



## Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

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

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

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Jewish Agency, 1935-1936.



הסוכנות היהודית בשביל ארץ ישראל

THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE.

TELEPHONE: MUSEUM 3817 (4 LINES).

TELEGRAMS: "ZIONIBURO, LONDON."

CODES: BENTLEY'S AND MOSSE'S.

77, GREAT RUSSELL STREET,

LONDON, W.C.1.

In reply please address the Secretary:

and quote the following Reference No.:

October 22nd, 1935.

Rabbi A. Hillel Silver,  
The Temple,  
C l e v e l a n d  
-----

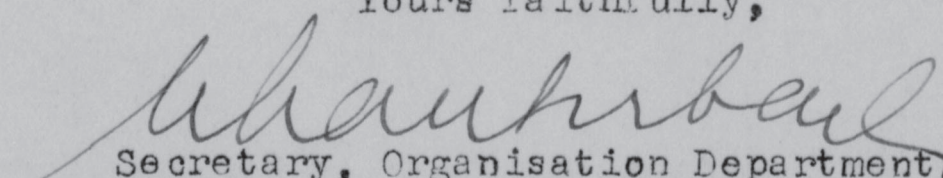
Sir,

On behalf of the Executive I have the honour  
to inform you that you have been elected by the  
Fourth Meeting of the Council of the Jewish Agency  
held in Lucerne

a Member of the Administrative Committee  
of the Jewish Agency.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

  
Secretary, Organisation Department.



הסוכנות היהודית בשביל ארץ ישראל  
THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE.

TELEPHONE: MUSEUM 3817 (4 LINES).

TELEGRAMS: "ZIONIBURO. LONDON."

CODES: BENTLEY'S AND MOSSE'S.

77. GREAT RUSSELL STREET.

LONDON. W.C.1.

In reply please address the Secretary:

and quote the following Reference No.:

December 5, 1935.

Rabbi Dr. Stephen S. Wise,  
Synagogue House,  
40, W. 68th Street,  
NEW YORK.

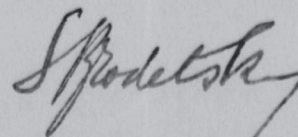
Dear Rabbi Wise,

I acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter of November 22nd, enclosing a note from Dr. Silver, and certain press cuttings. I well remember the circumstances under which you finally gave your support to the Haavarah arrangement, and particularly in view of the statements appearing in the press against the Haavarah, I can appreciate the reasons for Dr. Silver's and your disquiet.

I am writing to Palestine by air-mail tomorrow asking for immediate information, and shall enclose a copy of your letter. I shall communicate with you again as soon as I hear from them.

With kind regards,

Yours very sincerely,

  
S. Brodetsky.



## UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND (KEREN HAYESOD) OF THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE  
INCLUDING THE SETTLEMENT OF GERMAN JEWS AND THE CHILDREN'S ALIYAH (IMMIGRATION)

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND (KEREN KAYEMETH) PALESTINE LAND REDEMPTION FUND

ONE-ELEVEN FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK CITY  
Suite 703

NATIONAL  
PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN  
STEPHEN S. WISE

CO-CHAIRMEN  
ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN  
MAURICE LEVIN  
LOUIS LIPSKY  
MORRIS ROTHENBERG

TREASURER  
NATHAN STRAUS

January 21, 1936

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

The officers of the United Palestine Appeal who are arranging the National Conference for Palestine at Washington, on February 1st and 2nd, have asked me to inform you of our intention of submitting your name at that Conference as one of the National co-Chairmen of the United Palestine Appeal, whose officers will be elected at Washington.

As you know the United Palestine Appeal represents the Keren Hayesod and the Keren Kayemeth on a basis of parity. The two groups unanimously decided to nominate you as the fifth co-Chairman.

We trust that we shall have the benefit of your valuable cooperation during the coming year.

Cordially yours,

*Louis Lipsky*

Louis Lipsky  
For the National Officers

LL\*S



January 23, 1936

Mr. Louis Lipsky,  
United Palestine Appeal,  
111 Fifth Ave.,  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Lipsky:

Permit me to thank you for your letter of January 21. I shall be pleased to serve as one of the National co-Chairmen of the United Palestine Appeal to be elected at the Washington Conference.

I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you in Washington. With all good wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK



COPY

THE EXECUTIVE OF THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION

179.J.A.52

Jerusalem May 5, 1936.

TO THE EDITORS OF ZIONIST JOURNALS AND THE  
ZIONIST FEDERATIONS AND SEPARATE UNIONS.  
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Dear Sirs,

It is noted with regret that in connection with the recent occurrences in Palestine, not only the non-Jewish Press but also Jewish and Zionist newspapers have published several exaggerated, incorrect or even false news items on the basis of information obtained from untrustworthy and often biased sources.

In order to keep the Zionist and Jewish Press fully and speedily informed, the Executive have from the outbreak of the disturbances made special arrangements with the Palcor-News-Agency whereby news from Jerusalem are transmitted by wire and long distance phone with the utmost despatch to the Palcor Office in London and relayed from London by cable and air mail to all important Jewish centres abroad.

Furthermore, the Executive of the Jewish Agency is issuing communiques which are being despatched from Jerusalem by every available mail to the Zionist centres and newspapers together with copies of the official communiques published by the Government.

The Executive expect that Zionist Press Organs will exercise utmost caution in times like these and will not serve willingly as instruments for the dissemination of irresponsible and often mischievous news.

Editors of Jewish newspapers can rely on the trustworthiness and accuracy of the news circulated by the Palcor Agency and will be well advised not to publish any conflicting news from other sources without obtaining confirmation from the London or Jerusalem offices of the Jewish Agency.

With Zion's greetings,

EXECUTIVE OF THE ZIONIST ORGANISATION.

(signed) LAUTERBACH

Organization Dept.



May 28, 1936

Judge Julian W. Mack  
233 Broadway  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Judge Mack:

With reference to our conversation, I would like to describe to you the developments with regard to the controversy between the J.T.A. and the Executive since the Lucerne Congress.

As you know, your committee, which was appointed by the Administrative Committee of the Jewish Agency a year and a half ago, when it was in session in New York, was not given an opportunity to report to the Administrative Committee of the Agency when it met in Lucerne. The matter was referred to the Executive, despite the fact that the Executive was a party to the controversy.

The Executive appointed a new committee. This committee, as far as I know, has never met. Instead Mr. Ben-Gurion worked out certain proposals according to which a new general Jewish news agency was to be established or the J.T.A. was to be taken over by the Jewish Agency.

There has never been a judicial inquiry into the charges levelled against the J.T.A. The committee appointed by the Administrative Committee of the Jewish Agency took the stand that it was not its task to examine these charges, but to decide what kind of news service would be best suited to the interests of Palestine. One of its recommendations even was that the J.T.A. should continue its work as a general Jewish news service, and it stated that it merited the support of the Jewish community. Mr. Ben-Gurion in his proposition entirely disregards the recommendations made by your committee.

On October 30th a meeting of prominent members of the Jewish community took place in New York, called together by Mr. Herbert Bayard Swope. The upshot of this meeting was:

1. To broaden the basis of the J.T.A. by turning it into a public institution.

2. A board of directors was elected, which is composed of a number of outstanding Jewish leaders, amongst them well known Zionist leaders.

3. An executive committee of five consisting of Mr. Backer, Mr. Rothenberg, Mr. Arthur Lampert, Dr. Karpf and myself was elected.



The board is in full control of the Agency. I have transferred my shares to the board. Between board meetings the Executive committee exercises the rights of the board. This executive committee meets very frequently and runs all the affairs of the Agency.

It was hoped that the Zionist Executive would take into consideration this new set-up and extend to the newly elected board of the J.T.A. confidence at least in the beginning of the operation of this new board, and would try to work out a modus operandi and cooperate for the general good.

Dr. Hexter when in New York submitted both to the board and the Executive Committee of the J.T.A. Mr. Ben-Gurion's proposals. The Executive Committee considered these proposals as unacceptable, the fundamental difference of opinion lying in the following:

The board of the J.T.A. is definitely determined that the J.T.A. should function as an independent and impartial service. According to it the J.T.A. should not be subjected to the influence of any organizations. Its news should be untampered and impartial. It will be glad to elect additional Zionists on the board, but it feels that no organization should be given the preemptive right to elect members on the board of the J.T.A.

As you know, Dr. Karpf is a member of your Committee. A memorandum was submitted by him to the Zionist Executive in which he expressed the view that news service must be untrammelled and free of political control. Mr. Ben-Gurion in a lengthy reply took sharp issue with Dr. Karpf's views.

Mr. Backer and myself proceeded at the end of February to Europe. We hoped to reach some understanding with the Executive. Dr. Nahum Goldmann, who was authorized by the Executive to negotiate, seemed to be rather anxious to bring about an agreement. In the conference he had with Mr. Backer and myself, we carried away the impression that an understanding would be easily reached. A few days later I was told that Mr. Ben-Gurion had cabled twice to Dr. Goldmann that no agreement should be entered into without his knowledge and consent. When in Geneva at the request of Mr. Goldmann in order to talk the matter over with him, he subsequently wrote a letter to Mr. Backer which I am enclosing.

When we arrived in the United States the riots had in the meantime broken out in Palestine. At the suggestion of Mr. Backer, Dr. Karpf cabled to Dr. Weizmann and Mr. Ben-Gurion offering the cooperation of the J.T.A., Dr. Karpf reminding them of our service to the Zionist movement during the riots of 1929, and guaranteeing that we would give fullest publicity to the reports or statements emanating from the Executive. Mr. Ben-Gurion is an adherent of the philosophy that the Jewish Agency, which represents the whole Jewish people should be entitled to control of the J.T.A. Our board takes the more liberal view. Even if there were a Jewish state, then more than ever would it be necessary for an agency, such as the J.T.A. to obtain world confidence and trust, to be known as thoroughly independent, impartial and free to be the disseminator of unbiased news. It is thus and only thus that a Jewish state would be properly served by an agency such as the J.T.A.



Mr. Ben-Gurion's reply was most disappointing. Much to our surprise our offer of cooperation to extend during the present emergency in Palestine was declined. Mr. Ben-Gurion refused this offer of cooperation, and stated in his cable that there could be no cooperation with the J.T.A., as at present organized, adding, that the Executive had unanimously adopted his proposals.

The decision of the Executive was made without any consultation whatever with the committee appointed by the Executive itself. This committee was charged with the task of studying the finding of the committee, appointed by the Administrative Committee of the Jewish Agency, and of which you were the head.

Dr. Karpf in a previous cablegram was informed by Mr. Ben-Gurion that Palcor was not receiving financial assistance from the Executive of the Jewish Agency. The exact relationship between Palcor and the Jewish Agency is not entirely clear. The indications are that Palcor was withdrawn from the jurisdiction of the Jewish Agency and transferred to the Executive of the Zionist Organization. Originally the Administrative of the Jewish Agency charged itself with this matter and Palcor was therefore under the aegis of the Jewish Agency. The Zionist Executive, however, nevertheless at his instance adopted his proposals not only not taking into account the recommendations made by your committee which had been appointed by the Administrative Committee of the Jewish Agency, but also without receiving a report from the Committee the Executive itself had appointed, and in the midst of the negotiations Dr. Goldmann had been authorized to conduct with the J.T.A.

The position of the J.T.A. has been made extremely difficult. A veritable campaign is conducted against it with a tendency to discredit it. Justifiable slip-ups of matters of no grave import are magnified. Denial after denial is issued. I am enclosing a circular letter sent out by the Zionist Executive in which it asks Zionist newspapers to trust only Palcor news. We frankly confess that in any work of this nature where rapid transmission of news is a vital necessity, errors are unavoidable, despite the fact that we endeavor to guard against them. This is equally true of Palcor. But we would consider it unethical and very detrimental to everybody's interest if we made issue thereof. Such denials are frequently made against other agencies. Recently the Executive of the Jewish Agency criticized J.H. Thomas, Colonial Secretary, for having made a half dozen errors in a brief official statement.

I would like to mention some of these denials because they are characteristic with regard to tone and intention. I am attaching copy of a denial which was directed against the J.T.A. in connection with the report an Arab paper carried, stating that certain proposals have been made to the High Commissioner with regard to the legislative assembly. Despite the fact that we merely quoted an Arab newspaper, the J.T.A. is termed irresponsible for having carried this report, while no denial was directed against the UP, which carried the same report on its own authority without quoting an Arab newspaper.



One denial was issued by the Zionist Executive that the new schedule of immigration certificates had not been approved, while our report proved to be true. Also, the Zionist Executive sent cablegrams to Jewish newspapers in Poland criticizing our service urging them to use only Palcor.

We were astonished by the spirit manifested by the "New Palestine" which in publishing a denial asked why we had not made inquiries before sending out the cable. The simple truth is that the editor is well aware of the fact that the Executive now for many months has refused to give any information to the J.T.A.

The "New Palestine" of May 8th published an editorial in which it praises the Palcor service and at the same time accuses our Agency of having exaggerated the recent developments in Palestine. I feel safe in saying that an objective comparison of reports we carried from Palestine and those carried by Palcor could not result in the conclusion that we have been sensational.

Mr. Shertok on behalf of the Executive wrote a letter to the Reuter Agency (copy enclosed) in which he denied a J.T.A. report, according to which Dr. Weizmann had warned the High Commissioner that the Zionists may have to turn to the Hague Tribunal. Mr. Shertok in his letter says this report is "untrue" and asks Reuter in the future to inquire with Great Russell Street with regard to the "veracity" of reports. The statement which the J.T.A. attributed to Dr. Weizmann was common knowledge in Palestine. Our correspondent obtained it from very reliable sources, and it was also contained in a document which was issued by the Executive.

Mr. Backer asked Dr. Karpf as a member of the Executive Committee of the J.T.A. to cable to Dr. Weizmann, who informed him that Mr. Backer was very much exercised by this denial and that he requested an apology from Mr. Shertok, Dr. Karpf urging Dr. Weizmann to prevent a public scandal. No reply to this cable was received. Another cable was sent by Dr. Karpf to Dr. Weizmann a week later, but no reply was received to this cable either.

While one of the strongest objections to the J.T.A. which Mr. Ben-Gurion and others held, was the fact that it was a private enterprise, the exploitation of Palcor was turned over in the United States to the Seven Arts Feature Syndicate. Those anglo-Jewish weeklies which do not subscribe to the Seven Arts do not receive Palcor Service. This Syndicate receives no news by cable, but confines itself to the rehash of news published in various newspapers. Nevertheless, it styles itself "WNS", "World Wide News Service." Considerable public funds are expended in order to place the cable service from Palcor at the disposal of this syndicate. This syndicate does not try to maintain the appearance of impartiality. For example, it recently sent out a questionnaire to the Jewish weeklies, arranging for a roll call of who should be the next president of the Zionist Organization. It omitted the name of Morris Rothenberg, stating that Rothenberg had declared at the last Zionist convention that he would not run again. This is not the case. Also, in the very same article it severely attacks the present administration of the Zionist Organization of America. Prior to the Zionist Congress it conducted an open campaign for the Histadruth plank.



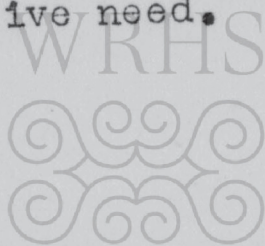
The Palestine Telegraphic Agency, which is a branch of the J.T.A., for the last eight years distributed Reuters news to Palestine. Among the subscribers were both Hebrew and Arab dailies. Recently our Agency was approached by Reuters to be relieved of this arrangement. The manager of Reuters plainly hinted that he had been approached by individuals who are identified with the Palcor service. In view of the fact that as Reuters explained to the J.T.A. that J.T.A. had been satisfactory for so many years, Reuters did not see its way clear to transfer the Reuter representation to another Jewish Agency, but has decided to establish their own office in Palestine. Thus strategic position has been lost which was important for the shaping of the relations between Jews and Arabs.

May I say in conclusion that Mr. Backer and other members of our board are sincerely anxious to reach an understanding with the Executive if this can be obtained without sacrificing the principle of a free press, while at the same time establishing the fullest measure of cooperation with the Executive. Our Executive feels strongly that the Zionist Executive should at least not withhold news from the J.T.A. It seems to me that the facts I am bringing before you in this letter permit no doubt that every possible step was taken by our executive to reach a peaceful understanding. In these crucial times, in which so much is at stake for our people in Europe as well as in Palestine, a powerful and impartial Jewish news service is an imperative need.

Sincerely yours,

JACOB LANDAU  
Managing Director

JL:GF





GEORGE BACKER  
PRESIDENT

FELIX M. WARBURG  
VICE-CHAIRMAN

DAVID L. PODELL  
VICE-PRESIDENT

JACOB LANDAU  
SECRETARY & MANAGING  
DIRECTOR

ARTHUR M. LAMPORT  
TREASURER

JERUSALEM  
WARSAW  
BERLIN  
PRAGUE  
LONDON  
PARIS  
NEW YORK

# Jewish Telegraphic Agency

220 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK CITY

June 5, 1936

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I am enclosing copy of a letter which was addressed by Mr. Jacob Landau to Judge Mack after a talk Mr. Landau had with Justice Brandeis. This letter outlines the efforts which have been made to bring about an understanding with the Zionist Executive.

During my stay in Europe I met Dr. Goldmann who was authorized by the Executive to negotiate. Subsequently I received a letter from Dr. Goldmann in which he made certain proposals which were to be submitted to our Board of Directors and taken up by him with the Executive in July at the time of the meeting of the Zionist Actions Committee. The Zionist Executive, however, has in the meantime adopted a decision without paying any regard to Dr. Goldmann's proposals or awaiting a report from the committee that the Zionist Executive itself had appointed.

I am sending you Mr. Landau's letter which was seen by all members of the J.T.A. Executive prior to its dispatch in order to inform you with regard to the latest developments in this matter.

GB/gf

Sincerely yours,

*George Backer*  
GEORGE BACKER,  
President



TELEGRAMS: PALCOSET, LONDON.

TELEPHONE: MUSEUM 8673.

המשרד המרכזי של הסוכנות היהודית ליישוב יהודי גרמניה בארץ ישראל

THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE  
CENTRAL BUREAU FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF GERMAN JEWS

CHAIRMAN: DR CH. WEIZMANN.

JERUSALEM OFFICE:

(P.O.B. 92)

DIRECTOR: DR A. RUPPIN.

77, GREAT RUSSELL STREET,  
LONDON, W.C.1.

June 24th, 1936.

Rabbi Dr. Silver,  
Westminster Hotel,  
Le Touquet,  
FRANCE.

Dear Dr. Silver,

Your cable has just come and I answered it at once as per the enclosure. There was a meeting about a fortnight ago of the Council for German Jewry at which the representatives of the J.D.C., Messrs. David Bressler and Herbert May were present and made a report on behalf of their organisations. Yesterday, Tuesday, there was another regular meeting of the Council for German Jewry at which Dr. Wise, being in town, was asked to be present and make a report on the affairs of the U.P.A. as far as these related to the work of the Council for German Jewry.

We must tell you that Dr. Wise had a rather hard time of it. The Council is pressing both the J.D.C. and the U.P.A. for larger sums of money than either organisation seems willing or able to pledge. You as one of the heads of the U.P.A. know that there was some sort of a commitment of £50,000, or let us say a commitment with reservations, by the U.P.A. Yesterday Dr. Wise was pressed hard to increase that commitment to £60,000 or £70,000 on the basis of the calculation by Sir Herbert and his associates that the Council for German Jewry was entitled to the entire collection after deducting the same amount which had accrued to the Keren Hayesod and the Keren Kayemeth in 1935. Naturally Dr. Wise could not on his own assent to any such proposal, nor could we Zionist associates urge him to do so. What he did was to promise to discuss the matter first with Dr. Weizmann, the President of the Jewish Agency, and after such discussion,



telephone or cable his co-Chairmen, including yourself, of the U.P.A.

I have no doubt that Dr. Wise will within a day or two after conference with Dr. Weizmann prepare a statement for the U.P.A., a copy of which he will doubtless send you or leave for you if he is not to be in London next Tuesday.

If you come to the meeting of next Tuesday, as we hope you will (and Dr. Wise made mention of the fact yesterday that you would represent the U.P.A. if and when you found it possible to come), you will probably be subjected to the same experience as Dr. Wise underwent yesterday - namely a renewal of the pressure upon you as one of the heads of the U.P.A. to increase the "commitment" of the U.P.A. to the Council for German Jewry. We who are closely associated with the Council for German Jewry, do not wish to prejudice the case in your eyes by offering you any judgment in advance, but when you come to London we shall be very glad to discuss the whole problem with you and with Dr. Wise if he still be in London.

Yours sincerely,

*Martin Rosenbluth*



Rabbi Silver Westminster Hotel Le Touquet

next regular meeting council Tuesday afternoon *June 30*

four o'clock letter follows greetings

Rosenblueth

24th June , 1936.





TELEPHONES: MUSEUM { 3925.  
3926.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:  
INLAND: "MIGRATE, KINCROSS, LONDON."  
CABLEGRAMS: "MIGRATE, LONDON."

# THE COUNCIL FOR GERMAN JEWRY

---

CHAIRMAN:

THE RT. HON. SIR HERBERT SAMUEL,  
P.C., G.C.B., G.B.E.

JOINT SECRETARIES:

L. BAKSTANSKY, LL.B., B.SC.(ECON.).  
M. STEPHANY, F.L.A.A.

MS/LG

WOBURN HOUSE,  
UPPER WOBURN PLACE,  
LONDON, W.C.1.

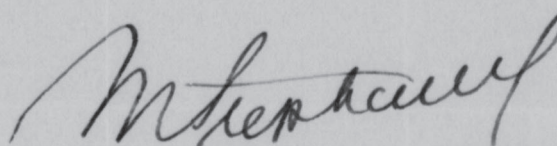
24th June, 1936

Dear Dr. Wise,

The next meeting of the Executive of the Council for German Jewry will be held on Tuesday next, the 30th instant in the Council Room of Jews' College, 2nd Floor, Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place, W.C.1., at 4 p.m.

Sir Herbert has asked me to tell you that he and the members of the Executive will be very glad if you and your colleague, Rabbi Silver, would be present at their deliberations.

Yours sincerely,



Joint Secretary.

Rabbi Stephen Wise,  
Park Lane Hotel,  
W.1.



TELEGRAMS:  
KEIGHBRACE, AUDLEY, LONDON.  
TELEPHONE:  
GROSVENOR 6321.

PARK LANE HOTEL  
PICCADILLY  
LONDON, W.1

Rabbi Dr. A.H. Silver, D.D.,  
Westminster Hotel,  
LE TOUQUET.

25th June, 1936.

Dear Silver,

Just a word in order to send on  
this invitation. I hope you can be present at  
the meeting. You really should be present. It  
will be good to see you.

*Feelings from both  
of us to both of you*  
Yours,  
*Wend*

It is really important.



TELEPHONE: CENTRAL 3821-2.  
TELEX 9222.

TELEGRAMS: JEWCORRAU, LONDON.

# Jewish Telegraphic Agency Ltd.

LUDGATE HOUSE,

107-111, FLEET STREET,

LONDON, E.C.4.

NEW YORK.  
PARIS.  
BERLIN.  
WARSAW.  
JERUSALEM.  
PRAGUE.

1st July, 1936.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,  
Carlton Hotel,  
W.

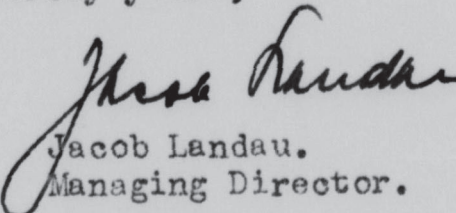
Dear Dr. Silver,

With reference to our conversation of to-day,  
I am enclosing copy of the cablegram which Karpf sent to  
Ben Gurion to which Ben Gurion replied, according to a cable-  
gram I received from New York, that he is willing to discuss  
with Backer only his previous proposals.

I am also enclosing copy of the letter the Executive  
wrote to Reuters, as well as a circular letter they sent out  
recently. I do hope that you have had an opportunity to talk this  
matter over with Mr. Ben Gurion.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

  
Jacob Landau.  
Managing Director.



LC ZIONIBURO LONDON BENGURION (OR IF IN JERUSALEM  
ADDRESS TO JEWAGENCY JERUSALEM BENGURION) BACKER  
PREPARED LAY CASE AGAINST EXECUTIVE BEFORE MEMBERS AGENCY  
COUNCIL STOP FEAR SUCH ACTION WOULD SERIOUSLY  
AGRAVATE SITUATION AND CAUSE UNDESIRABLE PUBLICITY  
STOP BELIEVE COULD PERSUADE HIM COME LONDON DISCUSS  
MATTER WITH YOU AND OTHERS STOP WILLING ACCEPT  
ADDITIONAL ZIONISTS ON ITA BOARD UNWILLING GIVE  
ORGANIZATIONAL CONTROL TO ZO OR OTHER ORGANIZATIONS  
STOP CABLE WHETHER SHOULD URGE HIM MAKE TRIP UNDER  
THESE CIRCUMSTANCES KARPf.



[1936]

COPY

THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE,  
Office of the Executive,  
P.O.Box 92,  
Jerusalem.

Ref. No. Pol/61/36.

Reuters Ltd.,  
9, Carmelite Street,  
Thames Embankment,  
London, E.C.4.

Gentlemen:

The attention of this Executive has been called to an item released for publication from your Headquarters on January 28th containing a telegraphic account of the interview which Dr. Chaim Weizmann, the President of the Jewish Agency, had with His Excellency the High Commissioner for Palestine. According to this report, which quotes the JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY as its source, Dr. Weizmann "warned the High Commissioner that the Jewish Agency would be compelled to appeal to the International Court of Justice at The Hague if the Palestine Government persisted in its present policy".

I have to inform you that the statement attributed to Dr. Weizmann has never been made by him and that other references to Dr. Weizmann in the message similarly do not correspond to the facts. On behalf of the Executive of the Jewish Agency I have to express my regret that a news agency of so high a repute as REUTERS should have been misled on an issue of such public importance as the attitude of the Jewish Agency vis-a-vis the British Government as the Mandatory for Palestine.

I would add that the interview of which the message under reference purports to render an account was of a confidential nature and that no information as to its contents has been vouchsafed by this Executive to the press or to any news agency. The local representative of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency has made no enquiries from this Executive before publishing the story which, in view of its untrue character, must have been based on mere hearsay.

This Executive would be obliged if an opportunity were taken of rectifying this regrettable misstatement and if in future, before placing reliance on messages of this sort, enquiries could be made from the London Office of the Jewish Agency for Palestine at 77 Great Russell Street, with a view to ascertaining their veracity.

Yours faithfully,  
(signed) M. SHEROK

EXECUTIVE OF THE JEWISH AGENCY.