



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

Featuring collections from the Western Reserve Historical Society and
The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.

Series I: General Correspondence, 1914-1969, undated.

Sub-series A: Alphabetical, 1914-1965, undated.

Reel
6

Box
2

Folder
128

American Zionist Emergency Council, "L", 1944-1945.

C
O
P
Y

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Mr. J. Linton
Jewish Agency for Palestine
77 Great Russell Street
London, W.C.1.

12th June, 1944.

The Under-Secretary of State
Colonial Office
Downing Street, S.W.L.

Sir,

I am directed by the Executive of the Jewish Agency for Palestine to thank you for your letter of the 15th May, 1944, with regard to Jewish immigration into Palestine.

2. The Executive appreciate the decisions conveyed in paragraph 3 of your letter regarding the allocation of certificates to refugees in countries in Europe which have been, or may in future be, liberated from enemy control, and the continued validity of immigration certificates issued to persons in "safe" countries.

The Executive would, however, strongly urge that the quota procedure in use hitherto should be continued in some form. The alternative of making separate applications on behalf of individuals would be cumbersome, and must, in present circumstances, involve long delays, adding substantially to the difficulty of arranging transport, and in some cases making such arrangements impossible. For example, from Spain and Portugal the method of transportation at present is that followed in the case of the SS Nyassa - i.e. by the charter of a local steamer. For this purpose, sufficient certificates must be made available to fill the prospective steamer. There was an opportunity of chartering a Portuguese boat in mid-June, but nothing came of it because the Jewish Agency could not supply at the time the required number of certificates, (though these have since been granted - see paragraph 4). Moreover, the charter of a ship involves heavy financial commitments, which would not be justified unless the certificates could be secured in advance to cover the available accommodation. Furthermore, under the quota system, where the number of certificates allotted is known in advance, selection of immigrants and planning of transport is facilitated. Moreover, it provides a reserve of certificates, which makes it possible, in cases of emergency, to transfer certificates without undue delay to points where they are urgently needed.

The Executive trust that further consideration may be given to the question of the quota system in the light of the above submissions.

3. Since the receipt of your letter of the 15th May, Mr. Locker and Mr. Linton have raised with Sir William Battershill the question of immigration from Spain, Portugal and Tangier, and received a reply dated May 25th. The Executive fear that some confusion may have arisen with regard to the position in these countries. The bulk of emigrants from these parts - anyhow from Spain and Portugal - are refugees from enemy or enemy-occupied territory. They should, in the submission of the Executive, be treated in the same way as refugees who escape to Turkey. Their position may not be in all respects identical, but Spain and Portugal are for them countries of transit and not of permanent residence, and it is in the interests of other Jews still in occupied territory, who may be able to reach Spain or Portugal, that the refugees already in those countries should be removed as quickly as possible.

4. The Executive have received a cable from their colleagues in Jerusalem dated the 23rd May, 1944, that an application was made on that date for an immediate grant of 2,700 certificates, as follows:

- i) 600 for Spain, Portugal and Tangier;
- ii) 800 for refugees in Italy;
- iii) 800 for Yemenite Jewish refugees in Aden;
- iv) 500 for urgent cases in Turkey and other countries.

A subsequent cable was received on the 9th June, reading as follows:

"REPLYING OURS 23/5 GOVERNMENT APPROVED ONLY 600 CERTIFICATES FOR SPAIN PORTUGAL TANGIER STOP STATES UNABLE ACCEPT OTHER REQUESTS VIEW RECENT ARRANGEMENT COLONIAL YOURSELVES STOP PROPOSE MAKING FURTHER REPRESENTATION HERE AS POSITION REFUGEES ADEN ITALY UTTERLY UNTENABLE AND MUST HAVE RESERVE FOR URGENT CASES OTHER COUNTRIES."

The Executive are very grateful for the grant of the requested 600 certificates for the Iberian Peninsula and Tangier, but they do not understand the reference of the Palestine Government to an arrangement made by the Colonial Office with them on which the refusal of the balance of the requested certificates could have been based.

The Executive desire most urgently to support the application made in Jerusalem for the grant of the balance of the original application, namely, 2,100 certificates. As regards Italy, they were under the impression that no difficulties would be raised in allocating certificates for refugees in that country, in view of paragraph 3 of your letter of the 15th May, 1944, which stated that "some proportion of the places remaining under the quota which had been allocated for refugees from enemy or enemy-occupied centres should be filled by the transfer of refugees in any country in Europe that has been, or may in future be, liberated from enemy control." The Executive understand that the Inter-Governmental Committee recently received a cable from its representative in Italy supporting the request for 800 certificates.

On the subject of certificates for the Yemenite Jews in Aden, the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem has pointed out the impracticability of making an examination of each individual case, or of drawing distinctions between refugee and refugee where the position of all is so hopeless. (The food situation is very unsatisfactory, and the assistance hitherto received from America for the maintenance of these refugees will shortly cease, so that the position will become even more difficult). It becomes urgent, therefore, that as many as possible should be removed to Palestine without delay.

There remains the request for 500 certificates for urgent cases in Turkey and other countries. Information has already been given on previous occasions in regard to the precarious position of the Jews in Turkey, and there are also cases of urgency in other countries - e.g. North Africa, - as well as the need for a small reserve to which reference has been made above.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(SGD) J. LINTON

Political Secretary

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	NIGHT LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	SHIP RADIOGRAM

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CHECK
ACCT'G INFMN.
TIME FILED

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

6-14-44

H. L. Laurie
N. Y.

Please send the document of which I spoke
to you air-mail. Special, also answer of
State Dept if available.

A. H. Silver

RECEIVED	
NOTED BY	REF R TO
DATE	DATE
SEP 8 1944	AL
	HCM
ANSWERED	

הסוכנות היהודית לארץ-ישראל
 THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

P. O. B. 92
 JERUSALEM

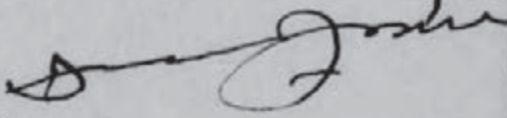
ת.ד. 92
 ירושלים

15th June, 1944.

Dear Arthur,

This will acknowledge your letter of May 5th enclosing the reply to the "Readers' Digest". I need not tell you that Painton's "report" was a "subjective" distortion, the "subject" being a certain Arab official.

Your reply was effective. Let me know whether any good came of it.

Yours sincerely


Arthur Lourie, Esq.
 342 Madison Avenue,
 New York City.

Volume 114--No. 23

Philadelphia, Tamuz 9, 5704--June 30, 1944

Republican National Convention Reaffirms
Balfour Declaration

Favors Unlimited Jewish Immigration and
Land Purchase in Palestine

The Republican National Convention, in its platform adopted unanimously last Tuesday, expressed itself in favor of:

Unrestricted Jewish immigration into Palestine.

Unrestricted land purchase by Jews in that ancient country.

Reaffirmed the Balfour Declaration by which Great Britain is committed to a program aimed to facilitate the establishment of the Jewish National Home in Palestine "so that . . . Palestine may be considered as a free and democratic commonwealth."

By taking this positive stand and incorporating it in its official platform, the Republican Party has made its position clear with reference to the British White Paper--a source of grief to Jewish people everywhere--which called for the virtual stoppage of Jewish immigration into Palestine and would greatly limit land purchase by Jews in that ancient country.

follows:

(Republican plank)

Though the White Paper is not mentioned directly the Republican Party by its present declaration has served notice on Great Britain that it is unalterably opposed to the implementation of the White Paper and that that will be the official policy of the United States Government if the Republican candidates are elected to office.

The official text of the plank

July 2, 1944

Mr. Marvin Lowenthal
389 Bleecker Street
New York, N.Y.

My dear Marvin:

Is there any prospect of articles on Zionism and Jewish Palestine appearing in a few of our leading magazines in the near future? I note that a featured article on the Arabs of the Near East appears in this week's Saturday Evening Post. Harold Lamm is the author. Are we making any progress in this field? If not, is there anything that we should be doing to correct the situation?

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:EK

American Zionist Emergency Council

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

WASHINGTON BUREAU
1720 Sixteenth Street, Northwest
Michigan 4480

ZONE 9

July 6, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Silver:

Thank you very much for your kind note of June 30th which I received yesterday upon my return from New York. We have today exactly 301 statements (58 from Senators and 243 from Congressmen), which is about 57%.

The 301 statements were sent today to Miss Schwartz at the New York office so that they may begin editing the material which is available now. I am turning over to Mr. Sack today the list of those 38 Senators from whom we have not received statements.

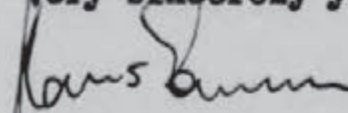
To all Republican members of the House from whom we have not had any response, a letter was sent last week with the Palestine plank from the party platform, urging them to send us statements soon.

To all Democrats who have not responded yet, a similar letter is going today with the attached statement by Majority Leader McCormack.

Finally, we have written in recent weeks to all Community Chairmen whose Representatives have not responded yet, requesting them to exert all their influence to obtain statements from their respective Representatives. A follow up wire was sent today to all those Chairmen who have not replied. I trust that all these efforts will succeed in obtaining additional statements.

In the personal contacts, as well as in letters which we received, it was made very clear to us, that many Congressmen hesitate to issue statements after the opposition by the military men voiced in the House Foreign Affairs Committee. There was also expressed occasionally a feeling that during the war nothing should be done which might antagonize our British allies. I mention these two factors because they both were absent when the material was collected for the publication, "The American War Congress and Zionism", which was published in 1919 and which contained a total of 300 statements (61 Senators' and 239 Representatives'). The collection of that material was extended over a period of six months, from June to December, 1918.

Very sincerely yours,



Hans Lamm

HL:sbr

cc: Mr. Louis Lipsky, Rabbi Leon I. Feuer,
Mr. Harry Shapiro, Mr. Leo R. Sack

American Zionist Emergency Council

342 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.
M U r r a y H i l l 2 - 1 1 6 0

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

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

July 6, 1944.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

1) The cable from Zwi Taubes enclosed in your letter to Mr. Shapiro of June 28th has been handed over to Rabbi Miller in his capacity as chairman of the Rescue Commission of the Conference.

2) I enclose a copy of the letter sent to Mr. Stettinius with reference to the Christian Science Monitor.

3) I think it would be a mistake to answer Bergson's letter to you with reference to the Shmulevitz sentence. So far as action on our part in this matter is concerned, I think we should be guided by the Executive in Jerusalem. I have sent a full rate cable to Joseph this morning in the following terms:

CABLE URGENT WHETHER APPEALING CLEMENCY SHMULEVITZ

I would counsel against public action until we receive a reply. On the other hand, it might be desirable to send a letter to the British Embassy requesting that they cable our representations to London. I enclose a suggested letter, which, if you approve, please sign and send on.

4) I enclose the final version of the partition memorandum, together with covering letter addressed to Mr. Hull: also a note to Mr. Stettinius enclosing a copy.

5) I have spoken to Judge Rosenblatt about the possibilities of legal action in regard to the Bergson group. He is getting into touch with Tulin about it; I also rang Tulin, but so far have failed to reach him. I shall try again today. If he is not ready to give the matter immediate consideration, it may be desirable to brief a lawyer on a professional basis. (I have since spoken to Tulin and he is looking into it).

6) Regarding Rosenblatt's letter to you about the preparation of a brief for the State Department, as I explained on the telephone the group which met in Judge Rifkind's Chambers were skeptical as to the possibility of getting leading men to associate themselves with a document on the illegality of the White Paper. On the other hand, they felt that there was a good deal of ignorance in the State Department


Dr. Abba Hillel Silver -2-

and that a careful legal brief on the Mandate and America's position in regard thereto should be prepared for submission to the State Department. Personally, I am inclined to doubt whether such a statement will do much to affect the attitude of anybody in the Department, but I presume that you will have an opportunity of discussing this with Judge Rosenblatt when you see him on Monday.

7) I enclose copy of the letter sent to the Christian Science Monitor.

8) I also enclose copy of a rather remarkable letter dealing with Russia. The letter was written to a Dr. K., who lives in England and with whom I am well acquainted, by a friend of his who went to Moscow on some kind of official mission and called on K's sister there. The letter, of course, did not go through the Russian censorship.

Yours sincerely,


Arthur Lourie

AL:LB
Encls.

P.S. Since writing the above I have learned that the Shmulevitz sentence has been commuted to life imprisonment.

WRHS



COPY

(Translation from Hebrew)

Italy, Santa Maria Camp
July 7, 1944.

Zionist Youth Group

To
Hashomer Hatzair
Hechalutz Organization
& any other pioneer-youth movement
Wherever they may be.

Dear Chaverim:

We wish to call your attention to a group of children who were transferred to a concentration camp in the United States. These children were brought up in a Zionist pioneer atmosphere. They studied Hebrew and were organized in a Zionist pioneer club, composed of youth of all shades of labor Zionists within the Zionist Organization.

We beg you to please delegate a special representative to teach these children Hebrew and continue their pioneer education. It is desirable that you attach great importance to this matter and give it your earnest consideration. The children themselves will deliver this letter to you and they impatiently await your representative.

We started our activity for the education of these children in the concentration camp in Parmonti at the time of the Fascist rule and notwithstanding the strict guard of the police. The children thus became accustomed to working in the underground. We were supported in our work by our friends in Palestine after this part of Italy was liberated by the Allies. The children were at first transferred from Parmonti to be deported as Yugoslav partisans to North Africa, and it was only thanks to the efforts of the representatives of the Zionist movement, who accompanied the children in their wanderings, that they were separated from the non-Jewish Yugoslav partisans and placed in a camp for Jews. To our great regret we did not succeed in keeping them here and preventing their transfer to the U.S.A. The parents of the children, against the children's wishes, were in favor of their transfer to a camp in the United States, since the number of immigration certificates for Palestine is very limited here.

The children are organized in groups. Some of them are already in Palestine and some are scheduled to go there shortly. It is, therefore, worthwhile to help these groups retain their character. A number of them have addresses of friends in Palestine and it would be desirable that they keep in steady contact with their friends.

Please see to it that they are not shipped back to their country of origin!! Make an effort to get for them youth certificates and visas for Palestine!! We were unsuccessful in this respect.

We hope to receive shortly news of a positive nature through the central executive council in Palestine.

With Zion greetings in the Diaspora,

Chazak Veematz,
CHAIM WEINBERG ARIEH GROSSMAN

C O P Y

The Evening Bulletin - Phila.

Saturday - July 8, 1944

RALPH W. PAGE

Palestine TVA would Support Larger Population



C O P Y

Louis E. Levinthal

606 City Hall
Philadelphia

July 11, 1944.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,
Chairman, Executive Committee,
American Zionist Emergency Council,
342 Madison Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Dr. Silver:

I am enclosing the first page of the Jewish Exponent of June 30th, 1944. You will note that the Republican National Convention plank on Palestine was given prominent display. The Exponent is now a community publication owned and directed jointly by the Boards of the Federation of Jewish Charities and the Allied Jewish Appeal and reaches every contributor to these agencies.

I am enclosing also clipping of Ralph Page's column in the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin. Page, as you probably know, is the son of former Ambassador Page and an intimate friend of President Roosevelt. He first learned something about Zionism three years ago when he attended the dinner on the occasion of my election to the presidency of the Z.O.A. I have since kept in close touch with him and I believe he is now an ardent advocate of our cause.

The Evening Bulletin, as you undoubtedly are aware, has the largest circulation of any evening newspaper in the United States. Its average daily circulation is 690,000. In my opinion it would be worth while to have the Page column utilized in connection with the distribution of the Lowdermilk book.

With kind personal regards, I am

Cordially,

(signed) Louis E. Levinthal

July 12, 1944

Mr. Irving D. Lipkowitz
270 Broadway
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Lipkowitz:

Pursuant to our telephone conversation of yesterday, I am enclosing the following documents:

- (a) Complete copy of the Registration Statement of the Hebrew Committee filed with the United States Department of Justice, June 15th. (With the exception of a few typed enclosures, this material has been photostated from the original.)
- (b) Pamphlet issued by the American League for a Free Palestine entitled "The Survival and Freedom of the Hebrew Nation is Your Concern".
- (c) Pamphlet entitled "10 Facts about the American League for a Free Palestine". This was issued about four or five months ago, at which time the Hebrew Committee for National Liberation which the American League for a Free Palestine has been organized to support, was called the "Free Palestine Committee." Note the concluding paragraph of the program of action set out in this pamphlet: "To support the Free Palestine Committee, truly representative of the Hebrew nation of Europe and Palestine, in its struggle to achieve an independent and autonomous Jewish State."
- (d) Application blank of the American League for a Free Palestine.
- (e) Copy of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended. (Issued Washington, 1942).
- (f) Photostatic copy of letter from Mr. Bergson on American Friends for a Free Palestine stationery to Dr. Wise, asking support for Irgun Zvai Leumi.

2-Irving D. Lipkowitz, 7/12/44

- (g) A few newspaper advertisements of the American League for a Free Palestine and the Hebrew Committee for National Liberation. Note the appeal for funds contained in the advertisements of the Hebrew Committee for National Liberation.
- (h) Copy of a memorandum prepared by myself on the relative position of the Jewish Agency and the Hebrew Committee.
- (i) Copy of "The Answer", journal of the Bergson group. (Note the reference in exhibit "C" issued by the American League for a Free Palestine to "our bi-weekly magazine, The Answer.")

The Zionist Emergency Council is most anxious to have as quickly as possible an opinion as to whether:

- (a) Action can be taken to void the registration of the Hebrew Committee on the ground that they represent either a non-existent principal or a principal which has never authorized the alleged representation.
- (b) Any action, civil or criminal, lies in respect of the collection of funds on the basis of the representation that the Hebrew Committee for National Liberation represents the Hebrew nation or Jewish people, whereas that claim is without foundation in fact.
- (c) Any other appropriate legal remedy exists.

Incidentally you will notice that on page 5 of exhibit "E" of the Hebrew Committee's Statement of Registration (my exhibit "A"), it is stated that the Committee intends to finance its future activities through the medium of a public loan, the issuance of which is pending the approval of the Securities Exchange Commission. My information is that no application has as yet been made to the Commission in this connection.

I should be grateful if you could ring me at your earliest convenience and let me know when we might expect your opinion and also if you could give me an idea of the fee.

With kindest personal regards

Sincerely yours

Arthur Lourie

AL:CK
Enc. 8

July 13, 1944

The Honorable Judge Louis E. Levinthal
606 City Hall
Philadelphia, Pa.

My dear Judge Levinthal:

Thank you for your letter of July 11 and for sending me the first page of the "Jewish Exponent" which carries the story of the Palestine plank in the Republican Platform. It is a job well done.

The New York Office forgot to send me Ralph Page's column which you enclosed. I am asking for it and I know that I shall read it with a great deal of interest. Lowdermilk's book has done us a world of good and I am sure that our office will utilize Page's column on it to the utmost.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ANS:BK

AMERICAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE

1720 SIXTEENTH STREET, N. W.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

MICHIGAN 4480

ROBERT F. WAGNER

CHAIRMAN

CHARLES L. McNARY

CO-CHAIRMAN

WILLIAM GREEN

WILLIAM H. KING

JOHN A. RYAN

VICE-CHAIRMEN

NEW YORK OFFICE

41 EAST 42ND STREET

MURRAY HILL 2-1100

July 13, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th and Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

At our short conference the other day I spoke of the possibility of being in Cleveland on Friday, July 21st, to meet with a committee which you would call together to discuss a local organization of the American Palestine Committee.

Mr. Magida tells me that under the leadership of Judge Daniel Morgan a local organization has been set up. I would be very glad to discuss with them the activities which other local organizations are carrying on and confer with them on plans for the fall. If you think this is advisable, I will make the necessary arrangements to be present. I will be in Lakeside on Sunday of this week and will call you by phone from there to get your final word.

With kindest regards, I am

Very cordially yours,

Howard M. LeSourd

Howard M. LeSourd
Director

HMLes:LM

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

MEMORANDUM

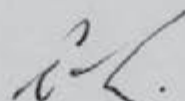
To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
East 105 St. at Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

Date July 13, 1944

From Arthur Lourie

I attach a Memorandum which I have prepared for the Women Lawyers' Committee. It will be submitted in her own name by one of the members of the International Affairs Sub Committee of the National Association of Women Lawyers at their forthcoming Convention.

AL:CK
Enc.



4-1-1
Laurie

July 14, 1944

The Editor,
Foreign Policy Bulletin
Foreign Policy Association
22 East 38th Street
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

The article on the Republican Platform in your issue of July 7th, by Vera Micholes Dean, contains one statement which is not a little surprising coming as it does from so distinguished a student of international affairs.

Miss Dean criticizes that section of the Platform which deals with Palestine, as an intervention in matters affecting British rights of "sovereignty" in that country. Surely this gives an entirely false view of the nature of Britain's rights and status in Palestine. Britain is not the owner of Palestine and her rights and status there are very different from such sovereign rights as she may have in respect of any British Colonial possession. Her position is that of a trustee administering the country on behalf of the League of Nations in terms of and limited by the Mandatory instrument. Moreover, it is not only the League which is concerned with the fulfillment of the Palestine Mandate; this country too has very definite interests. Thus American consent was sought and obtained before the Balfour Declaration with its promise of a National Home for the Jews was issued. And the 1925 American British Palestine Mandate Convention, after reciting the text of the Palestine Mandate in full, provided that:

"Subject to the provisions of the present convention the United States consents to the administration by His Britannic Majesty, pursuant to the aforesaid mandate, of Palestine as defined in the mandate recited above."

In addition every President since President Wilson has expressed in no uncertain terms the interest of the American Government and people in the implementation of the Jewish National Home promise.

Apart from any legal rights that this country may have in regard to Palestine, there is further a wider interest the nature

2-The Editor.

Foreign Policy Bulletin, 7/14/44

of which was expressed recently before the House Foreign Affairs Committee by Mr. Breckenridge Long, in the following terms: "But the question of Palestine has a larger significance... We have been interested and will continue to be interested from the point of view of the larger aspects of world security and of world peace, as well as the rights of humans and humanitarian sympathies and the religious sentiments involved."

In the circumstances the suggestion of Miss Dean that Palestine is purely a British affair is to say the least ~~very~~ unfortunate, and it is regrettable that it should have found a place in the Bulletin of the Association.

Sincerely yours

AL:CK

Arthur Lourie



July 14, 1944

Mr. Arthur Lourie
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Lourie:

The Memorandum which you sent me prepared for the Women Lawyers' Committee is very good and I hope that the Committee will take the action which is recommended in this Memorandum.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

July 17, 1944

Mr. Arthur Lourie
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Lourie:

Isn't this the Irving Ziemman of Boston whom we traced down some time ago as having send a vicious anti-Zionist communication to an English periodical? I would be interested to receive information about this gentleman.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK
Enc.

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

MEMORANDUM

To Mr. Louis Lipsky
 ✓ Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date July 18, 1944

From Hans Lamm

I am delighted to inform you that we have at this time a total of 340 statements by members of Congress, which is almost two-thirds of both Houses. I shall be back in Washington Thursday and intensified efforts will be made to get statements from those representatives and senators who have not as yet responded to our repeated appeals. If the Democratic Party should adopt the pre-Palestine platform this week, an excerpt from it will be sent to all Democrats from whom we have not heard.

I am closely cooperating with Mr. Fink, who is editing the book, and I am giving him all assistance possible.

HL:CF

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
1720—16TH STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON 9, D. C.

Please copy and return
copy in E.C. office
LB

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
41 EAST 42ND STREET
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

July 24th, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,
c/o Emergency Council,
342 Madison Avenue,
New York City

Dear Dr. Silver:

Dr. Goldstein has asked me to convey the following message in connection with your meeting today.

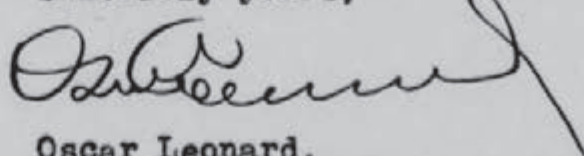
"I regret that I am away from the city and therefore am unable to attend the meeting of the Emergency Council Executive today.

"Needless to say I join with all of you in registering deep satisfaction over the achievement of securing the inclusion of a Palestine plank in the Democratic platform. May I, as one who with Mr. Shulman was at the side of Dr. Wise in Chicago, convey my sense of the profound impression made by Dr. Wise personally both in his presentation of our case at the hearing and in his numerous personal contacts. It was his personal triumph as well as a triumph of his and our cause. This achievement added to your achievement of a Palestine plank in the Republican platform places our case upon the highway of American public opinion.

"I would so much like to participate in today's discussion but being prevented by my absence from the city I look forward to the next meeting when we can talk over the next steps.

"With cordial regards to you and all of my colleagues, I am"

Sincerely yours,



Oscar Leonard,
Assistant to the President

ol.sh.

July 31st, 1944.

JL/RSt

N.I. Feonov, Esq.,
UNRRA,
11, Portland Place,
W.1.

Dear Mr. Feonov,

After the interview which you kindly gave to Mr. Locker and myself on the 15th June last, we cabled to our Jerusalem Office for further details regarding the supplies which Palestine industry could make available for the purposes of UNRRA. We have now received a reply by cable from which we are able to give you the following information:-

During the first year the following approximate quantities could be supplied.

1. <u>FOODSTUFFS:</u>	Citrus squashes	9,000,000 bottles
	Jams & Marmalades	30,000 tons
	Tomato Juice & Purée	100 tons
	Canned Green Peas & Beans	250 tons
	Oranges	Practically any quantity required
	Chocolate	4 to 5,000 tons
	Sweets	1,000 tons
	Halawa	1,000 tons
	Biscuits	1,200 tons
	Biscuits (diabetic)	30 tons
	Macaroni	3,000 tons
	Edible Oils	5 to 6,000 tons
	Mazzot (Unleavened bread)	3 to 4,000 tons
	Sauerkraut	180 tons
	Cornflour	600 tons
	Cognac	50,000 litres
	Wines	800,000 litres
	Cigarettes	700,000 kilograms
	Calcium Lacticum	30 tons

/ 2. WEARING APPAREL:

2. WEARING APPAREL: Men's, Women's & Children's
- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Leather Boots & Shoes | 1 to 1,500,000 pairs. |
| Men's Suits or Overcoats | 120 to 150,000 pieces. |
| Ladies Overcoats | 120 to 150,000 pieces. |
| Ladies Dresses | 100,000 pieces. |
| Socks & Stockings | 250,000 dozen. |

As regard tricot underwear, knitted goods, shirtings, handkerchiefs, sheets, belting, buttons, zip fasteners, shoe laces, considerable quantities could be supplied but specifications are required before definite quantities can be quoted.

3. TENTS, TARPAULINS: 700,000 - 800,000 sq. metres.
4. WASHING & TOILET SOAP: 7,000 tons.
Shoe Polish 600 tons.

5. PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS:

About 600 different preparations could be supplied among them anaesthetics, anti-diarrhoeica, anti-dysenterica, anti-phlogistica, antiseptics, cardiaca, dermatica, diuretica, gynaecologica, hypnotica, spasmolytica, sulphinilamides, tonica. Details can be found in Part III of the Palestine Trade Catalogue, which I am enclosing herewith. The total yearly Output of these products has reached some £2,000,000. Detailed quotations are not possible without a list of specified requirements.

6. INSECTICIDES & DISINFECTANTS:

These products for domestic and hospital purposes could be supplied in considerable quantities, but specifications would be required.

7. SUNDRY APPLIANCES:

Razor Blades	30,000,000
Shaving Brushes	500,000
Toothbrushes - wood & bone	100,000
Tooth-paste & Dentifrices	3,000,000 tubes

Our Jerusalem Office points out that if Army Orders are placed simultaneously, the quantities given above would have to be reduced accordingly. Deliveries are subject to approval of the Palestine Government and Middle East Supply Centre and to a reasonable distribution of orders throughout the year according to season.

/ The

The following information has been given to us in reply to our enquiry about the availability of raw materials:-

1. FOODSTUFFS: A considerable part of the raw materials are available locally. The balance can be obtained from the Middle Eastern countries or India, except soft wheat or wheat flour which must be imported from overseas.
2. WEARING APPAREL: Sole and upper leather can be manufactured locally; hides and skins are partly available locally. A considerable part can be obtained from the Middle East and the balance from South Africa.

Woollen yarns must be imported from the United Kingdom or the U.S.A. Cotton yarns, numbers under 40, can partly be manufactured locally from cotton imported from India or Egypt, counts over 40 must be imported from India or the United Kingdom.
3. TENTS, TARPAULINS: Cotton yarns for tents and tarpaulins from the same sources.
4. WASHING & TOILET SOAP: Oil seeds for soap are available from Middle East sources and India. Caustic soda must be imported from the United Kingdom or Russia.
5. PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS: Very many of the raw materials are available locally others must be imported from the U.S.A. or the United Kingdom. The import of raw materials depends upon the list of products to be supplied.
6. INSECTICIDES & DISINFECTANTS: Most of the raw materials are available locally; a small part would have to be imported from East Africa, the United Kingdom, or the U.S.A.
7. SUNDRY APPLIANCES: For razor blades, raw materials are available locally for a couple of years. Raw material for brushes are partly obtainable from Middle East Countries. Packing material, especially tin plates, bottles and paper, must be provided from overseas.

Summarizing, our Jerusalem Office states that the better part of the raw materials are available from local sources and the Middle East, but part of the raw and packing materials required will have to be provided from overseas. Prices can be quoted only on the strength of inquiries specifying quantity, quality, and terms of delivery. It is hoped that Palestine industry will be assisted by the relevant authorities in obtaining raw materials at world market prices.

/ Finally.

Finally, you asked us about the organisation with which arrangements for the purchase of goods can be made. It is intended that the contracting body shall be a company established by the Jewish Agency for Palestine and the Palestine Manufacturers' Association, but in the meantime negotiations can be conducted with the Jewish Agency.

Should you desire any further information, please let me know. I shall be glad to help in every way I can in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

J. Linton



8/25/44
CS

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, 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

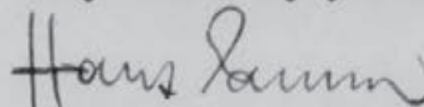
August 9, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Pilgrim Hotel
Plymouth, Mass.

Dear Dr. Silver:

You may be particularly interested in the results of the Essay Contest, which was sponsored jointly between the Zionist Youth Commission and the Council, because fifteen of the fifty-one winners were from Cleveland or Cleveland Heights. That is certainly a large proportion for a contest which was publicized nationally, and there is reason to assume that you may have had something to do with the concentration of Zionist knowledge and enthusiasm there.

Very sincerely yours,



Hans Lamm

HL:HH
enc.

P.S.

I am also enclosing two clippings from the Washington Daily News of July 31 and August 3rd, which may be of interest to you.

H. L.

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN
UNION 130.

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

1201

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

HW92 LG=NLQ NEWYORK NY AUG 14 1228P

DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

1944 AUG 15 PM 12 30

THE TEMPLE ANSEL RD EAST 105 ST=

THE WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS HAS SCHEDULED ITS WAR EMERGENCY CONFERENCE FOR NOVEMBER 11. SINCE IT WOULD BE UNDESIRABLE TO HAVE THAT MEETING PRECEDE THE SECOND SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE NOW SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 2, THE CONGRESS IS THEREFORE WILLING TO RELINQUISH ITS DATE AND POSTPONE ITS MEETING TO NOVEMBER 18. PLEASE ADVISE COLLECT IMMEDIATELY WHETHER YOU FAVOR A POLL OF THE INTERIM COMMITTEE PROPOSING THAT THE SECOND SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE BE HELD NOVEMBER 11=

LOUIS LIPSKY CHAIRMAN ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE.

August 15, 1944

Point 3 Nazi Crimes
STATEMENT ON RETRIBUTION

The leaders of the Nazi regime in Germany have, since their rise to power repeatedly and consistently proclaimed the extermination of the Jewish people to be one of their major aims, and have, both before and since the beginning of the war, pursued this aim with unrelenting vigor and brutality, utilizing every measure of degradation, despoliation, forced labor, starvation, deportation and mass murder. This campaign of terror and annihilation, they have carried out with unexampled bestiality in consort with their allies and associates, and with the connivance of their followers and subordinates in their home countries and of their collaborators in occupied territories. These crimes cannot go unpunished without destroying the legal and moral foundations upon which our civilization rests.

The United Nations, being aware of the manifold crimes committed by the Axis powers against the Jewish people, and recognizing the necessity of exacting full and just retribution, have solemnly and officially affirmed this to be their policy toward all those guilty of such crimes.

Thus, the Inter-Allied Declaration signed at St. James' Palace on January 13, 1942, though not making express reference to the Jews, proclaimed that the signatory powers "place among their principal war aims the punishment, through the channel of organized justice, of those guilty and responsible for these crimes [against civilians], whether they have ordered them, perpetrated them, or in any way participated in them."

Subsequently, in a Joint Declaration issued simultaneously at London and Washington on December 17, 1942, the United Nations took formal cognizance of the fact that "the German authorities... are now carrying into effect Hitler's oft-repeated intention to exterminate the Jewish people in Europe," and therefore "reaffirm their solemn resolution to ensure that those responsible for these crimes shall not escape retribution, and to press on with the necessary practical measures to this end."

In conjunction with the historic Moscow Conference the heads of the governments of the United States, the U.S.S.R., and Great Britain, "speaking in the interests of 32 United Nations," issued on November 1, 1943 "a solemn public declaration" which, as Secretary of State Cordell Hull stated on November 18, 1943, before a Joint Meeting of the Senate and the House of Representatives promised that "due punishment will be administered... to the perpetrators of the bestial and abominable crimes committed by the Nazi leaders against the harassed and persecuted inhabitants of occupied territories -- against people of all races and religions, among whom Hitler has reserved for the Jews his most brutal wrath."

This policy was clearly and emphatically reiterated on March 24, 1944, when President Roosevelt, with the approval of Prime Minister Churchill and Premier Stalin, made a public pronouncement, calling attention to the fact that the extermination of the Jewish people was "begun by the Nazis in the day of peace and multiplied by them a hundred times in time of war," and stating in part: "we... again proclaim our determination that none who participate in these acts of savagery [against Jews and other civilians] shall go unpunished. The United Nations have made it clear that they will pursue the guilty and deliver them up in order that justice be done. That warning applies not only to the leaders but also to their functionaries and subordinates in Germany and in the satellite countries.... All who share the guilt will share the punishment."

In view of the solemn and unequivocal declaration of policy embodied in these and similar official statements, which leave no doubt as to the intention of the United Nations to visit just punishment upon those guilty of crimes against the civilian population, and notably against the Jewish people, the American Jewish Conference, representing the Jewish community of the United States of America, urges that, in carrying out this policy, the United Nations take cognizance of and proper action upon the following considerations:

1. Among the crimes to be made punishable under this policy, there be expressly included the publicly announced intent of the Axis nations and their allies and associates to annihilate the Jewish people, and all acts whereby they sought to accomplish this aim, before and during the war, within their own and occupied territories.
2. In all trials of those guilty of crimes against civilian populations, criminal acts performed against the Jewish people shall be duly specified as part of the indictment.
3. Those charged with specific crimes against individual Jews, or with acts designed to bring about the ultimate annihilation of Jewish communities, such as deprivation, starvation, deportation, unendurable forced labor, and mass murder by whatever means, in territories occupied by the enemy, shall be prosecuted with the utmost energy and vigor in the national courts of the states where such crimes were committed, irrespective of the nationality of the accused or of the victims.
4. The prosecution of those guilty of such acts against the Jews in Germany and in the territories of her allies and associates, as well as of crimes not confined to single territories, shall be within the jurisdiction of the contemplated international court to try war criminals.
5. The United Nations shall agree among themselves to declare as common criminals, and shall so declare, all those guilty of such acts against the Jews, and shall require the Axis nations, their allies and associates, the neutral nations and any other country where the criminals may seek asylum, to surrender or extradite all persons thus designated. Provision for the surrender of such criminals by the Axis Powers, their allies and associates, shall be included in the terms of the armistice.

6. Representatives of the respective Jewish communities shall be consulted in the preparation of evidence against these criminals, and shall be recognized in the national courts as amici curiae, and provision shall be made to this effect.

7. Representatives of the Jewish people shall be officially admitted as amici curiae before the contemplated international prosecuting body and the international court to try war criminals. The constituting acts of these bodies shall contain the necessary provisions to this effect.

8. The Commission for the Investigation of War Crimes, or such other body as may be constituted for this purpose by the United Nations, shall receive and give due consideration to all suggestions which may be submitted to it by a representation of the Jewish people, and it shall grant such a representation a locus standi.



August 16, 1944

Mr. Arthur Lourie, Secretary
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Lourie:

Please present to the next meeting of the American Zionist Emergency Council my resignation as its co-chairman and as chairman of its Executive Committee. I need not here elaborate on the reasons which force me to take this step. I pointed them out as forcibly as I could at the last meeting of our Executive Committee.

I regret that I will not be able to attend the meeting of the Executive Committee on August 28th.

Very cordially yours,

ANS:DR

August 17, 1944

Mr. Arthur Lourie, Secretary
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Lourie:

I am enclosing herewith two letters from Mr. Max Rhoades regarding Henry P. Fletcher, who is to be one of the American representatives to the forthcoming conference on the post-war settlement. I think Mr. Rhoades's suggestion that someone should see Mr. Fletcher is a good one. I am wondering whether you ought not to contact him or perhaps have someone else like Rabbi Goldstein or Mr. Shulman see him.

With all good wishes, I remain,

Very cordially yours,

AHS:DR
Enc.

August 17, 1944

Mr. Arthur Lourie, Secretary
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Lourie:

I have received the enclosed letter from Judge
Bernard A. Rosenblatt. You may wish to have it
presented at the next meeting of the Emergency
Council on the 28th.

With all good wishes, I remain,

Very cordially yours,

AHS:DR
Enc.

August 17, 1944

Mr. Arthur Lourie, Secretary
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Lourie:

I believe that a reply should go forth immediately to the Nebraska State Journal which printed the enclosed editorial on the occasion of the founding of an anti-Zionist dissident congregation in Lincoln, Nebraska. There are such vulgar and gross misstatements and distortions in this editorial that it should not go unanswered. I should like the answer not to be delayed. I do not know who is heading off the committee against the American Council for Judaism organized by the Z.O.A. If you do get in touch with him and let him send a communication of his own or sign a communication which our office should draft.

With all good wishes, I remain,

Very cordially yours,

AHS:DR
Enc.

American JEWISH CONFERENCE

521 Fifth Avenue

Telephone MUrray Hill 2-7197

New York 17, N. Y.

INTERIM COMMITTEE

DR. ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN
HENRY MONSKY
DR. STEPHEN S. WISE
Co-Chairmen

MAURICE BISGYER
DAVID BLUMBERG
GEDALIAH BUBLICK
NAOMI CHERTOFF
SIGMUND W. DAVID
J. DAVID DELMAN
RABBI WILLIAM DRAZIN
RABBI MAURICE N. EISENDRATH
MRS. MOSES P. EPSTEIN
PROF. HYMAN J. ETLINGER
RABBI SIMON FEDERBUSCH
PROF. HAYIM FINEMAN
J. GEORGE FREDMAN
DANIEL FRISCH
FRANK GOLDMAN
DR. SOLOMON GOLDMAN
MRS. SAMUEL GOLDSTEIN
HAYIM GREENBERG
MRS. SAMUEL W. HALPRIN
MRS. HUGO HARTMANN
RABBI JAMES G. HELLER
HERMAN HOFFMAN
EDGAR J. KAUFMANN
CHARLES P. KRAMER
SIDNEY G. KUSWORM
HON. LOUIS E. LEVINthal
DR. LOUIS M. LEVITSKY
LOUIS LIPSKY
JULIUS LIVINGSTON
RABBI IRVING MILLER
LOUIS J. MOSS
DR. SAMUEL NIRENSTEIN
HARRY A. PINE
MRS. DAVID DE SOLA POOL
ADOLPH ROSENBERG
DVORAH ROTHBARD
HON. MORRIS ROTHENBERG
ISIDOR SACK
LOUIS SEGAL
HON. CARL SHERMAN
HERMAN SHULMAN
DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER
MRS. ARCHIBALD SILVERMAN
HON. MEIER STEINBRINK
HERMANN STERN
ROBERT SZOLD
MRS. MAURICE TURNER
MRS. JOSEPH M. WELT
DAVID WERTHEIM
BENJAMIN WINTER
MRS. STEPHEN S. WISE
BARUCH ZUCKERMAN

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

LOUIS LIPSKY, *Chairman*
MAURICE BISGYER
MRS. MOSES P. EPSTEIN
JANE EVANS
J. GEORGE FREDMAN
LEON GELLMAN
WILLIAM GERBER
CHARLES P. KRAMER
SAMUEL ROTHSTEIN
HERMAN SHULMAN
MEYER W. WEISGAL
DAVID WERTHEIM

August 17, 1944

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

The Post-War Commission of the American Jewish Conference has drafted and approved the final text of a Statement on Retribution, to be presented to the United States Government and to other members of the United Nations. The Statement is in consonance with a similar resolution adopted at the first session of the American Jewish Conference.

In view of the forthcoming Four Power Conference on Post-War and International Security, and in the light of recent developments on the battlefronts, it is of great importance that this Statement be submitted to the Secretary of State as soon as possible. Time is of the essence in this action.

Enclosed please find the text of the Statement for your perusal and comment. Unless the office of the Conference hears from you by next Wednesday, August 23rd, it will be assumed that you approve of the Statement, which will then be presented to the proper authorities and later released for publication.

Very cordially yours,

Louis Lipsky

Louis Lipsky, Chairman
ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

LL:FSK
ENC.

THE INTERIM COMMITTEE WAS ESTABLISHED BY THE DELEGATES OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK, SEPT. 2, 1943, TO IMPLEMENT ITS RESOLUTIONS ON: THE RESCUE OF EUROPEAN JEWRY; THE RIGHTS AND STATUS OF JEWS IN THE POST-WAR WORLD; THE RIGHTS OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE WITH RESPECT TO PALESTINE.

August 18, 1944

Mr. Louis Lipsky, Chairman
Administrative Committee
American Jewish Conference
521 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Lipsky:

I read the "Statement on Retribution" which was sent to me. It is a good statement. Two things occurred to me as I read it. First, I do not think that the title, "Statement on Retribution", is a happy one. Perhaps a statement less open to hostile comment can be found such as "Statement on the Punishment of the Nazi Criminals".

Before issuing the statement I think it would be advisable to sound out some of our friends in the State Department as to the advisability of issuing a statement by us at this time and how it is likely to be received by the public. We Jews are too close to the terrible tragedy to appraise these facts calmly. It may well be that the average non-Jew will feel that the Jews are seizing the first moment when victory is in the air to talk about retribution, etc.

Another question which has occurred to me is whether other groups, the Czechs, the Poles, and so forth, have already issued such statements. Perhaps it would be wise to have our statement come second or third instead of first, although of course, our tragedy is the greatest of all — or perhaps a joint statement would be possible.

With all good wishes, I remain,

Very cordially yours,

AHS:DR

August 18, 1944

Mr. Arthur Lourie
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Lourie:

The matter raised in the enclosed letter of Mr. Otto Schirn should be followed up at once. Official representation should be made to the British Information Service in New York City and corrections demanded.

With all good wishes, I remain,

Very cordially yours,

AHS:DR
Enc.

American JEWISH CONFERENCE

521 Fifth Avenue

Telephone MUrray Hill 2-7197

New York 17, N. Y.

INTERIM COMMITTEE

DR. ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN
HENRY MONSKY
DR. STEPHEN S. WISE
Co-Chairmen

MAURICE BISGYER
DAVID BLUMBERG
GEDALIAH BUBLICK
NAOMI CHERTOFF
SIGMUND W. DAVID
J. DAVID DELMAN
RABBI WILLIAM DRAZIN
RABBI MAURICE N. EISENDRATH
MRS. MOSES P. EPSTEIN
PROF. HYMAN J. ETTLINGER
RABBI SIMON FEDERBUSCH
PROF. HAYIM FINEMAN
J. GEORGE FREDMAN
DANIEL FRISCH
FRANK GOLDMAN
DR. SOLOMON GOLDMAN
MRS. SAMUEL GOLDSTEIN
HAYIM GREENBERG
MRS. SAMUEL W. HALPRIN
MRS. HUGO HARTMANN
RABBI JAMES G. HELLER
HERMAN HOFFMAN
EDGAR J. KAUFMANN
CHARLES P. KRAMER
SIDNEY G. KUSWORM
HON. LOUIS E. LEVINthal
DR. LOUIS M. LEVITSKY
LOUIS LIPSKY
JULIUS LIVINGSTON
RABBI IRVING MILLER
LOUIS J. MOSS
DR. SAMUEL NIRENSTEIN
HARRY A. PINE
MRS. DAVID DE SOLA POOL
ADOLPH ROSENBERG
DVORAH ROTHBARD
HON. MORRIS ROTHENBERG
ISIDOR SACK
LOUIS SEGAL
HON. CARL SHERMAN
HERMAN SHULMAN
DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER
MRS. ARCHIBALD SILVERMAN
HON. MEIER STEINBRINK
HERMANN STERN
ROBERT SZOLD
MRS. MAURICE TURNER
MRS. JOSEPH M. WELT
DAVID WERTHEIM
BENJAMIN WINTER
MRS. STEPHEN S. WISE
BARUCH ZUCKERMAN

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

LOUIS LIPSKY, *Chairman*
MAURICE BISGYER
MRS. MOSES P. EPSTEIN
JANE EVANS
J. GEORGE FREDMAN
LEON GELLMAN
WILLIAM GERBER
CHARLES P. KRAMER
SAMUEL ROTHSTEIN
HERMAN SHULMAN
MEYER W. WEISGAL
DAVID WERTHEIM

August 21, 1944

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE INTERIM COMMITTEE:

The next meeting of the Interim Committee will be
hold on:

Tuesday, September 12, 1944, 10 A. M. SHARP

Biltmore Hotel, New York City

Please fill out the attached return post card indicating whether you will be present. The important agenda to be considered by the Interim Committee makes a full attendance imperative.

Sincerely yours,

Louis Lipsky

Louis Lipsky, Chairman
ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

AJ
Enc.

THE INTERIM COMMITTEE WAS ESTABLISHED BY THE DELEGATES OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK, SEPT. 2, 1943, TO IMPLEMENT ITS RESOLUTIONS ON: THE RESCUE OF EUROPEAN JEWRY; THE RIGHTS AND STATUS OF JEWS IN THE POST-WAR WORLD; THE RIGHTS OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE WITH RESPECT TO PALESTINE.

August 21, 1944

Mr. Arthur Lourie
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Lourie:

I have received the enclosed telegram from the New Zionist Organization of America. I sent a copy of it two days ago to Dr. Wise asking him what we should do about it. I wish you would get in touch with Wise, and if agreeable, we could meet with Mr. Netanyahu unofficially some time next Monday or Tuesday. I do not believe that we can ignore his request.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

P.S. If Dr. Wise himself does not wish to meet with them he might have someone else take his place.

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

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

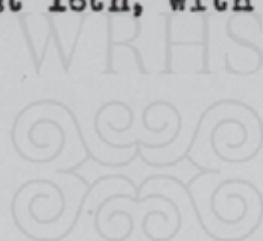
Date August 22, 1944

From Arthur Lourie

I am returning to you herewith the letter to you from Bernard A. Rosenblatt, dated August 16th, with reference to the anti-partition memorandum.

AL:CK
Enc.

A.L.



August 24, 1944

Mr. Arthur Lourie
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Lourie:

In reading over the minutes of the Executive Meeting on August 14, I find in the next to the closing paragraph a statement that "after further discussion it was resolved that Dr. Silver, Dr. Wise and Dr. Goldmann meet on the morning of the 28th of August to clarify and determine the functions of the two offices." This is not a correct report of the action taken. The action taken was to refer the matter to the program committee with instructions to bring in a report to the August 28 meeting. The suggestion that the three of us meet on the morning of August 28 was an informal suggestion made by Dr. Wise to me. Please have the minutes corrected.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Date August 24, 1944

From Arthur Lourie

1. I am enclosing a Minute of the meeting of the Program Committee at which the Goldmann matter was discussed.
2. In accordance with our conversation, I rang Nathanyahu yesterday and told him that with reference to his wire to you it was not certain if you would be in town next week and that you had suggested that I meet him for a preliminary discussion. Nathanyahu agreed to do so and said that he would telephone me the following day to fix an appointment. He rang me this afternoon and said that he had just received a letter from you, apparently dealing with another matter. In view of this letter he preferred to write to you again and await an answer before arranging for us to meet.

I sought to elicit the relevance of the letter, but Mr. Nathanyahu did not vouchsafe any further information. Accordingly, for the time being, no appointment has been fixed.

AL:CK
Enc.



h. L.

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



NEW YORK OFFICE

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

DR. ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN
President

DR. HARRY FRIEDENWALD
Hon. Vice President

DR. SOLOMON GOLDMAN
EDMUND I. KAUFMANN
JUDGE LOUIS E. LEVINthal
LOUIS LIPSKY
BERNARD A. ROSENBLATT
JUDGE MORRIS ROTHENBERG
DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER
ROBERT SZOLD
DR. STEPHEN S. WISE
Vice-Presidents

DR. JAMES G. HELLER
Chairman, Nat'l Admin. Council

ABRAHAM GOODMAN
Treasurer

SIMON SHETZER
Executive Director

EXECUTIVE

ROBERT M. BERNSTEIN
MAURICE M. BOUKSTEIN
RABBI BARNETT R. BRICKNER
SOL COHEN
A. K. EPSTEIN
JACOB FISHERMAN
DANIEL FRISCH
ABRAHAM GOLDSTEIN
RABBI SIMON GREENBERG
JOEL GROSS
RABBI ISRAEL H. LEVINthal
IRVING D. LIPKOWITZ
RABBI IRVING MILLER
EMANUEL NEUMANN
HARRY A. PINE
LOUIS P. ROCKER
CHARLES J. ROSENBLUM
EZRA Z. SHAPIRO
BERNARD SHULMAN
HERMAN SHULMAN
LOUIS E. SPIGLER
RABBI MILTON STEINBERG
DEWEY D. STONE
ELIHU D. STONE
HERMAN L. WEISMAN

August 25, 1944.

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

Dear Dr. Silver:-

I hope (no more) that from the July and August issues of The New Palestine you will have observed that I have taken editorial charge. It will not be easy to produce the magazine we all wish to see; with proper planning it can, however, be done. Needless to say, I should very deeply appreciate your collaboration. And I would very much like that collaboration to take the form of an article for the October, that is, the Convention number.

This Convention number will be shaped to convey to the delegates and their constituents a broad picture of both policy and accomplishment. At the centre, so to speak, of that number, I need an article on our international political situation written not only with your eloquence but with your forthrightness and courage. I cannot editorially in the name of the organization speak out as freely as you can ever your name. Length is of no importance. 1500 words will do, though, of course, I'm not limiting you to that. My editorial policy will be, upon the whole, toward the brief, the sharp, the salient.

Do say: yes. My October number needs your word as centre, pivot, focus.

Ever faithfully your,

Isidore Lewis



136 Waverly Place
NY 218-64

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date August 25, 1944

From Arthur Lourie

Thank you for your letter of August 24th.

1. With regard to the Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of August 15th, I was not very clear myself on the action taken and in this regard the stenographic record was not very helpful.

I am sending out a correction by today's mail.

2. In reply to my cabled inquiry about Dr. MacLean, I have received the following from the London office:

"THOUGH NO ORATOR UNDERSTAND IS VIGOROUS CONVINCING
SPEAKER STOP IS OVER SEVENTY AND FRAIL THEREFORE
DOUBTFUL WHETHER COULD STAND RUSH CAMPAIGN"

In this connection, I have had a further letter from Jesse Schwartz of the Canadian Organization, saying that they would be prepared to pay a proportionate part of the expenses of the trip to enable Dr. MacLean to visit a number of Canadian Centers.

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

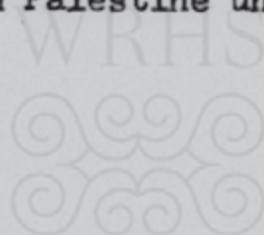
Date August 25, 1944

From Arthur Lourie

I enclose copies of the following material received from
London:

- 1) Letter from Mr. Linton to Mr. Feonov of UNRRA dated July 31st.
- 2) Note in connection with the group of immigrants who arrived
in Palestine under the exchange scheme.

AL:LB
Encls.



AL

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, 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

CORRECTION OF MINUTES

August 25, 1944

To the Members of the Executive Committee:

The action reported in the Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held August 14th, with regard to the Jewish Agency office, should be corrected to read as follows:

"It was agreed that the matter be referred to the Program Committee with instructions to bring in a report to the meeting of the Executive Committee on August 28th. It was also suggested by Dr. Wise that Dr. Silver, Dr. Goldmann and himself discuss the matter together before that meeting."

Yours sincerely,

Arthur Lourie
Arthur Lourie

AL:LB

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

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
East 105th St. at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Date August 29, 1944

From Arthur Lourie

I enclose for your confidential information a copy of the memorandum referred to at a recent meeting of the Executive Committee, prepared by Prof. Westermann for the Council of Foreign Relations.

It will be noted that the memorandum is dated October 19, 1943.

AL:CK
Enc.

n. n.

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date August 29, 1944.

From Arthur Lourie

In accordance with your request, I am enclosing a copy of the minutes of yesterday's meeting. Please bear in mind, however, when reading them that they were prepared by Miss Benjamin under great pressure and without possibility of revision.

I also enclose a copy of Dr. Wise's letter to Mr. Stettinius, together with a copy of Mr. Stettinius's reply of August 21st.

AL:LB
Encls.



A handwritten signature, possibly "A.L.", with a horizontal line underneath.

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Date August 30, 1944

From Arthur Lourie

1. For your information I enclose a copy of two cables which were received by Dr. Goldmann, copies of which he sent me.

2. I have cabled London asking them to make final arrangements with Dr. MacLean on such terms as they consider reasonable and to let us know without delay when he may be expected, so that we can make the necessary preparations.

3. Regarding the Chaim Greenberg priority, I made inquiries from the Poale Zion and Dr. Goldmann, respectively. The latter informed me that he had had no reply from Stettinius to his follow-up letter in this connection, but he had advised Greenberg to make the necessary application for a passport. When I spoke to Wertheim, however, I learned that Greenberg was against taking any further steps until there was a definite resolution of the Emergency Council authorizing the journey. Apparently Wertheim also thought that it would be desirable to have such a resolution since, when the matter was mentioned in Gellman's hearing the other day, the latter inquired if there had been any decision in this connection by the Council. In the circumstances I assume that it should be put on the agenda of the next meeting.

4. Regarding the Hebrew Committee, I spoke to Irving Lipkowitz who told me he had been following up Attorney-General Goldstein. The latter had been out of town this week, however, and Lipkowitz felt it was desirable to discuss the matter with him personally, which he would do some time next week.

5. Thanks for sending me the copy of your letter to Netanyahu. The rebuke was well deserved and I am wondering, ^{what} if anything, he had to say in reply.

A.L.

AL:CK

77. L. 1000
Draft - 8/31/44

Dear Sir:

The British Information Services in this country have, doubtless, an important and useful function to perform in presenting to the American public the British point of view and in fostering ties of mutual friendship and understanding between Great Britain and ourselves. That function, however, is ill-served by the dissemination of propaganda which is misleading both by what it says and by what it fails to say.

In a recent booklet which has apparently been widely distributed by the British Information Services, entitled "50 Facts About the Middle East", the situation in Palestine is briefly reviewed. The booklet is attractively produced but its content leaves much to be desired. Thus well-deserved tribute is paid to the advance, as a result of Jewish development, in Palestine's agriculture and industry. But when it comes to the political aspects of the situation the pamphlet is disingenuous to the point of misrepresentation. Great Britain's duties under the Mandate are described as being to "facilitate Jewish settlement and to develop self-governing institutions". The vitally important obligation to "facilitate Jewish immigration" is not mentioned. Nor does it anywhere clearly appear that but for a few thousand immigration certificates still outstanding no further Jewish immigration will henceforth be permitted. The British Royal Commission described the establishment of the Jewish National Home as Britain's primary obligation under the Mandate. In the booklet before us Great

Britain's continuing duties in this respect are blandly dismissed with the words "this Home was established". One may well ask what kind of a Jewish Home has been established to which Jews are not to be permitted to return. While there is an indirect reference to the Palestine White Paper of 1939, it is no where made clear that what that document in fact proposes is the establishment of Palestine in 1949 as an Arab State in which the Jews shall be artificially restricted so as never to exceed one-third of the population; nor that Britain's obligations to promote Jewish settlement on the land have been met in terms of that White Paper by the exclusion of such settlement from approximately 95% of the area of Palestine. No wonder that Mr. Winston Churchill himself described the White Paper as a breach and a repudiation of Britain's obligations. It is a grim fact that in deference to the threats of a German subsidized Mufti, the doors of the Jewish National Home were closed when no other doors were open to receive the victims of the Nazis thereby condemning to death innumerable Jews who might otherwise have been saved. From the humanitarian as well as from the political point of view, Britain's handling of the Palestine situation has been lamentable. It is respectfully suggested that the British propaganda services, in putting forward the British position today -- a position which it is our belief and hope is changing radically from that of the appeasement inspired policy of the Chamberlain government -- a frank recognition of past mistakes would be preferable to an attempt to eradicate by process of concealment.

September 1, 1944

Mr. Arthur Lourie
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Lourie:

I received the Westermann Memorandum. Is the Council on Foreign Relations a semi-public body? Are its studies addressed directly to government? If we knew to what address to send our reply it would be well to make a reply, for the report is a biased and cunningly vicious one. Unfortunately the line which is recommended by him on page 7 is exactly the line which is being followed in Washington. I think that an answer should be prepared anyhow, pending our determination to whom to send it, perhaps to Isaiah Bowman, who is the rapporteur of this series of studies. Our Research Department should get up the reply immediately.

I am enclosing herewith a copy of the letter which I received from Netanyahu.

Have you followed up the pamphlet of the British Information Service on "Fifty Facts Concerning the Middle East?" What reply did you get?

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

September 1, 1944

Mr. Arthur Lourie, Secretary
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Lourie:

I have read the report of the action taken by the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council, August 28, on the resignation which I submitted; also the report of the meeting on August 31. I wish I could comply with the request of the Committee to withdraw my resignation, but regretfully, I must insist upon its acceptance.

I note that the Executive approved the principle that "all approaches to the American Government or its officials on matters related to the program of political activities of the American Zionist Emergency Council shall be undertaken by representatives of the Movement only with the prior approval of the Executive Committee of the Council." This principle is sound.

In pursuance of this principle, and in order to implement it and thus obviate the embarrassments and interferences which have in the past made my position as Chairman of the Executive quite impossible, I suggested to the Program Committee, last week, the following two additional clauses:

1. "Whenever matters related to the program of the political activities of the Emergency Council are brought to the attention of Dr. Goldmann in his capacity as director of the Bureau of the Agency between meetings of the Executive of the Emergency Council which call for an immediate approach to the American Government or to its officials, Dr. Goldmann shall consult with the Co-chairmen of the Emergency Council, and together they shall agree on procedure as to who shall make the approach and in what manner."

2. "That the officers of the Jewish Agency in London and in Jerusalem shall be informed of this action of the American Zionist Emergency Council and shall be requested to communicate in the future directly with the American Zionist Emergency Council on matters which relate to the political activities of the Council."

The purpose of the first clause is to meet the point which Dr. Goldmann makes that at times, between meetings of our Executive,

MEMO FOR MR. LOURIE

On Page 3 -- omit the first sentence beginning: "There is the further point.."

On page 3, paragraph 4, fifth sentence should read as follows: Radical decisions in conformity with the international obligations which have been assumed toward the Jewish National Home are called for, etc..

September 1, 1944

he receives

urgent communications from abroad which call for immediate action. It indicates to him how such immediate action ^{can} be had, i.e., simply by bringing his communications to the attention of the Co-chairmen of our Executive so that together they may agree on the proper method of procedure.

The purpose of the second clause is to correct an intolerable condition which has existed ever since the Agency Bureau came into existence in May of last year whereby our Council has been held practically incommunicado by London and by Jerusalem, and the important Zionist Movement of America has had to content itself with dribblets of information conveyed to it from time to time by the director of the Agency Bureau or his secretary, Mr. Weisgal.

I regret that both of these clauses, on the basis of which I would have felt free to continue in my post, in spite of other difficulties, were not adopted by the Executive Committee. Instead of which a motion was adopted requesting me to confer with a sub-committee of the Executive Committee to discuss how the principle which it had adopted could best be put into effect in order to insure the maximum amount of coordination in the political work. I have no objection to conferences, but the ground has been already thoroughly covered by me and by others. This matter has been the subject of prolonged discussions as a number of meetings of the Program Committee. I spoke of it at the meeting of the Executive Committee on August 14. At the August 28 meeting of the Executive the subject was again thoroughly considered. I have no new arguments and no new ideas to present on the subject, and no new ideas seem to have emerged from all the meetings. The suggestions which I made are simple, clear, and as far as I am concerned, indispensable, and I cannot see the purpose of another conference.

At the meeting of the Executive Committee on the 31st, you referred the matter of my resignation to a meeting of the full Council on September 14. Dr. Goldstein wishes to consult the Executive of the Z.O.A. about it. In the meantime, I presume, both London and Jerusalem will have been approached by various people. The subject is likely to develop into an unfortunate public controversy which our Movement cannot afford at this time. I must therefore repeat that my resignation is final and that, as of today, I have relinquished my office in the Council. I shall issue no public statement on my resignation unless misrepresentations provoke it. There should be no difficulty in filling my post. There are some already waiting for it with baited breath.

In taking leave of the Emergency Council, may I be permitted, because of my profound interest in the success of the grave and difficult tasks which lie ahead for our Movement, and because of my experience with the work of the Council during the past year, to make

September 1, 1944

the following suggestions:

1. The Emergency Council should request the Jewish Agency immediately to close down its political bureau in Washington or to have its activities sharply restricted to Latin-American countries or to such economic projects which the Agency is fostering in this country. The Bureau was set up in May of last year because Dr. Weizmann had despaired of re-organizing the Emergency Committee into an efficient, functioning body. This was also the explanation which Shertok gave in Jerusalem for the setting up of the Bureau, namely that: "the public in the United States knew little concerning Jewish aspirations and achievements in Palestine and there was need for better presentation of the Zionist cause before the United States Government." But an effective re-organization of the Emergency Council did take place last September, and since that time the Emergency Council has, by common agreement, done a quite satisfactory job. There is no need at present for another Bureau in Washington to do what the Emergency Council is quite able to do by itself. This is not a question of authority of the Jewish Agency. The Agency has the authority to establish as many bureaus as it wishes, and those who raise this issue know that it is a spurious one. It is a question of efficiency of operation, and practical administration facility in times of an emergency. The Jewish Agency has an effective and well-equipped political arm in our Emergency Council and should use it. It needs no other. Two agencies, claiming as Dr. Goldmann does, "equality of Status", trying to do the same work in the same country can only lead to frustration, hindrance and conflict.

2. I suggest, furthermore, that the Emergency Council should do away with the office of Co-chairmen. You cannot have at the head of a dynamic political actions committee two chairmen, unless one clearly regards his position as honorary. Dr. Wise, who had given me the definite understanding, when he appealed to me twice to take over the active leadership of our political work, that he intended to retire to the position of an elder statesman in the movement, changed his mind somewhere along the way and has since insisted on doing everything that I as active chairman was supposed to be doing. The agreement signed in Dr. Wise's study on August 6 of last year specifically stated that Dr. Silver "will be summoned to leadership in the sphere of political affairs" and also referred to the Emergency Council as "the body responsible for the centralized direction of our political efforts." The spirit of this agreement has not been lived up to. This has led to serious friction which is inherent in an unsound administrative set-up which should be immediately corrected.

The Emergency Council and its Executive should have one and the same chairman who should be given full authority to carry on the political work of our movement subject, of course, to constant surveillance and control by the Council. This chairman should be one who

September 1, 1944

is free to devote himself maximally to the work and is not otherwise engaged in the active leadership of a number of other national organizations. The presence of two chairmen at the head of the Council tends to encourage certain politically-minded members of the Council to play off one chairman against the other and to fish in troubled waters. I opposed the system of co-chairmen a year ago, before I took office, but I was persuaded by friends, and against my will, to go into such an arrangement. It did not work. It cannot work.

In spite of the physical hardships of the past year, and the heavy burden of work which I carried and which was not made any easier by some of the internal difficulties to which I have referred, I am grateful for having had the opportunity to work with the American Zionist Emergency Council and I hope that my work has not been altogether without merit.

With all good wishes and with unshaken faith in the ultimate triumph of our historic cause, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
East 105th St. at Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

Date September 5, 1944

From Arthur Lourie

1. I have had Mr. Louis Segal's Yiddish report of his conversation with Ambassador Oumansky translated into English. I don't know if you have seen the original and enclose a copy of the translation in case you wish to have it.

2. You may be interested to see the enclosed translation of a letter which was sent to us by a visitor to the Oswego camp. It had been given to him by Zionist boys at the camp and I have passed the letter on to the Hechalutz. It occurs to me that it might be worthwhile paying the group a visit and if you agree, I shall apply for permission to the camp authorities and will take with me Mr. Furmansky.

3. I am in touch with the Research Department about the preparation of a reply to the Westermann Memorandum. I was talking to Neumann about the Memorandum and it was his view that it was so vicious and at the same time vulnerable that perhaps the press should be apprised of it in some way.



AL

AL:CK
Enc.

September 6, 1944

Mr. Arthur Lourie
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Lourie:

Thank you for your letter of September 5.
By all means arrange to visit the boys at Oswego
camp and arrange for their needs and for Hebrew
instruction which they request. When you are
there you will learn the best way to go about it.

If you could give me the information which
I requested in my last letter with reference to
Westermann and the Council I could then give you
my judgement as to whether it is important to
inform the press about the memorandum.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

C
O
P
Y

(September 7, 1944)

NLT MOSHE SHEROK
77 GREAT RUSSELL
LONDON (England)

PLEASE CONFIRM CORRECTNESS PALCOR SEPTEMBER FIRST WHEREIN DISPATCH
YOU STATED TOTAL JEWS FROM ENEMY TERRITORY ARRIVED PALESTINE SINCE
SEPTEMBER 1943 FOURHUNDRED PARAGRAPH ZOM ISSUED PRESSRELEASE AGENCY
ALLOCATED 7000 VISAS HUNGARIAN JEWS BASIS APPLICATIONS MADE THROUGH
THEM IS THIS CORRECT

WRHS
© 1990
© 1990
AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES
ARTHUR LOURIE

13
COPY
September 8, 1944

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

Dear Mr. Lamm:

Thank you for your letter of September 6, 1944 and the enclosed War Stamps. I feel very honored to have been adjudged one of the prizes in the contest. I feel equally pleased at the increasing attention the American Zionist Movement is devoting to youth work. The importance of educational work among young people, Jewish young people who more often than not are Jewish only in name, the importance of this cannot be overemphasized.

My experience in the Army has only corroborated the above statement. Time after time Jewish men will raise the issue of anti-Semitism, and the larger issues involved in the Jewish Question, and only in the rarest instances will they have any positive approach to these problems. Convinced Zionists are a rarity and even those who are sympathetic to the Zionist cause are in the minority. Yet, whenever Zionism is presented as a cause and as a solution, and, moreover, when that is done in a fervent manner, devoid of all paternal and philanthropic suggestion, the response is a gratifyingly favorable one.

At the present moment I am moderator and chairman of an informal discussion group, held here at camp under the auspices of Chaplain Engelberg. It is therefore with eagerness that I should like to take advantage of your offer of August 22, 1944 with regard to the distribution of various books and pamphlets. I am therefore attaching a list of the publications I should like to have for that group. Permit me to thank you in advance and wish you the very best for the coming holidays.

B'virkath shalom,

Felix Bronner, 32527351
Pfc., Med. Det. Sta. Hosp.
Camp Sibert, Ala

IK
9/12

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
East 105th St. at Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

Date September 8, 1944

From Arthur Lourie

1. Regarding the Westermann Memorandum, the Council on Foreign Relations is properly described as a semi-public body. I understand that its studies are unofficially directed to the Government. As you may have noticed from the introductory page to the document, the rapporteur is Prof. Isaiah Bowman, of the Post-War Planning Committee, appointed by the President. Dr. Berkson of the Research Department is engaged in the preparation of a reply to the Memorandum.

2. I enclose a copy of the final version of the letter with regard to the Congressional Resolution introduced on behalf of the Bergson group. Original copies were sent to Senators Thomas, Ferguson, Murray, Taft, and to Congressmen McCormack, Baldwin, Blaine and Hughes.

3. I am arranging to go to Oswego with Furmanský on September 21st.

4. I enclose a report by Dr. LeSourd on his trip to Washington of August 17th and 18th, and also of his interview with Dr. Aydelotte. An interview has been arranged for the American Palestine Committee delegation with Mr. Berle, for September 12th, at 4:00 P.M.

5. I enclose letter from Merlin of the Hebrew Committee, to Mrs. Poole, dated September 4th. The letter was apparently individually typed but sent to a number of people (note the reference on page 3 to "influential men like yourself").



AL:CK
Enc.

P.S. With regard to item #1 above, I have since spoken to Neumann and he told me of what you had suggested to him should be done. Before proceeding, however, we agreed that it would be desirable to find out whether the source from which the material was obtained would be put in jeopardy by such action on our part, and I am following up on this.

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
East 105th St. at Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

Date September 11, 1944

From Arthur Lourie

1. I enclose a note from Bernard Joseph with reference to the Reader's Digest which gives a hint as to the source of the inaccuracies contained in Pajnton's Reader's Digest article.

2. You will recall that recently a first group of Dutch refugees arrived in Palestine by way of exchange for an equivalent number of Germans. These refugees apparently owe their lives to the fact that they were granted Palestine certificates. They were detained in a camp in Bergenbelsen, near Hanover, and in answer to my inquiry as to whether further groups from Holland were to be expected, Dr. Leo Kohn cabled as follows:

"YOURS 25th FURTHER EXCHANGE IN PREPARATION WHICH MOST
LIKELY INCLUDE NEXT GROUP BERGENBELSEN AMONG WHOM
CONSIDERABLE DUTCH REFUGEES STOP CONTINUATION EXCHANGES
GENERALLY DEPENDENT AVAILABILITY FURTHER MATERIAL"



AL

AL:CK
Enc.

September 12, 1944

Mr. Arthur Lourie
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Friend:

On the occasion of the approach of the new year, may I send you my warmest greetings and my best wishes coupled with my profound gratitude for your faithful and devoted services to our great cause during the past year. May the coming year be one of peace for the world, and national redemption and rebirth for our people.

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK



Letter sent to:

Sulamith Schwartz
H. P. Manson
A. K. Isreeli
Harry Shapiro
Marvin Lowenthal
Berkson
Leo Sack
Hans Lamm
A. Tuvim
Hubbard
A. A. Magida
Harry Steinberg
Mrs. Blanche Shepard

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, 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.
M U r r a y H i l l 2 - 1 1 6 0

September 12, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street & Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

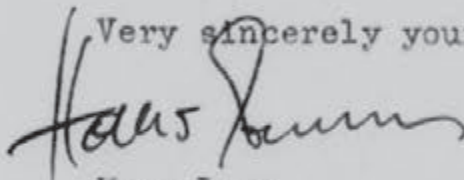
Dear Dr. Silver:

Attached is a copy of a letter which was received yesterday from servicemen who participated in the Essay Contest which the American Zionist Youth Commission and our Council sponsored jointly.

I thought you would be interested in this very thoughtful and gratifying response.

Allow me to express my sincere wishes for the coming holidays.

Very sincerely yours,


Hans Lemm

HL:RN
Enc.

copy to SSW JAH S
sent _____ date _____

American JEWISH CONFERENCE

521 Fifth Avenue

Telephone MUrray Hill 2-7197

New York 17, N. Y.

INTERIM COMMITTEE

DR. ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN

HENRY MONSKY

DR. STEPHEN S. WISE

Co-Chairmen

MAURICE BISGYER

DAVID BLUMBERG

GEDALIAH BUBLICK

NAOMI CHERTOFF

SIGMUND W. DAVID

J. DAVID DELMAN

RABBI WILLIAM DRAZIN

RABBI MAURICE N. EISENDRATH

MRS. MOSES P. EPSTEIN

PROF. HYMAN J. ETTLINGER

RABBI SIMON FEDERBUSCH

PROF. HAYIM FINEMAN

J. GEORGE FREDMAN

DANIEL FRISCH

FRANK GOLDMAN

DR. SOLOMON GOLDMAN

MRS. SAMUEL GOLDSTEIN

HAYIM GREENBERG

MRS. SAMUEL W. HALPRIN

MRS. HUGO HARTMANN

RABBI JAMES G. HELLER

HERMAN HOFFMAN

EDGAR J. KAUFMANN

CHARLES P. KRAMER

SIDNEY G. KUSWORM

HON. LOUIS E. LEVINTHAL

DR. LOUIS M. LEVITSKY

LOUIS LIPSKY

JULIUS LIVINGSTON

RABBI IRVING MILLER

LOUIS J. MOSS

DR. SAMUEL NIRENSTEIN

HARRY A. PINE

MRS. DAVID DE SOLA POOL

ADOLPH ROSENBERG

DVORAH ROTHBARD

HON. MORRIS ROTHENBERG

ISIDOR SACK

LOUIS SEGAL

HON. CARL SHERMAN

HERMAN SHULMAN

DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER

MRS. ARCHIBALD SILVERMAN

HON. MEIER STEINBRINK

HERMANN STERN

ROBERT SZOLD

MRS. MAURICE TURNER

MRS. JOSEPH M. WELT

DAVID WERTHEIM

BENJAMIN WINTER

MRS. STEPHEN S. WISE

BARUCH ZUCKERMAN

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

LOUIS LIPSKY, *Chairman*

MAURICE BISGYER

MRS. MOSES P. EPSTEIN

JANE EVANS

J. GEORGE FREDMAN

LEON GELLMAN

WILLIAM GERBER

CHARLES P. KRAMER

SAMUEL ROTHSTEIN

HERMAN SHULMAN

MEYER W. WEISGAL

DAVID WERTHEIM

Dr. Stephen S. Wise and Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
Co-Chairmen, American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York 17, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

The Palestine Commission of the American Jewish Conference, at a meeting on September 11th, took certain action affecting the relationship between the American Zionist Emergency Council and the American Jewish Conference, to which I am calling your attention.

Following a review of the work that has been carried on during the past few months, it was agreed that it was the sense of the Commission "that in the future work of the American Zionist Emergency Council, greater emphasis and scope should be given to the American Jewish Conference, within the area of the resolutions adopted by the Conference."

The Commission was informed that the Council is now endeavoring to secure the approval of the Administration at Washington in advance of any action with regard to the Wagner-Taft and Wright-Compton Resolutions in Congress. This procedure was approved by the Palestine Commission, which passed a motion to the effect that: "Should the Administration decline to give clearance for the resolutions, the question should be considered anew by the Commission before any further action is taken by the American Zionist Emergency Council."

The Commission also recorded its opposition to the resolutions sponsored by the Hebrew Committee of National Liberation, on the ground that the establishment of emergency refugee shelters in Palestine was inconsistent with the conception of Palestine as a Jewish National Home and contrary to the Rescue Resolution adopted by the Conference.

The actions of the Palestine Commission were reported to the Interim Committee on September 12th and the report was approved.

Very cordially yours,

Louis Lipsky

Louis Lipsky, Chairman
ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

LL:FSK

THE INTERIM COMMITTEE WAS ESTABLISHED BY THE DELEGATES OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK, SEPT. 2, 1943, TO IMPLEMENT ITS RESOLUTIONS ON: THE RESCUE OF EUROPEAN JEWRY; THE RIGHTS AND STATUS OF JEWS IN THE POST-WAR WORLD; THE RIGHTS OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE WITH RESPECT TO PALESTINE.

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS:

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

WASHINGTON BUREAU

1720 Sixteenth Street, Northwest
Michigan 4480

September 15, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

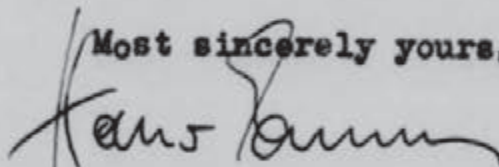
Dear Dr. Silver:

On the eve of the New Year I feel the need of expressing to you my sincere wishes for the days to come, and my humble thanks for the inspiring leadership you have given to our cause and to us during the last year.

The coming year most probably will bring liberation and peace to the world and will free our people from the bondage in which they have been suffering too long. Let us pray that it also will bring fulfillment of our dream, the re-establishment of Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth, closer to realization.

With respectful wishes and regards for you and your family, I am

Most sincerely yours,



Hans Lamm

HL:sbr

September 21, 1944

Mr. Arthur Lourie
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Lourie:

1. Is Mr. Greenberg going to Palestine? Have his priorities been arranged for?
2. Has the Westermann reply been completed, and if so, to whom is it being sent?
3. I believe that you ought to get in touch with Mr. LeSourd and Reverends Voss and Atkinson of the Christian Council on Palestine to see that leading clergymen get in touch with the Federal Council of Churches to make sure that their contemplated bulletin on Palestine which is bound to be either negative or hostile does not appear. This is very important.
- 4) The New York Times correspondent in London always leads off his Zionist reports with some reference to Lord Strabolgi. He is evidently under the influence of the British Committee for the Jewish Army. I wonder whether the Attention of London or of the local office of the New York Times cannot be directed to this fact?

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
East 105th St. at Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

Date September 25, 1944

From Arthur Lourie

Replying to the points mentioned in your letter of September 21st (it only reached me today), some of which I have already discussed with you:

1. Regarding Mr. Greenberg's trip to Palestine, Dr. Goldmann spoke to Mr. Stettinius and following that, asked Mr. Greenberg to file the necessary papers for a passport. Mr. Greenberg preferred to have a formal resolution of the Executive Committee before taking any further action. I understand you will discuss the matter further, prior to bringing it before the Executive Committee.

*with Mr.
Westheim*

2. The Research Department is still working on the Westermann reply. When ready, we shall send it to the Council of Foreign Relations requesting that our reply be brought to the attention of those to whom the original memorandum was sent.

3. Regarding the Federal Council of Churches, Dr. Bergson and I spoke to Dr. Voss on Friday and proposals were made for action through Prof. Friedrich, Dorothy Thompson, and Dr. Voss himself. In addition, I have had a note from Dr. Heller that he has written a long letter to his friend, Bishop Ivan Lee Holt, of Dallas, Texas, giving him the general purport of the meeting and suggesting that this was too important a matter of policy to be left by the Central Board of the Federal Council to a subsidiary group. I notice from today's newspaper cuttings that the Rev. Bridgeman, Archdeacon of Syria and Lebanon, is in New York and is urging that it is the duty of the Christian Church to help to make prevail "those Christian principles which alone can assure the essential rights of Moslem Arabs, Jews and Christians alike". Bridgeman was at one time the London Times correspondent in Palestine and his dispatches were frequently biased to the point of distortion. I shall suggest to Dr. Voss that we keep an eye on his activities here.

4. The London office is well aware of the activities of Lord Strabolgi who is, unfortunately, a not very responsible advocate of our cause. I have airmailed them last week the relevant clipping. I know that our people there have seen him on a number of occasions, but apparently have failed to dissuade him from association with the Army Committee people.

A.L.

COPY

IRVING D. LIPKOWITZ
Attorney at Law

270 Broadway
New York City

September 28, 1944

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

Att: Mr. Arthur Lourie
Re: Hebrew Committee of National Liberation
-and-
American League for a Free Palestine, Inc.

Dear Arthur:-

As I advised you in our telephone conversation this afternoon, I conferred with Attorney General Goldstein today, in reference to the above matter. I discussed with him the material which we have in our file and urged him to institute an investigation with a view toward an application by the Attorney General to vacate the charter and annul the corporate existence of the American League for a Free Palestine, Inc. He stated that it is a policy of his office, from which he has not deviated, not to institute such an investigation in the absence of proof of diversion of corporate funds from the purposes for which the corporation was formed.

He said that if we could develop such proof through a visitation of the Supreme Court, he would be prepared to proceed with the matter.

Visitation of the Supreme Court is regulated by Section 26 of the Membership Corporations Law, the material part of which reads as follows:-

"Membership corporations***with their books and vouchers, shall be subject to the visitation and inspection of a justice of the supreme court, or of any person appointed by the court for that purpose. If it appears by the verified petition of a member or creditor of any such corporation, that it, or its directors, officers or agents, have misappropriated any of the funds or property of the corporation, or diverted them from the purpose of its incorporation, ***or has engaged in any business other than that stated in its certificate or act of incorporation, the court may order that notice of at least eight days, with a copy of the petition, be served on the corporation and the persons charged with misconduct, requiring them to show cause at a time and place specified, why they should not be required to make and file an inventory

IRVING D. LIPKOWITZ

September 28, 1944

American Zionist Emergency Council

-2-

and account of the property, effects and liabilities of such corporation with a detailed statement of its transactions during the twelve months next preceding the granting of such order. On the hearing of such application, the court may make an order requiring such inventory, account and statement to be filed, and proceed to take and state an account of the property and liabilities of the corporation, or may appoint a referee for that purpose. When such account is taken and stated, after hearing all the parties to the application, the court may enter a final order determining the amount of property so held by the corporation, its annual income, whether any of the property or funds of the corporation have been misappropriated or diverted to any other purpose than that for which such corporation was incorporated, and whether such corporation has been engaged in any other business than that specified in its certificate or act of incorporation.***No corporation shall be required to make and file more than one inventory and account in any one year, nor to make a second account and inventory, while proceedings are pending for the statement of an account under this section."

As you will note, any member or creditor of the corporation may institute such a visitation proceeding by a petition alleging misappropriation of any of the funds of the corporation or diversion of any such funds from the purposes for which the corporation was formed. I shall be pleased to discuss with you at your early convenience the institution of such a proceeding.

With respect to the registration of the Hebrew Committee of National Liberation, I wrote to the Department of Justice, Foreign Agents Registration Section, on September 18, 1944, to ascertain whether any supplemental statements or amendments have been filed by the Committee. This is in accordance with the suggestion which Mr. McDonald made to us when we conferred with him at Washington last month and when I spoke to him on August 28th, following our conference. I shall advise you as soon as I have a reply from the Department of Justice.

With kind regards, I am

Very truly yours,

(signed) Irving D. Lipkowitz

IDL:BS

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple, Cleveland, Ohio

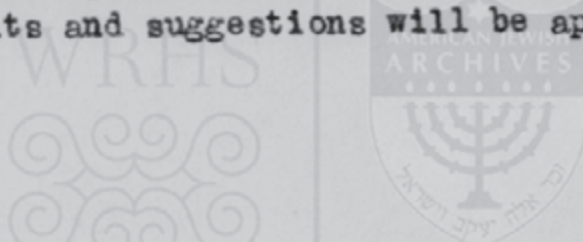
Date September 28, 1944

From Arthur Lourie

I attach the following:

1. Cable from myself to Shertok, September 7th.
2. Cable from Shertok ^{to me} dispatched September 17th, received here September 25th.
3. Cable from Shertok to Goldmann, undated, which was sent on to me on Tuesday by the Jewish Agency office. I gather that the cable to Goldmann, which concerns principally the Rumanian situation, has been passed on to the American Jewish Conference for action. You will note, however, that it also urges that the question of immigration to Palestine from the liberated countries should be pursued.
4. I enclose a draft of the memorandum on "Why a Decision on Palestine Now", which was called for at the last meeting of the Executive Committee. Your comments and suggestions will be appreciated.

AL:CK
Enc. 4.



MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple, Cleveland, Ohio

Date September 29, 1944

From Arthur Lourie

I attach a memorandum and copies of cables which I have received for you from Mr. Weisgal.

AL:CK
Enc.

P.S. I attach further copy of a letter from Sir Herbert Emerson to Mr. Linton of the London office.



AL

LOUIS E. LEVINTHAL
606 CITY HALL
PHILADELPHIA

September 29, 1944.

Hon. Sumner Welles,
Oxonhill,
Maryland.

Dear Mr. Welles:

I am enclosing herewith two copies of the August 18th issue of *The New Palestine*, the official organ of the Zionist Organization of America, containing my review of your book "The Time for Decision".

Although I have criticized some of your opinions concerning the future of Palestine, I am, in common with the overwhelming majority of the Jews of this country, happy that you recognize that what is essential is "an international agreement upon a program that leads... to the independent status of Palestine as the National Home of the Jewish people." That, as you know, is basically our Zionist position, and we are sincerely grateful for your endorsement of it.

Faithfully yours,

LOUIS E. LEVINTHAL

SUMNER WELLS

Oxon Hill Manor
Oxon Hill, Maryland

September 30, 1944

My dear Judge Levinthal:

I deeply appreciate your kindness in sending me with your letter of September 29 a copy of the August 18 issue of The New Palestine, in which is contained your review of my recent book.

I have read your review with particular interest and, may I add, with very sincere gratification. I feel after reading your review that the points upon which you differ with the statements contained in my book are largely questions of method and not questions of principle. Certainly the quotation from my book cited in your letter now under acknowledgment sets forth very concisely the objective in which I sincerely believe.

With my renewed thanks for your courtesy, believe me,

Yours very sincerely,

SUMNER WELLS

The Honorable
Louis E. Levinthal,
Court of Common Pleas No. 6,
City Hall,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

1201

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

ND19 DL PD=NEW YORK NY 2 1147A

1944 OCT 2 AM 11 59

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

THE TEMPLE CLEVE=

FOLLOWING FOR YOU FROM WEIZMANN QUOTE MANY THANKS YOUR LETTER
19/9 AND CABLE 22/9 STOP DEEPLY GRATIFIED THAT BASIS
COOPERATION HAS BEEN FOUND AND TRUST GOOD WORK ALREADY
BEARING FRUIT WILL CONTINUE UNDISTURBED WARM REGARDS UNQUOTE=
ARTHUR LOURIE.

19/9 22/9

October 3, 1944

Mr. Arthur Lourie
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Lourie:

1) I read with interest the reply of the British Information Service to the letter of Dr. LeSourd. What would you suggest as our next step? Ought we to make some public criticism of this pamphlet?

2) You sent me copies of cables sent to Goldmann by Shertok. Is there anything that we need to do about them? I suppose Shertok's cable of September 28 regarding American Jewish participation refers to the Jewish Brigade. This subject should be carefully considered by us at the meeting on the 12th.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:EK

October 3, 1944

Mr. Arthur Lourie
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Lourie:

In preparation for the political report which I am to make before the ZOA Convention in Atlantic City -- assuming that there will be time for a full and comprehensive report -- I would like you to send me, in a brief form, the record of our official contacts with the British Embassy in Washington, and with the British Government, and the subjects which we took up -- The White Paper, immigration certificates, the Jewish Army, etc. You might also indicate what success we had in some of these areas, not of course as a result of our own efforts, but in cooperation with the Jewish Agency, e.g., the extension of time for the remaining certificates, the Jewish Brigade, etc., as well as those areas in which we have had no success -- the hoarding of certificates, to what extent they were restricted to enemy territory, etc. I would appreciate it if you would let me have this information within a few days.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date October 4, 1944

From Arthur Lourie

The Jewish Agency office has sent me the following material which they received under cover of a letter from London dated September 22nd:

- 1) Copy of cable from The Chief Rabbi, Dr. Joseph Hertz, London, dated September 8th.
- 2) Copy of cable from Aliyah, Jewish Agency, Jerusalem, dated September 10th.
- 3) Copy of cable from the Jewish Agency, Jerusalem, dated Sept. 13th.

AL:LB
Encls.

LOUIS E. LEVINthal
606 CITY HALL
PHILADELPHIA

October 6, 1944.

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

I am enclosing herewith copy of
my letter to Mr. Sumner Welles and copy of
his reply with reference to my review in
The New Palestine of "The Time for Decision".

With kind personal regards, I am

Cordially yours,

L. E. Levinthal

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

1220

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

The time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

NA424 LG PD=NEWYORK NY 7 1242P

1944 OCT 7 PM 1 16

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER, THE TEMPLE=

EAST 105 ST AT ANSEL RD CLEVE=

FOLLOWING FROM BEN-GURION QUOTE UNANIMOUS OPINION EXECUTIVES
JERUSALEM LONDON NECESSARY PRESENT JUNCTURE HOLD JOINT
CONSULTATION LEADERS MOVEMENT. INTEND CONVEENE LARGER ACTIONS
COMMITTEE AND REPRESENTATIVES ZIONIST ORGANIZATIONS MIDDLE
NOVEMBER. WEIZMANN COMING PALESTINE END OCTOBER FOR ONE
MONTH STAY. ESSENTIAL CONDITION SUCCESS CONFERENCE PRESENCE
AMERICAN DELEGATION PLEASE COMMUNICATES ALL CONSTITUENTS
GROUPS ASCERTAIN NUMBER NAMES PARTICIPANTS TAKE IMMEDIATE
STEPS FOR SECURING PRIORITIES BY AIR OR BOAT WIRE UNQUOTE
ABOVE DISPATCHED SEPTEMBER 29TH RECEIVED OCTOBER SEVENTH=

ARTHUR LOURIE.

Ref ② K 3740
① Gr 1150

No. ② M105
B. ② 1300 med mg
① ref ② 1300

BEN-GURION 29.

C O P Y

U.S. ARMY P.O.O. FELIX BRO^NNER
MED. DET. STA.HOSP. Camp Sibert, Alabama
October 8, 1944

Mr. Hans Lamm
American Zionist Emergency Council
352 Madison Avenue
New York 17, New York

Dear Mr. Lamm:

Please accept my apologies for delaying this letter for so long, but both the books and pamphlets, as well as your letter of September 11th, arrived while I was on furlough, which I was fortunate enough to receive during the time for the holidays. Rest assured, however, that I am no less grateful for your prompt attention, not withstanding the delay. I am sure the group will be very happy to learn of the material you sent me, and I hope all of us will take advantage of it.

There is one thought that I should like to add to my former letter. It is that I feel that the Zionist Organization must increasingly take on the job of presenting Judaism and Jewish culture to the Jewish community, but particularly to the young Jew. More often than not I have met young Jews who were quite willing to discuss Zionism, who agreed with its main principles, but who in the end always asked: "But what is Judaism? What does the term 'Jew' mean?" The answer to this basic question formerly was provided by religious instruction and continuous contact with the Jewish world. Today, certainly in this country, the influence of these two factors is waning. As a result of organization, such as ours, which is interested in a positive solution of the Jewish problem must not lose sight of the raison d'etre, as it were, of the Jews. I admit that in view of the indescribable suffering of our people all over the world, questions such as this one will of necessity be relegated to the background. Yet, if I remember correctly, the beginning of organized Zionist activity in this country saw much more of this type of progressive and positive approach than in later years, when we tended to concentrate on the monetary aspects of Zionist reconstruction. I feel that we here in America are approaching a Jewish cultural emergency as well, which will call forth the best of our forces to stem the tide of ignorance and indifference which imperils our program for action, and tends to weaken the support the American Zionist Community must give to the Jews all over the world. Perhaps, when seen in this light, the problem of Jewish culture and cultural activity is properly of your domain, and belongs equally to the American Zionist Emergency Council. I am sure that I am not the only one to have thought of that. Would you therefore inform me of your activity along these lines?

Shalom,
(S) F.B.

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, 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.
M U r r a y H i l l 2 - 1 1 6 0

October 11, 1944

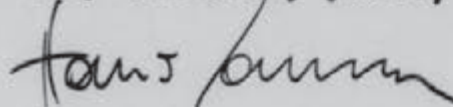
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Attached find copy of a letter which I received today from a serviceman who has been in touch with us in the past.

I replied to him that the cultural and educational activities continue to be carried on by our constituent organizations, while we are organized exclusively for political activities. I also informed him that I mailed to you and to Dr. Bardin copies of his letter.

Very sincerely yours,



HANS LAMM

HL:RW
att.

October 11, 1944

The Honorable Louis E. Levinthal
606 City Hall
Philadelphia, Pa.

My dear Judge Levinthal:

Thank you so much for your courtesy in sending me a copy of Mr. Sumner Welles' letter to you, which I read with great interest, as I did your review of his book. His statement that what you quoted from his book sets forth very concisely the objective which he sincerely believes, is significant. I believe that you should give publicity to your correspondence in the New Palestine.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

Jerusalem, P.O.B. 92,
October 13th, 1944

Mr. Arthur Lourie
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York 17

Dear Lourie,

We are here in the midst of a discussion on the proposal to hold some sort of a Zionist conference in the near future. The idea arose at first in connection with Dr. Weizmann's intended visit to Palestine. This, it was thought, would provide a good opportunity for joint consultation and, accordingly, Ben-Gurion wired to America to inquire if a delegation could come from there by the middle of November. Much depends on the answer which has not yet been received.

I do not wish to enter into technical details as to time, transport facilities, etc., which seem to me fairly problematical. My personal view is that at the best an informal gathering of leading friends from a few countries would be possible, which, if it takes place in Palestine, could be combined with a more formal meeting of the Smaller A.C. which is fully representative of the Zionist parties such as they are, and has all the powers necessary for passing binding resolutions, should such be found necessary. I don't believe that a formal meeting of the Greater A.C., of whose 75 members 35 live outside Palestine, is possible and indeed indispensable, but I cannot say at the moment what the official decision will be.

There is no doubt that some sort of a consultation between the leadership and the representatives of the movement in the most important countries is desirable and possibly cannot be put off much longer. Some people suggest a meeting in London this winter, should the conference in Palestine prove impracticable. For the Zionists from England and the Empire as well as for those from America, London would, under the present transport conditions, prove probably more convenient. I wonder, however, how in such a case a proper representation could be arranged for Palestine which, in view of the mottled complexion of the Yishuv, it would be very difficult to restrict numerically. But this remains to be seen.

All this is in the nature of preliminary and unofficial observations which may be superseded by telegraphic news in case a decision is taken before this letter reaches you.

With kindest regards

Yours sincerely

(signed) Leo Lauterbach

P.S. I take this opportunity to confirm the receipt of a copy of Maurice Samuel's "Harvest in the Desert". This is a very interesting and well-informed book which will make an appeal to many, and I wish to thank you for sending me a copy for our library.

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date October 13, 1944.

From Arthur Lourie

A copy of the cable to Mr. Churchill from Dr. Wise and yourself was sent to Lord Halifax, from whom the following reply has been received:

"I must thank you for your courtesy in sending me a copy of your telegram to the Prime Minister expressing the gratification of the Zionists of America at the formation of the Jewish Military Force by His Majesty's Government. My Government has for a long period desired to give satisfaction to the frequently expressed wishes on the part of Zionist and Jewish groups in this country and elsewhere for the formation of such a force, but this, as you know, had previously been made impracticable by technical and other considerations.

"I am very glad that it has finally been found possible to fulfil this aspiration and that the part played by His Majesty's Government in doing so has been received with such deep satisfaction by the Zionists of the United States under your distinguished leadership."

AL

AL:LB

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

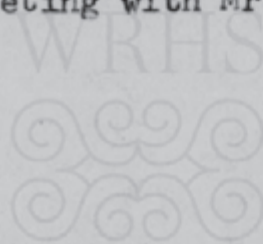
Date October 16, 1944.

From Arthur Lourie

The enclosed letter from Dr. Wise has apparently been lying unopened on your desk since Thursday or Friday.

The letter from Under Secretary Stettinius was in response to a note from Dr. Wise informing him that you and he were expecting to see the President and expressing regret that owing to the Dumbarton Oaks Conference it had not been possible to arrange a meeting with Mr. Stettinius before the meeting with the President.

AL:LB
Encls.



A. L.

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, 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

October 18, 1944.

To the Members of the American Zionist Emergency Council:

The next meeting of the Emergency Council will be held Monday, October 30th, at 8:15 P. M., at 342 Madison Avenue, (Room 1421) New York City.

AL:LB



Yours sincerely,

Arthur Lourie
Arthur Lourie

To the Members of the Executive Committee:

A meeting of the Executive Committee will be held Monday, October 30th, at 4:00 P. M.

Dr. Silver

Louvi 3

October 19, 1944

Dr. Stephen S. Wise
40 West 68 Street
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Wise:

In accordance with your suggestion on the telephone, I am writing to you with regard to the request for payment of the sum of \$4,176.50 by the Emergency Council to the Institute of Jewish Affairs, with respect to the work done by Dr. Robinson and his associates on a legal memorandum which they prepared at the request of the Emergency Council. Of the above amount, I understand that \$400.00 is due directly to Professor Lazerson, who is no longer with the Institute. This matter has now been outstanding for several months and I am anxious to settle it as soon as possible.

Dr. Robinson and his associates put in a great deal of work on the memorandum, and the account was submitted on the basis of the time thus taken. Unfortunately, there is a difference of opinion with regard to the arrangement made at the time between Mr. Montor (then Executive Director of the Emergency Council), Mr. Shulman, who acted on behalf of our Executive Committee, and Dr. Robinson. Dr. Robinson's recollection, as I understand, is that no figure was fixed as to the amount to be allocated for the research. Mr. Shulman, on the other hand, states definitely that a figure of \$2,500.00 was mentioned, with the understanding that it might be \$100.00 or \$200.00 more or less. Mr. Shulman also recalls that he mentioned this arrangement to Dr. Goldmann in answer to an inquiry by Dr. Goldmann as to whether he had concluded any understanding with regard to the remuneration for the work on the memorandum.

Prior to Dr. Goldmann's departure for Palestine last month, I took up the matter with him, and he was ready to recommend to the Congress that it be settled by the payment of a sum of \$3,000.00 on the part of the Emergency Council.

I subsequently discussed the matter with Dr. Silver, who felt, however, that under the circumstances the Emergency Council could not go beyond the original allocation proposed of \$2,500.00.

I therefore express the hope that payment of this amount will be found acceptable by the Congress in settlement.

October 19, 1944

In accordance with our telephone conversation, I understand that you wish to take the matter up with your Committee, and I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Sincerely yours,

AL:LF

Arthur Lourie



MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date October 19, 1944

From Arthur Lourie

At my suggestion. Miss Vilkomerson of the National Association of Women Lawyers sent copies of the Resolution on Palestine adopted at the recent convention of the Association in Chicago to Senators Taft and Wagner, and also the House sponsors of Resolutions 418 and 419, as well as to Congressman Bloom.

I attach copies of acknowledgments which Miss Vilkomerson has received from Senator Taft and Mr. Bloom, as well as of the Resolution adopted by the National Association of Women Lawyers.

AL:LB
Encls.



AL.

COPY

EXTRACT FROM CABLE FROM MR. LICHTHEIM - GENEVA - DATED 19/10/44

LINTON JEWISH AGENCY 77 GREAT RUSSELL STREET LONDON

HOPE YOU WILL OBTAIN BETTER DECISION ACCORDING MY PREVIOUS REQUESTS STOP
AMONG TWENTYSIXTHOUSAND REFUGEES ONLY FOURTHOUSAND CHILDREN OF WHOM
THREETHOUSAND HAVE PARENTS WHILE ONETHOUSAND ARE ORPHANS STOP CONSIDERING
THESE FIGURES AND NECESSITY EMIGRATION SUCH LARGE NUMBERS REFUGEES GRANTING
OF ONETHOUSAND CERTIFICATES FOR CHILDREN BUT NONE FOR ADULTS SEEMS ABSURD
STOP ONLY POSSIBLE EXPLANATION LACK OF KNOWLEDGE SITUATION REQUIREMENTS STOP
AWAITING YOUR FURTHER NEWS THIS SUBJECT - LICHTHEIM



October 19, 1944

Mr. Arthur Lourie
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Lourie:

Thank you for forwarding to me the letter of Dr. Wise dated October 12 and containing Stettinius' letter dated October 4. Dr. Wise did not send along a copy of his letter to Stettinius of the 29.

Please get in touch with Dr. Wise and ask him whether he thinks we should make an appointment with Stettinius now that he has had his interview with the President. Any day next week with the exception of Tuesday, October 24, which is the day set aside for the Interim Committee of the Conference, or any day the following week except Monday, October 30, which is the date of our meeting, would be acceptable.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

October 20, 1944

Mr. Arthur Lourie
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Lourie:

1) Have you obtained the information from the various parties as to whom they will send to Palestine for the meeting of the Actions Committee? And have you made applications for their priorities?

2) Have you cabled to Palestine suggesting that it will be impossible for our delegation to reach Palestine before December?

3) Has Judge Rothenberg consented to make the proper inquiries concerning the Brigade?

4) Has the meeting taken place to take up the matter of the children's transportation to Palestine? Who finally constitutes the committee, and when will they see Pehle?

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, 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

October 20, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

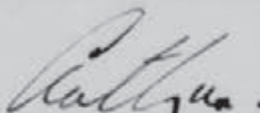
Dear Dr. Silver:

I heard from Mr. Shapiro and one or two others of your very kind reference to myself, in the course of your report to the Convention at Atlantic City.

I am sufficiently vain to wish that I had been present at the time and I am also sorry that I did not have the opportunity to thank you in person. I want you to know, however, how very deeply I appreciate your generous reference and how much I value the opportunity of being able to work together with you.

With kindest regards

Yours sincerely


Arthur Lourie

AL:CK

October 23, 1944

Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld
Zionist Organization of America
1720 - 16th Street N.W.
Washington, D.C.

My dear Rabbi Lelyveld:

Dr. Silver has requested me to send you the enclosed letter which he received from Mr. Samuel Weinstein of Portland, Oregon. Dr. Silver wrote to Mr. Weinstein, stating that his letter was being forwarded to you and that you would no doubt communicate with him.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

BJK

Secretary to Rabbi Silver.

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple, Cleveland, Ohio

Date October 23, 1944

From Arthur Lourie

1. & 2. I have not yet asked the parties as to whom they will send to Palestine for the meeting of the Actions Committee, nor has application been made for their priorities. The day after the meeting I sent Ben-Gurion a long cable telling him that it was impossible for the delegation to reach Palestine before December and asking him whether it was proposed in that event to go ahead with the meeting. It is my impression that he had had in mind a meeting to coincide with the visit of Dr. Weizmann, and that a December meeting was not in contemplation.

It seemed to me that before getting the parties and through the parties the press, stirred up about such a gathering, it would be desirable to get a clear statement for Palestine. The same applies with even greater force to the question of priorities.

3. Judge Rothenberg's duties prevent him from following up the question of the Brigade. I have consulted Judge Rosenblatt and I am awaiting the result of his investigations.

4. As regards the children's transportation to Palestine, an appointment has been made for Mr. Pehle to see a representative of the J.D.C., Mrs. Epstein and Dr. Heller on Wednesday morning, at 9:00 o'clock, and thereafter for them to call on Mr. Morgenthau.

AL

AL:CK

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date October 24, 1944

From Arthur Lourie

I spoke to Judge Rosenblatt again with a view to following up the Jewish Brigade question. He told me that he had been looking into the legal aspects but had written to you to say that he had his doubts as to whether it was desirable for us politically, to take any action to obtain recruits in this country.

I assume that you will wish to have a fuller discussion of the matter at the next meeting of the Executive Committee, in the light of such information as Rosenblatt may produce.

AL:CK

a. l.

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date October 27, 1944.

From Arthur Lourie

1) The Stettinius appointment has been confirmed for Tuesday morning next, at 10 o'clock. Rosen is attending to your transportation to Washington Monday night.

2) I spoke to Ira Hirschmann. He seemed to be genuinely interested to give a report to the Council, but said that he would be away for the coming week and unable to participate in Monday's meeting. Perhaps we should ask him to attend a later meeting.

3) I enclose copy of a letter and memorandum which I have sent to Congressman Bloom with reference to the Mauritius refugees.

4) We have cabled McLean confirming our invitation and asking that he let us know when we may expect him.

5) I enclose copy of my cable to Ben-Gurion regarding the transportation of the refugee children.

6) Dr. Goldstein rang me to say that he had been telephoned to by Congressman Bloom, who told him that he was being urged in certain quarters (apparently by the Council for Judaism) to reopen the hearings in view of "new developments". Dr. Goldstein said that in line with what he presumed to be the policy of the Emergency Council he advised Bloom against hearing any further witnesses. He asked me to inform you accordingly.

7) I enclose copy of advertisement of the Council for Judaism appearing in the current issue of The New Republic.

AL:LB
Encls.

P.S. 8) I also enclose copies of two letters which appeared in the latest issue of the Bulletin of the Council for Judaism, from Representative Wadsworth and from Mr. Allen of the Near East Foundation, respectively.

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple, Cleveland, Ohio

Date November 2, 1944

From Arthur Lourie

1. I have received the attached letter from Lauterbach of the Organization Department of the Zionist Executive in Jerusalem. It serves to fill in one or two details of the circumstances leading to the Ben-Gurion telegram inviting American representatives to a conference in Jerusalem. You will notice that Lauterbach says that the idea arose first in connection with Dr. Weizmann's intended visit. Apart from the fact that Dr. Weizmann's presence would constitute a convenient occasion for a thorough discussion, there is no indication of the real urgency of the meeting.

2. As I believe I mentioned to you on the telephone, Mrs. Ida Landau had been in touch with Congressman Bloom about the Mauritius refugees. After discussing the matter with her I sent Congressman Bloom a brief memorandum on the whole question and the day before yesterday his secretary telephoned me to say that the Congressman proposed to approach Halifax in regard to the matter. He asked me whether I thought that this would be appropriate. It seems to me that such action on Bloom's part would be all to the good and I advised that he proceed accordingly. I enclose copy of a letter from the Congressman which I have received today.

3. I enclose copy of the memorandum sent me by Mr. Oscar Gass, for transmission to Judge Fisher in Chicago.

A.L.

AL:CK
Enc.

November 5, 1944

Mr. Marvin Lowenthal
389 Bleecker St.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Marvin:

I am anxious to know whether the Atlantic
Monthly will take a reply to Lasearon! .

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



November 5, 1944

Mr. Arthur Lourie
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Lourie:

Thank you for your letter of November 2.
I am pleased to know that the reply to the Westernmann memorandum is on the way. Also that a bulletin by way of a reply to the Federal Council is being drafted. I hope that no time will be lost in the preparation and in the mailing of this bulletin. It should be sent out as soon as possible, before the Federation Council Bulletin has a chance to do much damage.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date November 6, 1944

From Arthur Lourie

1) Regarding the enclosed letter from Mr. Zacks, Mendel Fisher has been out of town and I have been unable, accordingly, to obtain any additional information from him. However, you will have seen the recent report in the JTA of a statement by Ben-Gurion to the effect that while Russia would not permit Jewish emigration from within its own borders, it would not oppose the setting up of a Jewish state in Palestine. The implication was, however, that it would not, on the other hand, go out of its way to support such a policy. This is in conformity with what I understand Benes reported on his own conversation with Stalin and I doubt whether any reliance is to be placed on the alleged statement of Senator Barkley that Stalin definitely favors a Jewish Commonwealth.

I had received a note from Mr. Zacks similar to the one he sent you and before seeing the Ben-Gurion statement I had replied to him along the lines here indicated.

2) I spoke to Judge Fisher with regard to the Aviation Conference. He had approached the Secretary-General of the Conference, who had told him that he was unable to receive representations from private organizations, since the Conference was limited to the representatives of governments. Judge Fisher explained our difficulty and it was agreed that he should send in the memorandum and that the Secretary would see whether it could be considered. Judge Fisher has had no reply and he proposes now to contact the British delegation.

With regard to the suggestion of getting William Ziff to act, Judge Fisher was of the opinion that Ziff's book "The Rape of Palestine", which as you will know was violently anti-British in tone, would make him persona non grata with the British and that we should not bring him into the picture.

3) I enclose a brief note on my conversation with Col. Gerhardt of the War Department.

4) With regard to the decision at the last meeting of the Executive Committee that an effort be made to speak to Mr. Dulles about the bulletin of the Federal Council of Churches, do you wish to take this matter up yourself, or do you wish to have Shulman or someone else follow it up?

5) Mr. Leavitt of the J.D.C. informed me that they had seen Mr. Pehle of the War Refugee Board on Wednesday and that he had told them that his further inquiries with regard to shipping for the removal of the children from France had confirmed the difficulties of the present

Dr. Silver -2-

situation. There was little likelihood of obtaining a passenger ship and the only hope that was held out was that a number of private yachts which had been handed over for war purposes might be released in the near future and might possibly be made available. Mr. Leavitt said that they were looking further into this question. He was also told that following the collapse of Germany it is possible that for a few weeks ships would be available, but that thereafter the shipping situation would again become stringent, as everything would be diverted to operations in the Far East.

C.L.

AL:LB
Encl.



Committee on UNITY FOR PALESTINE

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

DR. FELIX A. LEVY
Chairman

RABBI ARTHUR J. LELYVELD
Vice-Chairman

OSCAR LEONARD
Secretary

Nov. 7th, 1944

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

We heard from friends in Cleveland that recently you devoted part of one of your Sunday addresses to a discussion of the American Council for Judaism.

The gentleman who wrote to us was very enthusiastic, and we would very much like to have a copy of the address, if possible. I am sure that our speakers will find new arguments in it.

Hoping you can let us have a copy, and thanking you in advance, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Oscar Leonard
Oscar Leonard,
Secretary

ol.sh.

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, 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

November 7, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

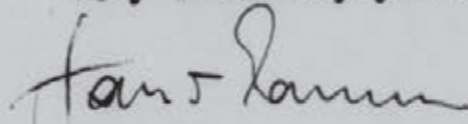
Dear Dr. Silver:

Attached please find draft of a letter which shall be sent out next week. It has been approved by Mrs. de Sola Pool.

Will you kindly return it to the undersigned with your approval or any alterations you care to make.

Also enclosed is a page which is inserted in the book "America and Palestine".

Very sincerely yours,


Hans Lamm

HL:RN

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

C. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

1220

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

NA30 NL PD=NEWYORK NY 7

DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER= EAST 105 AND
THE TEMPLE CLEVE= ANSEL

EM

1008A

VLD

NOV 8

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND PRIVATE LUNCHEON
FRIDAY NOVEMBER TENTH ONE PM ASTOR HOTEL BROADWAY AND
45TH STREET ON OCCASION OF DR NAHUM GOLDMANN'S RETURN
FROM PALESTINE MR BERNARD JOSEPH WHO ACCOMPANIED DR GOLDMANN
TO THIS COUNTRY WILL LIKEWISE BE PRESENT DR GOLDMANN
WILL GIVE AN INTIMATE REPORT OF HIS FINDINGS IN PALESTINE
VIEW OF SHORTNESS OF TIME PLEASE PHONE JEWISH AGENCY
OFFICE MURRAYHILL 2-8803 INDICATING WHETHER YOU CAN ATTEND
LOUIS LIPSKY MEMBER JEWISH AGENCY EXECUTIVE.

45TH PM 2-8803..

Louise

November 9, 1944

The Editor
New York Times
229 West 43rd Street
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

As a warm admirer of "Pertinax" for his outstanding contributions to an understanding of the French political scene, one could not but regret the dispatch under his name in Wednesday's New York Times in which he discusses the Palestine situation. We have no knowledge of Pertinax's source of information, but his report contains certain serious inaccuracies and conveys a grossly distorted picture of the situation in Palestine. He refers to the "Irgun Zvai Leumi" as a body within which "gathers all militant elements in the Jewish settlements of Palestine" to a number of not less than 50,000. In fact the Irgun is a relatively small, outlaw group whose program of violence as a political instrument has been repudiated unanimously and in unequivocal terms by the Jewish representative bodies in Palestine and condemned by the entire Jewish press, whether of the right or the left. Apart from the Irgun there are a few score desperate and half-crazed youths, the so-called Stern gang, who do not balk at assassination in the hopes of obtaining redress for the wrongs which they feel have been inflicted on their people. Reports indicate that it was members of this group who were responsible for the murder of Lord Moyne. Incidentally, as regards Pertinax's statement that within a year 60 members of the Palestine police have been put to death, although exact figures are not available at the moment that total is unquestionably grossly exaggerated.

No fair or accurate portrayal of the Palestine situation can ignore the fact that the 560,000 Jews of Palestine overwhelmingly repudiate and condemn terrorism as a method; that more than 30,000 Palestinian Jews are fighting in the armies of the United Nations and that the contribution of Palestinian Jewry to the war effort has been out of all proportion to its numbers and has been warmly lauded by leading British military and political figures; and that the Jews have performed a modern miracle of colonization and of peaceful constructive development in Palestine in the past few decades.

Pertinax suggests that, willy-nilly, Great Britain will have to stand by the Chamberlain White Paper of 1939 in which as an act of appeasement to

2-The Editor, New York Times, 11/9/44

to Arab extremists it was proposed to put an end to further Jewish immigration and further Jewish settlement in Palestine, and in effect to repudiate its solemn, internationally confirmed, covenant to establish the Jewish National Home. Page Pertinax, however, there seems little doubt that this White Paper, so vigorously condemned by Mr. Winston Churchill, as well as by public opinion generally in England and in this country will not and cannot survive after the war.

A concluding word with regard to Pertinax's statement that the Soviet Government is decidedly critical of Zionist policy. It is true that Soviet Russia has banned Zionism within its own borders as part of its policy to prevent emigration and to assimilate within its own constitutional framework the various national groups inside Russia. This, however, has nothing to do with the Russian attitude to Zionist policy abroad. And although the Russian Government has taken no formal position on the Palestine question, there are many indications that it will place no obstacles in the way of any decision, even that for a Jewish Commonwealth to which the President himself has undertaken to give his support, which may be taken in regard to the future of Palestine.

Sincerely yours

Arthur Lourie

AL:CK

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, 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

November 10, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th St. at Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

1. I forgot to ask you last night about the letter which, as you mentioned to me on the telephone, you had received from Dr. Weizmann. I assume this also contained the four-page memorandum to the Government which Joseph mentioned in his report last night. I should very much like to see copies of this material at your convenience.

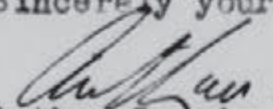
2. I have sent the accompanying letter to the New York Times, with reference to the article by Fertinax.

3. I enclose copy of a letter which I have sent today to the Organizations with reference to the interchange of cables with Ben-Gurion about the proposed conference in Jerusalem.

4. I am informed that Dr. Wise has spoken to Mr. Bloom in accordance with the decision of the meeting yesterday, and told him to await further word from us.

5. I enclose what struck me as an interesting statement by Dr. Berkson on the meaning of the Jewish Commonwealth as it emerges from Zionist statements and literature. It occurs to me that it might be useful to circulate this and possibly to have it form the basis of a discussion. Please let me know what you think.

Sincerely yours


Arthur Lourie

AL:CK
Enc.

November 10, 1944

Mr. Hans Lamm
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Lamm:

The draft of the letter to be sent out to the members of the committee on cooperation with organizations dealing with post-war problems is all right. I'd like to know the names of the committee before they are invited. The committee should have no more than six or eight members.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

November 10, 1944

Mr. Arthur Lourie
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Lourie:

In connection with the coming visit of Rev. MacLean, I think that we ought to know definitely when he is arriving, and we should begin organizing his itinerary. Chiefly, his services should be used for the regional conferences of the American Palestine Committee, the first one which will be held soon in Chicago. We ought to find out what important church conferences will be held in the United States during the two months that MacLean will be here, and arrange to get him on the program. Voss, Atkinson and LeSourd can plan this part of his program.

A reception should be planned for him in New York City under the auspices either of the Federal Council or some similarly important church organization, or under the sponsorship of the group of one hundred ministers of all denominations in New York. His first appearance in New York should be carefully planned. Dr. Neibuhr may be helpful in making suggestions for the reception of MacLean.

Theological Seminaries like the Union Theological Seminary of New York, and the important Seminaries in Chicago, Philadelphia, etc. should be advised of the coming of MacLean and his availability on certain dates to address faculties and student bodies.

I think that as the first step -- and right-a-way -- you ought to have a meeting with Shapiro, Manson, LeSourd, Voss, Marsh, Magida and such others as you deem advisable to talk over the plans. As a guiding principle, his visit should be used to the utmost among non-Jewish groups in the United States. The Zionists don't need him. When you have made your tentative plans, I should like to see them.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, 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

November 13, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105 Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Thank you very much for your letter of November 10.

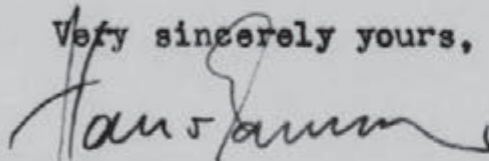
The following are the people who have been suggested as members for the Committee on Cooperation with Post-War Planning Groups:

Miss Dorothy Adelson
Miss Babette Deutch
Mr. Chaim Greenberg
Dr. Oscar I. Janowsky
Dr. Alexander S. Koshanski
*Mr. Marvin Lowenthal
Mrs. David de Sola Pool
Dr. A. Tartakower
Captain Abraham Tulin

*Dr. I.B.B. Berkson
Professor Louis Finkelstein
Dr. James G. Heller
Professor Horace M. Kallen
*Mr. Arthur Lourie
Professor Nathan Reich
Miss Mary Syrkin
Mr. Abe Tulin
Professor Theresa Wolfton

Will you kindly indicate whether you want all these individuals to receive your letter of invitation or which should be omitted.

Very sincerely yours,



Hans Lamm

HL:RW

D R A F T

November 13, 1944.

Dear Mr.

The American Zionist Emergency Council considers it of utmost importance to establish and develop cooperative relations with the organizations dealing with post-War problems. We are convinced that they represent an important sector of American thought which will play a leading role in the days ahead, one which ought to be acquainted with our aims and purposes.

Mrs. David de Sola Pool and Capt. Abba Tulin have agreed to serve as Co-Chairmen of our newly formed Committee on Cooperation with Post-War Planning Groups.

Your active participation in the work of this Committee will be of real value and help, and I take pleasure in asking you to serve on it, and lend your experience and knowledge to the direction of this project.

Please let us know at your earliest convenience that we may count on your participation in the activities of this Committee.

The first meeting of the Committee shall take place Tuesday, December 12, 1944, at 4:30 P.M. in our office. Please keep this date free.

Very sincerely yours,

Abba Hillel Silver
Chairman, Executive Committee

Copied
11/6/44 -BI

November 13, 1944

Mr. Arthur Lourie
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Lourie:

You may recall that at one of the meetings we talked about extending an official welcome to the Zionist delegates who are here from Palestine and elsewhere at some dinner function. I wonder whether we should utilize the evening of Tuesday, November 21, following our Executive Meeting, for a dinner to these delegates and to the members of the Council? If you and Shapiro think well of it, make the necessary arrangements.

You might invite five or six of the leading Zionists, especially those from England, to deliver five to ten minute talks. While some of these delegates were welcomed at our last meeting, none of them had a chance to anything except Joseph, from Palestine.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date November 13, 1944.

From Arthur Lourie

1) In reply to my cabled inquiry as to whether ^{London} they had any information about the statement of Abrahams of the New Zionist Organization that a declaration on Palestine was to be issued on November 16th, I have received the following cable from Locker (Linton has apparently left for Palestine):

"FOR INTERNAL INFORMATION ONLY WE LEARN ON HIGHEST
AUTHORITY STATEMENT UNTRUE STOP WEIZMANN WROTE
FULLY TO SILVER."

2) I enclose a copy of the final version of the memorandum to the Joint Keren Hayesod and Keren Kayemeth Committee.

AL:LB
Encl.

A.L.

November 13, 1944

Mr. Arthur Lourie
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Lourie:

I am enclosing herewith the Memorandum which was submitted to H.M. Government by the Jewish Agency. Dr. Weizmann wrote me that an official copy is being sent to me by the British Embassy in Washington to be presented either to the Secretary of State or to the President. I have not yet received this copy. Presumably this Memorandum is to be kept confidential at least until it is formally presented or made public by the Jewish Agency.

Thank you for sending me a copy of Berkson's statement on the meaning of the Jewish Commonwealth. I had seen it previously.

There was an excellent statement in Saturday's New York Times on the meaning of the Jewish Commonwealth by Mr. Kohn (or is it Kuhn) of the Jewish Agency in Palestine. It is the best thing of its kind, as far as comprehensiveness and conciseness are concerned that I have seen. Please suggest to Sulamith Schwartz that she print it in the next issue of "Palestine."

I plan to attend the next meeting of the Executive on Tuesday, November 21. I do not believe that we should hold a Plenum again so soon.

I received the enclosed telegram this morning from the New Zionist Organization. Shall we make any reply?

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK
Enc. - 2

November 15, 1944

Mr. Hans Lamm
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Lamm:

Thank you for your letter of November 13.
The committee as suggested is all right. Mr. Arthur
Lourie, Dr. Berkson and Mr. Lowenthal, being members
of our staff, will act as professional advisers, not
as members of the committee.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple, East 105th St. at Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

Date November 15, 1944

From Arthur Lourie

1. I enclose copies of an interchange of cables between the Geneva and London offices of the Agency which have been received by the Jewish Agency office here.

2. Copy of letter from the British Embassy to Barlas in Constantinople, dated August 12, 1944.

3. Dr. Wise told me this morning that he had asked Stettinius if there was any reply from the President. Stettinius informed him that he had only seen the President for a moment or two since his return to Washington and that he expected to be able to let us have a definite reply within the next couple of days. I understand that a note to this effect went out to you yesterday from Washington. Dr. Wise offered it as his private opinion that there were five or six "must" bills coming up before Congress, and that unless the President made the Palestine Resolution a "must", there would be no action on it.

.....
Since speaking to you about the above on the telephone, I gather that Dr. Wise also spoke to Congressman Bloom who told him that Congressman Celler was making his position difficult on the Resolutions by releasing to the press an attack on him for his failure to take immediate action on the Resolutions. Mr. Bloom expressed his resentment at Mr. Celler's action in view of the fact that he was anxious to follow the advice of the leaders of the Emergency Council. Incidentally I understand that Dr. Wise's talk with Mr. Stettinius took the form of a telephone conversation and not of a personal interview.

A. L.

AL:CK
Enc.

November 16, 1944

Mr. Arthur Lourie
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Lourie:

I am enclosing herewith the Memorandum on Palestine policy which has come through the official channels, along with Dr. Weizmann's covering note. I think that by Tuesday we should decide in what manner this Memorandum is to be transmitted, and to whom.

Weizmann also mentions a suitable covering note. You might wish to draft one. Should the subject of this Memorandum, and what to do about it, be discussed at the Executive or the Plenum next Tuesday? You might talk to Dr. Wise and Goldmann about it in the meantime.

I am also enclosing herewith the letter of Dr. Weizmann which contains a report of his interview with Churchill. Dr. Wise has a copy of this letter. You may wish to show it to Dr. Goldmann. I had hoped to see him here in Cleveland, but he did not arrive.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK
Enc. - 4

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, 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

November 17, 1944

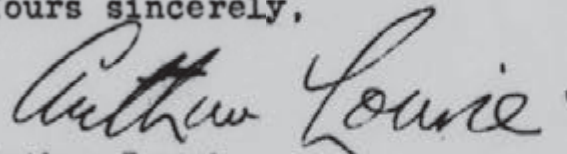
To the Members of the Emergency Council:

I enclose Minutes of the Meeting of the Emergency Council held November 9th.

As you have already been informed, the next meeting of the Emergency Council will be held Tuesday, November 21st, at 8:15 P. M., at 342 Madison Avenue (Room 1421), New York City.

I am directed to draw attention to the fact that persons not members of the Council or guests from abroad invited by the chairmen have attended recent meetings of the Council without invitation. This tends to make the meetings unwieldy and to destroy their executive character. Members are requested to note that unauthorized persons will not be admitted to future meetings.

Yours sincerely,



Arthur Lourie

AL:L

Reminder to the Members of the Executive Committee:

Next meeting of the Executive Committee, Tuesday afternoon, November 21st, at 4:00 P. M.

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple, Cleveland, Ohio

Date November 17, 1944

From Arthur Lourie

1. I enclose herewith copy of a note of a telephone conversation with Judge Fisher yesterday, regarding the Aviation Conference.
2. Attached is a note sent today to Mr. Milton Resner of the New York Times.
3. I enclose copy of the statement ^{subsequently} issued in your name to the New York Times.

AL:CK
Enc.

City of Cleveland

FRANK J. LAUSCHE
MAYOR

November 20, 1944

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I have your letter of November 14th and the copy of the book, "America and Palestine". I am grateful to you for this courtesy and I assure you that I will read it.

It is gratifying to note that the dream of yourself and others associated with you about Palestine is slowly, but consistently, moving towards actuality.

Sincerely yours,


Mayor

FJL:js

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	ORDINARY
DAY LETTER	URGENT RATE
SERIAL	DEFERRED
NIGHT LETTER	NIGHT LETTER

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise the message will be transmitted as a telegram or ordinary cablegram.

WESTERN UNION 1207

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

\$	CHECK
	ACCOUNTING INFORMATION
	TIME FILED

Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

To Louis Lipsky

11-22-44 19

Care of or Apt. No. _____

Street and No. New York, N.Y.

Place _____

WANT A REPLY?
"Answer by WESTERN UNION"
or similar phrases may be
included without charge.

PLEASE TELEPHONE ME WHEN YOU RECEIVE THIS TELEGRAM. KINDEST REGARDS

A H SILVER

Sender's Name _____

Address _____ Tel. No. _____

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, 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.
M U r r a y H i l l 2 - 1 1 6 0

November 22, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Mrs. David de Sola Pool, Mr. Marvin Lowenthal and myself conferred yesterday on the program of the Committee on Cooperation with Post-War Planning Groups. The agenda of the first meeting which will be held on December 10 will be submitted to you in advance.

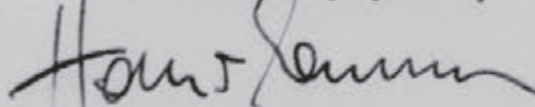
Mr. Lowenthal suggested that Mrs. Lowenthal take his place on the Committee and he will remain an ex-officio member. He feels that she has far more helpful contacts than he.

Mrs. Pool and Mr. Lowenthal both feel that Dr. Neumann and Professor Salo Baron should be added to the list of people invited to serve as members of the committee.

Will you kindly let me know whether it will be satisfactory for the letter of invitation to be sent to these three individuals.

With kindest regards.

Very sincerely yours,



Hans Lamm

HL:RW

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
Hotel Statler, Washington, D. C.

Date November 27, 1944

From Arthur Lourie

1. I am returning to you Dr. Weizmann's letter which enclosed the memorandum on policy submitted by him to the Government. You may wish to have it on hand in order to acknowledge it personally. A copy of the letter from Dr. Wise and yourself to the President, which accompanied the copy of Dr. Weizmann's memorandum has been sent the London office.

2. In consultation with Dr. Berkson I have written to Dr. Liebmann, Rabbi Wohl and the others, urging that they send letters to the Federal Council with regard to the bulletin.

3. I had a call last week from Mr. Lipkowitz with regard to the Bergson registration. He had seen in New York a member of the Justice Department who had told him that unless there was some evidence that the Bergson group was misusing the fact of registration so as thereby to claim some status to which they were not entitled, it was unlikely that the Department would require them to file any further statement. Mr. Lipkowitz said that he felt that the only possibility of making further progress would be by another visit to Washington with the objective this time of seeing the head of the Department. Today I had a further call from Mr. Lipkowitz who told me that he had spoken on the phone to Mr. MacDonald of the Alien Registration Department in Washington and had learned from him that no conclusion had been reached by the Department which, with an inadequate staff, was overwhelmed with work. Nevertheless he wished to assure Mr. Lipkowitz that this matter was "being considered in a group with several others" and that he hoped to deal with it before long, also that they appreciated the information that had been given them. Mr. Lipkowitz had suggested that it was a matter of importance for the Department to know whether or not people who registered with the Justice Department as agents, actually did or did not represent a foreign principal. Mr. MacDonald agreed that that was so and said that that question was very much in their minds.

L. L.

AL:CK

November 28, 1944

The Christian Century
95 Madison Avenue
New York, New York

Gentlemen:

Our attention has been drawn to an editorial in the Christian Century of November 1, 1944, entitled "An Impartial Study of the Palestine Problem", which deals with the recent Bulletin on "Conflict Over Palestine" issued by the Department of Research and Education of the Federal Council of Churches.

As this study appears to us to be far from a fair and balanced statement of the position, we venture to send you for your information copies of two letters sent to the Federal Council -- one addressed to Dr. Samuel Cavert, by Dr. Israel Goldstein, President of the Zionist Organization of America, and the other addressed to Dr. F. Ernest Johnson, by Dr. I. B. Berkson, Director of the Research Department of the American Zionist Emergency Council.

Yours sincerely

AL:CK
Enc.

Arthur Lourie

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, 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

December 1, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

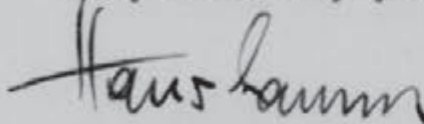
Mrs. David de Sola Pool has suggested the following five individuals as additional members for the Committee on Cooperation With Post-War Planning Groups:

Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein
Mrs. David B. Greenberg
Mrs. Samuel J. Rosensohn
Mrs. Sam Halpern
Mrs. Herman Shulman

I would appreciate it if you would let me know at your earliest convenience whether it will meet with your approval if the above mentioned individuals as well as Professor Salo Baron, Dr. Emanuel Neumann and Mrs. Marvin Lowenthal, about whom I wrote you a few days ago, should receive your letter of invitation.

Two or three of the people who had been invited to join the committee, declined the invitation due to the fact that they are so overburdened with other obligations that they cannot accept additional duties. Miss Babette Deutsch declined with the explanation that she does not feel sufficiently close to the Zionist cause to see fit to accept membership on the committee.

Very sincerely yours,



Hans Lamm

HL:RW

December 2, 1944

Mr. Arthur Lourie
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Lourie:

The enclosed pamphlet I received this morning from our friend, Mr. Nathaniel L. Goldstein. He said that to his knowledge it is getting wide distribution in New York City. It is another product of the "Foreign Missions" group. Attention should be given to this matter at once. In what way is this Foreign Missions Conference of North Africa identified with the other Federal Council group which issues its bulletin?

With all good wishes, I remain


Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK
Enc.

TELEGRAM 12-10-44

Mr. Arthour Lourie
299 Riverside Dr.
New York, N.Y.

I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE YOU BRING ALONG WITH YOU TO WASHINGTON TOMORROW
MORNING OR IF YOU ARE NOT COMING SEE THAT SOMEONE BRINGS ALONG WITH
HIM THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE EMERGENCY COUNCIL. KINDEST
REGARDS



SILVER

MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING
COMMITTEE ON COOPERATION WITH POST-WAR PLANNING GROUPS of the
American Zionist Emergency Council

December 12, 1944

PRESENT

Mrs. David de Sola Pool, Capt. Abraham Tulin, Co-Chairmen.
Miss Dorothy Adelson, Dr. I. B. Berkson, Mrs. David Greenberg, Dr. A. S. Kohanski,
Hans Lamm, Arthur Lourie, Marvin Lowenthal.

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 P. M. by Capt. Tulin.

The group discussed the scope and purpose of the Committee and agreed that at this time its most important task is to present the Zionist position to important post-war planning groups. Dr. Berkson stressed that this should be done in an objective and scientific manner.

Mrs. Pool pointed out that we should be prepared to cooperate with the existing post-war planning groups and make their ideas and material available to the Zionist organizations comprising the American Zionist Emergency Council.

Occasionally, pertinent reading material should be mailed to selected groups and individuals in the field. It was agreed that A. E. Kahn's paper recently published in the "American Economic Review" should thus be used.

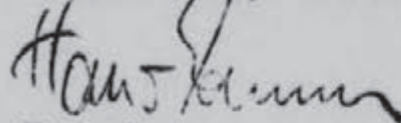
Dr. Kohanski explained the importance of establishing personal contacts with the leaders of the different organizations. A number of organizations such as the Foreign Policy Association, the Committee for the Organization of Peace, the Council on Foreign Relations, were mentioned as those with which the Committee should establish relations in the near future.

The next meeting of the Committee, called for Monday, December 18, will make definite plans regarding the method of contacting leading organizations and will discuss other projects of our Committee.

Mrs. Pool agreed to get in touch with the Committee on Education for Lasting Peace of the Women's Actions Committee, while Capt. Tulin will ask Professor Janowsky to arrange for a meeting with Mr. Clark Eichelberger; he also will renew his contacts with Professor Lynn Westermann.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,


Hans Lamm

HL:JM

TELEGRAM -- 12-15-44

Mr. Arthur Lourie
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

PLEASE OBTAIN AT ONCE FROM WISE GOLDMANN EXACT WORDING OF WHAT ST. SAID
TO THEM AND FORWARD SAME TO ME BY AIRMAIL SPECIAL. KINDEST REGARDS.



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

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple, Cleveland, Ohio

Date December 15, 1944

From Arthur Lourie

Immediately on receipt of your telegram I rang up Dr. Goldmann and he dictated to me the attached note on the conversation which he and Dr. Wise had with Mr. Stettinius on Wednesday at the time when they called on him together with the delegation from the World Jewish Congress.

AL:CK
Enc.

64.

CABLE ADDRESS: "ALGONQUIN, NEW YORK"

HOTEL ALGONQUIN

TWO SQUARES FROM GRAND CENTRAL STATION

WALKING DISTANCE OF BEST SHOPS AND THEATRES

WEST 44TH STREET BETWEEN 6TH AND 5TH AVENUES NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

Dec. 16, 1944

Dear Sirs:-

Milton Steinberg's article
"The Creed of an American Zionist" will
appear in the February number of
the Atlantic Monthly — out by the middle
of January.

Ever

Marion Lowenthal

*These will likewise be published "many
letters" on the subject, received by the
Atlantic.

MINUTES OF THE SECOND MEETING
COMMITTEE ON COOPERATION WITH POST-WAR PLANNING GROUPS of the
American Zionist Emergency Council
December 17, 1944

PRESENT: Mrs. David de Sola Pool, Chairman, Miss Dorothy Adelson, Dr. I. B. Berkson, Mrs. David Greenberg, Dr. A. S. Kohanski, Hans Lamm, Arthur Lourie, Mrs. Marvin Lowenthal, Dr. Jacob Robinson.

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 P. M. by Mrs. Pool.

The minutes of the first meeting, as mailed, were approved.

The Committee discussed a letter from Mr. John F. Normano, Director of Studies, Research Bureau for Post-War Economics, requesting the Council's cooperation in a full day public conference, "Reconstruction Problems of Asia," to be held on February 3, 1945, in New York City. A motion was carried recommending the acceptance of this invitation and an initial subvention of \$150. Dr. Berkson, Dr. Lowdermilk and Dr. Neumann were suggested as speakers. Mr. Lamm was asked to contact Mr. Normano to find out the details of the planned Conference and to act as liaison between the Research Bureau for Post-War Economics and the American Zionist Emergency Council.

The relations of the Zionist movement to the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America were discussed in conjunction with the bulletin issued by the latter's Research Department on October 7, 1944. Mrs. Marvin Lowenthal felt that an attempt should be made to establish personal contact with the chairman of the "Committee on a Just and Durable Peace" of the Federal Council. The group agreed that Dr. David de Sola Pool should be asked to communicate with this chairman.

Mrs. Pool mentioned the Foreign Policy Association as another important organization to which we should have close and more permanent relations. Mrs. Greenberg offered to arrange for a luncheon with Dr. Vera Dean in a mutual friend's home; Mr. Harry Viteles was suggested to be invited as a Palestinian expert.

Dr. Jacob Robinson gave information on the history and present scope of the Free World Association.

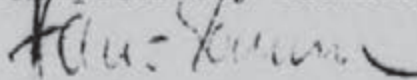
Dr. Berkson drew attention to a special issue of the "Journal for Educational Sociology" which will be devoted to the post-war position of the Jews and which will appear in January, 1945.

A motion was made and carried to the effect that the Committee shall meet in the future on every third Wednesday of the month. Accordingly, the next meeting will be held on the evening of January 17, 1945.

The Secretary was instructed to mail, together with the invitations to the January meeting, a list of the most important organizations in the field of post-war planning, so that individual contacts can be established on the basis of the personal acquaintances of Committee members with the officers of said organizations.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,



Hans Lamm

HL:JM

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, 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

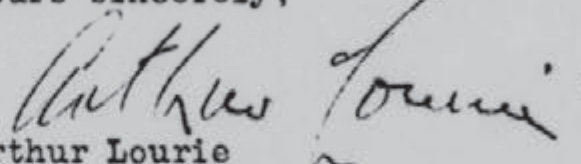
December 19, 1944

To the Members of the American Zionist Emergency Council:

I enclose short Minutes of the Meeting of the Emergency Council and Executive Committee held December 7, 9 and 11.

As you have been informed, the next meeting of the Council will be held Wednesday, December 20; at 8:15 P. M., at 342 Madison Avenue (Room 1421), New York City.

Yours sincerely,


Arthur Lourie

AL:LB
Encs.

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, 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.
M U r r a y H i l l 2 - 1 1 6 0

December 22, 1944.

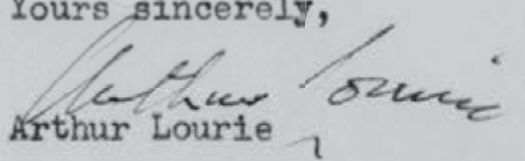
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I am writing to let you know that the parties
have agreed that the next meeting of the Emergency Council
shall take place on Thursday night, December 28th, at
8:15.

AL:LB

Yours sincerely,


Arthur Lourie

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

CDU76 IL PD=XJ NEWYORK NY 26 1043A

DUPLICATE OF TELEPHONED TELEGRAM

DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

1944 DEC 26 PM 12 20

THE TEMPLE CLEVE=

SHOULD APPRECIATE YOUR AIR MAILING TEXT YOUR STATEMENT TO
EMERGENCY COUNCIL TO ENABLE COMPLATION RECORD LAST WEDNESDAYS
PROCEEDINGS PLEASE SEND ALSO OUR FILE DRAFT COPY OF MINUTES
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING WASHINGTON DECEMBER 11 REGARDS=
ARTHUR LOURIE.

11.

Sk 3740
R 0150

130p
1258p
120p
mail

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

1201

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter
NL = Night Letter
LC = Deferred Cable
NLT = Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

ND94 14=XJ NEWYORK NY 26 324P

1944 DEC 26 PM 3 48

DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

DUPLICATE OF TELEPHONED TELEGRAM

:THE TEMPLE CLEVE=

PLEASE AIR MAIL TO ME RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION CONTAINED
IN YOUR WEDNESDAY NIGHT STATEMENT=

LOUIS LIPSKY.

Mr. S.
338 Pmed
ref 437 P Ea
BQD94

Go 0150

Sp 3740

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, 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.
M U r r a y H i l l 2 - 1 1 6 0

December 29, 1944

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

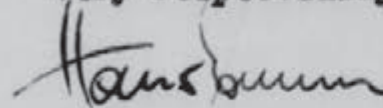
This is in reply to your letter of December 26
addressed to Mr. Shapiro.

Copies of "America and Palestine" have been
sent to a select list of individuals in Jerusalem,
London, Canada, Australia, and South Africa, at the
time the book came from the press.

Additional shipments of ten copies each have
gone out to the five countries recently.

Very best wishes to you and kindest personal
regards.

Very respectfully yours,



Hans Lamm

HL: jm

December 30, 1944

Mr. Arthur Lourrie
Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Lourrie:

I am inclosing herewith a letter which I received this morning from Senator Taft. You may wish to bring it to the attention of the committee.

I've had, of course, nothing to do with this action of the Senator but contrary to Mr. Herman Shulman's smart argument of the other night, there are certain senators who are sufficiently interested in the Palestine resolution to take action on their own initiative.

Very sincerely yours,

Incl - 1

AHS/br

HANS LAMM
255 WEST 98TH STREET
NEW YORK 25, NEW YORK

December 30, 1944 .

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

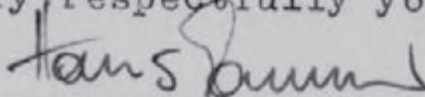
Dear Dr. Silver:

In this hour when your resignation from the Chairmanship of the Council has become a fact, hundreds and thousands feel very keenly the tragic blow our movement has suffered.

Those, who like me, have had for more than one year the good fortune of working under your guidance and inspiring leadership have felt the recent development as a particularly tragic one and one that equals a personal loss.

Permit me to express to you not only my lasting admiration and loyalty, but also deeply felt wishes for your future work, for your health and that of your dear ones.

Very sincerely and very respectfully yours,


Hans Lamm

January 2, 1945

Mr. Hans Lamm
255 West 98th St.
New York 25, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Lamm:

May I tell you how profoundly I appreciated your thoughtfulness in writing to me. The sentiments which you expressed are greatly heartening. I have been happy to hear from so many friends in all parts of the country, and have been particularly gratified with the reaction of the Jewish press. The lying propaganda of that cheap little ZOA cabal in the Emergency Council has not succeeded with the Zionist public or with American Jewry.

I am grateful to you for the consistent, loyal and faithful service which you rendered the Zionist Emergency Council during my administration. I am confident that we shall meet frequently and together continue our work for the great cause.

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

January 5, 1945

Mr. Arthur Lourie
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Lourie:

I have this day written to Senator Taft acknowledging his letter to me and informing him that I had communicated to the Council the contents of his letter, and that the representatives of the Council would undoubtedly get in touch with him in the near future.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK

HANS LAMM

255 West 98th Street
New York 25, N. Y.

January 7, 1945

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I am deeply grateful for your friendly words of your letter of January 3rd.

May I take the liberty to appeal to you in other matters:

I understand the Senate is just opening renewed hearings on the bill for a Federal FEPC and I have learned that one of the few ardent opponents of the bill is the Hon. Robert A. Taft.

You at all times have seen with rare clarity that the fight for all minorities is one fight and that our existence in America is very closely linked with the amount of justice the Negro and others are granted. As I realize how much Mr. Taft heeds your wisdom and judgement, I am taking the liberty of bringing this matter to your attention, earnestly asking you to appeal to the Senator from Ohio to support the FEPC bill the essential democratic justness should be above all partisan considerations.

With repeated best wishes,

Respectfully yours,
Hans Lamm

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, 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 10, 1945

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th St. at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

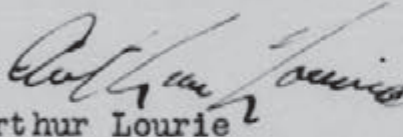
Dear Dr. Silver:

Many thanks for your letter of January 5th informing me that you have written to Senator Taft.

I have communicated the contents of your letter to the Executive Committee and I take it that representatives of the Council will be getting into touch with Senator Taft in the near future.

With kindest regards

Yours sincerely


Arthur Lourie

AL:CK

January 15, 1945

Mr. Arthur Lourie
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Lourie:

The expenses involved in Rabbi Silver's trip to St. Louis on January 11 in connection with the South Central Conference on Palestine amounted to \$35.25.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

BJK

Secretary to Rabbi Silver.

896 Bergen Avenue
Jersey City 6, N. J.
January 17, 1945

Rabbi A. H. Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi,

The Jersey City Zionist Organization has agreed to have a symposium on the issue of your recent resignation as chairman of the Emergency Council. Of course, I expect to take part in this discussion and, therefore, I would like to ask you to give me some information on this subject. I personally think it was jealousy more than anything else. You will recollect that sometime ago you told me about Dr. Weiss's action in the White House and said that it wasn't to your liking. However, any enlightenment of this subject which you give me will be appreciated and you can be sure that it will be kept confidential. I intend to speak for ten minutes. That should give you an idea of how much information I can use.

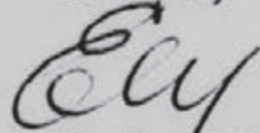
As for personal matters, my Naomi will graduate in June, 1946. We are contemplating sending her to some college. She has already written to several of them and received answers. Of course, some of them are too expensive for me. We are thinking of sending her to the University of Ohio. I would like your view on this matter. We are considering this particular university since I expect Irving to settle in Cleveland and that will give her a chance to visit him quite often so that she will not be too lonesome. After all she will only be sixteen years old when she enters college.

Will you please let me know when you will be in New York again as I would like very much to have a chat with you.

Another thing I would like to ask you is to send us your bulletin as we have not received it for the last several months.

Bessie and the children send their best regards. Send my love to Virginia and the children.

As ever,


S. E. LIEBOW

SEL:PL

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, 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

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I feel that you would wish to know that at a meeting of the Executive of the American Palestine Committee in Washington on Wednesday, it was agreed that Senator Taft should be invited to become Co-Chairman of the American Palestine Committee. Dr. Poling, Mr. Hines representing the American Federation of Labor, and Dr. LeSourd were accordingly delegated to call on him in this regard.

I am sorry to say that Senator Taft felt that he would rather not accept a position on the Executive Committee. His reason for refusing was that he makes it a practice not to accept such positions in general since it gives him greater freedom to act. He indicated his readiness, however, to continue to be helpful in behalf of our cause.

Kindest regards

Sincerely yours

Arthur Lourie
Arthur Lourie

AL:CK

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, 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 25, 1945

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th St. at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

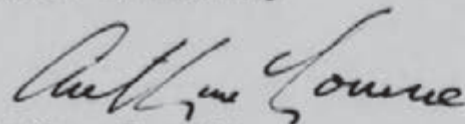
Dear Dr. Silver:

Many thanks for ringing me with regard to the Hoskins appointment. Wadsworth, Hoskins, Murray! What a combination!

Similar information reached us shortly after your call from another source. We decided that for once an energetic protest direct to the Department would be the best procedure. A letter was telephoned through to Washington for immediate delivery to the Secretary and in addition wires have been sent by the heads of the Organizations both to the State Department and Mr. Crowley of the F.E.A.

Kindest regards.

Yours sincerely



Arthur Lourie

AL:CK

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees **Date** February 21, 1945

From Arthur Lourie
Political Secretary

Momentous decisions are in the making with regard to Palestine. Many rumors will be afloat during the period immediately ahead as to the precise decisions, if any, that were made in the recent conferences in the Middle East.

In judging the value of these reports it should be borne in mind that in many cases they may be based on little more than conjecture. No official word has as yet reached us on the Cairo conversations though we are hopeful that before long some reliable information on what occurred may be available. One thing is clear, namely that statements made in high quarters to the Zionist leadership both here and in London that the matter of Palestine would be discussed, have been implemented.

In these anxious moments we would request our Emergency Councils throughout the country to reserve judgment and to withhold public pronouncements on any reports that may appear in the newspapers. We shall keep you informed of events as they transpire and give you such information as we can without delay.

AL:CK

הסוכנות היהודית לארץ ישראל

THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

CENTRAL OFFICE:
JERUSALEM, PALESTINE

342 Madison Avenue ~~1000 BROADWAY~~
NEW YORK

MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE
FOR AMERICAN AFFAIRS
LOUIS LIPSKY

February 26th, 1945

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Silver:

The position of American Zionism at this time is giving Dr. Weizmann and the members of the Executive of the Jewish Agency great concern. It is feared that the consequences of recent events may be injurious to the larger political interests of the movement, which will soon be confronted with the making of decisions of great moment and far-reaching effect. The situation is now further aggravated by the fact that the Zionists for the first time in many years have been forced to undertake an independent campaign for the United Jewish Palestine Appeal, thus introducing, against their will, controversy in the field of fund raising.

Moved by his deep interest in American Zionist affairs, Dr. Weizmann has urged me, as the American member of the Jewish Agency, to make an earnest effort to reconcile the differences that have arisen; or, as an alternative, to ascertain whether the interested parties could not be persuaded to agree to a plan of procedure to have the differences that have arisen settled with due regard for the public relations involved in a controversy which may be extended over a period of many months.

There is no desire, of course, to suggest in any way the avoidance of the final arbitrament of the issues through constitutional procedure within the Zionist Organization of America. That form of settling issues may probably be unavoidable, but the period of time over which the controversy may extend and the rules to be observed in any public action that may be taken, may well be agreed to for the sake of the larger interests of the movement.

If you are sympathetic to the suggestion, I would undertake to make the arrangements for an informal preliminary discussion. This discussion could be participated in by from one to three representatives of each group, to meet at a time and place to be mutually agreed to.

I would urge you most earnestly that you subordinate any personal feeling that may have been aroused in the course of the controversy and to consider how important it is at this time to

הסוכנות היהודית לארץ ישראל

THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

CENTRAL OFFICE:
JERUSALEM, PALESTINE

AMERICAN OFFICE:
342 Madison Avenue ~~1000 Broadway~~
NEW YORK

MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE
FOR AMERICAN AFFAIRS
LOUIS LIPSKY

February 26th, 1945

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver:

have American Zionism animated by mutual good feeling and by a sense of brotherhood in the leadership in the momentous days that are before us.

With Zion's greetings,

Very cordially yours,

Louis Lipsky
Louis Lipsky

American Member Zionist Executive
of the Jewish Agency

P.S. Please send your reply to my home address at 302 West 86th Street,
New York City.

An identical letter has been mailed this day to Dr. Israel Goldstein

February 26, 1945

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

My dear Mr. Lourie:

I am sending on to you the enclosed communications which may be of interest to you. I have acknowledged the receipt of the letter to Miss Barrett. You may wish to write to her or to Captain Hadden yourself.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK
Enc.

February 27, 1945

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

My dear Mr. Lourie:

I have not yet received the original cable sent to me by Dr. Weizmann. You said yesterday that it was sent by airmail last Friday. I would therefore suggest that you put a tracer on that letter.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, 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.
M U r r a y H i l l 2 - 1 1 6 0

March 1, 1945

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th St. at Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

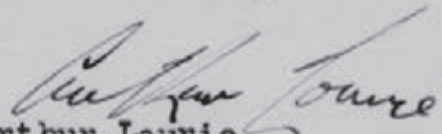
Many thanks for sending on to me the copy of the correspondence with Captain Hadden.

Hadden seems to be an energetic and enthusiastic person and we had already been in touch with him with regard to the possibility of his giving a few lectures on Palestine on the west coast. He had also sent us a copy of his letter to the President and LeSourd has sent him an acknowledgment.

Kindest regards

Yours sincerely

AL:CK


Arthur Lourie



WRHS



Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Louis Lipsky
302 W. 86th St.
New York, N.Y.



הסוכנות היהודית לארץ ישראל

THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

CENTRAL OFFICE:

JERUSALEM, PALESTINE

MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE
FOR AMERICAN AFFAIRS
LOUIS LIPSKY

342 Madison Avenue

AMERICAN OFFICE:

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
NEW YORK

March 8th, 1945

Handwritten: March 8th 1945
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Silver:

Thank you for your prompt reply to my letter of February 26th.

I must have been misled by my reading of the record into thinking that you had practically sealed and fenced off the Emergency Council from the area of the controversy. This I derived from your letter to the New York Times in which was stated your intention to remain a member of the Zionist Emergency Council and indicated your hope that it would succeed in its work. This impression was reinforced by the literature issued by the Zionist Policy Association which has been organized by your friends and which clearly reveals the fact that it is their intention to use constitutional methods to bring about a change of administration in the ZOA and the removal from office of the leadership responsible for the action taken in the Zionist Emergency Council.

I do not think that it is reasonable to expect that what you suggest in your letter of March 2nd, in the form indicated, would receive any support from Dr. Wise.

I venture, therefore, to renew the suggestion in my letter of February 26th. That you and a group of your friends meet with Dr. Goldstein and a group of his friends, to consider what can be done to bring about an ordered settlement of the controversy within the ZOA in accordance with constitutional procedure.

You will be interested to know that Dr. Goldstein has accepted my invitation.

Very cordially yours,

Handwritten: Louis Lipsky
Louis Lipsky

LL:MIK

Latin-America

C O P Y

MLT
ORGANIZACION SIONISTA
SORIANO 937
MONTEVIDEO (URUGUAY)

SEND WARMEST GREETINGS LATINAMERICAN ZIONIST CONFERENCE MONTEVIDEO WISH
YOU ALL SUCCESS YOUR DELIBERATIONS OUR MOVEMENT ENTERING DECISIVE STAGE
BE POLITICAL ACTIVITY BEHALF ESTABLISHMENT JEWISH STATE IN PALESTINE NEXT
FEW MONTHS WILL BE CRUCIAL MOBILIZATION MAXIMUM STRENGTH AND MORAL RESOURCES
OUR PEOPLE AND OUR FRIENDS THROUGHOUT WORLD MOST URGENT VOICE LATINAMERICA
RAISED BEHALF JUST AND HISTORIC CAUSE ISRAEL WOULD BE TREMENDOUSLY
HELPFUL

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

Charge to Kurt Blumenfeld
41 East 42nd Street
New York 17, N.Y.

March 9, 1945

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

(38)

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

T N13 18=COLUMBUS OHIO MAR 21 935P

EMANUEL NEUMANN=

1945 MAR 22 AM 1 40

ABBA HILLEL SILVER BANQUET COMMODORE HOTEL=

GROUNDING AIR PLANE SERVICE MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO BE
PRESENT AT BANQUET PLEASE READ MY MESSAGE=

FRANK J LAUSCHE.

ABBA HILLEL.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

March 28, 1945

The Honorable Frank J. Lausche
Governor of the State of Ohio
State House
Columbus, Ohio

My dear Governor Lausche:

I have just returned from New York and I hasten to send you this note of profound appreciation for the very beautiful message which you sent to my testimonial dinner. It was received enthusiastically by the great gathering. My deep regret, and theirs, was that you could not attend in person. They wanted so much to meet you, but the Toastmaster explained to them fully the circumstances which prevented your attendance.

Senator Taft, Senator Barkley, and Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr were among the speakers on the occasion which the New York press hailed as a memorable event.

I trust that you are well and I hope that I may have the pleasure in the not too far distant future of seeing you.

Again thanking you for your acceptance of the invitation and for your lovely words of tribute, undeserved I am afraid, which you paid to me, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK



STATE OF OHIO
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COLUMBUS 15

FRANK J. LAUSCHE
GOVERNOR

March 30, 1945

Abba Hillel Silver, D. D.
East 105th at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi:

I regretted very much that
circumstances made it impossible for
me to be in New York.

I do hope that if by chance
you should happen to be in Columbus at
any time in the future, you will let
me know. I would like to have you
visit me, either at my office or at
my home.

Commendations upon the great
and fearless work that you are doing.

Sincerely,

Frank J. Lausche
GOVERNOR

FJL:AMcM

*I hope your great fight
will bring to fruition your
fondest dream and
objective.*

FJL

SUGGESTED TELEGRAM TO GOVERNOR LAUSCHE

DR. SILVER TESTIMONIAL COMMITTEE IN NEW YORK EAGERLY AWAITING
YOUR ACCEPTANCE OF ITS INVITATION TO BE HONORED GUEST AT BANQUET
WEDNESDAY EVENING MARCH 21. OCCASION WILL DRAW NATIONAL ATTENTION
COMMITTEE WILL MAKE AVAILABLE ALL DATA AND MATERIAL FOR ADDRESS
IF DESIRED. JEWISH COMMUNITY OF OHIO WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR
PRESENCE AT ~~THEIR~~ DINNER IN HONOR OF DR. SILVER'S DISTINGUISHED SERVICE.
PLEASE WIRE ~~ME OR DR. SILVER.~~

SAUL DANACEAU



American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, 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

April 6, 1945

To the Members of the American Zionist Emergency Council:

Please take notice that at the next meeting of the American Zionist Emergency Council, which will be held Monday evening, April 16th, at 8:15, at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City, the following amendment to Article IV of the Constitution will be proposed for adoption on the recommendation of the Administrative Committee:

"Article IV shall read as at present with the addition of the following sentence:

'Elections of officers shall take place annually at a meeting of the Council of which at least two weeks notice shall be given and which shall be held not later than December 1st of each year.'"

Yours sincerely,

Arthur Lourie
Arthur Lourie

AL:LB

Copy

Arthur Lourie
299 Riverside Drive
New York

April 13, 1945.

Dear Marvin:

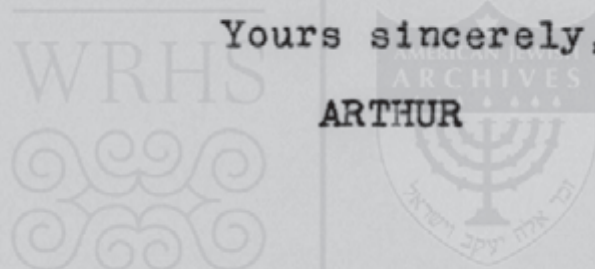
As you probably know I have a soft spot for you, but just privately and personally and between the two of us I think you were a bit of a stinker to publish those articles in the "Day" while in the employ of the Emergency Council.

This is apart from the fact that I think that your thesis is ill-founded, and I am enclosing for your information a copy of a letter which I have sent in to the publishers of "The Day" with reference to Zionist activities in England.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

ARTHUR



CABLE ADDRESS: "ALGONQUIN, NEW YORK"

HOTEL ALGONQUIN

TWO SQUARES FROM GRAND CENTRAL STATION

WALKING DISTANCE OF BEST SHOPS AND THEATRES

WEST 44TH STREET BETWEEN 6TH AND 5TH AVENUES NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

April 14, 1945.

Dear Abba:

Thanks for your kind note. I will be arriving in Cleveland around noon and will put up at the Hotel Cleveland. Naturally I'll be delighted to take dinner with you.

These are very sad and, I am afraid, hard days for America and the world. I'm speculating, as we all are, on just what it means for Palestine. Certain elements in the new set-up do offer some promise. But we will talk of that.

Enclosed is copy of a correspondence I've just had with Lourie. His letter gave me just the opening I wanted. And his reply to my article in The Day will be a great pleasure to answer.

Ever kindest regards from my wife and of course myself to you and Mrs. Silver.

Sincerely,

Marion

COPY

Hotel Algonquin,
New York, 18, N.Y.
April 14, 1948.

Dear Arthur:

In a sense I am glad you wrote me as you did, for it gives me the chance to write you privately and personally in reply. If your grievance arises from my publishing the article in "The Day," it should be directed not towards me but towards the prevalent policy which governs our Zionist press. I first of all showed the article to Meyer Weisgal and told him I wanted to offer it to the New Palestine. He told me that our official organ of Zionist opinion would never print it. Hayim Greenberg told me the same. I then offered it to Greenberg and asked him to publish it in the Jewish Frontier. He said he would do so provided he could find time to print simultaneously a 1500 word reply written by himself. I assured him I would be delighted to have his reply appear side by side with my article. But a couple of days later he informed he he was not able to take the time to write such a reply and hence he could not publish my article. I think this is a pity, for Zionist readers could then have had before them the two sides of the question. Next I took the article to Teller of the Independent Jewish Press Service, who refused it on the grounds that it was too long. Actually I am kind enough to believe that his Service is too short of funds and too dependent on the Zionist treasury. Anyway, the policy of the Zionist press is to print nothing but praise of the present Zionist "line"; and not only privately and personally but publically and audibly you ought, in all conscience, join me in declaring that it is this policy which is morally and practically a "stinker".... In any case there was no recourse left me but to send my article to the general Jewish press. It has already appeared in many more papers than the Day. And personally I feel rather clean not to have by silence associated myself with the "stink" which apparently pervades our present official Zionist press.

But if your grievance is directed towards my publishing the article at all while in the "employ" of the Emergency Council, it is entirely unfounded. I am not and have never been an "employee" of the Council. I was urged over and over again and finally consented to do some public relations work for the Council. I received no salary, but - instead - a fee for services. I have refused to accept a desk in the office and I have asked that it not be made known that I am engaged in work in behalf of the Council. I have insisted on this for two reasons. In the first place I am not a professional Zionist, however admirable such a position is, and I do think it admirable; but the only place or value I have in respect to the Jewish community lies in my being an independent writer and speaker. Secondly, the work I have been doing among writers, journalists, commentators, radio people, etc. would be utterly vitiated if I were known to be officially engaged in Zionist work. I am amazed to learn that you do not know or realize these obvious facts.

Finally, however, even if I were in the employ of the Council I would act as I did. No money, I assure you, could buy my opinions, to say nothing of my convictions. This too seems so obvious that I am amazed at your grievance. I prefer to think

that your complaint really lies against my publishing in the general Jewish press - and I hope I have satisfied you on that score and thereby made you a bit dissatisfied with our Zionist press.

I suppose I ought to add a word on general principles. Surely you must understand that I am not a voting member of the Emergency Council and therefore have absolutely no responsibility (thank God!) for its ~~assurances~~ ^{policies} and therefore I am not and cannot be bound by them.

With warmest regards,

Sincerely,

MARVIN

P.S: When your letter appears in the Day, and perhaps some others as well, I shall be glad to answer it.



Dallas, Texas
April 22, 1945

Dear Rabbi Silver:

To one who has been pleading the Jewish cause for so many years I wish to relate an idea which in my opinion should be worked out at once. And I can think of no one more capable or forceful than yourself. If, however, the same idea has been previously suggested then my sincerest wishes for its success.

I believe that we can rely upon our able statesmen and historians to have recorded every accomplishment and every dangerous undertaking entrusted our Jewish soldiers in this global war wherever they happened to fight. That, not forgetting our Jewish Brigade. Even those whose brave deeds were not mentioned by the war authorities for reasons of jealousy or enmity. The last refers to the Jews in and around Palestine, who have shown bravery beyond human endurance and courage unequaled when they were sent on missions of very dangerous nature and greatest of secrecy. Many of them did not return from these missions, neither did they reach the grave as a corpse but as small particles in the air after being exploded with the object together. The mission successfully accomplished yet not a word about them in the press. And there is the outstanding case of the wonder engineer who made possible the crossing of many regiments by preceeding them and sweeping out the mine-infested sea. Standing on deck of a ship he was hit fully in the face by a bomb. Blood trickling and flesh shredded he bravely directed the work until the last soldier was safely across. Yet nowhere in the English press did I find mention of this heroic deed.

There are some two million Jewish men and women in the service of the Allied Nations and our Brigade. That is one fourth of our nation. That too have the allies forgotten.

There is no doubt in my mind that our statesmen have gathered data not in a "Golden Book" but in a "Book of Tears" with bloody letters about the heroic and courageous deeds of our unsung soldiers, the name, place, time, and unit included. After totaling up our contribution to this war in men, loyalty, money, and the immeasurable catastrophe of the European Jewry what do we find are the so-called benevolent democracies of the world willing to do for us to alleviate our past and present suffering? Yes, that is a big question and what kind of an answer we receive will undoubtedly depend upon the determination of our leaders.

Needless to mention that I mean Palestine. And what are we given but "The depart to day and return another day" replies. For today they are engrossed appeasing the Arabs. And I dare say the nations will little succeed with their scheming plans to deprive us of what has been promised to us by G-d. Samuel I, Ch. xv, v. 29. And against their will the nations will chime in Amen. That is a thought about the future.

But what about the past, the immediate grim, ghastly, and heinous past in so far as our people are concerned? The gas chambers, the death ovens, and the torture chambers that still reek of human flesh and blood. The torture chambers that still echo the bewildered cries of innocent babies as they were being ruthlessly flung against concrete walls by the paws of hyenas. What about the punishment for these beasts? Will here too the world suffice with some inadequate measure? I presume a few Germans picked at random will be shot; a labor squad or two will wear the yellow shield of David while rebuilding some of the ruins they caused. And best of all a few main streets in Poland will bear Jewish names. And that will be considered sufficient punishment. They will pride themselves at having taken up for the honor of the persecuted Jews. And haven't they given the rascals their due?

Will such an injustice be allowed? Sounds unbelievable. However I failed to read in the press Jewish or English anything pertaining to this subject. Perhaps a political issue of this nature is not made public until due time. That is comprehensible. To disregard such a heaven-rending unparalleled atrocity since the creation of the world would be the greatest sin against ourselves.

Since the acceptance of the Torah on Mt. Sinai there are laws governing the wrongs committed by men against men and damages to one's property. "Eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot." "Burning for burning, wound for wound, bruise for bruise." Exodus Ch. xxi, vs. 24-25. "For all manner of trespass, for ox, for ass, for lamb, for raiment, or for any manner of lost thing of which he can say, This is it, before the judges shall come the cause of both parties, and he, whom the judges may condemn, shall pay double unto his neighbor." Exodus Ch. xxi, v. 8. Many nations throughout the world have accepted these laws even a few Asiatics. It is a well known fact that in the United States personal injury is subject to compensation of the highest scale. If the injury results in one's death the compensation runs into thousands of dollars, depending upon the earning ability of the person. All the above is true in case of unintended or accidental injury. Malicious, willful, or intended killing of another person is punishable by the electric chair. The laws governing rape are well known. That is all spoken of a single case. How much more intense should the punishment be where the guilty is an entire nation and the crime a systematic, intended, and well planned beforehand murder and plunder program on a huge scale?

The San Francisco Conference just a few days off I wonder if on the day's program will be brought up the question of proper punishment and redress for the death of some seven million Jewish persons who perished in such agony and disgrace at the hands of Hitler's henchmen. This according to all decency should be the second important question. The first no doubt will be the question of reparations against the Germans, may their names be obliterated! If reparations have been settled at Yalta, then the above question should be the first.

It is a well known fact if the murderer is left unpunished he will repeat his crime. This should be avoided by all means since the aim of the allies is a lasting peace and not a recurring war. No doubt the allies realize they are dealing with people whose character and doings would put the gangsters of the underworld to shame. Neither is this a question of punishing a few guilty ones in the top ranks. Since the entire German nation profited by the pillage; from the gold teeth, to the shoes, even to the soap made out of the remains of the millions of humans that the Herren Volk are using, the entire nation must bear the full brunt of the punishment.

In view of all the above it is very urgent that a committee be formed comprised of prominent leaders, international lawyers, and representatives of countries whose citizens were ruthlessly slaughtered and together present Germany with a bill of one million dollars for each person killed, sterilized, or injured for life. This should be levied upon each German by means of deducting one fifth of each pay envelope and should be called "The Human Security Tax." This should be applied for a period of fifty years. If every German will be reminded each week for a number of years that he is paying for the atrocities his father or grandfather committed his taste for world domination will be somewhat dulled.

I believe it is proper here to mention that the same committee should take up the returning of Jewish property in such countries where a proclamation has been issued. It should become an active instrument of deeds and not merely words on paper. If the rightful owner can not be found, then the next of kin, if no relatives can be traced then the property should revert to the Jewish State.

And returning to the punishment of the Germans, their unparalleled inhuman acts should go down in the annals not for historical purposes alone. This should give the League of Nations or The World Court a definite basis for establishing an organization guaranteeing the safety of one's life regardless where he may live. He may be a loyal citizen of his country and bear arms to defend his country. But the government may not exercise any willful means of depriving a person of his life or property. If that should happen The World Court will seek the compensation of the person's life or property from the government in question, group, or individual whoever happens to be responsible for the crime. If an individual in question does not have any means to pay his relatives should be made to pay. In that manner it will make each and everyone liable for the wrong doing of one's neighbor. That will prevent such atrocities from repeating in the future.

I am hopeful that all the small nations will join us in working out the above plan.

I am trusting that you personally be present at the Conference in San Francisco. Should it prove impossible for you to be there in person, I will consider it a personal favor if you will forward this to someone there who will be able to give root to this idea.

With best personal wishes and best wishes to the Conference for a lasting peace, I am,

Respectfully,

Rabbi M. Laskovsky



AFTER 5 DAYS, RETURN TO

Rabbi M. Labkovsky
2833 1/2 Foreash Ave.
Dallas 10, Texas



Air Mail
Special Delivery

Rabbi

~~Abraham~~ Melech Silver
Cleveland,
Ohio

LAW OFFICES
MAX LEVY

FISK BUILDING
250 WEST 57TH STREET
NEW YORK 19, N.Y.
COLUMBUS 5-2763

May 2nd, 1945

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I am, as you know, intimately associated with the Policy Committee, and was active in the Draft Silver movement and the intervening activities.

I am writing you now at the request of the Manhattan Zionist Region to urge that you attend its annual Regional Conference to be held at the Park Central Hotel on Sunday, June 10th, to bring to the delegates from the Manhattan Districts a statement of the political situation.

I have spoken to Harry Shapiro concerning this invitation, and am aware of your difficulty in arranging to be here on a Sunday, and that you have already undertaken to speak in Westchester and Brooklyn in May and June. I, nevertheless, feel very strongly that your appearance in Manhattan will be extremely valuable to the purposes of the Policy Committee. For reasons that you know, we have had considerable difficulty in Manhattan, and have not so far been able to obtain an official declaration in support of our viewpoint. Manhattan includes the large West Side District, of which I am an officer, where the President of the Zionist Organization, Mr. Lipsky, Dr. Wise, and Judge Rothenberg are members; but the membership also includes Emanuel Neumann and many others of our friends.

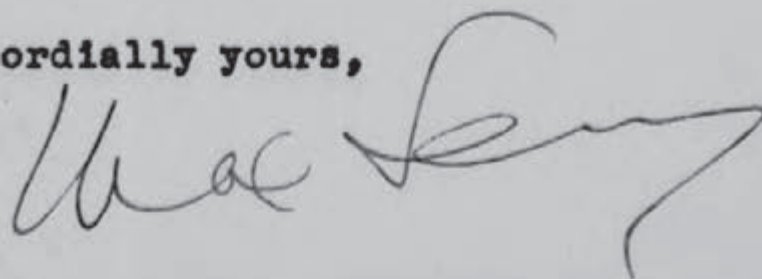
I am confident that your attendance at the Conference of the delegates from our Manhattan Districts is highly desirable, and I shall be grateful if you would make an effort to accept this invitation.

We have done a considerable amount of effective spadework in this Region against powerful opposing forces, and feel justified in requesting your cooperation.

We have already interested Manhattan Zionists in the support of the Policy Committee by membership and financial aid, and your presence at the Conference will inspire and further this activity. I am sure that substantial assistance will result from your visit.

Very cordially yours,

ML:bm



American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, 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

May 3, 1945

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th St. at Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Your letter of April 30th addressed to Mr. Lourie arrived after Mr. Lourie had left for San Francisco. I am therefore referring your letter and the enclosures to Mr. Greenberg.

Yours sincerely,

Lillian Benjamin

Lillian Benjamin
Secretary to Mr. Lourie

May 11, 1945

Rabbi M. Labkovsky
2833 $\frac{1}{2}$ Forest Ave.
Dallas 10, Texas

My dear Rabbi Labkovsky:

Permit me to thank you for your kind letter. I read it with interest. I shall not attend the San Francisco Conference but I am bringing your letter to the attention of some of my friends who will be there. As you may readily understand, the organized Jewish bodies who are represented at San Francisco have presented recommendations on the subject of the punishment of the war criminals, reparations, etc.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

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

MEMORANDUM

To Members of American Zionist Emergency Council **Date** May 22, 1945

From Arthur Lourie

Enclosed for your information are two memoranda with attachments, dated May 21, sent to the Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees.

AL:CSS
Encs.

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, 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

June 5, 1945

To the Members of the American Zionist Emergency Council:

I enclose the following:

Copy of a letter from the Jerusalem office of the Jewish Agency to Dr. Weizmann summarizing the reports received in Palestine on the position of Jews in the liberated territories of Europe.

Minutes of meetings held April 16th, 23rd, and 30th, and May 14th. Minutes of the meetings of the Executive Committee and Emergency Council held May 30th will follow this week.

Since the Jewish Agency representatives who returned to San Francisco Wednesday night are not expected back in New York by next Monday, the meeting of the full Council which, according to the decision taken at its meeting last Wednesday was to be held within ten days, will have to be postponed. It will be called as soon as possible after the return of the Jewish Agency representatives from San Francisco.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur Lourie
Arthur Lourie

AL:LB
Encs.

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

1230

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

H156 LG PD=NI NEWYORK NY 23 1226P

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER

= THE TEMPLE =

1945 JUN 23 PM 3 38

MY UNAVOIDABLE ABSENCE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE FOR UPA STATE CONFERENCE FIXED WEEKS AGO AND REPORTED INTENTION JUDGE LEVINTHAL TO SUBMIT REPORT OF PEACE COMMITTEE TO ZOA EXECUTIVE SUNDAY MAKES IT IMPERATIVE THAT I SUBMIT MY VIEWS AS MEMBER OF SAID PEACE COMMITTEE AND ASK YOU TRANSMIT THIS STATEMENT TO MEETING SHOULD MATTER COME UP FOR DISCUSSION STOP MY ORIGINAL SUGGESTIONS WERE MADE EARLY IN APRIL STOP THEY INVOLVED LARGER COMMITTEE WITH REVIEWING POWERS AND SMALLER COMMITTEE WITH COMPLETE EXECUTIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE POWERS STOP SINCE APRIL FULL MEETING OF PEACE COMMITTEE HAS NOT BEEN HELD STOP INSTEAD MEMBERS WERE CONSULTED BY CHAIRMAN AND VIEWS WERE EXCHANGED OVER PHONE AND OTHERWISE STOP JUDGE LEVINTHAL AND MR FRISCH CONSULTED INTERESTED PARTIES MODIFYING AND ALTERING ORIGINAL PROPOSALS STOP OBVIOUSLY SUCH PROCEDURE MADE IMPOSSIBLE CONSENSUS OF OPINION BASED UPON EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AMONG MEMBERS OF PEACE COMMITTEE STOP THEREFORE BELIEVE THAT ALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS VIEWS INCLUDING MY OWN HERE EXPRESSED SHOULD BE MADE BEFORE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND DECISIONS SHOULD BE MADE WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY STOP TAKING INTO ACCOUNT CHANGED SITUATION AT THIS TIME I PROPOSE AS=

:END 1:

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

1220

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

• (40)

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

, H156/22

: BEST POSSIBLE SOLUTION TO SECURE EFFECTIVE PEACE AND COOPERATION IN AMERICAN RANKS THE FOLLOWING FIRST THAT DR WISE AND DR SILVER BE NAMED AS COCHAIRMAN OF THE EMERGENCY COUNCIL FUNCTIONING AS OFFICERS OF THE REVIEWING BODY OF THE COUNCIL TWO THAT ALL EXECUTIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITY BE VESTED IN AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WITH COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY OF WHICH DR SILVER SHALL BE CHAIRMAN AND MR GREENBERG AND MR SHULMAN SHALL BE VICECHAIRMAN THREE THAT ALL OFFICERS NOW FUNCTIONING SHALL CONTINUE AS HERETOFORE FOUR THAT SIX ADDITIONAL PERSONS BE ADDED TO THE COUNCIL IN AGREEMENT WITH DR SILVER TWO ZIONIST ORGANIZATION TWO HADASSAH ONE POALE ZION ONE MIZRACHI STOP THAT FULL POWER BE GIVEN TO ZOA MEMBERS OF THE EMERGENCY COUNCIL TO NEGOTIATE WITH OTHER PARTNERS IN COUNCIL WITH REGARD TO THESE PROPOSALS AND AUTHORITY BE GIVEN TO THESE ZOA MEMBERS OF COUNCIL TO MODIFY PROPOSALS AS THEY MAY FIND NECESSARY IN ORDER TO RESTORE PEACE AND COOPERATION IN AMERICAN ZIONISM AND THAT THEY BE AUTHORIZED TO SUBMIT SUCH AGREEMENTS TO THE EMERGENCY COUNCIL IN THE NAME OF THE ZOA STOP I=

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

1220

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

H156/3=

WOULD ASK ALL OTHER MEMBERS OF PEACE COMMITTEE TO
JOIN WITH ME IN SUBMITTING THESE PROPOSALS TO MEETING
OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY STOP I FEEL CERTAIN
THAT BOTH DR WISE AND DR SILVER CAN BE PERSUADED IN THE
INTEREST OF THE MOVEMENT TO ACCEPT ABOVE OUTLINED PLAN
AND TO RENEW THEIR ESSENTIAL COOPERATION AT A MOMENT
FRAUGHT WITH GREAT DIFFICULTIES FOR THE ZIONIST MOVEMENT=

LOUIS LIPSKYL



[undated]

**Report on Resolutions 418 and 419 of the Committee
on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.**

In terms of House Resolutions 418 and 419 the support of the United States is sought for the opening of the doors of Palestine for free entry of Jews into that country with full opportunity for their colonization there and the ultimate establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth. Hearings on this Resolution took place before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs on February 8, 9, 15, and 16, 1944. Subsequently, at the request of the Chief-of-Staff, action on the Resolutions was, for the time being deferred on military grounds. It is expected that the Resolutions will again be taken up by the Committee within the course of a few months when the military objections may no longer pertain.

In considering these Resolutions I have had before me in the first place, the 500 page official report of the Hearings before the Committee on Foreign Affairs. Numerous witnesses representing the Zionist and non-Zionist point of view, as well as representatives of the Arab case, were heard by the Committee and in the result this publication presents an interesting and comprehensive account of the whole issue. A further authoritative and important document on which reliance is here placed, is the Report of the Palestine Royal Commission, a distinguished official body appointed by the British Government in 1937 to inquire into the construction and the working of the Palestine Mandate. The Report contains valuable material on the circumstances surrounding the issuance of the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate and on the intent and underlying purpose of these docu-

ments. In addition, as source material for what follows may be mentioned P.L. Hanna's well-documented book entitled "British Policy in Palestine" and a considerable number of pamphlets and memoranda which I have received dealing with various aspects of the situation.

The Balfour Declaration was a Statement of Policy issued November, 1917, by the British War Cabinet, in terms of which Great Britain undertook to facilitate the establishment in Palestine of a National Home for the Jewish people. This undertaking was subsequently incorporated in the Mandate for Palestine which was confirmed by the League of Nations in July, 1922. On June 30, 1922, the Congress of the United States adopted a Joint Resolution, later signed by President Harding, favoring the establishment of the Jewish National Home and repeating the wording of the Balfour Declaration. The interpretation to be placed on the words Jewish National Home, a term novel in international law, has aroused a good deal of controversy and was given consideration by the Palestine Royal Commission. The Commission (Report p.34) quotes the evidence of Mr. Lloyd George, Prime Minister of Great Britain at the time of the Declaration, as well as of Mr. Winston Churchill, General Smuts, and others who were among those responsible for the Declaration, to the effect that the intention at the time was to afford the Jews the opportunity to establish in Palestine a Jewish Commonwealth. Similarly President Wilson, whose approval as head of the American Government had been sought and secured before the issuance of the Declaration, stated in 1919 that "The Allied nations with the fullest concurrence of our Government and people are agreed that in Palestine shall be laid the foundations of a Jewish Commonwealth."

The terms of the Palestine Mandate were ratified by this country in the British Palestine Mandate Convention of 1925. This treaty cites the terms of the Mandate in full following which Article 1 states that "subject to the provisions of the present Convention the United States consents to the administration of Palestine by His Britannic Majesty pursuant to the Mandate recited above." It would appear, accordingly, that the United States is definitely entitled by treaty to interest itself in the execution of the Mandate. This interest is further supported in the words of Assistant Secretary of State, Breckenridge Long, when he appeared recently before the House Foreign Affairs Committee: "But the question of Palestine has a larger significance...We have been interested and will continue to be interested from the point of view of the larger aspects of world security and of world peace, as well as the rights of humans and humanitarian sympathies and the religious sentiments involved."

In consequence of the Jewish National Home policy, the Jewish population of Palestine has increased, largely by immigration, from about 60,000 at the end of the last war to some 600,000 today. Their achievement in the development of Palestine's agriculture and industry has been little short of phenomenal. At the same time the Arab population, as a result very large of the improved economic conditions thus brought about, has increased very remarkably. In the words of Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, British Secretary of State for the Colonies:

"The Arabs cannot say that the Jews are driving them out of their country. If not a single Jew had come to Palestine after 1918, I believe that the Arab population of Palestine today would still have been round about the 600,000 figures (instead of over 1,000,000 at present), at which it had been stable under the

Turkish rule. It is because the Jews who have come to Palestine bring modern health services and other advantages that Arab men and women who would have been dead are alive today, that Arab children who would never have drawn breath have been born and grow strong."

Despite these economic advances, however, the Arab political leadership has taken an intransigent and increasingly hostile attitude to Jewish development which has resulted on certain occasions in outbreaks of violence. In particular, there were serious disturbances in 1936 to 1939, for which the Mufti of Jerusalem, with the financial and technical aid of the Axis powers, was primarily responsible.

In 1939 shortly before the outbreak of the war, the Government of Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain, in an effort to secure Arab support, issued the Palestine White Paper. This seeks to put an end to further Jewish land purchase and settlement in much the greater part of Palestine and to terminate all Jewish immigration after a specified quota, of which there are still approximately 20,000 left, shall have been exhausted. This Statement of Policy, which on the face of it seems in flat contradiction with the obligations assumed by Great Britain under the Mandate, was considered at a meeting of the Permanent Mandates Commission of the League of Nations, which is responsible in behalf of that body for supervising the administration of Mandated territories. The Mandates Commission held the White Paper to be inconsistent with the obligations imposed on the Mandatory by the Mandate, "any contrary conclusion appearing to them to be ruled out by the very terms of the Mandate and by the fundamental intentions of its authors."

With this view, after a careful examination of the facts, we are in full agreement.

Apart from any legal considerations, however, there is good and sufficient reason on humanitarian and political grounds to recommend

that this Committee lend its support to the passage of these Resolutions. The problem of Jewish persecution in various countries of central and eastern Europe is an old one; it long pre-dates the Nazis, under whom however it has assumed proportions and a brutality scarcely conceivable. Unquestionably the overwhelming mass of those Jews who will survive the war will be uprooted, destitute and homeless. Many of them will wish to emigrate, and to start life anew amongst their own people in a land of their own. The reluctance moreover of countries everywhere to open their borders to any considerable influx of immigrants emphasizes the justice of the Zionist claim on historical, religious, and humanitarian grounds that there must be one country, and that country Palestine to which Jews should be entitled to go as of right. Nor do we feel that this would be done at the cost of gross injustice to the Arabs. As already indicated, so far as their material condition is concerned, the Arabs of Palestine (as testified by the Palestine Royal Commission) have benefited greatly as a result of Jewish immigration. Politically, on the other hand, in consequence of the last war the Arab peoples ^{as a whole} were probably among the principal beneficiaries of the victory of the Allies. For centuries they had been the oppressed and downtrodden subjects of the Turkish empire; as a result of that victory, however, they were freed from the Turkish yoke and enjoy today, and will enjoy more fully after this war, political independence in vast areas of the Near and Middle East. The exclusion, without injury to the existing Palestine Arab population of the 10,000 square miles of Palestine from the potential area of Arab sovereignty is more than justified if thereby a substantial contribution will be made to the amelioration of the age-old problem of Jewish homelessness.

To sum up:

1. The Palestine White Paper with its prohibition on Jewish immigration and land settlement in Palestine is in conflict with obligations internationally assumed and guaranteed and should be withdrawn.
2. The underlying intent and purpose of the Balfour Declaration and the Palestine Mandate was to give to the Jews the opportunity to establish in Palestine a Jewish Commonwealth. The events of the past decade have reinforced the claims of the Jewish people to the reestablishment of a Jewish nation in Palestine, without prejudice to the civil, religious and cultural rights of the existing Arab population or of the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in other countries.
3. For the above reasons it is recommended that the Committee should give its support to House Resolutions 418 and 419.

AL:CK
7/13/44

A Note in connection with the Group of Immigrants who
arrived under the Exchange Scheme.

From Mr. J. Behar,, Secretary, Immigration Dept.
Jewish Agency for Palestine, Jerusalem.

On Monday, July 10th, Mr. Shapiro and I set out to welcome the group of immigrants who were arriving from enemy occupied territory under the Exchange Scheme.

The group arrived by train in Haifa at 6.30 p.m. and half an hour later they were taken in buses to the Clearing Camp at Atlit.

The group consisted of 281 souls who came from two concentration camps 220 from Belsenbergen (Germany) and 61 from Vittel (France).

Two persons who were originally in the group did not reach Palestine. One was detained in Sofia by the German authorities as his papers were not quite in order. The other remained in Turkey owing to illness. His death in Istanbul has been reported since. On the original list there were 282 souls but 23 did not leave and 24 others were added to the transport. The two groups were first brought to Vienna, whence they were sent to Turkey. The group coming from Vittel consists entirely of Palestinian subjects and of people who have resided in Palestine and who are considered as "returning residents". The group from Belsenbergen consists almost entirely of people who are entering Palestine for the first time. They were included in the list, having received Immigration Certificates from the Jewish Agency or having been included by the Agency in its "Exchange List". All those from Belsenbergen came originally from Holland. 99 are Dutch subjects and the others are mainly refugees from Germany, Poland, etc.

The whole group consists in the main of elderly people. There is a small number of women under 45, and there are a few girls. Apart from that the group includes 42 children between the ages of 1 and 17.

The group from Belsenbergen was headed by Dr. Israel Taubs, a well-known German Zionist who originated from Poland. The Vittel group was headed by Dr. Max Plaut who was the last chairman of the Jewish community in Hamburg. The group of 13 Chalutzoth was headed by Mrs. (or Miss) Kaufmann. The following were amongst the arrivals:

Mrs. Gertrud Van Tijn, a veteran Zionist from Holland who was most active in the field of relief for German refugees escaping to Holland. She had maintained close contact with the International Red Cross.

Rabbi Lazar Diener, who was a Rabbi in Cologne and later in Amsterdam.

Professor Albert Levkowitz, formerly a lecturer at the Rabbinical Seminary in Breslau.

Jacob van Belitz, a well-known socialist leader in Holland.

Ignatz Bergenthal, a well-known banker and economist in Germany.

James Ellenbogen, formerly the treasurer of the Berlin Jewish community.

The whole group made a very pathetic impression. All the people lack weight and strength. Signs of great suffering in the past are visible on their faces. No less than 80 people were found ill and 40 were in need of hospital treatment. All suffer from undernourishment. The impression is terrible. This is the worst transport as far as physical deterioration is concerned.

A substantial number of people coming from Holland (about 100) have relatives in Palestine. As has been mentioned above, almost all the people from Vittel had been in Palestine before and it can be assumed that they will settle down with the help of their friends and relatives.

The main difficulty will occur in connection with the treatment of the rest, who constitute something like half the transport. A detailed survey is now in preparation and suitable action is being taken in every individual case.

There is no doubt that the whole group is in need of recuperation for some short time. Those who have neither friends nor relatives have for the time being been accommodated in a camp which we have arranged for this particular purpose with the help of some Dutch residents in Palestine. Our department will cover the cost of living for the first few days.

But the most difficult problem is that of the economic settlement of this group, and it will not be until a few weeks have passed that we shall be able to report on what we have been able to do.

From what the people tell us, it is clear that the allocation of certificates to Veteran Zionists etc. by the Jewish Agency was a most important step and has in many cases prevented their extermination. Most of those who arrived from Holland owe their rescue to this step. The possession of a document to the effect that immigration to Palestine has been authorised is in itself a factor of considerable help to the people on the spot.

The conditions in the concentration camps are beyond description. The people had to work harder than can be expected from any human being and the food and the general attitude towards them were terrible. The death-rate was high. The choice of potential exchanges was a completely arbitrary one. We have been told that there are still 900 Jews in Belsenbergen (another source says that there are even as many as 4000 in the camp). It appears that there are 500 Jews left in Vittel. Those who are still in Belsenbergen include a group of Greek Jews headed by Rabbi Kurtz, formerly a Rabbi of Salonica, Mr. Usiel and others.

The arrivals expressed the demand for the rescue of those who were still left in the camps. They believe that Great Britain can do a great deal in that direction. One of the main tasks is to continue the allocation of Immigration Certificates to those who are still in the camp.

[undated]

Mr. Leon Gellman, President
Mizrachi Organization of America
1133 Broadway
New York City

Dear Mr. Gellman:

I am directed to draw the attention of the constituent organizations of the Zionist Emergency Council to the following resolution adopted at the last meeting of the Executive Committee of the Council:

"It is agreed that all statements on important matters of Zionist policy shall be cleared through the Emergency Council."

In explanation of this resolution it was indicated that this does not mean that where a line of policy has already been accepted and announced on the part of the Emergency Council statements in conformity with that line should first be cleared with the Council. It does preclude, however, the issuance of statements by any group on vital political issues insofar as such statements may go beyond the policy already defined.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur Lourie

AL:LB

Same letter to:

Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Hadassah
Dr. Israel Goldstein, Z.O.A.
Mr. David Wertheim, Poale Zion