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American Zionist Emergency Council, "X," "Y," and "Z", 1946-
1947.

World Committee for Palestine

1706 G Street, N. W.
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

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September 13, 1946

ADDRESS WASHINGTON OFFICES:

DEAN HOWARD M. LESOURD
Secretary-Treasurer

RACHELLE S. YARDEN
Secretary, Latin American Division

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Silver:

I take the liberty of submitting to you a copy of the letter I addressed today to Dr. Goldman, in the hope that the Jewish Agency American Committee, of which you are a member, will find it possible to discuss the possibility of meeting with Dr. Gutierrez.

I wish to express to you at the same time my deep appreciation for your kindness and courtesy to Dr. Gutierrez upon his return from Palestine early in June of this year.

Dr. Gutierrez will stay with his family in the Waldorf Astoria Hotel from Sept. 17 to 25.

RSY:sd

RSY:sd

Cordially yours,

Rachelle S. Yarden
Rachelle S. Yarden

COPY

World Committee for Palestine

1706 G Street, N. W.
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

September 13 (Friday), 1946

OFFICERS

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SENATOR ROBERT F. WAGNER
Washington, D. C.

Dr. Nahum Goldman,
Jewish Agency for Palestine,
16 East 66th Street,
New York City, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Goldman:

Kindly note that Dr. Gustavo Gutierrez, the Cuban diplomat who visited Palestine and toured Latin America under our auspices, will arrive in New York City, September 17, 1946.

The Latin American press, including conservative Catholic newspapers (clippings in our office), dedicated much space and favorable comments to Dr. Gutierrez' eyewitness account of the Palestine situation. His visit in Argentina and Brazil gave the last impulse that was needed for constituting officially the pro-Palestine committees in those countries.

Dr. Gutierrez will stay in New York City one week. If given the opportunity by the Jewish Agency American Committee, he will personally present to them a report on his mission.

It will no doubt interest you to learn that pro-Palestine committees exist in 29 countries, 19 of them in Latin American republics. These Christian committees have been instrumental in creating public opinion and official opinion favorable to Zionist demands. Zionists who came in contact with these committees learnt, for the first time, some of the too long ignored basic needs of Zionism.

The new insight on the part of such Zionists came to the fore when, in anticipation of the calling of a World Christian Conference for Palestine to be held in New York City, some time during the sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, a tentative inquiry was sent to our liaison officers in 19 countries (Australia and 18 Latin American countries), to inquire whether the local Zionists would defray the round-trip expenses of their pro-Palestine committee delegate if a Conference were called. Of the 19 countries, 9 answered immediately (Australia, Costa Rica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay and Peru by cable, and Colombia, El Salvador and Venezuela, by letter) that they would gladly do so. Others indicated that when and if the necessity for it arose, an effort would be made.

Recent developments, intimations of an almost certain agreed settlement regarding Palestine and your instructions conveyed directly to this office eliminated the calling of the World Christian Conference for Palestine. Indeed, the political purpose for which the pro-Palestine committees and the World Committee for Palestine were originally created seems to exist no longer.

ADDRESS WASHINGTON OFFICES:

DEAN HOWARD M. LESOURD
Secretary-Treasurer

RACHELLE S. YARDEN
Secretary, Latin American Division

Dr. Nahum Goldman

September 13, 1946

I have been, therefore, led to doubt the relevance of my putting forth any further effort in the direction in which I have worked for the last three years, and I shall greatly appreciate your relieving me now of my duties as Secretary of the Latin American Division of the World Committee for Palestine, since I wish to return to my studies.

Permit me, however, to suggest that the World Committee for Palestine and the pro-Palestine committees should not be allowed to disband or deteriorate. Governments of long established nations, aware of the distrust prevailing everywhere against the foreigner, find it necessary to promote abroad the creation of native organizations through which they disseminate information about their own countries in order to foster friendly cultural and commercial relations.

In view of the two-thousand-year-old hatred and prejudice against the Jews, it is so much more imperative to foster everywhere such non-Jewish organizations. The existing pro-Palestine committees, if converted into cultural associations similar to the "Alliance Française", for instance, could go a long way in creating good will toward the nascent Jewish State.

Should you deem the above suggestion worthwhile, I shall be glad to assist, without any financial obligation to the Jewish Agency, any planning committee in the task of outlining a program for the suggested conversion of the pro-Palestine committees from bodies for political action into setups for cultural and economic rapprochement.

Kindly accept my gratitude for the opportunity offered me to serve the cause of my people in a field so replete with encouragement and satisfaction.

Sincerely yours,

RSY/mp

Rachelle S. Yarden

CC: The Jewish Agency American Committee
Dr. Howard M. LeSourd

Washington, D.C., October 17, 1946

Mr. Isaac Weissman
R. Alexandre Herculano 7 - 1
Lisbon, Portugal

Dear Mr. Weissman:

I wrote you about the wonderful work you are doing, but I always hesitated to answer your inquiry about the Zionist Congress. I cannot help having some serious misgivings about the situation. The dangerous game of power politics between mighty empires is crushing us from without and, on a puny scale, the same witless game is destroying us from within.

Before I go any further, let me repeat to you: I and my husband and two sons are all labor Zionists and never have been anything but labor Zionists. Yet, I cannot put the party above my people...

Twenty-five years ago, Weizmann's party won the victory over the Brandeis camp. The net result of that "victory" brought us to the present tragedy. Indeed, I dare say, it has reduced the Jewish Agency to the position where it finds it imperative to renounce legally the major part of Eretz Israel without even any assurance that the little they now ask will be given even on paper, let alone in reality and with security. Had American Jewry been organized at the time as Brandeis pleaded and had all its human and economic resources been mobilized for the speedy upbuilding of Palestine, how different would be our situation today.

At that time there may have been some flimsy excuse for the insistence on Old World supremacy in Zionism. Today, when the center of gravity of Jewish population and influence has moved to the New World; when most intransigent elements control the British Palestine policy; when the might of the Empire stands poised to strike a deadly blow at the Yishuv in Palestine and boasts that the "world that took calmly the extermination of six million Jews, will also take the destruction of half of Tel Aviv, if necessary", and when we can, with tragic certainty, feel that it is only American Jewry that stands now between Eretz Israel and destruction, it is hard to see what could be the real motives and aims of those who are in our own midst engaged in the Machiavellian maneuvers of dividing and weakening American Zionist ranks and preventing American Zionist leadership from fulfilling the function which our tragic fate imposes upon it at this time.

Poor Heine said long^{ago}, "Wie es christelt sich, so judelt's sich." Unfortunately, the powerful Christian organism can withstand much better the blood letting of party strife and power politics than our people. One more victory of Old World Zionist leadership over the New World, and God knows what will happen to all our national restoration effort and achievement.

The shame of it; the Zionist Congress will go back to Switzerland, and after it had been officially rejected. The U.N. found it possible to transfer to the New World, not so the Zionists. Think of the moral and political disadvantages it entails; little or no effect on world public opinion; far away from all those forces that should be and could be enlisted in favor of our cause; removed from the bulk of the Jewish population of the world. And all that for one purpose: to reduce the influence of New World Jewry.

Can you strengthen the position of the Jewish people as a whole by reducing the effectiveness of half of its numbers, and that half being the strongest economically, politically and physically? This is the greatest tragedy that could have

befallen our people. How can we fight the Romans who beleaguer Jerusalem if we waste our time, energy and resources fighting each other?

Twenty-five years ago, hiding behind the mask of ideology, personal ambitions choked off the flow of men and means from the New World to Palestine, and for many years next to nothing was done anywhere in the Western Hemisphere except sending now and then a Zionist money collector. The consequences we all know. Yet we learn nothing from the hard lessons of history, and today another set of men, and in conditions incomparably more tragic, repeat the performance. New World Jewry must be kept at arms length at all cost. New World Zionists are to the Old World Zionists much worse than the New Christians were to the Old Christians during the Spanish crusade for "saving souls."

It is appalling to see how blind the rank and file Zionists are to the essential character of the tactics which have succeeded in actually dividing and thus weakening USA Zionist leadership. There seems to be no awareness of the danger inherent in the very attempt to keep American Zionism, and American Jewry as a whole, in a subordinate position. In our case there can be no talk of vanguard and rearguard. We are being attacked on all sides, and we are left with combatants only on two fronts: the Yishuv and the Western Hemisphere. The failure of the one dooms also the other. And this is no exaggeration. The Yishuv cannot win the struggle without New World Jewry, USA especially, and the New World Jewry cannot survive morally (and perhaps even physically) the failure of the Yishuv, (has ve-halila).

Think of the blindness and stupidity that seek to reduce and even immobilize this great front in the New World. I hope you will have the privilege of attending the World Zionist Congress, and I feel confident that you, as a veteran Labor Zionist, will make a real effort to open the eyes of our party politics addicts to a full realization of the grave danger lurking beneath the power politics masquerading under ideology. Israel is more important than the parties. We need UNITY now and all the new forces of the New World, not just a few acceptable ones to the prime movers in the power and prestige game enacted by beggars knocking at closed doors..

With best wishes and kindest regards,

Cordially yours,

RSY:sd

Rachelle S. Yarden


Tel. *MusKoven*
5,8606

Professor A. S. Yahuda
162 Bishop Street
New Haven, Connecticut

November 8th.1946

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Last week I phoned on Tuesday several times at the Commodore hotel as you told me to, but you were not there. On Wednesday morning I went to New York, because they told me at the Emergency Council that you would be there without fail between 10 and 11.

 I can hardly tell you how disturbing it is for me to and fro without result. Now I am writing to you about two most urgent things:

1) After sounding several Latin American delegations, Del Vayo told me, that if any Latin American country will consent to represent the Zionist cause at the U.N., it will be Chile. He told me that the Arabs were very busy to win over the Latin American governments and that they have achieved much. Now Del Vayo wants to know what he has to do: whether he has to seek the support of the Chilean delegation or another delegation to bring the matter before the U.N. He told me that in the opinion of several Latin American Governments, the American Government should approach them and remind them of their obligation to support the Mandate.

2) It is urgent to publish a statement against the hypocrisy of the Egyptian delegation who asked the Council of the UN to resolve that an immediate end be put to religious and racial persecution and discrimination in Europe, obviously, to avert Jewish immigration to Palestine. If there are countries in which racial discrimination is practiced, it is in the Arab countries: in Iraq the Jews are living under constant threat of pogroms; and in the Lebanon the propaganda against the Jews and Zionism is appalling and most savage. Only a few days ago the President of the Republic has declared that Zionism is not only an enemy of all Arab countries but of all humanity. It must be recalled that the same man sought the advice and help of Jewish doctors, and was cared for in a Jewish hospital at Haifa when he was critically ill.

In Syria, in Egypt and in the whole of North Africa the agents of the Mufti are inciting the people against the Jews; and in Yemen the situation of the Jews is most appalling.

All this must be substantiated by facts taken from the general and Jewish press. I suppose that the Zionist archive has plenty of them. But it must be done immediately before the Council has time to take any decision, and not delayed as it happened with the statement against Ibn Saud.

I have some other things to discuss with you, and I want you to give me a fixed appointment to see you.

I am enclosing a clipping about the Jews in Iraq, and another of the Times about the proposal of the Egyptian Delegation.

In the event that you are not coming to New York this week, you must authorize someone in the Emergency Council to deal with me in all these matters, but he must be a man on whom I can rely.

Cordially yours,

A. P. Yahuda

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PALESTINE ISSUE RAISED BY EGYPT

Delegate to U. N. Group Urges
End of Minority Oppression
in Central Europe

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

LAKE SUCCESS, N. Y., Nov. 6 —Charges made by Egypt here today, describing racial and religious oppression in Central European countries, provoked fiery outbursts in the General Committee as the question of Palestine forcefully entered United Nations deliberations through the back door.

The General Committee, steering group for items appearing on the agenda of the General Assembly, ended a six-hour wrangle over unimportant procedural matters with a heated exchange of charges and counter-charges as the Ukrainian representative, Dmitri Z. Manuisky, pressed the Egyptian to admit that he meant "Allied zones in Germany and Palestine" when he deplored discrimination.

Philip J. Noel-Baker, British delegate on the committee, quickly interrupted and retorted that he would refrain from answering the Ukrainian's "irresponsible and groundless allegations."

Egyptian Asks U. N. To Act

The argument was set off by a proposal presented by Mahmoud Bey Fawzi, Egyptian delegate, asking the United Nations to resolve that an immediate end be put to "religious and so-called racial persecutions and discrimination." The Egyptian urged that the United Nations press the various Governments and responsible authorities to conform to the letter and spirit of the Charter.

Mr. Fawzi declared that "unofficial investigations carried out in several states of Central Europe, members and non-members of the United Nations," indicated that citizens belonging to religious minorities continued, in spite of the victory of the democracies, to be the "object of persecutions and of

discrimination which render very difficult their life in their native countries."

This evoked a sharp inquiry from Mr. Manuisky, who wanted to know just what countries Mr. Fawzi had in mind. The Egyptian tried to evade the question, and for a while succeeded. But the Ukrainian pressed steadily and wanted to know whether Mr. Fawzi was thinking of oppression in the Soviet, or perhaps the Ukraine?

Manuisky and Spaak Clash

Much of this was impromptu French, untranslated, and Mr. Fawzi was believed to have said no, that he specifically did not refer to either the Soviet Union or the Ukraine. In turn, however, he asked Mr. Manuisky if the Ukrainian knew of any persecution and discrimination in "certain parts of Europe" and if he did should not the United Nations take steps to stop it?

Mr. Manuisky continued his prodding, however, and said you must mean the Allied zones in Germany and Palestine? This erupted in a fierce argument between Mr. Manuisky and Paul-Henry Spaak, chairman of the committee, who heatedly called the Ukrainian to order, but was rebuffed by Mr. Manuisky in a five-minute rapid exchange in French.

Earlier in the debate Mr. Noel-Baker declared that he understood the "matter of delicacy" that prevented Mr. Fawzi from coming right out with his charges. He said, however, that he would have understood the resolution if it had given some geographical descriptions.

It is well known, the Briton pointed out, that refugees were coming from Eastern and Central Europe—"many of them of the Jewish faith"—who said they had been obliged to move because of conditions in countries from which they had come.

If these refugees "cause great embarrassment" to the countries to which they travel, there should still be no objection to the United Nations making a general appeal for understanding, he added.

M. Spaak pleaded, finally, that the whole matter had been brought

up the wrong way and asked that the item not be placed on the agenda for the General Assembly. Mr. Fawzi then asked that the final paragraph, at least, be recommended for a general resolution. This one omitted charges and confined itself to asking for an end to religious and so-called racial persecutions "in the higher interests of humanity."

The vote on the rephrased resolution was three opposed (the Soviet Union, Ukraine and France), three in favor (Uruguay, United Kingdom and South Africa). The United States, China, Venezuela and Belgium abstained from voting, although M. Spaak forgot to add his abstention to the announced toll.

Egyptians Gain Point

Mr. Manuisky firmly insisted at once that the proposal was "lost" for lack of a majority, but the chairman declared it had been carried according to his interpretation of the rules. He added that in any event no "recommendation" was implied, but merely a statement that the Egyptian resolution had been considered.

Whatever the immediate interpretation, of course, the resolution goes before the Assembly, which was, after all, what Mr. Fawzi wanted.

For all the veiled references and "back-door allusions" in the debate, there was no doubt that the Egyptians mean to raise the whole Palestine problem in the United Nations. In an interview before the committee meeting, Dr. Mohamed Hussein Heykal Pasha, chairman of the delegation, flatly asserted that Egypt wished to press for a "more basic solution" of the problems of European Jews than that of mass immigration to Palestine.

The Egyptian resolution, he said, seeks to "strike at the very roots of the problem" by eliminating discrimination in Poland, Rumania, Austria, Hungary and Germany and thereby removing the need for mass immigration of the persecuted peoples to Palestine.

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אוגוסט 1946

היהודים בעיראק

האחרונים, ובכל זאת אין הקומץ משביע את הארי.
ארץ-ישראל היתה עד הזמן האחרון, ארץ עליה
ליהודי בבל בגלל קדושתה, קרבתה לעיראק ואקלימה.
במשך עשרים השנים האחרונות עלו ארצה כארבעת
אלפים משפחות, רובן מטופלות בילדים רבים. אך כעת
נפסקה העליה מעיראק. ממשלת עיראק לא נותנת לצאת
ולארץ ישראל אי אפשר להכנס.

כשדנים כעת בשאלת ארץ-ישראל ועל העליה לא"י,
מעלימים עין לגמרי משאלת עליתם של יהודי המזרח,
ובכלל זה יהודי בבל, כאילו אין הם זקוקים להצלה מחיי
גלות מנוונים, נגישות ורדיפות. גם בתוך הישוב היהודי
בארץ ובמוסדות היהודיים בגולה מתעלמים לגמרי
משאלה זו.

המוצא ליהודי עיראק — אינו יכול להיות שונה
מהמוצא המוצע ליהודי המחנות הנידחים: יש לאפשר
את עליתם למולדת. אל נא תשכח יהדות המזרח על כל
ארצותיה. ואם יהדות בבל אלמת היא מתוך אונס — אל
נא תזנח. יש להגביר את השליחות בארצות המזרח
הסמוכות. ויהודי בבל היושבים לבטח בארץ-ישראל
חייבים לתת את חלקם במאמץ המשותף.

מגיעות אלינו, זה חדשים אחדים, ידיעות מדאיגות,
מדאיגות מאוד, על מצב אחינו בגלות בבל. הפרטים —
עגומים. יהודים בבלים, בתוכם נשים, שישבו שנים רבות
בארץ, ונסעו לביקור משפחתי קצר — אינם יכולים לח-
זור לארץ-ישראל. יהודים עיראקים, שקבלו אזרחות
אי"ת, אינם יכולים לבקר את ארץ מוצאם. היציאה מבג-
דאד כמעט אסורה. קיים גיטו של יהודים בעיראק.
אמנם, להלכה, אין היהודים מופלים לרעה, אך
למעשה קיימת הפליה גזעית. הנוער היהודי בעיראק,
אינו יכול, למעשה, להשתלם בבתי ספר גבוהים. השפה
העברית אסורה והלמוד הדתי, התנ"ך והתפילות, ניתן
בצמצום ובלי כל ביאורים.

הציונות בעיראק אסורה בהחלט. גם העתונים
העבריים אסורים. קיימות הגבלות ונגישות, חוסר הבטחון
והפחד מפני המחר.

שם, בעיראק, יודע כל יהודי שהוא יושב על הר
געש. אך הוא מושך בכתפיו: מן השמים ירחמו! או —
דייה לצרה בשעתה! רק בעלי יכולת מעטים משתדלים
להמלט על נפשם בעוד מועד. בקשות הגירה לארצות
הברית, להודו ולארצות אחרות הוגשו למאות בחדשים

תשעם וטראה...

"מקור הקפה"

אין טוב יותר!

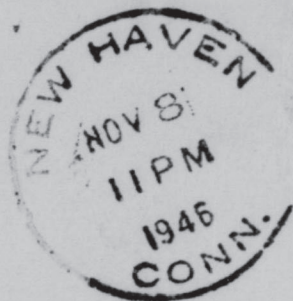
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היוצא לאור בבגדד מה-30
למאי, כותב:

מיניסטר הפנים מתענין להכחיד את תנועת הברחת היהודים מעיר-ראק לא"י. הוא הטיל הגבלות על אלה הרוצים לעזוב את עיראק. המיניסטר נתן הוראות שעל כל נוסע לארצות השכנות לתת ערבות כספית בסך 2000 לא"י, באישור לשכת המסחר, ובתנאי שלערב יהיה סכום זה באחד הבנקים בעיר-ראק. הסכום הזה יוחלם במקרה שהנוסע לא יחזור לעיראק. מה שנוגע ליהודים נתנו הוראות שכל יהודי הרוצה לבקר בארץ-ישראל עליו להפקיד באוצר המדינה סכום של 5000 לא"י במזומנים שיוחזר לו בשובו לעיראק. חולים הרוצים לנסוע לארצות הסמוכות לטפול רפואי ולמנוחה — יורשו לעשות זאת רק אחרי אשור ועדת בדיקה רפואית שמונתה למטרה זו.

סאמי שווכת, מיסד ומארגן התנועה הפאשיסטית בעיראק, בשם ארגון "אל פתוה" הצהיר בזמן האחרון שהוא עומד לחזור לפעולתו האר-גונית שנפסקה בחצי השני של שנת 1941.

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3

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THAT JEWS OFFER SHELTER TO EVERY ENGLISH FAMILY AS
THERE IS NO INTENTION TO HARM THEM STOP SUCH GESTURE
WOULD MAKE KNOWN TO WORLD BRITISH MILITARY INTENTIONS
TO DESTROY YISHUB=

PROF YAHUDA

Professor A.S.Yahuda
162, Bishop Street
New Haven, Conn.

May 7, 1947

Rabbi Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
c/o. American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York NY

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I read in the papers that Dr. Weizman is coming in September to plead the Jewish cause before the UN Assembly. I was already disappointed that you consented to retain the Weizman men in your executive thus depriving you from pursuing an active policy here and in Palestine, acquiescing to the appeasement policy of Dr. Weizman's regime condemning the Jewish terrorists to please the British terrorists. The danger of frustrating all your efforts by Dr. Weizman's crowd is incalculable, especially by Dr. Goldman, who is the achitaphel of Dr. Wise. You will realize this danger only when it will be too late.

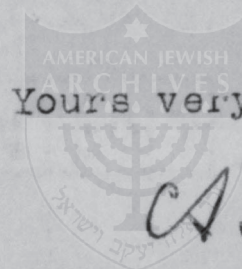
I was very astonished that you did not care to contact me when you returned from Palestine as you promised before you left. I was tired to run after you and to find that you had not sufficient time for discussing the Arab problem and the Latin American question. I repeat and repeat again: As long as the Mufti is free to act and to intrigue, all the efforts to come to an understanding with the Arabs will be in vain. All I predicted in January 1944, when I published my letter in the Times about the appointment of the Mufti, ~~came through~~ and so may my predictions now be confirmed by further events. It is necessary to start a campaign against him now, and to denounce the State Department for not demanding his delivery as a War Criminal. Now is the proper time to do it and if it will cost a Million dollars it is worth it.

Also in the Latin American question you have not done what you promised in January. Del Vayo told me that most of the Latin American delegates know nothing about the Jewish position and are more influenced by the Arab propaganda. He had several talks with many delegates who told him that it was the fault of the Zionist organi-

organizations that they did not undertake a campaign of enlightenment, leaving it to the Arabs to mislead the governments and public opinion in Latin America. What Del Vayo could do in this direction is invaluable, but his services were not asked for. Nevertheless, he has done what he could. To-morrow, "The Nation" will have a supplement about the Zionist question and the Arabs. which will be of great importance. You have to thank for this Del Vayo and Mrs. Kirchwey who have worked ten days, day and night, to prepare it.

As long as the Zionist affairs are handled as hitherto, very little will be achieved. What I have said twenty seven years ago at the London Conference about Dr. Weizman's policy, has been confirmed by the events. Already then I said, that Dr. Weizman will lead us from one catastrophe to another, until the last catastrophe from which there will be no escape. He is still fighting for his domination although he utterly failed all the time, and missed every good opportunity. He made it possible to the British officials to plunge Palestine in an ocean of blood and we do not see yet an end of it.

If you will not succeed before September to make thorough purge of Weizman's men, you will miss the last opportunity.



Yours very sincerely

Chaim P. Yehuda

May 12, 1947

Professor A. S. Yahuda
162, Bishop Street
New Haven, Conn.

My dear Professor Yahuda:

Thank you for your kind letter of May 7. I regret that I have not had a chance to see you since my return, but as you can probably understand, I have been overwhelmed with work. I will discuss some of the matters which you raise in your letter with you when I see you personally.

With reference to work among the Latin-American delegates -- we have not neglected that field. Nor is the cooperation of Mr. Del Vayo and Mrs. Kirchwey altogether without our knowledge. The Latin-American delegates have been behaving quite well at the UN so far. That, too, is not accidental.

The matter of the Mufty is being followed up in Washington.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK