dr. Silver to say that "the American Government has never given its approval to the White Paper of 1939...and that when future decisions are reached, full justice will be done to those who seek a Jewish National Home."

The Council's educational activity in Washington also helped to bring about the inclusion in the platforms of both major political parties of excellent Palestine planks. On June 27, 1944, the Republican National Convention declared:

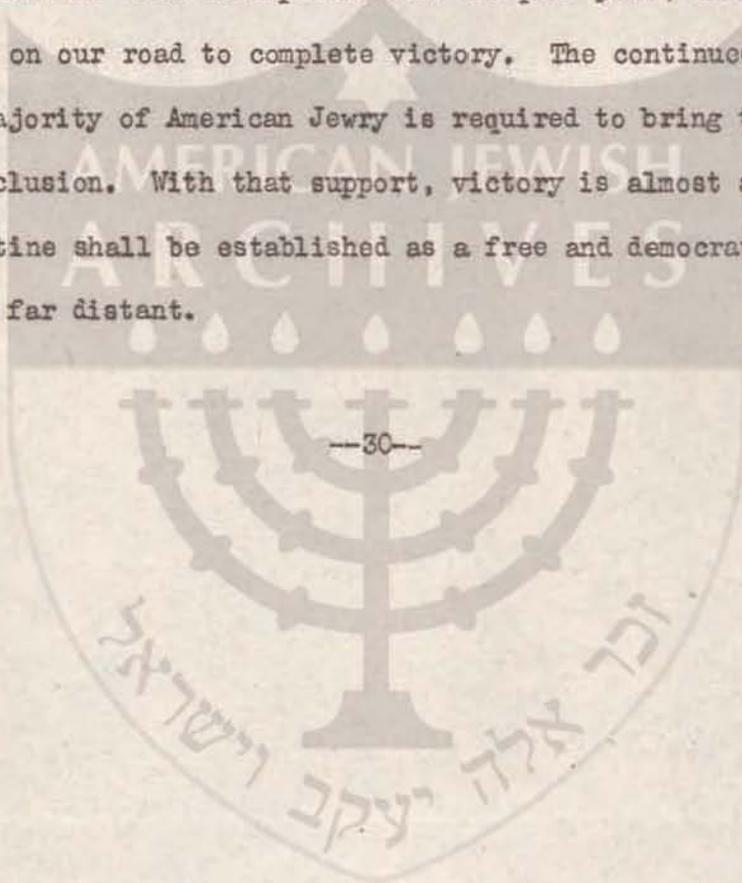
"In order to give refuge to millions of distressed Jewish men, women and children driven from their homes by tyranny, we call for the opening of Palestine to their unrestricted immigration and land ownership, so that in accordance with the full intent and purpose of the Balfour Declaration of 1917 and the Resolution of a Republican Congress in 1922, Palestine may be constituted as a free and democratic Commonwealth..."

This pronouncement was followed three weeks later, on July 20th, by the Democratic National Convention's declaration, as follows:

"We favor the opening of Palestine to unrestricted immigration and colonization, and such a policy as to result in the establishment there of a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth."

With both major political parties giving their unqualified endorsement to the Jewish people's efforts to rebuild their national life in Palestine, Zionism has become a declared objective in the postwar program of the United States.

While much has been accomplished in the past year, there are many obstacles to be overcome on our road to complete victory. The continued support of an overwhelming majority of American Jewry is required to bring this drive to a successful conclusion. With that support, victory is almost assured, and the day when Palestine shall be established as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth not too far distant.



20A



NATIONAL LABOR COMMITTEE FOR PALESTINE

AFFILIATED WITH HISTADRUT HA'OV DIM IN ERETZ ISRAEL

גטווערקשאפטן קאמפייין פאר דער הסתדרות אין ארץ ישראל

National Headquarters

275 Seventh Avenue • New York, N. Y.

WAtkins 9-5288

*Beginning October 10th, 1943 — Our Office Will Be Located at
45 EAST 17th STREET, NEW YORK 3, N. Y.*

ALgonquin 4-9570

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ABRAHAM MILLER
Associate Treasurer

ISAAC HAMLIN
National Secretary

HARRY ARIAL
Associate Secretary

February 10, 1944

Rabbi Herbert Friedman
Denver, Colo.

Dear Rabbi Friedman:-

When I met you at the J.I.R. library you were so overjoyed with your class mates that I didn't want to intrude and talk business with you. It happens that in addition to studying at the J.I.R. I am also working with the National Labor Committee for Palestine. I wanted to discuss with you the matter of the allocation of the Allied Jewish Council of Denver for the Histadrut in Palestine.

We have requested an allocation of \$2000 in view of the needs and accomplishment of the Histadrut with which you are undoubtedly fully familiar. Rabbi Samuel Wohl of Cincinnati will be in Denver on March 7th to discuss this matter with the officers of the Council. I have no doubt that you will want to meet Rabbi Wohl. If you are in a position to assist him in any way both he and I will appreciate it greatly. From our brief conversation, I have a feeling that you will be very helpful. Many thanks.

Sincerely yours,

SAADIA GELB,
Assistant National Secretary

DENVER DISTRICT

Zionist Organization of America

February 18, 1944

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266 Metropolitan Bldg.
Denver 2, Colo.

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Irving Zveitel

Dear Z.O.A. Member:

You, your family and friends are cordially invited to attend an Open Meeting of the Denver District Zionist Organization to be held at Temple Emanuel on Wednesday evening, February 23, at 8:00 o'clock.

"They Live Again," a moving picture film on contemporary Palestine, with Paul Muni as narrator, will be shown.

The guest speaker will be Dr. Walter E. Roloff, Professor of History and Economics at the Colorado School of Mines, who will discuss "Palestine and the Pattern of Anti-Semitism." Dr. Roloff is a leader of the Colorado Christian Council for Palestine and the Citizens for Victory. He has been most cooperative in the work of the Anti-Defamation League and has a deep understanding of the important Jewish problems now confronting our community.

You are assured of an interesting program and we look forward to the pleasure of having you and your friends with us on Wednesday evening.

Sincerely,

Ben M. Blumberg

Corresponding Secretary

November 9, 1973

Zionist Organization of America
1720 Sixteenth, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

Attn:--Mr. I. Cooperman

Dear Mr. Cooperman:

I have your letter of November 5th and wish to thank you for the copies of the pamphlets which are undoubtedly already in the mail.

I note that you cannot supply "A Call to the Educated Jew" gratis in bulk quantity. On the list of available pamphlets the bulk price for "A Call to the Educated Jew" is six cents. Therefore, please send us one hundred copies and bill as follows:

Men's Club,
Temple Emanuel,
16th & Pearl,
Denver 5, Colorado.

We are holding this forum on Friday evening, November 26, therefore, it is imperative that we receive all the material by that time.

Very truly yours,

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

HAF:ss

October 27, 1943

Zionist Organization of America,
111 - 5th Avenue,
New York City, New York.

Gentlemen:

We have in our Temple a series of Friday night forums, the next of which is to be devoted to the subject of Zionism.

There is, of course, a Zionist district here in Denver, and some of our people are members. But, by and large our people are unfamiliar with the history, the objectives, and the true meaning of the Zionist movement. We are, therefore, sponsoring this forum as an educational device.

In the course of previous forums on other subjects, we have always distributed pamphlet material to underscore the theme of the evening. We would like to continue the same practice with this forum on Zionism, and you can contribute substantially to its success by making available, to us, one hundred (100) copies each of the following three pamphlets:

"The Zionist Movement, Its Inspirations, Aims and Accomplishments", published in 1939:

"A Call to the Educated Jew" by Louis D. Brandeis issued by the Department of Youth & Education of the ZOA:

"Reformed Judaism & Zionism", by Bernard G. Richards, reprinted from "The New Palestine", September 11, 1942.

Thanking you in advance and looking forward to receiving these pamphlets as soon as possible, I remain

Very truly yours,

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

BAF:ss

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CONFIDENTIAL BULLETIN

If there is information contained herein on which you wish fuller details, write to the Emergency Council.

Issued for private, confidential use by AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL, 41 East 42nd Street, New York 17, N. Y.

Vol. 1. No. 3

December 22, 1943

DR. WEIZMANN SEES THE PRIME MINISTER: Censorship difficulties make full reports of Dr. Weizmann's recent negotiations in London impossible. It is, however, known that he had several encouraging discussions with Field Marshal Smuts who had been acting as head of the War Cabinet in Mr. Churchill's absence. Moreover, prior to the Prime Minister's departure for the Middle East, Dr. Weizmann had a long and friendly conversation with him. In the fall of 1940, when Dr. Weizmann had his first interview with Mr. Churchill after the latter's appointment as Prime Minister, Mr. Churchill approved a memorandum presented by Dr. Weizmann on the subject of the Jewish Army. Outside pressure and Mr. Churchill's concentration on major strategic problems were later responsible for the rejection by the Government of the proposed Jewish Army which was to taper off into Jewish units and the Jewish battalions of the Palestine Regiment. Such contacts as the Zionist leadership has had with the Prime Minister since 1940 have demonstrated that there has been no essential change in the sympathetic attitude towards Zionism he manifested in his anti-White Paper speech of May, 1939, and on so many previous occasions. Dr. Weizmann's recent interview with Mr. Churchill has confirmed our previous impression that he is still a firm believer in the cause of the Jewish National Home. He is determined to take some positive action in its behalf but is concerned with choosing what seems to him an appropriate time.

MORE ON THE ARMS FRONT: Though the news of Dr. Weizmann's conversation with Mr. Churchill has naturally proved gratifying to Zionist circles, all indications make it clear that an intense struggle is being waged against us and that there is a concentrated effort to create a situation adverse to us before any intervention on our behalf is judged advisable or timely. The Palestine Administration, though it released the thirty-four arrested settlers of Ramat Hakovesh, continues its attempts to break up the Jewish Self-Defense. In searching the village of Hulda some weeks ago, it again chose a settlement which by the very nature of its exposed situation and its tragic history during periods of unrest, could hardly be expected not to hoard arms against possible future attacks. There was a particularly sinister note in the suggestion by the President of the Court, the same officer who had presided over the Arms Trial of the summer, that if the two villagers who had pleaded guilty (inasmuch as the defense of the village is their special responsibility) would reveal where they had obtained their small "illegal" arms cache, their sentences would be "considered in another light" -- an obvious bid to them to name the Hagana as their source of munitions. Hulda, it will be recalled, was burnt down in the riots of 1929 and lost seventeen of its settlers in the 1936-1939 disturbances mainly as a result of German-made land mines strewn over the unpaved roads surrounding the village. In the case of Hulda, as of Ramat Hakovesh, the pretext for the police raid was the search for Polish deserters; none was found in either village. Though the village's precarious situation was made clear to the court by the settlers and attested to by a police inspector, the two settlers who had pleaded guilty were sentenced to six and five years imprisonment each, after declining to reveal how they came into possession of the weapons. Three other settlers were given sentences of two years each.

A SENATOR REFUTES THE MACMICHAEL FORMULA: The arms searches are of course intended to be conclusive evidence in support of the Palestine Administration's self-serving formula that Jewish armed aggression will lead inevitably to an explosion in the Middle East, and that Zionism is a menace to the United Nations' war effort throughout the Middle East. Significant refutation of this theory has been furnished by one of the five United States Senators who toured the war fronts. This gentleman who had been given the background of the Zionist situation before his departure, visited the Arab countries of North Africa and also Palestine. Throughout his trip he discussed the Palestine question with British and Arab statesmen. Wherever he went the British representatives were at pains to impress him with the tension in Palestine and the danger of an explosion throughout the Arab world because of the Zionist issue. On the other hand, none of the many Moslem leaders to whom the senator spoke in Egypt and North Africa raised the Palestine question. The Senator's own conclusion is that it should not be impossible to bring about a satisfactory solution of the Palestine problem if the Arabs are properly dealt with in the other Arab countries.

THE BASIS OF OUR WORK: The conference of leaders of local emergency committees held in Cleveland on December 11 and 12 made clear the basic political principle underlying the work of both the national Zionist Emergency Council and the local emergency committees. The political situation with regard to Palestine seems to be developing with great rapidity, and it is in fact believed that the Palestine problem was discussed at the Cairo Conference. At a time when ultimate decisions on the political future of Palestine may well be under consideration, we for our part cannot limit ourselves to a mere demand for the removal of the restrictive White Paper but must state our own case positively and comprehensively. Hence all our work must be predicated on the Palestine Resolution of the American Jewish Conference which demanded the withdrawal in its entirety of the White Paper and control by the Jewish Agency of immigration to, and agricultural and industrial development in, Palestine -- these measures constituting "the essential pre-requisites for the attainment of a Jewish majority and for the re-creation of the Jewish Commonwealth."

THE UNWANTED AMBULANCES: An interesting little sidelight on the Palestine Administration is furnished by Congressman Celler who reports that the ten ambulances purchased by the Order Sons of Zion last year for the Red Mogen David (the equivalent in Jewish Palestine of the Red Cross), were kept in this country for six months for lack of import licenses from the Palestine Administration. All necessary papers had been secured at this end - an export license from the Office of Economic Warfare, clearance from the Lend-Lease Administration, etc. It was only after great effort by the Order Sons of Zion and personal representations by Congressman Celler to a prominent American official attached to the Middle East Supply Center that the Palestine Administration granted the necessary import license.

MR. LONG AND THE STRUMA: In the course of Mr. Breckenridge Long's appearance before the Foreign Affairs Committee, he was asked if he had any knowledge of the fatal accident to the Struma in 1941. The congressman who asked the question stated that he was under the impression that the ultimate cause of the disaster was the refusal of the Palestine Administration to give immigration certificates for Palestine to the Rumanian Jewish refugees crowded on the boat. Mr. Long's reply was: "There was a ship in 1941 which approached Istanbul. The boat was rerouted back and something happened in the Black Sea." Why it was turned back, he said, he did not remember in detail. He could look up the details and advise Congressman Mundt who had asked the question. Mr. Long's general conclusion was that nothing could have prevented the boat from exploding. "It was a terrible thing to happen, but it was one of those things that do happen."

DR. SILVER TO MR. LONG: In order to furnish Mr. Long with the details he had volunteered to look up for Mr. Mundt's information, Dr. Silver, as chairman of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Committee, wrote to Mr. Long, enclosing a copy of the memorandum on the Struma submitted to the Acting Secretary of State last March. That memorandum had made it clear that had the Palestine Administration given the Struma passengers immigration certificates which were in fact available under the quota, the Turkish Government would have been willing to permit the refugees to leave their unseaworthy boat and remain temporarily on Turkish soil. Every attempt to secure immigration permits from the Palestine Administration failed despite the repeated warnings of the Jewish Agency that rejection of these appeals meant death by drowning for the passengers: hence on Feb. 24, 1942 the Struma was ordered out of port by the Turkish authorities and went to pieces on reaching the open sea. Only one out of 769 on board survived. Dr. Silver's letter ends: "The recollection remains bitter that owing to the refusal of the Palestine Administration in the face of urgent humanitarian pleas from many quarters, to admit these refugees to Palestine, the boat with its human cargo was ordered back to Rumania. It was in the course of this return trip that the explosion took place, as a result of which all aboard, with one exception, were drowned. One may be permitted the reflection that the explosion came perhaps as a merciful release for people who had already suffered greatly and who were now faced with return to the death chambers and concentration camps of the Nazis."

THE ARGUMENT THAT MUST BE ANSWERED: Increased contact with government personnel during the last few months has made it clear to those actively involved in the work of the Emergency Council, that a principal line of attack of those opposed to the Jewish National Home is to question its absorptive capacity. That so small a land can solve so large a refugee problem is deemed impossible. The Emergency Council now has in preparation suitable popular material on the economic potentialities of Palestine. Special mention must be made here of a book to be published by Harper's in March: "Palestine, Land of Promise" by Dr. Walter C. Lowdermilk, Assistant Chief of the U. S. Soil Conservation Bureau. This is a detailed and convincing analysis of the great possibilities in Palestine for the absorption of millions of new immigrants.

MISS STARK SEES THE BEST PEOPLE: The Palestine Administration's campaign for the preservation and implementation of the White Paper policy is being carried on in devious ways in this country. The propaganda in the New York Times is only one weapon. For the last few months Miss Freya Stark, the enthusiastically pro-Arab British archaeologist and author, has been in the United States: her mission is to make propaganda for the Arab cause, to explain why the White Paper should be carried out, and to sound out "important" -- ergo, generally anti-Zionist - American Jews on their attitude to Palestine. She is doing little public lecturing but devoting herself to "seeing people" and expounding to them as an "expert" her favorite theory that all of Arabia - from the lowliest fellah to the highest effendi - is passionately and primarily concerned with the sad lot of the Arabs of Palestine whom the Jews are allegedly depriving of land and livelihood. While visiting and "observing" Palestine before her trip to the United States, Miss Stark did not find time to see any Jewish village, institution, or undertaking and could not manage even to meet with representatives of the Jewish Agency.

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CONFIDENTIAL BULLETIN

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Issued for private, confidential use by AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL, 41 East 42nd Street, New York 17, N. Y.

Vol. I. No. 1

November 1, 1943

First Issue: This bulletin is issued by the American Zionist Emergency Council to keep friends informed of the background of events affecting Palestine and to indicate the policies which animate our work. The ability to present the case for Jewish Palestine is dependent upon a knowledge of the facts, both those which are published and those which cannot yet be made generally available. The select group to whom this bulletin is distributed may have questions as situations develop. Readers are invited to make special inquiries and the answers will be made available through this bulletin.

CONGRESS: The first objective of the reorganized Emergency Council is to mobilize the Jews of the United States and Christian sympathizers to prevail upon our Government to help in eliminating the British White Paper on Palestine, which intends to halt all Jewish immigration into Palestine by April, 1944. Under the White Paper, Jews will be excluded from Palestine on the sole ground of their religious belief. It is inconceivable that any person living in a free democracy can subscribe to that anti-Jewish and anti-democratic philosophy. Fourteen committees have been set up by the Emergency Council through which to present the story to the various elements of American public opinion. The Community Contacts Committee is the channel through which every Jewish community in the United States will be organized for the establishment of local emergency committees to represent a cross-section of the community. In the next five months every member of the House of Representatives and of the United States Senate is to be seen by local constituents. Congressmen are to be visited when they return to their home districts and by delegations going to Washington. This is to be done, without fanfare, as a basic educational job, so that Congressmen may understand the Jewish problem in order to act informedly and decisively.

GOVERNMENT RESISTS RECRUITING: The recent gun-running trial in Palestine was staged by the Palestine Government as part of an extensive effort to discredit the Jewish Agency and the Jewish community of Palestine in order to help fasten the White Paper like a lid on a coffin. A confidential letter has just reached New York from Jerusalem giving the facts which a tight military and civilian censorship was not permitted to reveal. It throws new light on the attitude of the Palestine Government toward the efforts of the Jewish Agency to recruit soldiers for the fighting forces.

"The hostile attitude of the Government to Jewish recruiting has been evident since the early stages of the war," says this high official of the Jewish Agency. "The Government, which clings with all force to the White Paper policy, is afraid that if the Jews enlist in large numbers and take an honorable share in the fighting, they will thereby accumulate political credit which will

enable them after the war to secure a solution of the Palestine problem very different from that embodied in the White Paper. It follows that if military necessity renders it unavoidable to recruit Jews, every effort must be made to cover up that fact in the eyes of the world as much as possible.

"The Government of Palestine goes further than this. For a number of months now the Government has been conducting a skillfully planned whispering campaign against Jewish recruiting all over the Middle East. Reports of it are reaching us from military headquarters in Cairo, from foreign journalists who visit Palestine and are being given the 'dope' by the government and from various other quarters. All these circles are told that the purpose of the Jewish recruiting campaign is not to assist the military war effort but to train the Jewish youth of Palestine for an eventual armed conflict with the Government and the military conquest of the country. Everything that the Jewish Agency proposes or demands in connection with Jewish recruiting is interpreted in the light of this insinuation. If the Jewish agency demands all-Jewish units, if it asks that Jewish recruits should be given an effective training for combat service, if it urges that the various Jewish units should be formed into an effective fighting force, if it opposes the transfer of the Jewish infantry battalions to other parts of the Middle East for non-combatant duties (although everybody knows that the Jewish Agency is most anxious that they should be so transferred for active service)--each and sundry of these demands is interpreted as flowing from the well-hatched scheme of the Jewish Agency to prepare 'the Jewish revolt.'"

BETE NOIRE: The same confidential source describes the campaign of the Government to ensure the "success" of the gun-running trials. From the moment American journalists were especially brought over to Jerusalem from Cairo by Government invitation "they were taken in hand and given clearly to understand that the real culprits in the case were not the two British soldiers accused of selling arms, or the two Jewish fellows accused of buying them, but the leaders of the Jewish Agency. The police were convinced that at long last they had secured evidence to prove to the world at large the wicked designs of the Jewish Agency and the active participation of its leaders in the stealing of arms from the British Army, in setting up a Jewish subterranean organization within the British Army and, in general, preparing the 'Jewish revolt.' Nothing was too low to achieve that purpose. The evidence of two self-admitted criminals and of a prostitute was used in order to throw mud at the Jewish Agency in general and in particular at its Chairman (David ben Gurion) who has become a veritable bete noire to the Government because he is regarded as the soul of Jewish resistance to the White Paper. No one who attended the trial could fail to be impressed by the spirit of hatred to the Jews and of the Jewish public bodies evident from the utterances of the military officers conducting the trial."

IEN SAUD'S SONS: The visit to the United States of two sons of King Ibn Saud of Arabia was preceded by a request to the Zionist Emergency Council by Government officials that no critical statements should be made during their stay in the country. It was said that the two princes are guests of President Roosevelt and it would be inappropriate to have their visit marred by political attacks. Zionist leaders, wishing to cooperate with the State Department, acquiesced on condition that the princes be advised at the same time to take no stand on Jewish Palestine. As a result, Jewish newspapermen were informed of this understanding in order to guide their comments. A number of newspapermen of the

general press wanted to interview Prince Feisal, Foreign Minister of Saudi Arabia, when he and his brother visited several American cities. The Prince's escorts remarked that the Zionists had requested that the Prince give no interviews since they did not wish any adverse comments made on Zionism. This distortion of the facts served to turn the annoyance of these American journalists against the Zionist movement. A cooperative act on the part of the Emergency Council reacted against it.

SECRET SESSION: Senator Brewster, one of the five globe-girdling Senators, mentioned Palestine during his report to the secret session of the Senate. Unfortunately, the Senator, who has expressed his sympathy with Jewish Palestine on several occasions, had no opportunity to visit Palestine. He did stop at Cairo, however. He reported that British sources had talked to him at length about "tension" between Jews and Arabs in Palestine. These sources suggested to the Senator that Americans be told that Palestine is "a British problem" and that the United States "should lay off." Senator Mead flew to Palestine for interviews with a number of Jewish leaders. He returned with the feeling that Arab-Jewish relations can be satisfactorily resolved. He was impressed with the extent of Jewish achievements in Palestine.

THE WASHINGTON SCENE: The Emergency Council has broadened the base of its approach in Washington. All of us are concerned in maintaining the best relations between America and England. It is obvious, however, that this desire on our part cannot be utilized as a cover under which our position will be impaired. It is clear that unless assurances are forthcoming, from the Mandatory Government, in definite form, as to Jewish rights in Palestine, it is our duty and responsibility to give public expression to what we demand and what we expect in a world based upon justice and international law, and to appeal to all our friends to support us in our endeavors. Dr. Silver is now actively engaged in this political work, both in New York and in Washington. He has had interesting conversations with Acting Secretary of State Edward Stettinius, Judge Samuel Rosenman, Adviser to the President, Herbert H. Lehman, Congressman Sol Bloom, Congressman Emanuel Celler, Lawrence Steinhardt, American Ambassador to Turkey and others. Herman Shulman has met with Senator Robert F. Wagner and Senator Tom Connally and is engaged in organizing a small executive committee of the American Palestine Committee for the purpose of creating an informed group, familiar with the problems of Palestine, who will take an active part in the propaganda against the White Paper. . . . Dr. Israel Goldstein, Mrs. Rose Halprin, and Chaym Greenberg made representations to the British Embassy in protest against the manner in which the Palestine gun-running trials were conducted.

DANGER OF "BLOODSHED": The fact that the Persian Command (in which Palestine is included) contains a very large number of American troops is being used by the Palestine Government in an anti-Zionist campaign directed at the United States. A deliberate, continuous plan is under way to create the impression that Palestine (and because of Palestine the whole Middle East) stands on the verge of rioting and civil war due to Jewish violence in the midst of a world war. To achieve this purpose, our correspondent at Cairo reports, the British Intelligence has been sending out voluminous reports to sustain the objective. The purpose is to force the United States to agree to the White Paper or, failing that, at least to bring our country to a more "anti-Zionist" point of view.

It has not been found possible to influence the United States with political arguments. The effort is, therefore, being made to put the issue on military grounds.

The recent attempt to force the issuance of a joint Anglo-American statement on the problem of Palestine was part of this picture. Certain officials alleged that there was imminent danger of bloodshed in the Middle East. This would have an effect on American forces stationed in that area. It is reliably learned that the American War Department gave its own view that it was not convinced of the existence of such dangers. No joint statement was, therefore, issued. But the Foreign Office is still applying great pressure on the United States, insisting that a statement of policy or American support of the White Paper is necessary to "quiet" the Arabs.

PALESTINE VISITOR: We anticipate the presence in the United States shortly of Dr. Bernard Joseph, legal adviser of the Jewish Agency for Palestine. Dr. Joseph is one of the best informed men on political and economic conditions in the Homeland. He will spend a substantial part of his time in Washington. He may find it possible to visit four or five major communities for large, public meetings, but will not be able to undertake an extensive speaking tour. Arrangements are being made accordingly.



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Issued for private, confidential use by AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL, 41 East 42nd Street, New York 17, N. Y.

Vol. 1. No. 2

November 26, 1943

WHITE PAPER POLICY NOT CHANGED: Nobody should be misled into thinking that any change has taken place with regard to the White Paper policy. An effort was made to blunt the edge of Jewish and non-Jewish attacks on the White Paper through the announcement in the House of Commons on November 9th that 31,078 certificates, representing the unused balance of the 75,000 allotted in the White Paper for the five year period ending March 31, 1944, would be honored beyond that date. This "gesture" means nothing whatever so far as policy is concerned. The Zionist Emergency Council issued a statement, after receipt of this news, pointing out that the ban on future immigration has in no sense been lifted and that the statement of the Colonial Secretary, and the replies given by him to questions, make it clear that the policy of the White Paper remains essentially unchanged and the fight for its abrogation must continue.

GOVERNMENT INVADES JEWISH COLONY: The lengths to which the Palestine Administration will go to ensure the continuance of the White Paper policy have led to an incident even more provocative and tragic than the recent gun running trials. On November 16th, the British police, supported by Indian troops and Polish military police, raided the village of Ramat Hakovesh to search for illegal arms, for "a training camp for an illegal armed organization", and for alleged deserters from the Polish Army. All the men in the colony were herded into a barbed-wire enclosure. Thirty-five of them were arrested. One of the men, Samuel Wolinetz, was mortally wounded by shots fired by the police officer in command. Wolinetz was removed to a government hospital in an Arab city, despite the village physician's warning that it was dangerous to move him. The physician was later denied permission to see him in the hospital. Wolinetz died on November 21.

During a protest demonstration in Tel-Aviv on November 20, twenty-one civilians and eleven British policemen were wounded. Protest meetings have been held throughout Palestine demanding cessation of the Government's persecution of the Jewish Self Defense, release of the arrested villagers, and the lifting of the ban imposed on the Hebrew press since November 19th. "The Mufti's gangs", said David Ben-Gurion, "are organizing again and purchasing arms, not for self-defense but for the resumption of their attacks against us. "The few arms we possess are intended for our own defense and we shall guard them as the apple of our eye."

PROVOCATION: Ever since the danger of invasion was removed by the North African victories, the Palestine Administration has consistently attempted to provoke the Yishuv to an armed uprising, hoping to prove to the outside world that Palestine Jewry is a menace to security in the Middle East and to the Allied war effort. The theory in Administration circles seems to be

that the Middle East is in an explosive condition and that the Jews will apply the match to the fuse by starting a rebellion which will provoke a counter-rebellion on the part of the Arabs. As the Emergency Council pointed out in its statement of November 23rd: "This view can only be described as utterly fantastic. There will be a rising in Palestine only if the Government wishes it... The Administration of Palestine is to blame for the murder in Ramat Hakovesh and it alone is to blame for the disturbances in Tel-Aviv."

WHY ARMS ARE HOARDED: The Ramat Hakovesh incident cannot be properly understood unless it is recalled that this village was one of those most tragically affected by the riots of 1936-1939. Surrounded by Arab settlements, it was attacked incessantly by day and by night, its roads were mined and scores of its settlers were victims of the Mufti's terror. The Government is fully aware of the fact that it has in the past been unable to give the Jewish villages adequate protection and that Jewish arms have been used in the past, as they will be in the future, for self defense and not for aggression. The need for such arms is nowhere more marked than in exposed Ramat Hakovesh.

A letter which has reached us from an authoritative Jewish source in Palestine throws light upon the question of the smuggling and hoarding of arms in Palestine today. It reads in part: "It is true that throughout the war period, there has been a considerable traffic in military arms throughout the Middle East, not only Palestine but also in Transjordan, in Syria, Egypt, and Iraq. Large quantities of military arms have found their way into the hands of Arabs in Palestine and Transjordan. There is an abundance of cash among the Arabs and a desire to get rid of it, and rifles are always an attraction. At any given moment there is a fixed quotation for the cost of a rifle on the Arab market, rising or falling with the supply and demand. In the light of these circumstances, it is not surprising that for their own self defense, Jews, too, are storing away such arms as they can purchase from the quantities offered for sale."

DR. WEIZMANN MEETS GENERAL SMUTS. - We learn from a London correspondent that Dr. Weizmann has had a long conversation with Field Marshal Smuts of South Africa. General Smuts was a member of the War Cabinet of 1917 which was responsible for the issuing of the Balfour Declaration. He has been a warm friend of the Jewish National Home ever since. His prestige in England was never higher than it is today. It is encouraging to know that he is as keenly interested as ever in our cause and is ready to be helpful in the present situation.

AMERICA AND ARAB OIL: Little effort is being made to conceal the fact that the recent visit to this country of the Saudi-Arabian princes had something to do with the game of international oil. It is known that the reception for the princes at the Waldorf-Astoria on November 9th was arranged with the cooperation of the Standard Oil Company. A high official of the Interior Department was to be sent to Saudi-Arabia in connection with the oil concessions previously granted to an American firm. The negotiations have been proceeding with the aid of the State Department on behalf of the California Arabian Standard Oil Company, and definite decisions may be expected shortly. When the Arab princes were in Washington, the Washington newspapers gave a great deal of space to a discussion of America and oil in Arabia.

Thus, through a commercial by-path, a new and potentially significant factor has been introduced in the Middle Eastern political scene with important implications for the Palestine question.

UNREST IN LEBANON. - It is generally agreed that the stand taken by the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies in insisting upon immediate and complete independence from French authority was a move in the struggle carried on ever since the last war between British and French interests for dominance in the eastern Mediterranean. The proposal for an Arab Federation has been fostered throughout by the British with a view to bringing all the Arab countries as a single unit within their sphere of influence, including Syria and Lebanon. The New York Times correspondent in Beirut, A. C. Sedgwick, seems to be expressing the British attitude in his cable of November 18: "This is a small country, but the events leading up to the crisis and those that followed indicating what might be considered a final solution to what appeared to be a hopeless problem, sounded with mighty resonance. A vast sounding board was provided by the Arab world whose aspirations toward unity have the avowed encouragement of the British."

ARAB PROPAGANDA IN U. S. - Further indications of an Arab propaganda offensive in the United States on the Palestine issue are: 1) the appointment of Major Haddad as Military Attache to the Iraq Legation. We have learned from Palestine that Major Haddad's real function is to conduct propaganda against the Zionist cause in the United States. A feature article by him against Zionism appeared in the Sunday issue of the Herald Tribune several weeks ago. 2) The prospective opening of a Saudi-Arabian Legation in Washington hinted at by Prince Feisal while visiting here. 3) The invitation which, according to the press, has been extended to five representative Arab journalists in Egypt to visit the United States.

RUMORS OF PARTITION. - While the Palestine Administration adheres to the White Paper as the blueprint for post-war Palestine, high British officials in Cairo, aware that some other solution will have to be found, have been feeling out both Arab and Jewish political leaders on the subject of partition. There are persistent rumors to the effect that according to one proposed plan, Haifa, the Emek and Galilee would be included in the Arab sector, while the Jews would be left with the undeveloped southern half of Palestine, the arid Negev. Professor L. B. Namier of the political department of the London Office of the Jewish Agency, may be considered to have given a quasi-official Jewish answer to the partition rumors in a letter of November 16 to the Manchester Guardian. In view of the vast extent of the Jewish tragedy, and the scope of Jewish achievement in Palestine, Professor Namier writes, only one solution is possible - that Palestine become an independent Jewish state. Though in 1937 some Zionist leaders were ready to negotiate for a Jewish state on the basis of a partitioned Palestine, "The reasons for partition, "Professor Namier states, "no longer hold good."

American Zionist Emergency Council

41 EAST 42nd STREET
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.
Murray Hill 2-1160

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Joel Gross, Chairman
Rabbi Leon I. Feuer, Director

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, Women's Zionist Organization of America
Mizrachi Organization of America
Poale Zion-Zeire Zion of America
Zionist Organization of America

December 3, 1943

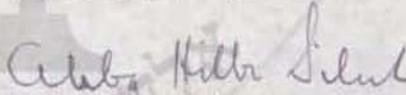
Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
930 Humboldt
Denver, Colo.

Dear Rabbi Friedman:

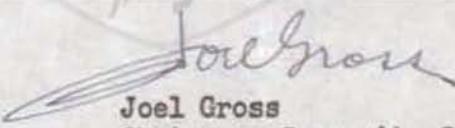
We are glad to learn that you have accepted membership on the Emergency Committee that has been formed in Denver. The immediate objective is the mobilization of American public opinion to the end that Great Britain may be persuaded to abrogate the White Paper, which would end Jewish immigration into Palestine.

The coming months will require the most devoted efforts by the best minds among our people. The knowledge that you are enlisted in this incalculably vital task is a source of great encouragement.

Cordially yours,


Abba Hillel Silver
Chairman, Executive Committee

S/J:BB


Joel Gross
Chairman, Community Contacts

החברה הציונית של ארצות הברית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

41 EAST 42ND STREET
NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

October 17, 1947

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
Congregation Emanuel
East Sixteenth Avenue At Pearl St.
Denver, 5, Colo.

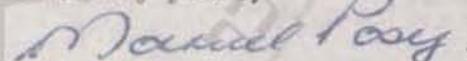
Dear Rabbi Friedman:

Thank you for your letter of October 14th. Charles Rosenbaum has already declined in a previous letter.

I have referred this matter back to Louis Gelt, president of our local district in Denver.

We are, however, deeply appreciative of your efforts in our behalf.

Sincerely yours,



Manuel Posy, Director
American Zionist Fund
(Z.O.A. Expansion Fund)

MF:fb

October 14, 1947

Mr. Manuel Posy, Director,
Zionist Organization of America,
41 East 42nd Street,
New York 17, New York.

Dear Mr. Posy:

I have your letter of
25 September, in regard to the
matter of Mr. Charles Rosenbaum.

I have spoken with Mr.
Rosenbaum about the possibility of
his assuming the National vice
chairmanship of your project, and
he informs me that in the same week
in which he received your letter,
he received five similar requests
for his service.

At the present time,
he says, it is simply impossible
for him to assume any additional
obligations. He may, however,
change his mind. At any rate, I
am sure he will write to you
directly.

Sincerely yours,

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

HAF:EW

The \$1,000,000 EXPANSION FUND CAMPAIGN

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

41 East 42nd Street

Murray Hill 2-3205

New York 17, N. Y.

DR. ABRA HILLEL SILVER
President

DR. SIDNEY MARKS
Executive Director

September 25, 1947

MANUEL POSY
Director

Rabbi Herbert Friedman
Temple Emanuel
Denver, Colorado.

Dear Rabbi Friedman:

Enclosed herewith please find copy of a letter sent to Mr. Charles Rosenbaum with whom, I believe, you have some influence. We are exceptionally anxious to enlist Mr. Rosenbaum as our National vice chairman of the project indicated, and I want to solicit your assistance in helping us to secure Mr. Rosenbaum for this task.

I am sure that you realize the responsibilities before us in the organization, and I know how anxious you are to be of assistance to us.

Sincerely yours,

Manuel Posy

Manuel Posy
Director

MP:km
encl.

September 25, 1947

Mr. Charles Rosenbaum
University Building
Denver, Colorado

My dear Mr. Rosenbaum:

Our Rocky Mountain Zionist leadership has very enthusiastically requested that the National organization recommend to Dr. Emanuel Neumann, our president, your appointment as a National vice chairman of our American Zionist Fund (I.O.F.E. Expansion Fund).

You may be well aware that the American Zionist Fund is the fiscal agency through which the vast public relations and political actions program of the Zionist Organization of America is being financed.

We are engaged at this time in a total program for the mobilization of support behind our leadership to assist them in their deliberations at the UN to secure for the Jewish people a lasting and just solution. Our program is performed through every media of newspaper publicity, publications, radio, film etc.

Dr. Neumann has indicated his willingness to appoint you to this responsibility if you will accept this responsibility. I would therefore appreciate your advice in this regard.

Sincerely yours,

Mendell M. Selig
National Chairman, American Zionist Fund
(I.O.F.E. Expansion Fund)

WMS:pic