



## Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

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

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

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American Zionist Emergency Council, Hebrew Committee on  
Liberation, 1945-1947.

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#### **Western Reserve Historical Society**

10825 East Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44106  
(216) 721-5722  
[wrhs.org](http://wrhs.org)

#### **American Jewish Archives**

3101 Clifton Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45220  
(513) 487-3000  
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2315 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N. W.

WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

ADAMS 8800

## הוועד לשחרור האומה

HEBREW COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION

April 11, 1945

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple Cleveland  
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Silver:

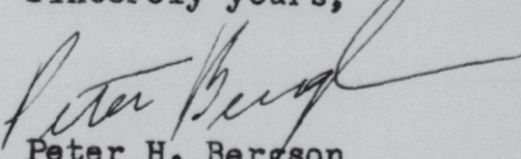
Your position of leadership and prominence in the Zionist movement prompts me to send you a copy of the letter we have recently dispatched to Dr. Chaim Weizmann in London.

I do this knowing of your attitude toward the Hebrew Committee of National Liberation, but I believe that you will want to examine the facts we have to present and that you will give our program unbiased consideration.

Permit me to state that it is my deep belief that your concern for the desperate plight of the Hebrews of Europe and your ardent activities for Palestine demand that you give full and serious consideration to our analysis and proposals.

I should be grateful for your reactions, comment and criticism.

Sincerely yours,

  
Peter H. Bergson  
Chairman



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דו"ק לשחרור הא"מ

HEBREW COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION

October 9, 1945

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

My dear Dr. Silver,

There appeared in the WASHINGTON STAR a full-page advertisement of the Zionist Emergency Council in which the boundaries of Palestine were defined both in a map and in a number of square miles. These boundaries excluded the territory on the east side of the Jordan, which was included in the Mandate but which was arbitrarily excluded by the British Government in 1922.

The Hebrew Committee of National Liberation is exceedingly pleased with the recent energetic drive which has been conducted under your leadership by the American Zionist Emergency Council. We Palestinians are naturally grateful for the deep interest and assistance which American Zionists are constantly giving to the cause of our country and its people. We however maintain it to be in poor grace when the Council takes it upon itself to renounce claim to three-fourths of the territory of Palestine. With the whole question of Palestine being so delicately in the balance and proposals of partition being so predominant, it is unfortunate that statements of such wide political significance should be made by a body of American Jews ninety-nine percent of whom do not plan or even contemplate ever to become Palestinians.

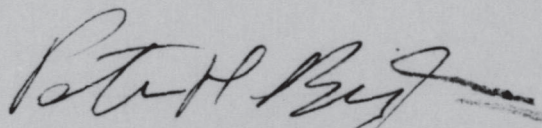
I am writing this letter with the hope that you may be willing to undertake the necessary measures to preclude the repetition of such occurrences, and if for some reason you do not feel you can consider Palestine in its proper boundaries, the least that can be done is to mention the



territory of Trans-Jordan as a disputed area the fate of which will have to be determined through negotiation at a time when the independence of Palestine will be established, and not classify it as an Arab land together with Saudi Arabia or Iraq, as was done in the above-mentioned advertisement.

With kind regards, I remain

Faithfully yours,



Peter H. Bergson  
Chairman





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הוועד לשחרור העם

HEBREW COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION

*New York Office:*  
SUITE 1401  
25 WEST 45TH STREET  
NEW YORK 19, N. Y.  
BRYANT 9-4600

January 10, 1946

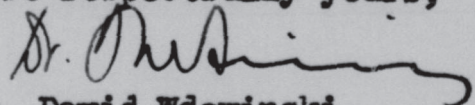
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Chairman  
American Section of the Jewish Agency  
342 Madison Avenue  
New York City

Dear Dr. Silver:

My attention has been drawn to a statement you are alleged to have made at a public meeting held at Manhattan Center on January 6, 1947, to the effect that if the active resistance in Palestine ceases for a few weeks or months and the Jewish Agency is given a chance to put England to a final test -- the Agency will go all the way with the patriots in the event your expectations are not fulfilled.

Would you be good enough to confirm this statement and, if possible, to give us an idea of what you expect to achieve within the specified time, so that we could relay it to our friends in Palestine?

Most respectfully yours,

  
Dr. David Wdowinski,  
Acting Chairman



# Action by Haganah!

## THIS IS RESISTANCE

*These are  
the ships*

*Since November 1945  
these Haganah ships  
were caught by the  
British. Others have  
arrived which they do  
not know about.*

Name of Ship	No. of Refugees
Berl Katznelson .....	211
Hannah Szenesh .....	252
Enzo Sereni .....	908
Wingate .....	243
Tel Hai .....	746
Dov Hos } .....	1014
Eliahu Golomb }	
Max Nordau .....	1663
Haviva Reik .....	462
Josiah Wedgewood .....	1290
Birya .....	1060
Haganah .....	2678
Hahayal Haivri .....	510
Yagour .....	754
Henrietta Szold .....	530
The Twenty-Three .....	790
Katriel Yoffe .....	601
Four Freedoms .....	1024
Palmach .....	625
Braha Fuld .....	819
Latrun .....	1252
Jewish Resistance .....	3824
Rafah .....	790
Lanegev .....	652
Herut .....	796
Arlosoroff .....	1356
Theodore Herzl .....	2700
Moledet .....	1570
Shabbatai Lozinsky .....	800
	(or more)
Hatikvah .....	1500

*Despite the fanfare only  
one non-Haganah ship has  
reached Palestine — the  
well - publicized ‘ ‘ B e n  
Hecht.’ ’*

*News Flash!*

*As this goes to press the  
newspapers carry stories  
of two more Haganah  
ships approaching Pales-  
tine, names and numbers  
not yet known.  
And more are on the way.*

*A Statement*

*"In the course of the inquiry  
there was made available to us  
... an opportunity to learn at  
first hand the operational meth-  
ods employed in the transfer of  
Jews to Palestine ... It was not  
the American League for a Free  
Palestine which was responsible  
for bringing over to Palestine  
Jews rescued from Europe. This  
work has been and is being  
done by the Palestine Resistance  
Movement known as the Ha-  
ganah ... "*

**Bartley C. Crum**

Member of the Anglo-American  
Committee of Inquiry (1946)

*This ad was placed and  
paid for by the lunch and  
spending money of 5,500  
members of Habonim, La-  
bor Zionist Youth, between  
the ages of 14 and 25. Hun-  
dreds of members of Ha-  
bonim are now in Pales-  
tine engaged in pioneering  
and constructive work.  
Habonim in America is an  
educational organization  
bringing the story of work  
and resistance in Palestine  
to the people of America.  
If you want to help tell  
the TRUE story of Jewish  
resistance send your con-  
tribution to:*

**HABONIM,  
Labor Zionist Youth  
45 EAST 17 STREET  
New York 3, N. Y.  
AL 4-8257**

**T**here are new play-boys in America,  
They play with Jewish blood.  
The thrills of Hollywood are no longer sharp enough,  
They need lustier excitement, bolder showmanship.  
The play-boys are lucky; they have a subject worthy of their  
wits—the Jewish struggle.

What other theme holds so much agony and heroism?  
Where else could they get so grand a stage and so glorious a  
cast?

The klieg-lights of the world on it.  
The play-boys are having a wonderful time!  
They egg on the mad children of the Irgun: the distant whiff of  
bombs is headier than a cocktail.

They play with the truth: what is smarter than leading the  
American public by the nose.

They play with the fate of Palestine,  
The Haganah acts:

And neither the stink-bombs of lies and the wise-cracks in  
America,

Nor the bombs of terrorists in Palestine

Are Jewish resistance.

Jewish resistance is graver and more dangerous

Than a shot from ambush in Jerusalem or a clever "ad" in  
New York.

Jewish resistance is the ships that approach the shores of Pales-  
tine in the teeth of British cruisers;

Jewish resistance is the watch-tower on a Galilean hill;

Jewish resistance is the truck-load of pioneers driving at dawn  
into the Negev despite British soldiers.

Jewish resistance is the trained, disciplined strength of Palestin-  
ian youth which wages the national struggle.

The Haganah is Jewish resistance.

The battle in Palestine is not being fought by irresponsible  
bands,

Nor are the dwellers in the DP camps being led on the secret  
path to Palestine by publicity-hounds.

It is the workers of the Haganah who guide the Jewish survivors  
across the steep mountain-passes to the Mediterranean.

It is the sea-men of the Haganah who steer the "illegal" ships.

It is the swimmers of the Haganah who bear the refugees ashore.

It is the soldiers of the Haganah who defend the crags of Galilee  
and the plains of the Emek.

The smart alecks do not do it; the Irgunists do not do it; the  
high-pressure hucksters, who try to cash in on the credit,  
do not do it.

We warn American Jewry against the play-boys: the cuckoos of  
the Jewish national struggle, who steal what is not theirs,  
and then befoul it.

We warn against the terrorist gangs: their shots in the dark  
wound the heart of Palestine and the hopes of the future  
more than they injure the British.

The Jewish case is before the world.

The sound that reaches the United Nations is the cry of wrath  
from the tide-tossed ships,

Th clang of the hammer and the plow in the 23 new settlements  
in the desert,

The rifle-volley of the serried ranks of disciplined Jewish  
soldiers,

The voice of the workers and builders of Palestine

The voice of the Haganah.