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Reel Box Folder 13 4 286

American Zionist Emergency Council, "T", 1948-1949.

COLLEGES PLAN MIDDLE RAST STUDY

The explosive problems of the Middle East will be studied by undergraduates from seventeen Eastern colleges and universities Feb. 27 and 28 when they gather on the Mount Holyoke campus for an intercollegiate conference sponsored by the Mount Holyoke International Relations Club. Delegates, including representatives from Tale, Harvard, Vassar, Barnard, Smith, Wellesley and Princeton, will convene for two days of panel discussions and commission meetings to consider the questions of big power oil interests, Arab-Jewish disputes and the role of the United Nations.

August 2, 1948 Mr. Josua Torczyner c/o Numa Torczyner 2 West 46th St. New York, N.Y. Dear Mr. Torczyner: I was glad to have met with you this morning and to have heard something of the plans of the American Israel Institute in San Francisco. The spirit of those who have joined to form the Institute and their desire to be of help to the State of Israel at this critical stage of its development is warmly appreciated. I feel I must at the same time express some anxiety lest the development of efforts uncoordinated with the established Zionist bodies in this country, among whose purposes are included those of the American Israel Institute, may not lead to confusion and difficulty. A not dissimilar situation here in New York has led to unhappy consequences, and I would strongly urge that the American Israel Institute should proceed only in closest contact with the established American Zionist bodies. With all good wishes. Very sincerely yours, Arthur Lourie ONION BEIN EUT OUR CONTENT

Mr. Abe Tuvim
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York 17, New York

My dear Tuvim:

I am enclosing herewith an item which may interest you. It is a part of the campaign of the American Jewish Congress, spear-headed by Pietegorsky to supplant the Z.O.A. on the American scene. You may recall Pietegorsky's statements in recent weeks and the act of the Congress to launch "State of Israel Week" and to issue pronouncements on Zionist matters as if it were the spokesman of the Zionist movement in the United States. I would suggest that you discuss this with Dr. Neumann.

It would also be advisable that you send regularly released to the Anglo-Jewish press and to the Yiddish press on the activities of the Emergency Council. An article covering the work of the Council in connection with the United Nations Assembly of recent months, what it did to defeat the Bernadotte plan and to influence the administration, etc., should be written by Manson and then sent to the Anglo-Jewish press. I should like to see the article before it is released.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

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MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date

December 10, 1948

From Abe Tuvim

A number of members of the Executive staff have asked me to give consideration to the need for a cost of living increase. I know I need not enter into any details about the cost of living since all of us are completely familiar with what it has done to the dollar.

The last increase we had for the Executives was in October of 1947 - 14 months ago. I would very much like to do it in the form of a ten per cent living cost adjustment which will not effect the basic salaries for severance purposes.

I will look forward to your approval.

Kindest regards.

AT: RB

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December 13, 1948 Mr. Abe Tuvim American Zionist Emergency Council 342 Madison Avenue New York 17, New York My dear Tuvim: In reply to your memorandum, would you please indicate to me what the 10% increase in salaries would amount to? With all good wishes, I remain Very cordially yours, ABBA HILLEL SILVER AHS:er

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

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees

Date

December 14, 1948

From

Abe Tuvim

Attached you will find a report of the activities of the American Zionist Emergency Council which was delivered at a meeting of the Administrative Council of the Zionist Organization of America at the Hotel New Yorker on Sunday, December 12th.

While the report does not convey the full scope of the Council's activities, it does indicate some of the highlights in our work during the period following the November 29th decision of the United Nations General Assembly.

A better understanding of Emergency Council work may be brought about if the report is read at meetings of your Zionist groups.

Kindest regards.

AT: RB Enc.



REPORT OF ACTIVITIES OF THE AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

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ABE TUVIM Executive Director

Delivered before the Administrative Council of the Zionist Organization of America Sunday, December 12, 1948

The American Zionist Emergency Council has just completed another year of activities, many of which played a most vital role in the political achievements of the Jewish state since the partition decision of the United Nations General Assembly. Throughout this entire period the Emergency Council worked in close cooperation with the Jewish Agency for Falestine and the representatives of the Government of Israel, thereby ensuring coordinated efforts in Israel's behalf.

Before the last echo of the affirmative votes at Lake Success passed into history on November 29, 1947, a conspiracy was already being hatched to undermine the partition resolution. One of the chief functions of the Emergency Council is to detect and anticipate adverse developments and to be prepared to meet them. Consequently, only a short time after the partition decision the Council found it necessary to call a national conference in Washington which was held on February 16, 1948 and which sought to prepare our people for the treachery ahead.

That conference served to re-mobilize our political forces and to serve notice on our enemies that we were taking up their new challenge.

We began a widespread campaign of education -- with articles and occasional full page advertisements in the nation's press, with speakers over the radio and on lecture platforms throughout America, with a program enlisting the active support of our friends in Congress and other leaders of public

The March 19th reversal of the United States was a severe shock for our people. Our movement had gone through years of unabated emotional strain — campaign had succeeded campaign — and the partition resolution had given many the long-awaited feeling that the job was over, that the time had come to enjoy the fruits of victory. The U. S. about-face, therefore, produced a rude awakening for the battle-weary veterans of our political struggle.

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Furthermore, the State Department propagandists represented the new U. S. proposals for "truce" and trusteeship in a very "reasonable" light and they proceeded to circulate arguments defending the new policy as vital to "American interest". We were, therefore, faced with a two-fold task. Not only was it necessary to restore the fervor and effectiveness of Zionist campaigning, but it was also necessary to direct our campaign against our own U. S. Administration.

That we succeeded in this is a tribute to our leadership. But it is not the victory of any single man, even though one man foresaw the tasks ahead and sought, in a thousand and one ways, to prepare our people for it. No, this was not merely a victory for Dr. Abba Hillel Silver -- or for any single party in Zionism. It was a victory for all parties. It was also a demonstration of the unity and discipline which the American Zionist Emergency Council has brought about in the ranks of Zionist parties. In view of this record, it is somewhat strange that some individuals and groups should have put forward the contention that the Emergency Council has outlived its usefulness. It has become quite clear, however, that such individuals and parties have been actuated, not by realities, but by internal political considerations. We may indeed be thankful that there have been men like Dr. Silver and Dr. Neumann who have fought, and who continue to fight, to maintain the one body capable of coping with the political problems confronting American Zionism.

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day the State Department alone received 86,000 wires and it is generally believed that it received over a million wires within two months after the reversal.

On April 12th the World Zionist Actions Committee issued its proclamation announcing to the world that with the termination of the Mandate the Jewish State would be established. And on May 15th the State of Israel came into being and was immediately recognized by President Truman. The preceding months of toil had not been in vain! We gave expression to the joy felt by the entire Jewish people at the memorable rally in Madison Square Garden, and in other rallies throughout the country.

But, although we were happy over the realistic act of the President of the United States, we were not lulled into inaction. We knew that sinister forces were still at work and while we were ready to give thanks to the President for his act of recognition, it was still necessary to attack those forces. Our campaign continued.

An indication of the extent of that campaign may be obtained by recalling the reaction in Congress. It was at that time that Senator Bridges, ably

supported by others in the Senate, demanded that American economic aid to
Britain be investigated in order to ascertain whether such aid was being used
by Britain to arm the Arabs and whether American money was being used to defeat
the purposes expressed time and again by the Government. Senator Bridges'
demands created consternation in British circles.

We began another series of full page ads. One of them was called "Operation Amputation" and it exposed the long series of maneuvers by the British, aided and abetted by the U. S. State Department, to circumvent the United Nations decision.

At the same time, we began the effort to bring about the inclusion of planks on Israel in the Democratic and Republican party platforms. This was no easy task. It occupied the best minds and the best abilities of our movement. Our enemies then, as now, were active in the land. But organized Zionism again prevailed, and it prevailed only because under the courageous direction of our leaders the Jews of America had achieved political maturity. They were no longer being carried in the vest pockets of those who came, hat in hand, to ask for favors. We were a fighting force — a determined force, a force to be reckoned with.

Then we came to the Bernadotte period. Even we of the Council, who should have grown accustomed to critical situations, found ourselves in the midst of one which was most difficult. There is no intention here to speak ill of the dead. But it must be said that, wittingly or unwittingly, Count Bernadotte did not serve the purpose for which he was chosen. Long before his report was made -- long before his untimely and regrettable death -- we knew that we could not look forward to a just resolution of the problem from him. We said so in no uncertain terms. But there was no question that the manner of his death provided our enemies with a rallying point for their nefarious schemes against Israel.

That we overcame the effects of the assassination of Count Bernadotte and re-established our position in public opinion is a tribute to Zionist resiliency. When we thought of the heroism of fighting Israel, when we thought of those boys and girls in their teens writing an unforgettable chapter of history, it was little enough for us to try to overcome any political setback, and we did.

The Bernadotte report, and its unequivocal endorsement by Secretary Marshall was another, in the series of United States reversals. It called for another campaign. We asked the Jews of America to cry out against this last-minute effort to make a ghetto of the Jewish State -- an effort to restrict its growth and development -- to deny it the right and the possibility to repatriate and rehabilitate the Jewish refugees for whom there is no future except in Israel.

Another series of ads was spread throughout the country. Perhaps the most effective of these was the one which, by the reproduction of four maps, showed most graphically what the enemies of Israel were endeavoring to accomplish. It is generally believed that this ad went a long way toward bringing about a clear understanding of the problem. At the same time, hundreds of thousands of additional telegrams and letters were pouring in on Washington. Every candidate for local, state and federal office was approached by representatives of the Jewish communities and the Zionist bodies. The unity of the Jewish community was at its highest point. Even groups which in the past had hardly shown an active interest threw themselves into this desperate effort.

At the same time, other activities were being carried forward. Both candidates for the Presidency of the United States were being asked to reaffirm the Palestine planks in their platforms. They were being asked to do this in every city and town in which they appeared. They were literally bombarded with demands for this re-statement, not only by Jews but by non-Jews as well. The press of the country took up the issue and radio commentators showed no hesitancy in pointing up the fact that neither of the candidates had acted as yet.

boundaries would be countenanced unless these were acceptable to Israel. (This story is easy in the telling but you cannot have even the vaguest conception of all the pain and effort which were poured into those long and dark days.)

But even then we weren't out of the woods. Suddenly Israel faced the threat of sanctions. The victim of Arab-British aggression was to be punished because it had defended itself successfully. The President happened to be in New York at the time and within a matter of hours men with a sense of justice joined in a united effort to urge the President to disown this desperate attempt by Britain and representatives of the State Department to punish the innocent and bring victory to the defeated aggressor.

We know now that the President came through. We were grateful to him and we let it be known that we were grateful, just as we did when the statements were made in the last week of the campaign and we sent telegrams of gratitude to both candidates.

Our work is far from over. There is still a long and treacherous trail ahead of us. Our enemies are only temporarily subdued and we must not permit our satisfaction over recent developments to blind us to what is ahead. It is for this reason that our communities are kept on the alert. We must remember that we have a formidable array of force against us spending millions of dollars each year. The British Information Service -- the Institute of Arab-American

Affairs -- the missionary groups -- the oil interests -- the Council for Judaism.

When you realize this you must also realize that the financial outlay required to establish our movement so favorably in the mind and heart of America has been small indeed.

Only recently we organized a campaign for editorial comment urging the admission of Israel into the United Nations. I can report that that campaign has been a remarkable success. And in telling you about this I must pay tribute to the newspapers of America for their overwhelmingly fair treatment of this problem. Of course there have been exceptions. But many of these, too, have altered their policy in our favor. I should also pay tribute to the men and women who broadcast news and comment over the radio. In the American Zionist Emergency Council we have a special department which was created for the purpose of combatting unfair press and radio comment. It costs us many thousands of dollars each year for clippings and radio reports. But this has been money well spent, for today the unfriendly reports have been reduced to such an extent that the ratio is approximately one in twenty as against approximately ten in twenty a few years ago.

We must continue this and the other work being carried on. We must keep our President on the alert against attempts which most certainly will be made by anti-Israeli elements in the State Department to nullify his orders or avoid carrying them out. The battle is far from won; and even though there are men emong us who feel that the time has come to lessen our activities and reduce the scope of our work, I am sure that the more realistic minds will prevail.

We cannot go back to chaotic days of "partyism" in dealing with the political and educational necessities of the day. We could never have achieved the degree of success of which we may justly be proud if we had not established the Emergency Council, uniting the parties and providing political discipline, which is absolutely essential.

I cannot close this report without mentioning the invaluable aid which we have received from cooperating organizations. Chief among these is the American Christian Falestine Committee which today has hundreds of chapters in the cities and towns of America and has an enrollment of more than 25,000 Christian leaders, among whom are 6,000 ministers. A report of the A.C.P.C.'s activities would take just as long as this entire report. Most of the Zionist leaders who are here are fully aware of the great achievements of the A.C.P.C., whose growth has been encouraged by the AZEC and by the Zionist communities. Excellent relations are also enjoyed with the American Association for the United Nations and the great federations of labor which on innumerable occasions have been most helpful.

And thus I bring this report to a close. Actually I should not be making it. This recital of only a portion of our work should have been made by Harry L. Shapiro who recently assumed a post of great responsibility in the United Palestine Appeal and the United Jewish Appeal. It was under his direction and with the benefit of his tremendous ability that this work was carried on. And there were others too, whose contributions were truly magnificent.

We face a future in which great efforts are indicated. It would be very pleasant to be able to report to you that the emergency is over. But you know how far this is from the reality. Not only is there much to be done politically, but our job in the field of winning and keeping friends for Israel is one which must command our energies. Even after Israel attains full recognition and admission into the family of nations, its needs will be gigantic. I do not refer only to its economic requirements, which must be met largely in the United States. The world will have a critical eye focused on this new state. The task of interpreting its aims, its hopes and its efforts cannot be a one-party task. It must be the job of a united Zionist movement, such as is found in the American Zionist Emergency Council. Perhaps it may be necessary to change the name, but

regardless of the name, the task will remain. We have every reason to be confident that it will be carried out. The cooperation we have received from all our parties and communities has made possible the victories of the past and will make possible the achievements of the future. This cooperation has always been highlighted by the leadership of the Zionist Organization of America. The staff of the ZOA has extended invaluable assistance. The directives of the Emergency Council have been followed meticulously. Without this help we could not have gone as far as we have. It is surely in order to express, on behalf of the American Zionist Emergency Council, the deep and abiding appreciation we feel for your cooperation, your readiness and ability to carry out our common tasks so splendidly.



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

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees

Date December 15, 1948

From

Abe Tuvim

A communication of tremendous importance from the Executive of the Jewish Agency in Israel has just been received by the American Section of the Jewish Agency. This cable clarifies the issues raised in connection with the recent controversy concerning Zionist fund-raising in the United States. It leaves no doubt as to the body which has "full responsibility for representing, guiding and supervising all activities on behalf of the Zionist movement and the Jewish Agency on the American scene and all organized efforts connected with the upbuilding of Israel." That body, the Executive makes clear, is the American Section of the Jewish Agency whose chairman is Dr. Abba Hillel Silver.

The American Zionist movement now has a precise directive establishing the paramount authority of the American Section of the Jewish Agency over the political, organizational, fund-raising and all other Zionist activities carried on in the United States. The decisions of the American Section are binding upon all branches of American Zionism. Contravention of its decisions is action in defiance of the recognized and responsible authority of our movement.

The Zionist groups represented in your local emergency committee will unquestionably wish to provide their members with authoritative information which will clarify any issue raised by the recent controversy. We are, therefore, sending you the full text of the Executive's cable addressed to Dr. Abba Hillel Silver. The cable follows:

"THE EXECUTIVE OF THE JEWISH AGENCY IN JERUSALEM HAS LEARNED WITH SATISFACTION THAT THE DIFFERENCES AFFECTING THE U.P.A. HAVE BEEN SETTLED BY AGREEMENT TERMINATING A CONTROVERSY WHICH MIGHT HAVE IMPAIRED THE 1949 CAMPAIGN STOP WE WOULD REQUEST YOU TO CONVEY OUR APPRECIATION OF THE STATESMANSHIP AND PATIENCE DISPLAYED BY THE LEADERS OF THE ZIONIST FUNDS UNDER YOUR GUIDANCE AS WELL AS OF THE SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY SHOWN BY ALL CONCERNED AND THE VALUABLE COOPERATION OF THE

THAT UNITY IS ASSURED ISRAEL LOOKS FORWARD TO FULL RESUMPTION OF THE WORK ON WHICH THE IMMIGRATION OF HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS THEIR ABSORPTION AND SETTLEMENT ON THE LAND IS SO LARGELY DEPEND-ENT STOP. THE EXECUTIVE WISHES TO PLACE ON RECORD ITS HIGH APPRE-CIATION OF THE NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE KEREN HAYESOD AND KEREN KAYEMETH IN THE UNITED STATES SINCE THEIR INCEPTION AND EXPRESSES THE HOPE THAT BACKED BY THE WHOLE-HEARTED SUPPORT OF AMERICAN JEWRY THE U.P.A. WILL CONTINUE TO FUNCTION IN THE FUTURE AS IN THE PAST AS A UNIFYING CENTRAL FUND-RAISING AGENCY FOR THE UP-BUILDING OF ISRAEL STOP WE NOTE WITH PARTICULAR SATISFACTION THAT THE STATUS AND INTEGRITY OF THE HISTORIC ZIONIST FUNDS HAVE BEEN MAINTAINED AND THEIR AUTHORITY FULLY UPHELD STOP. WE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SEND A MESSAGE OF COMPLETE SOLIDARITY WITH OUR COLLEAGUES IN THE USA STOP WE PARTICULARLY DESIRE TO EXPRESS THAT THE AMERICAN SECTION OF THE JEWISH AGENCY WITH ITS PAST RECORD OF GREAT ACCOMPLISHMENT IN THE POLITICAL FIELD IS ENTRUSTED NOW AS HERETOFORE WITH FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR REPRE-SENTING GUIDING AND SUPERVISING ALL ACTIVITIES ON BEHALF OF THE ZIONIST MOVEMENT AND THE JEWISH AGENCY ON THE AMERICAN SCENE AND ALL ORGANIZED EFFORT CONNECTED WITH THE UPBUILDING OF ISRAEL STOP WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO AN ERA OF CLOSEST COOPERATION WITH THE MOVEMENT FIRMLY UNITED BEHIND ITS DULY ELECTED LEADERSHIP. EXECUTIVE JEWISH AGENCY"

Kindest regards.

MEMORANDUM

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date December 16, 1948

From Abe Tuvim

To

Following is a summary of the meeting of the Committee on Scope of the American Zionist Emergency Council, which met at noon today. It is my personal summary, since no minutes were kept. Akzin explained the reason for this at the meeting by saying that he felt that there should be no minutes at a first meeting where a general free discussion should prevail.

Before the meeting began Mrs. Epstein took exception to that part of my report at the ZOA which referred to certain parties and individuals who are saying that the Emergency Council has outlived its usefulness. She objected, first, because this might be interpreted as a reference to her and to her remarks at a recent meeting of the AZEC Executive, which she feels were misinterpreted by you, and secondly, because she feels that I sought to prejudge the issue which the Scope Committee was called upon to discuss.

In answering I said that there was no intention to refer to Mrs. Epstein in my remarks, but to those individuals and groups which were spreading rumors about the Emergency Council out of malice for American Zionist leadership.

Rabbi Miller was elected chairman.

MRS. EPSTEIN said that she was not one of those who felt that the time had come for giving up the Emergency Council -- she realized that the emergency is not over --she is one of the people in the Council who get a great deal of cooperation and use value out of the Council staff, but she objected to the methods used in the conduct of the Council. She realized that when Dr. Silver took the leadership he did so with the distinct understanding that the directives of the Council Executive would be carried out by him in cooperation with the staff, but often there are things which happen, and emphases which are placed on directives, which are not altogether satisfactory to all the parties. She felt that there should be a change in the democratic functioning of the body -- that there should be elections more regularly. She made clear that she did not desire to imply any criticism of Dr. Silver's leadership, but certainly some changes could be made in the functioning of the body.

RABBI MILLER stated the case in two sections: 1) The willingness and readiness of Zionist parties to consider that there are Zionist functions which can be done best by a central council; and 2) To ascertain the degree to which the work of such a central council may be coordinated with that of the American Section of the Jewish Agency in carrying out its responsibilities as directed by the World Zionist Actions Committee.

At this point I injected what I termed the need for clarification. First I said that while it certainly was the right of the individuals on this Committee to discuss whether or not to have an Emergency Council, as expressed by Mrs. Epstein prior to the meeting, it certainly was not the intent of the resolution adopted by the Executive which provided that the Committee should study the future activities of the Emergency Council. I made clear that what I objected to was that word might get around that a committee was discussing the possible liquidation of the Emergency Council, to the great detriment of our work. I also said that Rabbi Miller's emphasis on the points under consideration should have been reversed, and that the question of the adaptability of the Emergency Council to the needs of the American Section of the Agency was the paramount question — not whether the parties thought that there was a need for a central council.

GOLDMAN of Achdut said that of course the Agency body would be consulted, but that the Committee had a right to discuss the need for the Emergency Council. He criticized some of the methods used by the leadership and the executive staff, saying that much of the time everybody is left out of consideration, and he said that there was a need to create a new body to change the whole set-up. He suggested a federation on a volunteer basis.

LOUIS SEGAL said that the terms of reference of the Scope Committee. were such that they were free to reach their own decision. He said that under no circumstances will we be able to solve the organizational problems under the aegis of this Emergency Council. We are living in a new day. We must find means to meet that new day. The Emergency Council was organized for different purposes and while, in the past, he was opposed to territorial verbands, he now favored one based on democratic principles along the lines of the Congress. The structure we now have cannot meet the present-day needs. He said that when Dr. Silver accepted the chairmanship of the Emergency Council and the chairmanship of the Jewish Agency, he told his party meeting that the Emergency Council was doomed. He said either a verband or any other form will be satisfactory. We can use the files and the records of the Emergency Council and we may even use some personnel to work out our plan of action but we certainly don't want the Emergency Council to exist more than three months, or six months, or at the most, a year. (The word, "may" which is underlined, was clearly emphasized.)

EPSTEIN of the Revisionists said that from a selfish viewpoint his group would be better off if the AZEC went out of business. They often find themselves bound by discipline on subjects with which they ware in disagreement, but they took into consideration the need for common ground on which to do vitally important work and, therefore, remained in the Council. He asked, can we afford to give up the Council? Have we finished this chapter? He answered by saying that the emergency is not over, but just beginning, and to think of giving up the Council at this time is hard to understand. He was afraid of the idea of a verband because the smaller parties would lose their identity and he was quite sure that there would be a great deal of chaos and disruption brought about by the

GELLMAN of Mizrachi mentioned in passing the action of the Agency in setting up its departments in accordance with the resolution of the Actions Committee, and that whatever we do in the Scope Committee must be in accord with the Agency Executive. It is imperative to have an Emergency Council. There is still an emergency. Without an Emergency Council a multiplicity of statements would be far worse than a multiplicity of funds. He certainly believes in a democratic system. MILLER interrupted by saying, "I suppose you want the democratic right to vote again for Silver." Gellman said, "I certainly would."

KUSELEVITZ of Hashomer Hatzair stated that the emergency is not over and that this is a dangerous thing to say. As a matter of fact, he was startled when his secretary told him that he had a meeting to go to today to discuss the dissolution of the Emergency Council. There is a great need for a body such as this, and we must not allow the thought to spread that there is any consideration of dissolving it.

MILLER summed up by saying that this meeting had no authority to make recommendations on the length of the emergency which requires the existence of our Council -- only events in the coming months would determine that. Even if there is a reorganization this work must go on. He said that the question of a verband was not before this body and could not be discussed, and he announced that he felt that there was general agreement on the part of everybody, with the exception of Mr. Segal, that the emergency still exists and that the work must go on, and that it was unrealistic for Mr. Segal to think in terms of liquidation at a given time. What was needed was a re-evaluation in program and structure for the work ahead of us, and he again warned of the dangers of setting a date.

It was suggested that a summary be made in line with the remarks of Rabbi Miller and that this summary be sent to the parties and that another meeting would be held on Thursday, January 6th.

AT:SR

B'NAI B'RITH

Office of the President
FRANK GOLDMAN
402 SUN BUILDING
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

December 20, 1948

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

Dear Rabbi:

A mail vote of the Executive Committee of Binai Birith, relating to its joining as one of the sponsoring members of the Committee being organized in this country for the relief of Arab refugees, discloses a strong and representative minority opposed.

In important matters where there has been a substantial minority who do not vote favorably on the subject of the mail vote, I have felt it wise to withhold action in order to provide an opportunity for those opposed to personally state their objections to their colleagues at a meeting where the matter can be fully discussed.

I think that this tends towards fairness and is apt to bring about a substantially unanimous approval in those cases where strong or country-wide support is basic to the success of the project. I am therefore making this matter a part of the agenda for the B'nai B'rith Executive Committee meeting which is to be held in Cincinnati on February 7 and 8, 1949.

It goes without saying that I am personally very anxious to be of service in connection with the foregoing, more especially since the request came from Mr. Shertok and you.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours

Frank Goldman

gms

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees Date December 22, 1948

From Abe Tuvim

ACTION ON CYPRUS

Today's press includes the following dispatch from London: "The British Government has no intention of relaxing at present its practices governing the release of Jewish refugees interned on Cyprus . . . " (JTA).

Despite all personal appeals, the British Government is continuing its illegal and inhuman policy of holding more than 11,000 men, women and children on Cyprus — only a day's journey by sea from Israel, which is willing and anxious to receive them. This attitude is all the more outrageous when we consider that even those lame arguments which were advanced by the British Mandatory Government in "justification" of its Cyprus deportation policy no longer exist. The British Mandate for Palestine has been dead for a half year.

Furthermore, the 11,000 Jewish refugees on Cyprus are still treated as criminals. Their living conditions are intolerable. They are subjected to degradation, penned up and guarded by soldiers, denied the most elementary requirements for human dignity and self-respect. This is being done to people who merely wished to end their DP existence and to live as free men in their own homeland.

Great Britain's criminal policy must not be permitted to continue. We must now redouble our efforts to bring about the release of the Cyprus detainees and their resettlement in Israel. To that end we are suggesting the following program of action:

- 1. Ask leading non-Jewish citizens of your community to send wires and letters of protest to the British Ambassador at the British Embassy in Washington. After your public officials and other Christian leaders become aware of the facts concerning the refugees on Cyprus, many of them will be glad to register their protest with the British Government and to demand the release of the internees and their emigration to Israel.
- 2. Try to bring about the publication of editorials in your local newspapers on this subject. In addition to the facts contained in this memorandum, you will shortly receive other background material on this issue. Please make this material available to your editors, columnists, and radio commentators. If newspaper comment results from your efforts please make certain that copies of the editorials are sent to the British Ambassador in Washington.
- 3. Ask your Christian religious leaders to preach on the subject and supply them with the necessary background material.
- 4. Try to obtain local radio time, preferably for a non-Jewish leader. If you succeed in making such arrangements with your radio station and are in need of script material, please communicate with us and the draft of an address will be forwarded to you without delay.

Finally, we urge you to keep us informed concerning all of your activities regarding this most pressing question.

MILE

Incorporated

(Palestine Upbuilding and Defense Fund)

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675 Eighth Ave.

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December 22, 1948

American Section Jewish Agency for Palestine 16 East 66th Street New York, New York

Gentlemen:

The pressing needs of our economic institutions and our colonization and absorption department in Israel, in connection with the present continuous arrival of thousands of members from Europe, compels us to address to you the following urgent request:

As you know, our application for an allocation from the U.P.A. funds is under consideration before the Joint Committee of the Keren Hayesod and the Keren HaKayemeth Le-Yisrael. However, in view of the urgent needs we are not in a position to await its final settlement. We understand that this is connected with certain laid-down procedures which must take a considerable period of time. Under the present circumstances such a delay would jeopardize our work, and cause hardships to our new arrivals in Israel.

May we therefore request that you make an urgent recommendation to the U.P.A. Board that it extend to us immediately an advance payment of \$100,000 on account of the allocation accruing to us from its funds.

We beg to draw your attention to precedents when, under similar circumstances, advance payments on account of U.P.A. future allocations were made to other Zionist and Israeli public institutions.

Should you find it impossible to accede to our foregoing request, we should appreciate it very much if the Jewish Agency would enable us to secure a loan of \$100,000 from a financial institution or from a private individual by furnishing a guarantee for repayment of same within a period up to twelve months.

It is understood that your guarantee will be collateral to our undertaking to repay said loan either from monies raised by our funds or from the allocation of the U.P.A.

In view of the urgency and the extreme importance of the matter we sincerely request you to give it your immediate favorable consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Col. Morris J. Mendelsohn

President

Miron Szeskin

On behalf of the

Israeli Delegation in the U.S.A.

MJM:RL MS

December 24, 1948 Mr. Abe Tuvim American Zionist Emergency Council 342 Madison Avenue New York 17, New York My dear Tuvim: You may wish this letter for your files. I am sure that you are acquainted with the matter. A committee for the relief of Arab refugees is being organized, and the question of including some representative Jewish organization came up. It was felt by many that such representation would be desirable. I contacted with Mr. Shertok and he fully concurred. As regards the organization to be represented, it was felt that a non-political organization like the B'nai Brith would meet the situation. Accordingly, I got in touch with Mr. Goldman of the B'nai Brith. His letter continues the story. We shall now wait for future developments. With all good wishes, I remain Most cordially yours, ABBA HILLEL SILVER AHS :er Enc.

December 29, 1948 Hon. Arthur Lourie Israeli Mission 16 East 70th Street New York, N.Y. Dear Arthur: For a number of years the Club Program Service of the American Zionist Emergency Council and the American Christian Palestine Committee have cooperated very closely in the organization of an annual national seminar at which outstanding Christian leaders from fifty to seventy communities were given a two or three day course in Zionist ideology and its practical application to the American scene. These seminars have been uniformly successful and in a number of communities today there are local American Christian Palestine Committee chapters which are headed by the men and women who attended the seminars, and the speakers list of the Club Program Service contains the names of a substantial number of these people who were materially aided by the seminars. For the year 1949, a new plan has been projected. It is as yet in the formative stage and consequently I am only outlining it to you in general terms. Since it vitally affects the Government of Israel, I would ask that you submit the idea to the Government for their opinion and approval. of seminars We would like to organize a series/in Israel for twenty or more outstanding Christian leaders in all walks of life in America. The plan envisages the selection of these Christians by local communities, by friendly organizations such as the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organization - and by such other means as may be deemed advisable when the project gets underway. These leaders would be brought to Israel sometime in the early summer for a period of ten days to two weeks where they would be able to study at first hand such phases of Israeli life and activity as may be organized for It is hoped that seminars can be set up covering a number of vital aspects of Israeli life. As an example I would list the following: 1. Relationship of labor to Government and community 2. Functions of Government 3. Religious life 4. Medical and hospitalization systems 5. Life in settlements 6. Educational institutions 7. Cooperative institutions There is nothing fixed about these subjects and such seminars as may be arranged will, of course, be the result of consultation.

When the phases of the seminars are finally arrived at, it is expected that the departments or institutions in Israel dealing with the specific titles will supply the speakers and the source people to conduct the course for the visiting Americans. The Government is not required to finance either the transportation or the living costs of the visitors. All of this will be done through communities, institutions and individuals in the United States. We are convinced that the basic idea is excellent and that if it is carried through, the men and women who participate in the seminars will be invaluable to our movement after their return to the States. Since there is a great deal of technical work to be carried one, I would urge that you ask for approval of the idea and for suggestions as to the form and content as quickly as possible. We need at least four months to organize the project and therefore we should have some definite word before the end of January. With all good wishes, I am Sincerely yours, Abe Tuvim P.S. Mrs. Blanche Shepard, the director of our Club Program Service, plans to be in Israel sometime during the Spring and she will be glad to devote herself to a great msny of the technical details involved in setting up the functions. Mrs. Shepard has many years of experience in this field. She is making the trip at her own expense and I hope that every effort will be made to facilitate her help when she is there.

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date

January 6, 1949

From Abe Tuvim

I got a call from Maurice Bisgyer who told me that his office has most excellent contacts to Mr. Keenan, the American delegate on the Conciliation Commission. These contacts include Leo Cadison of the Department of Justice and a Mr. Horowitz in Pittsburgh who is a partner of Mr. Keenan. Mr. Bisgyer offered the services of his office in the event that we wish to avail ourselves of the above at any time in the future.

I was glad to hear from Sol Benamy that you had accepted the invitation to address the national convention of the Jewish War Veterans in Atlanta late in March. They are very much excited with the prospect.

I am also enclosing a copy of a memorandum from Schulson on the Athens airport matter about which Dr. Goldstein wrote you. Schulson told me that he thinks it would be much better if you dropped a line to Fahy rather than have Schulson make the request personally.

Kindest regards.

At

AT: RB Enc.

P.S. I am also enclosing copy of a letter from Schulson to Dr. Neumann and Dr. Neumann's comment. It strikes me that Schulson should not have proposed this to Dr. Neumann without prior consultation, but I do not intend to speak to him about it until hearing from you.

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

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees

Date January 14, 1949

From Abe Tuvim

I know that you will be interested in the enclosed copy of a release issued yesterday by the American Zionist Emergency Council. This Conference represents another in many steps we are taking to arouse the nation to the menace presented by Britain's antagonism to Israel.

The current British attitude is part of a series of anti-Israel actions beginning with her determination to thwart the will and decision of the U.N. General Assembly and ghettoize the Jewish State. We must be prepared to meet this threat and the new threats which Britain will surely concoct.

It is therefore important that, wherever possible, local emergency committees should sponsor a meeting of representatives of all Jewish organizations to plan to put into operation the actions indicated in our last directives.

Again we ask you to keep us informed of your activities. Kindest regards.

AT: RB Enc.



THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

PERSONAL

Mission of the United States Tel Aviv, Israel January 14, 1949

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO:

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
E. 105th Street and Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Mr. Samuel Klaus, assistant to the Legal Adviser of the Department of State, is returning home tomorrow after a two months special assignment with the Mission here. During this time he has made an intensive and objective study of all the phases of the labor movement in Israel and of an intimately related and very important problem. He takes back with him, therefore, a fund of knowledge which should be of very special value at this particular juncture in the development of Israel and in its relations with not merely its Arab neighbor states but also the three Great Powers whose interests are vital in this area.

I have told Klaus that I hope that it might be possible for him and you to have a long confidential talk. He should be back in Washington well before the end of this month and can then be reached through the Office of the Legal Adviser of the Department of State, Washington.

Cordially yours,

James G. McDonald

SUITE 915 420 LEXINGTON AVENUE NEW YORK

January 20, 1949

Dear Mr. Allen:

On behalf of the City YMCA Program Committee I have the privilege of inviting you to attend a most unusual meeting.

At 12:30 luncheon Tuesday, February 1st, at West Side YMCA, the Program Committee has the opportunity of presenting to a small intimate group Mr. A. L. Miller, General Secretary of the Jerusalem YMCA. Mr. Miller, just back from Jerusalem and due to return to Palestine in April, will talk to us strictly off the record and will answer questions.

You are the only member of your Branch Board of Managers who is being invited to this meeting. We are counting on your being an interpreter of the Palestine situation to your Board, and therefore very much hope you can accept.

Sincerely,

/s/ Herbert H. Schwamb, Chairman, City Program Committee

YMCA

R.S.V.P. Luncheon \$1.50

January 20, 1919 Mr. Abe Tuvim American Zionist Emergency Council 342 Madison Avenue New York 17, New York Dear Mr. Tuvim: Dr. Silver has asked that the Emergency Council reimburse him in the amount of \$150 for telegrams, telephone, and expenses in connection with his trip to Atlantic City. With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to Dr. Silver

er

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

MEMORANDUM

To Members of American Zionist Emergency Council Date February 3, 1949

From Abe Tuvim

The enclosed memorandum with attachments was sent today to the Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees.

AT:MP Encs. AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL 342 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees Date February 3, 1949

From Abe Tuvim

Attached you will find some excerpts from the British press during the hectic days preceding Britain's de facto recognition of the State of Israel, and the remarks made by Mr. Winston Churchill in the historic debate in the House of Commons on January 26th.

The press comments represent a cross-section of British opinion. These and the statement of Mr. Churchill should prove very helpful to you during the coming days, in which we may see a continuation of Mr. Bevin's effort to force Israel to yield part of the Negev.

While our political position is undoubtedly better than it has been in a long time, we must continue to face the facts and be guided by past history. This was clearly indicated in a recent memorandum which was sent to you, and which included a statement by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver on that subject.

The remarkable change in British press opinion evidenced in the attached extracts, is due to a number of causes, among them being the firm position taken by our Government and a growing awareness of press opinion in America.

American press opinion is cabled and telephoned daily to Britain by the British Information Service and other agencies of the British Government in the United States. It is clear that the magnificent support given our cause by the American press has had its effect not only on the British press but also on many members of the British Government.

For this result and for many other services promptly and effectively rendered, the hundreds of Zionist Emergency Committees in the United States are to be congratulated. Never before in the history of our struggle has there been a press so unanimous in its support of our position and in its condemnation of Mr. Bevin's anti-Israel policies.

I know that you will continue to put the material you receive to good uses. Should you want additional copies, we will supply them.

Kindest regards.

AT: RB Enc.

THE BRITISH PRESS ON MR. BEVIN

The <u>DAILY TELEGRAPH</u>, a London newspaper which reflects conservative opinion, editorialized on January 14th:

"His (Bevin's) policy at the very best, has left us in the Middle East in the position of OSCAR WILDE'S character who 'had no enemies but was cordially disliked by his friends,' and he must often have regretted his rash undertaking more than three years ago to stake his political future on solving the Palestine problem. It is a great pity that he allowed matters to drift for nearly 18 months before handing over what was always an international problem to the United Nations; that he opposed a policy of partition for at least another year; and that he has never been able to obtain much credence for his undoubtedly sincere desire to be impartial as between the two sides."

On January 15th, the <u>NEW STATESMAN</u>, a weekly periodical which has strong labor leanings, stated:

"Mr. Bevin still seems determined to wrest the Negev from the Jews even if it means one more military intervention in Palestine -- with grave danger to world peace. If the Rhodes Peace talks fail, and if Egypt can be induced to accept our freely-offered help, then the danger of a military conflict between Britain and Israel will be real. British troops are reported in readiness to repeat the Akabah action at Gaza, and we are prepared to go to the aid of the Iraqi troops who have been valiantly defending their homeland by shelling for the last two weeks a Jewish settlement 250 miles from the Iraqi frontier. This wild folly must stop."

The LONDON OBSERVER, a conservative newspaper which has consistently backed up Mr. Bevin in his foreign policies, observed on January 16th:

"There is an unfortunate touch of hypocrisy in our clinging to a Security Council cease-fire resolution of last November, which was meant to establish a temporary basis for armistice negotiations in a fleeting situation, while at the same time we continue to disregard the basic Palestine resolution of the United Nations General Assembly, which decreed the partition of Palestine and the allocation of the territory as a permanent settlement. This resolution gave the Negev area, which the Israelis have now reconquered from the invading Egyptian forces, to Israel. By labelling the Israeli reconquest of this area 'aggression', we implicitly declare that ruling of the United Nations null and void."

In an editorial entitled: "Hence The Pyramids," the independent DAILY MIRROR commented on January 28th:

"Progress at Rhodes, where Jews and Arabs seek the road to peace, a more reasonable and responsible attitude in Washington, the indication of Commonwealth recognition for Israel, all move slightly nearer the solution for which everybody sighs. That solution is more important than the possible dissolution of Mr. Bevin. He received a clear warning in the House that everybody is irritated past patience with fumbling, with mysteries, and with his sphinx-like resistance to other ideas than his own. British interests in the Middle East are vital. Mr. Bevin is right in thinking we must be strong in defending them. But when will he learn to deal with nettles without stinging himself and everybody else? His handling of the problems has served too often only to increase them."

The TRIBUNE, a weekly Socialist periodical, devoted its leading editorial of January 14th, to the Anglo-Israeli crisis. Its concluding paragraph asked the following questions:

"Does Mr. Bevin want the peace negotiations in Rhodes to succeed? How does he think that purpose can be served by always arraigning one side as the guilty party? How long will it be before he and his advisers recognise facts which are obvious to the rest of the world? How long are we to persist in policies which arouse bitter condemnation in the Dominions, in American quarters normally most friendly to this country, and throughout the civilised world? How long must we wait for the British Government to admit the error of the past, to sweep up the remnants of a shattered diplomacy, and to start rebuilding a friendship between peoples who should never have been enemies?"

The Lord Rothemere SUNDAY DISPATCH, a weekly pro-imperialist newspaper, reflecte its strong views on Israel in a by-lined story by Alastair Forbes, an outspoken Tory. Mr. Forbes declared:

"The country, and the world, waits in vain for a sign of method in Mr. Bevin's midwinter madness... It may be very disagreeable for the British public to have to hear once more that the deaths of British subjects must be dismissed as 'regrettable incidents.' It may be very disagreeable to see Mr. Bevin exposing us to impertinence from Tel Aviv, rebukes from Washington, and ridicule from the world. But these incidents are but the by-products of Mr. Bevin's larger incompetence... It was the British interest in all this to keep out of the struggle and to strive, together with America, for an early armistice. The first step towards this should have been de facto recognition of the Tel Aviv Government in order that our good offices might be of some use. But this Mr. Bevin refused."

THE ECONOMIST, a weekly liberal newspaper which specializes primarily in financial news, editorialized on January 15th:

"What is Mr. Bevin up to? The last British moves in the Middle East must seem incomprehensible, not only to the man in the street but to those who have been attempting to follow the unfolding of events in Palestine with some attention... The repercussions of the British Government's sudden fit of temper have been uniformly unfavourable. If the first aim of British policy in the Middle East is — as it should be — to walk in step with the Americans, the weekend's sabre rattling has undone all the good achieved by the quiet intervention of a week before. Last week Britain was hoping to escape being called upon for help by its Arab allies; this week it seems to be inviting them to summon its armed forces to their side."

TIME AND TIDE, an independent weekly, stated in a front page editorial (January 15th):

"The British Government has created a most unfortunate impression before the world by being at once aggressive and weak. The threats of strong action and the demands for an explanation before the Security Council, in the incident of the planes shot down on the Egyptian frontier, dwindled away within a few days to a face-saving statement emphasizing the 'great restraint' of the British Government and its sincere hope for peace in Palestine ... Meanwhile, not only abroad but in England, pertinent questions were being put. Mr. Amery, writing to 'The Times,' asked how it was that British planes 'came to be at that spot and so close to the ground fighting that one of our pilots was actually brought down by anti-aircraft fire. It is perfectly evident that the planes should never have been ordered to make that reconnaissance flight. Observing the movements of Israeli troops in the Negeb is a matter for the Conciliation Commission, the members of which are the United States, France and Turkey. Great Britain is not one of them."

On January 7th, THE TIMES, an independent London daily, commented editorially:

"At a time when the militarists threaten to gain the upper hand at Tel Aviv, moderate men must be given every encouragement to persevere in moderation, and they are not helped by the British disinclination to recognize their efforts." On January 28th, the Parliamentary correspondent of THE TIMES, had this to say about the showdown" vote in the House of Commons:

"It certainly came as an unpleasant surprise to Mr. Bevin and his colleagues that after the Prime Minister's appeal to his supporters to make this vote a matter of confidence in the Government so many Labour members should have sullenly abstained. Had it not been for Mr. Attlee's intervention at the end of the debate there might have been even more Labour abstentions and a few of those who abstained might have voted against the Government."



REMARKS OF WINSTON CHURCHILL BEFORE HOUSE OF COMMONS DURING PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE ON PALESTINE, JANUARY 26, 1949

I am quite sure that the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. Bevin) will have to recognise the Israeli Government, and that cannot be long delayed. I regret that he has not had the manliness to tell us in plain terms tonight, and that he preferred to retire under a cloud of inky water and vapour, like a cuttlefish, to some obscure retreat. De facto recognition has never depended upon an exact definition of territorial frontiers. There are half-s-dozen countries in Europe which are recognised today whose territorial frontiers are not finally settled. Surely, Poland is one. It is only with the general Peace Treaty that a final settlement can be made.

Whether the right hon. Gentleman likes it or not, and whether we like it or not, the coming into being of a Jewish State in Palestine is an event in world history to be viewed in the perspective, not of a generation or a century, but in the perspective of a thousand, two thousand or even three thousand years. That is a standard of temporal values or time values which seems very much out of accord with the perpetual click-clack of our rapidly-changing moods and of the age in which we live. This is an event in world history.

I do not feel any great confidence that he (Mr. Bevin) has not got a prejudice against the Jews in Palestine. I am sure that he thought the Arab League was stronger and that it would win if fighting broke out, but I do not suggest for a moment that he wished to provoke war. He was quite right in saying, in effect, that, in that particular quarrel, they needed very little provocation, but the course he took led inevitably and directly to a trial of strength, and the result was opposite to what I believe he expected it to be. I will say no more than that.

I certainly felt that the spectacle of the Jewish settlements being invaded from all sides -- from Syria, Transjordan and Egypt -- and with a lot of our tanks and modern tackle, was, on the face of it, most formidable, but I believed that that combination would fall to pieces at the first check, and I adhered to the estimate I had formed in the war of the measure of the fighting qualities and the tough fibre of the Zionist community, and the support which it would receive from Zionists all over the world. But the Foreign Secretary was wrong, wrong in his facts, wrong in the mood, wrong in the method and wrong in the result, and we are very sorry about it for his sake and still more sorry about it for our own.

I have always felt that the Negeb should afford a means of expansion to the Jewish settlers in Palestine and offer future prospects to Zionist movements. But it is impossible to fly over these regions low down, as I did before the Second Great War, or travel through them to Petra and other places without seeing how fierce and barren these regions of the Negeb are. And yet they once held great cities and nourished important populations. The Jews, by the gift they have and by the means which they do not lack, have a way of making the desert bloom. Those who have seen it can testify. The Arabs, with all their dignity and grace, are primarily the children of the desert, where they dwell, in this part of the world at least, and for the most part, the desert lands do not become reclaimed while the Arab control is complete over them.

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date February 16, 1949

From Abe Tuvim

The Hunts Point Zionist District No. 133 of the Bronx has organized a public rally on March 29th to which Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt has accepted their invitation to be the principal speaker.

Since this date is so close to the opening of the United Nations Assembly, we would like some guidance from you with regard to the handling of the rally from a public relations point of view. The subject for the rally has not been chosen as yet.

I am sending a copy of this memorandum to Major Aubrey Eban.

AT:RB

W

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date February 16, 1949

From Abe Tuvim

Following is the telegram sent in your name to Charles Ress:

SURPRISED THAT KEREN HAYESOD HAS WITHHELD ALLOCATION FROM EMERGENCY COUNCIL SINCE DECEMBER 15TH. SITUATION IN COUNCIL SUCH THAT I MUST EARNESTLY REQUEST THAT YOU GIVE THIS MATTER YOUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION IN ORDER THAT THE COUNCIL MAY CONTINUE TO MEET ITS COMMITMENTS. I WILL APPRECIATE YOUR EARLIEST ACTION. REGARDS.

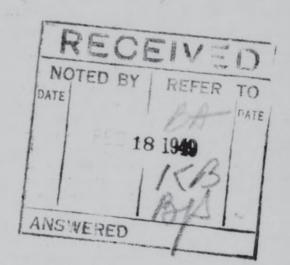
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AT:RB

THE WOMEN'S ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA, INC.

1819 BROADWAY • NEW YORK 23, N.Y. TELEPHONE: COLUMBUS 5-6585

February 16, 1949



Dr. Benjamin Akzin, American Zionist Emergency Council, 342 Madison Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Akzin:

I am enclosing newspaper publicity which came to me through our chairman in Madison, Wisconsin.

I am glad that you are going to pass this on to Dr. Voss since this kind of movement can grow to alarming proportions.

Will you please keep me informed?

Sincerely yours,

Ars. Moses f. Epstein, Chairman Zionist Public Relations Committee

JGE:FS Enc.

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IN AMERICA: Hadassah works to help interpret Israel to the American people; provides basic Jewish education as a background for intelligent and creative Jewish living in America; carries on a project for American Jewish youth, and participates in efforts which safeguard the democratic way of life here and assure peace and security throughout the world.

IN ISRAEL: The members of Hadassah support and help expand Hadassah's countrywide medical and public health system, its extensive child welfare, feeding, recreation and vocational education projects; provide maintenance and education for youth refugees through the Youth Aliyah movement; and participate in a program of Jewish National Fund land purchase to make possible the colonization of newcomers.

JUNIOR HADASSAH: Maintenance of Meier Shfeyah Children's Village and Pardess Anna Training Farm; Jewish National Fund.

JOINT ACTIVITY WITH Maintenance of Henrietta Szold School of Nursing; Junior Agency for Youth Aliyah. SENIOR HADASSAH:

Dr. Moll Tells of Plight of Arabs

The partition of Palestine which has deprived countless Arabs of their homes, lands, and worldly goods has made the Arabs bitter towards the western democracies, Dr. Edwin Moll, former pastor of Luther Memorial church and director of the Palestine branch of the Lutheran World federation, said Friday.

Dr. Moll, in Madison because of illness in his family, asserted that the Arabs are bitter against the democracies because they backed

up the Palestinian partition.

He explained that between 500,-000 and 750,000 Arabs have had to flee into neighboring countries before the advancing Jews. The Arabs, forced from country that was their homeland for thousands of years, are now living in crude crowded refugee camps, according to Dr. Moll. They have found temporary haven in Arabia, Transjordan, Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, and Iraq, he said.

Dr. Moll, who has been living in the old walled city of Jerusalem still held by the Arabs, has been carrying on aid to the Arabs under the plan of Lutheran World Action. He described scenes of aged men, pregnant women and children running for protection

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from their enemies.

Dr. Moll, Home From Israel, Tells of Arab Bitterness Toward West

By JOHN NEWHOUSE

(State Journal Staff Writer) Dr. Edwin Moll, director of the Palestine branch of Lutheran World Federation, stood Friday afternoon by the side of a large packing case, filled with medicine and destined for shipment to Palestine.

"Is it needed?" he asked in re-

ply to a question.
"My friend, there are between 500,000 and 750,000 Arabs who have fled from the country that has been theirs for more than a thousand years, fled into neighboring countries before the advancing Jews.

"They are living in refugee camps, up to 100,000 in a single camp, sleeping under the olive trees or under crude stone walls, and their need is greater than you—living in this country of ours—can understand."

Arabs Are Bitter
The Arabs are bitter against the democracies of the world, whom they blame for the partition of their country and the loss of their homes and—for many all of their worldly goods, he

"The only reason that I, an American, can maintain myself in Palestine," he said, "is because of the work that Lutheran World Action is doing for the Arabs.

Dr. Moll, who returned to Madison because of illness in his family, plans to return to Palestine as soon as possible to administer the affairs of the Lutheran group in Palestine.

Christianity Gains Christianity was making "good headway" among the Arabs, he said, until the partition of Palestine which received the backing of democratic, Christian countries of the world.

Dr. Moll's "home" is in the old walled city of Jerusalem, which the Arabs are still holding against the Jews, who have taken the newer city of Jerusalem.

"My residence in within 21/2 minutes walk of the fighting," he said.

"I have preached to the Arabs under shellfire of the Jews."

More than a half million Arabs have fled before the advancing Jews, he said.

"I have seen old men, pregnant women, and little children, white for refugees along streams, for with fear and gasping and falling "water is the great need of the Luther Memorial church,



THE REV. EDWIN MOLL -State Journal Staff photo

as they came, run for safety Far East." according to Dr. Moll. ahead of their enemies," he said.

"In a singel day, I have held in my arms six babies, one after another, as they died, some of malnutrition, some of disease, terness that goes with the loss some — but who knows what of the Arab's land. causes the death of a child harried by war?"

lands to Arabia, Transjordan, Le- the loss of their land, their homes. banon, Syria, Egypt, and Irak, and their worldly possessions, Dr. more than a half million strong. Moll said.

They Seek Water

ing with refugees in that part of the world, tries to locate its camps knows?"

Hygienic practicies are set up as rapidly as possible, and disease is on the wane. But the hunger persists. That and the bit-

There has been no attempt to assess the damages which would The Arabs have fled from their be paid to individual Arabs for

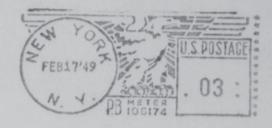
As to whether there will be The Lutheran World Federa- any recompense made to the huntion, one of several agencies work- dreds of thousands of refugees . . .

"Possibly," said Dr. Moll. "Who

Dr. Moll is a former pastor of

With all good wishes, I remain Most cordially yours. APBA HILLEL SILFSbruary 17, 1949 AHS:er Mr. Abe Tuvim American Zionist Emergency Council 382 Madison Avenue New York 17, New York My dear Tuvim: With reference to the plan for economic aid to the Middle East and the joint resolution to be introduced in Congress, I would suggest that all discussion on this matter in Washington be carried on through Mr. Fahy and that Mr. Fahy be so informed by Mr. Schulson. In this connection there is considerable merit in the memorandum of Akzin, and the subject should be re-canvassed between Moulter, Dr. Neumann, Epstein, Robert Nathan, etc. With all good wishes, I remain Most cordially yours, ABBA HILLEL SILVER AHS:er

HADASSAH 1819 Broadway New York 23, N. Y.



Dr. Benjamin Akzin American Zionist Emergency Council 342 Madison Avenue New York 17, N. Y. EXCERPTED FROM PROF. S. RALPH HARLOW'S LETTER OF FEBRUARY 17TH TO DR. CARL HERMANN VOSS

"DO READ IT. This will be read by tens of thousands of ministers, Board secretaries and Near East educators and friends of the Near East missions and colleges. It is sent out by the Congregational Board to all its constituency. This is the sort of poison that has been fed steadily and with malice into the churches and homes of the church people of this land."

(attached

The Horace McMullens
C/o American Mission
Beirut, Lebanese Republic
January 18, 1949
Received January 28,1949

Dear Friends in America:

It has been a long time since I have written to you and the new year is a good time to remedy this deficiency. As for the local color, the personal and family events, I'll let Marie Louise do the sketching. For myself I want to speak first about the Palestine situation as it looks from a few miles north and without benefit of TIME's reports, - these are torn out by the local officials.

Yesterday four of the students and I visited a refugee camp in the environs of Beirut. For a change the weather was clear, - this is the rainy season and Beirut weather is quite consistent. So we saw the camp's pleasanter aspect, but this was dreary enough. Most of the 525 people there live in small tents, perhaps six feet square. Some are fortunate enough to occupy the old monastery (Greek Orthodox) building whose loan to the refugees established this camp. Of course there's no heat of any kind and that's all right on the occasional days when the sun shines. But when the rain pours over the camp like a tidal wave and the wind rages in from the sea, life is just about as miserable as it can be. Then there is nothing to do all day. When it rains the whole family just sit in the tent; when it's shining they sit or walk around outside. The tedium of this inactivity is perhaps the worst element of all. We helped to relieve it for a while, at least for the 200 children, by playing some games and then distributing some candy. But the need of the refugees is staggering.

This is the situation in one of the best camps. In some of the others farther south thousands are clustered together without adequate anything, - food, clothing, shelter, blankets, sanitation. Three hundred pregnant women in the camp at Tyre hadn't even a blanket in which to wrap their babies until the local Anglo-American Church raised over a thousand dollars in a special Christmas offering to help meet this and other immediate and crying (!) needs.

The number of refugees has been variously estimated but probably three-quarters of a million is no exaggeration. That is a staggering number, especially when you consider what a high proportion it is of the total population of little Palestine. Your help in this tragic situation will count for much. Clothing and gifts to Church World Service may be designated for Palestine relief. And above all do what you can to encourage Congress to appropriate the \$16,000,000 share of the UN promised relief. This will really help, when it comes, far beyond our paltry efforts.

Back of this appalling situation lies the tragic irony of Zionism's claim upon Palestine as an answer to the refugee problem. The Zionists have driven out many thousands more than they have given refuge to. They have created a far greater problem than they have answered. (Only 7,000 of the Palestinian refugees are Jews.) Of course a further fact is that many of the Jews in Palestine are not European refugees but American (!) "refugees."

I confess to having been most sympathetic to the cause of Zionism when in the States and when I first heard that the missionaries here were not I felt called to do some enlightening. What I actually found was that I had sailed through the smoke-screen of propaganda which enshrouds America on the Palestine problem and for the first time was getting a more objective view. Let me hasten to say that I am no more anti-Semitic than I was before, and that while the average Arab sounds like the average American on this point, the more educated Arab is probably less anti-Semitic. After all, the Arab himself is a Semite.

Zionism seeks a "brave new world" only in a Huxlian sense. It is a fanatical, reactionary movement which in the name of a new society where justice and peace has reign, has violated the truce, committed unspeakable atrocities, and become an aggressor threatening the whole Arab world. These are strong statements and I wish I had room here to document them adequately. Let me indicate only a few of the facts as they have come to me from Dean Ovid Sellers of McCormick Theological Seminary, who has been spending as much of this academic year as possible in Jerusalem. He has been intimately connected with the work of the U.N., though not officially. He was a close personal friend of Colonel Sereau who was assassinated with Count Bernadotte.

Of the 100 major violations of the truce up to last Dec. 1 only seven were chargeable against the Arabs and these violations were all the work of irresponsible groups. Whereas the 93 violations of the Jews were largely premeditated. As to atrocities, again the Arabs have not had wholly clean hands, but their crimes have been small in number and sporadic. On the other hand the Jews have systematically despoiled every town captured, have in a few instances repeated the "Lidice" incident of the Nazis, - though of course you have not read of it in the newspapers and have evacuated entire populations within a few hours, giving them no possibility of returning to Palestine. So the number of refugees is constantly growing and there is no opportunity for them to return. Furthermore, the Jews while officially denying responsibility for the assassination of Bernadotte actually give full support to the Stern and Irgun ganga. Then while the Jews contend that they are fighting a war in self-defense, they are actually the aggressors. Not only have they driven out the thousands of Arabs from their homes and villages in Palestine but they have also taken towns in southern Lebanon and have invaded northern Egypt.

I would not whitewash the activities of the Arabs in this whole affair. They have proved themselves naive to the point of stupidity, grossly self-interested, making a big parade of Arab unity and Arab strength and having neither, doing almost nothing. But all of this fails to alter the fundamental fact that the Jews immigrated as foreigners, - the Arabs have occupied this land for more than a millennium, - and had no right to a separate and independent state.

I speak not merely my personal opinion. In a sense there is nothing personal about this opinion at all. If you talk with any responsible consular official, news correspondent, educator, missionary, United Nations representative, or even an ordinary American G.I. you hear the same story as I have all too briefly indicated here.

My apologies for the polemic. But one must speak out when he knows how distorted a picture is being given of this critical situation. I still have profound sympathy with the plight of the Jew, and the atrocities which he inflicts upon others here are but the inverse fruit of those inflicted upon him in central Lurope, but there is no answer here in Palestine for him, even though he should win the battle; he will lose the peace.

Let me say a few words about the school before I surrender the typewriter to Marie Louise. We have seventeen students enrolled but had to take one to a sanatorium with a seriously advanced case of T.B. He will be out for over a year but his prospects of eventual recovery are good. He is from Iraq. Others are from Turkey, Transjordan, Palestine, Syria and Lebanon. It still sounds strange to hear a student say, My home is Nazareth. What a Babel of tongues are here blended into a single Pentecostal voice, - Arabic, Armenian, Turkish, Greek, Syriac, English, French. Our immediate point of emphasis is an increase in the student body. Many leaders are entering full time Christian service but without adequate training. We are seeking to present the facilities of the school and also the claims of the Christian ministry to all the interested groups in the Near and Middle East.

Then another special project of this year is the revision of the curriculum. At the same time we are working on a closer relationship with the University. President Penrose is opening the way for a much more active interchange of students than we have had hitherto. And eventually we must provide some housing for married and women students. It's a thrilling work, with ramifications going far beyond the immediate and basic claims of the classroom for the sixteen students.

Since writing you last many, many things have happened to us out here at the crossroads of the world.

* * * *

We moved around the first of May from our temporary quarters into our own apartment, with our own things around us again. At the moment Mac is bundled up in the court working on his Arabic, and I'm not at all sure I have feet in my shoes. Outside it's a lovely clear night, crisp enough to feel like Fall. But inside it's a little colder. Our houses are built for the summer months, all with marble and cement tile floors. So far we haven't suffered as we did last winter, but central heating would feel wonderful. We had to do all our shopping before leaving the States in the summer months, and neither Boston nor Providence yielded a pair of wooly "snuggies" for any of us but Jary. Mac (and the man who gave him the idea) ventured out in the coldest weather last year wearing his Balbriggen pajamas for underwear!

One of the very bright spots during our first year here was the visit of Dean and Mrs. Vaughan Dabney of Andover Newton. They were with us about two weeks on their round the world trip. One day we drive up to the famous Cedars of Lebanon - a climb of 8000 feet above the sea, winding around one of the most beautiful valleys in the world. We were a gay party with the Lean bubbling away in the back seat (the radiator did likewise and we doused it with water). On the way up we stopped at Bsherri and visited the chapel in the Monastary of Mar Sarkas where the body of Khalil Gibran lies among sordid and garish tributes of artificial funeral wreath. Outside the door is a breathtaking view that the Dean described as being "a take-off for Paradise" but inside it was depressing and damp. I could only feel that Gibran would have hated this undignified commercializing on the adoration of so many followers. It was good to come out into the sunshine where it was much easier to picture his spirit in the place he loved to come and write, with the exquisite panorama of mountains before him. We then went on to the small but rather impressive museum that houses a large majority of his paintings along with his personal possessions. The guard let me take two pictures inside that are nice reminders of the visit. Then on to the Cedars, and to our astonishment, very few in number. We had tea up there and then drove the winding round down after dark.

The next morning we four started out to visit Sidon and Tyre. Sidon was the hottest place I've ever visited - real tropical heat - and of course July was about the worst month of the year to be going there on that account. We got a guide and were taken through the old city with its covered streets. What a thrill that was to be suddenly transported back through the centuries and to be able to walk the same streets which thrist may have walked. The fishermen were mending their nets on the water front just as they did in biblical times. We ate dinner right on the water's edge overlooking the ruins of a crusader castle a literal stone's throw away. A fisherman was casting his net nearby, and what a beautiful sight it was. Speaking of crusader castles remind me that I forgot to say that on the previous day we visited the ancient Byblos (called Jebail in present day) and were taken through the castle there and looked over the ruins of a Phoenician city, and some very interesting Roman ruins.

Since Tyre and Sidon are mentioned in the same breath so much, we decided we wanted to go on as far as we could towards Palestine. We breezed along shouting friendly and hopeful "Marhabahs" (an Arabic equivalent of "Hello") at every quest-

ioning guard. There were some armed guards along the route, and we were stopped a few times, but we succeeded in looking harmless enough to get by. We got closer and closer to Palestine, and we very foolishly decided that we'd see how far we could go before being turned back. The Dean had a very fine camera (which wasn't working but he kept hoping it would any minute) around his neck, and I had one (with a very healthy click) on the seat beside me. Spread out all over my lap and covering part of the windshied was a very large National Geographic map of these parts, but as they were in Bible times. Thus equipped we four slap-happy Americans proceeded to barge into no man's land. On the other side of Tyre we suddenly encountered a barbed wire road block. We soon got the idea that this was the end of the line, but like Moses longing to see the promised land, we were determined to try to get to the border and "see" Palestine. We flourished the map under the noses of several other guards who had suddenly materialized from the fields and shore line, and explained we wanted to go to Ras Naqura, the border city. We and the chief guard took to each other, and about the time we realized that he couldn't let us go on without the proper papers from Beirut, and began taking our farewells, he suddenly said that he was going to fix it so we could go on. He clumped across a field and did much telephoning under a tree, and after about 20 minutes and several calls back and forth, said we could proceed with two Arab soldiers as escorts. I hastily got the cameras wrapped in sweaters and in the trunk. The guards were delightful boys who spoke excellent French of course. We could understand them, but they went through agony every time Mac tried to talk to them. It was like waiting for the other shoe to drop. The two guards had squeezed into the front seat beside Mac, complete with Army rifles, side arms and cartridge belts. Mac said something that made the boys laugh, and Mrs. Dabney giggled and said Mac was so disarming. With that unintentional pun we broke into hysterical laughter - for there was Mrs. D. staring down the barrells of two rifles not two feet from her face. The guards hadn't the faintest notion as to the source of the hilarity. The Dean, meanwhile, was bidding affectionate adieus to his wife, expecting with each bump in the road to see her blown through the roof of the car. All of you who know the Dabney's can undoubtedly appreciate this little scene very well, being able to imagine how the Dean was making the most of the situation with his inimitable humor. Hearing our fresh outbursts, the guards began to howl, too, without knowing what it was all about. Hearing them laughing so uproariously at themselves started us all over again, and thus we passed one puzzled guard after another who would feebly signal us to stop, but with a guard sticking his head out the window and shouting back into the dust words that never reached the ears for which they were intended, we got past all the road blocks and tolled into Nagura in high glee. We were questioned by a lieutenant who spoke a little English, and he informed us that we were in no man's land! We were at an army post and saw troops being loaded into trucks and taking off for somewhere. Another guard was assigned to stay with us and we spent about an hour there eating a watermelon and resting. We said goodbye to everyone and started back with our guards, plus a watermelon and a bottle of wine for the guards back at the first road block who had gone to so much trouble for us. When we got back there, we were met by two officers in a jeep who said the Colonel had requested that we remain there a few minutes. They invited us to leave the car and motioned to the open field under the trees. As we passed one of the officers from the jeep, he pulled his revolver from his holster, and Mac and I said later that we both thought "This is it!" we turned our backs to him nonetheless and walked on and sat down on some stones. It seemed that the man with the revolver only wanted to display his bloody hand and show us where a bullet had exploded in a chamber. We were getting more and more uneasy as the telephone conversations went on and on about us. After one half hour, came the message, the Colonel's compliments, and would we please return to Naqura? We took on our two guards, and this time preceded by a jeep escort, soberly retraced our tracks.

The Colonel was charming and in no hurry! Our biblical map, which had been previously confiscated, was spread out before him on his desk. We chatted a

while about who we all were, in the due course of time Arab coffee was served us, we got into fairly lengthy discussion of Khalil Gibran - the mere mention of the latter's name being almost as a majic password out here - and then after an hour and a little more, we knew we were free to go. In the meantime the Dean had the Colonel's card and the promise to visit them in Boston at the war's end. Once more we returned to the first road block, this time to have seven eager friends swarm about us demanding to know what had happened. We gathered that they had probably never seen the Colonel themselves, and they were obviously concerned for our welfare. We assured them we'd had a jolly time, and deposited our gifts and left them waving and sending us off into the now very black night with all the gracious sayings they could think of. We were stopped many times on the way home, but that was all routine. How glad we were to be safely home that night!

I've taken much space to relate the incident, but it was too lengthy to write to each of you, and yet there were so very many to whom I wanted to!

In June Mac and I had the thrill of flying to Istanbul from Damascus in a Constellation $(3\frac{1}{2}$ hours) for the annual meeting of our American Board personnel. We stayed a week and were kept too busy to see anything of the city. One morning I went shopping and visited one mosque, and crossed the Golden Horn in a row boat, but the rest of the time it was business and getting acquainted with our family here. What a wonderful gang they are, too.

Just as school was about to open in the fall, Mac got a severe case of delayed recovery yellow jaundice. They suspected typhoid fever at first, and I neither ate nor slept for a few days until he began to turn a most glorious greenish yellow! He was home from the hospital about 10 days when he had to go back for another week. He was very sick indeed, and is supposed to be taking it easy for the next six months, but he isn't. Effective July 1st he became principal of the Near East School of Theology and that coupled with intensive language study keeps him busy.

Gary started in the first grade last fall, and is thrilled with it, and therefore doing very well. Deedee is again at the Lebanese National Nursery School, and learning Arabic rapidly. Her Arabic is without accent, but her English is often with an Arabic accent, and it's quite funny.

The UNESCO meeting in Beirut had added meaning for our family when Mac was appointed observer for the World Council of Churches. Mac took the children out several times, and they were much impressed. I went the last day and was also impressed although I was somehow reminded of the N.Y.World's Fair with the avenue of flags, etc. We were seated in the place reserved for diplomatic visitors from Iran and Iraq, and were brought one of the little radio sets to hang around your neck enabling you to hear the talks translated into any one of several different languages. Gary promptly began to explain to me how to use it and how it worked.

At a very impressive ceremony at the Anglo American church, and in a downpour, Mac was installed as head of the school on Dec. 5th. He was sick with a miserable cold, but the ceremony still shone as one of the highpoints in his life. Gary was home sick in bed, but Deedee was ushered down the aisle and seated with the faculty wives in the front row while I trailed along behind.

Gary was 7 years old fourteen days ago and had his first birthday party. His health has improved to the point that he's now average when it comes to resistance to "bugs" in general. He's put on a lot of weight and looks grand. Deedee had had a harder time with colds and intestinal upsets. She has always been the sturdy one till now, but then she was too young to be exposed to so many

people. I guess school makes the difference.

Now that the rush of Christmas and the birthday party is over, we have time to think about the new little soul who is going to be living with us sometime around the first of May. The children are so eager for the next three months to pass, and so I am! Our next letter will tell you if it's Hepzibah or Archibald.

Our love goes to you all across the seas, and our prayers for you each day include our hopes for the very best of everything for each of you in the new year.

Horace and Marie Louise mcmullen

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AMERICAN JEWISH

A R CH I V E S

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AMERICAN JEWISH

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Rev. and Mrs. Horace McMullen are missionaries of the Near East Mission of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. They are stationed in Beirut, where Mr. McMullen is principal of the Near East School of Theology.

This letter was distributed February 10, 1949, by the Missions Council, 14 Beacon Street, Boston 8, Massachusetts. Notification of change of address should also mention the McMullens name.

SMITH COLLEGE

NORTHAMPTON, MASSACHUSETTS

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION AND BIBLICAL LITERATURE

Dr. Carl H. Voss, Rev. Karl Baehr,

American Christian Palestine Committee,

41 East 42nd Street,

New York 17,

N.Y.



MEMORANDUM

To Mr. Abe Tuvim

Date February 23, 1949

From Rev. Karl Bachr, Executive Secretary
American Christian Palestine Committee

Mrs. Blanche J. Shepard, Director Club Program Service. American Christian Palestine Committee

There seems to be a very evident tendency among some Zionists to believe that the recognition of Israel no longer makes necessary continued educational activities within the framework of the American Christian Palestine Committee. We have noted this with growing concern for the information we receive in our offices from sources throughout the country point to the very opposite. Every indication that comes to our offices emphasizes that there are forces at work preparing for a long drawn out and vicious attack on the State of Israel and on the Jews of the United States. The need for vigilance, therefore, is more important than ever.

The evidence is cumulative from every corner of the country: the role call of charges against Israel - which are now being propagandized with extreme vigor - is a formidable one. It includes alleged communistic orientation, brutality against Arab refugees, desecration of churches and holy places, attempts to nullify missionary gains, Jewish imperialism (encroachment on the territory of surrounding Arab countries), dual loyalty of American Zionists, use of vast Jewish resources for propaganda, endangering of vital American oil supplies, loss of American prestige in the Middle Mast with a corresponding increase in Soviet influence - and many, many more.

This many fronted attack is being carried on by lecturing from the public platform, articles in newspapers, magazines and church publications, by letters from missionaries in the field and by every conceivable means.

We enumerate herewith some of the hostile forces for which all friends of Israel must be on the watch. They indicate to some extent how critical the task before us.

American Lecturers: (To name a few)

Individuals such as Kermit Roosevelt, Colonel Wellington Furlong, Captain Michael Fielding, Khalil Totah:—like Kermit Roosevelt, attached to the Institute of Arab-American Affairs, Furlong and Fielding appear to be free lance lecturers attached to lush commercial lecture bureaus. They are able to get into the very best places under first-class auspices and do a considerable amount of damage. Also Mr. Harold R. Hoskins, sponsored at non-publicized meetings of Foreign Policy Association and other important opinion-making groups.

Propaganda from the Middle East:

A. Middle East Study Tour:

A ten weeks seminar and Middle East Tour on Modern Arab life and culture will be

February 23, 1949

TO: Mr. Abe Tuvim

FROM: Rev. Karl Bachr, Executive Secretary
American Christian Palestine Committee

Mrs. Blanche J. Shepard, Director Club Program Service, American Christian Palestine Committee

held during the summer with headquarters at the American University of Beirut. Sponsored by Western Michigan College of Education, Kalamazoo; Wilson Teachers College, Washington, D. C.; State Teachers College, Oneonta, New York; and the American University of Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon, the seminar is primarily designed for teachers but students or others who may be interested in teaching are eligible. A group of about 40 will leave New York by plane about the middle of June and will return the last week of August.

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Thus, 40 trained experts (the majority of them teachers) will return this fall from the Near East with a Beirut orientation end will reach thousands of young people as well as clubs, churches, radio audiences and newspaper readers with their biased views. It is interesting to note that the cost per person is listed at the phenomenally low all-inclusive figure of \$1,300. One naturally assumes that wealthy business interests are subsidizing this project.

B. Educators:

Professor John S. Badeau, President of the University of Cairo, extremely active as a speaker under excellent sponsorship including Foreign Policy Association, colleges, institutes, church federations, etc.

Dr. Floyd H. Black, President of Robert College and American College for Girls, Istanbul, Turkey.

Professor Homer W. Davis, President of Athens College, Athens, Greece.

Dr. Millar Burrows of the American School for Oriental Research.

C. Y.M.C.A. Leaders:

A. L. Miller, General Secretary of Jerusalem, Y.M.C.A. (see attached copy of letter sent to leading members of Board of Managers of Y.M.C.A.s throughout the city).

Wilbert T. Smith, formerly of Y.M.C.A. in Jerusalem, now a member of Institute of Arab-American Affairs.

Paul Hoffman, also of Y.M.C.A. in Jerusalem.

D. Relief Workers such as Dr. Edwin Moll, Director of Palestine Branch of Lutheran World Federation, and various relief workers attached to the American Friends Service Committee and Church World Service. (Exhibit attached)

Dr. Hartman A. Lichtwardt, Medical Missionary of Detroit.

E. Missionaries Home on Rotating Leaves, such as Glora Wysner of the Methodist Church, also a member of the Institute of Arab-American Affairs, and Garland Evans Hopkins, secretary in the Missions Council of the Methodist Church.

February 23, 1949

Mr. Abe Tuvim

FROM: Rev. Karl Bachr, Executive Secretary American Christian Palestine Committee

> Mrs. Blanche J. Shepard. Director Club Program Service. American Christian Palestine Committee

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Missionaries Abroad

TO:

Letters from missionaries on the field to Christian leaders, periodicals and friends in America. (see attached McMullen letter)

F. American Educators with pro-Arab orientation, through Near East colleges, missionary background or Middle East State Department connections:

Professor John A. Wilson, Oriental Institute, University of Chicago

Professor T. Cuyler Young, Professor of Oriental Languages, Princeton

Professor Walter L. Wright of Princeton University

Professor William Stinespring of Duke University

G. Government Officials:

Edwin M. Wright, Special Assistant to the Director, Office of Near Eastern and African Affairs, Department of State.

- H. Visiting Arabs from the Middle East like Musa Huseini.
- I. Arab Students scattered throughout the United States.
- J. Near and Middle East Institutes held in colleges in America with speakers almost entirely anti-Israel. (see Minnesota and Mt. Holyoke programs attached)
- K. Catholic attacks through press and magazines.
- L. Other church agencies and magazines hostile to Israel:
- 1. Federated Council of Churches of Christ in America, especially its Research Bulletin.
- 2. Interdenominational Press such as the Christian Century.
- 3. Denominational Press such as the Christian Advocate, etc.
- M. Other anti-Zionist agencies:

American Council for Judaism Institute of Arab-American Affairs Gildersleeve Committee, in which such persons as Dr. Henry Sloane Coffin, Henry Pitney Van Dusen, Harry Emerson Fosdick and Charles Clayton Morrison, etc., are to be found.

All of these groups are active. There are other forces such as anti-Semitic papers throughout the country, which are using Israel as a strong weapon for attacking the Jewish position in America. We are still-and very much so- in the midst of a great struggle. We most earnestly recommend vigilance and a dynamic program of activity.

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date February 24, 1949

From Abe Tuvim

Attached you will find an outline of anti-Israel activities which are current in the United States today, as well as the names of various spokesmen for the Arab point of view.

I had Rev. Baehr and Mrs. Shepard draw this up in order that we might be in a position to estimate the strength of the opposition and plan such action as may be indicated.

(some)

Together with the memorandum, I am sending you documents to bear out our estimate of the situation. I would urge that you return these documents to us as soon as possible.

It is my idea that we should use the survey as a basis for a directive to go to all our communities with a view towards alerting them to the names of the speakers for the Arab side. Quite often these speakers appear at public forums and it is not until the speech is made that our communities begin to disturb themselves in an effort to counteract the influence of the speaker. If they are apprised in advance they will be alerted in sufficient time to do something at the meeting, and in advance of the meeting. We did this several weeks ago in New York when Mr. Hoskins appeared at two meetings of the Foreign Policy Association and we had some of our best people planted at both meetings. They did a find job.

I think, also, that the survey should be used as part of an effort by us to convince our community leaders and Emergency Committees that the fight is far from over and that they must remain organized and ready for all eventualities.

Please give me your reaction to the above.

Kindest regards.

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ESTERNUNION

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

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DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

THE TEMPLE CLEVE:

=EBAN CALLED REQUESTING THAT I INFORM YOU NINE VOTES ARE
LINED UP IN SECURITY COUNCIL FOR ADMISSION OF ISRAEL.
ONLY BRITAIN AND EGYPT ARE DOUBTFUL. REGARDS=
:TUVIM=

:TUVIM= ..

MR. ABE TUVIM
A.Z.E.C.
342 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK, N.Y.

SUGGEST MEETING OF EMERGENCY COUNCIL TUESDAY MARCH FIFTEENTH
FOUR P.M. INFORM ORGANIZATIONS SUBJECT ON AGENDA WILL BE
REORGANIZATION REPORT.

SILVER

WRHS © 65 ©



March 11, 1949 Mr. Abe Tuvim American Zionist Emergency Council 342 Madison Avenue New York 17, New York My dear Tuvim: Have you heard from Israel when they plan to celebrate the first anniversary? Have you engaged the Madison Square Gardens for that day? Because it is a celebration, perhaps the heart of the program should be the Philharmonic Symphony playing ouststanding Jewish music for about 45 minutes and a great Jewish choir. We could then have three or four national speakers. You might look into it as regards costs, etc. With all good wishes, I remain Very cordially yours. ABBA HILLEL SILVER AHS:er

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees Date March 24, 1949

From Abe Tuvim

The first anniversary of the establishment of the State of Israel will be celebrated this year on Wednesday, May 4. (Although Israeli independence was proclaimed last year on May 14, the Israeli people and Government will celebrate their Independence Day according to the Jewish Calendar -- on the fifth of Iyar -- which this year falls on May 4.)

The Emergency Council suggests that you commence now to make preparations in your community for a celebration on as grand a scale as you are able and one which will befit this day. The mood and tenor of this event — unlike previous events which were more in the nature of rallies and demonstrations — should be one of gratitude and rejoicing for the past accomplishments of Israel, prayer and hope for its future welfare, and a determination to see it secured against whatever dangers it may have to face. The parallel should be drawn with the history of other oppressed national minorities who ultimately achieved freedom and independence after a long struggle.

Participating in your program should be leaders of all faiths as well as civic leaders of your community and state. A brief reading of the Scriptural portions dealing with the redemption of Israel would be appropriate. If possible, there should also be Jewish music rendered by a band or orchestra, as well as singing by a choir. (Albums and recordings of Jewish music appropriate for the occasion are available from the national offices of most of the Zionist parties.)

Please let us know what plans you are making for the May 4 celebration. Do not hesitate to call on us for any assistance you may need.

Kindest regards.

AT: QLD

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees Date April 5, 1949

From Abe Tuvim

Deserving of special attention is the following statement concerning Christian shrines and interests in Palestine, made in a memorandum of March 21, 1949, to the Hon. Trygve Lie, Secretary General of the United Nations, by Msgr. Thomas J. McMahon, National Secretary of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association, of which Francis Cardinal Spellman is President:

"On August 20, 1948, we asked you to make an inquiry regarding criminal acts against Christian persons and places during the progress of the Palestinian warfare. The undersigned is happy to report that he personally, after an extended journey in the area, can testify to the genuine desire of the government of Israel to repair the damage done and to maintain proper relations with the religious institutes within its boundaries."

Enclosed also, for your information, is a pamphlet containing the Prime Minister of Israel's opening statement to the Israeli Constituent Assembly, outlining his Government's program of action.

AT:AF encl.

I wish to inform you of the discussion in the Executive with respect to the budget of the Emergency Council for the six months period April 1, 1949 to

(1) The Executive felt that the administrative budget should not exceed \$200,000 for the year, or for the six month period indicated above, -\$100,000.

Included in this administrative budget is an item of \$40,000 for special services and individual contacts. The Executive felt that this activity ought to be suspended and an item of \$10,000 be permitted to remain for conferences and events.

- (2) It was felt that there was no need for perpetuating the Research Institute and that this activity be terminated. It was also felt that Dr. Schwadron be requested to remain on to arrange for the orderly liquidation and transfer of the valuable material collected by the Research Department over the years.
- (3) The Executive felt that the work of the American Christian Palestine Committee should be continued on a budget basis of \$100,000 for the year or for the next six months period, -- \$50,000.

It was also suggested that the Emergency Council appoint a commission to look into the affairs of the American Christian Palestine Committee for the purpose of strengthening its lay leadership, intensifying its activities and program; that this matter should be carefully reconsidered at the end of the fiscal year, September 30th.

In arriving at these decisions the Executive was motivated to a large extent by recent reports from Israel indicating the near catastrophic situation arising out of the lack of funds. In view of the condition of our Treasury, it was felt that all activities not directly connected with the problems of immigration and absorption of immigrants will have to be drastically pruned.

With all good wishes for a Happy Pesach.

Cordially yours,

Nahum Goldmann

April 15, 1949 Mr. Abe Tuvim American Zionist Emergency Council 342 Madison Avenue New York 17, New York My dear Tuvim: I would suggest that you call a meeting of the Emergency Council on Tuesday, April 26th to consider the report of the Scope Committee. In order not to delay too long, I would suggest that the Committee make its report to the full Board of the Emergency Council and that the meeting accordingly be held in the evening of that day . Inless there is a special reason why the report should first be considered by the Executive. Please inform Rabbi Miller of the meeting. In his report he stated that the source from which the funds are to be allocated to the Emergency Council still remains a matter for discussion between the Committee and the Agency. I trust that he will have a report to make on this item at the meeting. With all good wishes, I remain Very cordially yours, ABBA HILLEL SILVER AHS:er

MEMORANDUM

To DR. ABBA HILEEL SILVER

Date April 18, 1949

From ABE TUVIM

Attached hereto is a copy of a letter addressed to Rabbi Miller from Nahum Goldman, dated April 13, 1949, following the meeting of the Agency.

I call your particular attention to Paragraph (1). The item of \$40,000, which the Agency Executive wishes to curtail to \$10,000, involves the Individual Contacts Department, as well as provisions for conferences, advertising and special services.

P.S. Since dictating the above, I am informed by Steinberg that he sent you a copy of the attached which arrived in the office during the holidays.

TO: Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

DATE: April 27, 1949

FROM: Abe Tuvim

Irving Miller called me this morning to say that he will not under any circumstances accept the chairmanship of the meeting at Madison Square Park, nor will he accept the chairmanship of the Emergency Council. He intends to completely withdraw from any activity in both the ZOA and the Emergency Council because of what he termed "the shabby way in which Dr. Silver treated me".

Miller felt that the agreement that had been reached at your home was violated and that he was doublecrossed. It was his impression that at the meeting which was held last Sunday night there was to be a secret ballot - no pressures - and that the contenders for the nomination would then abide by the decision of the meeting. He says that pressures were used on his supporters to withdraw his name and that other activities were entered into which amounted to steam-rolling the nomination of Frisch. Under the circumstances he cannot see his way clear to participate in any of the Zionist activities in which we are presently engaged. He has no intention of encouraging or joining any opposition and will find his own ways of serving Israel.

I thought I ought to pass this on to you. I have not made copies nor do I intend to discuss it with anyone.

What suggestions have you with regard to the chairmanship of the Madison Square Park meeting?

Kindest regards

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WESTERN UNION

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SYMBOLS

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DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

:THE TEMPLE

BILL SYLK ORGANIZING PHILADELPHIA WITH OFFICE AND ESTABLISHED ANXIOUS HAVE YOU CHEON EXPECT 100 IMPORTANT PEOPLE BE SALES CAN EXCELLENT YOU ACCEPT-UNDERSTAND ADELPHIA THAT DAY AND HOPE YOU WIRE REGARDS= PLEASE :TUVIM=

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

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees Date April 29, 1949

From Abe Tuvim

Within a matter of days the question of Israel's admission to the United Nations will be taken up by the United Nations. Far from being the certainty which many thought it to be, it now appears that strong attempts will be made to delay or postpone the decision. The position of the United States, while generally favorable, is marked neither by enthusiasm nor by a willingness to press the issue to a successful culmination.

To spark the attitude of the United States Government and to mirror the urgency of this issue in all levels of American public opinion, it is vital that favorable editorials and comments appear within the next few days in the press of our nation advocating the admission of Israel into the United Nations during the current session. The enclosed memorandum contains a suitable argumentation in that direction. It is urgent that you seek interviews with editors and commentators to insure that favorable editorials and articles appear which back up our position. Remember that the next few days will decide this issue.

As soon as these editorials and articles appear in your local press, we would appreciate receiving copies without delay.

Act now. The next few days are vital to the prestige and welfare of Israel. We cannot fail the Jewish State at this important moment.

AT: KSR Enc.

ISRAEL'S MEMBERSHIP IN THE UNITED NATIONS

To be admitted to membership in the United Nations is the right of all "peace-loving States which accept the obligations contained in the . . . Charter and, in the judgment of the organization, are able and willing to carry out these obligations." (Art. 4 of the Charter)

After Israel's record of repeated agreement to truce proposals in the face of Arab aggression, no one can doubt its peace-loving character. Nor will anyone doubt Israel's ability and willingness to carry out obligations freely undertaken. In both respects Israel's record compares more than favorably with that of a great many States admitted to membership. There is certainly no comparison between the record of Israel and that of the Arab States of whom six have been rewarded with membership in the international organization.

Neither independence nor internal democracy are listed in the Charter as prerequisites for membership. And indeed, many States are members of the United Nations which are not truly independent, while others live under regimes utterly devoid of any semblance of democracy. It is unimaginable, in the circumstances, that a State as genuinely independent and as firmly based on democratic ideals as Israel be denied membership.

For a while, Israel's alleged lack of stability and the unsettled character of its boundaries were cited as reasons for delaying the new State's admission to the United Nations. This argument could never be considered to be genuine. China and Greece, to name but the most blatant cases, are obviously not enjoying stability. Poland, for one, had its frontiers undefined at a time when it joined the United Nations. Attempts to prevent or delay Israel's membership on this or any similar basis had to be considered therefore as a crass example of application of a double standard. What Israel was undergoing until recently was not internal instability

but foreign aggression. To defend States against foreign aggression is the most sacred duty of the United Nations, and an attempt to evade it by denying membership to the victim of aggression would be a scandalous performance.

But even these excuses are no longer available. Recent truces and armistices have put an end to warfare, have stabilized in fact Israel's territory, and have further increased its internal stability. The Security Council of the United Nations has given recognition to this state of affairs and, in its meeting on March 4, 1949, recommended by a vote of 9 to 1 the admission of the new State to membership in the U.N. There has been no case thus far where the Assembly has not acted on a recommendation by the Council with regard to membership within the shortest possible time.

And yet maneuvers are afoot to delay the admission of Israel still longer. This time the excuses for continued delay are found in the existence of unsolved differences between Israel and certain other States. Chief among them are the questions regarding the future of the Arab refugees, of Jerusalem and of the Holy Places. These questions should, of course, find an agreed solution, but this may require time and a great deal of discussion. To bar Israel meanwhile from membership would be utterly unjust. Many are the members of the United Nations that are involved at the present time in disputes or disagreements with other States, but at no time was this fact advanced to justify the non-admission, the exclusion, or the suspension of the States involved from membership in the international organization. On the contrary, the very existence of such differences, differences which at the present time form the subject of direct negotiations between Israel and the other States involved and are under consideration by the U.N. Conciliation Commission, is an added reason why all parties involved should be placed on a footing of equality. To do otherwise would mean to perpetuate the unfair advantage which some parties enjoy as members of the U.N. over Israel, which is not as yet a member. (more)

There is one added circumstance which makes the admission of Israel especially urgent. Israel has emerged as an independent State as a consequence of a solemn verdict of the United Nations. Surely the United Nations owes it to itself speedily to admit to membership a nation thus formed.

It is most gratifying that the U.S. Government has taken a clearly favorable stand on this question. It has voted in favor of Israel's admission on the Security Council and it has indicated its intention to vote similarly in the Assembly. With more active support of the American Government and of American public opinion, it may be hoped that Israel's admission to the U.N. will be overwhelmingly voted at the present session of the Assembly. This will not only represent an act of justice, long overdue, but will also further peace and stability in the Middle East.

April 30, 1949



TO: Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

DATE: May 5, 1949

FROM: Abe Tuvim

Both Rabbis Lookstein and Friedman of Mizrachi spoke to me very earnestly after the Madison Square Park meeting yesterday about your impending relinquishment of the Council chairmanship. I assume that they talked to you also, since both told me they were going to contact you, and you are undoubtedly aware of their state of mind.

While I know your motivations and cannot help but agree with you, I feel that they, too, are right. I therefore suggest that you give consideration to the thought of becoming the Honorary Chairman of the Emergency Council. In this way, your association with it will continue without often arduous tasks that go with the actual chairmanship.

Before discussing this with any of our people, I feel that I should get your reaction. Needless to say, I am very much for it for reasons which I know are obvious to you.

Incidentally, Irving Miller called me yesterday to ask how things are going along and to request me to pass on to you that he has finally decided to accept the chairmanship if it is offered to him.

Kindest regards.

AT:RB

American Zionist Emergency Council

MEMORANDUM

To B. Browdy, J. Epstein, J. Lookstein, B. Zuckerman

Date June 17, 1949

From Secretary to the Council

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

I received a telephone communication from the Agency inviting me to come today to a meeting of the Public Relations Committee. I went without knowing exactly what it was and found around the table Dr. Goldmann, Mrs. Halprin and Dr. Greenberg, members of the Agency, Messrs. Hammer, Weiser and Bernstein of the Agency staff, as well as Messrs. Lourie, Raffael and Kenen of the Israeli Delegation. Dr. Goldmann presided.

It was explained to me that the Public Relations Committee was a group that got together from time to time to consult regarding coordinated action in the sphere of public relations. I said that I was not authorized to represent the Council in that body, and that I would report with a view to having permanent representatives of the Council appointed to serve on that body.

Information was exchanged regarding the present political situation. Dr. Goldmann, Mr. Lourie, Mr. Raffael and I mentioned what we knew about current developments in Washington and Lausanne.

Dr. Greenberg asked what precisely was the policy of Israel with regard to the Arab refugers. Messrs. Lourie and Raffael supplied replies.

Dr. Goldmann and Mrs. Halprin asked for information regarding the steps undertaken by Mr. Ben-Gorin on behalf of the Council in connection with the Hoover Plan. They asked specifically whether the other bodies interested in the question were consulted regarding these steps. I replied that Mr. Ben-Horin consulted Mr. Eban regarding all his activities and that reports concerning them were also being sent by him to Miss Herlitz and to Ambassador Elath. A discussion thereupon arose between Dr. Goldmann and Mrs. Halprin on the one hand, and Messrs. Lourie, Raffael and Kenen on the other, as to whether the representatives of Israel may deal directly with the Council in matters of that kind or whether they should leave the Agency in sole charge as coordinating all efforts on the American scene.

Mr. Kenen, who had received from Mr. Schulson a copy of his memorandum to Ben-Horin regarding the need to prepare material for Congressmen re Arab refugees, mentioned that both the Weizmann speech and the Eban speech which Schulson had recommended as suitable material, are available in printed form in the Israeli Delegation and suggested that the Council, rather than print this material anew, avail itself of these texts.

Mr. Kenen further suggested that renewed efforts be made to stimulate letters to the newspapers from our Christian friends, especially from the members of the ACPC delegation which has just returned from Israel.

The representatives of the Agency and the Government made clear during the course of the meeting that a mass campaign would be inadvisable at this point; that they would not like to see an attack on the Department of State, but that the correctness of American policy and of the procedures followed by the Conciliation Commission might be challenged. They expressed the hope that in all approaches to the press the offers made by Israel in furtherance of peace be pointed out and that the role played by the territorial ambitions of Great Britain be emphasized in connection with the current crisis.

Drr. Goldmann stated that meetings of the Public Relations Committee will take place more of ten in the future than was the case in the past.

BA: AF

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

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date June 20, 1949

From

Abe Tuvim

Enclosed you will find the copy of the memorandum addressed by Dr. Akzin to the multiple chairmen. I understand that a copy of this was not sent to you.

Schulson informed Ben-Horin that he received a letter from McGhee expressing thanks for the Ben-Horin memorandum and implying an interest in it. I am suggesting to Schulson that he try to arrange an appointment for Ben-Horin with McGhee for the next time Ben-Horin goes to Washington, which should be within the next few days.

Kindest regards.

AT:MB encl.

P. S. Ben-Horin wants me to add that he is seeing McGhee this Wednesday morning.

June 27, 1949 Mr. Samuel Klaus Office of the Legal Adviser Department of State Washington, D. C. My dear Mr. Klaus: A few weeks ago I received a communication from Ambassador James G. McDonald informing me that you are returning to the United States and suggesting that I might be interested in receiving from you some impressions of your stay in Israel and the results of your studies which you made touching the labor movement in Israel. I shall be most happy to have such a talk with you. Do you plan to come out this way in the next few weeks, or will you be in New York? I am planning to leave for Europe the 15th of July. With all good wishes, I remain Most cordially yours, ABBA HILLEL SILVER AHS:er

June 27, 1949 Mr. Abe Tuvim American Zionist Council 342 Madison Avenue New York 17, New York My dear Tuvim: I would suggest that the enclosed material be turned over for discussion by the Praesidium. With all good wishes, I remain Most cordially yours, ABBA HILLEL SILVER AHS:er Enc.

MEMORANDUM

To The Praesidium

Date July 13, 1949

From Abe Tuvim

I have just received a report on the Mayor's visit to the President. I understand that they had a full discussion and the President said: "Why don't these people have confidence in me? Have I fallen down on them yet? Let them be patient and they will be satisfied with what I am doing. Let them be patient."

While this appears to be similar to what the President said on a number of occasions last year, it marks the first semi-conciliatory reaction in many months. Wene of the people whom we know who have spoken with him recently obtained any friendly reaction.

Regards.

AT: CS

