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

Reel

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Folder

157

American Zionist Emergency Council, "A", 1945-1946.

Marcus Abramson
Sixty John Street
New York 7, N.Y.

July 18, 1945

My dear Dr. Silver,

I have just learned of the dinner being tendered you to-morrow evening and, needless to say, it is an event I would not want to miss. However, it happens that I am leaving to-morrow night for a week's vacation which I have planned for sometime and it will therefore be impossible for me to be present.

To say that I feel gratification at the reorganization of the Emergency Council making it again possible for you to lead us in the political activities of the movement, does not

- 1) Toronto - Mar. 21 - Ref Jan
- 2) Fair Ends - Loyalty Staff
- 3) Rubber - Int Course - No amount Leo 300 Isaac Herman
- 4) Not enough - Public Queen - Press.
- 5) Happy at King - Reported
- watch their style
- out pay lakes stays
- don't know how to make
war
- 6) No personal Met.
- 7) Hard time to return
Int ground - Wash Ends
press - State Dept
- 8) We will know soon
Restored

Marcus Abramson
Sixty John Street
New York 7, N.Y.

appear to be the right way of expressing
it. For the past six months or
more we have seen a steady deterioration
of our movement - due in large measure
to your forced withdrawal from leadership.
Your return is like throwing a lifeline
to a drowning man. You have a heroic
task before you - but if it is the
destiny of the Jewish people to achieve
their goal in Palestine you are the
one that can bring it about. We
are with you - lead, and we shall
follow.

Chayale Ve'Ematy!
With Zim's greetings. I am,
Cordially

Marcus Abramson

CHRISTIAN COUNCIL ON PALESTINE

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July 19, 1945

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Collingwood Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

This is just a word of congratulation to you for your patience and perseverance in seeking a solution of the difficulties that brought about the recent division within the Zionist ranks.

Now that there is a unified program we will be able to present a solid front in this critical time in working for the solution of this most important issue which faces us in the postwar settlements. You may count on the full support of myself and my associates in your and Dr. Wise's leadership.

With all good wishes,

Cordially yours,

Henry A. Atkinson

HAA:is

July 24, 1945

Dr. Henry A. Atkinson, Chairman
Christian Council on Palestine
70 Fifth Avenue
New York 11, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Atkinson:

Your letter of July 19 arrived after
Dr. Silver had left the country. I shall be
happy to refer it to his attention when he returns
to Cleveland toward the end of August.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

BJK

Secretary to Dr. Silver

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

August 20, 1945

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,
Mayflower Hotel,
Plymouth, Massachusetts

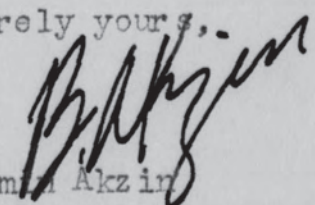
Dear Dr. Silver:

In accordance with your suggestion,
I am sending you copies of my reports to New York
during the time of your absence. If possible,
I would like to have the set back after you are
through with it.

Congratulations to your election
to the Executive of the Agency and to everything
which this implies. Let us hope that the work
will proceed from now on at an increased pace
and in the right direction, internationally as
well as nationally.

Regards to Mrs. Silver.

Sincerely yours,


Benjamin Akzin

BA:mp
Encl.

Adelson - Dorothy

520 West 110 Street
New York City 25
September 11, 1945

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

You may be interested to read the enclosed article, "The Arabs and the World" (ASIA magazine is responsible for the title), which I wrote on the basis of first-hand observation at the San Francisco United Nations conference.

Perhaps you know that my presence at San Francisco was not accidental. For the duration of the conference I was in the confidential service of the intelligence department of the Jewish Agency, under the direction mainly of Mr. Eliahu Epstein. As an accredited magazine correspondent, I had the opportunity of sounding out the attitude towards Zionism of various groups of delegates: the representatives of the five Arab states constituting the Arab League, namely, Syria, Iraq, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Lebanon; members of the U.S. Department of Near Eastern Affairs and directors of the American oil companies interested in Saudi Arabia; officials of the British Colonial and Foreign Offices; French colonial experts; delegates from Turkey, Iran and India; and representatives of the twenty Latin American countries.

My findings were illuminating both as to the present world situation of Zionism and the course indicated for the future; the article in ASIA contains such of my observations as it was politic to print. However, I should like at some time convenient for you to talk over these matters in full. For example, I found present Arab-Zionist relations less encouraging than the intentionally over-optimistic picture in ASIA...With regard to Zionist policy, a leading Indian Moslem, a French colonial expert and an unusually fair and frank Arab leader expressed the conviction that the only possible, as well as lasting, solution of the Palestine problem must come through an Arab-Jewish rapprochement, and that it is folly to lean on Britain, whose imperial outlook, not likely to change even under a Labor regime, dictates a "divide and rule" policy...The same Arab leader declared unofficially that he would be willing to cooperate towards an Arab-Zionist rapprochement... In quarters formerly friendly, like the Latin American countries (all of which except one voted at Chapultepec in favor of a Jewish State), the Arab League representatives are making alarming headway with anti-Zionist propaganda.

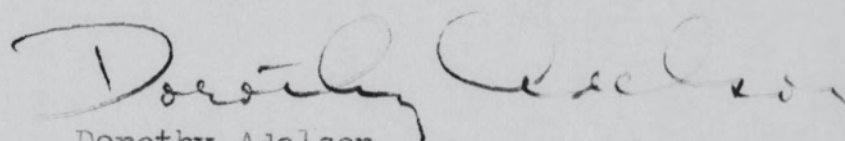
As you know from my message through Mr. Manson, I had hoped on my return from San Francisco to become connected with the Zionist offices in Washington, probably in the field of liaison, working with

the Arab affairs department and also making contacts with United States officials and congressmen. However, since the Washington office seems still to be a long way from organization, I am now obliged to look for occupation elsewhere. (In order to work at San Francisco I had to resign from the American Jewish Committee, which was not an unmixed misfortune.)

Would you kindly destroy this letter after reading it?
Certain things are better unrecorded in black and white.

Very warmest regards and best wishes for a very happy and successful New Year.

Cordially,


Dorothy Adelson



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WRHS



FOLLOWING TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM MONSKY: WILL ARRANGE TO
BE WITH YOU NEXT SUNDAY WILL APPRECIATE ADVICE AS TO
PLANS AND PROGRAM=

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL.

Washington

520 West 110 Street
New York City 25
September 27, 1945

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

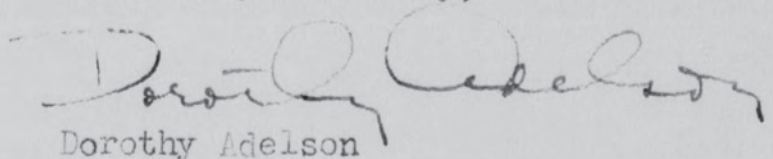
Since I understand that you are extremely busy these days, I have prepared for your perusal the attached memorandum in lieu of the conversation projected in my letter of September 11.

The memorandum contains highlights of the opinions on Palestine expressed by delegates to the San Francisco conference, whom I interviewed in my capacity as a journalist.

Although the memorandum is not exhaustive, it indicates some of the prevailing trends in international political thought on the subject of Zionism, and therefore may be useful in charting future Zionist policy.

Very cordial regards.

Yours very sincerely,


Dorothy Adelson

American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine

Room 2500 • 245 Fifth Avenue
Murray Hill 3-1881 New York 16, N. Y.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WILLIAM GREEN PROTESTS TO ATTLEE ON RESTRICTIVE PALESTINE POLICY

- - - - -

AFL LEADER WARNS THAT AMERICAN LABOR IS "UNCOMPROMISING" IN SUPPORT OF
JEWISH ASPIRATIONS IN PALESTINE; CALLS FOR
IMMEDIATE CREATION OF JEWISH HOMELAND

- - - - -

New York -- Warning that American working men and women were "greatly disturbed" by reports of a contemplated Palestine decision unfavorable to Jewish aspirations, William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor, today cabled a strong message of protest on behalf of the AFL to Prime Minister Attlee of Great Britain.

The cable asserts that "for humanitarian reasons and in order to retain solemn pledges and promises made the Jewish people and their friends throughout the world, creation of a Jewish homeland should be immediately undertaken."

Text of the cable reads:

"WASHINGTON, D. C., OCTOBER 1, 1945

"RT. HON. CLEMENT ATTLEE
PRIME MINISTER OF GREAT BRITAIN
10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON, ENGLAND

"WORKING MEN AND WOMEN IN UNITED STATES ARE GREATLY DISTURBED BY REPORTS WHICH ARE PERSISTENTLY CIRCULATED THAT DECISION ON PALESTINE UNFAVORABLE TO JEWISH ASPIRATIONS IS BEING PREPARED BY BRITISH CABINET. WE ARE RELUCTANT TO BELIEVE THAT SUCH REPORTS ARE TRUE. SPEAKING FOR AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR WHICH HAS EVER BEEN UNCOMPROMISING IN ITS SUPPORT

(more)

OF JEWISH PEOPLE'S JUST DEMAND IN PALESTINE I RESPECTFULLY URGE YOU TO INSIST ON FULFILLMENT OF SOLEMN PLEDGES MADE TO JEWISH PEOPLE. AMERICAN LABOR WHICH HAS APPLAUDED BRITISH LABOR'S FREQUENT DECLARATIONS ON PALESTINE WOULD BE SHOCKED BY REVERSAL OF ITS TRADITIONAL POLICY IMPLIED IN PRESS REPORTS. FLIGHT OF JEWISH PEOPLE CALLS FOR OPEN DOOR IN PALESTINE AND ESTABLISHMENT OF JEWISH COMMONWEALTH. FOR HUMANITARIAN REASONS AND IN ORDER TO RETAIN SOLEMN PLEDGE AND PROMISE MADE JEWISH PEOPLE AND THEIR FRIENDS THROUGHOUT WORLD, CREATION OF JEWISH HOMELAND IN PALESTINE SHOULD BE IMMEDIATELY UNDERTAKEN. AMERICAN LABOR IS UNITED IN URGING YOU TO BRING ABOUT DECISION THAT WILL SAVE LIVES OF TENS OF THOUSANDS OF HOMELESS JEWISH REFUGEES AND DO JUSTICE TO A LONG SUFFERING PEOPLE.

WM. GREEN, PRESIDENT
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR"

In releasing the text of Mr. Green's cable, the American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine announced that this was part of an effort undertaken by both the AFL and CIO to bring about the immediate fulfillment of Great Britain's pledges on Palestine. The Committee pointed out that "inasmuch as both Philip Murray, President of the CIO and William Green, President of the AFL, have cabled to Prime Minister Attlee on this all-important matter, there should be no doubt in the minds of Britain's leaders as to American labor's determination to insist that the pledge of a Jewish Palestine be redeemed."

October 10, 1945

Col. J. M. Arvey
1 No. LaSalle St.
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Col. Arvey:

I am grateful for the work which you did in Washington. I would appreciate hearing from you on any further progress in that direction. I would also appreciate receiving the memorandum which you said you would send me.

With best wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

"BRONX JEWRY"

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ABRAHAM ZIRMAN

October 11, 1945

My dear Dr. Silver

On behalf of the Executive
Committee of the Bronx Zionist Region,
I have the honor to enclose a copy
of the Resolution adopted at our
last meeting without any
dissenting vote.

With Zion's greetings and
with kindest personal regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Marcus Abramson,
Chm. Administrative Committee,
Bronx Zionist Region.

October 12, 1945

Mr. Marcus Abramson
60 John Street
New York 7, N.Y.

My dear Friend:

Please pardon the delay in acknowledging your kind letter of September 27. I have been away from the city most of the time.

Will you not convey to the members of the Mosholn Zionist District my profound appreciation for the Resolution which they adopted on September 24. I am grateful for this expression of confidence more than I can tell them. I am looking forward with pleasure to seeing you and the delegates of the Mosholn Zionist District at the ZOA Convention.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

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

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date October 12, 1945

From J. M. Alkow

Enclosed please find a copy of the SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS AT DINNER
MEETING OF COMMUNITY CONTACTS COMMITTEE.

JMA:SS
Enc.

See folder

WRHS



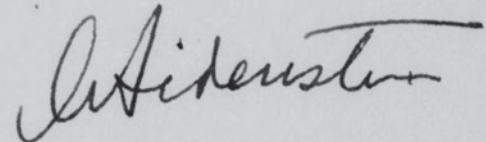
Dr.Hillel Silver.
Cleveland.Ohio.
Dear Dr.Silver:

304 W.77th St,
New York,24,N.Y.
October,30th/45.

It is reported that Attle and Bevin are coming to this country within the next few days, My I suggest(that is if you have not already decided upon it,) that it would be advisable to arrange a public demonstration in Washington while they are there, and invite some leading government officials as well members of Congress, to address that meeting, thus forcing the issue of Palestine to the open, and not giving those gentlemen from England a chance to try to dodge that question. Let us disregard any objection for fear that it may embarrass someone. It is we the Jews who are most concerned in this matter, and we therefore must use out all sorts of efforts to acheive our aim. We have nothing to lose but rather a chance to gain, so let us do our best and hope for good results.

Trusting that you will give this your consideration and act upon it immediately, I am

With Zion's Greetings, Yours very truly.



I.Aidenstein.



E. M. CHASE COMPANY

MANCHESTER, N. H.

October 31, 1945

Dear Mr. Alkow:

Ben Tobey, President of our State Federation telephoned me on the Tobey matter. I talked with the senator last night personally and learned the following facts:

He was drawn into working for a League for a free Palestine by ex-senator Gillette, whom he has known from childhood, whose judgment he values and whose friendship he esteems. Ground will be lost if Gillette is in any way discredited or his motives.

I tried to give Tobey a brief background of Bergson's activities since his temporary admittance to this country, his lack of a large organized following, and of official recognition by the state department etc. I stressed that he is not in favor of a Jewish Commonwealth, and that the group that he is an offshoot from is a militant group whose methods of operation have been harmful to the cause. I pointed out that all of his constituents in N. H. belong to the Zionist Organization of America, and that our group plus the Christian Zionists, now being organized in this state, are very much opposed to Bergson and his organization.

He stated that Gillette's interest was purely humanitarian -- and his interest was likewise -- and that he lamented so many different factions with the loosely termed word "Zionist". When I stressed the "Commonwealth" ideal he steered clear of it and I sort of feel that he had ideas of his own on the subject which are not particularly favorable to the establishment of a Jewish State. I think he is influenced by the fact that the last time the resolution came up before the Foreign Affairs Committee, it was almost unanimously opposed (he mentioned this) because there was too much opposition on this score.

I believe that your office or those interested in preventing Tobey's trip to Europe for this group was a little late in getting started. I couldn't very well urge him not to go directly as everything had been planned for some time, and I didn't know what inducements may have been offered him to take this trip, if any. He stated that if he did go his wife had suggested that he would spend more time than he should from his work and visit not only England, but the atrocity camps and finally Palestine.

E.M. CHASE CO.
MANCHESTER, N. H.

- 2 -

October 31, 1945

However, he stated that Attlee's coming here in a few days may change the situation and make the trip unnecessary.

I suggested that I was hardly qualified to differentiate properly between the purposes and aims of the various Zionist movements and asked him if he would receive some designated person from our Washington office -- to which he agreed.

I know Tobey fairly well -- but his background much better. He's a religious man and used to hold camp fire meetings and services at his country home. He's hard to get to -- and the approach must be easy. I suggest that some prominent clergyman of the American Christian Palestine Committee interview him.

He's going back to Washington next Sunday. I believe that the man who is to interview him should stress the importance to world Jewry of having Palestine become a Commonwealth.

If I can be of any further service, please advise --

Sincerely yours,

(signed)

Lewis Ross

P.S. I understand that Dean Howard LeSourd will be in Washington the first of the week. Think he would be the ideal man -- If you agree, a request for an appointment to his office should be made early -- explaining to his secretary that he agreed to this in his conversation with me.

11/2/45 JMA:DT

November 1, 1945

Mr. I. Aidenstein
304 W. 77th St.
New York 24, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Aidenstein:

Permit me to thank you for your letter of October 30. I have referred it to our Committee and I am sure your suggestions will be given serious consideration.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

B. A. U. Synagogue Center

The consolidated organization of K. K. Beth Abraham, Dayton View Center
and Dayton Synagogue Center

1306 Salem Avenue

DAYTON 6, OHIO

TAylor 7456

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A. Ruttenger, *Sexton*

DR. JACOB B. AGUS, *Rabbi*
27 Vassar Dr., TA 8193

Nov. 5, 1945.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
c/o Arrangments Committee
Zionist Convention
Breakers Hotel
Atlantic City, N. Y.

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Cultural Committee
Paul J. Gaiser
Publicity Committee
Herbert Schear
Building Finance Committee
Ben C. Stein

Dear Rabbi Silver,

I hope you will not think it presumptuous of me to write you this letter. But, we are expected to write to our Congressmen from time to time. Why, then, should we hesitate to write to those who represent us in Jewish affairs.

I wish to urge that out of the coming Zionist convention a strong protest should be issued against the Jewish terrorists of Palestine. While the terrorists were denounced on previous occasions, by the Jewish Agency, it is now necessary to cease the kind of talk, which encourages such desperate acts. The Jewish press carried an item to the effect that an agreement was reached between the Haganah and the Irgun, for the launching of a new terrorist campaign. The Haganah is our baby, and we should be morally responsible if we do not do all within our power to prevent further outbreaks of terrorism.

Terror is the one weapon which may destroy all the greatness and beauty that Zionism produced- and that not in a moral sense only. The Arab and British terrors that are sure to follow would appear to be merely counter measures. Can any one doubt the outcome? Then, not only will the Jews of Palestine be reduced to helotage, but so will the Jews in all Mohammedan countries and in the British empire. Is it not thru a similar course of senseless bravado that Palestine was lost to us in the days of Shimeon ben Giura and Bar Kochba? Then, the Sages exerted themselves to the utmost to prevent a hopeless rebellion. But, at that time, those who thought with their blood prevailed over those who thought with their hearts and minds. We must prevent a like disaster in our day.

B. A. U. Synagogue Center

The consolidated organization of K. K. Beth Abraham, Dayton View Center
and Dayton Synagogue Center

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1231 Glendale
A. Ruttenger, *Sexton*

DR. JACOB B. AGUS, *Rabbi*
27 Vassar Dr., TA 8193

(2)

There is considerable loose talk today centering round the refrain, "What do we have to lose?". Such talk, if it should be reflected in policy, can only lead to further catastrophe. Of course, we have got much to lose, everything we have built up in two generations, our vision of a spiritual home, our hope, our pride, our very soul. Even the Japanese were wise enough to eschew the specter of mass-suicide. Must we be more Oriental than the sons of Nippon?

There is the danger that our verbal propaganda about not submitting to the white Paper will echo back from Palestine in the form of deeds of violence. Is it not high time to stop and consider whether or not we have been drugged by our own propaganda?

After all, the situation is not so desperate as to justify the risk of national suicide. The Jews presently in the concentration camps in Germany will be taken care of, partly in Palestine, partly in other countries. America and Britain will not fail in their trust. The eighty thousand Jews in Poland constitute a problem, which is tough, but not insoluble. The Polish Jews in Russia are offered the opportunity to stay in Russia.

The fact is that we do not now have enough potential immigrants, outside the Soviet dominated countries, on the one hand, and the democracies, on the other hand, to achieve a majority in Palestine.

Why then continue to pour oil on the fire of disaster? Why not rather calm all tempers and concentrate on solidifying our present gains? A solution that would guarantee the safety, and economic and political freedom of the Yishuv should be our present goal. In a few years, the situation might change, for this is a dynamic world. Both the Arabs and Britain might learn to think of us as their friends. Then, the opportunity for another surge of progress may be opened up.

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DR. JACOB B. AGUS, *Rabbi*
27 Vassar Dr., TA 8193

(3)

This plea for moderation is not based upon a loss of faith in the Zionist dream. On the contrary, it is only because our faith in Zion⁴ is unquenchable that we can afford to wait. Zion will not be Zion if it is grasped by violence. Our fate is peculiarly linked with the conscience of humanity, which is presently confused, oscillating between the vista of world-government and the abyss of war. Let us build and strive in the direction of the Messianic vision, for then and only then will the fulness of the Zionist dream become attainable.

I know, this plea sound idealistic, even religious, but such is God's world, especially the fate of God's people, that the idealistic course is also the most coldly realistic.

I know that the way in which a Convention "thinks", thru forensic fireworks and points of order, is not suited for the counsel of moderation. Therefore, I have taken the liberty of conveying these ideas in this form, in the hope that you will find time to give them due consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Jacob B. Agus.

Copies sent to:

Dr. Israel Goldstein and Mr. Daniel Erisch.

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Herman Duberstein	Philip Kravitz	Sam H. Thal
Hyman Elpern	Manuel Krumholz	Max Tanis
Morris Felman	Wm. C. Lapinsky	Morris Vangrove
Max Fisher	Wolfe Marcus	Ed Weiss
David Flagel	Louis Matusoff	Joseph Zusman
Sol Friedman	Joseph Maybruck	Charles Zwelling
Dr. Charles Froug	Herman L. Miller	
Israel Froug	Leon Nizny	
John Froug	Roy Pinsky	
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Dr. M. Goldberg	Max Schear	Mordecai Marcus
Dr. Isidore Gordon	Harry Schear	M. E. Sacks
John Ingberg	Max Schriber	Aaron Spaier
Charles Jacobs	Hyman Schriber	Charles Weisman

November 6, 1945

Mr. J. M. Alkow
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y. .

My dear Mr. Alkow:

I would appreciate it if you would send me
a memorandum on your conference with Congressman
Somers last Sunday.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



11-7-45

Alice Arvey

- telegram -

see

WRHS



Chicago Zionist Youth
Council

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date November 7, 1945

From Mr. J. M. Alkow

In compliance with your request I present herewith the following proceedings held with Congressman Somers, on Sunday, November 4, at 3:00 P.M., at the Brooklyn Jewish Center.

Judge Emanuel Greenberg presided and the following were present: Mr. Eliahu Ben Horin, Mr. A. Bernfeld, Rabbi Louis Gross, Rabbi Israel Leventhal, Mr. Al Schanzer, Mr. Wm. I. Siegel, Mr. David Spiegel, Mr. M. Zeldin, Mr. J. M. Alkow.

After the arguments had been advanced by the Jewish group against the few individuals who had misrepresented facts and misguided such "well intentioned friends" as Congressman Somers and after the Congressman was forcibly made to realize that "ninety-nine" percent of his Jewish constituents repudiate his Zionist views and actions on "our behalf", the Congressman was asked to show his good faith by announcing his break with the Bergson group and by "returning" to his friends who have known him and worked with him for many years in the Brooklyn area.

The Congressman was greatly disturbed by the barrage, and when he was somewhat tactlessly irritated by the chairman's continued repeating that he was "ignorant of the facts, misguided and misinformed", he, by way of defense, replied that he did not care whether or not this was his last political speech. "He was convinced that his actions were right and that he worked in the best interests of the Jewish people". As he was becoming somewhat obstinate and hurt, he was brought back into a compromising mood by the assurances of the group that they had no intentions of making any political threats but, on the contrary, as his good friends and supporters, they wanted to know where he stood. Congressman Somers who was very much confused mildly and goodnaturedly objected to the appeal that he "return to the fold" since, he said, he never felt that he had left it, but that it was the Zionists who had continually ignored him.

More than three years ago, he said, he offered his services to the Zionist organization and was promised by Mr. Shetzer, who was then Executive Director of the Zionist Organization, that he would use his services, but he had never heard from either Mr. Shetzer or anyone else since then. Mr. Peter Bergson, on the other hand, came to him with ideas, plans and action.

Congressman Somers admitted that Bergson may not represent any one and may not have the right answers to the Jewish problem but he was sure that Bergson meant well and was sincere. Somers added that he did not know that the resolutions he introduced in Congress met with disapproval on the part of his Jewish constituents. When advised about the Wagner-Taft resolution, introduced the previous day by Congressman Martin, he

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date November 7, 1945

From Mr. J. M. Alkow

continued - 2 -

said that he would gladly study the resolution and might be very happy to join in introducing it to the Lower House.

When finally asked to immediately repudiate the Bergson Group, he very apologetically said that he could not see how he could do it in the way suggested but that he was willing to meet again one night this week with Judge Emanuel Greenberg and Mr. Wm. Siegel, both of whom are intimate friends of his, and find a way of working together with the representative Zionist groups.

Congressman Somers seems to have high regard for Judge Greenberg and Mr. Wm. Siegel, the latter being the best informed man of the entire group and most helpful in directing the discussion toward a practical end.

All members of the Committee were presented by us with material which was carefully checked by our Research Department.

Mr. Siegel advised me this afternoon that he expects to hear from the Congressman some time tomorrow about their appointment to meet again.

JMA:DF

J. M. A.

Prepared by: M. Perimann

Date: November 12, 1945

The Arab League

Negotiations
On May 29, 1941, while the British were closing in on rebellious Baghdad and making the last preparations for the reconquest of Syria-Lebanon from Vichy forces, Mr. Eden stated in the House of Commons that Great Britain, in pursuit of her traditional friendship for the Arabs, would favor steps toward Arab unification. With this blessing and with the assistance of British officialdom anxious to wean the Arabs away from Axis sympathies so widely held in the Middle East in those critical days, Arab leaders began a long series of negotiations that rekindled the old and basic tenet of Arab nationalism, the hope for the creation of a vast Arab political entity as the instrument for the recapture of medieval Arab greatness. The most striking feature of the new demarches seemed to be that this time it was presumed that the existing Arab states would remain intact and unification would consist of some kind of federalism, developing gradually by general consent. The Middle East Supply Board, and new roads and railways, seemed to pave the way toward unification also.

Arab states
During the negotiations that ensued in secrecy it developed that discord, suspicions and jealousies among the Arab states were strong, and that though each paid lip-service to unity, each had its own axe to grind. While half-Christian Lebanon was jealously guarding its independence (just now recognized by the Allies), Syrian and Iraqi statesmen cherished and planned a Greater Syria [including Lebanon, Palestine and Transjordan], possibly federated with Iraq; and the Emir Abdullah considered that this pet-scheme of his would be nullified without himself on the throne of Greater Syria. Palestinian Arabs deprived of the good counsels of the Mufti and his aides were absorbed in bickerings and were unable to agree on a common platform and representation. Whilst mutual accusations - of being Zionist dupes - resounded in Syria, Lebanon and Palestine, and the clash between the Levant

politicos and their British backers on the one hand, and the French on the other was leading to one crisis after another; two other lands came to the fore in Arab politics: Egypt and Saudi Arabia, both rather aloof till now from the main stream of Arabism. It was Nahas Pasha, then Egypt's Prime Minister, who declared in March 1943 that a conference of Arab states would be convened by him. Ibn Saud was rising in importance on the waves of oil and United States dollars, and was not going to allow either Egypt or the Hashimites, his old foes, enthroned in Transjordan and Iraq, to gain advantages and prestige through any proposed new entity. He consequently joined in the preparations though not too helpfully.

Popular pressure now was well under way in the Arab press, and joint ("Pan-Arab") conferences of scouts, physicians, lawyers and women followed in rapid succession. Throughout this time the Palestine issue was displayed as the most rallying point for all Arabs against aggression, etc.

At last representatives of Egypt, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Transjordan, later joined by those of Saudi Arabia and Yemen, assembled in Alexandria on September 24, 1944 and after two weeks of deliberations, Nahas Pasha broadcast the "Protocol of Alexandria", a preliminary agreement to work toward "strengthening the intimate ties that bind the Arab States" in a "League of Arab States."

In January 1945 King Faruk met King Ibn Saud in Arabia amidst oriental splendor. Their meeting was counteracted by a meeting of the Hashimites, the Prince Regent of Iraq and the Emir of Transjordan on February 5th. It was then, on his way home from Yalta, that President Roosevelt conferred with Arab potentates. Soon after that Egypt, Syria, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia, in order to jump on the band-wagon of San Francisco, declared war on the Axis (which Iraq had done earlier) and met the dead-line for the invitations to the conference.

Between February 14 and March 22 a conference of the foreign ministers of the seven participants of the Alexandria Conference met in Cairo and worked out a Pact or Charter of the Arab League, a final and formal constitution.

The Council of the League met in June to react to events in Syria (nothing was done and Britain profusely thanked), and in October to hear the report of its Secretary General, Abd urrahman Azzam, on his negotiations in London and his proposed trip to the United States, mainly in connection with the problem of Palestine. Plans were laid for a fund to buy land "threatened" in Palestine. Propaganda offices were opened in Washington and London.

In the meantime, five of the seven states of the League had acted jointly at San Francisco.

While the Pact has been ratified by the authorities of the member-states, voices in Palestine and in the Lebanese and Syrian parliaments stressed that this was merely a first step towards greater unity.

Structure of the Arab League

The Pact of the Arab League establishes a League of the independent Arab States and provides for the possibility of future application by independent Arab States. (Par. 1). Its object is "to draw closer" the members, "co-ordinate their political action," "safeguard their independence and sovereignty, and consider generally matters concerning the Arab countries and their welfare." Co-operation is foreseen in matters of economics, communications, culture, nationality, health and social affairs. (Par. 2). A Council heads the League and one of its tasks is "to determine the means of co-operation with the international bodies that may be founded in the future to guarantee peace and security and to organize economic and social relations." (Par. 3). In the special committees "other Arab countries" may be represented. (Par. 4). Force is eliminated in relations between members and arbitration made obligatory and binding where "independence, sovereignty or territorial integrity are not concerned." (Par. 5). Aggression against a member will be resisted if the Council is unanimous on the subject. (Par. 6). Unanimous decisions are binding, majority decisions are binding only upon those that accept them. (Par. 7). After a year's notice a member may withdraw from the League (Par. 18), but if a member state objects to any future amendment of the Pact, the withdrawal may be effected immediately (Par. 19).

Annex No. 1 is a resolution on Palestine, as follows:

At the end of the last World War, Palestine, like the other Arab states detached from the Ottoman Empire, was liberated from Turkish domination, thus becoming independent, no longer dependent on any other state. The Treaty of Lausanne proclaimed that her fate would be settled by the interested parties. If Palestine has not been able to take charge of her own affairs, nonetheless it is on the basis of the recognition of her political independence that the Covenant of the League of Nations of 1919 settled her status. From a legal point of view this is beyond doubt as is the independence of other Arab countries. If the outward expressions of this independence remained denied to her for reasons beyond control, this shall not prevent her participation in the activities of the Council of the League. Therefore the states signatory to the present Pact consider that, under the specific circumstances of Palestine, and until that country can enjoy the effective exercise of her independence, the Council of the League shall designate an Arab representative from Palestine to participate in the work of the Council.

Annex No. 2 relates to cooperation with Arab countries not members of the League.

Outline
The League includes Transjordan, which is as yet a mandated territory, not an independent state. It "declares" Palestine independent. It provides for participation of "other," i.e. not independent countries, on its committees, (Par. 4), and urges upon the Council specific preoccupation with the needs and aspirations of those countries (Annex No. 2). These stipulations tend to (1) depreciate the League as one of independent states, and (2) endow it with the stigma of irredentism. Indeed the League has claims on a trusteeship over Palestine and over former Italian North Africa, and is being petitioned from French North Africa re affiliation.

The connection between League members is for the time being merely political, and this political connection is loose and vague (only unanimous votes are binding).

At San Francisco the Arab delegations attempted to obtain recognition for the League as a "regional bloc." But they lost their case because:

a) the League includes two mandated territories: Transjordan and Palestine.

b) Yemen and Transjordan, two of the parties to the Pact, are not among the United Nations (nor is Palestine, of course);

c) The Pact does not establish any instrument for promoting international security and the parties to it are utterly unable to do so;

d) the Pact is a threat of irredentism;

e) the Pact was based on a racial, not regional, principle.

The text filed by the Egyptian Delegation with the Secretariat of the San Francisco Conference had omitted the Annexes including that on Palestine.

During the discussions on the Trusteeship system the Arabs opposed the word "peoples" in the passage of Par. 5 of the resolution which secured previous "rights of any state or any peoples in any territory, or the terms of any mandate" upon the expected termination of the present mandate system.



Mr. Attlee, You Cannot Cement the British Empire With Jewish Blood!

Nothing Short of a Jewish State

Prime Minister Attlee is here to discuss some pressing international problems with President Truman. We assume that the Palestine question is among these problems. We have a fair inkling of what Mr. Attlee and his Government plan for Palestine. We consider this therefore the opportune moment to serve notice on Mr. Attlee and his Government that *nothing short of the abrogation of the White Paper, the opening of the doors of Palestine for free Jewish repatriation, and the proclamation of a Jewish State will do*, and that further postponement of the settlement of the issue will result in bitter and determined Jewish resistance to Britain not only in Palestine, but throughout the world.

If Britain believes that she can continue to default on her international obligations in Palestine under the camouflage of Arab propaganda and mob violence, she is in for a rude awakening. We shall repeatedly unmask the instigators of this opposition—the British Colonial agents and administrators—and we shall continue to lay bare their stratagem: *the attempt to foist upon the world an impression of an Arab "menace" to give Britain an excuse for her pretended "appeasement" policy.*

Britain's Arab Appeasement— A Propaganda Stunt

We shall mercilessly expose these tactics, and arouse public opinion to the plain truth that Britain's appeasement of the Arabs is a *deliberately fabricated legend*. Britain might have sought to appease Hitler when he possessed superior military might. Britain may, today or tomorrow, appease another great military power. But Britain has never practiced appeasement towards puppets or peoples militarily weak.

Britain does not seek to appease the 400,000,000 people of India, a country seething with continuous revolution and whose military resources are great enough to supply *powerful armies* for the British Empire. Britain practices no appeasement toward the 40,000,000 Moslem inhabitants of Java, where her troops are today imposing a colonial regime at the point of the bayonet, with fire and sword. And it is significant that Mr. Attlee's Government does *not* fear to arouse the resentment of the 300,000,000 Moslems against this *British violent subjugation of one of the biggest Moslem communities in the world.*

The Arab League—A British Front

Britain does not have to appease Ibn Saud, who surely remembers the lesson of 1928, when a few British planes smashed his desert hordes after their attempt to invade neighboring British controlled territories. Britain does not have to "satisfy" any of the Arab governments which she herself invested with power and which function by her grace. Certainly she does not fear the fiction of the Arab League—that tool of British imperialism and propaganda instrument of the Colonial Office.

Under cover of this League Britain not only hopes to block the formation of the Jewish State, but also to check any non-British influence in the all-important Middle Eastern area. The bugaboo of the Arab League was first turned against France, as a prelude to Britain's military occupation of Syria. It was later turned against Soviet Russia, when the Soviet Union asked for a trusteeship of Tripolitania. And it is as certain as day follows night that, if Britain carries out her plans in Palestine, she will turn the same bogie against the last non-British factor in the Middle East—our own United States.

The Real Reason

Thus Britain's opposition to Zionism is in no way affected by the Arab "threat". *It is motivated solely by the refusal of the Colonial strategists to see the rise of a western and industrial nation at the crossroads of the Empire.* We firmly believe that the interests of the whole world, including the interests of Great Britain herself, dictate the creation of a Jewish State; that a Jewish Palestine would be a vital factor of progress, stability, peace and order, in that highly unpredictable and backward area. But Britain's short-sighted imperialists think otherwise. They have therefore persistently sought a way out of Britain's international obligations on Palestine, and in this determined quest they stopped at nothing.

They instigated bloodshed and riots in Palestine under the guidance of their paid hireling, the notorious Ex-Mufti, and, as Mr. Constantine Poulos, American war correspondent and representative of the Overseas News Agency, reports, the henchmen of the Mufti have again been given the green light and British agents are again arming and inciting the Arabs for acts of aggression against the Jews.

Pogroms Will Not Avail

The Colonial strategists, however, find it extremely difficult to induce Palestine Arabs into a new civil war. So they think to frighten world Jewry by inciting and instigating the savage mobs of the Arab countries against the helpless Jewish minorities among them. These outrages are intended to "prove" the impossibility of a pro-Zionist solution. *With full knowledge of the import of our assertions, we charge the British agents provocateurs with deliberately fomenting the recent pogroms and massacres in Egypt and Tripolitania.* These disturbances have all the earmarks of the British inspired disorders in Palestine. It is to be marvelled at that while under Italy, Jews and Arabs in Tripoli lived on friendly terms, under British military rule the first anti-Jewish pogrom was organized and permitted to take place.

The Farce of Investigation

While this "show" of Arab strength is being organized, the British imperialists hope to shelve the Palestine issue altogether by the establishment of a joint Anglo-American commission for the "investigation of the Jewish situation in Europe." We repudiate this investigation plan as a sinister maneuver to put a question mark upon the Jewish need for Palestine. The restoration of Palestine to the Jewish people is not a subject for investigation. It is a policy settled by international law and backed by the most recent and most terrible lessons of history. *The problem of the Jews is that of homelessness and statelessness, and no renewed investigations are necessary to establish this cardinal fact.*

Nothing that Britain can do will confuse this crystal-clear issue. It is a conflict not between the Arabs and the Jews, but between imperialistic Britain on the one hand, and world Jewry and all the democratic forces in the world on the other. *Britain has placed herself in the position of an open enemy of the Jewish people, and the Jews have no other recourse but to take up the challenge.*

Time for the President to Speak

The British were thus far successful in obtaining the tacit support of our administration for their anti-Jewish policies. But the time has come for our Government to take an open and decisive stand on this issue. American public opinion is deeply aroused by our acquiescence to Britain's Palestine policy. In keeping with the expressed wishes of the American people, our obligations under international covenants, the decision of our Congress, and the solemn pledges of our presidents—*President Truman is duty-bound to demand that Mr. Attlee put a stop to the British crusade against the Jewish people and fulfill Britain's international obligation to reconstitute Palestine as a Jewish National Home.*

We Cannot Invest in British Faith

Britain now asks America for a loan of billions of dollars. How can Americans rely on Britain's good faith when her Government is so careless with her honor and so callous in breaking her obligations and commitments? The sore spectacle of Britain's behavior in Palestine stamps her government as faithless and untrustworthy. *Let Britain prove her integrity before we trust her with our savings and investments.*

We expect President Truman to convey to Mr. Attlee the true feelings of the American people on this question, and we sincerely hope that he will do all within his power—which is the power of the United States—to convert his meeting with the British Prime Minister into a historic event—the inauguration of constructive American-British co-operation in establishing a Jewish State, a bulwark of progress and democracy in the whole Middle East.

THE NEW ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

Col. Morris J. Mendelsohn President
Major William R. Friedman Chairman, Executive Board
Raphael Kurzrok, Ph.D., M.D. Vice-Chairman, Ex. Bd.

All contributions to the New Zionist Organization of America are tax-exempt.

I fully support your nationwide campaign on behalf of justice for the Jews in Palestine and for the persecuted and uprooted Jews of Europe. To assist you in this vital campaign, I am pleased to enclose my check in the amount of \$ _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE NEW ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA, INC., 53 W. 42nd ST., N. Y. C. 18

[November? 1945]

Awad *Lebanon*

Mr. Gordon P. Merriam
Chief, Division of Near Eastern Affairs
Department of State.

Dear Mr. Merriam:

At the request of Mr. Colquitt, I am submitting to you the following report on the present situation in Lebanon.

I was born in Ajaltoun, Lebanon, November 26, 1900; studied at Jerusalem; the Lebanon Missionary College and the Wisdom College at Beirut, 1907-1920. I studied at the University of the Propaganda Fide, Rome, Italy, 1920-1927, where I was graduated Ph.B., Ph.M., Ph.D., S.T.B., S.T.M. I attended the Roman Academy, Rome and was graduated Ph.D. I also studied at Paris, Salamanca, New York and the Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. From 1927 to 1940, I taught in American Universities and Colleges at Buffalo, N.Y., New York City, and Niagara Falls, N.Y. From 1941 to 1945, I was employed by the U.S.A. Government: Library of Congress; F.C.C., F.B.I.S.; O.W.I.

I am an American citizen and never gave allegiance to any foreign State. On September 7, 1945 I went for one year to Lebanon to visit my 98 year old mother and to introduce the American system of teaching in the Lebanese schools.

I arrived at Lebanon on September 27, 1945. The situation there is very unsatisfactory.

Lebanon is under a system of terror. No freedom of speech or press or conscience.

The Patriarchs, Archbishops, Bishops, Superior Generals of Religious Orders, and outstanding personalities of all creeds and beliefs in Lebanon and Syria, gave me documents to be presented to the Holy Father, Pius XII and to the President and Government of the U.S.A. in which they ask me to explain the deplorable

situation there existing.

Their documents to the Holy Father express to him the lack of individual and religious freedom in Lebanon and beg him as a moral authority to use his influence near President Truman in order that the President take the necessary measures against future Mohammedan threat to the Christians of Lebanon.

The Lebanese look up to the President and U.S.A. Government as the arbiters and champions of the fundamental rights of all peoples and as the defenders of the four freedoms. They placed their confidence in me as an American imbued with the American democratic principles and charged me with the mission of exposing the Mohammedan threat.

The Mohammedan threat is now inculcating fear throughout Lebanon. The Lebanese are descendants of the Phoenicians and of the Aramaeans. They were persecuted by the Arab Omayyads (660-750), by the Mohammedan Abbasids (750-977), by the Moslem Fatimites (977-1098). The persecution against the Christian Lebanese died down only in the XI and XII centuries, namely at the time of the Crusaders.

The Mohammedan persecution against the Christians was resumed under the Ayyubites and the Mamelukes, namely at the time when the Crusaders left Lebanon.

The Turks also oppressed the Christians during their regime in the Near East. 20,000 Christians were massacred in Lebanon in 1860.

From 1915 to 1918, 150,000 Christian Lebanese were starved to death and fell victim to the hatred of their Mohammedan oppressors.

In 1920-21, the Mohammedans renewed persecution against the Christians but the French crushed such antagonistic malfaisance.

The present Arab movement is a Mohammedan movement. In a Mohammedan State, Moslems only are considered true citizens and the people are ruled by the Moslem Holy Law.

During last year commemoration of the day of the Balfour promise to the Jews

regarding Palestine, many Christians were killed and many Christian churches were destroyed in Egypt, Iraq, and Syria.

There is no equality among Mohammedans and Christians neither in Egypt, nor in Iraq, Syria or other Mohammedan countries. Egypt prohibited the immigration of new Missionaries and placed Christian marriage subject to the Mohammedan Law and the Koran.

The Syrian school program is definitely a Mohammedan program. European Christian schools in Syria were ordered closed as it appears from the documents which I submit with my report.

250,000 Christians have now fled from Syria into Lebanon without food, clothing or shelter. The Christians are persecuted in Al-Ghezira and are also fleeing to Lebanon in the most deplorable state.

Only Lebanon and Lebanon alone remains as the National Home for all minorities in the Near East, where Maronites, Byzantines, Syriacs, Chaldeans, Assyrians, Armenians, Protestants, and Moslem minorities who fled from the Mohammedan Sunnite Orthodoxy seek refuge from persecution and want, in complete liberty of religion and freedom of speech.

These four freedoms however are now threatened by the Arabs. The present Lebanese Government is a beast of burden to the Arabs. It is not a people-elect government.

The Lebanese are sure that once the European powers have withdrawn from Lebanon, the Lebanese Parliament under Arab pressure will sell Lebanon to Syria at the detriment of all minorities there existing.

In fact, I have spoken to many members of the present Lebanese government. These personalities are known to be an Islamic chosen group. They all expressed their intentions to be united with Syria as soon as France has left Lebanon.

Minister Ahmad Ad-Daouk told me that a Syro-Lebanese union is indispensable and Christians are not wanted in a Mohammedan World.

The Lebanese feel that England is too much entangled with the Arabs that it finds itself with hands tied towards Christians and minorities. The Assyrians of Mosul were massacred by the Arabs under the very British eyes and the British watched their slaughter cross-handed.

The Lebanese are convinced that England was forced, because of these entanglements, to play that ignominious role during the time of Lebanese elections when Britishers used pressure against the candidates known for their anti-Arab movement to withdraw from elections; arrested the most popular of these candidates and removed them away for a while. One of them died in exile. While only 150,000 Lebanese voted, there were found in the election boxes 500,900 votes. Thus the people's candidates lost election by fraudulent means. When the Greek Orthodox Archbishop of Lebanon, Mgr. Elie Karam, opposed this Islamic-British terroristic policy in Lebanon, a British truck was, four times at four different intervals, run against the Archbishop's automobile until it finally smashed it. The Orthodox Archbishop, however, succeeded to escape every time.

The present Syrian and Lebanese governments, grateful to the British for their installation into office by force, are willing to give the British whatever privileges they desire in the Lebano-Syrian Levant. I have a document at hand by Saadallah Jabri, dated October 24, 1945 in which he promises to the British all desirable privileges in reward for General Spears' help to the Arabs in the Levant. All these incidents and many others are frightening the Lebanese who even feel that the very American Minister, Mr. George Wadsworth is so much entangled with the British and Arabs that he may not be really explaining the exact facts of the Levant to the President and Government of the

U.S.A.

General Spears, before he had left Lebanon and Syria, said in an after-banquet speech given in his honor by the Arabs at Beirut: "I leave you Mr. Wadsworth to carry my work". This remark amazed the Lebanese who wondered if Wadsworth were Mohammedan, Britisher or American!

There is a Russian threat also which is trying to spread its sphere of influence in Lebanon. Four Russian Legations are now being installed in Beirut. If the Lebanese feared the Mohammedan persecution, had little faith in British aid because of their entanglement with the Arabs, and doubted the aptitude of Mr. Wadsworth to represent America while he is so much entangled with the British and the Arabs, they are much more frightened by the spread of Bolshevism in their democratic States.

This is why they beg and demand that Lebanon be completely independent under a United Nations guarantee and that France be charged with this guarantee:

1. Because of the sacred and traditional role of France in Lebanon for the past thirteen centuries;

2. Because France can keep equality between Mohammedans and Christians in Lebanon;

3. Because French guarantee to the independence of Lebanon will give moral force to the Christians at the interior of Syria.

The official documents which I submit herewith clearly state that this is what the Lebanese want and beg the President and Government of the United States to uphold them in their just demand.

They enjoy no freedom of press or speech now. This is why they have begged me upon my American honor to carry their voices to the very President of the U.S.A.

The President of Lebanon, Mr. Bichara Al-Khoury, who is an Arab tool, announced during October 1945, his intention to visit the Maronite Patriarch at his Summer home at Diman, Lebanon. The Patriarch, Mgr. Antoun Peter Arida, submitted his welcome speech to the President two weeks ahead of time. One

sentence of the speech read as follows: "We want the complete independence of Lebanon under a French guarantee, otherwise we may soon lose our independence. The Lebanese President tried with all means to have the Patriarch erase such sentence out of his speech. The Maronite Patriarch, who is the one and only daring leader of Lebanon, refused to erase off this sentence. When the speech was officially read, a governmental order was given to all the newspapers to omit that sentence from it. One newspaper refused to obey the order, claimed liberty of press and printed the Patriarchal speech in its entirety. As a result, that newspaper was refused paper for many months.

Many are the stories showing the lack of freedom of press, speech and conscience in Lebanon and Syria.

All the Ecclesiastical and Lay leaders who gave me the documents which I herewith submit, begged me to be prudent and to let nobody know their names except the President and the Government of the U.S.A., lest their people will be massacred and they themselves will be persecuted.

The Syriac Patriarch, Cardinal Tabuni, after having reviewed to me how the Assyrians in Mosul had been massacred by the Arabs under the very eyes of the British, insisted that there is no life to Christianity in Lebanon unless the Lebanese independence is guaranteed by the French.

The Lebanese Leaders feel that once the French are out of Lebanon, there will soon be a general massacre by the Mohammedans against the Christians.

The Christian Lebanese and Mohammedan persecuted minorities always remained isolated in their mountain refuge and never dared to come to the cities as Beirut, Tripoli and others until the French came to Lebanon. If the French leave Lebanon, this breathing space will soon end for the Christians. In fact, already the fanatic Mohammedans have begun their insulting deeds. Two Christian girls were stopped in Beirut by Mohammedan youths and were told to take off from their chests the golden chain and cross because the Christian era is about to end.

If a Christian asks for the price of a vegetable or a utility in a Mohammedan store, the Mohammedan storekeeper almost forces him to buy it cursing his cross and his religion.

If such is the situation now, while the French are still there, what will be the fate of the Christians after the French have left?

During my half-hour audience with his Holiness Pope Pius XII, on November 30, 1945, I explained the situation in Lebanon and I handed him the documents addressed to him. His Holiness promised to attend the matter at once. He praised the sacred role of France in Lebanon and told me that he will do all what is in his power before President Truman and the U.S.A. Government to see that France remains guaranteeing the complete independence of Lebanon. Mgr. Tardini, Acting Secretary of State at the Vatican, told me that his Holiness had wires to his Apostolic Delegate at Washington to give me all the moral help in my sacred mission near President Truman for the safety of Christianity in the Near East. I was also told that I will be accredited near the American Cardinals for having all the moral help I need. I, however, preferred not to discuss the matter with any one else besides President Truman and the State Department. Diplomacy in these matters is the safest. Propaganda is very harmful. Mgr. Tardini told me that the Holy See has to act very prudently in this matter for fear of antagonizing England and exposing to persecution millions of Catholics under the British rule.

Recommendations:

I recommend:

1. To withdraw recognition of the present Lebanese Government since this government does not represent the people.
2. To insist on election of a new government in Lebanon and that,

if possible, the elections should be under the guidance and control of an American Committee since the Lebanese have full confidence in President Truman and his Government.

3. To withdraw Minister Wadsworth since his deep entanglement with the Islamic-British tendencies made the Lebanese fear him and cause the Mohammedans to think that the Americans are subservient to the British interests. Consequently he is not fit to represent America at Beirut.

4. American Committees which generally visit Lebanon, stay a short time there. They are surrounded by Government men and pass their time in banquets given by the Lebanese government in their honor. They meet neither people nor leaders of people and consequently their reports on the conditions in Lebanon are worthless and far from the truth. I recommend either the sending of an American Committee which will mix with the people and leaders of Lebanon or the asking for a Lebanese Committee formed from the Lebanese Leaders to come to America and to expose clearly to the U.S.A. Government the real situation in Lebanon.

5. Lebanese independence to be recognized under the guarantee of the United Nations and that France be charged with this guarantee, otherwise Lebanon will soon lose its independence and Christians will be partly massacred, partly enslaved and the rest will emigrate. Where to? God knows!

The whole Near East is now Mohammedan with the exception of Lebanon. Thanks to France.

After World War One, the Protocol of the United Nations placed independent Lebanon under the guarantee of the United Nations with a French mandate. The Lebanese now desire no longer a French mandate. They simply want a French guarantee under the Protocol of the United Nations for the protection of their individual rights and their religious freedom.

6. The supply of the Near East should not remain exclusively in the hands of the British. The U.S.A. should take part in it directly and not through England.

The British are so deeply entangled with the Arabs that they are no longer apt or fit to guarantee directly the Christian safety in Lebanon. Besides, the British are a threat to American commercial transactions in Lebanon.

A Lebanese merchant asked for American DDT. A British agent told him to ask for a like product from England. The Lebanese merchant however had neither the American nor the British product.

Cardinal Tabuni told me that it is a shame that the Americans do the good deeds in Lebanon and the British take the credit. His Eminence was amazed at Mr. Wadsworth who allowed such abuse.

I submit this brief report as requested by the State Department. I shall submit further information orally to my President and to my State Department.

Respectfully yours,

(Signed)

Habib Joseph Awad, Ph.D.

Dec. 12, 1945

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,

President, Zionist Org. of America,
1720 1/2 16th St. N.W.
Wash. D.C.

L. Abolitz
20 Laurel
Hill
Terrace

N.Y. 33 N.Y.

Dear Dr. Silver:

Please accept the enclosed portfolio book-let of photographs and clippings of the war, showing a few phases of the Russian part and the Jewish part in the conflict. It is already old news. It is a testimonial, although a crude piece of work, and an elementary piece of commentary attached to it.

Yet, we the Jewish people should pay - I think - some tribute to the Soviets, and show them how much is our admiration and our genuine feeling of brotherly love and friendship, - in view of their great sacrifice and ours together in the common fight.

This is altogether in accordance with our Faith and traditions.

(over)

Dr. Silver, we know of your urgent
~~work~~ work - I will be brief.

- 1) do with this portfolio as you
think best. (if credits are
desired for the origin of photos - I will send them to you)
- 2) if you wish - inscribe the name
of your org. on front or back.
- 3) deliver to Soviet Consulate for
Marshal Stalin.

We want the Russians to know
of our feelings in this matter today,
that we have love and respect
for the people of the U. S. S. R, and
want the U. S. and their country
and peoples to be deep, good
friends!

If you feel that this
portfolio is not good enough - please
use your own good judgment to
do as you see fit. I mean this
in sincerity. Keep up the heroic
struggle! The Jewish people, believing
in God with all our might - will win!!
"Victory is of the Lord!"

L. ABOLITZ
20 Laurel
Hill Terrace,
N.Y. 33 N.Y.

To

DR. ABBA HILLEL
SILVER
PRESIDENT, ZIONIST
ORG. OF AMERICA
1720-16TH ST. N.W.

Charge to the account of _____

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	ORDINARY
DAY LETTER	URGENT RATE
SERIAL	DEFERRED
OVERNIGHT TELEGRAM	NIGHT LETTER
SPECIAL SERVICE	SHIP RADIOGRAM

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

WESTERN UNION

1206-

CHECK

ACCOUNTING INFORMATION

TIME FILED

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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

12-18-45

WANT A REPLY?

"Answer by WESTERN UNION"
or similar phrases may be
Included without charge.

The Hon. Warren R. Austin
U. S. Senate
Washington, D.C.

JUST RETURNED FROM PALESTINE AND LEARNED WITH DEEP SATISFACTION OF THE FAVORABLE ACTION OF THE SENATE ON THE PALESTINE RESOLUTION. I WISH TO THANK YOU FOR THE GREAT ASSISTANCE WHICH YOU PERSONALLY RENDERED TO THIS CAUSE AND THE SYMPATHETIC UNDERSTANDING WHICH YOU MANIFESTED AT ALL TIMES. OUR PEOPLE ARE PROFOUNDLY GRATEFUL.

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

WRHS



TOM CONNALLY, TEX., CHAIRMAN
WALTER F. GEORGE, GA.
ROBERT F. WAGNER, N. Y.
ELBERT D. THOMAS, UTAH
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WARREN R. AUSTIN, VT.
STYLES BRIDGES, N. H.
ALEXANDER WILEY, WIS.

ROBERT V. SHIRLEY, CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

December 19, 1945

Rabbi Abba H. Silver
Cleveland
Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Thank you, ever so much, for your kind telegram concerning my service on the Palestine Resolution.

Sincerely yours,

Warren R. Austin,

C
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C
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

January 5, 1946

My dear Rabbi Silver:

Thank you for your letter of December 21, 1945 to the Secretary of State, co-signed by Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, in which you refer to a memorandum submitted by you on October 23 with reference to the interchange of correspondence between King Ibn Saud and the late President Roosevelt, and with which you enclose a supplementary memorandum commenting in detail on the contents of King Ibn Saud's letter relative to the Arab claim to Palestine.

Sincerely yours,

Dean Acheson
Under Secretary

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver

American Zionist Emergency Council

342 Madison Avenue

New York 17, New York

January 8, 1946

Mr. Lawrence Abolitz
20 Laurel Hill Terrace
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Abolitz:

Permit me to thank you for your kindness
in sending me the portfolio which I am returning
to you under separate cover. I enjoyed seeing it.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

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~
✓
January 10, 1946

In reply refer to
NE

My dear Senator Taft:

With reference to your telegram of January 5 last to the Secretary, concerning the question of Jewish immigration into Palestine, I understand that the British Government is now actively engaged in making the necessary arrangements for the continuation of such immigration at the rate of 1,500 persons monthly.

Sincerely yours,

DEAN ACHESON

Acting Secretary

The Honorable

Robert A. Taft,

United States Senate.

C
O
P
Y

AHS

Department of State
Washington

February 6, 1946

My dear Rabbi Silver:

I am writing with reference to your telegram of January 25 to President Truman, signed jointly with Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, which has been referred by the White House to the Department of State.

I am glad to inform you that the questions you have raised are being considered by the appropriate officials of the Department.

Sincerely yours,

Dean Acheson (signed)
Under Secretary

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York 17, N.Y.

copied 2/7/46:MH

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date March 14, 1946

From J. M. Alkow

I have discussed with Mr. Shapiro the need of publishing a book of your more recent articles and addresses on current Zionist issues. I feel that at least 20,000 to 25,000 copies of such a book, if printed in the same form as the "Jewish State", can be easily distributed if sold at 25¢ per copy. The book that would be a logical follow-up of Herzl's "Jewish State" could be ready for distribution thirty days after the material is gathered and suitably arranged for publication.

I would appreciate hearing your reaction to this suggestion.

JMA:RB

WILL WAR CRIMINALS DETERMINE PALESTINE'S DESTINY?

The man giving the Nazi salute in this picture is Amin el Husseini, the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem. The troops are those of the Moslem SS Divisions, organized by the ex-Mufti along with the Arab Legion to serve with the German Army. This close collaborator with Adolf Hitler, who engineered the pro-Axis revolt of 1941 in Iraq, is still not listed among the war criminals. He lives comfortably in a villa in France, while his friends and lieutenants clamor for his return to Palestine.

"Germany Was Not Our Enemy"

Another war criminal, Jamal el Husseini, the ex-Mufti's cousin and chief of staff, was released recently by the British and allowed to return to Palestine. The British not only re-admitted this active pro-fascist, but gave him complete freedom of action. And last week he was invited to present the Arab case before the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine.

Encouraged by this singular forgetfulness of the British as to his pro-Axis record, Jamal el Husseini spoke cockily before the Anglo-American Committee. "Germany was not our enemy, and, therefore, we had not interest in the war," he said.

The ex-Mufti's second-in-command stated only a half-truth. He declared that the Third Reich was not the enemy of the Arabs, but he forgot to mention that both he and his notorious cousin, along with most of the political leaders of the Arab lands, took a very active interest in the war—on the side of the Nazis.

The Arab Rulers Are Neutral on Fascism!

When one of the Committee members reminded Jamal of the hostile role played by Arab leaders in the war, Mr. Husseini replied: "I have read somewhere that it was a Jewish war anyway."

Now we know. The rape of Poland and Czechoslovakia, the brutal subjugation of Norway, Holland, Belgium and France, the horrors inflicted on the Balkans and Russia, the blitz over England—all this was "a Jewish war anyway," in which the Arabs had no interest.

But Jamal el Husseini went one step further. He told the Committee that the Arabs are spiritually neutral on the question of fascism.

One cannot be neutral on fascism! One is either for it or against it. The Arab kings and chieftains are for it. Fascism suits perfectly the type of society which they are ruling and trying to preserve.



Why Aren't They In The Dock?

Justice and decency demand that Jamal el Husseini and the ex-Mufti stand trial together with the other war criminals. But instead, British colonial imperialism allows Jamal to make a grandstand play before the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry in Jerusalem. And slowly but surely the way is being cleared for the ex-Mufti to return to Palestine, where he is certain to resume his program of anti-Jewish terror.

It is deplorable that members of the Anglo-American Committee did not bother to interrogate Jamal as to his own shameful deeds before and during the war. He was treated with such consideration that when he was asked "whether in view of the Mufti's record, the Palestine Arab Higher Committee still felt that he enjoyed the confidence of the Arabs," Jamal felt encouraged to answer: "Yes."

Falsifying The Record To Shield The Ex-Mufti

Significantly enough, this portion of Jamal el Husseini's testimony, as well as the statement of another Arab representative, Auni Bey Abdul Hadi, admitting that the ex-Mufti had been actively associated with the Axis, were omitted from the stenographic report of the Committee's proceedings. Clifton Daniels in the *New York Times* (March 16, 1946) and other press correspondents reported that this caused a heated discussion among members of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry, with certain British members seemingly determined to keep this damning evidence off the record, as, in their opinion, the ex-Mufti's wartime activities were irrelevant to the inquiry.

There is as yet no indication that this all-important testimony has been re-incorporated into the text of the official record.

Enemies Supported, Allies Persecuted

Thus we see one of the most brazen imperialistic intrigues develop before our eyes. Hitler's adviser on Arab affairs is tenderly protected. His cousin, who was caught red-handed taking a leading part in the pro-Nazi uprising in Iraq, is now recognized as the chief spokesman of Palestine's Arabs.

But Jews, who gave over one million soldiers to the United Nations and six million victims to Hitler's extermination camps, are barred from Palestine by every device known to Britain's Colonial Office.

The Streichers, Laval, Quislings and Joyces of every nation had to pay the price for their acts of treason. Even Petain, France's foremost hero of World War I, did not escape punishment. But Amin el Husseini and Jamal el Husseini are being treated as "high contracting parties" in the negotiations for the settlement of the Palestine problem.

Why are these war criminals being shielded?

Why are the records of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry being "doctored" to protect Nazi collaborationists?

Americans who fought the War for Freedom and Democracy want to know!

**AMERICAN ZIONIST
EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

342 Madison Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.

MINUTES OF THE INNER COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 1946
held at
AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

PRESENT: Rabbi Irving Miller, Chairman, Mark Sugarman, Joseph Greenleaf
Jacques Torczyner and Dr. Sidney Marks

The meeting was opened by Rabbi Miller and the substance of the meeting was devoted to the disposition of miscellaneous matters which had been accumulated.

The Convention at Atlantic City was tentatively set for October 25 through October 29. It was found that no other accommodations could be secured throughout the country. The Executive Director was instructed to proceed to Atlantic City and make such arrangements. The dates will be cleared with Dr. Abba Hillel Silver.

The Executive Director was instructed to send a letter to the American Jewish Committee of Writers, Artists and Scientists advising them that the Zionist Organization of America would send an observer to their mass rally in Madison Square Garden.

The sum of \$1400 was approved as a part payment on the Shekel campaign to the United States Central Shekel Board.

The matter of additional compensation for Mr. Richards in connection with his editing of Israel Cohen's "History of Zionism" was referred to Judge Levinthal for disposition. The Committee will approve any recommendation made by Judge Levinthal.

Mr. Saul Spiro was designated a member of the National Administrative Council, subject to the final approval of Dr. Silver.

The matter of the inquiry by the Zionist Organization of Chicago with reference to the subvention of the membership campaign, the employment of Mr. Charles Levin and other miscellany will await the arrival of Mr. Silberman to New York City when a conference will be had with him.

The compensation of Major Hershel Auerbach, Veterans' Consultant, was extended for another week pending the delivery of his report to the Inner Committee next week. A copy of this report is to be given to Rabbi Miller before that meeting. The Executive Director commented on the fact that experiences show the need for a reduced rate for discharged servicemen.

The question of a request from the American Friends of the Hebrew University for \$200 was adjusted through a suggestion of Mr. Greenleaf which will come from sources external to the ZOA.

Instructions were given to the Executive Director to inform the Keren Hayesod that it will act as the Committee on the Palestine Economic Bureau and that an invitation be extended to the Keren Hayesod to meet with it at the next meeting of the Committee.

A discussion was had on the Hebrew University Committee. The appointments included Mr. Jacob Fishman, Joseph Greenleaf, Mark Sugarman, Dr. I. Wechsler, and Dr. Harris Levine. Rabbi Miller indicated that he would like to be present at the first meeting although he does not want to be part of the committee. A meeting was to be set for Wednesday, March 27th, at the meeting of the Inner Committee.

Dr. Marks was instructed to call Ezra Shapiro and adjust the sum requested by the Committee to Oppose National Budgeting to the sum of \$250 instead of the \$500 requested.

The question of the Allocation from the UPA of \$54,000 was left to the decision of Dr. Silver.

Instructions were given to pay the bill of \$200 for the zoning adjustment matter on our Washington building as submitted by Mr. Louis E. Spiegler. Instructions were also given to write to Mr. Spiegler and advise him of the asking price of \$70,000 for that building.

Instructions were given to write to Mr. Norton of the Los Angeles Zionist District offering him \$100 from general membership funds for expenditures in connection with life memberships.

The question of the Radio payments made by Philadelphia was resolved in the following manner: The sum is to be deducted from their Expansion Fund allocation to the National Office with a suggestion that \$100 be returned and earmarked for two Fellowships to Palestine as requested by Dr. Bardin.

With reference to the matter of checks sent to us by the South-eastern Region for special purposes, these are to be returned to them with instructions to redraft these checks to the order of the proper party; that the ZOA cannot, on record, be party to such transaction.

Subject to the approval of the Finance Committee Chairman, Miss Feinerman and Miss Levinson are to be raised to the Junior Executive status.

Mr. Alex Ginsberg is to receive severance compensation.

The film project, under the circumstances of a failure of cooperation by other Zionist bodies except Hadassah, is to be held in abeyance.

The Executive Director related the advices of Mr. Potts with reference to Baltimore and the Expansion Fund. A failure of Baltimore to carry through a promise to Dr. Silver for Additional funds was reviewed and every effort will be made to ensure continued activity.

Rabbi Miller discussed the possibility of revising our financial operations by establishment of a contributing membership of \$10 which would obviate any need for an Expansion Fund. It will be explored further.

The meeting was adjourned.

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date March 26, 1946

From J. M. Alkow

Enclosed you will please find a printed copy of an informal play in honor of the 50th anniversary of Theodor Herzl.

I have known Mr. Bayer for many years in California. When I met him in New York a year ago, I encouraged him to devote some of his dramatic talents to the promulgation of our idea. He has written several effective playlets: One, "The Wall of Zion" for the Jewish Welfare Board; another, "An Open Door" for the Jewish Reconstructionist Movement, all of which deals with our theme.

Mr. Greenstein of the Zionist Organization is very helpful in distributing Mr. Bayer's little playlets.

Mr. Bayer's playlet will be produced on May 5th by our Young Zionist Actions Committee.

JMA:RB

[April 1945]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT
Washington 25

IT:P:T:1
RET

American Zionist Policy Committee
55 West 42nd Street
New York 18, New York

Gentlemen:

Reference is made to the information submitted in support of your claim to exemption under the provisions of section 101(6) of the Internal Revenue Code, and your request to be advised whether contributions made to you are deductible by the donors under the provisions of section 23(o) and (q) of the Code.

The information submitted shows you were organized on January 25, 1945 as an unincorporated voluntary association for purposes which were unanimously approved at a meeting held on March 20, 1945, which are, generally, to deepen Zionist thought and the understanding of Zionist problems on the part of lay leaders and the Zionist rank and file by means of lectures and discussions; the dissemination of appropriate leaflets and pamphlets and the preparation and use of information and cogent memoranda.

Your first official meeting was held March 20, 1945 and you have, therefore, actually operated for a period of less than three months.

Since Section 101(6) of the Internal Revenue Code relating to the exemption and section 23(o) and (q) of the Code relating to the allowance of contributions as deductions provide in effect that in order for an organization to qualify for exemption, and as one contributions to which are deductible, under those sections, such organization must be both organized and operated exclusively for one or more of the purposes specified therein, it is the policy of the Bureau to rule whether an organization is qualified for exemption, and as one contributions to which are deductible only after it has been in active operation over a period of time sufficient to clearly reflect the nature of its activities.

Accordingly, a ruling will not be made as to your status for Federal income tax purposes or whether contributions to you are deductible by the donors in the manner and to the extent provided in section 23(o) and (q) of the Code until complete information regarding your activities over a longer period of time is available.

Your request may be renewed after you have operated for a period of one year, at which time the Bureau will give further consideration to the matter.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Norman D. Cann
Deputy Commissioner

The Albany

DENVER.

5/19/46

Dear Rabbi: just a line to acquaint you with the fact that from Portland on to Seattle to Salt Lake to Denver Zionists, men and women, are increased and the antics of the national office of Hadassah. In Portland it was not too difficult to win over two ladies - Rabbi Klemm's wife and a Mrs. Abe Berkowitz - who joined the Women's Committee for United General Zionist Action even before the telegram arrived from N.Y. urging them to do so. I succeeded in raising \$500 here for the Expansion Fund. Seattle is alive to the danger of divisions. I understood Hadassah is sending a Mrs. Benjamin to cover the same communities I covered. A Mrs. Ammerman is likewise on the Coast in behalf of Hadassah. I succeeded in gaining the aid of four of five women in Seattle who will now join the Committee. Rabbi F. Franklin Cohen is anxious to help & I arranged for him to do so. Contact was made with Sidney Marks.

The Denver women seem aroused against the national Hadassah office. I am to address them tonight as far as I am concerned the lid is off! I think we will have an interesting meeting tonight. Will advise you further what action is possible here. Hope to see you soon.

Sincerely Chas. Neustadt

Charge to the account of _____

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	ORDINARY
DAY LETTER	URGENT RATE
SERIAL	DEFERRED
OVERNIGHT TELEGRAM	NIGHT LETTER
SPECIAL SERVICE	SHIP RADIOGRAM

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

WESTERN UNION

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ACCOUNTING INFORMATION

TIME FILED

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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

6-6-46

WANT A REPLY?

"Answer by WESTERN UNION"
or similar phrases may be
Included without charge.

The Hon. Warren Robinson Austin
United States Senate
Washington, D.C.

MAY I EXPRESS O YOU MY PROFOUND SATISFACTION AND PLEASURE AT YOUR APPOINTMENT AS U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL. THE COUNTRY IS TO BE CONGRATULATED ON THE SELECTION FOR THIS MOST IMPORTANT POST A STATESMAN OF YOUR POLITICAL VISION COURAGE AND COMPETENCE. MAY ALL YOUR WAYS PROSPER.

Abba Hillel Silver
Chairman American Zionist Emergency Council

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 11, 1946

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I am especially benefited by your telegram of June 6.

Thank you, also, for the sentiment you have expressed, and for the encouragement that you give me.

With kind regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Warren R. Austin

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, Chairman
American Zionist Emergency Council
Cleveland, Ohio.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Washington

June 21, 1946

Dear Rabbi Wise and Rabbi Silver:

I take pleasure in acknowledging your letter of May 12 concerning the present status of Trans-Jordan, and very much regret that my reply has been so long delayed.

The Department is taking under advisement the various points raised in your letter and I shall write you more fully on this subject at a later date.

WRHS
AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES
Sincerely yours,

(s) Dean Acheson
Acting Secretary of State

Rabbi Stephen S. Wise
and Rabbi Hillel Silver
Joint Chairmen, American
Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue,
New York 17, New York

copied 6/24/46:MH

Extract of Letter From Sgt. Carl Alpert
(former Editor of The New Palestine)

The News-Reporter came in the other day. It's your usual bang-up job. Is it possible for something excellent to become more excellent? In the army, we rate something better than excellent as superior. The News Reporter has everything now - current events, articles, organization news. It ALMOST makes the literary edition superfluous - a difficult concession for me to make.



Another Open Letter To Prime Minister Attlee

WE TAKE the liberty of addressing this, our second open letter, to you at this time so that you may have the benefit of the views of an overwhelming majority of Americans on a matter of life or death for an entire people. We refer to the question of Palestine, which will surely figure in your conversations with our President.

We assume that your officials in this country have informed you of America's reaction to the reports that your Government plans to continue with slight modification the Chamberlain Government's inhuman White Paper policy on Palestine. If you were presented with an accurate picture, you must know that the voices of millions—Jewish and non-Jewish voices—are today raised in angry protest.

We trust that you have been reading the cables, letters and resolutions which leaders of American public opinion have been sending to 10 Downing Street during the past weeks; that the British Embassy in Washington has kept you posted on the communications sent to your Government recently by countless thousands of American citizens, and that you have seen accounts of the unprecedented mass demonstrations held throughout America—all of them demanding that your Government now fulfill its oft-repeated pledge of a Jewish Palestine.

If all this be known to you, there should be no doubt in your mind that the American people will continue to insist that justice be done to the Jews, and will not be deluded by devices which repudiate your country's solemn obligations in order to appease feudal Arab rulers.

We Have a Right to Speak Plainly

It is ironic and tragic that these words must be addressed to you—a Prime Minister who was swept into office on a platform which endorsed all Jewish aspirations in Palestine without qualification or equivocation. We recall with what forthrightness and courage the leaders of the Labor Government once denounced the very policy which is today being implemented in Palestine. And we believe that the horrible death of almost six million Jewish men, women and children, as well as the suffering of the remnants of European Jewry, entitle us to speak as plainly as we do here.

A great responsibility rests upon you today, Mr. Prime Minister. The decisions you make now will influence the course of human events for generations to come. If all our hopes for a world of peace and security, all our plans for democratic progress and economic prosperity are not to be shattered once again, we must build today on the solid foundation of justice. For without justice there can be no peace. *And unless the remnants of the Jewish people are given the opportunity to live a normal life in their own land, free from the horrors of persecution and homelessness—there will be no justice, and there can be no peace.*

The Choice Is Yours

You must choose now, Mr. Attlee. You can try to build Britain's power and prestige along the lines laid down by Tory Colonial Imperialism. In the Middle East that would mean continuing Britain's present unreliable alliance with Hitler's supporters and sympathizers—the potentates, tyrants and desert chiefs who have been made to seem respectable by officials of your Colonial Office and our State Department. You can serve the enemies of progress and democracy, who keep their unfortunate subjects enslaved in a feudal society and who fight the very ideals proclaimed in England by your Party and practiced in Palestine by the Jewish people. The British Colonial Office, which, alas, sponsored the Arab League as an instrument to block Zionist progress, can continue to bolster this reactionary group to power and influence. That would undoubtedly please men like Ibn Saud and the pro-Nazi Mufti.

But we submit, Mr. Prime Minister, that the results of such a course will be tragic in the extreme—not only for the Jewish people, but for Britain as well. We hope you noticed that the mobs which rioted in Cairo, Alexandria, other cities of Egypt and Tripoli—mobs incited to violence by the Arab League—began by shouting and attacking Jews alone; later, however, as their fury increased, the rioters attacked Christian churches and shouted for the withdrawal of British forces from Egypt. . . . And so, the Arab League, though a product of the 18th century mentality of the British Colonial Office, may prove to be something of a Frankenstein monster.

What, then, shall it be, Mr. Attlee? A free and democratic Jewish State, in which all men regardless of race, color or creed shall enjoy equal civil and religious rights—which will provide a permanent solution for the Jewish problem—which will bring democratic practices and a richer, fuller life to all the peoples of the Middle East?

Or the old imperialistic method of power politics—callously disregarding international commitments—trading blood for oil—first nurturing, then appeasing, and finally suppressing pro-fascist Arab chieftains?

And if the latter course is followed, will Britain's honor survive?

The American people can understand and sympathize with your Government's request for help in the solution of Britain's economic problems. But many Americans are now asking themselves whether this country is not being called upon to support a bankrupt imperialist policy at variance with everything your Party stands for. It is to be regretted that recent events in the Middle East have not served to allay such fears.

Proposed Investigation Is a Mockery

Americans are also disturbed by recent reports that it is now proposed to create a Joint Anglo-American Commission to "study" the situation of the Jews in Europe and their emigration needs. What facts do you suppose will emerge from such an inquiry that have not been fully established at the various international conferences on refugees or by the Harrison Report—other than the information that additional numbers of Jews have died because the Western Democracies have decided to "study" once more, rather than act.

What is urgently needed, Mr. Attlee, is not another roving expedition or a further time-consuming investigation, but immediate concrete measures in conformity with a policy long established and clearly defined by valid international agreements.

A Constructive Program

What is called for is:

1. The immediate admission of 100,000 Jews into Palestine as requested by President Truman, as a first step.

2. The abandonment or revocation forthwith by the British Government of the White Paper of 1939.

3. A joint reaffirmation by the British and American Governments of their intention to pursue a Palestine policy in keeping with the original purpose and intent of the Balfour Declaration and the Palestine Mandate.

4. Following such a joint pronouncement, it would be most fitting to constitute a Joint Commission to explore ways and means by which both countries may cooperate in the implementation of the announced policy in the light of their respective responsibilities and interests. We hope, too, that the United States may find it possible to cooperate in such economic projects as would be of benefit not only to the people of Palestine and to the possibilities of Jewish settlement there, but to the peoples of the entire Middle East, whose countries are poverty-stricken and under-developed.

We ask, Mr. Prime Minister, that you act now. We pray that common sense, decency and honor will prevail.

Abba Hillel Silver, Stephen S. Wise
Joint Chairmen

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL
342 Madison Ave., New York 17, N. Y.

Constituent Organizations: Hadassah, Women's Zionist Organization of America; Mizrahi Organization of America; Poale Zion of America; Zionist Organization of America.