

# 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.

Reel	Box	Folder
9	3	186

## American Zionist Emergency Council, "M", 1945-1946.

Western Reserve Historical Society 10825 East Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44106 (216) 721-5722 wrhs.org

#### MEMORANDUM ON PALESTINE

1. THE UNITED STATES AND THE JEWISH NATIONAL HOME PROMISE. On November 2, 1917, the British Government, after full consultation with President Wilson, issued the Balfour Declaration, pledging the establishment of a National Home for the Jewish people. The Declaration was subsequently included in the Mandate for Palestine, and was endorsed by 52 nations. The Jewish National Home pledge was approved in 1922 by a unanimous resolution of the Congress of the United States. It was subsequently incorporated in the Anglo-American Convention of 1924, which provided:

> "Nothing contained in the present Convention shall be affected by any modification which may be made in the terms of the mandate, ... unless such modification shall have been assented to by the United States."

The purpose of the Declaration was expressed by President Wilson when in March, 1919, he stated:

"The Allied Nations, with the fullest concurrence of our Government and people, are agreed that in Palestine shall be laid the foundations of a Jewish Commonwealth."

Every American President since Wilson has endorsed the Jewish National Home objective and in 1944 it received the unequivocal support of both of the great national parties. The Palestine plank in the Democratic party platform reads as follows:

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

On October 15, 1944, in his historic message to the Zionist Organization of America, the late President Roosevelt gave his support to this plank and stated:

> "Efforts will be made to find appropriate ways and means of effectuating this policy as soon as possible. I know how long and ardently the Jewish people have worked and prayed for the establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth. I am convinced that the American people give their support to this aim and if re-elected I shall help to bring about its realization."

This position was reaffirmed by President Roosevelt on March 16, 1945.

On April 20, 1945, President Truman authorized the issuance of a statement to the effect that he intends to carry out President Roosevelt's policy, with which he is fully familiar.

Within recent months 33 States representing 85% of the population of the United States have through resolutions of their State Legislatures gone on record in favor of this objective. More recently, 37 State Governors, as well as a majority of the members of both Houses of Congress, in petitions addressed to the President, have urged early and affirmative action in support of the Zionist program. The American Federation of Labor, the Congress of Industrial Organizations, and various business, religious and educational organizations have likewise committed themselves in support of this aim.

There can be no question that the overwhelming majority of the five million Jews in this country fully support these Zionist aspirations. The American Jewish Conference, which speaks for the majority of them, has on two separate occasions gone on record to this effect.

2. <u>BRITISH SUPPORT</u>. The Jewish Commonwealth also has the support of a large section of British public opinion. Both the Labor and Liberal parties have at recent conventions passed resolutions in its behalf; while in the Conservative party such men as Winston Churchill, Leopold Amery and Alfred Duff Cooper have long been convinced supporters of the Zionist cause. Undoubtedly, for many others in the Conservative party, a determining factor will be the strength and character of American support.

3. THE RESPONSE OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE. The Jewish people responsed to the opportunity given them under the Mandate with eagerness and devotion. Funds running into hundreds of millions of dollars have been provided by Jews in all parts of the world, and in particular by the Jews of the United States, for Jewish immigration and settlement in Palestine and for the economic development of the country. A land which had become waste and neglected under the Turks was transformed out of all recognition. In the course of twenty-five years the Jewish population of Palestine has grown from 60,000 to 600,000. They have established some three hundred Jewish agricultural settlements, and have made Palestine the industrial center of the whole Middle East, with thousands of factories and small workshops; new cities have come into being, and the capital city of Jerusalem today has a population of over 130,000, of whom a substantial majority are Jews; the same is true of Haifa -- strategic key to the Eastern Mediterranean and terminus of the oil pipe-line from Iraq. Jews have harnessed the waters of the Jordan as a means of electrical power, and have initiated the development of the inexhaustible chemical resources of the Dead Sea. Hebrew has been revived as a living language and the efficient Hebrew School system embraces the entire educational field, from kindergartens to a University and technological institute. In regard to their internal affairs, further. the Jews of Palestine have developed a well organized system of self government on the widest democratic basis. For all purposes there have, in fact, been established in Palestine the beginnings of a Jewish Commonwealth.

The effect of all this on the position of the Arab population was epitomized by the Secretary of State for the Colonies (Mr. Malcolm MacDonald) in the House of Commons in 1938:

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

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

4. THE WHITE PAPER OF MAY 1939. In 1936, disturbances fomented by Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy and directed against both the Jews and the British broke out in Palestine. The response of the Chamberlain government was in conformity with its general program of appeasement at that time. In May, 1939, it issued the Palestine White Paper. In essense the White Paper was a capitulation to the demands of the Arab terrorists. In direct contradiction with the purposes of the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate, it provided (1) that Jews must not be permitted to exceed one-third of the population of Palestine, and to this end no further Jewish immigration would be permitted after the admission of a quota of 75,000, now practically exhausted; (2) for the effective prohibition of Jewish settlement on the land in 95% of the 10,000 square miles of Palestine.

The White Paper was held by the Permanent Mandates Commission of the League of Nations, the only competent international body to have considered the question, to be incompatible with the Mandate. It was denounced by large sections of British public opinion and was characterized by Mr. Winston Churchill as a "breach and a repudiation" of Britain's pledges and a "mortal blow" to the Jewish people. As prophesied by him, it did not even serve to secure the appeasement sought. The Mufti of Jerusalem, who had organized and directed the terrorist outbreaks in Palestine of the pre-war years, continued his pro-Axis activities and finally fled to Berlin. In Iraq, at a most critical moment in the war, there was an anti-British uprising. The other Arab countries seethed with pro-Axis propaganda, and only when the war in Europe was virtually at an end did the Arab states "declare war" on Germany. The Jewish people rejected the moral and legal validity of the White Paper, but for which indeed many tens of thousands of Jews could have been saved from Mazi massacre. Were it not for the outbreak of war they would have resisted its enforcement in Palestine by every means at their disposal. As long as the war in Europe lasted, however, they considered it their paramount duty to do their part in the struggle against the Axis as if there were no White Paper. The Jews of Palestine alone in all the Middle East fought actively on the side of the United Nations. Their dead lie scattered on the battlefields of Greece, Syria and North Africa, and their economic and military contribution was out of all proportion to their numbers. Now that the war in Europe is over, however, the White Paper will no longer be tolerated. As was predicted by Mr. Churchill in 1939, it "will be resisted by the despairing Jews." A situation is therefore developing which threatens a tragedy in the Holy Land - a tragedy which will be regretted by the whole civilized world. For it is clear that the further application of the White Paper will be resisted by the Jews and will be possible only by the continued use of brutal force. This tragedy must be averted. It can be averted by a clear-cut decision. It cannot be averted if there are further delays, half solutions or paper formulas.

#### CONSIDERATIONS WHICH COMPEL AN IMMEDIATE DECISION

5. <u>SITUATION IN EUROPE</u>. Of the six million Jews inhabiting the European continent (outside Russia) in 1939, nearly five million are estimated to have neen massacred under the Nazis. For most of the survivors, deprived of their belongings and of their livelihood, continued existence in an atmosphere poisoned by anti-Semitism and by the recollection of the horrors they have endured, is intolerable. Europe has become the graveyard of their families, of their fellow Jews and of their hopes. Economically and as a group they have lost the basis of existence. The bitter and potent residue of anti-Semitism left by the Nazis in most European countries may well be used as an instrument in the resurgence of aggressive nationalism. Jews will not be able to recover their economic position and what they do recover by way of jobs or property can only be secured over the bitter opposition of the present holders.

In these conditions, to provide for the voluntary emigration of the greater part of the Jews of Europe corresponds not only with their needs and desires but would be a genuine contribution to the stabilization of Europe. It is certain also that the countries of the Western Hemisphere will not today readily receive large numbers of emigrants. Palestine alone, therefore, offers the European Jews the prospect of a fresh start among their own people and of a dignified and constructive existence.

6. <u>ORIENTAL JEWRY</u>. In addition to the problem of the Jews of Europe, there is that of the Jews of the Moslem countries of North Africa and the Middle East. Approximately a million in number, they live under conditions of increasing xenophobia and religious intolerance, such as may lead at any time (as in the case of the Baghdad pogrom of 1941) to acute persecution. For them, too, emigration to Palestine is the obvious and indeed the only rational solution and should be undertaken without delay.

7. PALESTINE READY TO RECEIVE FIRST MILLION JEWS. During the past two years the Jewish Agency has been working out plans for the speedy transfer of the first million Jews and their settlement in Palestine in the shortest possible time. The area of Western Palestine is somewhat more than six and a half million acres. The 600,000 Jews of Palestine are settled on about 400,000 acres -- about 6% of this area. The Arabs occupy another 1,750,000 acres. The remaining four and a half million acres of Palestine are entirely unoccupied and officially regarded as uncultivable. In fact, however, most of the present flourishing Jewish settlements are located on land which was originally considered "uncultivable" and the Jews are willing and able, on the basis of experience of the last 65 years in Palestine, to settle most of this waste land. Experts of the Jewish Agency, corroborated recently by two great American irrigation specialists, Mr. J. L. Savage and Mr. J. B. Hays, maintain that at least a million acres can be put under irrigation. At present less than onetenth of this is irrigated. Hundreds of thousands of new settlers could find a livelihood on the land and, as Jewish experience in Palestine has shown, for each family on the land at least four families can be settled in industrial, commercial, maritime and other pursuits.

But in order to enable all the Jews who need and want to go to Palestine to settle there in the shortest possible time, a clear-cut decision is now necessary that Palestine is to be established as a Jewish State and that the Jewish Agency for Palestine, internationally recognized under the Mandate as the representative of the Jewish people, be vested with all necessary powers to control immigration into Palestine and to build up the country.

8. <u>ARAB OPPOSITION</u>. The main obstacle to the carrying out of this program is said to be Arab opposition. While the Arabs are not expected to give their consent in advance to a Jewish State, once a clear-cut decision by the Great Powers will be reached and announced, it will be accepted as an accomplished fact, as it was at the time of the Balfour Declaration. All the promises made to the Arab peoples at the end of the last war have been fulfilled in their entirety. As a result of Allied victory the Arab countries, stretching over a vast territory, have gained their independence. Only the pledge made to the Jewish people, and endorsed by 52 nations of the world including the United States, still remains unredeemed.

It is sometimes suggested that this pledge to the Jewish people can be fulfilled only at the cost of bloodshed on the part of an aroused Arab world. The fact is, however, that there was never a time when the Arabs were so dependent on the Great Powers nor when the latter's prestige and authority were greater than they are today. Certainly as long as there is hope by agitation and threats of violence to influence the decision, the Arab leaders will continue to employ these tactics. No Arab leader will talk in terms of cooperation if there is hope that the White Paper may still be implemented. Let there once be a clear and unequivocal decision, however, by the Great Powers acting in concert and followed immediately by determined action and the whole Arab "bogey" will be found to be the myth it is.

As regard the actual military force at the disposal of the Arabs, it should be remembered that at a most critical moment in the war the revolt, with Axis aid, of the Iraqi army under Prime Minister Rashid El Gailani was suppressed by only two Battalions of British troops!

It is hardly to be doubted that granted the determination of the Great Powers and their readiness to use force if necessary, the need for its actual employment in implementing a just decision in Palestine will, apart from some minor and sporadic outbreaks, not arise.

9. THE TIME ELEMENT. The vital element is that of time. The world situation today is fluid. The Great Powers are now in a position to carry out major changes which later may be difficult. Already indeed opportunities have been lost. During the concluding months of 1944, when the danger to the Middle East was long past and the downfall of Germany a fact, the Arab countries were anxious to be admitted to the United Nations. Although they had played a minimal part in the war effort and in many instances acted detrimentally to the cause of the United Nations, they were admitted to membership. At that time an announcement that, prior to the admission of the Arab countries to the ranks of the Allies, the unsettled Palestine problem must be solved by opening the country to unrestricted Jewish immigration and by its transformation into a Jewish State, would have encountered a minimum of opposition. The Great Powers are still in the position, within the framework of a general settlement, to offer to the Arab world by way of a guid pro quo generous political and economic advantages. The Arab lands of the Middle East are for the most part undeveloped and underpopulated. They offer scope for Arab development and civilizing endeavor for a century to come. But assistance to this end must be predicated on the establishment of a firmly rooted Jewish nation in Palestine.

10. <u>A JOINT BRITISH-AMERICAN RESPONSIBILITY</u>. The fate of Palestine is now largely in the hands of the British and American governments. There is reason to believe that if they decide to fulfill the pledge given to the Jewish people their decision will be accepted also by the Soviet Union. Our government has always maintained that as one of the Principal Allied and Associated Powers of the last war, it has a right to participate in the disposition of territories taken away from the Ottoman Empire. At the end of the last war, it exercised that right in favor of creating the Jewish National Home under the terms of the Palestine Mandate. The future of that Mandate is shortly to be determined. Our Government will again be called upon to exercise its right in determining what disposition should be made of it. The American people have made it indubitably clear that they favor redeeming the pledge made to the Jewish people, which calls for the establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth, in which all the inhabitants shall enjoy equal civic, religious and cultural rights, and all opportunities for economic advancement. The failure to exercise our right in favor of this objective will constitute a gross betrayal of the principles of international law and good faith at a time when it is more than ever necessary that these be confirmed and strengthened. It is inconceivable that our government will be prepared to place itself in any such position.

Based upon the considerations set forth above, it is submitted that our government should take immediate action to right a great historic wrong and put an end at long last to the homelessness of the Jews as a people.

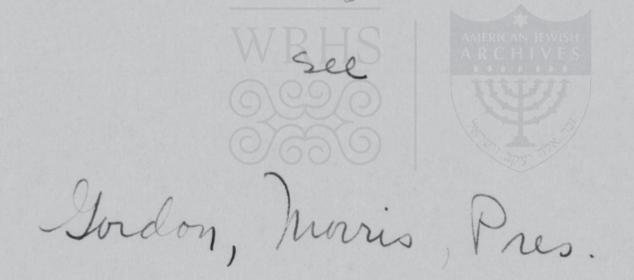
It is therefore most respectfully urged

- that an immediate decision be announced to establish Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth, and
- (2) that the Jewish Agency for Palestine be vested with all necessary authority to bring to Palestine as many Jews as need and wish to settle there, and given such financial, technical and other aid as will help the development of the country to its maximum capacity.

July 3, 1945.

7-3-45

Milwaukee Zionist Datuet



Telegrams: London. Hauspenza Helbeck 4422. Telephone: Welbeck 4422. Michael House, 82. Baker Street, London, W. 1. From Sir Simon Marks

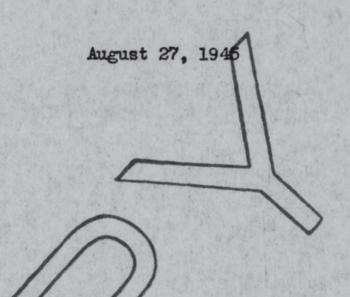
3rd August, 1945.

Dear Dr. Silver,

I am having a few friends to dinner on Tuesday evening, the 7th August and I would be glad if you will join us at 8.0.p.m. on that day.

Looking forward to seeing you,

Yours sincerely, Hacks



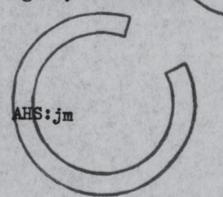
Mr. Leo A. Matz Israel Matz Foundation 423 Atlantic Avenue Brooklyn, New York

My dear Mr. Matz:

Mr. Emanuel Newmann has informed me that the Board of Trustees of your Israel Matz Foundation at its last meeting decided to renew for another year the subsidy to Mrs. D. Ginzburg.

I am sure that this is a gneat act of kindness and I want to thank you for your ready response.

With all good wishes for a very happy New Year and hoping that I may have the pleasure of seeing you soon again, I remain



Most cordially yours,

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

September 13, 1945

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver The Temple Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

After Harry Shapiro notified me that Mr. Seltzer had informed you that Roy Howard will be glad to meet with you, I phoned Mr. Howard's office to arrange for an appointment. Mr. Howard was out of town but his secretary spoke with him on the long distance telephone later in the day. He expects to be away from New York on Wednesday but promised to let us know if there will be any changes in his plans which will keep him in town. If you don't get together next week, his secretary suggests that I get in touch with Mr. Howard a few days in advance of your next trip to New York.

Attorney General Goldstein phoned me today and informed me that he is anxious to meet with you, adding that he has been acting on a request you made of him. I told him that I would try to arrange an appointment for Wednesday when you are scheduled to be here.

Mr. Goldstein also informed me that he has accepted the Chairmanship of the Metropolitan Zionist Fund and indicated that he would welcome a congratulatory note from you. He would also like to receive a message from you to be read at the reception which the Metropolitan Zionist Fund is giving in his honor on September 20. Please let me know if you want me to take action on these items.

With kind regards, I am

Cordially yours,

Harold P. Manson

HPM:RB

Mr. Harold P. Manson American Zionist Emergency Council 342 Madison Avenue New York 17, N.Y.

My dear Manson:

Thank you for your letter of September 13. I have written to Attorney General Goldstein.

Would you make a note to have a congratulatory telegram sent to him on the occasion of the reception being tendered to him on September 20th?

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS: BK

September 15, 1945

AZEC M 1945-6

Mr. Harold P. Manson 5 Prospect Place New York 17, N.Y.

My dear Manson:

There is something very fishyabout the Gillette release. He called on the President on Monday. We had a report in our office on Tuesday. The release was not given to thepress until <u>Thursday</u>. Why the delay? And why was the release given only to the Yiddish press? It was not even sent, according to Smolar, to the JTA.

Clearly the President gave the information about his letter to Attlee to Gillette in the same way as he had given it to some other people -- David Stern of Philadelphia, for example, and Mr. Harrison -without any intention of having the information made public. My impression is that Gillette subsequently, at the suggestion of Bergson, asked the White House wh ther he could pass on the word to the Jews, or to some Jews. Leo reports that the White House felt indignant at the wide publicity given to the matter, with the suggestion that Gillette had "blabbed."

The Bergson boys scored a publicity scoop which I hope will not prove detrimental to the Zionist cause in the white House. Our Yiddish writers ought clearly to understand what took place, and they should not give the impression that the Bergson boys were responsible for the President sending the letter, (with which of course they had absolutely nothing to do,) or that the President had selected that organization through which to make this important announcement.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS: BK



AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL 342 Madison Avenue New York 17, M.Y.

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

September 20, 1945

Honorable Brian McMahon United States Senate Chamber Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator:

I want to thank you for your reply to my note about Senator Bilbo. I understand and appreciate your position.

I was delighted to learn that you had taken a hand in calling together the Democratic Senators for a consideration of the problems of Zionism. Would it trouble you very much to have your secretary send me a copy of the invitation that was issued, which I understand was an invitation to the members of the Senate to meet in honor of Dr. Silver.

Faithfully yours,

STEPHEN S. WISE

SSW:fe

Please reply to my study, 40 West 68th Street.

Magrachi 45-46

LIONEL GOLUB COUNSELOR AT LAW 261 BROADWAY NEW YORK 7, N. Y. BARCLAY 7-6469

MOLLIE F. FEIT

September 20th, 1945.

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

My dear Dr. Silver :-

Throughout the trying days of divisions within the ranks of the Zionist Emergency, we of Mizrachi supported your position of aggressive and positive Zionism. Indeed we welcomed the final outcome of the unfortunate controversy and, under your reaffirmed leadership, anticipate in the coming year substantial and heartening results in the recognition of Palestine as the established Jewish homeland as a free and democratic Jewish commonwealth.

As President of an outstanding Mizrachi organization, the Flatbush Mizrachi, it has for long been my keen desire to have you deliver one of your inspired and inspiring addresses which would activate, as well as electrify, the entire movement.

With the members of my executive committee I have considered this proposal which has evoked an enthusiastic response. We are prepared to spare no effort to make your visit to the Flatbush Mizrachi a memorable and outstanding event.

Of course I realize that your eloquence is constantly in demand but the conviction is so deep within me that your presence in Flatbush would be productive of substantial good for the cause of Eretz Yisroel that I earnestly request you to find a place on your calendar in January or February when you can address my organization. Of course this meeting will be open to the general public and I know that no matter how large the place may be, it will be insufficient to hold the vast audience that will eagerly seek to find a place to hear you.

Permit me to extend to you and yours sincere wishes for a year of health and happiness, a year LIONEL GOLUB COUNSELOR AT LAW 261 BROADWAY NEW YORK 7, N. Y. BARCLAY 7-6469

MOLLIE F. FEIT

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, -2- September 20th, 1945.

which I trust will find the crowning of your long years of arduous and eloquent efforts in the cause of our people.

Kery sincerely yours, Mond

LIONEL GOLUB

LG:MI





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

### COPY

DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER CARE AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL 342 MADISON AV NYK FOR VICTORY BUY WAR BONDS TODAY

RECEIVED YOUR TELEGRAM. WILL BE GLAD TO COMPLY WITH THE COMMITTEES REQUEST TO PRESIDE. REGARDS.

HENRY MONSKY

copied 9/28/45:MH

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

9-27-45

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

Mr. Henry Monsky Omaha National Bank Bldg. Omaha, Nebraska

OUR MEETING SUNDAY AFTERNOON PROMISES TO BE EXTRAORDINARILY EFFECTIVE AS A PUBLIC DEMONSTRATION. TO GIVE IT ALL ROUND CHARACTER DR. WISE AND I AS WELL AS ENTIRE ARRANGEMENT COMMITTEE EAGER TO HAVE YOU PRESIDE AT MEETING. WILL WIRE DETAILS OF PROGRAM BY TOMORROW. PLEASE WIRE KINDEST REGARDS.

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

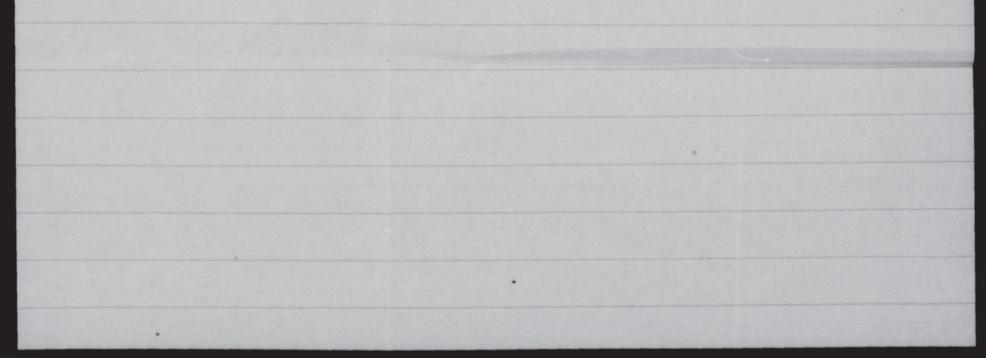
Oct. 4th 1945

Dear Rabbi Silver: Believe me, the writer of this letter has been one of your consident adminers and Clampions. I have always regarded you as one of the few really inspiring draton who is also an intellectual. Stoust therefore that you will not cousile me presumptuous for coming to you for aid in a maller which is causing my sensitive makeupmuch hurt. Inefer to the present ag reserve campaign of the firment Organization. Truly Canhadly believe that a man of your type I with your sense of decencelfhas not thought about it. Soit necessary for the 2. O. to use men of the Fascist polations a camp - my reference is to to Taft Brewster land Joluson of Colorado and if my menorfserves me correctly, even Wr. Gillette who is of a much higher

type flanding of the three previous mentioned. Ationica Tothe best of my recollection these men were in the same campaud school no zionist can truthefulle dency that had the anti Lend Lease, and anti selective service Law Campaign of the notten anti-social isolationists prevailed - Hiller would to - day be the rules of a Nazi dominated world add no gos would be alive except those who were of direct and indirect service to the Cause of reaction: if sokolsky alaviddawrence and the low frincipled positutes Aquish blood whow ork for Hearet abere alived allowed to live - they would no doubt be sterilized. Congressmans Cellars action in Cabling Saudhiaced "maning" if leavering can be of below furthering redia's freedom cause, compares inite the twistmy of the lions tail with the vicious and low fractice of the

holy Irish Catholics. It isut decent for any quo to feel unfriendly to England - England for more than ayear, alone, Nazi hordes. Stisandlementary observation to recall that had the flight of the for would have ben teminated. Somember afterdunkergne, lookingatring Children aded regrelling that were they were begotten listetlie rotten world. written so much Skuowliber busy you are lowever if you can state moment and reasonwith me Slbe grateful - I feelbitter en ough to renormice all ties with all organized wish activity. With expressions of respect and chination to the man who went to the late Louis marshall I regard as the leader of liverican - Jury Inernain Vergemestly Max Manuheimer Kuckerbotker Hotel 551 So. Fremont 2.G. Cal.

P.S. and correct inny menorythat prior to lear Harbor, Hamilton Tish was usually the guest speaker at Zionist dimes in hew Jork City.



October 8, 1945

Mr. Lionel Golub 261 Broadway New York 7, N.Y.

My dear Friend:

Please pardon the long delay in answering your kind letter. I have been away from the city most of the time.

I wish I were free to avail myself of your kind invitation. It would have given me great pleasure indeed. But you must know how heavily burdened I am with Zionist responsibilities and activities and how difficult it would be for me to take on any additional lecture engagements. As it is, I am away from Cleveland three and four days a week. I must devote my time to those urgent Zionist tasks which are pressing more heavily upon all of us.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS: BK



## THE DORCHESTER HOTEL LONDON

10.8.45.

## Dear Dr. Silver,

Dr. Weizmann will be coming over about 12 midday, and wonders whether you could arrange to slip out of the meeting for a chat with him between 12 and 1 ? He would very much like to have a talk with you, and fears this may be his last opportunity.

Yours sincerely,

AH Chay

Mr. Max Mannheimer Knickerbocker Hotel 551 So. Fremont Los Angeles, California

My dear Mr. Mannheimer:

Permit me to acknowledge the receipt of your kind letter of October 4.

The Zionist movement is non-partisan. It has supporters in both political parties in the United States. There are liberals and conservatives who have endorsed our work. There are both liberals and conservatives who are fighting us. Both political parties, you may recall, in 1944 included pro-Palestine planks in their platforms. The Zionist movement, as such, does not take sides in economic or political matters which belong to the American scene. It is concerned with the upbuilding of Palestine as a Jewish State.

The Zionist movement is not fighting Great Britain. It is fighting a wrong policy which many British statesmen themselves had declared to be illegal and a clear breach of faith. The Tory Government has backed this universally condemned policy and now, unfortunately, it seems that the Labor Government is inclined to continue it. We must do our utmost to persuade the British Government to abrogate the White Paper and to fulfill those obligations which it voluntarily assumed when it took over the Mandate over Palestine.

Very cordially yours,

AHS: EX

10-16-45 Mauhattan Region Pary, sir.

From: American Zionist Emergency Council 342 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y.

> Buckingham Apartments Scarsdale, N.Y. October 19, 1945

Hon. James Byrnes Secretary of State Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

I have read your statement concerning Palestine in this morning's Times. For the ordinary man on the street it is rather difficult to understand why you, Mr. Secretary, who is justly sensitive to violations of treaties and agreements - for instance, as in the case of alleged violations of the Yalta agreement by Russia - should be so indifferent to the violation of the convention of 1924 between the United States and Great Britain in the matter of Palestine.

In that convention Great Britain solemnly pledged itself not to make any changes in the provisions of the Palestine mandate without previous consultation of the government of the United States. It is a matter of public record that contrary to and in violation of this solemn undertaking, Great Britain issued the white paper on Palestine in 1939 which was adjudged by the Mandates Commission of the League of Nations to be illegal and unilateral, and has ever since then been condemned by the overwhelming public opinion of the civilized world.

It seems to this writer that the whole Palestine question is being bungled deliberately or unwittingly by the erroneous assumption that Great Britain is legally exercising authority over that much disputed piece of land in the middle East. The fact of the matter is that the Palestine mandate was issued on behalf of fifty-two nations and that Great Britain is only acting as a trustee on behalf of these fifty-two nations. Judging, however, from public statements of recent and of former days concerning Palestine, it would appear to the uninformed person that Palestine is just a British crown colony and that the civilized world has to stand hat in hand and beg her to permit the persecuted and hunted Jews of Europe to enter into what was promised them to be their own home land.

Sincerely yours.

Arthur Meyerowitz

COPY

From: American Zionist Emergency Council 342 Maaison Ave., New York, N.Y.

NEW YORK FEDERATION OF REFORM SYNAGOGUES

NEW YORK CITY

October 22, 1945

Dear Dr. Silver-

On one point I hope all Jews agree, namely, that this is the most critical period in Jewish history - therefore, this is no time to remain silent.

For a long time I was seeking an opportunity to speak to you about my dear friend Prof. Yahuda. I cannot understand why the few responsible Zionist leaders do not avail themselves of Yahuda's tremendous reservoir of Arabic-Jewish knowledge and statesmanship, to counteract the Arab propaganda in the U.S. and elsewhere - why not arrange regular broadcasts in Arabic to enlighten the Moslem peoples about Jewish-Arab relations?

When Yahuda addressed the famous University of El Azar in Cairo in classic Arabic, the professors literally carried Yahuda on their arms in admiration for his profound scholarly and linguistic accomplishments - there is the man best fitted for this occasion, yet is being ignored by so-called Zionist leaders, whose record of fifty years of activities is not unenviable one.

Have you ever read or even seen Yahuda's answer to the Arab Manifesto in St. Francisco - it is a masterpiece of scholar and statesmanship. Yahuda sent a long reply to Ibn Saud's letter to the New York Times, but I doubt whether the Times will print it.

Why not invite Prof. Yahuda to speak at the public meeting this Wednesday afternoon?

As ever cordially yours,

/s/ Arthur Meyerowitz

COPY

NF 10/26/45 Editor New York Herald Tribune 230 West 41st Street New York 18, N.Y.

### Dear Sir:

In this morning's issue of the Herald Tribune, you quote Congressman Wickersham as cautioning against American support of a Jewish commonwealth in Palestine because of Arabie opposition and principally because it might jeopardize American oil interests in Saudi Arabia and Iran. This is indeed an astonishing statment by a responsible member of Congress. What Mr. Wickersham suggests is that our government disregard definite commitments, both of a political and moral nature and that we forsake a small, helpless and most persecuted people on earth for the sake of safeguarding some oil profits, the extent of which cannot possibly be substantial enough as to be considered by a government which has just spent three hundred billion dollars on a war for democracy and world peace.

Assuming, however, that American economic interests should be considered in making political commitments, I respectfully submit that Great Britain is denying American business men forty percent of the total world population as actual and potential markets for American goods through the so-called sterling bloc. The sterling bloc includes all territories united in the British Commonwealth of Nations' Association and several others whom Britain has "induced" to join. Every member of the sterling bloc is committed not to buy a single dollar's worth of goods from the United States. During last night's Herald Tribune broadcast, it was stated by Merrill Lynch & Company that the scarcity of woolen goods in the United States is due to the fact that England has forbidden wool exports from Australia to the U.S.

We have furnished Britain with thirty billion dollars lend lease, she has never repaid the laans resulting from the First World War, we are about to "loan" her countless more billions to be "repaid" in thirty years, yet can Britain is very much worried and agitated about the few insignificant oil concessions in the Middle East. I would not be at all surprised that Britain looks with favor upon American support of Jewish rights and aspirations in Palestine while at the same time inciting the petty, medieval Arabic despots to use blackmail and intimidation against the United States. This is an old but none the less despicable method to get rid of competitors.

The conclusions and the morale of the above statements are obvious. Britain cannot rid herself of colonialism, even towards the United States. Why should she? The has trained us so well to do her bidding that she was most indignant against our President for having stopped so "abruptly" further lend lease to Britain after the termination of the war. Now, with more billions in sight, England's taxes have been drastically reduced while American tax payers have to supply the funds with which to finance Great Britain's difficulties, while she, Britain, is jealously trying to bar the United States from world markets which ultimately will prevent us from earning the 170 billion favorable trade balance which we are told, are necessary to provide work and jobs for our own, American population.

Very truly yours,

Buckingham Apts. Scarsdale, N.Y. Scarsdale 5541

Arthur Meyerowitz

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS Hadassah, Women's Zionist Organization of America Mizrachi Organization of America Poale Zion-Zeire Zion of America Zionist Organization of America 342 MADISON AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N. Y. MUrray Hill 2-1160

October 25,1945

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver The Temple Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Enclosed are clippings from today's press, reporting what transpired at our Open-Air Mass Demonstration last night. Needless to say, all of us here are gratified by the magnificent coverage given the meeting.

I am also enclosing a few samples of the advance publicity given the rally.

With kind regards, I am

Cordially yours,

Harold P. Manson Director of Information

HPM:BP Encs. COPY

October 29, 1945

The Hon. Charles W. Tobey Senate Office Bldg. Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator Tobey:

mendelsorten

In a statement which appeared in the New York Times of October 25th, it was reported that you would serve on a delegation to London which is being organized by the American League for a Free Palestine, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Guy M. Gillette.

We do not have the slightest doubt that you have the best intentions to help the Jewish people at this critical moment, and it is because we are so thoroughly convinced of that, that we take the liberty to advise you that a delegation which will act along the lines advocated by the American League, as represented in the above mentioned press statement, will do untold harm to the Jewish cause in Palestine.

In this statement Mr. Gillette explained that: "The difference between the aims of his organization - the American League for a Free Palestine - and the Zionist organization was that while the Zionists wanted Palestine to be an independent Jewish State, his organization wanted it to be an "independent democratic State" in which there would be no racial or religious discrimination and in which the majority would rule."

This distinction between a "Jewish State" and a "democratic State" is, to put it mildly, non-existent. Never did the Jews contemplate any other than a democratic state in Palestine, and this was also clearly provided for in the Mandate for Palestine, which is the international instrument for the implementation of the Jewish State plan. Paragraph 15 of the Mandate states:

"No discrimination of any kind shall be made between the inhabitants of Palestine on grounds of religion, race or language."

To imply, as does Mr. Gillette, that the Jewish State will practice "discrimination" while his "democratic state" will not, is a shocking misrepresentation of Zionist and Jewish aims concerning Palestine, and it has the same harmful effect as the baseless calumnies and falsifications of the kind advanced by Ibn Saud. When we Zionists speak of a Jewish State, we do not envision a nondemocratic state, but a democratic state where the Jews will form a <u>majority</u> of the population. The creation of this "majority" is the whole essence and purpose of Zionism. Without a Jewish majority in Palestine, our entire effort there is meaningless, since the tragedy of the Jews of the world is precisely that they are everywhere a minority, and nowhere a majority. Unless they become a majority in some one place, and that can be only in Palestine, they are docmed to everlasting homelessness and to the recurrence of the horrible tragedies which have so often and so cruelly befallen them since their dispersion.

Thus, we want the Jewish State to be Jewish in the same sense as the Polish State is Polish, that is, where the majority of the population are Poles. All the countries of the world, with the exception of the United States, have clear-cut ethnic majorities. It is only in this country that no ethnic element of the population comprises a majority, as against the rest of the population. The fact that this country is a conglomeration of minorities is largely responsible for the security and equality which all people enjoy here. In all other countries, the minorities, even where equal before the law, have to be safeguarded by some special protection. In fact, the rights of all minorities, with the exception of the Jews, are safeguarded by states - in most cases these are neighboring states - where their kith and kin form majorities.

I bring out this point just to indicate that to be a minority is not a tragedy. The tragedy begins only when a people is <u>everywhere</u> a minority; and that is the position of the Jews only; and that is the historic wrong which Zionism seeks to rectify.

The Arab minority in Palestine will not only be protected by the most democratic laws which will be enacted by the Jews who are innately democratic minded, but also by the fact that the Jews will have to accord the Arab minority fair treatment in consideration of the neighboring Arab States with which the Jews will have to live in peace and amity.

Therefore, the distinction made by Mr. Gillette and his group between a "Jewish State" and a "democratic State" is based on a gross misunderstanding. Mr. Gillette is undoubtedly trying to do his best to help the victims of European anti-Semitism, but he has been ill advised by people who are either poorly informed, or deliberately misrepresent the problem for purposes of their own.

I sincerely hope that the above explanation will suffice to clarify the issue. I know that under no circumstance will you agree to lend your hame to an activity based on a policy which will only confuse the public and place new and dangerous propaganda weapons in the hands of the enemies of the Jewish people.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Col, Morris J, Mendelsohn President

MJM:RR

Mr. Arthur Meyerowitz New York Federation of Reform Synagogues 3 E. 65th St. New York 21, N.Y.

My dear Friend:

Thank you for your kind letter of October 22. I have been in touch with Professor Yahuda and we have had the benefit of his valuable help from time to time. We are keeping in touch with him.

I trust that you are well, and hoping that I may have the pleasure of seeing you in the near future, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS: BK

The Hon. Joseph W. Martin, Jr. Congress of the United States Washington, D.C.

My dear Congressman Martin:

I read in the New York Times, on Monday, that you introduced the pro-Palestine Resolution in the House. I want to thank you for the initiative which you took and to express to you our profound appreciation for the consistent sympathetic and cooperative attitude which you have demonstrated in behalf of our cause all through these years.

The passage of this Palestine Resolution represents a piece of unfinished business which has been pending now for nearly two years. I trust that the Resolution will now be acted upon favorable. Such action would have great political value at this time in view of the pending negotiations and the impending visit of Prime Minister Attlee to Washington.

"ith all good wishes, and again thanking you for your valued support, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS: BK

Joseph W. Martin Jr. 14th Dist. Massachusetts

C O P Y

> OFFICE OF MINORITY LEADER House of Representatives Washington, D.C.

> > November 1, 1945

Rabbi Abba H. Silver American Zionist Emergency Council E. 105th St. at Ansel Road Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Thank you very much for your letter of October 31st. I was glad to introduce the bill and I believe we can pass it this time.

"ith kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Joseph W. Martin, Jr.

JWM:E

JOSEPH W. MARTIN, JR. 14TH DIST. MASSACHUSETTS

> Office of Minority Leader House of Representatives Washington, D. C.

> > November 1, 1945

Sincerely yours,

Agh w.

Rabbi Abba H. Silver American Zionist Emergency Council East 105th St. at Ansel Road Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Thank you very much for your letter of October 31st. I was glad to introduce the bill and I believe we can pass it this time.

With kind regards, I am,

JWM:E

# NEW YORK FEDERATION OF REFORM SYNAGOGUES

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3 EAST SIXTY-FIFTH STREET



**TELEPHONE REGENT 4-1741** 

#### NEW YORK CITY 21

November 2, 1945

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

Dear Friend:

I was very happy indeed to receive your gracious note of October 31.

For a long time I was wishing to have an appointment with you but hesitated to approach you because of the terrific burdens and responsibilities which are yours right now. I believe that it would be profitable if I had an opportunity to discuss with you some matters which are of vital interest to all of us, and also some personal matters. May I therefore respectfully suggest that if your time permits at your next visit to New York, to have your secretary telephone me when you will be able to see me.

Concerning Professor Yahuda, I saw him this week as I do see him at least once or twice a week regularly. He told me that the last letter he had from you was about five weeks ago. The situation in Palestine and in other Arab countries has become more critical even as I am dictating this letter. The Jewish communities - not so much in Palestine as in other Arab countries, such as Syria, Lebanon, Iraque and Tran - have moved definitely into the danger zone of becoming pogromized; in fact yesterday's riots in Cairo must have been very serious. It seems that a beautiful Synagogue, perhaps the most beautiful one in the Near East, on Faruk Street in Cairo has been burned. It is a true copy of the Hitler record.

I am therefore repeating the suggestion I made to you in my letter of October 22nd, namely that the Zionist Emergency Council establish - at any cost - a regular broadcast in Arabic to the Moslem world. Here is where Yahuda would excell since Arabic is a native tongue with him while he is not a great orator when it comes to languages which are not native to him. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver Cleveland, Ohio

November 2, 1945

Irrespective, of what other steps may be taken, the ultimate solution and peace in Palestine will have to depend on some sort of approachement between the Jews and the Arabs. This process of enlightening the Arab speaking world cannot be started too early.

I take the liberty of enclosing copy of a letter which I wrote to the New York Herald Tribune on October 25. While I have received a letter of thanks for it, they have not published it.

Last week on the University of the Air hour of the National Broadcasting Company this very same Congressman Wickersham made phantastic and misrepresenting statements concerning the role which the Arabs have played in the last war and again warned the American people to weigh their steps before making any commitments concerning Pa-lestine. I wrote to the leader of the University of the Air, Mr. Fisher, a very strong letter which culminated in a paragraph something like this: "Mr. Wickersham is either pitifully ignorant or he has been badly "bassed" by Arabian oil." This man Wickersham should be carefully watched. He is going about the country talking nonsense and spreading vicious pro-Arab and pro-British propaganda.

Looking forward to the pleasure of seeing you in the near future, and with most cordial greetings, I am

ARTHUR MEYER WITZ

Encl.

Mexican Zionist Enercency Council Joseph m Wekstein, President letter 11-6-45

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

My dear Mr. Manson:

I understand that Congressman Wickersham broadcast last week on the University of the Air Hour of the National Broadcasting Company a pro-Arab anti-Zionist address. I believe that we ought to ask time from the NBC University of the Air Hour to anxwer Congressman Wickersham. The proper answer should be given by a member of Congress who also visited the Near East and who is friendly to us. I wish that you would take this matter up at once.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

### The United States High Commissioner To The Philippine Islands

November 12, 1945

My dear Dr. Goldstein:

Thank you for thinking of me in connection with the annual convention of the National Zionist organization in Atlantic City on November 16. It is gratifying to know that you are interested in hearing my views on the stirring crusade for justice which you and your associates have worked so hard to advance through these difficult times.

This year, however, I cannot supply a formal statement for your organization. Last year and in the years preceding I was able to speak as a citizen, and to make known my sympathies with the plight of the unfortunate victims of prejudice and persecution. As you know, I now hold a semidiplomatic post in the government. I cannot now speak without involving the government of the United States and its policy. I am in no position to define that policy.

You know, however, what my thoughts and feelings are in the matter. They have not changed at all. I wish you and your courageous associates every success in your present undertakings.

With every good wish, I remain

Sincerely yours,

(signed)

Paul V. McNutt United States High Commissioner

Dr. Israel Goldstein President Zionist Organization of America 1720 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D. C.



#### EXTRA= FV NEWYORK NY 19 623P NA357 8

#### DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

ZIONIST CONVENTION HOTEL BREAKER ATLCTY=

SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS YOUR ELECTION PRESIDENT ZOA= OUR MORRIS J MENDELSOHN PRESIDENT NEW ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA.

November 21, 1945

Colonel Morris J. Mendelsohn, President The New Zionist Organization of America 55 West 42nd St. New York, N.Y.

My dear Colonel Mendelsohn:

Thank you so much for your kind telegram of congratulations on my election to the Presidency of the Zionist Organization of America. I appreciate very much your thoughtfulness in writing to me.

I am leaving in a few days for Palestine to attend the emergency meeting of the World Zionist Executive. I hope that we may be guided into a wise course of action dictated by the events of recent days. Please convey my best mishes to the officers and members of your organization.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS: BK

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

12-18-45



The Hon. James E. Murray 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 A SSISTANCE WHICH YOU PERSONALLY RENDERED TO THIS CAUSE AND THESYMPATHETIC UNDERSTANDING WHICH YOU MANIFESTED AT ALL TIMES. OUR PEOPLE ARE PROFOUNDLY GRATEFUL.

ABBA HILLEL SILVER



The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination N BM 198 37 2 EXTRA VIA NOH (MVD FM 41 E 42)= MEXICOCITY VIA RABBI ABBA ILLEL SILVER= MEXTEL 23 954A

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A.QV. 24

ANSWERED

The Honorable Joseph ". Martin, Jr. U. S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C.

My dear Congressman Martin:

May I tell you how gratified I am with the action of the House in passing the Palestine Resolution, and how grateful I am, and our entire movement, for the great help which you rendered.

During the past two years when the Palestine resolutions were before Congress, you have been an unfailing source of sympathy and strength to us. Time and again I turned to you for counsel and assistance. Your interest in our movement covers a period of many years, and I am sure that the action of Congress this week has brought you a measure of deep satisfaction.

With all good wishes, and hoping that I may have the pleasure of seeing you in the near future, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

The Honorable John ". McCormack U. S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C.

My dear Congressman McCormack:

May I express to you my profound gratitude for the help which you gave us in the passage of the Palestine Resolution. I have just returned from Palestine, and was greeted by the very gratifying action of both the Senate and the House. I know that your unfailing sympathy and support during the past two years contributed materially to the final outcome.

I hope that I shall have the opportunity before very long of extending personally to you the thanks of our people.

With all good wishes. I remain

Most cordially yours.

AHS: BK

Office of Minority Leader House of Representatives Washington, D. C.

December 26, 1945

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Congressman Martin is in Massachusetts during the Christmas recess but your letter of the 21st will be brought to his attention upon his return to Washington. I am sure he will appreciate your thoughtfulness in writing him.

> Very truly yours, E. Q. Gaidley Clerk to Minority

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# WRHS 0,990 0690

### BY INVITATION

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Mrs. Judith Epstein - PRESIDENT HASASSAH 1819 Broadway New York 23, N. Y.

Mrs. Rose Halprin c/o Hasassah 1819 Broadway New York City

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

Mr. Harry Shapiro American Zionist Emergency Council 41 E. 42nd St. New York 17, N. Y.

Dr. Simon Bernstein Palestine Bureau 41 E. 42nd St. New York 17, N. Y.

Dr. Ludwig Lewisohn 57 Montgomery Place Brooklyn, 15, N. Y.

### Office of the Majority Leader House of Representatives U. S. Mashington, D. C.

January 12, 1946

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver American Zionist Emergency Council East 105th Street at Ansel Road Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I am in receipt of your recent letter which I appreciate very much. I assure you it was a pleasure for me to have been able to be of assistance in having the Palestine Resolution adopted by the House of Representatives. It is such a humane and appealing cause.

As I have repeatedly said - it is legislation for humanity.

Majority Leader

ABRAHAM MELTZER

MARTIN GOERTZEL

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345 SEVENTH AVENUE NEW YORK CITY

January 15,1946.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, President Zionist Organization of America 1720-16th Street, N. W. Washington, D.C.

Dear Rabbi:

Thank you very much for your letter of congratulations and best wishes.

It certainly is very inspiring to know that you have taken the time to give this your personal attention.

On my part, I shall do everything I possibly can to further the Cause of Zion and arise our entire community to the purposes and goals of the Zionist aspirations.

With Zion's greetings, I remain,

Sincerely yours, Abraham Metty

Abraham Meltzer, Fresident, Spring Valley Zionist Dist.

AM:D

January 16, 1946

Mr. Harold Manson American Zionist Emergency Council 342 Madison Ave. New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Manson:

I am enclosing herewith for the files of the American Emergency Committee a letter from Judge Rothenberg, President of the Jewish National Fund, enclosing the resolutions which were adopted at the JNF Conference in Pittsburgh on January 6 with reference to nonparticipation in the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry.

I hope that you are following up with Elisha Friedman the matter of the publicity letters which we would like to send broadcast, principally to Mon-Zionists in the United States. Please let me have his reactions.

If Frank is going overseas, please tell him to send me as often as possible his account and impressions of the hearings. Have him send them to me by air mail. From time to time a cable would be welcome.

With all good wishes, I remain,

Most cordially yours,

AHS: GR Enc.

January 18, 1946

Mr. Harold Manson American Zionist Energency Council 342 Madison Avenue New York 17, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Manson:

I am enclosing herewith a letter from Rabbi Feuer, which further elaborates on the subject of the series of leaflets which we discussed.

I also discussed the matter with Rabbi Lelyveld who was in my study this morning. The Committee on Unity would be eager to cooperate in this project.

With all good wishes, I remain,

Most cordially yours,

AHS: GR Enc. January 22, 1946

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

My dear Manson:

I am sorry that I did not get to talk to you yesterday. I was in session with the Agency Committee until almost six o'clock. I will be in touch with you during the week.

In the meantime, I should like to have you do me a favor. It is impossible to send cables from Cleveland on account of the strike. I would appreciate it if you would send the enclosed cable to Jerusalem.

With best wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

P.S. You might find our from the Cable Company whether they would accept a pre-paid cable from Jerusalem to me.

## AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

### Constituent Organizations

Hadassah, Women's Zionist Organization of America Mizrachi Organization of America Poale Zion-Zeire Zion of America Zionist Organization of America 342 MADISON AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N. Y. MUrray Hill 2-1160

January 23, 1946

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver The Temple Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Since our telephone conversation of last night, I have learned that a more detailed budget, as requested by Eliezer Kaplan, simply does not exist. I have so informed the Agency office.

I am enclosing copy of a cable to you from the Zionist Executive.

With kind regards, I am

Cordially yours,

Harold P. Manson Director of Information

HPM:BP Enc.

January 24, 1946

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

My dear Harold:

I am enclosing herewith the correspondence of Mrs. Frank Cohen. This headache has been going on for sometime now and we might as well put an end to it.

Please have three copies of the Esco Foundation Palestine Study turned over to Mrs. Frank Cohen. Please telephone Mrs. Frank Cohen and ask her where she wants these copies delivered.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS: GR Enc. AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL 342 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

### MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date January 25, 1946

From Harold P. Manson

The following news is was relayed to me over the phone today by Eliahu Epstein:

The daily report of Foreign Radio Broadcasts, issued by the War Department, contains this interesting item transcribed from a Voice of Israel broadcast in Palestine on January 21st:

> "Indian troops stationed near Mezra in Palestine demanded not to be sent into action against the Jews."

I released this information to newspaper people who are interested in such an angle, and expect that it will receive some coverage.

HPM:BP

January 27, 1946

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

My dear Mr. Manson:

I am enclosing herewith a draft of a memorandum which we may submit to the Secretary of State. The matter should be placed on the agenda of the next meeting of the Emergency Council. In the meantime, I would suggest that you show a copy of this memorandum to Dr. Wise.

I assume that the telegram on Transjordan was sent to the President. Would you please send me a copy of it?

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS: GR Enc.

### **AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

### Constituent Organizations

Hadassah, Women's Zionist Organization of America Mizrachi Organization of America Poale Zion-Zeire Zion of America Zionist Organization of America 342 MADISON AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N. Y. MUrray Hill 2-1160

January 28,1946

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver The Temple Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

A copy of Akzin's memorandum on Trans-Jordan has been sent to Dr. Wise, as you suggested, and I shall place the matter on the agenda of our next meeting.

The telegram to the President was sent on Friday, and appeared in the week-end press. A copy of the press release is enclosed.

With kind regards, I am

Cordially yours,

Harold P. Manson Director of Information

HPM:BP Enc. DR. SILVER CONDEMNS REINSTATEMENT OF GEN. MORGAN AS "LAMENTABLE ACT OF WHITEWASHING"

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Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, of Cleveland, asked to comment on the reinstatement of Lieutenant General Sir Frederick E. Morgan as Chief of Operations in Germany for UNRRA, today made the following statement:

"The action of Mr. Herbert H. Lehman in restoring Lt. General Morgan to his post as Chief of Operations in Germany for UNRRA is a lamentable act of whitewashing of a British official whose own words condemned him as hopelessly unfit to occupy any office where truth and humanity are primary requisites.

"Why Mr. Lehman reversed the action previously taken by UNRRA remains a mystery. Certainly Morgan's disingenuous letter of explanation could not have caused the change of heart. Morgan does not deny that he uttered those unconscionable and irresponsible statements which accused Jewish refugees, the survivors of Nazi horror, moving out of Poland in order to find greater security elsewhere, of being agents in some secret plot of world Jewry, and that in them 'we have the seeds of World War III.' No man who occupies a key post in dealing with refugees and who harbors such views should be permitted to stay on in that position. Of course Mr. Morgan is no anti-Semite. They never are. They just voice outrageous anti-Semitic charges and innuendoes.

"Mr. Morgan lent himself to a British political maneuver to discredit the insistent and desperate clamor of the Jews of Europe to be permitted to go to Palestine. He proved himself a loyal servant to the interests of British imperialism. But he also established himself as a disloyal servant to a non-politcal, non-partisan humanitarian post which he occupied and to which he is now regrettably returning.

(more)

"It is sad that Jews occupying high positions like Mr. Lehman so often lean so far back when vital decisions affecting the defense and the dignity of their own people are involved.

"The manner in which a few Jewish relief representatives abroad rushed to the defense of Mr. Morgan and the manner in which certain Jewish leaders in the United States are said to have been persuaded that the case of Mr. Morgan should be closed, have also their interesting, psychological angles.

"Until we learn to act normally as a self-respecting people and not to pocket gratutious insults and affronts hurled at our people, we shall be spat upon time and again."



1/31/46

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COPY

RADIO REPORTS, INC.

MANUSCRIPT SERVICE

January 31, 1946

#### SPECIAL FOR AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

#### JEWS SHOULD APOLOGIZE TO MORGAN

Robert Hurleigh at 8:30 A.M. over WGN (Chicago):

"We know now that UNRRA has completely reversed itself on the once projected ouster Lieutenant General Sir Fredrick Morgan as UNRRA chief in Germany. The ouster which was supposed to be made because of remarks he made about the movement of Jews from Poland into the United States occupation zone of Germany. Instead of being fired, the British officer was formally reinstated in his post and given a public vote of confidence by Herbert Lehman, Director General of UNRRA and Lehman's action is in sharp contrast with the position taken on January fourth when public announcement was made that UNRRA obliged to call for his resignation because of his assertion that a secret Jewish organization waspromoting a mass exodus of Polish Jews from their homeland.

"Morgan touched off this heated tempest, you'll recall, at a news conference January second, when he said he was satisfied the influx of Jews into the United States zone, was part of a well organized positive plan to get out of Europe. His remarks brought a storm of protests from Jewish organizations and individuals, and he was accused of anti-Semitism. However, Mr. Lehman announced yesterday that Morgan was to be reinstated, and voiced his confidence in the general's ability and religious impartiality. Herein, Mr. Lehman indicates a tolerance and a broadness which demands respects. Simultaneous - with Lehman's announcement it was disclosed that an American Army report issued in Germany on the flow of Polish Jews into the United States occupation zone frankly asserts that ZIONISTS groups within Foland are organizing, and are financing such movements. This intelligence report says the movements are proceeding over well established underground railway routes and that the ZICNISTS groups are established to prepare the migrant Jews for life in Palestine. This Army report was the basis of a story written by an Associated Press correspondent, in Badjoltz (?) Germany, and the correspondent, Mike Goldsmith, said that he had seen the report and that all the ZIONIST committees had this much in common - they all render assistance to the prospective infiltrees by giving them advice on what routes to follow, where to go, how to cross the border, and whom to see along the routes for further help. The report adds where necessary these groups provide material aid in the form of money and clothing. The report said the majority of the Jews making such trips were bent on reaching Palestine, but those infiltrating into the American zone firmly believe that if Palestine is inaccessible to them, a Jewish state will be established in Bavaria.

"At the same time Judge Simon W. Rifkin an advisor on Jewish affairs to General Joseph McNarney, says, it is not to say these people want to settle in Bavaria, except for perhaps a handful of German Jews of advanced years who may wish to return to their homes, the Jews do not want to live in Germany or any part of it. The Third Army report said the infiltrees arriving in this area at the worst, are adequately clothed, and seem to have been eating well enough not to be in no danger at all of malnutrition.

"Thus we see that the statement made by General Morgan, the statement that thousands of Jews were entering the United States zone from the east with plenty of money and a well organized positive plan to get out of Europe, and that a Jewish organization was behind the plan, we see that this statement was true, even though it was brought about -- has brought about protests from several Jewish organizations, and attacks on General Morgan from several well known Jewish people. The latter more vociferous and nasty than the organizations.

"The complaints lodged by the Jewish organizations could be rightly expected and understood; the personal attacks were such that it would be nice to see, now that General Morgan's statements have been substantiated, it would be nice to see and hear public apology for any statements made publicly.

"And in connection with the understandable fact that some Jewish people are trying to get out of Europe, the most appropriate answer might be, so what? So what does it mean, and until we do know exactly what this exodus means whether it is because of a desire to reach Palestine, or because of persecution which cannot be controlled by the Russian sponsored Government in Poland or by fascist minded Poles, until we know it would be best for us to hold our tempers, and temper our statements."

2/8/46-RW

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# 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

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

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February 1,1946

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver The Temple Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Will you be good enough to notify me a few days in advance of your next trip to New York, so that I may try to arrange the following appointments, (provided, of course, that they have your approval):

1. Wide World Photos would like to send a staff photographer to make new pictures on you for the Wide World Portrait Album Series, which is used by newspapers throughout the country.

2. It would be worthwhile if you could find the time to see both Henry Luce and Freda Kirchwey. Inasmuch as both of them schedule their appointments days in advance, please inform me on what days you think you will be free for such meetings.

With kind regards, I am

Cordially yours,

Harold P. Manson

Harold P. Manson Director of Information

HPM:BP

## AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

### Constituent Organizations

Hadassah, Women's Zionist Organization of America Mizrachi Organization of America Poale Zion-Zeire Zion of America Zionist Organization of America 342 MADISON AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N. Y. MUrray Hill 2-1160

February 6,1946

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver The Temple Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I suggested to Dr. Shwadran that he submit the copy of the Research Department's bulletin to you for your approval, and I presume that he has done so.

I read the piece hurriedly and believe that, all in all, it is a good job though rather long in spots. I felt, too, that the style could have been a bit more sprightly. However, these deficiencies can be eliminated in forthcoming issues.

Miss Schwartz seems to feel that this entire project covers the same ground as our monthly magazine, "Palestine." She urges that you consider this matter. For myself, I believe that there is room for two monthly publications, especially if the Research Department's bulletin takes on a more journalistic character.

With kind regards, I am

Cordially.

Harold P. Man

Director of Information

HPM:BP

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2/7/46

Dear Dr. Silver:

You may be interested in the information contained in the attached letter.

Harold P. Manson

February 7, 1946

Mr. Eliahn Mostein The Jewish Agency for Palestine 2210 Massachusetts Ave., N. W. Maghington 3. D. C.

Dear Eliahat

...

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter to Dr. Silver regarding our release on Jamal Russeini. I. too. regret that your own information on Jamal was not available to us at the time that the statement was written.

You will recall, I think, that following the last meeting of the Executive Committee of the Council I asked you to send us a brief statement containing pertinent information about Jamal. You kindly agreed to cooperate in this. Inasmich as we had not received your comments and we felt that the release could not be delayed, we obtained our information from other sources and issued the statement which you have read.

We shall be only too glad to avail ourselves of your kind offer to assist us in such matters in the future.

With kind regards. I an

Sincerely yours.

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Harold P. Manson Director of Information

EPM: BP

February 8, 1946

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

My dear Mr. Manson:

The enclosed is a copy of a telegram which I sent today to Mrs. Abraham Revusky.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS: BK Enc.

#### Ernest E. Barbarash

### Harold Manson

ALSO -

Mr. William B. Ziff called me up today about the anti-Zionist leaflets and articles which are being distributed by a certain Henry Noble Hall. Mr. Ziff stated that this Mr. Hall who is a former New York newspaperman is now a professional British agent and that his leaflets are now in the hands of prominent people in Washington.

Mr. Ziff suggested that something be done to expose Mr. Hall. I told him I would refer the matter to the American Zionist Emergency Council.

Ziff told me that he on his own account is going to do everything possible to counteract Mr. Hall's activities.

Regards.

A. Silver

February 8, 1946

Mr. Robert Hurleigh Station WGN Chicago, Ill.

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Dear Mr. Eurleigh:

I hope you will allow me to make some comments on your broadcast of January 31, 1946, discussing the reinstatement of General Morgan as UMERA Chief in Germany.

After telling the story of General Morgan's dismissal by UMMRA and his subsequent reinstatement by Mr. Lehman, you say: "...Thus we see that the statement made by General Morgan, the statement that thousands of Jews were entering the United States zone from the east with plenty of money and a well organized positive plan to get out of Europe, and that a Jewish organization was behind the plan, we see that this statement was true, even though it was brought about -- has brought about protests from several Jewish organizations, and attacks on General Morgan from several well known Jewish people. The latter more vociferous and nasty than the organizations."

It seems to me that you completely misunderstood the Jewish protects against General Morgan's statement. Obviously, the Jews did not protect against the fact that some of the survivors of the Mitlerian terror in Europe were well fed, well clothed and still had money left in their pockets. Nor did they protect the well known fact that Zionist activity for many decades expressed itself in organization of Jewish emigration from Europe and other continents to Pelectime. Furthermore, it was pointed out in Jewish and Zionist statements of protect against General Morgan that the Jewe did not need to employ any clandestime measures in order to express their desire and determination to leave Europe and go to Felectime. That is a legitimate and inevitable desire, and their right to do so was internationally acknowledged.

The Jevish protects were directed mainly against the tone, language, timing and authorship of General Morgan's statement. From UMRRA's Chief of Operations in Germany, the Jews and everyone were entitled to expect sympathy, compassion and complete impartiality. General Horgan's statement displayed none of these characteristics. If he were an official of the

#### Mr. Robert Harleigh

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British Colonial Office bont on fighting the Zionist aspirations of the Jewish people, he could not be more outspoken. Such an attitude is hardly becoming for a high official of UNRUA, and the reinstatement of General Morgan by Mr. Lehman does not do away with the above guilt of General Morgan. Morgan's statement was an attempt, on behalf of the British Colonial Office, to belittle Jewish suffering in Europe, to deny the existence of violent anti-Semitism there, to make light of Jewish homelessness, and to present the Jewish urge for Falestime as an illicit conspiracy on behalf of a secret world Jewish organization.

- 2 -

Jewish organizations and Jewish individuals, of whose reactions to General Morgan's statement you speak so critically in the next passage of your broadcast, understood exactly the background and the intentions of the Norgan statement and reacted accordingly. Mr. Lehman could hand back to General Morgan his job, but he could not whitewash him of his original statement.

In the last passage of your broadcast, you treat the Jewish exodus from Europe as a mystery. Let me assure you that there is nothing mysterious about it. The jeve do not want to stay in the land of horrors, where they are unwanted and where they cannot possibly live in self respect. Her can any objective observer doubt the overwhelming desire of European Jewry to go to Falestine and nowhere else. Evidence to this effect was gathered time and sgain. The Jews in the DP camps, as well as those who tried to return to their prewar homes repeatedly declared that they was to go to Palestine. Barl G. Marrison, specially delegated to Europe by President Truman, confirmed this desire on the part of European Jewry. Judge Simon W. Rifkin, advisor on Jewish Affairs to General Joseph McMarney, stated the same. It is all legitimate and above board. Palestine was promised to the Jews. The Jews want to go to Palestine. Why make a mystery of it?

Sincerely yours,

EBH: RN

Eliehu Ben-Horin

February 12, 1946

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

My dear Mr. Manson:

You may be interested in seeing the enclosed advertisement which appeared in the Chicago papers of February 8.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS: GR Enc.

# AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

#### Constituent Organizations

Hadassah, Women's Zionist Organization of America Mizrachi Organization of America Poale Zion-Zeire Zion of America Zionist Organization of America 342 MADISON AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N. Y. MUrray Hill 2-1160

February 15,1946

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver The Temple Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

A matter of some importance was called to my attention today by Jacques Ferrand, a French newspaper correspondent who is active in various liberal organizations here. Mr. Ferrand, who wants to return a few favors that I have done for him, reports that the local French Language Press has been carrying a series of attacks on Zionism, and that these reflect a noticeable anti-Zionist trend in the press of France proper.

He believes that a series of interviews with prominent American Zionist spokesmen may prove helpful in undoing some of the damage that has already been done, and has offered to write a few such articles for transmission to France.

I believe this matter is important enough for you to take the time to meet with this gentleman during one of your forthcoming visits to New York.

With kind regards, I am

Cordially yours,

Harold P. Manson Director of Information

HPM:BP

cc: Eliahu Epstein



## BOSTON CITY COUNCIL COUNCIL CHAMBER CITY HALL

ISADORE H. Y. MUCHNICK

cop

February 19, 1946

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver Zionist Organization of America 1720 Sixteenth Street, N. W. Washington, D. C.

My dear Doctor Silver:

On January 30th last, Dr. Shlomo Bardin paid a visit to the Mattapan-Dorchester-Roxbury Zionist District, of which I have the honor to be President. He was the guest speaker at our "Youth for Zion" Meeting.

I would be remiss in my duty as President of the District if I did not inform you of the fine impression that Doctor Bardin made on the several hundred people who crowded the auditorium to listen to his message. His most inspiring and instructive talk gave us all renewed courage.

As you may know, our Zionist District has approximately two thousand (2000) members and the Youth Commission is one of the largest and most active in the country. I feel sure that Doctor Bardin's magnificent effort will result in increased devotion and work not only on the part of the Commission, but also on the part of our membership at large.

We in our District look forward to having Doctor Bardin join us again in the near future.

With renewed faith and with kind personal regards, I am

Respectfully yours,

IHYM:FM

Mr. Harold P. Manson American Zionist Emergency Council 342 Madison Avenue New York 17, N. Y.

My dear Harold:

What ever happened to that series of letters which we were to get up, a sample of which was to have been drafted by Mr. Elisha Friedman? Two, and what about the ad in reply to the Arab ad which appeared in the NEW YORK TIMES a few days ago? Please 'phone me about these matters.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:GR

HABANA, - Monumento a la voladura del Maine. Hotel Nacional Maine Explosion Memorial. National Hotel EDICION JORDI, AMARGURA 72, HABANA, A-0290 REPEBLICA DE C Dr. Abba Hillel Silver Vear Dr. silve The Temple eltoust that cleveland, Ohio appe well and the U.S.A. " warkin koined alt proving + isa't Kiey the most adost regards why holiday here. 1) roce man

Charge to the account of. CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED ESTERN CHECK 1206-DOMESTIC CABLE ORDINARY TELEGRAM URGENT DAY LETTER RATE ACCOUNTING INFORMATION DEFERRED SERIAL NIGHT OVERNIGHT LETTER SPECIAL SHIP TIME FILED Patrons should check class of servi desired: otherwise the message will J. C. WILLEVER transmitted as a telegram or A. N. WILLIAMS NEWCOME CARLTON FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT ordinary cablegram CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD PRESIDENT Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to WANT A REPLY? 3-25-46 "Answer by WESTERN UNION" or similar phrases may be Kablie & roing hulles Included without charge. 701 Balton Rd For Rock - away Leventhal should attend meeting you or Hadassah Bd. when subject of u descussed. you for Congress is Hadaesah such a request of the Tresident Kegards

April 3, 1946

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

My dear Mr. Manson:

The statement of principles which you gave me yesterday for the American Christian Palestine Committee is, in the main, satisfactory. I would make the following suggestions:

In the first paragraph, 4th line, the words "still-suffering" should be eliminated. For the words "Jewish homelessness" substitute "Jewish national homelessness."

In the second paragraph, 3rd line, omit the words "and human dignity." You refer to dignity in the last line of that paragraph. Omit also the words "in the lands of their origin" in the 5th line of that paragraph and add something like "for Jews who choose to remain or return to the lands of their birth wherever such rights had been denied to them."

In the last paragraph in the first sentence the words "of this Zionist goal" should be changed to read "of the Zionist goal." "This" refers to the Congressional Resolution passed in December 1945. That Resolution does not represent the full Zionist goal.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS: GR

COPY

April 3, 1946

Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, President Hadassah 1819 Broadway New York, N.Y.

My dear Mrs. Epstein:

At a meeting on March 19th the National Executive Committee of the Zionist Organization of America adopted a resolution urging Hadassah to join with the Zionist Organization of America in the sale of Shekolim and in a joint slate of delegates to the forthcoming Zionist Congress.

On March 24th committees representing our organizations met at the Hotel New Yorker at our invitation. In conveying to you the abovementioned resolution our committee urged upon yours its acceptance on the ground that since no ideological differences existed among us as General Zionists and in view of the pivotal role which General Zionist delegates will be called upon to play at the next Congress, a joint ZOA-Hadassah slate of delegates to the next Congress on a parity basis would serve the best interests of our common cause.

This remains our firm conviction. It is fortified all the more by the fact that the men and women of other Zionist groups are indeed united. Our memberships would find it difficult to understand why we alone among the Zionist organizations must conduct separate Shekel campaigns and be represented at the Congress by separate delegations.

We earnestly hope that you will reconsider your position and make it possible for us to unite in a common and heroic effort to mobilize American Jewry for our cause and to achieve victory for Zionism and the Yishuv.

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

Very sincerely yours,

Rabbi Irving Miller, Chairman Inner Committee

IM:dh

# AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

### Constituent Organizations

Hadassah, Women's Zionist Organization of America Mizrachi Organization of America Poale Zion-Zeire Zion of America Zionist Organization of America 342 MADISON AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N. Y. MUrray Hill 2-1160

April 4, 1946

SPECIAL DELIVERY

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

The enclosed copy of an article which appeared in last night's New York Journal American by Julian Meltzer will be of interest to you, I think.

While I am inclined to take Mr. Meltzer's predictions with a grain of salt, I think they are interesting as an indication of what some members of the Anglo-American Committee have been saying to key correspondents.

With kind regards, I am,

Cordially yours,

Harold P. Manson

Director of Information

HPM:EB enc.

#### FUTURE OF PALESTINE RESTS ON U.S.-BRITISH PROBER

Julian mellog

#### Fate of Millions Held at Stake

The problem of uneasy Palestine with its Jewish-Arab population is now under .study by a special Anglo-American commission of inquiry. Julian Meltzer, veteran correspondent in Jerusalem, surveys the issues, opposing forces and some possible solutions in a series of articles of which this is the first.

#### By Julian Meltzer

JERUSALEM, April 3 - The peace of Palestine tomorrow depends on the findings of a jury of 12 Americans and Britons today.

That jury is the fact-finding joint commission of inquiry into the Jewish and Palestine questions set up by the British and American governments.

Your correspondent has had the opportunity of discussing the problems with several members of the commission. It appears now that the commission has made up its mind that the Jewish displaced persons in Germany and Austria, and to some extent the Jews of Poland and other European countries, must leave.

They are surrounded by hostile populations in whom the virus of race hatred for the Jew has been implanted by Hitler's propaganda for 12 years before the downfall of Nazism.

The question facing the commission is a thorny one. It is: Where are these people to be placed? LOOK AT PALESTINE.

It is such a complex dilemma that the commission was unable to issue an interim report because, one of its spokesmen stated, the questions of the Jewish DPs' future and Palestine were closely interrelated.

Most of the Jews in Europe want to be among their own people where, as Dr. Chaim Weizman, Zionist leader, told the commission in Jerusalem:

"They could take part in the basic performance of national upbuilding, instead of being a peculiar people set among strange nations." From observation of the commission's inquiry it appears the commission will recommend the admission of half a million Jews into Palestine over the next ten or twelve years.

### SEEK A CONSTITUTION.

The question remains then of what form of constitution there is to be in Palestine.

There are three possibilities, and with each of these the commission will deal:

(1) - Trans-Jordan has become a separate independent state, detached from its joint League mandate with Palestine, under the Emir Abdullah.

The eastern or central part of western Palestine, running in a line south of the Sea of Galilee and including the Arab areas of Jenin, Tulkarm and Nablus, will be attached to Trans-Jordan under the rule of Abdullah (now in London negotiating for this).

That will give the Arabs an independent state and their security from the fear of alleged Jewish designs at political domination over them.

(2) - The rest of Palestine will be divided into autonomous areas or cantons, on the Swiss model, in which Arabs and Jews will have free national and cultural development and in which they can expand in accordance with their own economic capacities. These cantons will have a federal government at the center under British supervision.

(3) - A minority report will be submitted by R.H.S. Cressman, British M.P. and possibly Bartley Crum, U.S. member, with one or two others, on a Palestinian national state.

They will argue that the Arabs and Jews must live together as the Holy Land is too small to be carved up. There is, of course, always the fourth possibility that Palestine may continue under its present British administration.

Probably a compromise will be worked out: A zoned Palestine under international trusteeship, with provision for 500,000 more Jewish settlers and guarantees for unhindered Arab cultural development.



#### Dear Rabbi Miller:

As Mrs. Halprin told you over the telephone Wednesday afternoon, we regret very much that your letter of April 3 asking the National Board to reconsider its decision in favor of a separate Hadassah slate did not follow the lines discussed at our meeting of March 24.

As you recall that meeting, I am sure you will remember that although parity of delegates in a joint slate was an indispensable point of departure, there were many other conditions which our committee thought must be met before we could even bring the matter up for consideration by our National Board. Pressed by you to name some of these conditions, we mentioned in addition to parity, equal representation with the ZOA on all Congress committees and commissions; the fact that Hadassah could not be bound by any caucus either as individuals or as a group and that no majority vote taken at such caucuses would be mandatory upon our delegates; freedom to have our own caucuses; and last, but surely not least, appropriate representation on the Jewish Agency Executive.

In response to a statement by the ZOA representatives that many of the unfortunate situations which had arisen between ZOA and Hadassah at other National and International Conferences stemmed from the fact that we had been so "politically naive" that we had not insisted upon every condition being but down in the clearest terms in writing. We invited you to draw up such terms and incorporate them in a letter which should be the basis for presentation to our National Board. We even gave you a scrap of paper upon which some of these minimum conditions were set out -- not indeed that of membership on the Executive, since all of the ZOA members at the meeting begged us to forget London and assured us of support for proper representation on that body at the forthcoming Congress. Nor did we discuss a statement of principles since we have little doubt that a formulation acceptable to both groups could be worked out; Hadassah reserving the right to draw up supplementary planks should the need arise.

These notes were given you with the distinct understanding that the suggestions did not represent Hadassah's conditions since we did not come to you with proposals. We were there, however, to give you all the information you sought in case the ZOA should wish to make realistic suggestions for our reconsideration, pointing out, however, that proposals short of these could not affect such a reconsideration.

As the matter now stands, the National Board has received no new proposals other than the obvious one of numerical parity of Congress delegates. Should your organization desire to submit formal proposals as indicated above, we should be willing to call a special board meeting to discuss them and give them earnest consideration. However, until we receive such proposals, you will, of course, understand that we must continue to go to the country on the basis of a separate Hadassah slate.

In conclusion, may we reiterate that Hadassah's present policy of donducting its own campaign for its own Congress ticket is based upon the firm belief that the case of General Zionism will be strengthened if both the ZOA and Hadassah conduct a fair, above-board and enthusiastic drive for members, shekel payer and voters. As far as Hadassah is concerned, it is in this spirit that we shall conduct the campaign. Whether the two General Zionist groups present two separate slates to the public or whether they combine as independent bodies in a coalition slate for the purpose of electing delegates to the Congress. We feel sure that the ZOA will approach the matter in this same spirit.

With cordial greetings, I am

Very sincerely yours,

/s/ Judith G. Epstein

Mrs. Moses P. Epstein National President

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THE ARAB OFFICE WARDMAN PARK WASHINGTON, D.C.

MAY 10, 1946

MR. RALPH MCGILL, THE BRITISH CONSULATE, FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING, ATLANTA, GA.

DEAR MR. MCGILL,

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF MAY 7TH.

I QUITE AGREE WITH YOU THAT A GREAT MANY ARABS ARE IN NEED OF EBUCATION, PUBLIC HEALTH AND OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES. I WISH TO DRAW YOUR ATTENTION, HOWEVER, TO THE FACT, THAT THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE LACK OF SUCH SOCIAL SERVICES DOES NOT LIE WITH THEIR LEAD-ERS FOR THE SIMPLE REASON THAT SUCH LEADERS HAVE BEEN OCCUPIED FOR THE LAST 25 YEARS IN WARDING OFF IMPERIALISM FROM THE VARIOUS ARAB COUNTRIES WHICH IS INTERESTED IN KEEPING ARABS IN THEIR BACKWARD STATE. I WOULD ALSO REMIND YOU THAT THE ARAB COUNTRIES HAVE ONLY EMERGED VERY RECENTLY FROM CENTURIES OF OPPRESSION ON THE PART OF THE BACKWARD AND CORRUPT TURKS AND THE BRITISH AND FRENCH WHO, WHILE PAYING LIP SERVICE TO SOCIAL ADVANCE WERE, AT THE SAME TIME ENGINEERING THE PERMANENT SUBJUGATION OF THE ARABS BY THE CREATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE IMPERIALIST ZIONISM IN PALESTINE AND BY DIVISION AND INTRIGUE AMONG MOSLEMS AND CHRISTIANS AND OTHER SECTS IN SYRIA AND THE LEBANON. CORRUPTION OF THE PEOPLE WAS, FOR A LONG TIME, THE MAJOR AIM AND ARM OF THE WESTERN IMPERIALISTS WITH A VIEW TO FURTHERING THEIR OWN IMPERIALIST AIMS AND FACILITATING THEIR RULE. IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES YOU SHOULD HARDLY BE SURPRISED TO SEE THAT MANY OF THE ARABS LACK THE NECESSARY SOCIAL SERVICES. TO GIVE ONE EXAMPLE: THE PALESTINE-BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAVE BEEN SPENDING FOR THE LAST 26 YEARS AN AVERAGE OF 3% OF THE BUDGET YEARLY UPON EDUCATION, WHILE EXPENDITURE FOR POLICE AND SECURITY (AT ONE TIME NEEDED TO PROTECT ZIONISM AND NOW TO CURB ZIONIST TERRORISM) WAS MOST OF THE TIME NEAR TO 50% OF THE BUDGET.

IT IS UNFAIR OF YOU TO JUDGE THE ARABS BY WHAT THEY SHOULD HAVE BEEN RATHER THAN BY WHAT THEY MIGHT BE IF GIVEN THE NECESSARY OPPORTUNITIES. IN POINT OF FACT, IT IS THESE OPPORTUNITIES THAT THEY HAVE BEEN FIGHTING FOR FOR THE LAST 25 YEARS AND HAVE JUST ACHIEVED IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES WHILE IN PALESTINE THEY ARE MORE THAN EVER THREATENED WITH THE DEADLY DANGER OF ZIONISM USED BY THE IMPERIALIST WESTERN POWERS AS THEIR LAST PEG IN THE MIDDLE EAST. YOUR REPLY REGARDING THE GRAND MUFTI AND THE FACT ALLEGED BY YOU OF THE ARABS "BEING FOR SALE TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR AND AGAIN IN THIS ONE" DENOTES VERY SUPERFICIAL JUDGMENT. THE GRAND MUFTI WAS DRIVEN BY DESPAIR TO TAKE REFUGE IN GERMANY AFTER HAVING FOUGHT THE BRITISH FOR THEIR MANY BETRAYALS IN PALESTINE. I REMIND YOU IN THIS RESPECT OF THE AMERICAN ALLIANCE WITH SOVIET RUSSIA (WHO WAS LOOKED UPON AS THE ENEMY OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION) SO THAT HITLER MAY BE DEFEATED. REGARDING YOUR COMMENT UPON THE ARAB WORLD, YOU WOULD SURELY KNOW, IF YOU READ HISTORY, THAT THE ONLY ARM OF WEAK NATIONS WHEN THEY ARE OPPOSED BY STRONGER AND ILL-INTENTIONED POWERS IS TO SEEK THE AID OF ANY COUNTRY THAT WILL CHAMPION THEIR RIGHTS. AND THIS RULE DOES NOT APPLY TO THE ARABS ONLY, BUT HAS BEEN APPLIED BY MANY NATIONS ALL THROUGH HISTORY. IF YOU DISAPPROVE OF THAT, YOU HAVE ONLY TO THANK AMERICA'S AND BRITAIN'S MISCUIDED POLICY TOWARDS THE ARABS.

I AM NOT SURPRISED AT ALL TO SEE THAT THE ONLY COMMENT YOU COULD MAKE UPON MY LETTER TO YOU WAS TO CALL IT "RIDICULOUS" AND "TYPICAL". OBVIOUSLY, THE CASE OF ZIONISM IS SO MISERABLY WEAK THAT YOU FOUND NO OTHER ANSWER, AND THE ONLY WAY CONVENIENT TO YOU WAS TO ATTACK THE ARAB STATE OF PROGRESS, IRRELEVANTLY ENOUGH, IN ORDER TO SUPPORT YOUR ADVOCACY OF ZIONISM WHICH AIMS AT DENYING THE ARABS THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND POLITICAL ASPIRATIONS. IT IS YOUR FAILURE TO RECONCILE ZIONISM WITH THE RIGHT OF THE ARABS TO BREEDOM AND SELF-DETERMINATION WHICH IMPELS YOU TO SIDETRACK THE WHOLE ISSUE BY CRITICIZING THE ARAB STATE OF SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT.

MY FINAL COMMENT ON YOUR UNFORTUNATE ARTICLES IS THAT YOU ARE DOING ILL-SERVICE, NOT ONLY TO THE JEWS THEMSELVES AND TO AMER-ICA'S EX-ALLY, BRITAIN, WHOSE DIFFICULT POSITION YOU ARE NOT HELPING, BUT ALSO AND MAINLY TO THE GOOD NAME OF AMERICA AMONG 350 MILLION MOSLEMS AND ARABS OF THE EAST. FOR, YOU SURELY KNOW, THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HISTORY, THE CRIES OF "DOWN WITH AMERICA" HAVE RECENTLY RESOUNDED IN ALL THE ARAB CITIES OF PALESTINE. THESE CRIES YOU, AND PEOPLE LIKE YOU, ARE ACTIVELY HELPING TO SPREAD TO THE FARTHEST CONFINES OF THE WORLD-WIDE LANDS OF ISLAM AND BEYOND; IN INDIA ALONE LOO MILLION MOSLEMS AND 250 MILLION NON-MOSLEMS ARE UNITED IN CON-DEMNATION OF THE ZIONIST POLICY WHICH YOU SUPPORT. INDIA IS ON THE THRESHOLD OF INDEPENDENCE; ITS VOICE IN THIS RESPECT WILL SOON AND EFFECTIVELY BE HEARD.

I REPEAT WHAT I SAID IN MY LAST LETTER: IT IS MOST UNFOR-TUNATE THAT SUCH A DISASTROUS COURSE SHOULD BE TAKEN SO BLINDLY AND DELIBERATELY.

> SINCERELY YOURS, (ANWAR NASHASHIBI)

CC. BRITISH EMBASSY, WASHINGTON, D.C. BRITISH CONSULATE-GENERAL, A, LANTA, GA. OVERSEAS NEWS AGENCY, WASHINGTON, D.C. "ATLANTA CONSTITUTION", ATLANTA, GA. "WASHINGTON HERALD-TRIBUEN," WASHINGTON, D.C.

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS Hadassah, Women's Zionist Organization of America Mizrachi Organization of America Poale Zion-Zeire Zion of America Zionist Organization of America 342 MADISON AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N. Y. MUrray Hill 2-1160

May 24, 1946

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver The Temple Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Of the New York papers, the Herald-Tribune gave us a good break on the Washington conference. I am enclosing the clipping.

The Times didn't carry a line, though I know that its Washington Bureau sent a full story in. I am sending a letter of protest to the managing editor, which I think is fully justified in the circumstances.

The New York Post carries a good story this after-

With kind regards,

Cordially yours,

Harold P. Manson Director of Information

HPM: EP

May 31, 1946

Mr. Eugene Meyer, Editor Washington Post Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Meyer:

Through the courtesy of my friend, Mr. Leo R. Sack, I received a copy of your editorial, "Palestine Policy", which appeared in the Sunday, May 29 edition of the Mashington Post. May I express to you my profound appreciation for the very helpful and understanding position which your Paper has taken on the subject of the Report of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry. I had previously read two other editorials which appeared in the Kashington Post on the same subject. The support which you are giving the great cause to enable the hundred thousand Jews who are now languishing in the internment camps of Europe to go to Palestine will, I hope, be successful. Our greatest problem is to overcome the machinations of the hostile forces which are very strong in the Near East Division of our State Department, especially that of the head of that Division. Mr. Henderson.

With all good wishes and hoping that I may have the pleasure some day soon of calling on you and expressing in person our appreciation of your valued help in this critical hour, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS BK

## The Mashington Post

WASHINGTON 4, D.C.

EUGENE MEYER, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

June 3, 1946

Mr. Abba H. Silver, American Zionist Emergency Council, The Temple, East 105th Street at Ansel Road, Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Silver:

It was very kind of you to write such a friendly note of appreciation about our editorials dealing with the situation in Palestine. The cause we are championing is a good one, and I hope our editorials will have some beneficial results.

sincerely yours, Myneulent

Eugene Meyer Editor and Publisher

ESTERN 1201 SYMBOLS CLASS OF SERVICE DL = Day Letter This is a full-rate Telegram or Cable-NL=Night Letter gram unless its de-=[40] ferred character is in-LC = Deferred Cable dicated by a suitable symbol above or pre-NLT = Cable Night Letter ceding the address. Ship Radiogram A. N. WILLIAMS, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD JOSEPH L. EGAN, PRESIDENT STANDARD TIME at point of origin Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams H96 19/5 JUN 8 AM 42 ABBA YOUR TELEGRAM WHICH ARRIVED I GE FED **IPPR** M MEAD USS:

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desired; otherwise the message will be transmitted as a telegram or ordinary cablegram.		A. N. WILLIAMS	NEWCOMB CARLTON J. C. WILLEVER CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT	5

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

6-7-46

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

The Hon. James M. Mead U. S. Senate Washington, D.C.

MAY I EXPRESS TO YOU MY PROFOUND APPRECIATION FOR YOUR ELOQUENT AND STATESMANLIKE UTTE ANCE ON THE FLOOR OF THE SENATE YESTERDAY AND FOR YOUR UNFAILING COOPERATION AT ALL TIMES IN BEHALF OF OUR CAUSE.

Abba Hillel Silver

June 17, 1946

Mr. James G. McDonald Foreign Policy Association, Inc. 22 E. 38th Street New York 16, N. Y.

My dear Mr. McDonald:

May I thank you for the splendid message which you sent to our Madison Square Garden Rally last Wednesday. It was enthusiastically received. We are deeply grateful to you for the ready help which you are giving the cause at all times.

With all good wishes and hoping that you are well, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS: GR

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 Homan 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.

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The Lebanese look up to the Fresident 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 an Sagonistic 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. Ruropean 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.

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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 fraudulant means. When the Greek Orthodox Archbishop of Lebanon, Ngr. 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

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U.S.A.

General Spears, before he had left Lebanon and Syria, said in an afterbanquet 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 mant 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 Ecclesisstical 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 Fatriarch, 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 insultive deeds. Two Christian girls were stopped in Beitut 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.

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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 andience 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 Legenese Government since this government does not represent the people.

2. To insist on election of a new government in Lebanon and that,

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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.

- 8 -

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 commerical 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 awazed 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.

#### A MESSAGE

from

JOHN W. McCORMACK The Majority Leader House of Representatives, U. S. Washington, D. C.

I am indeed happy to avail myself of the opportunity to reiterate my favorable views relative to Zionism which I have expressed on many an occasion.

At this moment, my vision is directed toward Europe, beholding the most tortured victim of the Nazi tyranny - the Jewish people.

Butchered in cold blood, in centers especially constructed for extermination, the systematic murder of the Jewish people by the Nazi hordes is without example in history. This is, indeed, one of the darkest hours in the centurieslong martyrdom of the Children of Israel.

Today, after victory, the minds of our responsible American leaders are turning to the implementation of the plans for the world's future security. America's statesmanship is deeply conscious of the fact that unless there be security in this world for all, including, of course, the Jewish people, there will be no security at all.

#### PEACE IS INDIVISIBLE!

An intelligent analysis of the Jewish tragedy of today and yesterday inevitably leads to the conclusion that the Jewish problem cannot be solved by palliatives involving merely places of refuge here and there; it is my conviction that the solution of the Jewish problem lies in the elimination of the national homelessness of the Jewish people, as such, through the establishment of a free and democratic Jewish State in Palestine. It should be clear to all students of Jewish history that only by the granting to the Jewish people, as such, a status of national equality and dignity among the nations of the world will the position of the individual Jew everywhere become normalized and secure. The national emanicpation of the Jewish people is the basic condition for making the world safe for the Jewish people.

them.

Mankind for its own sake as well as for the sake of the Jews must cease to force the Jewish people to live everywhere as minorities, exposed to the mercy and caprice of the majorities among whom Jews happen to live.

The establishment of a democratic Jewish State in Palestine, where the Jewish people will constitute a majority and be able to live their own lives in their own way, is the best solution to the problem of Jewish homelessness. Anti-Semitism - so mean, so low, so debasing, so contemptible - will then become impotent and the Jew will be treated everywhere as an equal by equals.

It is for these reasons that I am a Zionist, and in the light of the sad events of the last years, my Zionist convictions today are stronger and firmer than ever.

If there was ever a time when Jews were in need of a National Home this is the time!

I am happily aware of the fact that during these terrible years of war and despite all difficulties, the rebuilding of the Jewish National Homeland in Palestine has gone on with ever-increasing acceleration. Tens of thousands of homeless Jews who escaped the Nazi terror did succeed in reaching the welcoming shores of the Land of Israel and in joining the rebuilders of the Jewish Commonwealth. Land has been acquired and cultivated, new colonies have been built, and new industries have been created, new colonies have been built, and new industries have been created. The Palestineen Jewish soldiers have written a glorious and heroic chapter in the history of the war.

It is sad to contemplate that the doors of Palestine are presently closed to the Jewish people in violation of sacred public pledges that Palestine is to be the National Home of the Jewish people; that in spite of the clamor of the overwhelming majority of the Jews in Europe who survived the Hitler tyranny to go to their National Home in Palestine, the doors of that National Home are presently closed to

-2-

In this struggle in which you are now engaged, I wish to assure youtat you are not alone. The White Paper of 1939 - the product of appeasement will be repealed.

The doors of Palestine will be opened to unrestricted Jewish immigration. Complete freedom of opportunity will be granted to the Jewish people for the acquisition of land and colonization.

This action will be brought about through the insistence of the enlightened public opinion of America and the world.

It is in this spirit that I greet the Zionists of America at their fortyeighthannual Convention in Atlantic City and share with them their faith in the Jewish future and the vision that in our own day the national rebirth of the Jewish people will take place on the banks of the Jordon, and that with the help of God through the reconstitution of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth the Jewish people will be admitted as an equal member of the family of peaceful nationa.

Moreover, it is my profound conviction that American leadership in Washington, guided by President Truman, will make an effective contribution toward the achievement of this goal.

Please accept my best wishes for success, for the good of the Jewish people, and for the good of humanity.

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HENRY MORGENTHAU, JR. HOPEWELL JUNCTION, N.Y. -

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Gillette statement in press Sel letter 2 Harris Meudelsohn Pres. new Zionist Org.

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