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American Jewish Conference, 1943.

APPENDIX A

B'NAI B'RITH

January 6, 1943

Mr. Adolph Rosenberg, Chairman  
Union of American Hebrew Congregations  
Merchants Building  
Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Mr. Rosenberg:

As President of B'nai B'rith, I have the honor to invite you to a preliminary conference to be held at the William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, beginning Saturday evening, January 23, 1943, at 8 P.M. and continuing Sunday, January 24.

American Jewry, which will be required, in large measure, to assume the responsibility of representing the interests of our people at the Victory Peace Conference, must be ready to voice the judgment of American Jews along with that of the other Jewish communities of the free countries with respect to the post-war status of Jews and the upbuilding of a Jewish Palestine. Every thoughtful Jew interested in the present critical situation with which we are confronted, must be profoundly concerned with the distressing conflicts which threaten to impede concerted action. The purpose of the conference is to bring together the representatives of major national Jewish membership organizations, in order that they may consider what steps should be taken to bring about some agreement on the part of the American Jewish community.

Your organization is invited to designate one or more representatives, not exceeding three, to attend this conference. If you will advise the office of B'nai B'rith, 1003 K Street, N.W., Washington, D. C., the names and addresses of your representatives, we shall make all necessary arrangements for hotel accommodations.

Will you be good enough to advise that office promptly of your acceptance of this invitation.

Sincerely yours,

HENRY MONSKY



APPENDIX B

LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS INVITED TO PITTSBURGH  
CONFERENCE HELD JANUARY 23 and 24  
WILLIAM PENN HOTEL

Agudas Israel of America, Inc.  
American Jewish Committee  
American Jewish Congress  
American Jewish Congress - Women's Division  
B'nai B'rith  
Brith Sholom  
Independent Order Brith Sholom  
Central Conference of American Rabbis  
Free Sons of Israel  
Hadassah  
Jewish Labor Committee  
Jewish National Workers' Alliance  
Jewish War Veterans  
Jewish War Veterans Auxiliary  
League for Labor Palestine  
Mizrachi Organization of America  
Mizrachi Women's Organization of America  
National Council of Jewish Women  
National Federation of Temple Brotherhoods  
National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods  
Order Sons of Zion  
Pioneer Women's Organization  
Progressive Order of the West  
Rabbinical Assembly of America  
Union of American Hebrew Congregations  
Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America  
Union of Orthodox Rabbis  
United Synagogue of America  
United Synagogue of America - Women's League  
United Zionist Socialist Labor Party Poale-Zion  
Women's Supreme Council - B'nai B'rith  
Workmen's Circle  
Zionist Organization of America  
Independent Order Brith Abraham  
United Roumanian Jews of America

Thirty-two of the thirty-five Organizations named above  
attended. Those not in attendance were:

American Jewish Committee  
Jewish Labor Committee  
Workmen's Circle



## APPENDIX C

### SUMMARY

CONFERENCE OF JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS HELD AT  
WILLIAM PENN HOTEL, PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA  
January 23 and 24, 1943

### INTRODUCTION

With the avowed purpose of producing a common program of action concerning the status of Jews in the post-war world and the implementation of the rights of the Jewish people with respect to Palestine, representatives of thirty-two national Jewish membership organizations met in Pittsburgh on January 23 and 24 in response to the invitation of Henry Monsky, President of B'nai B'rith.

The conference was distinguished by lively discussion through which ran a deep note of understanding of the tragedy which has overtaken the Jewish people, and of the responsibility which rests upon the Jews of America through such united action as can be agreed upon.

The proposals emanating from the conference and attached hereto represent the unanimous will of the delegates present, subject to the right of any organization to participate in the activities resulting from the conference or to withdraw from participation if it so chooses without regard to the position taken by its representatives.

The unanimous vote in favor of the proposals, the deep sense of responsibility that the delegates felt, the fervent, spiritual tone that pervaded the sessions, augur well for a united expression by the American Jewish community of its point of view.

The list of the organizations and delegates present at the conference is attached.

### ORGANIZATION OF THE CONFERENCE

In opening the sessions; Henry Monsky, who acted as Chairman, pointed out that thirty-two of the thirty-five national Jewish membership organizations invited, had sent representatives. He stated as the purpose of the conference:

"...to take such preliminary steps, as will result in a course of action and procedure, calculated to accomplish the single objective, devoutly to be desired, of some basis of agreement between the



diverse and conflicting groups that constitute the American Jewish community. American Jews, in collaboration with other Jewish communities of the free countries, will be required to assume a greater measure of responsibility than at any previous time in the long dark history of the Jewish people, for the preservation of the remnant of Israel in the war devastated lands and for the establishment of an acceptable post-war status of Jews, after the United Nations shall have purged the world of the evil forces that have so sorely threatened the values - yes - the very existence, of our whole civilization."

Mr. Monsky drew an analogy between the measures which were taken to obtain cooperation of all Jewish groups twenty-five years ago when the Jews of America were called upon to assume responsibility with respect to the defense of Jewish rights and the support of the program for the rebuilding of Palestine. He indicated how history repeats itself - that then there was also divisiveness of opinion and various organizations made several attempts to compose the disputes. These efforts culminated in a conference of Jewish national organizations calling for what was known at that time as an American Jewish Congress in which Louis Marshall took a leading role.

The Chairman submitted several procedural recommendations which were adopted to assure fullest adherence to the democratic process: that a Committee on Guidance be selected by the conference, that this Committee on Guidance would designate a larger committee of the conference to be known as the Committee on Proposals which would report such proposals to the conference. Both committees would be considered dissolved with and upon the adjournment of the conference. For voting purposes, each organization was to have one vote regardless of the number of delegates present. Mr. Monsky also outlined the procedure aforementioned with reference to the complete freedom of delegates in voting without committing their respective organizations.

The conference then voted to accept the recommendations of the Chairman with slight changes as to the number to serve on the committees. Sidney G. Kusworm, Judge Louis E. Leventhal, and Robert P. Goldman were selected to submit names of nominees for the Committee on Guidance and the Secretariat. Subsequently the Committee on Guidance was elected as follows:

Gedaliah Bublick  
 Rabbi Solomon B. Freehof  
 Robert P. Goldman  
 Hayim Greenberg  
 Mrs. Samuel Hailperin  
 Dr. Asher Isaacs  
 Mrs. Karl Kaufman



Judge Louis Leventhal  
Henry Monsky  
Carl Sherman  
Alex Stanton

The Committee organized itself and selected its own Chairman in the person of Judge Louis E. Leventhal.

The Secretariat elected was as follows:

Maurice Bisgyer  
Miss Jane Evans  
Miss Lillie Shultz  
Meyer W. Weisgal

The following were elected by the Conference to the Committee on Proposals upon the recommendation of the Guidance Committee:

Miss Juliet Benjamin  
David Blumberg  
Maldwin Fertig  
Louis I. Gilgor  
Robert P. Goldman  
Rabbi Israel Goldstein  
Mrs. Hugo Hartmann  
Rabbi James G. Heller  
Rabbi Jacob Hoffman  
Mrs. Karl Kaufman  
Rabbi I. Lewin  
Louis Lipsky  
Rabbi Irving Miller  
Harry Pine  
Mrs. S. Rabinowitz  
Mrs. Dvorah Rothbard  
Judge Morris Rothenberg  
Harry Schaffer  
Louis Segal  
Mrs. A. H. Vixman

The Committee organized itself and selected its own Chairman and Co-Chairman in the persons of Louis Lipsky and Robert P. Goldman, respectively.

#### ADDRESSES BY CONFEREES

While the committees were in session, the conferees discussed the recommendations in the Chairman's address, the problems of Jews throughout the world, the post-war status of Jews and the need for upbuilding Palestine. Among the speakers, in the order in which they spoke, were:



David Blumberg	Bernard Danzansky
Rabbi James G. Heller	Charles Sonnenreich
Alex Wilf	Joseph Schlossberg
Judge Morris Rothenberg	Gedaliah Bublick
Rabbi Solomon B. Freehof	Judge Louis E. Leventhal
David Wertheim	Rabbi A. M. Ashinsky
Rabbi Israel Goldstein	Frank Goldman
Robert P. Goldman	Rabbi J. Hoffman
Dr. Nahum Goldmann	Kieve Skidell
Louis Lipsky	Mrs. Samuel Hailperin
Congressman Samuel A. Weiss	Harry Schaffer
Rabbi Robert Gordis	Rabbi Isaac Lewin

Eugene Strassburger of Pittsburgh presided at the Sunday Morning Sessions.

The Invocation at the opening session of the conference was given by Rabbi Solomon B. Freehof, and at the Sunday morning Session by Rabbi Herman Halperin. The Benediction at the conclusion of the conference was pronounced by Rabbi Bernard L. Leventhal.

The following special resolution, offered by Rabbi James G. Heller was unanimously adopted:

"This meeting, called in the hope of creating a greater degree of Jewish unity, cannot adjourn without adding the voice of its delegates representing thirty-two national Jewish organizations, to those crying aloud in horror and in protest against the massacres of Jews by Nazi Germany. The tragedy of our people does not stand alone. It is but one instance, even if the darkest and most extreme, of the persecution and slaughter of peoples in the Orient and in the Occident. To the last man and woman Jews are united in grief for the guiltless dead, in prayer for those still in mortal peril, and in petition to the United Nations to exert every effort to save those who can yet be saved. We have been enheartened by the expressions of sympathy and of a determination to help that have come from the leaders of the democratic peoples. It is our hope that the revulsion of the whole civilized world may yet serve to deter the tyrant, his allies and followers; that their own peoples may be impelled by justice and by the retribution that may be visited upon them to revolt and to put an end to this reign of terror; that the United Nations will aid refugees to escape and to find harbor; and that, wherever and whenever it can be done, they shall send food to starving Jewish and non-Jewish communities. Especially is it our prayer that victory may soon rest upon the banners of those who believe in and fight for justice



and brotherhood among men, and that millions of our brethren may be rescued out of the Valley of the Shadow of Death."

The Committee on Proposals labored from eight-thirty Sunday morning throughout the day, resubmitting their recommendations upon amendments suggested by the conference, and the proposals when finally acted upon received a unanimous vote.





## APPENDIX D

The proposals follow:

### PREAMBLE

This conference of delegates of thirty-two national Jewish organizations, representing the largest segment of organized American Jews, meeting in a time of war and of danger to our country, pledges all its resources without reserve to the support of the war effort and the victory for the United Nations.

We are living through the most tragic days in all of Jewish history. The world is engulfed in/global war which has threatened the destruction of our civilization. The annals of history contain no record as black as that inscribed on its pages by the barbarians of the Axis Powers. Many peoples have suffered the profanation of their sacred altars, the destruction of their hopes, the devastation of their way of life, the loss of liberty, but, it was against the Jewish people and the Hitler war of extermination was first declared. It was pursued with relentless inhumanity, in every land the aggressor was able to occupy. Whole Jewish communities were devastated; men, women and children were driven like cattle into alien fields and there humiliated, tortured and done to death.

Elaborate plans were developed for the complete extermination of the Jews. Perhaps one-third of the Jews in Nazi-occupied territory have found their peace in a welcome death. Those who survive, even though stripped of their rights, denuded of all they possess, await the coming of the day when it will once again be possible to speak of freedom, justice and reparation. We reaffirm our purpose to do everything humanly possible to alleviate their sufferings and to restore their rights. The free democratic nations have been roused to resist the aggressors and would-be destroyers of our civilization. They are locked in a four continent struggle, determined to defeat and to destroy the enemy and all the evil for which he stands.

As Americans and as Jews, the cause of the United Nations is doubly ours. All that we possess must be dedicated without reserve to that cause. Every sacrifice which the needs of the war effort may demand of us must be made. When victory comes - the day is not now far off - it will, we hope, also see the dawn of a new day for the Jewish people.

We have a vital stake in the peace that is to come. Not only have we suffered appalling destruction of Jewish life, but much of that which was achieved after the first World War, in respect to the position of the Jew in the afflicted lands, has been lost. There has been a progressive deterioration of that position and of our rights as free men; there has been in many lands complete extinction of those rights, as a consequence of the Nazi-Germany stimulated world-wide anti-Semitic propaganda



and the evil consequences that have resulted therefrom. There is crucial need for the restoration of that lost position and for its fortification upon enduring foundations of equality and justice.

There is imperative need also to unite on a program relating to the rights of the Jewish people with respect to Palestine.

Since the primary purpose of this conference is to provide a method of procedure for unified expression of the point of view of the American Jewish community, we submit the following proposals:

### PROPOSALS

In view of the desirability of creating a basis of agreement on a program of common action to deal with post-war Jewish problems.

This conference resolves to take the initiative in the summoning of an American Jewish Assembly, organized on democratic lines, to establish a common program of action in connection with post-war problems and to elect a delegation to carry out said program, in cooperation with the duly accredited representatives of Jews throughout the world.

The American Jewish Assembly shall be convened within five months from the date of this conference.

This conference shall establish an executive committee of thirty-eight of whom thirty-two members shall be elected at this conference. Six places shall be reserved for other national Jewish membership organizations not now represented. The executive committee shall have the power to coopt additional members, not exceeding twelve, making a total of fifty.

The executive committee shall act under the following directions:

1. It shall formulate a call for the convening of an American Jewish Assembly. This call shall be submitted to all organizations invited to this conference and such others as may be designated by the executive committee. When approved by a majority of the organizations present at this conference, the executive committee shall issue such call. A time limit of thirty days from the time when notice is sent to the organizations is fixed for securing such approval. The executive committee may, however, within its discretion extend this time limit.

2. A. The American Jewish Assembly shall consist of not more than 500 delegates. The cooperating national organizations shall name 125 delegates. The Jewish communities, through local or regional conferences called for such purpose, shall elect 375 delegates. The distribution of delegates shall be on the basis of Jewish population. The national organizations shall



elect their delegates in accordance with their own rules. Representation in the local or regional conferences shall be based on organization membership.

B. It is recommended to the executive committee that the representation of the national organizations in the American Jewish Assembly shall be on the basis of parity, in so far as possible.

C. The principle of proportional representation shall be observed in the local or regional conferences in order to assure minority representation.

3. The executive committee shall have the authority:

- A. To fix the date of the election of delegates.
- B. To appoint a national board of elections.
- C. To fix the date and place of the American Jewish Assembly.

D. To raise such funds as may be required for the organization and holding of the American Jewish Assembly.

It shall render its final report to the American Jewish Assembly when it is convened.

4. The call for the American Jewish Assembly shall contain a statement of program as follows:

- A. To consider and recommend action on problems relating to the rights and status of Jews in the post-war world.
- B. To consider and recommend action upon all matters looking to the implementation of the rights of the Jewish people with respect to Palestine.
- C. To elect a delegation to carry out the program of the American Jewish Assembly in cooperation with the duly accredited representatives of Jews throughout the world.

Full freedom of discussion and action by the Assembly shall not be impaired.

5. The executive committee shall have full power and authority to do any and all things necessary and proper to carry out the purpose and intent of the above program prior to the convening of the Assembly.

It shall have power to organize itself and to provide for representation by alternates under such conditions as the executive committee may deem proper.



APPENDIX E

American Jewish Assembly  
521 Fifth Avenue  
New York City

February 5, 1943

Mr. Adolph Rosenberg  
Union of American Hebrew Congregations  
34 W. 6th St.,  
Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Mr. Rosenberg:

We are enclosing herewith a summary prepared by the Secretariat, of the proceedings at the Conference held in Pittsburgh, on January 23-24, 1943, at which your organization was represented.

You will note the proposals attached to the enclosed summary, which deal with the calling of an American Jewish Assembly to be composed of 500 delegates as follows: 25 per cent selected by national membership organizations and 75 per cent elected by democratically convened local and regional conferences comprising delegates of organizations in communities or regions. You will also note that a time limit of thirty days from the time when notice is sent to the organizations is fixed for securing approval of such organizations.

The Conference, before adjourning, elected an Executive Committee consisting of one representative from each of the participating organizations. Additional members of the Executive Committee will be selected in accordance with the proposals.

We enclose also a tentative draft of the Call which according to the proposals will be signed by the participating organizations.

We hope that the spirit of unanimity which prevailed at the Pittsburgh Conference will be followed by the prompt approval of these proposals.

We would appreciate receiving a report of the action of your organization.

Sincerely yours,

HENRY MONSKY  
Temporary Chairman  
Executive Committee



Having approved the proposals of the preliminary conference of national Jewish membership organizations held in Pittsburgh on January 23 and 24, 1943, as contained in the official report of its proceedings; and believing that there is urgent need for American Jews to establish a program of common action to deal with the post-war problems of Jews the world over;

The undersigned join in a call to the Jewish communities of the United States to cooperate in the organization of an American Jewish Assembly for the following purposes:

- I. (a) To consider and recommend action on problems relating to the rights and status of Jews in the post-war world.  
(b) To consider and recommend action upon all matters looking to the implementation of the rights of the Jewish people with respect to Palestine.  
(c) To elect a delegation to carry out the program of the American Jewish Assembly in cooperation with the duly accredited representatives of Jews throughout the world.
- II. The Assembly will consist of not more than 500 delegates; the cooperating national organizations will be entitled to 125 delegates selected according to their own rule; and the local communities to 375 delegates elected through local or regional conferences.
- III. The date and place of the holding of said Assembly shall be determined by the Executive Committee named by the preliminary conference, but the said Assembly shall be held not later than five (5) months from January 24, 1943.
- IV. The Executive Committee shall be authorized to formulate rules for communal or regional elections, to set up the formula for the distribution and allotment of delegates to communities, regions and national organizations; and shall have full power to do all things necessary to carry out the purpose of organizing the said Assembly, prior to its convening.
- V. The Executive Committee shall act, in general, as the organizing committee of said Assembly, and it shall issue under its own name all further communications and instructions bearing upon the organization of the Assembly.

Submitted with this call is a copy of the proposals adopted by the preliminary conference. Instructions as to procedure will be issued as and when formulated by the Executive Committee.

(To be signed when in final form by the organizations)



May 13, 1943

Mr. Maurice Bisgyer, Secretariat  
American Jewish Conference  
521 Fifth Ave.  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Bisgyer:

I have been approached by a number of organizations locally who have asked me for permission to use my name on a slate for the forthcoming elections to the American Jewish Conference. I should like to know whether having been coopted as a member of the Executive Committee of the Conference I should stand for election.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



# new **Currents**

## A JEWISH MONTHLY

### EDITORS

Joseph Brainin

Prof. Frederic Ewen

Albert E. Kahn

June 10, 1943.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,  
The Temple,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

As you are probably aware, the American Jewish Conference represents the most significant step in the direction of American Jewish unity in the history of this country. At this critical time, it can be the means of joining all sections of the Jewish people and of formulating policies designed to help them in winning the war and assuring democratic settlement of the post-war Jewish problems.

It is unfortunate, therefore, that at its last meeting, the Executive Committee of the Conference, yielding to forces more interested in disunity than in unity, has denied thirteen Jewish organizations in the United States, the right to participate in the Conference. Among those denied are HIAS, The American-Jewish Section of the International Workers Order, the Jewish People's Committee.

We cannot but feel that this policy of exclusion represents a serious obstacle to the achievement of the objectives which the American Jewish Conference has set itself to achieve and to the fulfillment of the hopes and wishes of American Jews. It cannot but play into the hands of the enemies of the Jewish people and of the democratic forces in this country. We feel that the interests of the American Jews demand the forging of nation-wide unity of all the Jews.

The Presidium elected by the Executive Committee, consisting of Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, Mr. Henry Monsky and Judge Joseph Proskauer, is empowered to act on the admission of various organizations to the Conference.

We ask you to send us a statement urging the Presidium to rescind its action and to admit all Jewish organizations to a participation in the Conference.

May we have such a statement by return mail?

Sincerely,

*Frederic Ewen.*

Frederic Ewen,  
For the Editors.

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no. 18



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WRHS



HENRY MONSKY APPOINTED YOU TO THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE OF THE  
CONVERENCE COMPRISING FIVE MEMBERS DO YOU EXPECT TO BE IN NEWYORK  
ANY TIME NEXT WEEK IF NOT WOULD YOU INDICATE YOUR SUGGESTIONS FOR THE  
PROGRAM OF THE OPENING SESSIONS WHICH IS MAJOR CONSIDERATION FOR  
THE COMMITTEE PLEASE WIRE WESTERN UNION COLLECT=

MAURICE BISGYER. (20)

NO 7-28-43 TO BK  
BY 36 AT 147 P TO BE mail  
CALLS \_\_\_\_\_



KAUFMANN DEPARTMENT STORES  
INCORPORATED  
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

August 19, 1943.

Rabbi A. H. Silver  
Temple-Ansel Rd. & E. 105th St.  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

We the undersigned are addressing this letter to you as a delegate of the American Jewish Conference.

You have received or will soon receive a letter from the office of the American Jewish Conference describing a procedure under which every delegate may affiliate himself with one of a number of listed groups, or if he prefers to remain unaffiliated with any one of these groups he is asked to register "Designation Reserved." According to this plan, unaffiliated delegates will be able to be represented in the membership of committees only by organizing themselves into a unit of 10 or more.

Unless such a unit is created, unaffiliated delegates will have no opportunity of taking part directly or indirectly in the work of the various committees, will even be circumscribed in the plenary meetings of the Conference and so be greatly restricted in expressing their views, whatever they may be, and in exerting an influence on the Conference.

The undersigned delegates entertain various points of view but come to the Conference open-minded. We urge you to join us and thus make your participation in the Conference effective, because if you are an independent delegate this is the only way for you to participate in the work of the Committee.

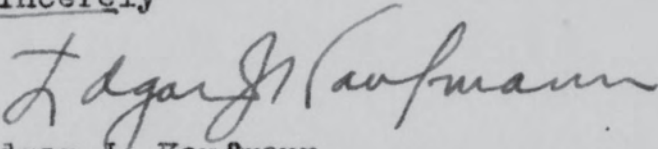
It is of vital importance that the decisions of the Conference shall reflect the composite sentiments of American Jewry and not those of any particular ideological or political group. With this in mind the larger the active participation of independent delegates the greater the promise of such results.



If you are an independent delegate, register "Designation Reserved" and immediately inform Mr. Edgar J. Kaufmann, 400 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa., to that effect.

A meeting of the unaffiliated delegates will be held on Saturday evening August 28. Upon receipt of your reply Mr. Kaufmann will advise you of the exact time and place of the meeting.

Sincerely

  
Edgar J. Kaufmann

also signing on behalf of the following signatories:

Jacob Blaustein, Baltimore, Md.

Mrs. Maurice L. Goldman, San Francisco

Benjamin Kaufman, Trenton, N. J.

Fred Lazarus, Jr., Columbus, Ohio

Joseph M. Proskauer, New York, N. Y.



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NA63 173/168 NL 9 EXTRA=PITTSBURGH PENN 20 VIA TE CLEVELAND

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OHIO 21

WALDORF ASTORIA=

BY THIS TIME YOU WILL HAVE RECEIVED NOTIFICATION FROM THE  
COMMITTEE OF FIVE REGARDING THE ORGANIZATION OF THE AMERICAN  
JEWISH CONFERENCE

IT IS MY JUDGMENT THAT THE PROBLEMS CONFRONTING US REQUIRE  
MOST EARNEST AND IMPARTIAL CONSIDERATION DELEGATES WHO  
ARE NOT COMMITTED TO ANY SPECIFIC PARTY PROGRAM BUT ARE  
WILLING TO CONSIDER ALL PROPOSALS IN AN INDEPENDENT AND  
OPEN-MINDED MANNER CAN BEST MEET THE URGENT PROBLEMS  
CONFRONTING THE CONFERENCE AND BE OF MOST SERVICE IN THE  
UNIFICATION OF CONFLICTING APPROACHES FOR THESE REASONS IT  
IS ADVISABLE THAT SUCH DELEGATES AT THIS TIME REMAIN FREE OF  
ANY PARTISAN COMMITMENTS I THEREFORE INTEND TO REGISTER  
"DESIGNATION RESERVED" AND HOPE YOU WILL DO LIKEWISE  
SO THAT ALL THE INDEPENDENT DELEGATES RIGHTS AND COMMITTEE  
MEMBERSHIPS CAN BE PRESERVED AND ENHANCED I WOULD LIKE A WIRE  
OR AIR MAIL FROM YOU ADVISING ME THAT YOU WILL ATTEND A  
MEETING OF FREE AND INDEPENDENT DELEGATES SATURDAY AUGUST  
28TH AT SUCH TIME AND PLACE AS YOU WILL BE ADVISED=

EDGAR J KAUFMANN 400 5TH AVE PITTSBURGH PA.

CN 28 400 5.



C A B L E   A D D R E S S : " W A L D O R F , N E W   Y O R K " / E L D O R A D O   5 - 3 0 0 0



# *The* WALDORF-ASTORIA

P A R K   A N D   L E X I N G T O N   A V E N U E S / 4 9 <sup>TH</sup>   A N D   5 0 <sup>TH</sup>   S T R E E T S / N E W   Y O R K

The Reform Religious Group is meeting at  
8:30 p.m. Saturday, August 28th, in Parlors J, K and L  
on the 4th Floor of the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

We urgently request your presence at this  
meeting whether or not you have marked as your designa-  
tion the Reform Religious Group. This Group has been  
established not only for the Union of American Hebrew  
Congregations, the National Federation of Temple  
Sisterhoods and Brotherhoods, but also for all indi-  
viduals interested in bringing before the Conference  
a program which will realistically meet present day  
conditions.



4-1-58

# EMERGENCY COMMITTEE TO SAVE THE JEWISH PEOPLE OF EUROPE

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1 EAST 44th STREET  
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MUrray Hill 2-7237

27th of August  
1943

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,  
c/o American Jewish Conference,  
Waldorf Astoria Hotel,  
New York City

Dear Dr. Silver:

We wish to submit hereby to your Conference the findings and resolutions of the Emergency Conference to Save the Jewish People of Europe, held in New York from July 20th to the 25th.

Although we realize that the program of your Conference is limited to creating a representation of American Jewry and to the study of postwar Jewish problems, we still believe that the question of saving the Jews of Europe from total extermination by the Germans is a problem that transcends, in urgency and importance, any postwar issue. Indeed, we fear that if nothing is done about it, the Germans may exterminate the remnants of European Jewry in a final flare up before their collapse, and most of the postwar problems on your agenda would be solved automatically.

Therefore, we wish to respectfully suggest that your Conference specifically, include, the problem of the immediate rescue of the Jewish people of Europe in its agenda. We also respectfully suggest that your Conference study and endorse the findings of the Emergency Conference to Save the Jewish People of Europe.

As you are probably aware, the Emergency Conference was called by and consisted mostly of important Gentile personalities, experts in the various fields relevant to the problem dealt with. These men and women were motivated solely by their humanitarian desire to stop the unholy massacre in Europe. Their findings represent a very considerable amount of serious and painstaking study of all the aspects of this problem. The endorsement of these findings by your Conference would thus give them the approval of a highly authoritative official Jewish body, which they still lack. We feel that the work done by the Emergency Conference merits the commendation and support of every Jew.

The Emergency Conference came to the conclusion that there are a number of ways to rescue many of the Jews remaining in Europe. The Conference advocated the immediate formation of a special governmental agency to deal explicitly with the problem of saving the Jewish people of Europe. Indeed, all the existing agencies, including the Inter-Governmental Committee set up at Evian and revived after Bermuda, are concerned solely with helping,



refugees, which means helping those Jews or non-Jews who have already succeeded in escaping from the Nazis. Such agencies have nothing to do with the problem of stopping the massacre in Europe. The creation of such a governmental agency, as recommended by the Emergency Conference, is the prerequisite to any kind of action because, until it is created no one is able to undertake any adequate steps in the direction of whole-sale rescue. And, even those officials of the government who feel that such steps should be undertaken are powerless to do more than to send messages of sympathy. In other words, the United States and the United Nations have to recognize the existence of the Jewish problem in Europe and create a machinery to cope with it.

The Emergency Conference suggested several steps which might be undertaken by such a governmental agency. These steps resolve themselves mainly into the following two proposals:

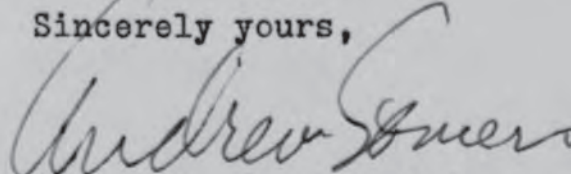
1. To impress upon the Germans, and especially upon their minor satellites, the fact that the United Nations will not stand for the continuance of the massacre. This can be done by propaganda, by threats of reprisals and by actual reprisals.
2. To create reservations outside of German-dominated Europe in which those Jews who might succeed in fleeing from Europe may be allowed to take temporary sanctuary for the duration. The present situation is such that a Jew in German-dominated Europe does not have any place which he can escape to. It is as if the United Nations had bolted the doors to the slaughter house of Europe from the outside.

It was the general feeling of the Conference that anything done by the United Nations for the European Jews would in itself be enough to modify, to a great extent, the attitude of both the Germans and their satellites to the massacre of the Jews. Today they are told that they can continue the massacre with impunity. The threat of punishing those responsible for the massacre after the war is naturally ineffective, for these people have already committed crimes and their punishment will not be the greater for any additional horror they may commit. It is only by impressing upon the governments and the peoples of the various enemy countries that they will be held accountable, as a whole, for the continuation of the atrocities, that they can be induced to stop. As the matter stands today they all feel certain, as far as the United Nations are concerned, that it does not matter one way or the other.

We are addressing ourselves to your Conference because we know that all the delegates, and the Conference itself, will be vitally interested in the problem with which we are concerned and we believe that much can be achieved by a common, coordinated effort.

We are enclosing a copy of the findings of the Emergency Conference. Should you so desire, we shall be happy to let you have any number of additional copies for the officers and the delegates to your Conference.

Sincerely yours,



Andrew L. Somers, M.C.

Vice-Chairman

EMERGENCY COMMITTEE To Save THE JEWISH PEOPLE OF EUROPE



FINAL DRAFT

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 1943

The American Jewish Conference, the democratically elected representative body of organized American Jewry, issues the following declaration of principles on the relation between the Jewish people, the Jewish Homeland in Palestine and the world need for post-war reconstruction:

The Jewish problem, in its substance and as a symbol, has been made one of the central elements in the present assault on civilization. Its exploitation in a world wide Nazi-fascist conspiracy constituted the initial phase of the assault. Its solution is recognized as an integral part of the conditions needed for an enduring peace.

In the first world war, the consensus of the civilized nations pointed to a solution of the Jewish problem through the reconstruction of the Jewish Homeland in Palestine with which the Jewish people has been bound up historically and religiously throughout the centuries. This consensus was expressed in the Balfour Declaration issued by the British Government, after consultation between the Allied and Associated Powers, on November 2, 1917, and in the Mandate for Palestine accorded to Great Britain in 1922, with the consent of the fifty-one constituent nations of the League of Nations and with the unanimous approval of the Congress of the United States.

On the basis of this international covenant the Jewish people set itself to the task of recreating its historic Homeland in Palestine. In the course of twenty-five years, it has demonstrated



a constructive capacity which has already had a profound effect both on the hopes and outlook of the Jewish people, and on a country which had for centuries been regarded as one of the derelict areas of the world. The progress of all sectors of Palestine, Arab as well as Jewish, under the stimulus of the developing Jewish Homeland is one of the most notable phenomena of our time; the contribution of democratic Jewish Palestine to the victories of the United Nations Armies of the Near East has been a significant vindication of the policy initiated by world opinion and carried out in the labors and sacrifices of the Jewish people.

This period of reconstruction, however, has co-incided with a general deterioration of world order and international morality. Chief among the victims of this deterioration have been the millions of Jews living in Europe. Yet despite the fact that the conditions which made the re-establishment of the Jewish Homeland imperative a quarter of a century ago have been intensified beyond the darkest forebodings, the rights internationally guaranteed to the Jewish people with respect to Palestine have been progressively whittled down on grounds of administrative and political expediency until, with the promulgation of the White Paper of May 1939, the solemn promise made to the Jewish people was virtually annulled and the last hope of millions of homeless Jews threatened with extinction.

Meeting at a time when the policies of the peace are in the making, the American Jewish Conference, conscious of its historic responsibility and of its position as spokesman for the silenced Jewish communities of Europe, calls for the loyal and faithful fulfillment of the covenant entered into between the nations of the world and the Jewish people.



It calls for the fulfillment of the Balfour Declaration, and of the Mandate for Palestine whose intent and underlying purpose, based on the "historical connection of the Jewish people with Palestine", was to reconstitute Palestine as the Jewish Commonwealth.

It demands the immediate withdrawal in its entirety of the Palestine White Paper of May, 1939, with its arbitrary restrictions on Jewish immigration and land settlement. The White Paper constitutes a violation of the rights accorded to the Jewish people under the Mandate of Palestine. It has been characterized as a "breach and a repudiation of the Balfour Declaration" by Mr. Winston Churchill. Its moral and legal validity have been denied by the Permanent Mandate's Commission of the League of Nations.

The Conference demands that the gates of Palestine be opened to Jewish immigration, and that the Jewish Agency, recognized under the Mandate as the authorized representative of the Jewish people, be vested with full authority to regulate and direct immigration into Palestine, to develop to the maximum the agricultural and industrial possibilities of the country, and to utilize its uncultivated and unoccupied lands for Jewish colonization and for the benefit of the country as a whole.

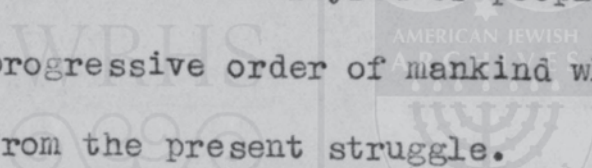
The measures here urged constitute the essential prerequisites for the recreation of the Jewish Commonwealth.

In the pursuit of its objective of a Jewish Commonwealth, the Jewish people has steadfastly held before it the ideals which shall integrate Jewish Palestine within the new democratic world structure. The Jewish people pledges itself to the scrupulous observance of the religious, linguistic and cultural rights of the Arab population of



Palestine, and to the equality of all its inhabitants before the law. It reaffirms its readiness and desire for full cooperation with its Arab neighbors in Palestine, and, in the work of its own national redemption, it welcomes the economic and political development of the Arab peoples of the Near East.

On the basis both of the part it has played in the history of civilization, and its present achievement in Palestine, the Jewish people believes that the Jewish Commonwealth to be established will represent another fundamental contribution to the social and political ideals of the world. Such a Jewish Commonwealth will finally answer the agonized need of the most martyred of peoples, and take its rightful place in the progressive order of mankind which it is prayerfully hoped will issue from the present struggle.





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NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN  
1819 Broadway, New York, N.Y.

SEPTEMBER 1, 1943

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Chairman,  
Palestine Committee,  
American Jewish Conference,  
Hotel Waldorf Astoria  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Silver:

I am sure you will understand the position in which we three, who are the national delegates of the National Council of Jewish Women, find ourselves with respect to the resolution on Palestine.

It is not necessary for me to take your time to review the program and policy of our organization, as I am convinced that there is no spiritual or communal leader in American Jewish life who is unaware of the complexion of the Council membership.

The General Committee has officially advised me to ask you to present the enclosed statement to the Conference this evening, to be read to the Conference at such time as you see fit.

Cordially yours,

*Blauche Goldman*  
Mrs. Maurice L. Goldman  
President

BBG:R





# Credential

This is to certify that

Abbi G. W. Silver  
representing

Cleveland Ohio  
is a duly accredited delegate to

The American Jewish Conference

August 29th - September 2nd, 1943

Waldorf Astoria Hotel

New York City

National Board of Elections

Irvin Lipky

Chairman



## PALESTINE RESOLUTION

The American Jewish Conference calls upon the United Nations to fulfill the pledge given to the Jewish people, as expressed in the Balfour Declaration, in the Mandate for Palestine and in the Joint Resolution of the House of Representatives and the Senate of the United States, approved by the President on September 21, 1922, to facilitate the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, without prejudice to the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country. International recognition having been given, as stated in the Mandate, "to the historical connection of the Jewish people with Palestine and to the grounds for reconstituting their national home in that country", it urges the United Nations to implement this solemn obligation and assure the growth of the Jewish community through the adoption of the following immediate measures:

1. The revocation of the Palestine White Paper.
2. The facilitation of large-scale Jewish immigration and colonization under the supervision of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, which shall be vested with such authority in regard to economic, social and other matters, including the development of its unoccupied and uncultivated lands, as shall be requisite to increase the absorptive capacity of the country, and to assure its upbuilding and development upon a modern, sound, productive economy.
3. To extend to the Jewish Agency for Palestine such lend-lease and other aid as may be rendered to other communities for relief and rehabilitation.
4. To prepare for the establishment of a Jewish Commonwealth integrated in the structure of the new democratic world, with constitutional guarantees, implemented by appropriate international sanctions, to safeguard the following rights, which shall be forever inviolate in Palestine;
  - (a) The right to acquire, hold and cultivate land and other natural resources, and to engage in commerce, industry and the professions, without discrimination by reason of race, religion or language.
  - (b) The right of each community to maintain its own system of education, religious, social and communal institutions.



- (c) Hebrew and Arabic shall both be official languages.
- (d) The rights of the various religious communities to the Holy Places shall be preserved.
- (e) The right of all persons to civil equality shall be fully recognized.
- (f) The right to freedom of speech, press, assembly, worship, and other civil rights set forth in the American Federal and State Bills of Rights shall be fully assured.





PROGRAM OF THE RELIGIOUS NATIONAL ORTHODOX BLOC  
OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE

PREAMBLE:

At this time, when the greatest effort in history is being made to right the wrongs committed against small and weak peoples and to guarantee their protection in the future, we the Jews of America, demand the immediate cessation of the wanton slaughter of our fellow Jews throughout Nazi-occupied Europe and elsewhere and that immediate steps be taken to rescue the helpless victims who can and must be saved; we demand that the injustice done the Jewish people centuries ago by devastation of their land and dispersion of their people throughout the world be righted. To this end we submit the following for consideration:

ERETZ ISRAEL:

The demand that Eretz Israel be returned to the Jewish people not only proclaims the historic yearning of our people to return to nationhood, but also is the very foundation of the Jewish religion. God has assured us through the Prophets in clearest terms that Eretz Israel will again belong to the Jews. The daily prayers of the Jew are replete with supplications and hopes for the return to Eretz Israel. The Jews have waited 1874 years that God's promise to suffering Israel be fulfilled, and now, when the opportunity is here for the establishment of freedom and justice on earth, under the inevitable victory of the United Nations, we ask that this be the historic moment when justice to an ancient people, suffering without cause or reason, be accomplished. Eretz Israel is the only hope of millions of persecuted Jews, victims of Nazi barbarism; the only solution to the homelessness of our people. With the establishment of a Jewish Commonwealth on its own ancient soil of Eretz Israel, will the Jewish people have the fullest opportunity for the complete observance of the tenets of the Jewish religion and traditions. Eretz Israel as a Jewish Commonwealth, therefore, is the only solution to the all inclusive centuries-old problem of the Jewish people.

The historic connection between Eretz Israel and the Jewish people was legally recognized by the League of Nations in the Mandate for Palestine. Since then the Jewish people succeeded in reconstructing Eretz Israel as a prosperous land with a Jewish population of nearly 600,000 now already representing the beginnings of a Jewish Commonwealth on its own soil. We, therefore, demand in the name of the Jewish people

(A) the issuance of a declaration by the United Nations expressing assurance that Eretz Israel be declared a Jewish Commonwealth

(B) the control of immigration into Eretz Israel shall be vested wholly in the hands of the Jewish Agency for Palestine

(C) the immediate abolition of the White Paper which is a contradiction of the Balfour Declaration. It is totally opposed, in word and spirit, to the Mandate of the League of Nations. In fact, the authoritative body of the League of Nations itself declared the White Paper illegal.

DIASPORA:

As the solution of the problems confronting Jewry in the Diaspora we request that the democratic countries open their doors now to Jewish refugees who may yet be saved from the sword of mankind's enemy and we demand



(A) that all Jews, who so desire, shall be repatriated to their countries from which they were uprooted; reparations made for all their losses and their return to former positions guaranteed

(B) that full reparations be made to the Jewish people for all property confiscated from and losses sustained by those of our people who were brutally murdered

(C) that full reparations be made to the Jewish people for all losses sustained by the confiscation or destruction of public Jewish institutions and communal properties

(D) that full equality, including linguistic rights, be granted to all inhabitants of every country without distinction between Jew and non-Jew

(E) that wherever there are minority rights no laws shall be in existence abridging the right for the fulfillment of religious principles, including the observance of the Sabbath and the dietary laws.

(F) that anti-Semitism, forerunner and concomitant of Nazism, injustice and lawlessness, which poisons the consciences of nations and is the most serious hindrance to freedom, democracy, and civilization, be declared unlawful and criminal in nature, that all organized and official government means be employed to combat it.





## MIDDLE EAST FLIERS WIN 96 DECORATIONS

### Four New Yorkers on Army's Latest Role of Honor

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1—Awards of ninety-six decorations, including the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Silver Star and the Soldier's Medal, to officers and enlisted men of the United States Army Ninth Air Force in the Middle East were announced today by the War Department.

Among the winners of the decorations were:

#### New York

##### Distinguished Flying Cross

HOGAN, JOHN V., first lieutenant, Niagara Falls.  
MacRAE, ROBERT R., second lieutenant, Niagara Falls.  
DELMONICO, FRANK J., staff sergeant, 1954 Batchelder St., Brooklyn.  
GOTHAM, JOHN P., staff sergeant, Watertown.

#### New Jersey

##### Distinguished Flying Cross

MURRAY, JOSEPH P., first lieutenant, 151 Woodlawn Ave., Jersey City.  
ROTH, ARTHUR J., second lieutenant, 217 Springfield Ave., Summit.

##### Silver Star

FLAVELLE, BRIAN W., first lieutenant, Caldwell (reported missing on Aug. 28).

#### Connecticut

##### Silver Star

WELLS, HAROLD G., Jr., captain, Cos Cob.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1 (AP)—The Presidential citation covering the recent award of the Silver Star Medal to Albert F. Depasquale of the United States Marine Corps, son of Dominick and Mary Depasquale of Cayuga, N. Y., for gallantry at Henderson Field, Guadalcanal, on Sept. 27, 1942, reads in part as follows:

"Covering the advance of his platoon as they forded the Matanikau River, in a counter-attack on enemy positions, Private First Class Depasquale daringly left his

defiladed position, exposing himself to Japanese rifles and machine guns, in order to get a more effective field of fire for his weapon. Holding off the enemy with his automatic rifle, he enabled his platoon to advance until, in a sudden burst of enemy machine-gun fire, he was critically wounded."

## ROBERT FOOT DIRECTS BBC

### Dual Role Is Abolished With Sir C. G. Graves' Resignation

LONDON, Sept. 1 (AP)—Robert Foot has been named sole director-general and chief executive officer of the British Broadcasting Corporation, it was announced today, following the resignation of Sir Cecil G. Graves. Both formerly were directors-general.

W. J. Haley was selected to fill the new job of editor in chief. The announcement said both Mr. Foot and Mr. Haley would be jointly concerned with the character and quality of the entire BBC output.

Mr. Haley is joint managing director of The Manchester Guardian and Evening News and a director of Reuter and Britain's Press Association.

## GERMANS DISMISS SPEECH

### Churchill's Latest Talk Called 'Servile Sop to Russia'

By Telephone to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

BERNE, Switzerland, Sept. 1—German comment dismisses Prime Minister Churchill's Quebec broadcast as "a servile sop to Russia."

Mr. Churchill, it was said in Berlin, presumably spoke also for President Roosevelt. The speech was said to suggest that Britain and the United States were prepared to make generous political concessions to the Kremlin as a price for Premier Stalin's participation in a tri-partite parley.

## WARMER GETS HIS TENT

### Fortress Gunner Downs Axis Plane in Raid on Italy

LONDON, Sept. 1 (U.P.)—Flying Fortress Gunner Staff Sgt. Benjamin

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# Text of Jewish Conference Resolution

*The resolution on Palestine adopted last night by the American Jewish Conference at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel follows:*

We, Jewish citizens of the United States dwelling in security in this our beloved land, which, because of its democratic institutions and just laws "gives to bigotry no sanction and to persecution no assistance," and dedicated in undivided loyalty to the noble spirit of our country, are gathered here as an American Jewish Conference, a democratically elected body representative of American Jewry to cope with the tragic problems of our fellow-Jews all over the world. We make the following declaration of principles as to the relation between the Jewish people, the Homeland in Palestine and the world need for post-war reconstruction.

The Jewish problem has been made one of the central elements in the present assault on civilization. In a world-wide Nazi-Fascist conspiracy its exploitation has constituted the initial phase of the assault. Its solution is an integral part of the conditions needed for an enduring peace.

In the first World War the civilized nations pointed to a solution of the Jewish problem through the reconstruction of the Jewish Homeland in Palestine with which the Jewish people has been bound up historically and religiously throughout the centuries. This was expressed in the Balfour Declaration issued by the British Government, after consultation between the Allied and Associated Powers, on Nov. 2, 1917, and in the mandate for Palestine accorded to Great Britain in 1922, with the consent of the fifty-one member nations of the League of Nations and with the unanimous approval of the Congress of the United States.

## Progress in 25 Years

On the basis of this international covenant the Jewish people set itself to the task of recreating its historic Homeland in Palestine. In the course of twenty-five years it has demonstrated a constructive capacity which has already had a profound effect both on the hopes and outlook of the Jewish people, and on a country which had for centuries been regarded as one of the derelict areas of the world. The progress of all sections of Palestine, Arab as well as Jewish, under the stimulations of Jews in Europe. Yet despite the fact that the conditions which made imperative the re-

establishment of the Jewish Homeland a quarter of a century ago have been intensified beyond the darkest forebodings, the rights internationally guaranteed to the Jewish people with respect to Palestine have been progressively whittled down on grounds of administrative and political expediency until, with the promulgation of the White Paper of May, 1939, the solemn promise made to the Jewish people was virtually nullified and the last hope of millennium of the developing Jewish Homeland is one of the most notable phenomena of our time; the contribution of democratic Jewish Palestine to the victories of the armies of the United Nations in the Near East has been a significant vindication of the policy initiated by world opinion and carried out in the labors and sacrifices of the Jewish people.

This period of reconstruction, however, has coincided with a general deterioration of world order and international morality. Chief among the victims of this deterioration have been the millions of homeless Jews threatened with extinction.

The American Jewish Conference, meeting at a time when the policies of the peace are in the making, and conscious of its historic responsibility and of its position as representative of American Jewry and spokesman for the silenced Jewish communities of Europe, calls for the loyalty and faithful fulfillment of the covenant entered into between the nations of the world and the Jewish people.

## Demands Are Set Forth

We call for the fulfillment of the Balfour Declaration and of the mandate for Palestine whose intent and underlying purpose, based on the "historical connection of the Jewish people with Palestine," was to reconstitute Palestine as the Jewish Commonwealth.

We demand the immediate withdrawal in its entirety of the Palestine White Paper of May, 1939, with its unwarranted restrictions on Jewish immigration and land settlement. The White Paper is a violation of the rights accorded to the Jewish people under the Mandate for Palestine. It was characterized by Mr. Winston Churchill in the House of Commons as "a breach and a repudiation of the Balfour Declaration." The Permanent Mandates Commission of the League of Nations refused to recognize its legality or its moral validity.

The conference demands that the gates of Palestine be opened

to Jewish immigration, and that the Jewish Agency, recognized under the mandate as the authorized representative of the Jewish people, be vested with authority to direct and regulate immigration into Palestine, to develop to the maximum the agricultural and industrial possibilities and the natural resources of the country, and to utilize its uncultivated and unoccupied lands for Jewish colonization and for the benefit of the country as a whole.

The measures here urged constitute the essential prerequisites for the attainment of a Jewish majority and for the re-creation of the Jewish Commonwealth.

## Cooperation With Arabs

In the pursuit of its objective of a Jewish Commonwealth the Jewish people has steadfastly held before it the ideals which shall integrate Jewish Palestine within the new democratic world structure. The Jewish people pledge itself to scrupulous regard for and preservation of the religious, linguistic and cultural rights of the Arab population of Palestine, and to the civil and religious equality of all its inhabitants before the law. The inviolability of the holy places of the various religions shall be guaranteed.

The Jewish people reaffirms its readiness and desire for full cooperation with its Arab neighbors in Palestine and, in the work of its own national redemption, welcomes the economic and political development of the Arab peoples of the Near East.

On the basis both of the part it has played in the history of civilization and of its present achievement in Palestine, the Jewish people believes that the Jewish Commonwealth to be established will represent another fundamental contribution to the social and political ideals of the world. It will finally answer the agonized cry of the most martyred of peoples and enable it to take its rightful place in that progressive order of mankind which, we pray, may issue from the present struggle.

## JEWS HERE DEMAND A PALESTINE NATION

foreshadowed from the time it was reported by the committee late in the afternoon, when the non-Zionists were unable to muster the strength to have a minority report submitted from the committee. Under the convention rule



REVISED DRAFT BIII

The American Jewish Conference, the democratically elected representative body of organized American Jewry, issues ~~on its~~ ~~behalf~~ the following declaration of principles on the relation between the Jewish people, the Jewish Homeland in Palestine and the world need for post-war reconstruction:

The Jewish problem, ~~both~~ in its substance and as a symbol, has been made one of the central elements in the present assault on civilization. Its exploitation in a world wide Nazi-fascist conspiracy constituted the initial phase of the assault. Its solution is recognized as an integral part of the conditions needed for an enduring peace.

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↓ On the basis of this international covenant the Jewish people set itself to the task of recreating its historic Homeland in Palestine. In the course of twenty-five years, it has demonstrated



a constructive capacity which has already had a profound effect both on the hopes and outlook of the Jewish <sup>people</sup> and on a country which had for centuries been regarded as one of the derelict areas of the world. The progress of all sectors of Palestine, Arab as well as Jewish, under the stimulus of the developing Jewish Homeland is one of its most notable phenomena of our time; the contribution of democratic Jewish Palestine to the victories of the United Nations Armies of the Near East has been a significant vindication of the policy initiated by world opinion and carried out in the labors and sacrifices of the Jewish people.

Unhappily, however, <sup>however</sup> this period of reconstruction has co-incided with a general deterioration of world order and international morality. Chief among the victims of this deterioration have been the ~~Jewish people throughout the world and the Jewish~~ <sup>millions of Jews living in Europe</sup> ~~Homeland.~~ <sup>which</sup> Yet despite the fact that the conditions/made the re-establishment of <sup>the</sup> a Jewish Homeland imperative a quarter of a century ago have been intensified beyond the darkest forebodings, the rights internationally guaranteed to the Jewish people with respect to Palestine have been progressively whittled down on grounds of administrative and political expediency until, with the promulgation of the White Paper of May 1939, the solemn promise made to the Jewish people <sup>virtually</sup> was in-effect annulled and the last hope of millions of homeless Jews extinguished. <sup>threatened with extinction.</sup>



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AMERICAN JEWISH  
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Meeting at a time when the policies of the peace are in the making, the American Jewish Conference, conscious of its responsibility ~~before the bar of world opinion~~ <sup>Baker</sup> and of its position as spokesman for the silenced Jewish communities of Europe, calls for the loyal and faithful ~~firm~~ fulfillment of the covenant entered into between the nations of the world and the Jewish people.

It calls for the fulfillment of the Balfour Declaration, and of the Mandate for Palestine whose clear intent and purpose, based on the historical connection of the Jewish people with Palestine, <sup>"</sup> was to reconstitute Palestine as the Jewish Commonwealth.

It demands the immediate withdrawal in its entirety of the Palestine White Paper of May, 1939, with ~~its~~ its arbitrary restrictions on Jewish immigration and land settlement. The White Paper constitutes a violation of the rights accorded to the Jewish people under the Mandate for Palestine. It has been <sup>denounced</sup> ~~denounced~~ by Mr. Winston Churchill, ~~Prime Minister of Great Britain~~ <sup>Chamberlain</sup> as a "breach and a repudiation of the Balfour Declaration." Its moral and legal validity have been denied by the Permanent Mandate's Commission of the League of Nations.

The Conference demands that the gates of Palestine be opened to Jewish immigration, and that the Jewish Agency, recognized under the Mandate, as the authorized representative of the Jewish people, be vested with full authority to regulate and direct immigration into Palestine, to develop to the maximum the agricultural and industrial possibilities of the country, and to utilize its uncultivated and unoccupied lands for Jewish colonization and for the benefit of the country as a whole.



The measures here urged constitute the essential prerequisites  
for the <sup>re</sup>creation of <sup>the</sup> ~~A~~ Jewish Commonwealth.

In the pursuit of ~~this~~ <sup>its</sup> objective of a Jewish ~~Homeland~~ <sup>Commonwealth</sup>, the Jewish people has steadfastly held before it the ideals which shall integrate Jewish Palestine within the new democratic world structure. The Jewish people pledges itself to the scrupulous observance of the religious, linguistic and cultural rights of the Arab population of Palestine, and to the equality of all its inhabitants before the law. It reaffirms its readiness and desire for full cooperation with its Arab neighbors in Palestine, and, in the work of its own national redemption, it welcomes the economic, agricultural and industrial development of the Arab peoples of the Near East.

On the basis both of the part it has played in the history of civilization, and its present achievement in Palestine, the Jewish people believes that the Jewish Commonwealth to be established will represent another fundamental contribution to the social and political ideals of the world. Such a Jewish Commonwealth will finally answer the agonized need of the most martyred of peoples, and take its right-

ful place in the progressive order of mankind which ~~is expected to~~  
<sup>will</sup> issue from the present struggle

*it is prayerfully hoped*



IN PLACE OF PARAGRAPH ONE AND TWO XXX OF THE  
MAJORITY RESOLUTION

*Jewish*  
We, ~~xxx~~ citizens of the United States, whose secure home is in this our beloved land which, because of its democratic institutions and just laws, 'gives to bigotry no sanction and to persecution no assistance', are gathered now as an American Jewish Conference, a democratically elected body representative of American Jewry, to cope with the tragic problems of our fellow Jews all over the world. We would wish that our fellow Jews everywhere could enjoy the same privilege of equal opportunity in a home of liberty such as we enjoy. We know, however, that in a world broken by the destructiveness of war and ~~xxx~~ poisoned by the propaganda of hate, such equal liberties and opportunities are not, in the discernible present, everywhere obtainable.

In the light of the realities of the world situation, we realize that for the masses of our fellow Jews, a thorough-going political and economic change is indispensable.

We therefore make the following declaration of principles as to the relation between the Jewish people, the Homeland in Palestine, and the world need for post-war reconstruction.

(From here on continue with Paragraph 3 of original majority resolution.)



IN PLACE OF PARAGRAPH ONE AND TWO ~~AND~~ OF THE  
MAJORITY RESOLUTION

We, ~~the~~ citizens of the United States, whose secure home is in this our beloved land which, because of its democratic institutions and just laws, 'gives to bigotry no sanction and to persecution no assistance', are gathered ~~now~~ *here* as an American Jewish Conference, a democratically elected body representative of American Jewry, to cope with the

tragic problems of our fellow Jews all over the world. *It is an* We *hope that conditions will be created where each Jew* would wish that our fellow Jews everywhere could enjoy the *extensive*

*Ch* same privilege of equal opportunity *in a home of liberty* such as we enjoy. *perhaps further* We know, however, that in a world broken by the destructiveness of war and ~~the~~ poisoned by the propaganda of hate, such equal liberties and opportunities are not, in the discernible present, everywhere obtainable.

~~However, that~~ *✓* in the light of the realities of the world situation, we realize that for the masses of our fellow Jews, a thorough-going political and economic change is indispensable.

*✓* *and because, the fact that Jews have been bound by history and natural ties to the Holy Land and because, the by and large, which the 13. D. & Congress have taken to the Jewish people to establish the 5. House*  
We, therefore make the following declaration of principles as to the relation between the Jewish people, the Homeland in Palestine, and the world need for post-war reconstruction.

(From here on continue with Paragraph 3 of original majority resolution.) *f m m*



IN PLACE OF PARAGRAPH ONE AND TWO OF THE MAJORITY RESOLUTION

~~As Jewish~~  
~~citizens~~  
We, ~~citizens~~ <sup>living in - living peace and</sup> of the United States, ~~whose~~ <sup>living securely</sup> ~~home~~ <sup>with the</sup> is in this ~~and dedicated in undivided loyalty to the~~ <sup>with the</sup> our beloved land which, because of its democratic institutions and just laws, ~~gives to bigotry no sanction and to persecution no assistance,~~ <sup>in which</sup> are gathered here as an American Jewish Conference, a democratically elected body representative of American Jewry, to cope with the tragic problems of our fellow Jews all over the world. It is ~~in~~ <sup>our</sup> the hope that conditions will be created which will extend the same privilege, of equal opportunity, liberty, justice ~~such~~ <sup>enjoyment such</sup> as we enjoy.

But in the light of the realities of the world situation, and because of the fact that Jews have been bound by historic and spiritual ties to Palestine and because of the legal rights which the Balfour Declaration and the Palestine Mandate have given to the Jewish people to establish the Jewish Homeland in Palestine, we therefore, make the following declaration of principles as to the relation between the Jewish people, the Homeland in Palestine, and the world need for post-war reconstruction.

Truly  
- Epstein



IN PLACE OF PARAGRAPH ONE AND TWO ~~XXX~~ OF THE  
MAJORITY RESOLUTION

We, ~~the~~ citizens of the United States, whose secure home is in this our beloved land which, because of its democratic institutions and just laws, 'gives to bigotry no sanction and to persecution no assistance', are gathered now as an American Jewish Conference, a democratically elected body representative of American Jewry, to cope with the tragic problems of our fellow Jews all over the world. We would wish that our fellow Jews everywhere could enjoy the same privilege of equal opportunity in a home of liberty such as we enjoy. We know, however, that in a world broken by the destructiveness of war and ~~the~~ poisoned by the propaganda of hate, such equal liberties and opportunities are not, in the discernible present, everywhere obtainable.

In the light of the realities of the world situation, we realize that for the masses of our fellow Jews, a thoroughgoing political and economic change is indispensable.

We therefore make the following declaration of principles as to the relation between the Jewish people, the Homeland in Palestine, and the world need for post-war reconstruction.

(From here on continue with Paragraph 3 of original majority resolution.)



4-1-58

# A P P E A L

## to the Delegates of the AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE

by  
Representation of Polish Jewry

Brothers and Sisters!

**W**E POLISH JEWS, united in the Representation of Polish Jewry which embraces the foremost Jewish organizations of Poland—Agudath Israel, Zionist Organization of Poland, Mizrachi, Poale Zion Hitachduth, Hapoel Hamizrachi, Poale Agudath Israel, and WIZO (Women's Organization)—appeal to you, delegates of the American Jewish Conference from the depths of our hearts.

For the past four years our brothers and sisters in Poland have been struggling to survive, have been tortured and have breathed their last in pools of their own blood.

Tens of thousands of Polish Jews have been massacred. Tens and hundreds of thousands of men, women and children have murderously and sadistically been asphyxiated in gas chambers.

Tens and hundreds of thousands of men, women and children are in labor camps, working as slaves and struggling under the whip of their Nazi overseers. They are ill fed, underclothed and gradually pine away from undernourishment and disease.

The sole fare of the Jew in Poland today is a piece of bread—and that in an amount inadequate to keep body and soul together.

Their possessions have been confiscated by the Nazi robber, their homes destroyed, their sources of income taken away from them and their heads bowed in misery and dishonor.

The Jews in Poland, comprising not only native Jews but those who have been deported from their homes in Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Germany, Holland, Norway, etc., are perishing of famine and sickness.

Their agonized cries reach our ears daily. Their heroic struggle on the barricades of the Ghettoes will go down in the annals of glorious Jewish history. They demand of us immediate help and rescue. Theirs are the voices of the dying, calls from beyond the grave, the voices of men doomed to extermination.

We Polish Jews appeal to you, delegates of the American Jewish Conference to heed the call of these desperate souls, to save the Jews in Poland from destruction. Do not permit the centuries-old Jewish communities of Poland to perish. Raise your voices in protest against the enormities being perpetrated against your people. Rouse the democratic world and the Allied Nations to a realization of their responsibilities, to their duty to put a stop to this barbaric horror which will leave its ugly stain on the pages of history for centuries to come.

There are still ways to rescue our brothers; it is still possible to sustain them among the living, to breathe renewed life into their blanched cheeks.

It is your and our brotherly duty to open the eyes of the Allied Nations to the possibilities that still exist for the succor of the Jews in Poland. Help must come now, today. Tomorrow may be too late.

It is incumbent upon The American Jewish Conference, representing all of American Jewry, to undertake the following steps immediately:

1. *Impel the Allied Nations to issue an immediate categorical warning to the German people that they will be held to strict accountability unless the slaughter of the Jews in Poland is brought to an end.*
2. *Appeal to the Allied Nations to obtain the release of all Jewish women and children from Poland, this to be done with the cooperation of the neutral governments.*
3. *Undertake all the necessary steps to secure and assure immediate shipments of food and clothing to the Ghettoes of Poland.*
4. *Intercede with the Allied Nations for the recognition of Jews in the Ghettoes, the concentration and labor camps as civilian internees, entitled to the same help from the International Red Cross which is granted to all other civilian internees.*
5. *Appeal to American Jewry to send funds to the Jewish Underground movement in Poland, for immediate rescue work among the Jews in the Ghettoes.*

The fate of our brothers and sisters lies in your hands. You are in a position to save them from brutal destruction. Destiny so willed it that you, breathing the air of freedom in the United States, may become immortalized as the saviors of your people in the darkest hour of their history.

It is the first and holiest of your duties, as men and as Jews, to save the remnant of our stricken people. The 5,000,000 Jews of the United States must become the big brothers of the Jews in Poland, caring for them in their distress and helping them to make a moral and physical recovery.

We appeal to you as brothers to brothers. We who have escaped from the hell of Nazi terror cannot have peace as long as we know that our near ones are being destroyed.

***Save them while there is yet time!***

***Our people is struggling for its existence!***

***Our people lies bleeding and the butchers axe still continues to strike!***

***You cannot, YOU MUST NOT, YOU DARE NOT PERMIT THE EXTINCTION OF OUR PEOPLE IN POLAND!***

New York, August 29, 1943



There are some organizations represented here thus  
affiliated delegates which have not yet taken formal  
action on some of the issues raised at this conference.  
It should be made clear that all organizations  
have the right to ~~ratify~~ any action taken  
here, if ~~so~~ they wish it. This was the basic  
agreement underlying this conference.

