



## Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

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

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

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

---

Reel

11

Box

4

Folder

237

American Zionist Emergency Council, "Proposed Solution to the  
Jewish Problem," undated.

## A PROPOSED SOLUTION TO THE JEWISH PROBLEM

1. The Jews of Europe will perish if they are left where they are. The only practical solution lies in Palestine.

2. The problem is that of reconciling the interests and aspirations of the Jews with those of the Arabs. While the issues are complex and there can be no single solution, it is possible to resolve the economic difficulties. This would go a long way towards diminishing all other tensions.

3. Development of the Jordan Valley -- along the lines of the Tennessee Valley -- would provide an economic basis for an increase of between 2 and 4 million of population. Such an expansion of economic opportunity provides the key for interracial harmony.

4. If the resulting new land, new power resources and all other economic opportunities were made available to Jews and Arabs on equal terms, the displaced Jews of Europe could be absorbed into Palestine, while at the same time the Arabs would have their economic opportunities vastly increased.

5. It is proposed that, at the time the Export-Import Bank comes up for an increase in its lending authority, the Congress add \$250 million to the Administration's request for \$1 $\frac{1}{4}$  billion, earmarking this increase for the development of the Jordan Valley with the stipulation that the economic opportunities created be made available to Jews and Arabs on equal terms. This sum is not a gift, it is a loan. Sound engineering and economic surveys show that the project will pay for itself handsomely.

6. It is of the utmost importance that action be taken before the Anglo-American Commission makes its report. Unless the Commission provides a constructive solution, its report may touch off an explosion.

Yet the Commission lacks the key tool necessary for such a solution. Although the Commission has heard evidence on the Jordan Valley project, no practical proposal for financing the project has been put before it. As matters now stand, therefore, the Commission cannot give the project the consideration it deserves. They cannot build their solution around it.

With the world situation as tense as it is, the United States cannot gamble on the Commission's report. The U.S. must make certain that the Commission comes up with a constructive solution.

7. It is wholly appropriate that the United States take the initiative in proposing the project and loan. Arabs and Jews alike trust the United States as they trust no other power. And they know that only the United States has the necessary economic strength.

8. It is not suggested that the Administration sponsor the proposal. While this would be highly desirable, it would be enough for the Administration to indicate that this proposal, if initiated in the appropriate committees in Congress, would be regarded with favor.

9. The leading figures of all the important Jewish groups in this country have been consulted on this proposal. They strongly favor it and are persuaded that the Congress would initiate and pass this measure if the Administration were responsive.