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American Zionist Emergency Council, Lourie, Arthur, 1946-1947.

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AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

342 MADISON AVE.
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

For purposes of record, I am writing formally to submit my resignation as Secretary of the American Zionist Emergency Council as from Monday next, January 27, 1947.

I leave the service of the Council, with which I have now been associated for nearly seven years, with a great deal of regret. I am glad to feel, however, that in my new position I shall be working both with yourself personally and, I hope with the Council in close cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Arthur Lourie

January 23, 1946

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

My dear Mr. Lourie:

I have received your letter of resignation from the Emergency Council which I will submit to the meeting of the Executive next Wednesday.

I am enclosing herewith a copy of a letter which I received this morning from the British Ambassador.

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

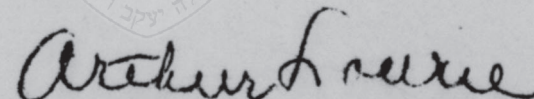
342 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.
Murray Hill 2-1160

July 19, 1946

To the Members of the American Zionist Emergency Council:

Enclosed are the Minutes of the Meeting of the
Executive Committee, of June 29, 1946.

Yours sincerely,


Arthur Lourie

AL:Nf
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

July 30, 1946

To the Members of the American Zionist Emergency Council:

Enclosed are the Minutes of the Meetings of the
Executive Committee, of July 1 and July 3, 1946.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur Lourie
Arthur Lourie

AL:Nf
Encs.

Louise

Conversation between

F, Dr. Silver & Louise

Aug. 1, 1946

See

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WRHE



THE BOSTON HERALD

FRANK W. BUXTON
Editor

BOSTON, 12

EVENING
BOSTON TRAVELER

September 4, 1946

Dear Arthur:

I am sorry that you didn't drop in on me while you were returning to New York, as I'd like to see you to renew our pleasant companionship of the past and to talk with you about a score of Palestine problems. I am trying hard to keep up with developments, but there are so many contradictory reports that I don't know what my present latitude or longitude is. The belief is growing on me, however, that Mr. Bevin has been guilty of bad faith, that he is not handling the problem in a spirit of inquiry and fairness, and that his government will be as arbitrary as it was when it perpetrated the White Paper. I hear that even Sir John Singleton is outraged by the tactics of the government. A letter which arrived from Bob Morrison a couple of days ago says that he too is disgusted, that he blames both governments, and that he supposes that Jews will be arguing against Arabs and Americans against British when and if they all arrive at the Golden Gate. I have now heard directly or indirectly from all six Englishmen. Their attitude seems to be pretty nearly identical with that of their late American colleagues. I don't know what is developing in Washington, as I have not talked with Niles for two or three weeks. Presumably, Truman has washed his hands of the whole affair for the time being. If a Roosevelt were in office and a Churchill in London, I wonder if this whole bloody mess wouldn't have been cleared up two or three months ago.

I have ordered a "Palestine Munich?" from the office booklegger. It is a "best seller" I am told in England. I shall be greatly obliged to you if you send me a spare copy.

I am taking home the Hutcheson correspondence for leisurely examination. My Palestinana is swelling daily. The rereading of your pamphlet will give me a pleasant hour tonight.

The morning papers have a statement from Shaw in which he says that his resignation has not been occasioned by friction in the colonial office. That may be so, but in his private testimony to the committee and in conversations with me, he was extremely critical of London.

Sincerely,

/s/ Frank

Mr. Arthur Lourie
342 Madison Avenue
New York 17, New York

C O P Y

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

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver *Date* September 10, 1946

From Arthur Lourie

I thought you might care to see the enclosed copy of
a letter from Frank Buxton.

AL-

AL:Nf
Encl.



American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

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

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

September 19, 1946

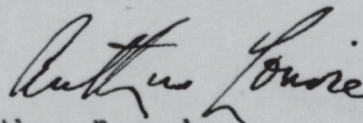
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I enclose a copy of a letter from Akzin with reference to the recent Act of Congress requiring registration by "lobbyists."

I take it I have your authority to refer this to our legal sub-committee (Mr. Tulin, Judge Rothenberg, Mr. Handler, Judge Rosenblatt and Dr. Pekelis).

Yours sincerely,



Arthur Lourie

AL:NK
Encl.

C
O
P
Y

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

1720 Sixteenth Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

August 28, 1946

Mr. Harry Shapiro, Executive Director
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Shapiro:

I refer to Schulson's memorandum to you of August 27th with which he enclosed copies of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 and Registration Forms A, B, and C, under that Act.

It appears from these documents that there is no need for anyone connected with this organization to register under that Act until, at the earliest, the convening of the next Congress. Only if we would think at this time to start action designed to promulgate or oppose any definite piece of legislation, would we be required to register before Congress convenes, and this is most unlikely to happen.

After Congress convenes, registration will be necessary without doubt if we contemplate and before we actually start any action with a view to promote or oppose legislation. Whether registration would be actually required if our activities were confined to requesting our friends in Congress to make speeches on the floor is doubtful and depends on the interpretation put on the words "Action by either House" under Section 302(e). I personally think that speeches by individual members or even letters and petitions signed by a group of members do not constitute "Action by the House". But this is a point regarding which I would recommend to get expert opinion not only by legal counsel but also by the clerk of the House of Representatives.

If it appears that speeches and letters of that kind are included within the scope of that Act, and since that kind of activity is an essential part of our work, I would recommend that we register before or immediately after Congress convenes, that is in December 1946 or in January 1947. If, on the other hand, it appears that only legislation, introduction of resolutions, and similar matters are contemplated by the Act, I would recommend further study as to whether we should register at the time of the convening of Congress or whether we should wait until there is actual need for us to indulge in such activities, which may not occur for quite some time.

The reason I would advise against premature registration under the Act until it's strictly necessary to comply with its terms is that such registration may lead to several unwelcome consequences. For one thing, the people who register are not only those who actually do the lobbying under Section 308 of the Act but also those, in a sense, who directly or indirectly solicit and receive contributions to be used in this connection, under Sections 303, 304 and 305 of the Act. In addition, all contributions exceeding \$500 and all expenditures out of these contributions exceeding \$10 would have to be placed

Mr. Harry Shapiro

- 2 -

August 28, 1946

on file every three months. Therefore, the entire leadership of the Emergency Council from Dr. Silver and Dr. Wise down would have to be thus registered. The contributions of the National Fund, the U.P.A., and the parties toward our work would be a matter of public record. The allegation could be made that, therefore, the National Fund and the U.P.A., as indulging in political rather than charitable activities, should not be entitled to the customary income tax exemption. Various anti-Zionist groups, basing their stand on the official files of the House of Representatives (these files would be accessible to the public) could misrepresent the character of our activities and introduce a great deal of confusion in the minds of the public regarding the use of U.P.A. and K.K.L. funds for political purposes. All this, while not necessarily dangerous, would undoubtedly prove a serious source of embarrassment.

For the above reasons, I suggest that we do not hasten to register under this Act, but do so only if and when this is absolutely necessary under the terms of the Act, in line with the procedure suggested above.

I would suggest that you consult a group of lawyers and thereupon send me your instructions regarding this matter.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Benjamin Akzin

BA:es

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 25, 1946

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

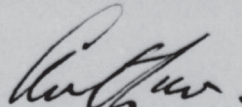
(1) In connection with the article on Palestine which appeared in the Moscow "New Times" I had a call from Dr. Robinson who informed me of a number of other indications of some interest, of the present Russian attitude. It occurred to me that it might be of value for a few of us to meet with Dr. Robinson and to hear what he has to say as he reads the Russian press and has been following the situation very closely.

Would you like him to report to the Executive Committee next Tuesday, or shall I arrange for a small group to meet with him and, in that case, would you want to be present?

(2) Are there any changes which you wish to have made in the draft minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee of September 10 which I sent you, or am I to send them out as they stand?

My heartfelt good wishes for a Happy New Year.

Yours sincerely,


Arthur Lourie

AL:NK

September 27, 1946

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

My dear Mr. Lourie:

I revised the draft minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee on September 10 and sent them on to Mr. Neumann. He has my revised copy. Please do not send out the minutes until you have included the changes which I suggested.

I hope that you are making progress on the report of the work of the Emergency Council to be submitted to the Congress.

With all good wishes for a very happy new year,
I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

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

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

October 8, 1946

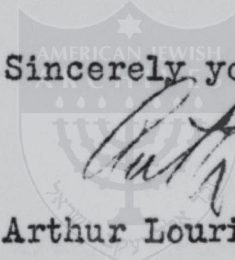
To the Members of the American Zionist Emergency Council:

Enclosed are the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council
of August 26, 1946.

AL:LD
Enc.

Sincerely yours,

Arthur Lourie



October 10, 1946

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

My dear Mr. Lourie:

I trust that you are progressing with the history of the American Zionist Emergency Council so that it may be ready in time for editing and printing prior to the World Zionist Congress.

I am enclosing an editorial from the Sioux City Journal. This Journal has been harping on the subject of Palestine quite a bit. I wish you would have an impressive letter written and addressed to the Journal for publication giving our view.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK
Enc.

October 13, 1946

Mr. Arthur Lourie
299 Riverside Drive
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Lourie:

You will recall that at the last meeting of the Executive of the Council it was voted to send a letter to Princeton University in connection with the Near East Seminar. I am enclosing herewith the correspondence which I had with Prof. Salo Baron on this subject. It will help you to draft that letter.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:GR
Enc.

Not sent

October 20, 1946

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

My dear Mr. Lourie:

The Council may wish to issue a rejoinder to the statement of Ibn Saud which appeared yesterday. Mr. Harry Shapiro has a memorandum from Professor Yahuda. Please draft such a statement and we will consider it at the meeting Monday afternoon.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:GR

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

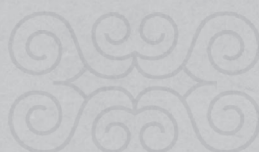
Date October 22, 1946

From Arthur Lourie

According to a report from Cairo in today's JTA, the Arab League will call a session of its member states in the near future formally to recognize the ex-Mufti as President of the Palestine Arab Higher Committee.

Assuming this report to be true and in the hopes of forestalling this official recognition of the Mufti's leadership, I would suggest that the State Department be asked to release for publication the material contained in the Mufti's files which are now in the possession of the Department.

AHS:NF



A.L.

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

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

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

October 29, 1946

To the Members of the American Zionist Emergency Council:

Enclosed are the Minutes of the Meeting of the
Executive Committee, of October 14, 1946.

AL:NK
Enc.

WRHS
AMERICAN JEWISH
Yours sincerely,

Arthur Lourie
Arthur Lourie

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver Date October 29, 1946

From Arthur Lourie

1. I enclose, for your signature, a letter to Loy Henderson in case you feel that you wish to acknowledge his letter to you of October 31 with regard to the Sneh visa.
2. I had hoped to have a word with you in Atlantic City about the Emergency Council report, but, unfortunately, the opportunity did not present itself. I am anxious to have your comments and suggestions before putting the material into final shape. If you feel it is desirable to print the report, we have not too much time left.

Kindest regards.

AL.

✓
AL:NK
Encls.



3. I also enclose a few notes on a talk that I had with Crossman last Friday morning. He will be speaking tonight on British Colonial Policy at the Herald Tribune Forum and, thereafter, at a number of Welfare Fund and other meetings sponsored by the U.P.A. He returns to England on November 8.

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

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

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

November 1, 1946

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

You will recall that I spoke to you when you were last in New York about my attending the Congress in Basle next month.

I am anxious to confirm my arrangements for going and should be grateful if you would let me know that it is in order for me to do so.

Kindest regards.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur Lourie
Arthur Lourie

AL:Nf

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

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

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

November 4, 1946

To the Members of American Zionist Emergency Council:

Enclosed are the Minutes of the Meeting of the
Council of October 21, 1946.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur Lourie

Arthur Lourie

AL:Nf
Enc.

November 5, 1946

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

My dear Mr. Lourie:

In connection with the memorandum which you sent me on October 22 — I think you should draft a letter to the State Department asking it to release for publication the material contained in the Mufti's files which are now in the possession of the State Department. When you have drafted the letter, please read it to me.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

MEMORANDUM

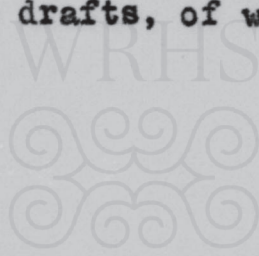
To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver Date November 11, 1946

From Arthur Lourie

1. I enclose copy of a letter which we have received from the President of Princeton University and also a draft reply for your approval.
2. I also enclose a draft letter for the State Department, which I would suggest be signed by Shapiro as Executive Director.

Please let me have any corrections which you wish to make in these drafts, of which I have retained the originals.

AL:Nf
Encls.



AL

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

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

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

November 20, 1946

To the Members of American Zionist Emergency Council:

Enclosed are the Minutes of the Meeting of the
Executive Committee of November 14, 1946.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur Lourie
Arthur Lourie

AL:Nf
Enc.

NOTE OF A CONVERSATION BETWEEN MR. ARTHUR LOURIE AND MR. J.M. MARTIN
AT THE COLONIAL OFFICE, JANUARY 8, 1947

(I had known Mr. Martin in the days when he had been a junior official in the Colonial Office; in 1936-37 he had acted as Secretary to the Royal Commission. During the war he left the Colonial Office to become Principal Private Secretary to Mr. Churchill. More recently he had been appointed head of the Near East Department of the Colonial Office in succession to Sir Cosmo Parkinson. Mr. Martin had heard through a member of the Jewish Agency staff that I was in London and had indicated that he would like to see me.)

Mr. Martin greeted me cordially and in answer to his question, I told him about my present work in America. I went on to discuss the developments at Congress, with particular reference to the American attitude. Any impression in the British press to the contrary notwithstanding, the American Zionists, led by Dr. Silver, had voted against participating in the Conference in existing circumstances, not because they were extremists or anti-British, but simply because they were sceptical about the purpose of the Conference; in the light of previous experience, it was felt that its real purpose was to provide the British Government with a facade for imposing a decision already taken, and that there was no object in our lending ourselves to such a maneuver. The notion that Dr. Silver or the Americans were simply intransigent was false; had there been some action on the part of the Government to show a change of heart and a desire to discuss in merito a real solution, the situation would have been different. Mr. Martin remarked that he himself had come across American leaders who, in private discussion, had proved much more reasonable than he would have inferred from what they stated in public.

Mr. Martin then referred to the tentative suggestion put forward in conversations between Mr. Locker and the Colonial Secretary, for the holding of informal talks between representatives of the Jewish Agency and the Government, and he asked me whether I thought that the Americans would be ready to participate in such discussions. I said that we had been in touch with Dr. Silver by transatlantic phone and there was no reason to believe that if a serious discussion of issues was intended the Americans would refuse to take part. It was wrong to interpret the Congress Resolution as intended to rupture all relations between the Mandatory Power and ourselves.

I asked Mr. Martin whether these informal talks would be intended as preliminary to or instead of the formal Conference. Mr. Martin said that they would replace the Conference, the whole point being that they wished to deal with matters of substance and not of form. He added that, looking at it from our own point of view, and in the interests of preventing a one-sided result, it might be a misfortune if we were not to present and enter into a full discussion of our case.

He went on to say that one of the matters to which they had to give consideration was the question of the attitude of the UN to any decision that they might take. For example, to take an extreme case, if the Government decided to set up a Jewish State in the whole of Palestine they might be faced with quite a problem in obtaining the necessary approval in the UN; there would no doubt be arrayed against such a proposal not only the Arab States, but India, China and certain other states, as well as Russia and the Russian

bloc; the South American states further would constitute a very uncertain factor. I pointed out, in reply, that any proposal which did not give the Arabs what they asked for would no doubt be opposed by the Arab bloc as a whole and by certain "allied" states; also that Russian opposition was likely to be forthcoming for a British sponsored proposal. The fact was that the South American states constituted a balancing factor and here the issue would hinge on whether there would be real Anglo-American agreement. In the event of a firm attitude on the part of the American Government, I thought that there was very little doubt that the South American states would follow that Government's lead, and their support would be decisive. It was true that on one or two occasions, in connection with the election of representatives to specific committees, the South American group and the Arabs had apparently worked in collusion, but the United States had not on those occasions been directly involved and, in general, there was no reason to believe that there was anything in the nature of a working arrangement between the two groups. The crux of the matter remained Anglo-American agreement. (While it was not altogether clear, I had the feeling that the UN argument was being advanced by Mr. Martin as a possible reason for watering down a pro-Zionist solution.)

There was a reference to Mr. Martin's absence from the Colonial Office during the war years and he remarked that he had been distressed to come back and find that there had been no real effort to improve the situation. It was the same mess, only worse. On the other hand, the press was unanimous today that a solution could no longer be deferred. He remarked, also, that opinion in the press seemed, for the most part, to favor partition.

There was a reference to the retirement of Sir George Gater as Permanent Under-Secretary, and Mr. Martin said that his successor, Lloyd, had been Secretary of the Shaw Commission but had not been associated with the Palestine question for a good many years. They would now have to start "indoctrinating" him.

At this moment our interview was abruptly terminated as I received a call from the airport advising me to report there immediately. As I left Mr. Martin he informed me that he was about to see the High Commissioner. He also expressed the hope that he might visit the United States again.

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

MEMORANDUM

To

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date

January 14, 1947

From

Arthur Lourie

I enclose a note of my conversation with Martin at the Colonial Office last Wednesday, about which I spoke to you on the telephone.

AL:Nf
Encl.

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