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Jewish Agency, 1945-1946.

EXTRACTS FROM THE ARAB PRESS IN
MIDDLE AMERICA

(Issued by the Office of the Jewish Agency for Palestine in Washington, D. C.)

LEBANON'S NEW ERA OF INDEPENDENCE
"Al-Kustas" (Mexico City, Mexico), August 22, 1945

EDITORIAL

Lebanon in his new era has the front high, the face bright, the belief in a smiling future, the future of complete independence, free from the chains of mandate, looking from the height of his mountains, his valleys and seashores toward his other dear part, his peoples in their migration land, reminding them of their country of origin in his new era. And thanking them for their noble stand in his crisis when France wanted to keep her mandate for ever over a people that loved and was devoted to her.

The independence that was retaken by the Lebanese people is in need of the union of all his sons back at home and abroad.

And the Lebanese peoples who struggled during the long years in order to maintain their status as independent people and for which they were exiled and killed on the scaffold, when others of the Near East were asleep in their chains, they are still working for their independence. The sons following on the footsteps of the fathers are still sacrificing all to keep this independence.

THE PATRIARCH OF LEBANON

Let us always remember that high seat on which sits the venerable old man of Lebanon, the Patriarch. What struggles and efforts for the independence through the centuries, since the Patriarchal Seat was established!!

And lately, the voice is still high, the voice of the Patriarch as the voices of those before him, when those who are now in the seats of Government, were undermining the independence of Lebanon and his frontiers.

When was it ever that the Patriarchal Seat was not for independence?

When was it ever that those who were on the Seat of BIKIKI sold the liberty and independence of their people for their selfish ambitions and greed?

Doesn't the Lebanese remember the anger of the Patriarch about the question of the tobacco and the monopoly?

And those who say that the Patriarch made a secret treaty with the French, have they forgot how openly he asked the French to keep their promises made to Lebanon, and that he the Patriarch will accept nothing short of independence?

Here is the sixth clause of the resolutions of the Conference of BIKIKI which states clearly that: "Lebanon will negotiate a treaty with France to liquidate the Mandate in order that Lebanon manages her own affairs."

Who dares to say that the Patriarchal Seat is working against the independence? If there is an independent Lebanon today we owe it to this glorious Seat who stood

Extracts from the Arab Press in Latin America

firm before every political storm, when the interested powers in the East wanted to make of Lebanon a dependant State under their own rules.

Let us be fair, and those who believe to lower the patriotism of this National Seat for independence of Lebanon should go to their conscience for the truth, and they are going to defeat. The Patriarchal Seat was and is the pillar of independence, and by his light and guidance, this proud mountain kept and will keep its traditions and independence!!

Epstein

C O P Y

JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE
1720 16St., N.W., Washington, D. C.

September 13, 1945

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
American Zionist Emergency Council
542 Madison Avenue, Suite 1426
New York 17, New York

Dear Dr. Silver:

I am bringing to your attention an extract from a letter I just received from Jerusalem dated August 12, 1945.

"During the last few weeks a few important Americans visited Jerusalem and the impressions they expressed were most favorable to us. Among the visitors was General Chennault, the former Commander of the 14th American Air Force in China. As you know, he was a personal friend of President Roosevelt, and he is popular and influential with many Americans.

"While in Jerusalem, his guide was F. Rubin, to whom the General said: 'In five minutes I learned more about Palestine and the work done by the Jews than I read and learned all my life.' Rubin interpreted it as a paraphrase of what President Roosevelt said regarding his conversation with Ibn Saud. When Chennault was taken by Rubin to see Mt. Scopus, Chennault remarked: 'You have a great future. Here in Palestine a new type of a Jew has been created. I find here solid foundations of a new nation in the making'.

"Rubin took him to some other places in Jerusalem and to some of the factories recently established. As the General did not want his visit to become a public event, we could not have an official reception.

"A short time ago, some other prominent Americans visited here, namely: General Truscard, Commander of the 5th American Air Force, who was accompanied by Col. Edward Nyle, Col Theodore Warner, Col. Jack Barch, and Lt. Col. J. Wilson. They came to Palestine unofficially, their main purpose being, as the General said, to see with their own eyes what they had heard from American enlisted men who visited Tel Aviv and some of the Jewish colonies. The General and his suite travelled through Palestine minus their decorations so as not to arouse the curiosity of the people. They spent two days in Jerusalem and during that time visited Hadassah,

the University, Kibutz Ramat Rachel, Agricultural School for Girls and also the Old City. At the Agricultural School for Girls, some of the visitors said that the Jewish people everywhere could be proud of the Jewish achievements in Palestine and that it is a pity so little is known among the Gentiles in America of the real value of Zionist work in the Holy Land.

"There is now another group of Americans visiting Palestine, consisting mainly of military men and lead by Col. Scott Gordon, the author and pilot, who served in China. They are visiting our colonies in the Emek. The visit was arranged by the Jewish Agency.

"It is very important for us to know in advance whenever an American group of prominent individuals are coming from the United States to Palestine. That would facilitate some of the arrangements. It is also important that our people in America approach the American visitors to Palestine upon their return for they can speak with firsthand knowledge of the situation in Palestine. A man like General Chennault can contribute considerably to our cause".

Cordially yours,

ELIAHU EPSTEIN (signed)

9/14/45:MH

Chaim Epstein

Atgen to Silver

September 18, 1945

Mr. Moshe Shertok
The Jewish Agency for Palestine
77 Great Russell Street
London, W.C.1, England

Dear Moshe:

I am enclosing copies of original cables by the Mufti and Hitler. The source of these cables is "Band 13, Brief und Telegrammwechsel mit fremden Staatsoberhäuptern." This material has not yet been published by anyone.

A prominent American with long experience in the Middle East has recently given a confidential interpretation of the possible consequences of the return of the Mufti to Palestine. This statement which follows must remain confidential and should not be reproduced or quoted in any manner.

"There is no question but that the great majority of Arabs in Palestine desire the return of Hajj Amin for various reasons:

1. The Husseini Party, which still remains the most potent Arab political force, wants him to return because he is their leader.
2. The Nashashibi Party would not dare oppose Hajj Amin's returning, at the risk of being called traitors to the Arab cause.
3. The masses of Arabs now see in him a person who has not hesitated to oppose the British government openly and who seems to have the respect of that government in spite of his pro-Axis activities.
4. It is probably felt generally by the Arabs of Palestine that Hajj Amin could and would protect the political and economic interests of the Arab elite of Palestine, against the encroachments of Hashimites of Transjordan, and Arab dynasties and interests in other Arab lands.
5. He epitomizes the struggle of the Palestine Arabs against the Jews in Palestine, and crystallizes their animosities and ambitions.

"There are apparently considerable sections of influential British officialdom who desire the Grand Mufti's return to Palestine for purposes of their own. Among these purposes may be included:

1. The wish to keep Arab and English opposition to a further expansion of Jewish settlement in Palestine keyed up to an unyielding intransigence.
2. An attempt to use Hajj Amin as a tool in British efforts to consolidate a Moslem bloc stretching from Africa to India and amenable to English orientation.
3. The desire to remove him from the hands of the French, who might well employ him as a club with which to beat the British.

"It is significant that when an announcement was made over the Palestine Broadcasting Service station that the "ex-Mufti" had been captured, the next day an official correction was made to the effect that Hajj Amin was still the "Mufti of Jerusalem."

"Should Hajj Amin return to Palestine, it is certain that the Arab population in that country and in the Near East generally will interpret it as meaning that the Zionist experiment is not only to remain as it is, but that any attempts to liquidate it will not be frowned upon.

"The Jews in Palestine will interpret Hajj Amin's return in similar fashion; it will add to their forebodings of the future and their feeling of insecurity. The extremist view among the Jews in Palestine will be strengthened, and the explosive atmosphere of which most Palestinians are not completely conscious, will become intensified.

"There is serious danger, should the Mufti be returned to Palestine, that the extremists among the Jews may decide to strike. Everybody will then be involved. It will not remain an Arab-Jewish struggle, but will inevitably shape itself as it did in 1936-39 into an Arab-Jewish, Arab-English, Arab-Arab, and Jewish-English struggle. There will be no self restraint on the part of the Jews as there was in 1936-39. This time defence will consist of offense, motivated by anger, grounded in despair.

"The present Jewish community in Palestine is convinced it cannot survive in its present numbers, and is basically prepared to go down fighting rather than, so it feels, inevitably be doomed to death by a process of gradual attrition.

Mr. Moshe Shertok

- 3 -

"Should the Mufti be returned, the Arabs of the Near East will have convincing evidence that the enemies of Great Britain obtain rewards rather than punishment for anti-British actions. The outside world may wonder how it is that an active pro-Axis collaborator can be restored to honor, position, and power by one of the nations for whose defeat he labored."

I suppose that by this time you also have a copy of my conversation with M. Benard of the French Embassy to whom I spoke on the subject of the Mufti.

I am expecting Nahum Goldmann in Washington in a day or two and shall discuss with him what should be our next step regarding the Mufti using the available information in our possession at present.

It would be of great help to us here if you write expressing your opinion of the matter and sending me whatever new material you can add to what we already have.

Undoubtedly you have seen the news released today by the JTA to the effect that the Cairo radio reported on September 15 that a meeting of the Arab Party in Palestine has adopted a resolution demanding the return of the Mufti and other exiled leaders to Palestine. I think that it is the first time that the name of the Mufti has been mentioned openly by the Party while discussing the question of the return of the exiled leaders.

With kind personal regards,

Yours as ever,

EErk
Encs.

Eliahu Epstein

Dr. Algin

CONFIDENTIAL

Dr. Nahum Goldmann

October 3, 1945

Eliahu Epstein

SUBJECT: Activities of Arab Office in Washington (No. 3)

On September 21, 1945, representatives of the Arab Office called on the Director of the Section of Foreign Agents Registration of the Department of Justice, Washington, D. C., and submitted an official registration statement concerning the opening of their office in this country with headquarters in Washington, D. C. The Registration Statement, No. 322, contains the following information:

1. The official name of the office is "The Arab Office."
2. It is the representative in this country of a Headquarters Arab Office opened in Jerusalem on July 23, 1945, headed by Musa Bey Alami. Palestine was given as the country of origin of the Headquarters office.
3. The Washington Arab Office is located at the Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, D. C. The approximate number of personnel is ten. Their names are given as follows:

Ahmad Shukairy, Director,
Dr. Majlah Isseddin, Member
Khloussy Khairy, Member,
Awny W. Dejahy, Member,
Omar Abu Khadra, Secretary.

4. Foreign principals of the Arab Office in Washington are Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Yemen and Transjordan, represented by their foreign ministers.
5. Funds received from abroad by the Arab Office in Washington:

On August 12, 1945, Iraqi Legation paid the Office \$5,000
(partial budget),

On August 24, the Syrian Legation paid the Office \$10,000,
On August 24, the Iraqi Legation paid the Office \$5,000.

6. The purpose of the Arab Office in Washington was stated as follows: "The Arab Office is an organization sponsored by the Arab States to present objectively and comprehensively all data, facts and knowledge informative of all political, social, economic and cultural conditions of the Arab world. The Office seeks to cultivate and promote friendly relations and mutual understanding between the United States and the Arab world."

7. In that section of the Registration Statement dealing with personal expenditures of the members of the Office during their activities in the United States, the following is stated:

On August 10, 1945, Dr. Najlah Isseddin received an allowance of \$1,600.

On August 13, Khloussy Khairy received an allowance of \$400.

On August 13, A. W. Dejahy, an allowance of \$400.

On August 13, Omar Abu Khadra, an allowance of \$240.

On August 13, A. Shukairy, an allowance of \$600.

On August 24, Omar Abu Khadra, \$400.

On August 31, Khloussy Khairy, \$400.

On August 31, A. W. Dejahy, \$400.

On August 31, Omar Abu Khadra, \$240.

On August 31, A. Shukairy, \$600.

On August 31, Dr. Najlah Isseddin, \$558.19

On September 13, Omar Abu Khadra, \$400.

8. The question of what publication has already been distributed in this country by the Office was answered to this effect; that a mimeographed memorandum was sent to the President of the United States.

On the day following its registration, the Arab Office released its first public statement. It was addressed to Americans of Arab origin, and was printed by all Arab newspapers. Some carried the statement on their front pages. "Al-Nada" printed it on the third page in the local news section. In this statement, the Arab Office explained that it was created in order to promote understanding between the Arab world and the American people for their mutual benefit. The statement added that every American citizen of Arab origin, by supporting his mother country, will also be aiding the United States economically and politically. Palestine was not mentioned in this statement nor was any other specific subject.

However, today at the Foreign Agent's Registration Section, I was told that in a conversation between members of that office and Ahmad Shukairy and his colleagues, the latter group indicated frankly that their main activities in America, at least for the time being, would be to combat Zionism and to defend the Arab cause in Palestine.

The first official act of the Arab Office will be a press conference to be held tomorrow at their headquarters. They have already released a statement in connection with this conference and a copy of it is attached to this memorandum.

Another act of the Arab League in Washington was an official visit paid today by all the Arab Ministers, accredited to the White House, on Mr. Dean Acheson, Undersecretary of State. Mr. Loy W. Henderson, Director of the Office of Near Eastern and African Affairs, was present also.

Memorandum
Dr. Nahum Goldmann

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The delegation informed Mr. Acheson that their collective visit was on behalf of the Arab League and not on behalf of each country separately. Thus they established with the State Department a precedent for further contacts in such capacity.

The main speaker for the delegation was the Egyptian Minister. The first matter he proposed was recognition of the Arab League in the capacity of a regional organization similar to that of the Pan-American Union. The second, was a protest against the letter written by President Truman regarding the 100,000 Jews to be allowed to enter Palestine. He referred to a promise given by the late President Roosevelt that nothing would be done regarding Palestine without consulting the Arabs. The letter, however, he asserted, indicated a breach of such promise. The Iraqi Minister added that the Arabs, if previously consulted would have had no objection to a proposal of 1,500 Jews entering Palestine monthly as long as such an act constituted a humanitarian deed and would help solve the refugee problem in Europe. Apparently the Arabs would object to even such a proposal because of the very fact that they were not consulted.

According to my information, Messrs. Acheson and Henderson did not enter into the discussion with the delegation on the subjects propounded by them. Mr. Acheson merely promised to inform Mr. Byrnes upon his return of these matters. The delegation remained at the State Department for one-half hour.

Immediately after that, a press conference was held at the Egyptian Legation at which the Egyptian minister gave a very short statement dealing with the visit to the State Department.

When the Minister was asked about the rumored visit of King Faruk to this country, he replied that such a visit is anticipated and may take place sometime in the spring.

Before closing the press conference, the Minister informed the correspondents that within a few days the same delegation of the Arab League will again call on the State Department, but he did not indicate the reason for the future call. It was, however, intimated that the second visit to the State Department will not take place before Mr. Byrnes' return from London.

EE:rk

CC: Dr. Wise
Dr. Akzin for Dr. Silver and Mr. Shapiro ✓
Mr. Lipsky
Messrs. Lourie and Weisgal
Mr. Shertok

ARAB OFFICE
Wardman Park Hotel
Washington, D. C.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Statement on Jewish Immigration to Palestine

The forces of political Zionism are again on the move. Its leaders, on both sides of the Atlantic, are marshalling their resources and girding themselves for what to them appears to be their last favorable opportunity to press home their demand for free and unrestricted Jewish immigration to Palestine and thereby assure its eventual conversion into a "Jewish Commonwealth."

Zionist strategists realize only too well that with the demasification of Europe and the gradual reestablishment of order and security will come the ebb of that flood tide of world sympathy which has been to them a chief weapon in their fight to open up Palestine for unrestricted immigration. They believe that they must act decisively while there still remains the slightest semblance of the conditions which aroused that sympathy.

With that strategic urgency in mind, Zionist leaders are currently pressing for the immediate admission into Palestine of 100,000 European Jewish refugees.

The ARAB OFFICE desires to state clearly and emphatically the Arab stand on the issue of further Jewish immigration to Palestine.

With victory won, and the forces of oppression completely annihilated, there should be no longer any need for a Jewish haven. Victory can have no real meaning, if the only solution of the problem of one displaced group in Europe, is one which can only result in the displacement of another group in Palestine. Tiny Arab Palestine already shelters within its borders more than 700,000 Jews, a number greater than the combined total of refugees accepted by all other countries of the world.

Arab opinion holds that the real motive behind the present drive is a political rather than a humanitarian one; and that the real objective is the implementation of the Zionist scheme of achieving Jewish sovereignty by building up a Jewish majority.

For that reason, the Arabs must reject any proposal that would be inconsistent with the policy on immigration set out in the 1939 White Paper, in which the British Government officially set a limit to the number of Jewish immigrants to be admitted into Palestine within a certain period of time. The 1944 deadline has passed.

The Arab World insists on the immediate establishment of a democratic Arab state based on the will of all the inhabitants of Palestine. To permit continued further Jewish immigration, and the postponement of the establishment of self-governing institutions, would be a violation of all democratic principles and guarantees, and would in effect constitute a guarantee of the future establishment of a Jewish state governed by a Jewish majority.

Without going into a discussion of its legality, the Balfour Declaration on which Zionism bases its legal claim, did not promise "the reconstitution of Palestine as the National Home of the Jews." It promised a home within and not a taking over of the whole country. The idea of a complete "taking over" was expressly rejected by the original British framers of the Declaration, and this rejection has been made on various subsequent times, as in the White Papers of 1922 and 1939.

What the Zionists seek is the radical extension, rather than the implementation of the Balfour Declaration. For the promises made in that declaration have been more than amply fulfilled with the entry into Palestine of more than 700,000 Jews, and the establishment of their religious, cultural and economic institutions.

The continued peace of that strategic part of the world will in a large measure depend upon a just and peaceful solution of this problem. The Arab World is confident that once the real facts are disclosed and generally made known, Americans with their traditional sense of fair play, will insist on justice being given to the Arabs of Palestine.

Ahmad Shukairy

Director of Arab Office

Released by the ARAB OFFICE, which is sponsored by the Governments of the Arab States (Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Yemen and Transjordan), and is so registered at the Department of Justice, Washington, D. C., where copies of this material are being filed and where the registration statement of the Arab Office is available for inspection. The fact of registration does not indicate approval by the U. S. Government of the contents of this material.

Atkin

CONFIDENTIAL

Dr. Nahum Goldmann

October 5, 1945

Eliahu Epstein

SUBJECT:

Turkish Political Affairs

From a long conversation I had today with a prominent member of the Turkish Embassy in Washington, D. C., I learned the following:

1. Turkish policies in the Middle East, as elsewhere, are at present decided mainly by the considerations of the Russian danger to vital interest of the Turkish Republic. Turkey is quite satisfied with the present international situation which shifted the crucial point of a possible conflict between Great Britain and America on one side, and Russian on the other, from the Dardanelles to a larger zone, including ~~the~~ strategic zones both in the Mediterranean and the Red Seas.
2. The Turkish attitude toward the Arab League is one of benevolent neutrality. It is to Turkish interest, however, that the League remain a British tool instead of becoming an independent body, for as long as the Arab League is a British controlled organization, it will be used to check Russian expansion in the Arab world.
3. The Turkish Government gave its support to the Iraqi Government to combat an uprising of the Kurds in Northern Iraq. The present activities among the Kurds are inspired and guided by Russian agents. Therefore, the Turkish Government will cooperate further with the Iraqi Government, and, if necessary, with the Syrian, to suppress any tendency for the revival of Kurdish nationalism.
4. The Turkish Embassy is concerned about the propaganda which different Armenian organizations in this country have launched against Turkey's possession of the Kars and Ardahan districts in Northern Anatolia. This propaganda is inspired and paid for by the U.S.S.R. Embassy in Washington. The Russian Embassy also spends money on propaganda among other groups and organizations in the United States who are bound by religious and communal ties in the Middle East.

Memorandum
Dr. Nahum Goldmann

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5. My informant read a confidential report issued by the Ministry of Commerce in Ankara which contains an item devoted to commercial relations between Turkey and Palestine. The report praised the Jewish Agency's exhibition of Palestine's trade and industry held a few months ago in Istanbul and Ankara, and indicated the possibilities for economic and commercial relations between Turkey and Palestine.
6. Before concluding the conversation, my informant indicated that the Turks have no illusions about the aggressive and reactionary character of the Arab national movement. The Turks will never accede to Arab unity which will sooner or later endanger the achievements of the Turkish revolution, especially when Turkey is now entering a period of further development after one of stagnation that began with the death of Kemal Ata Turk. We should not expect, at present, any political assistance from the Turkish Government which is sandwiched between the danger of Russian aggression and the growing weakness of the British Empire. If, however, we succeed in getting a Jewish State in Palestine, Turkey will be glad to have a progressive and strong Jewish factor in the Middle East.

EE:rk

CC: Dr. Wise
Dr. Aksin for Dr. Silver and Mr. Shapiro
Mr. Lipsky
Messrs. Lourie and Weisgal
Mr. Shertok

Dr. Aksin

Dr. Nahum Goldmann

October 5, 1945

Eliahu Epstein

SUBJECT: Arab Activities in Bolivia

Attached is a report received from the Zionist Federation in Bolivia in reply to our questionnaire regarding Arab activities in Latin America.



EE:rk

CC: Dr. Wise
Dr. Aksin for Dr. Silver and Mr. Shapiro ✓
Mr. Lipsky
Messrs Lourie and Weisgal
Mr. Shertok
Mr. Heydt for Dr. Joseph

ARAB ACTIVITIES IN BOLIVIA

We wish to inform you that the Arab propaganda, until now, has been very moderate. In the last few years there were published in La Paz (Bolivia's Capital City) some 10 articles, (paid for by the Arabs) as a reaction to some statements made by Bistritsky and other delegates. By the way, on account of the wide repercussion to Bistritsky's work in Sucre (one of Bolivia's districts) some antizionist items were broadcast during a 6 weeks period but then it suddenly stopped. In Santa Cruz (Bolivia city) a year ago, there were published some antizionist articles. We did not respond and there was silence in their circles also.

At the present time there is no indication of activities on the part of the Arabs, in spite of that we are on guard and continue our efforts with the gentiles in accordance with our program.

ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE

- 1). The Arab population consists of 5,000 people and is divided in three groups: 1,000 Moslems, 3,900 Christians and 100 Druses.
- 2). There are the following Arabs organizations:
 - a). "CLUB ARABE," of La Paz
 - b). "COMITE PATRIOTICO ARABE" c/o Club Arabe of La Paz
 - c). "PROPAGANDA PRO PALESTINA" of Cochabamba
 - d). Smaller groups of social character.

(The organizations b & c have a political purpose. The others are purely social clubs.)

- 3). ELIAS MIGUEL is the leader of the "CLUB ARABE" of La Paz
VICTOR SOLAS is of the "COMITE PATRIOTICO ARABE" of La Paz, and
ELIAS READE is the leader of "PROPAGANDA PRO PALESTINA" of Cochabamba.
- 4). There are no Arab publications in Bolivia
- 5). No Arab delegate has ever come to this country
- 6). We do not know of any connection between the Arabs and their legations in Washington. But we suppose that the "COMITE PATRIOTICO ARABE" and "PROPAGANDA PRO PALESTINA" are in contact with the Arab Legations in Washington.
- 7). There is no non-Arab organization or paper which supports the Arab cause.

Arab Activities in Bolivia

- 8). Only recently the Parliamentary representatives of Oruro (one of Bolivia's districts) introduced a bill for the establishment of diplomatic relations with Syria and Lebanon (this bill has not yet been discussed by the Parliament). We feel the Arab influence in this matter though we have no proof of it.
- 9). The Arabs use the newspaper, Radio Broadcasts and Pamphlets for anti-zionist propaganda purposes. When they publish some antizionist article in the paper these always appear under the show bill the word "SOLICITADA" which means that the article was paid for and does not represent the opinion of the Editors.

All these means of propaganda have been used only sporadically. As yet there are no organized continued activities.

- 10). In one case we wrote a letter to the "COMITE PATRIOTICO ARABE," in a friendly manner to refute some erroneous judgment and groundless suspicions contained in an article. We cannot answer every article because that would result in a public discussion that would require a series of paid answers and we do not have the financial means for this.
- 11). We suggest the following means for improving our Zionist propaganda between the gentiles:

Moving Pictures (spoken in Spanish)

Newsreels

Magazines, illustrated pamphlets and statistics about the Jewish and Arab progress thanks to the Jewish efforts in Eretz Israel.

Algeria

CONFIDENTIAL

Dr. Nahum Goldmann

October 5, 1945

Elihu Epstein

SUBJECT:

Activities of the Institute of Arab American Affairs, Inc.

After a period of tranquillity, the Institute of Arab American Affairs, Inc. with its headquarters in New York, released a statement to the Arab press in the United States. This statement is attached and was translated from the September 24, 1945 issue of "As-Sayeh" (New York semi-weekly).

The new Director of the Institute, Dr. Khalil Totah is an old acquaintance of mine. A few years ago he started to develop friendly contacts with some Jewish teachers in Palestine. In a course of lectures in Arabic held last year in the Y.M.C.A. Auditorium in Jerusalem, he praised the Jewish educational institutions in Palestine and advised the Arabs to learn from these achievements. Some Arab papers criticized him for such a suggestion. Politically, he is, however, an outspoken anti-Zionist, and in the course of his evidence before the Peel Royal Commission, he made a very strong political attack on Zionism and the Jewish National Home. He is an energetic man and will, no doubt, do his best as Director of the Institute. However, he may be confronted with difficulties. The Arab Office in Washington will probably not allow him to overshadow their prestige and activities.

The resignation of Dr. Philip Hitti from the Executive Committee of the Institute may be an indication of his decision either to leave the Institute and join the Arab Office in some capacity, or to remain independent for some time before he makes up his mind with whom to associate himself.

The fact that at present only Moslems are attached to the Arab Office in Washington may have serious repercussions among the Arab public in this country and this may be exploited when the time comes by the Institute of Arab American Affairs whose leaders, Totah, Maloof, Faris and Hitti, are Christians.

EE:rk

Attachment - 1

CC: Dr. Wise

Dr. Aksin for Dr. Silver and Mr. Shapiro

Mr. Lipsky

Messrs. Lourie and Weisgal

Mr. Shertok

A Release
of The Institute for Arab American Affairs, Inc.

The Executive Committee of the Institute met on September 14, 1945. Present at the meeting were: Professor Faris Maloof of Boston, Messrs. Ali Mehvel-Deen and Elias Audy, Dr. Philip Hitti, Dr. John Hassan and Messrs. Saad Faris and Abbas Nasrallah.

The Committee adopted several resolutions, the most important being the appointment of Dr. Khalil Totah as Director of the Institute.

Dr. Totah is a graduate of Columbia University. He was, for a quarter of a century, the Director of the Friends' School in Ramallah, Palestine. Dr. Totah is a well known Arab patriot and educator. He wrote many articles on Arab problems in the American magazines, including "Asia" and other publications.

This appointment came after the resignation of Dr. Philip Hitti from the Executive Committee of the Institute. Dr. Hitti wants to pursue his work in Princeton University and finds that he has not the time for the Institute at present. He was congratulated and thanked for his splendid work for the Institute and what it stands for.

Dr. Khalil Totah will begin his work as Director on October 1, and will be assisted by Messrs. Habib Katibah and Ismail Al-Khalidi.

The Committee also accepted the resignation from the Executive Committee of Mr. Farahat Ziadah, who is leaving soon for London.

"As-Sayeh"

(New York, September 24, 1945)

Atzine

CONFIDENTIAL

Dr. Nahum Goldmann

October 5, 1945

Elisha Epstein

SUBJECT: Lebanese Conference in New York

Attached are resolutions adopted by the Conference of Lebanese Organizations in the United States held in New York on September 15 and 16, 1945.

These resolutions were published in full by "Al-Nada" only. The other Arab papers carried only a summary of the resolutions. This fact rather indicates the weakness of the Maronite influence with the Arab press in this country. Although "Al-Nada," one of the two daily Arab papers published in the United States has a larger circulation, the readers of it are primarily Maronites. Practically every Arab religious community in this country has an organ of its own. "As-Sameer," the other Arab daily published in Brooklyn, is read mainly by the Arabs of Greek Orthodox rite, and "Al-Bayan," published in Washington thrice weekly, is read and supported mainly by the Druzes.



EE:rk
Attachment - 1

CC: Dr. Wise
Dr. Akzin for Dr. Silver and Mr. Shapiro ✓
Mr. Lipsky
Messrs. Lourie and Weisgal
Mr. Shertok

RESOLUTIONS

adopted by the Conference of Lebanese Organizations in the U.S.A. held in New York on September 15 and 16, 1945.

The Conference held in New York on the 15th and 16th of September, 1945 was attended by delegates of various Lebanese organizations in America, including the "Lebanon National Committee," resolved the following:

1. To denounce the action of the Lebanese Government who withdrew the passport of Monsignor Antoun Akl, the envoy of His Beatitude, the Maronite Patriarch of Lebanon, because such action constituted an infringement on the right of the Lebanese people by denying them the freedom of speech. The Conference nominated a committee to draw the protest composed of Mr. Salloum Mokarzel, editor of "Al-Noda," Attorney George Shala, Attorney G. P. Naim and Mr. Iskandar Antoun, co-editor of "Al-Noda."
2. To approve the resolutions of the Patriarchal Conference at Bkerke, Lebanon completely;
3. To greet officially the Patriarchal Envoy and to thank the Maronite Patriarch for his sending Monsignor Akl to the Lebanese in America in order to let them know what is going on in Lebanon now;
4. To establish a Lebanese Office of Propaganda in America, which will act independently in the name of the Americans of Lebanese origin for the purpose of making known Lebanon and the Lebanese to the American people and for the advancement of Lebanon interests in this hemisphere;
5. To publish a detailed statement on Monsignor Akl's mission in English and Arabic. The statement should include a study of Lebanon's glorious history, culture and traditions.
6. To denounce and break every relation with any Lebanese representative who does not work first and above all to make Lebanon's name high and respected.
7. To send a copy of the Resolutions of the Conference to the Council of the Five Foreign Ministers' meeting now in London, England, and to other authoritative bodies.

Dr. Silver

No. 2

EXTRACTS FROM THE ARAB PRESS IN
LATIN AMERICA

(Issued by the Office of the Jewish Agency for Palestine in Washington, D. C.)

WHAT IS THERE IN LEBANON?

"Al-Kustas" (Mexico City) October 10, 1945

EDITORIAL

In Lebanon now, there is a big furor about such subjects as "Independence" - "Unity with the Arabs" - "The Christians" - "The protectorate" - "The British" - "France" and "Little Lebanon", etc. This situation troubles our compatriots and makes them distrustful of what they hear and read.

But we read a report and we know, and our duty is to tell the truth.

Independence - Lebanon is independent, is officially recognized as such by the Big and small powers and has ministers in many foreign capitals. This is a fact based on the desire of her people who will never give up this independence because it is in their blood.

Unity - This is the idea of the leaders of Arab States; they plan, they dream of it day and night, they believe that the obstacle to this Unity is Lebanon and so they give out with that no Arab unity can be achieved unless Lebanon is included as an integral part of the program. These leaders believe or imagine that the Christian and Phoenician Lebanon is the ghoul ~~LEAD~~ of Arab unity and later cannot be achieved without annexing Lebanon after destroying her independence.

Arab citizenship - Some of the League of Arab States intend to institute and Arab citizenship. But this Arab citizenship cannot be instituted except at the expense of the National citizenship of Hejaz, Yemen, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon and Palestine.

Lebanon became a member of the Arab League only on the condition that her independence, frontiers and culture be respected. She was given assurance by the League that this would be so.

The Christians - Christians in the East are few in number. Their leaders, assembled at Bkirki, resolved that they need the protection of the major powers, and among them, France. But religious politics, which is never asleep, awakened a certain sect ~~THE~~ The Greek Orthodox (Ed. of the "Extracts") to say that it does not represent the Christians of the East and not even of Lebanon.

And what does all this mean?

It is simply this - that the head of that particular church cannot stomach the protection of the Christians and in particular of France. He said that the Christians live like brothers with their Moslem neighbors (and this may be through the influence of British Liras (gold) which are distributed with generosity in the East and Lebanon). But, ancient and modern history shows that the sons of this particular church always paid a price and their brothers, the Maronites, were always defending and protecting them and gave them refuge.

Protection - The demand for protection from the heads of Christian Churches at Bkirki may be good or bad, especially in view of France. This, of course, is not what Britain wants (after she has lit the fire in the Near East to put France out of

Extracts from the Arab Press in
Latin America.

No. 2

these parts witnessed the events lately in Syria and Lebanon). But the strange and secret thing is that the sons of Lebanon (some of them) have a hand in it, and worked for the British.

France - Her position in Lebanon and Syria is well known. She was defeated in this war, and naturally has to lose in this battle of the Orient against her opponent, the British Lion. The result is a gain for the British policy through two important factors - Force - Money.

Conclusion - The Patriarch of Lebanon wants complete independence with security to back up this independence. The Government of Lebanon wants independence with an Arab face. The Lebanese phalanges demand the independence of Lebanon with its Christian, Phoenician face. No unity → no annexation -- But friendly cooperation with their neighbors - the Arab States. They agree completely with the Great Patriarchal seat of Bkirki.

(Ed. Note:) The head of the church who is mentioned as being against the Conference of Bkirki is the Patriarch Alexandros Tahan, the Syrian Greek Orthodox Patriarch of Antioch, who resides in Damascus, capital of Syria. It is well known that the Syrian Greek Orthodox hates the maronite Catholics and for the same reason they hate France, which is supposed to be a Catholic nation.



MAURICE M. BOUKSTEIN
COUNSELOR AT LAW
32 BROADWAY
NEW YORK 4, N.Y.
HANOVER 2-3795

October 12th, 1945.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Ansel Road & 65th St.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

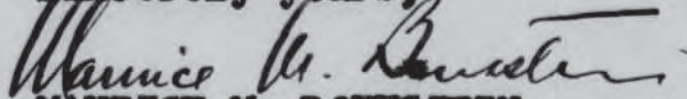
I am in receipt of a memorandum from Mr. Meyer W. Weisgal in which he requests that I take up with you directly the question of complying with the provisions of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 by reason of your association with the Jewish Agency for Palestine as a member of the Executive of the Jewish Agency for Palestine with a vote on political matters.

I assume that the office of the Jewish Agency in New York has sent to you a copy of my detailed letter to them of September 4th, 1945 and that there has also been forwarded to you a form known as Exhibit "A".

Officials in the Department of Justice have requested again that the Agency comply with the provisions of the Act.

As I have indicated in my letter of September 4th, I shall, of course, be glad to do what I can to assist you in the preparation of Exhibit "A". If you desire such assistance please let me know. I request, however, that you attend to this matter promptly because compliance on the part of the Agency is already overdue and I should not like the officials of the Department of Justice to have occasion to put themselves on record to this effect.

Sincerely yours,


MAURICE M. BOUKSTEIN

MMB:LG
Encl.

P.S. In case you have misplaced Exhibit "A", I send you another duplicate set of forms herewith. Please fill in and sign them both and return to me.

c/c - Mr. Meyer W. Weisgal

Dr. Nahum Goldmann

October 15, 1945

Eliahu Epstein

SUBJECT: Release by the Arab Friendship League in Canada.

The following item was released on September 27, 1945 by the Canadian Arab Friendship League dealing with the Palestine situation:

"The Canadian Arab Friendship League at a special meeting held at the Windsor Hotel Tuesday night expressed 'strong opposition' to any move on the part of Canadian and American politicians 'to induce England to abdicate her traditional right and mandatory powers in the present issue in favor of an independent political state controlled by Jews.'

"Denying that 'humanitarian principles' are involved, B. Zahalan, president of the league, stated that the issue at stake is whether the majority of Palestine citizens, the Arabs, who have lived in that region of Syria - known to all Arabs as Southern Syria - should be at liberty to determine their own political destiny, or whether this power should be granted to foreign Jewish elements permitted to immigrate into Palestine under the proposed new quota.

"Mr. Zahalan cited several examples, showing the generosity and cooperative spirit of the Arabs of Palestine. 'These Arabs have opened their doors to the Jews long before the war and even before the advent of Hitler, while other nations were definitely opposed to Jewish immigration,' he said.

"Speakers at the meeting protested against President Truman's attitude toward the Arab nations and stated that he 'should learn a lesson from the experience of the late Mr. Roosevelt, who had promised King Ibn Saud during his last meeting with the Monarch that he would not support the Jews in their undemocratic demand for possession of Palestine.'"

HR:rk

cc: Dr. Wise
Dr. Aksin for Dr. Silver and Mr. Shapiro
Mr. Lipsky
Messrs. Lourie and Weisgal
Mr. Shertok

CONFIDENTIAL

Dr. Nahum Goldmann

October 16, 1945

Eliahu Epstein

SUBJECT:

Mufti-Hitler Telegrams

The following is a copy of a letter received from Dr. Rafael de la Colina, Charge d'Affaires, Mexican Embassy. It deals with the American Zionist Emergency Council's release of the Mufti-Hitler telegrams.

R. C.

Washington 9, D.C.
October 9th, 1945.

Mr. Eliahu Epstein,
The Jewish Agency for Palestine,
1730 Sixteenth Street,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Epstein:

I have taken due notice of the most interesting press release from the American Zionist Emergency Council regarding an exchange of telegrams between Hitler and the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, Hajj Amin el-Husseini, which you attached to your letter of the 26th of September ultimo.

In compliance with your request, I have today forwarded the aforementioned press release to the Department of Foreign Relations of Mexico, who no doubt, will be most interested on its contents.

Very sincerely yours,

/s/ Rafael de la Colina

Rafael de la Colina
Charge d'Affaires a.i.

cc: lga:

Mark

cc: Dr. Wise
✓ Dr. Aksin for Dr. Silver and Mr. Shapiro
Mr. Lipsky
Messrs. Lourie and Weisgal

Mr. Shortek

Dr. Silver -

I have asked
Epstein to make this
story available, on an
exclusive basis, to one
of our friends among
newspapermen, but
E. said that this
can't be done for one
month, in order not to
alienate the man from
whom we have this
information.

BA.

8. 5764

CONFIDENTIAL

Dr. Nahum Goldmann

October 16, 1945

Eliahu Epstein

SUBJECT:

Present Conditions in Arabia

A prominent American who has just returned from an extensive trip to Saudi Arabia and Yemen made the following confidential report:

1. Economically, Saudi Arabia is in a serious condition. A twelve year locust plague has destroyed from 20 to 60% of the grain crops and a camel disease has killed almost two-thirds of the camels. During the war Saudi Arabia was helped by Lend-Lease and by a supplementary board controlled by the United States. This board will continue to operate this year and some sort of trade negotiations will soon start between the American minister in Jeddah and King Ibn Saud.

2. St. J. Philby is back in Riyadh. Apparently, the story that he was in disgrace with Ibn Saud has no foundation. During the last of Ramadan the informant saw Philby in Riyadh fasting with the rest of the Moslems. He is now setting up his old firm, 'El-Shark,' for post-war trade.

3. Ibn Saud is in excellent health and is the father of a three month old baby. His son, Saud, still suffers from eye trouble, but manages to get around. He is the leader of the conservative faction around the Palace and when Ibn Saud dies there is bound to be trouble between him and Faisal, his brother.

Both factions are hard at work trying to establish as close contact as possible with the representatives of the oil companies in Saudi Arabia, figuring that whichever one has their support will have enough money at least to go on fighting. When the moment comes for succession to the kingdom, Prince Saud counts on the support of the Hajdi tribes, while Faisal is doing his best to keep his influence with the Syrian clique in the Court, and some of his prominent followers in the Hedjaz who oppose the Wahabi conservatism of Saud. Faisal's relations with the oil companies established during his visits to this country and with their foreign representatives in Saudi Arabia are closer than those of anyone in the Court except the king, himself.

4. Ibn Saud is busy studying the documents from the San Francisco Conference brought by his delegates. The United Nations' Charter and other material has been translated for him by Ali Riza, secretary of the Saudi Arabian delegation at San Francisco, who also acts as interpreter for the King on the complex matters contained in the material from San Francisco.

5. Recently Ibn Saud flew for the first time in his life from Jeddah to Taif in an American plane, which was the gift of President Roosevelt. The American government is eager to establish a permanent air-base in Saudi Arabia for commercial purposes, and, if necessary, for military. Peace-time commercial air traffic is to be managed by a local Saudi Arabian company with American money and planes. Taif is contemplated as one of the airports and the recent flight of the King was gratifying to the American Government as an indication to the Hedajists of the King's personal support.

The British are following the American air policy in the Middle East, generally, and in Saudi Arabia specifically, with open indignation, since it challenges the supremacy of British air control in the Middle East, and upsets some of the elaborate plans which the British had for air communications in that part of the world.

6. Recently, the oil companies sent five Saudi Arabians to the American University at Beirut to learn English. According to the informant, only three men in Arabia speak English fluently and only one of them is a native; the others are a Palestinian and a Syrian. With the support of the United States government, the oil companies have a program for sending additional Saudi Arabians to be educated in the American University in Beirut and in the United States. The candidates for such a program will probably be from prominent Saudi Arabian families.

7. Ibn Saud despises the Egyptians. His adherence to the Arab League was made, among other conditions, on the one that Saudi Arabia be excluded from participating in Pan-Arab cultural activities. He harbors the traditional resistance of a Wahabi to anything modern in Islam and prefers to see youth of his country go to the infidel American universities in Beirut or Boston for professional training, rather than have them go to Faud I University in Cairo, or Farouk I University in Alexandria.

King Farouk is shrewd, however, a growing interest in the Red Sea. After his visit to Jeddah early this year for a meeting with Ibn Saud, he took his sister, the Queen of Iran (whose marriage, incidentally, seems to have been a "horrible mistake"), on a cruise of the

Red Sea, which stopped over at Jeddah, but ^{this time} he did not see Ibn Saud, nor did he get off the boat. His pilgrimage to the Holy Cities is long overdue and both Cairo and Mecca are expecting him to come to the Hedjaz soon. When he does make the pilgrimage, it will probably be done with all the pomp and ceremony of a royal visit to impress Ibn Saud and the thousands of Moslems who gather there annually from all over the world.

8. Yemen is docile and obedient. The aged Imam Yehiyah recently had trouble with three of his seven sons, who tried to kill him. He threw them into jail rather than beheading them.

There is still no foreign representative of any sort in Yemen and the observer at the headquarters of the Arab League in Cairo is the only Yemenite in foreign service. One of the acts of the Arab League in Yemen was to persuade the Imam to stop further emigration of Jews to Palestine. Every Jew caught leaving the country for Aden is liable to execution without trial. Despite that, many Jews continue to leave the country paying heavy bribes to high and petty officials of the Imam.

But in Yemen itself the Jews have not suffered much since the new orders preventing their emigration to Palestine. Most of them fill important economic functions as craftsmen and skilled artisans and are personally protected by the Imam.

As in Saudi Arabia, the death of the Imam will bring serious troubles in Yemen. There will be struggles among his sons and between the two factions, one of which supports the Crown Prince, Self el-Islam Ahmed, and the other of which supports the son of a Jewish wife of the Imam, Self el-Islam Hussein.

CC: Dr. Vase
Dr. Akshin for Dr. Silver and Mr. Shapiro
Mr. Lapsky
Messrs. Lewis and Vogel
Mr. Sherbok

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS AFTER THE ADDRESS GIVEN BY ABDERRAHMAN AZZAM BEY,
SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ARAB LEAGUE, TO THE PARLIAMENTARY LABOUR
GROUP ON 17TH OCTOBER 1945**

Q. As far as I understand the matter, there are two points of view. They seem to me to be irreconcilable. Is there any way in which they can be reconciled?

Azzam As far as it is a Jewish question, I think there is a solution. But to compromise between Zionism and Arabism in Palestine is impossible. The Zionist comes, not as a Jew, but as a race with its own religion and culture. If they were Jews who proposed just to settle down in the country, as a community and not as an alien race, it would be a different matter.

Q. Supposing they came merely as immigrants, into an Arab State and were very prolific and the Arabs not, would not that create a difficult situation?

Azzam We are not so harsh a people as to prevent nature from doing her duty. If among us there is a community of Armenians in Syria or Jews in Baghdad who are very prolific, God help them and let them produce as many children as they can. What we object to is the use of British bayonets to enforce the immigration of an alien race.

Q. The Jews might increase naturally and get into a position in which they might dominate the Arab State.

Q. Would not that be a situation similar to that of the French and English in Quebec?

Azzam We have a definition - the official definition of the League - which says: "Whoever settles on our land, adopts our language and shares our ideas, is one of us", and in this case we have no fear of people propagating although they come originally from another race. But if they come as an alien race, determined to overwhelm a certain portion of the Arab people, then I don't know how it will end.

Q. Does our friend think the Balfour Declaration ought to be wiped out?

Azzam The Balfour Declaration was wrong. It was not the business of Britain to promise anything of the sort. Britain made a mistake - we have suffered for it for the past twentyfive years and will go on suffering for it. But we are a practical people. We were 10 to 1 in Palestine when the Declaration was passed. Now we are 2 to 1. All we ask is that there should be an end to it. The Balfour Declaration was realized long ago. We ask that the Jews should settle down in the country and ask for reasonable rights. The trouble is their great ambition that the kingdom should be given back to them - a kingdom in the midst of seventeen million people who do not want it. I don't know whether it is in the British interest to stand by an injustice, when for twenty years we have gone on compromising and sacrificing. We think the Balfour Declaration is wrong, but it is there and the Jewish National Home is already in existence.

Q. Our friend says the Balfour Declaration was wrong. Is it not a fact that the Declaration was made arising out of agreed conversations which were held between the two parties - on the one side representatives of the Arabs and on the other representatives of the Jews?

(Reid) Is it not a fact that the Balfour Declaration was made without the knowledge or consent of the Arabs, but entirely behind their backs?

Azzam No Arab agreed or knew of it. We protested and challenged the British that they had previously given us a promise that this land should be ~~our~~ ours, and therefore they promised to other people things they did not possess.

Q Might I ask whether Faisal was consulted?

Chairman It is perfectly true that long after the Declaration was made - in 1919 - Faisal did agree, provided certain conditions were fulfilled, i.e. complete independence granted to the Arabs. These never were fulfilled, so that agreement is invalid.

Azzam I think all these questions are taking us away from the main issue. In the last war Britain promised that if we fought the Turks, we would get all the Arab countries united. We ended up by having France in Syria, the Jews in Palestine and the British in Iraq. We had to gain our freedom by hard work and fighting. It is no good for the Zionists and British to go on disputing over Palestine. The issue is this. There are seventeen million Arabs who are determined to have this land of Palestine which they have possessed for thirteen centuries. If the Jew wishes to live in our lands as a brother, he is welcome. We are willing to help him. He should come straight to us and say: "Here is my problem. I am in Palestine already. Let us have a settlement. Let us have a peaceful and permanent existence." I promise my Jewish friends that they will find in us their best friends. That is the direct way. But to go around the whole world crying, "We are persecuted, therefore persecute the Arabs for us. If you don't do it, you British, then you have broken your promise. If you don't do it, then we will be violent." We are not going to be violent at all. We are straightforward. We say: "British, quit, get out of the whole problem. You have disturbed this part of the Middle East for the past twenty-five years. We have been played upon."

I am not going to go along these narrow lanes. There is the main road. Let them come out onto it.

Q Let us be a little more precise and deal less in generalities. The speaker has told us that the Arabs outnumber the Jews by 2 to 1 at the present date. He has told us that the immediate problem is the entry of 100,000 Jews into Palestine. He has given us the impression that this is impossible. Can he tell us why it is impossible?

Azzam The Arabs have been asked continually for the last twenty years to be generous. In 1939 they were told that if they took 75,000 more in the course of 5 years, that would be the end of the question of immigration. It is a political fight. I have been 10 to 1 and I am continually going down. The country is becoming saturated. If you are so generous there is the British Empire calling out for people.

Q What about Iraq?

Azzam I don't object in Iraq, wherever it is economically possible.

Q Our friend has said that he contemplates the possibility of a meeting between Jews and Arabs. He wants the British out of it. What are you prepared to offer the Jews from anywhere in the area for which you are generally responsible?

Azzam I offer human fair treatment, just as you Britishers or the Americans would offer. The Arabs would be perfectly prepared to share in any settlement if the other nations play their part.

Q With what other movement of Jews would our friend be prepared to enter into negotiations?

Azzam I would not boast that we are on the best terms with the Jews and that we would be successful when the British are out of it. The British have done their best. I say that if the Zionist loses the hope that he is going to have British and American support to help him achieve his aims, then he may be wiser and we may be able to come to a settlement. One of the reasons why the situation is difficult is that the Zionist puts his back to the wall relying on Britain and America to fight for him.

Q When you have the situation you want, what have you to offer?

Azzam A nice place to live in.

Q How many?

Azzam There are 15,000,000 Jews in the world

Chairman Azzam Bey's answer is that the Arabs are perfectly prepared to take Jews to live with them as part of their whole settlement, but they are not prepared to deal with the Zionists and the Zionist demand for a National State.

Q But the only Jews who are interested in the question are Zionist.

Azzam I don't think so.

Q Has any Arab ever denounced the McMahon pledge?

Azzam No.

Q Has the Arab League considered any positive proposals which go any further than the 1939 White Paper?

Azzam No. We have sacrificed for the last twenty-five years.

Q To what extent has the effect of Jewish development produced an increase in the Arab population?

Azzam I don't think the Jews are even giving work to the Arabs.

Reid I was on the Palestine Commission. We insisted on obtaining, and after much difficulty obtained, a copy of the lease according to which the Jewish National Fund lets the land it purchases in Palestine. It states that no land may be resold to Arabs, nor may Arabs be employed upon it.

Q Will Azzam Bey agree that Sir Henry McMahon himself stated quite categorically that he had never given any pledge including Palestine - letter to the "Times" on 23 July, 1937.

Azzam That has no legal authority .

Q In the view of the Arab, what is the difference between an infiltration of Jews into Palestine and an immigration.

Azzam One is just as bad as the other.

Q You object to any Jews entering Palestine, but not into any other Arab land?

Azzam Yes. Because he goes into Palestine with a political aim.

Reid Turning to the point raised by my friend, it is a fact that Sir Henry McMahon did write years afterwards that he never intended to include Palestine. I believe that he told the truth when he wrote that. But Hitler made many treaties with mental reservations. Are the treaties not valid because of these mental reservations?

Q Is this the position? Your case is that the Balfour Declaration should be abrogated and the Jewish problem, if there is one, solved by some international co-operation.

AZZAM We don't expect the Balfour Declaration to be abrogated. We opposed it and continue to oppose it, but 600,000 Jews are in the place. But if you say that the Jewish National Home will only be realized when the Arabs are a minority, I say that we are not going to go on compromising and surrendering until we are overwhelmed. The National Home is realized.

Q Suppose the British Government says that its interpretation of the Balfour Declaration is just what you fear, what then?

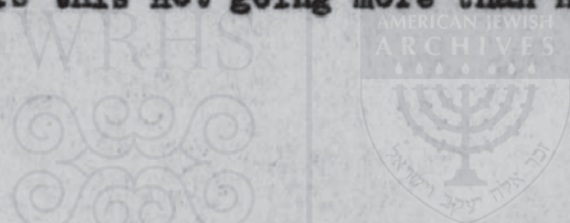
AZZAM Then we stand for our rights. We stand on a moral basis. We want your friendship. We can treat. We can negotiate. We can do our best. But don't ask us to disappear from this land and become a minority.

Q Are you prepared to resist with force?

AZZAM If you put a cat against a wall, it will fight.

Q Has it not occurred to you that you only want it one way?

Edward Atiyah May I answer this question? The Arabs of Palestine are often accused of being intransigent. In 1917 they opposed the Balfour Declaration altogether and did not want any Jewish immigrants. Now they are willing to keep and give full rights to the 600,000 who are there. Is this not going more than half way to meet the Zionist Case?



THE ARAB LEAGUE AND ITS PROBLEMS

(Address given by Abderrahman Azam Bey, Secretary-General of the Arab League to the Parliamentary Labour Group on 17th October 1945.)

Gentlemen, it is a great honour and pleasure to find myself here among you in the oldest and best Parliament in the world. This Parliament has proved that it is a model for the world to take. Unfortunately, there are very few countries that are still able to shape themselves on this model. We, the Arab people, believe that in our new movement we shall take this model and we shall try to the best of our ability to govern our countries in the Parliamentary form of government. We know that we are going to be successful because the fundamental character of our people is democratic. We know no difference between classes. A headman of an Arab tribe is simply a man chosen as the father of his family. He sits down, he eats and drinks with the poorest and the humblest and shares what he gets with his nearest neighbours, and his remotest friends. So, if we are going to build a democracy, we will build it on our traditions and on what we have been taught for centuries by our ancestors.

Well, the Arab League is a new thing, but it is a very old idea. The Arab people started to advance from Arabia to the Fertile Crescent and to North Africa in the West 5000 years B.C. That great movement of the seventh century which had its origin in the middle of Arabia, was not a wave driven by desire for conquest, but by idealism. The ideal which the Arabs brought out with them from Arabia in the seventh century, when they met the Persians and the Armenians on the battlefield, was very simple. They called for world unity. They thought that all the peoples living on this earth are the sons of Adam, that they are brothers, whether they are black, white, red or yellow. They thought that nothing was greater than God and that beside God everybody is a humble creature. Therefore, whether he descends from a royal family or from rich people or poor, each man is equal to his brother and should share the benefits of this world equally - whether they be rights of citizenship, rights to power or rights to material things. The head of the state, in the Arab conception of the seventh century was a man to be chosen by the people and elected by the people. It did not matter what was the origin of his fathers, as long as he was a worthy citizen of the Arab Empire, whether he was Arab, Persian, Indian or European. So I think this new movement is following the old one. We would not consider the League worthy of its existence if it were formed on a racial basis, with one race or one class superior to another. This League is a true movement from the heart of the people, showing that they want to unite and to prosper, that they want freedom for themselves and freedom for everybody. The League, as we understand it, will be the friend of everyone. We happen to be in closer connection with the British people than with others and some people have even thought that it was a victory of British diplomacy that the League was brought into being. If this is so, it is one of the best victories that this country has ever achieved. But actually the League is much, much older than the birth of Mr. Eden. Older even than the British Empire. But we must confess that the British were nice and amiable and that they have helped in bringing it about in its present form. So if you know it really as it is, I am sure you will sympathize. The British people have always been fair-minded and whenever they have known the truth about everything, they have accepted it. If we can win your sympathy, we must tell you our difficulties. The League is involved in tremendous troubles from within and without. We are facing an old world which is changing very slowly, while we are developing very quickly. The old imperialistic, colonising world, the world of the Europeans of the nineteenth century who think they are on a mission of policing the world and to carry the burden of other nations, this conceited conception is still at work and has not realized that the peoples of the East, and particularly the Arab people, will never accept it. So that, bursting out for freedom, we are coming into conflict with the imperialistic elements. Within,

we have many troubles. We have poverty, ignorance and disease, all of which we have to fight. And unfortunately some old friends of ours, whom we have never thought of as imperialistic or inimical, whom we have tolerated for centuries and whom we have welcomed, are now turning out to be imperialistic - our friends the Zionists.

Well, we have trouble with them, and we have had trouble with others before them, who have since disappeared, namely Fascist imperialist Italy, but the old friends of colonization are now calling for Italy to take her place in Tripolitania. Well, Tripoli or Libya is a country which extends from Algeria to the Egyptian frontier. It has been an independent and free country for the last thirteen centuries. It has fallen twice to European domination before it fell to the Italians - once to Spain and once to Sicily. Each time the Tripolitanian people resisted and did not stop resisting until they were victorious. Now they are claiming their independence. They have authorized me to speak in their name, and I am expressing the opinion of the Arab States at the same time when I say that they agree to the claims of the Tripolitanians. And not only that they agree, but that they fully support it. We are not going to see an Arab people which has once had a chance to get on its feet and decide its own fate handed over and bartered in European imperialistic power politics for colonization.

That is an example of the difficulties and problems of realizing the independence of a small nation. And we, the Arab League, are bound to support this freedom because our pact in the League binds us to stand up for any Arab nation claiming independence. If there should be any reason for trusteeship of Tripolitania, we claim it for ourselves, we who are the fathers, the brothers of the Tripolitanians. The best people to decide this are the Tripolitanians themselves and we are ready to accept a plebiscite, even under the present military government of Tripolitania. We are sure of ourselves. We know our people. We know that they do not want a foreign government.

There are other questions too. There is the Egyptian question, which may turn out to be real one in the future, but I have been there for the last thirty years, I know what it is all about and am perfectly sure that there is no issue that will bring us to a real clash. It is only a misunderstanding, a mixing and a muddling of matters that has created the Egyptian problem. The Egyptian problem was decided in 1936 when the Treaty was made. What we want is respect for this Treaty. Your troops should have gone from the Canal some years ago. They have not. The country has been exploited in the last six years. The Egyptian peasant is much poorer than he ever was and the workers are suffering. It has not been intentional, but the necessity of war. In war you sometimes do things you do not like. But the actual fact is that the Egyptian people have found themselves much poorer and in a worse position. There has been interference now and then in their whole administration and in the carrying out of their business. They feel therefore that the Treaty is not working. If you could satisfy the Egyptian people that you only want to safeguard your communications, and that you are not using your position for other purposes, I am sure that they will be satisfied, because your safety is our safety and we have a common interest in keeping peace and order in this part of the world.

I will now go on to the Zionist question in Palestine. The Zionist question is a British creation. The poor Zionist and the poor Jew would never have thought of taking any Arab land if he were not sure of British bayonets to back him. If the British came to this land and said: "We want to garrison Palestine because we must defend our communications", or if they said: "We want Haifa in order to get a port", we would understand what they meant. But when they come and say: "Get out, we have promised Palestine to the Jews who are to establish a national state in it because they were there 3,000 years ago and are now to become a majority there", we fail to understand. The country has been Arab since the seventh century. The Arabs have not moved. The

Jews left it 2000 years ago. If you are going to make this a principle of right, then we accept it, because we can then have Spain back. We were centuries in Spain. The Jewish kingdom in Palestine did not last one century. We were in China, and in India. If we have a right to these countries, then we will not lose much, whereas you Britishers would lose everything. You would find yourselves in your little island and no more. The Arab claim stands on a firm right. They have been in Palestine for thirteen centuries. The Arab League for its part support this claim and maintains that it is absolutely vital that the Arabs should be there and should continue to be there. We believe that we are acting for unity, and perhaps in twenty years time you will hear of an Arab Federation. We are not going to admit an alien race of Poles, etc., to step between us and cut us off into two from the Mediterranean to the Red Sea, and we are not going to let down our people in Palestine. We only ask this. You British people are our friends. You know us and we know you. It is no good lending bayonets to the Zionists to support their political claims in Palestine. If the Jew is persecuted, there is no people who would be more willing to help him than we. We have never persecuted him, we have opened our country to him. We have lived happily together; he is our brother; we have never despised him. It is you Britishers and the Americans who have always looked on him as something else. We will treat him fairly. Today and tomorrow we will take him as a friend, as a citizen, but we will never accept him as an alien who wishes to dominate the whole land. The Jewish problem is a human problem. It is considered as a human problem, let us go alone and say, "The Jew has been badly treated for centuries! This should be stopped". It was not an innovation of Hitler that the Jew was persecuted. He may be persecuted tomorrow. It is a human question and should be solved as such. Instead of calling British bayonets to come and fight in Palestine, let wise and decent people sit round a table and discuss what should be done. The Jew should enjoy reasonable human existence everywhere and if there is a surplus of Jews who cannot find homes, let us all take a share of them. The share of the Arabs will be accepted. We will do what we can. We will put them where it is best for them and most profitable to us both. We have countries that are richer than Palestine and capable of much greater development. When you are ready, when the Americans are ready, you will find us at your disposal. But simply to sit down and try the old game again of the Zionist claiming that it is the land of his fathers because he was there 3,000 years ago, that he must have a majority in it, that he cannot achieve it for himself so British bayonets must do it for him - is unjust. We are tired of fighting. If the Arab peoples have shown in their history that they are wrong in something, it is that they have fought too much, and when they have found none to fight they have fought among themselves. We want to train them to cooperate with everybody, to cooperate with the Jews, with the Christians and with all human beings. Our country is open - open for trade, open for all its minerals and all it has, but it is not open to immigration by an alien race forced upon us for a political domination and a political objective.

Dr. Goldmann

CONFIDENTIAL

Dr. Nahum Goldmann

October 16, 1945

Eliahu Epstein

Below is a copy of a telegram received by a prominent New York paper from its correspondent in Jerusalem. This telegram and other material reached that paper from its correspondents in Cairo and Jerusalem and are being held in "cold storage" for the time being until Mr. Byrnes clarifies the position of the United States on this question.

"Jerusalem, October 5, 1945

"Palestine Reaction to Truman Petition:

"In Palestine today, just as in Egypt, one arrives inevitably at one positive conclusion while trying to report the many Arab and Jewish claims and counterclaims which make the current Palestine problem one of the most perplexing issues of the day. And that is that President Truman's suggestion for the immigration of 100,000 Jews landed on the Arab world with the force of a bombshell.

"The President's petition caused the immediate dispatch of Arab protest cables from Palestine to the American State Department, to the leaders of the Arab League and to the heads of all Arab States. One of the first reactions of Azzam Bey, Secretary General of the Arab League, was the following statement: 'If America has a solution to the Palestine problem, let her present it, if she has no solution she should keep quiet.'

"A much repeated line in published Arab dissatisfaction over the Truman statement has been sharply worded pointed warnings that Americans should not interfere in the Palestine question if the United States wishes to keep the friendship of the Arab States.

"One of the strongest criticisms appeared editorially today in the Jaffa morning paper, Palastin. While the Jews in Palestine say they are happy to learn they have in Truman a man who sympathizes with the Zionist cause on humanitarian grounds, the Christian Arabic Palastin editorial said:

"We do not intend to discuss the Foreign Ministers' Conference in London, but we wish to prove its failure through the boyishness of Sayid Truman.

"The rawness with which Truman has been tackling the Palestine question is the best example of the boyish mentality which, to the world's misfortune, is taking charge of settling postwar problems..."

stating that 'the calamity of the world in Truman and political leaders like him lies in their complete shortsightedness', the Arab editorial continued 'America blames Russia for imposing a dictatorial government in Rumania, Bulgaria and Hungary though Russia says the governments there are democratic. Let us admit the truth of America's claim and ask: 'Is it one hundred per cent true democracy that Aden Truman should rob the Arabs of their homeland and establish a Jewish state in it?' (Adon is Hebrew synonym for Mr.)

"One of the questions most frequently asked by Arab spokesmen in Palestine is 'Why doesn't Truman give some of the big territories of America to the Jews?' These spokesmen argue that by accepting several hundred thousand Jews in Palestine since 1923 they feel they have contributed considerably toward helping solve the human problem created by Hitler.

"These Arab leaders, who have never recognized the Balfour Declaration or the Mandate and who insist Palestine must be an independent Arab state, assert that they have nothing against Jews as Jews if they come to Palestine or to any other Arab state as citizens who will respect Arab authority.

"Meanwhile, Zionist circles in Palestine regard the Truman statement as a sign of great human understanding. For though Truman's figure of 100,000 carried a great impact despite the fact that the Jewish goal is for immigration on a much larger scale. The Jewish attitude on this evolves itself into the following: Compared with the needs of the Jewish people 100,000 is a small figure. But if, as alleged in a recent dispatch from abroad, the British Government might allow only 1500 immigrants to enter Palestine monthly, then the Truman figure looms much larger, more important.

"Jewish agency spokesmen here, replying to doubts in some Arab circles over Palestine's ability to provide economic stability for large numbers of immigrants, claim the country is better able to care for great numbers than for small groups of new arrivals. Without overlooking the fact that a major reason for their desire to have large numbers granted the right of immigration is one of humaneness in helping to get thousands of Europe's displaced persons to Palestine as quickly as possible, these agency leaders offer the argument that it would be more difficult to find work for tricklings of immigrants, whereas if a large number enter at one time, then the Jewish agency, trade unions, banks, industry could inaugurate big development programs for founding new settlements embodying major agricultural and industrial endeavors, plans for which, the agency spokesmen explained, are all ready to be put into operation.

"In this regard the spokesmen emphasized that one of the major programs concerns irrigation and colonization of southern Palestine desertland, also the development of a large-scale chemical industry for export purposes.

Memorandum
Dr. Nahum Goldmann

-3-

"Answering critics who express fear of a possible postwar economic crisis, the Palestine Zionist leaders admit such a possibility but claim it would be only a temporary difficulty to overcome in relation to hardships which could be created for Jews abroad, even a recurrence of anti-Semitic trends in Europe."



RE:rk

CC: Dr. Wise
Dr. Aksin for Dr. Silver and Mr. Shapiro
Mr. Lipaky
Messrs. Lourie and Weisgal
Mr. Shertok

CONFIDENTIAL

Dr. Nathan Goldmann

October 16, 1945

Elisava Epstein

The following is an extract from a report which reached one of the prominent papers in New York from its correspondent who covered the WFTU Conference in Paris. This extract deals with the controversy which took place at the Conference regarding the election of a representative of the Trade Unions in the Middle East to the World Executive of the WFTU.

"Now for the Near and Middle East: the nomination committee proposed to attribute the seat of a titular member to the Arab delegate for Lebanon, El Arles, the substitute delegate being the Gitrine-wing-controlled representative of the Jewish Federation of Labor from Palestine, B. Loker. Palestine Jews objected to this solution, claimed an organization of long standing had been strongly affiliated to the IFTU and should have the post of titular delegate. They were supported by the Gitrine bloc. When consultation proved impossible, Giff Johnson called for and demanded a nominal or card vote.

"Here the Hillman compromise policy with IFTU came to roost on his stooped shoulders. He either sided with Gitrine, gave IFTU influence another place on the Executive Committee, or he incurred the enmity of Jewish workers everywhere and went in direct opposition to the Truman policy toward Jews. That he had gotten concessions from Gitrine and was now paying the cost was evident. The CIO sided with Gitrine in this showdown. The line-up was clearcut. When the votes were counted there were six countries with 603 votes decided for the Arab, against sixteen countries with 326 votes for British support of the Jewish delegation. Baser-sharp Hillman probably knew the CIO vote would not swing the deal for IFTU as he both satisfied Gitrine and won his point anyway. The Russian delegation voted against the British thesis but did not take part in the debate."

MM:rk

CO: Dr. Vase

Dr. Alexin for Dr. Silver and Mr. Shapiro

Mr. Lipsey

Messrs. Lourie and Welegal

Mr. Sharotok

D. Silver

CONFIDENTIAL

Dr. Nahum Goldmann

October 17, 1945

Eliahu Epstein

SUBJECT: Activities of Msgr. A. Agel in the U.S.A.

Mr. Salloun Mokarzel has informed me that during the last three weeks, Msgr. Agel visited eleven Lebanese communities all over the United States and told them about the present conditions in the Lebanon and the danger which their mother country is facing because of the increasing aggression of the neighboring Moslem States. Msgr. Agel was received everywhere with great respect and sympathy and he fulfilled an important function in strengthening the relations between the Lebanese in America and the Maronite Patriarch.

On some occasions Msgr. Agel mentioned the parallel between the struggle of the Jews in Palestine and that of the Christians in the Lebanon. Although this statement was criticized by some of the members, he did not hesitate to express his sympathy toward Zionism and the Jews in Palestine publicly.

Alarmed by the obvious success of Msgr. Agel's mission to the States, the Lebanese Minister here sent numerous cables to his Government in Beirut asking to have the Monsignor's activities checked in some way or other.

About ten days ago, a message signed by the Patriarch was delivered to Msgr. Agel through the Lebanese Legation. It asked him to stop making political propaganda speeches, limit himself to religious discussions only and to return to Beirut as soon as possible. But after the Monsignor sent a direct cable to the Patriarch asking him for further explanation, a reply came, this time through the French Embassy, signed by the Patriarch, with clear instructions to ignore entirely the first telegram delivered to him by the Lebanese Legation, and to proceed with the kind of work that he had been doing since his arrival in the United States.

Msgr. Agel intends to remain here for another two months or so and as soon as he returns to New York, he would be glad to meet with us in order to discuss the possibilities of mutual activities in this country for the benefit of the Lebanese and Zionist causes.

EE:rk

CC: Dr. Wise
Dr. Aksin for Dr. Silver and Mr. Shapiro
Mr. Lipsky
Messrs. Lourie and Weisgal
Mr. Shertok

Dr. Silver

Dr. Nahum Goldmann

October 18, 1945

Eliahu Epstein

SUBJECT:

Arab Press in Latin America

By special arrangement we shall receive in the future cuttings from the Arab Press in Latin America dealing with Palestine and the Middle East.

In addition to the "Extracts from the Arab Press in the U.S.A." published by our Office, we shall also issue from time to time "Extracts from the Arab Press in Latin America." The first issue of these "Extracts" is attached.



ME:rk

Attachment - 1

CC: Dr. Wise
Dr. Aksin for Dr. Silver and Mr. Shapiro
Mr. Lipsky
Messrs. Lourie and Weisgal
Mr. Shertok

CONFIDENTIAL

Dr. Mahan Goldmann

October 18, 1945

Elihu Bostein

SUBJECT:

Assam Bey's visit to Washington

Arab circles here are expecting Assam Bey to arrive in Washington on October 25. A few days after Assam Bey arrives, the Egyptian Embassy will hold a large reception in his honor to which representatives of the American Government, Embassies and newspapermen will be invited.

Assam Bey will hold a special press conference which will be arranged under the auspices of the Arab League, represented here by the four Arab Legations (Egyptian, Iraqi, Syrian and Lebanese).

Before coming to the United States, Assam Bey will visit Paris where he has been invited by the French Government to discuss a possible modus vivendi between the French and the Arab League.

It was confirmed to me that while in London, Assam Bey had discussions with the Turkish Ambassador regarding closer cooperation between the Arab League and the Turkish Government in resisting the Russian aggression in the Moslem countries of the Middle East. These negotiations were encouraged by the British Government (see my report Turkish Political Affairs, October 6, 1945).

A prominent member of the British Embassy here expressed to a friend in a private conversation his indignation over the fact that the Arab League was little by little getting out of British control, and may soon become the Frankenstein of its creator. Some British circles fear that when the League becomes powerful enough by establishing direct contacts with other Governments, it will turn its full powers against the British. This will probably happen on the question of the Egyptian and Iraqi demands for complete independence. The Arab League will then try to establish solid and unchallenged prestige not only among the Arabs, but also as an undisputed factor in international affairs.

When asked what, if this were the situation, the British were doing to check the ambitions of the Arab League, there was no definite reply. Also, there was no reaction to my informant's remarks that the continuous appeasement policy of the British Government on the Palestine question will antagonize the Jews in Palestine to the point of revolt and the Jews elsewhere to become bitter enemies of the British without in any way solving the problems which the British face in Egypt and Iraq.

RE:RE

CC: Dr. Wies; Dr. Aksia for Dr. Silver and Mr. Shapiro, Mr. Lipsey,
Messrs. Lowrie and Volzgal; Mr. Shortok

D. S. Lee

MEMORANDUM No. 39
CONFIDENTIAL

October 18, 1945

TO: Dr. Edwin Goldmann

FROM: Eliezer Epstein

SUBJECT: Contacts with the Latin American Embassies

In accordance with the plan for establishing closer relations with the Embassies of the Latin American countries, I visited the Mexican and Paraguayan Ambassadors this week.

1. My visit to the Paraguayan Ambassador was arranged by a mutual friend. I found that the Ambassador, Dr. Don Celso R. Velazquez, formerly a professor of Modern History in Asuncion University, was quite well informed on the Middle East and our problem. His main interest in the conversation was in trying to get information about the Arab States, their economic and military strength and their relations with the big powers. I could easily get from his questions, that he had already been approached by the Arabs who gave him a distorted picture of all the problems he discussed. I could also notice the effect of the policy followed by the Arab Delegations in San Francisco in their contacts with the Latin American Delegations: indication of identity of interests between the Arab League and the Pan American Union, as both being regional organizations interested in checking the unlimited supremacy of the big powers in world affairs.

A question of special interest to the Ambassador was how a Jewish State could exist with Jews remaining citizens of other countries, and at the same time considering themselves Zionists. If the first part of our conversation was a result of Arab inspiration, it was not difficult to guess who was responsible for the last question.

Another matter of interest to the Ambassador was how many Jews Palestine could absorb and whether the present crisis in Palestine was worthwhile from the point of view of the practical results, the Jews could achieve even if all their demands were fulfilled.

I spent about an hour with the Ambassador. He asked me to see him from time to time and to keep him informed about the situation in Palestine.

2. In the absence of the Mexican Ambassador, I was received by the Minister, Dr. Rafael de la Colina, Charge d'Affaires. I met him originally in San Francisco and he impressed me then as being a bright and intelligent person. As in the case of the Paraguayan Ambassador, I found Dr. de la Colina to be very well informed about the activities of the Arab League and its aspirations to become a sister organization to the Pan American Union. In our conversation, the Charge d'Affaires referred several times to what he had heard from the Egyptian and Iraqi Ministers. He appeared to be friendly toward Zionism and showed great understanding of the Jewish problem in general.

Memorandum
Dr. Nahum Goldmann

- 2 -

I called his attention to the news in the press that Mr. Vincent Lombardo Toledano, representative of the Latin American countries, and CTAL in the Administration Committee of the World Trade Union Conference may soon go to Palestine on behalf of the Administrative Committee to ascertain conditions there and to explore the possibilities for closer cooperation between Jewish and Arab workers. I expressed our satisfaction that a citizen of Mexico was thus contributing to the welfare of our country. The Charge d'Affairs spoke very highly of the qualities and capacities of Mr. Toledano and said that the Mexican Government would wholeheartedly support any peaceful mission of one of their prominent citizens to Palestine.

When our conversation turned to world affairs, he expressed his doubts about the possibility of organizing the United Nations Organization in the near future. Referring the Palestine problem to this Organization would mean a ging dia delay.

He also asked me to keep him informed about the situation in Palestine and expressed his wish to transmit to his Government any material we might ask him to send.

3. In conclusion I want to call your attention to the importance of regular and systematic contact with the Latin American Embassies. For obvious reasons these Embassies are an object of strong Arab propaganda. This work here is done simultaneously by the Arab Legations with the propaganda carried on by them among the Arabs in the Latin American countries. As a result, when the United Nations Organization is established we may find ourselves in a very unfavorable position facing a bloc of twenty one republics against us.

The important work done in this field by Mrs. Yarden and carried on by the representatives of the Zionist organizations in the Latin American countries must be assisted and strengthened by the work of our office in Washington where practically every Latin American Embassy is represented by persons prominent in the political and diplomatic service of their country.

EE:rk

CC: Dr. Wise
Dr. Aknin for Dr. Silver and Mr. Shapiro
Mr. Lipsey
Messrs. Lourie and Weisgal
Mr. Shertok

NO. 40
MEMORANDUM
CONFIDENTIAL

TO: Dr. Nahum Goldmann

October 18, 1945

FROM: Eliahu Epstein

SUBJECT: Conversation with Lowell G. Pinkerton, American Consul General in Jerusalem.

Mr. Pinkerton, who arrived here a few days ago, denied that his coming here had anything to do with the visit of the American diplomatic representatives in the Middle East. Pinckney Tuck, American Minister in Egypt, and Colonel W. Eddy, American Minister to Saudi Arabia, came for consultation with the State Department on affairs of individual concern. The Hebrew press in Palestine also circulated the same version of a conference of American representatives from the Middle East, but actually Mr. Pinkerton is here on personal leave after five years of absence from home.

When our conversation turned to the situation in Palestine, he described it as being on the brink of serious trouble in the event Mr. Attlee's statement of policy does not accede to the demands of the Yishuv for abolition of the White Paper and the opening of the doors of Palestine to large immigration. This time he found complete unanimity of opinion among all sections of the Jewish population in Palestine regarding the methods to be applied against the continuation of the White Paper.

Dr. J. L. Magnes, whom Mr. Pinkerton saw a day before his departure, told him flatly that if the doors of Palestine remain closed to the masses of Jews who want to come in he, himself, will go to the shore to meet the illegal immigrants, help them to land and take as many as he can to his home and protect them there with all means at his disposal.

The British authorities in Palestine expect serious trouble if the Hagana comes into the picture. The military and the police are ready for dramatic developments when the "real" trouble starts. Mr. Pinkerton attended a dinner party at the Inspector General's home when one of the attendants turned on the radio to listen to the "Kol Israel" broadcasts. The Inspector General stated that these broadcasts are made from thirteen different places, including the sea, making it difficult for the police to apprehend the broadcasters.

According to Mr. Pinkerton's information, the attack on the Atlit Concentration Camp was arranged by the Hagana. There were other acts initiated, this time not by the Irgun or the Sternists, but by the Hagana.

In a conversation he had with Mr. E. Kaplan and Dr. B. Joseph, both described the gravity of the situation and the possible tragic consequences if the present policy of the British is not radically changed. The same day he also saw Ami Abdul Hadi, who told him that the Arabs in Palestine will attempt to keep out of

the struggle between the Jews and the British as long as they are not attacked directly by the Jews or suffer in any way by a British compromise with the Jews. Mr. Finkerton, however, expressed doubts as to whether Ami would be able to control the Arabs in Palestine who are divided into several factions without authorized leadership as in the days of the Supreme Arab Committee in 1936.

Mr. Finkerton gave a very optimistic description of the economic conditions in Palestine. Sometime before his departure for the United States, he visited several of our colonies in the Negev and in Upper Galilee and was impressed very much by the prosperous and cheerful life of the colonists.

He expects to return to Palestine sometime at the end of November. The coming two weeks he will spend with his family somewhere in Missouri and before returning to Palestine he will spend another week or so in Washington.

I think that Mr. Finkerton should be approached by some of our Zionist leaders in this country who should express their appreciation for the cooperative spirit which he always displayed in his relations with the Yishuv and the Jewish Agency and should impress him with the attitude of American Jewry and Zionists regarding the present struggle of the Yishuv.



RE:rk

CC: Dr. Wise
Dr. Aksin for Dr. Silver and Mr. Shapiro
Mr. Lipsky
Messrs. Lourie and Weingal
Mr. Shortok

EXTRACTS FROM THE ARAB PRESS IN THE
U.S.A.

(Issued by the Office of the Jewish Agency for Palestine in Washington, D. C.)

DR. FARHAT ZIADEH OF THE INSTITUTE OF ARAB AMERICAN AFFAIRS

"As-Sayeh" (N.Y. Semi-Weekly) October 21st, 1945.

ED. NOTE

Farhat Ziadah, a promising young scholar and lawyer, left for London a few days ago just after Dr. Hitti's resignation from the Institute.

He is the co-author of an important book in the Arabic language - A History of the People of the United States - sponsored by the Department of State and mid-wifed by Professor Dr. Philip Hitti of Princeton University.

The budding author, a slim, medium-height, young man not yet in his thirties, was born in Ramallah, not the least among the towns of Judea or Galilee. He attended the Friends' Boys School of the town, and in 1937 graduated from the American University in Beirut, having specialized in Political Science. He then went to London and entered the University of London, graduating with an LL.B. in 1940, and immediately thereupon joined the Lincoln's Inn.

He was always interested in his country's cause, an ardent Arab nationalist, he was instrumental in organizing the Arab Students Society, composed of Arab students in Europe and Britain.

War prevented his returning to Ramallah and becoming a contented lawyer; it diverted him to the United States to gain more experience and knowledge.

Ziadah became apprenticed to our veteran lawyer, Joseph W. Ferris, and beginning in 1943 joined Princeton University as an instructor in topics on the Middle East. He taught many of our soldiers and sailors Arabic during the war.

Since last March he has been connected with the staff of the Institute of Arab American Affairs. Many of "his letters to the editor" have appeared in the New York Times, the New York Herald-Tribune, the Christian Science Monitor, etc. Farhat Ziadah, almost unnoticed, stole away to London to continue his studies.

ARAB YOUTH CONFERENCE IN IRAQ

"As-Sayeh" (N.Y. Semi-Weekly) Oct. 22nd, 1945.

It is heartening to know that Arab youth is going to meet in a Conference in Baghdad, the capital of Iraq. This Conference has been organized by the various youth societies in Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, Egypt and Iraq. Jerusalem was supposed to be the place for the Conference to meet, but due to the present state of affairs in Palestine and the high tension between the Arabs and Zionists there, Jerusalem was discarded and Baghdad, the historic capital of Abbasides, is taking its place.

The Conference will be held sometime in December and its purpose is the unification of the efforts of the Arab youth for the defense of Palestine.

No. 111

LEBANON AND PALESTINE

"Al-Noda" (N. Y. Daily) Oct. 24, 1945

EDITORIAL

In a statement attributed to Emir Abdullah of Transjordan, published yesterday, the Emir said that Palestine is not only the possession of its own people but the possession of the entire Arab World.

We need no proof of this true statement after what we saw when the Arab World, or rather the Moslem World, stood united in defense of Palestine in the face of the most powerfully organized minority in the world today, the Zionists.

Palestine was given to Great Britain under a mandate for the purpose of establishing the Jewish National Home in accord with the promise made by Lord Balfour. But the Mandatory power found many obstacles in the way when she wanted to fulfill her pledge. She was not able to satisfy the ambitions of the Zionists, neither was she able to make the Arabs agree to any solution on the immigration of Jews into Palestine. Now we find that the Palestine problem is a world problem, not the problem of Britain alone.

But why are the Arabs against the immigration of the Jews? It is simply this, they are afraid of a Jewish majority that will control everything in their land. As for the Jews, they in turn are afraid of an Arab majority backed by the Arab States which would place their Jewish National Home at the mercy of the Arabs.

The struggle between the two elements is over the mastery of Palestine, because each fears the other, when it remains a minority in the land.

This fear is not only peculiar to the situation in Palestine, but to the state of mind of the minorities all over the world.

As much as we regret this state of affairs, we cannot but support it at least until Prince Faisal of Saudi Arabia ceases to proclaim that: "Any Arab unity must be based on the Koran" and the Maronite Patriarch ceases to call Heads of the Christian Churches to conferences in Bekirki.

SECRETARY BYRNES REVEALS THE ROOSEVELT-IBN SAUD CORRESPONDENCE

"As-Sameer" (Brooklyn Daily) October 26, 1945

EDITORIAL

A bomb was exploded in Washington last Friday when all the newspapers in the country published the correspondence between King Ibn Saud and President Roosevelt over the question of Palestine. There was little editorial comment on this revelation, which the Arabs consider a great vindication of their oft-repeated claims, whereas the Zionists have sought to belittle it.

King Ibn Saud wrote a letter to President Roosevelt on March 10, following a meeting of the two heads of State aboard an American destroyer in the Bitter Lakes of Egypt. At this meeting, it was reported that President Roosevelt assured the Arab King that no move would be made in the Palestine case without consulting the Arabs. It was in reference to this meeting, too, that President Roosevelt, on his return to the United States, said that in five minutes with King Ibn Saud he had learned more about the Jewish question than he had learned in five years previous.

Ibn Saud's letter recapitulates the Arab arguments for the possession of Palestine. He stresses the historic argument and shows that while the Jews were in possession of Palestine for a few hundred years, the Arabs were there long before

No. 111

the Jews invaded it under Joshua, and have remained there ever since. King Ibn-Saud quotes a passage from Joshua in which the Israelites were commanded to "burn all that is in the city and slay with the edge of swords both man and woman, young and old, and oxen and sheep, etc." He contrasts this with the final admonition given by the first Caliph of Islam, Abu-Bakr, the Righteous, to the soldiers going out on the first expedition into Syria. The passage, because of its historic importance and intrinsic merit, bears quoting. Said Abu-Bakr:

"You shall not act treacherously, dishonestly, commit any excess or mutilation, kill any child or old man; cut or burn down palms or fruit trees, kill any sheep, cow or camel, and shall leave alone those whom you find devoting themselves to worship in their cells."

President Roosevelt's reply, dated April 5, 1945, is shorter, but equally positive and frank. The American President left no doubt in the Arab King's mind that he would not do anything without consulting the Arabs. In one passage the letter goes further than any statement made by an American official on this subject. It confirms his oral promise to King Ibn Saud. The President said:

"Your Majesty will also doubtless recall that during our recent conversation I assured you that I would take no action, in my capacity as Chief of the Executive Branch of this Government, which might prove hostile to the Arab people."

Both the Institute of Arab American Affairs in New York and the Arab Office in Washington expressed elation at the publication of this exchange of letters and indicated they will make capital of it.

Following this letter, on Monday the American press carried the text of the official representation made on the subject of Palestine to the American Government by four Arab ministries in Washington - those of Syria, Lebanon, Egypt and Iraq. The text made a sharp distinction between the humanitarian problem involved in settling homeless and persecuted Jews and the political demands of the Zionists.

The Arabic press abroad welcomed, in banner headlines, the publication of the exchange of letters between King Ibn-Saud and President Roosevelt.

THE ARAB FRIENDSHIP LEAGUE OF CANADA DENOUNCES PALESTINE'S OPEN DOOR POLICY

"Merat-ul-Gharb" (N. Y. Daily) Oct. 24, 1945

As reported in the Canadian press, The Canadian Arab Friendship League recently held a meeting in Montreal and protested openly to the proposal on the part of some Canadian and American politicians to open the doors of Palestine to unrestricted Jewish immigration.

The President of the League, Mr. R. Zahalan, denied that a humanitarian issue is involved, stating that the issue at stake is really whether the majority of Palestine citizens, the Arabs, who have lived in that region of Syria, known as Southern Syria, should be at liberty to determine their own political destiny or whether power should be granted to a foreign Jewish element to immigrate into Palestine.

Mr. Zahalan cited several instances of Arab generosity and cooperation. "These Arabs," he said "open their doors to the Jews long before the advent of Hitler, when other nations were definitely opposed to Jewish immigration."

AN AMERICAN CONGRESSMAN CALLS ARABS "MAGGOTS"

How we are being insulted because of Zionism. Representative John M. Coffee, Democrat of Washington State, has been quoted as saying that President Roosevelt's letter to King Ibn Saud was contrary to what the President had said in the past years. "It is contrary to pledges given to the people", he continued. "I say to hell with these secret, private engagements with the Arab maggots. I smell oil".

The dictionary gives the definition of maggot as follows: "the larva of a fly; a footless insect - larva; a grub."

This is the way congressmen understand politics! But what can you do! They need their votes.

PALESTINE - OUR GOVERNOR DEVEY
(As-Sayeh-(N.Y. Semi-weekly) Oct. 26, 1945

EDITORIAL

Our Governor Devey loses no time, whenever he can, in sending cables to mass meetings of the Zionists in his state, where he is unable to speak in person. He always assures them that he is with them in their effort to take Palestine from the Arabs and to make it a Jewish State.

We do know and are sure that our friend the Governor of New York State favors Zionism; what we want to know now is if he is also promising them to send an American army and a fleet to store Palestine by force from her own people - if these people refuse to leave their lands peacefully.

We also want to know his feeling for the Jews when he hopes are going to vote for him in the next presidential election. After electing him, Devey, and being given Palestine, are they then going to remain Americans, or does he hope that they will leave America to enter Palestine for good?

And what is his opinion about the exchange of correspondence between King Ibn Saud and the late President Roosevelt?

And why is he so generous in giving Palestine to the Jews, when Palestine doesn't belong to him or any of these other ambitious politicians who want to gain permanent high positions in America. Why not give the Jews a part of the State he governs? For they are a power in that state and they can influence and impose their will on public officials, who, ambitious like him, care only for their own personal interests, and so make the Zionists all kind of promises.

Dr. Silver

No. 45

Dr. Nahum Goldmann

October 24, 1945

Eliahu Epstein

Attached are Extracts from the Congressional Record (Senate) Vol. 91, No. 179, which deal with the report of the Congressional Committee on a study made of general conditions on Europe, Scandinavian and Middle Eastern countries. The report was presented by Mr. Wickersham, the Chairman of the Committee.



EE:rk

Attachment - 1

CC: Dr. Wise
Dr. Aksin for Dr. Silver and Mr. Shapiro
Mr. Lipsky
Messrs. Lourie and Megal
Mr. Shertok

1) The following messages from the Congressional Record (Senate) Volume 91, No. 179, deal with the report of the Congressional Committee on a study made of general conditions on Europe, Scandinavian and Middle Eastern countries. The report was presented by Mr. Wickersham, the Chairman of the Committee:

"Membership

The membership of our committee consisted of the following: Victor Wickersham, Democrat, of Oklahoma - I acted as chairman; George A. Dondero, Republican, of Michigan, vice chairman; Samuel A. Weiss, Democrat, of Pennsylvania; Walt Horan, Republican, of Washington; Michael A. Feighan, Democrat, of Ohio; Chester E. Merrow, Republican of New Hampshire; Walter B. Huber, Democrat, of Ohio; Homer A. Ramey, Republican of Ohio; A.S.J. Carnahan, Democrat, of Missouri; James G. Fulton, Republican, of Pennsylvania; and Frank L. Chelf, Democrat of Kentucky. We were accompanied by Maj. James E. Whitmore, of the War Dept., a very capable and efficient officer.

We traveled under written orders from the War Department, which authorized us to proceed as a joint committee. We left Washington, D.C., on July 20, 1945."

"Palestine Situation

Six of our group went to Palestine, to wit: Wickersham, Merrow, Horan, Huber, Feighan, and Carnahan. The area of Palestine is 10,429 square miles; there are 700,000 Jews there; there are 1,300,000 Arabs in Palestine. The Arab world, composed of 7,114,927 square miles of Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, and Trans Jordan, contains 70,000,000 people. These lands are at the crossroads of the three Old World continents. Because of the conflicting views of the Jews and the Arabs, those who are responsible for finding a solution face a great responsibility."

2) Extracts from Extension of Remarks of Hon. Karl E. Mundt of South Dakota in the House of Representatives on Monday, October 15, 1945 (part of joint press release):-

"(2) Mandates

It appears obvious that the system of mandating semiindependent countries to single mandatory powers has failed. Too often the mandatory power comes to look upon its mandate as a potential colony and to develop for itself special economic, military and political advantages. It is our recommendation that wherever a country requires outside assistance and support

in the form of the so-called mandates set up after World War 1 that these mandates be administered jointly by the Great Powers, so that none can secure for itself special advantages at the expense of the other. This will also make it easier for mandated areas to secure their independence since all selfish reasons for continuing the mandate will have been eliminated".

"(8) Palestine

In troubled Palestine, we found three sides to the controversy eager to present their views instead of only two as we had anticipated. Our committee took transcribed testimony in Jerusalem from the leaders of the Jewish, Arab, and Christian factions.

We found the situation in Palestine to be tense, strained, and dangerously explosive. Conditions are such that it is indicated that bloodshed may easily arise either from hastily considered, abrupt action or from sustained, stubborn inaction through refusal to face up to the basic facts in the perplexing Palestine problem.

It would be unfair to all concerned - especially to the persecuted Jews who have already suffered so greatly in Europe - to simply dump thousands of defenseless Jewish immigrants into Palestine at this time to run the hazards of new abuses from a new group unless we are willing to send American soldiers along to maintain order by force. Even this action would appear certain to provoke armed attacks and uprisings by the Arabs of the countries of the Near and Middle East.

The Palestine situation is one which requires careful, unbiased study and a solution which will cure more hardships and heartaches than it creates. We have transcribed notes fully covering the complex and conflicting viewpoints of all factions in Palestine who actually live in the country and desire to make it their permanent home. We are going to make these hearings available to our committee and to Congress with the hope that they will be helpful in pointing toward a solution to this long-standing problem which will avoid bloodshed, eliminate persecution, and promote justice."

Dr. Arizin
Dr. Silver

No. 44

Dr. Nahum Goldmann

October 24, 1945

Eliahu Epstein

Attached is a copy of an article published in "Everybody's Weekly," London on October 20, 1945. This article by H. C. Taussig contains an interview with Abdul Rahman Azram Bey, General Secretary of the Arab League.

This is one of the clever documents prepared by Azram Bey for the consumption of the British and evidently also the American public. We shall surely have to face this kind of propaganda when Azram Bey arrives in this country.

I suggest that we start now to prepare possible replies to various items and attitudes presented in this article so as to be able to check this kind of propaganda at the very beginning. I shall start without delay to prepare a documented article on the position of the Jews in the Arab countries, a subject dealt with by Azram Bey at length in the attached article.

EE:rk

CC: Dr. Wise
Dr. Aksin for Dr. Silver and Mr. Shapiro
Mr. Lipsky
Messrs. Lourie and Weisgal
Mr. Shertok

THE ARAB LEAGUE ACTS

from "Everybody's Weekly", London, Oct. 20, 1945.

"Recent events in the Middle East - the lamentable shooting in Syria and the Lebanon, the tension in Egypt, the threat of violence in Palestine, have focused world attention on the fifty million determined members of the Arab League.

For the first time during its short existence, this League is now entering the field of international discussions. Certain Arab questions have grown in importance to such an extent that the moment has come when our attitude towards them has to be clearly stated.

First let me recall the part played by the League in Arab affairs. It is a necessary organization both in the interests of the Arab countries themselves and in the interests of the world at large, economically as well as politically. It will, in the first place, ensure the peace and stability of the lands it embraces. Secondly it will make possible the economic development of these lands as a whole, and so enable Arab countries, which in many ways are complementary to each other, to solve a great many of their economic problems. Thus it is hoped to improve the social conditions and standards of their peoples.

We Can Help The World

But it is obvious that a peaceful, prosperous, united and strong Arab bloc will not only be a source of good to its own inhabitants - which at the moment represent forty to fifty million people - but also an asset to the whole world. For a weak and divided Arab World, occupying one of the most vital regions of the earth would, by inviting the rivalries of the Great Powers and encouraging them to compete in it for spheres of influence, be a constant source of international tension and might even cause disaster.

The surest guarantee against this danger for the world in general and particularly for Great Britain, whose interests in this region are paramount, is that the Arab World should be prosperous, united and strong, on friendly terms with all but subject to none, able to defend itself and to maintain its integrity.

The old Arab civilisation was a civilisation of tolerance, enlightenment and democracy. It gave to the world a message of liberal culture and human brotherhood. The Arab League, which expresses the fundamental unity of the Arab World and which represents the desire of the Arabs of today to revive their community and to make a new contribution to civilisation, stands for the same ideals. It believes in freedom for, and cooperation between all nations on a basis of equality; mutual tolerance and common welfare.

It is not actuated by any spirit of racial exclusiveness or sterile

chauvinism. On the contrary, it recognizes that the population of the Arab World today is an amalgamation of different races fused into one by common language and common culture. It therefore accepts and assimilates newcomers who are willing to be assimilated.

And Can Co-operate

Of course, the Arab League is Arab, not international. It is between Arabic-speaking peoples. But as a whole it can have agreements with other local regional groupings and organisations. We officially define an Arab as "One who lives in our country, speaks our language, adopts our culture and shares our ideals."

Each Arab country has its own particular aspirations at the present time, based upon the right of self-determination. But all the members of the League are agreed on supporting the individual claims of each country. And though the membership of the League is confined to the independent Arab States, it is nevertheless determined that all Arab countries, whatever their status today, shall receive their freedom in due course. Nothing shall stand in the way of their achieving this aim.

Since one of the fundamental principles of the League is the complete independence, sovereignty and integrity of all its members, it took its stand in June this year in support of the Syrian and Lebanese demand for full independence. It asked for the total evacuation by the French of these two countries. Now that the war is over, the League asks for the immediate withdrawal of all troops- French and British - from these two member States.

Another point under discussion is the fate of Libya. That country has fought for its freedom against the Italian imperialists and Fascists for over 20 years. The Arab League supports its claim to independence as a territorial whole, and opposes any division of it.

If, on the other hand, tutelage should be deemed necessary for it, then Libya should come under Arab tutelage exercised either by one Arab State or by the League as a whole. In that case the wishes of the Libyans themselves would have to be ascertained by plebiscite and their right to self-determination respected.

The most important question, at the moment of the subject of acute international controversy, is, of course, Palestine. Though the Arab attitude in this connection has been stated several times within the last few months, I should like to stress it once more.

But Immigration Must End

We demand that there shall be no more Jewish immigration into the country, that there shall be no more alienation of Arab land

to the Jews and that self-governing institutions be forthwith set up with a view to leading the country in the shortest possible time to full independence. The whole population, both Arabs and Jews, should take part in these institutions on a democratic basis. The Arab League would be prepared, if necessary, to guarantee these rights both for individuals and for communities.

There are a few important points which I should like to stress, and which will help to explain our attitude. The Palestine question is not an issue of racial animosity between Arabs and Jews. The clash comes from a new idea, the idea of domination, backed by European and now also by American imperialism.

If it were just a Jewish-Arab question, it would be a different matter altogether. We, as a people of the world, want to find a way out of this problem. We are ready to contribute money or support to the Jews in any place where they may be. We are ready to take our share of them into the various Arab States.

But we are not prepared to make of it a solely Palestinian question. For the Palestine question is a completely separate issue. If the Jew is persecuted in Poland, why should Palestine suffer? This is a purely human problem, and should be treated as such.

We Have Protected The Jews

We are the last people to hate the Jews. We have been their friends for centuries, and have protected them against persecution in Europe. They are our cousins, and we have never felt that the Jew is dangerous in any way. What we oppose is this new idea of domination in a certain Arab land that is vital to our livelihood and to our unity. If it had not been for that we would prove to the world that we are more than friendly to the Jews and would receive them more warmly than they are received even in America.

If you look on the map, and if you know Palestine, you will realise that it is a small place with much desert and mountain country. Up to the present I believe that the various theories that it can support a much larger population are fictitious, formulated with a political object in view. Immigration into Palestine is subsidised by foreign money, and aims at political domination. If it were a question only of the economic position and capacity of the country there would be no problem. We would leave the door open.

If we were assured that any of the advanced theories, like for instance the proposed partition of Palestine, would bring peace to the Middle East and the world we would give the whole of Palestine to the Jews. But none of these schemes would bring peace. If you partition the country, the struggle will go on. You might as well give Wales to Ireland.

The British Government once took a heavy responsibility when it

promised a national home to the Jews in Palestine. But the national home they promised them is something entirely different from what is actually going on now.

We believe that the national home was made a reality a long time ago. It could have never occurred to Mr. Balfour that there would be 600,000 or 700,000 Jews in this small place. Now it is the turn of the present British Government to protect the interests of the indigenous population which it also promised to do. All we expect from a British Government is fairness, nothing else.

And Violence is Useless

Recent reports that the Jews would resort to violence only increase the tragic importance of the matter. Resort to violence does not help anyone. I repeat, the Jewish problem is a human problem. And human problems are only complicated when resort is made to violence. We have had enough of war. The Arab people are famed for being able to make wars and to fight. Their history is full of it. I should like them to be more proud of being able to keep peace. Our history has been a continual struggle for the last 5,000 years. But we want people to know that we can give up fighting and resort to peaceful methods.

Therefore, the Arab League's view of the present situation is that we have had two world wars and that we should never have a third. Anything, that helps in keeping stability, order and peace, that can be done by treaties with our neighbours in the Middle East, should be done.

Our fundamental principle is that we should cooperate to keep peace, and that we should be ready to make the necessary sacrifices to that effect.

Abderrahman Azzam Bey
(Secretary-General of the Arab League) in an interview with H.C. Taussig."

Extracts from the Arab Press in U.S.A. No. 114

FRANCE'S EFFORTS TO NEGOTIATE WITH SYRIA AND LEBANON
"Al-Islah" (N. Y. Semi-Weekly) October 26, 1946

EDITORIAL

It is not strange that the French, after their defeat in Syria and Lebanon, are trying to negotiate some sort of treaty with these two countries. The French possess a share in Mosul oil and for this reason they tried to get an air base in Northern Syria, but were refused. They are trying in vain to gain in Lebanon some sea and air bases. The Lebanese will not listen to them and Britain told them that they share in the general Allied base of Beyrouth which they can use, like all the other powers.

All this is done in order to save some semblance of the prestige that France has lost in the Middle East - and for good. The time for negotiated treaties has passed and Syria and Lebanon, backed by the League of Arab States, will not give France any chance to resume her maneuvers back in these two states which have suffered plenty from the tyranny imposed by a so-called friend.



Dr. Silver

No. 46

CONFIDENTIAL

Dr. Nahum Goldmann

October 30, 1945

Eliahu Epstein

SUBJECT: Conversation with Mr. Arthur Newmeyer, Sr., Head of the Public Relations Department of the Standard Oil Company (New Jersey).

The interview was arranged by Mr. Edmund I. Kaufmann, a personal friend of Mr. Newmeyer. Mr. Newmeyer is one of the outstanding authorities in the field of public relations in the United States and after many years of service in the oil business wields great influence and authority within his own and other oil companies in this country. He is an assimilated Jew who took practically no part in any Jewish activities until very recently when he became somewhat more interested in Jewish questions and in Palestine.

I opened the conversation by indicating that more than the oil companies need the Arabs, the Arabs depend upon the oil companies, and all the threats and intimidations of Ibn Saud are of very little practical value. By magnifying the strength of the Arabs, those who are responsible for spreading such an impression are doing little justice either to the truth or to practical considerations as far as the oil companies are concerned. The very existence of Saudi Arabia, and to a great extent of Iraq also depend upon the royalties from the oil resources in those countries. The oil, as such, is of no value whatsoever to the Bedouin of the Arabian Desert and the semi-nomad and fellah of Iraq. I quoted a Bedouin from Kuwait who once told me that his country was cursed by God who turned water into "black liquid" (oil). Exaggerating the Arab danger only encourages the ruthless elements among them who have for years been seeking advantages through blackmail and double-crossing.

I went on to outline the contributions made to social stability in the Middle East by the Jews in Palestine, who during the critical period of the War were practically the only people in that part of the world unconditionally devoted to the Allied cause. The oil companies would make a poor bargain if they were to trust a policy of appeasement with the Arabs to make them reliable, and appreciative of American property and American contributions to their welfare. On the other hand, the oil companies were, in all likelihood, advised if it did not occur to them how important a strong Jewish Palestine could be as a link between American interests and the Middle East in various fields. I mentioned how disadvantageous it might be to the oil companies if it were thought that they opposed Zionism in this critical moment for the Jewish people in their struggle for national existence.

Mr. Newmeyer listened attentively and made a lengthy reply. He started by saying that his company's interests in the Middle East are limited to the twelve and one-half percent of shares which it owns in the Iraq Petroleum Company. They have no interests in the Saudi Arabian oil. He mentioned negotiations with Ibn Saud with regard to the oil concessions in his country had been poorly handled.

The personal publicity given to the King, his sons, and his country only increases his acquisitiveness and makes him react negatively to any handling which does not include this kind of personal flattery and publicity.

However, we must know the traditional policy of the oil companies in handling such matters, so as not to make unnecessary assumptions or come to false conclusions. The oil companies are neither pro-Arab nor anti-Zionist. Their object is to pay as large dividends as possible to their shareholders. That was the policy of his company when they had their oilwells and refineries which are now in the hands of the Russians, with regard to the 300,000 shareholders in this country, many of them Jews.

The oil companies must recognize the fact that the oilwells and the pipeline pass mainly through Arab territories, and this fact is decisive in all considerations. If the Jews were the owners of the land where oil were found and if it were Jewish territory through which the greater part of the pipeline passed, there would be no question that the oil companies would support the Jews as they now support the Arabs.

However, the oil companies do not decide major policy regarding any country—that is the business of the State Department. The latter's policy on this specific matter has always been in favor of close cooperation with the Arabs. We have to realize that by supporting the Arabs, the State Department wants to control the arbitrary behavior of the British in the Middle East, especially in economics and commerce. Although America needs a strong British Empire as a barrier against Russia's expansion, she will not allow England to seek her own interests, ignoring those of America. Sooner or later a loan of about six billion dollars will be granted to Great Britain but not before the British abolish the sterling areas set up during the War. The same applies to the British tendency of reserving other economic opportunities in the Middle East for themselves.

Without encouraging us to expect any change in the present policy of the oil companies in the Arab countries, Mr. Newmeyer believed in the desirability explaining the facts and arguments I put before him to some people in other companies (about 30 altogether in the U.S.A.). More important than The Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, as far as oil in the Arab countries is concerned, are The Standard Oil Companies of California and Texas. He expressed his readiness to introduce me to some of his colleagues in those companies. He also suggested that I should meet Professor Haslam, Technical Advisor to the Executive Board of his Company, who is one of the outstanding and influential persons among high-ranking oil people in the United States. He will return from a journey to Europe sometime next month and Mr. Newmeyer will see to it that I meet him.

Mr. Newmeyer expressed sympathy with our struggle in Palestine and promised to give us his confidential advice whenever it is required. Although the interview was fixed for fifteen minutes, he kept me for an hour and a quarter.

RE:er:rk

CC: Dr. Wise; Dr. Aksin for Dr. Silver and Mr. Shapiro, Mr. Lipsky, Messrs. Lourie and Weisgal, Mr. Shertok

CONFIDENTIAL

Dr. Kahm Goldmann

October 31, 1945

Mleh Epstein

SUBJECT:

Conversation with Lt. Colonel Edward Wright and Professor Walter Livingston Wright, both of the War Department at lunch at the Pentagon Building, Washington, D. C., October 28, 1945.

Colonel Wright returned to the United States about a fortnight ago from Cairo, where he was in charge of the Political Section of the Military Intelligence at the American Headquarters in the Middle East. He will now occupy the post of the Head of the Middle East Section of the Intelligence Branch in the War Department in Washington.

Professor Wright, during the war, was one of the prominent representatives of the Office of Strategic Services in the Middle East in charge of Turkish affairs, with residence in Ankara. Early this year, he left the OSS and assumed the post of Chief of the Historical Section at the War Department.

I met Professor Wright several times in Turkey and was impressed by his comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the problems of the Middle East, especially of Turkey.

Colonel Wright painted a very dark picture of the state of affairs in the Middle East. In his opinion, anti-imperialistic feelings towards England and America are becoming identified with "anti-Western," not diminished by the obvious fear of Russian aggression. Although the fear of Russia among the ruling classes of the Middle East is a result of social, no less than national, feelings, it is by no means conducive to greater sympathy for the Western powers.

The situation in Iran is on the verge of chaos. Russian influence in Northern Iran has made that region practically a Russian domain, and there are good reasons to suspect that the Russians are not satisfied with the present spheres of influence in Iran. They are trying to strengthen their own influence throughout the country.

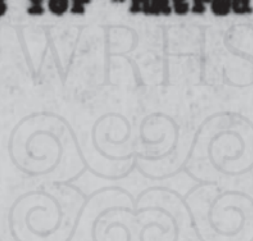
Egypt is passing through a wave of xenophobia and Moslem chauvinism beyond anything yet experienced. The "Ikhnaw el-Mualliman" (Moslem Brothers) Organization is becoming stronger and more powerful day by day. Although some of the Egyptian leaders understand how dangerous this chauvinism is to the future of Egypt, there is very little they can do to check it, fostered as it is by prominent Egyptian notables, among them Hafes Ramadan Pasha, whose influence in Egyptian political life has recently grown substantially.

In Colonel Wright's opinion, the Palestine question cannot be separated from the general situation in the Middle East. It is the point on which all the revolutionary tendencies of the Arabs and Moslems in the Middle East converge. He could not help feeling that any support of Zionist demands would involve America in a major conflict with the Arabs and Moslems which would require large military forces to put down. On this point he used the arguments of Lt. Colonel Robert MacDowell in the conversations we had with him sometime ago.

It was clear from the few remarks of Professor Wright that he agreed with the views of the Colonel. He mentioned a conversation he once had with Mr. Ben-Gurion which impressed him greatly, although he did not agree with many of Mr. Ben-Gurion's views.

He asked me to come to see him again at his office in the War Department.

Although I do not expect any practical results from our contact with Colonel Wright, his position in the War Department makes it important that we maintain and strengthen this contact. His missionary background may make it possible some time to influence him if not for "love of Mordecai," at least for "hatred of Haman."



NA:rk

CC: Dr. Wise
Dr. Aksin for Dr. Silvero and Mr. Shapiro
Mr. Lipky
Messrs. Lurie and Weisgal
Mr. Shortek



*J. A. [unclear]
Haganah
45-46*

MAIN 5071 • 47 THE ARCADE • CLEVELAND, O.

November 1, 1945

Rabbi Abba H. Silver, D.D.
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi;

Enclosed please find check for \$250.00 to be used
in connection with the Palestine work (The Haganah) in
which you are so ably engaged.

I know that your sincere efforts will be blessed
because the need and right motive are evident.

With all good wishes.

Sincerely,

Chas. Sands

CS:vk

H. Silver

EXTRACTS FROM THE ARAB PRESS IN
THE U.S.A.

(Issued by the Office of the Jewish Agency for Palestine in Washington DC)

PALESTINE AND ATTLEE'S VISIT TO AMERICA
"As-Samer" (Brooklyn, Daily) November 1, 1945

EDITORIAL

We hoped that an understanding had taken place between Great Britain and the United States when we heard of the pleasure manifested by the British people who thought that America was sanctioning their stand in Palestine. The British stand is based on the White Paper which forbids the Jews to immigrate to Palestine, and also forbids the buying and selling of land by the Jews - if these two conditions were enforced, Palestine would be secured as an Arab State.

But it seems there is no agreement yet on this question. The coming visit of Prime Minister Attlee to the United States will have to decide both the Atom bomb question and Palestine. Palestine today is not an internal problem for Britain alone to resolve; it has become a world problem. Palestine holds an important position in the British Empire, and the British will never permit the establishment there of a powerful Jewish State, because they don't want to make the same mistake as after the first World War of creating enemies of their Arab friends. Besides that they don't want any foreign hand to control their oil pipelines terminus at Haifa, and they do not want on the other side of the Suez Canal a protector other than the British Lion.

Great Britain today faces a storm of protests from the Zionists in America and their friends who are making a lot of noise for their votes. The British may be troubled and shaken, but they never fail. If they preserve Arab Palestine it would not be for the sake of Arab interest alone, but in their own interests, which is much more important.

As for the United States, she has a big and important interest in the Arab East. Those interested in local politics do not grasp the meaning of this friendship with the Arabs, but the State Department knows and that is why the shapers of our Foreign policy are grieved at the Zionist maneuvers (just as the Arabs and the British) because these maneuvers are not born of right and justice, and at a time when America has just won a war where she fought for the principles of right and justice.

We do not know what Attlee has in his portfolio awaiting his coming visit to Washington, but we do know that the solution which complies with right and justice and which peacefully puts an end to the unrest in Britain, America and the Arab lands is the just solution even though it angers the Zionists.

THE PROBLEMS OF THE ARAB EAST
("Al-Naba" (N.Y. Daily) Nov. 2, 1945

EDITORIAL

The Arab East is troubled nowadays by many complicated problems, both internal and external, which reach beyond its boundaries and frontiers, so that we can call them world problems.

The Arab East is standing fast in demanding its rightful place in the future charter of the world which will be created by the United Nations. One of these troublesome problems is that of Palestine. Of course this problem is a foreign one wished on the Arab East by the Balfour Declaration which made Great Britain give the Jews a National Home in Palestine, and which made the Arab World and also the Islamic World rise up united with all its efforts directed toward the defense of Palestine. Moreover, the Christian World is divided for and against on this highly complex question. Lebanon also is a problem, for many Lebanese are afraid of losing the independence

of their country through the new movement of Arab Unity. But Lebanon is not an important problem as Palestine because of the many Lebanese who are not afraid of the Arab States League and more than favor the movement of Arab Unity. Furthermore the Lebanon problem is not a world problem, like Palestine. And on top of all these complications, consider the Power Politics of the major powers for the possession of oil and the other resources of this rich region of the globe. Remember too its strategic geographical position. The competition is not between Great Britain and France alone but also the United States and Russia. The United States has economic and strategic interests in the Arab East and Russia it seems has some political ones. She made a clear show of them when she asked to be the mandatory power for Tripoli in North Africa on the Mediterranean Sea and for a Sea base in Eritrea on the Red Sea. Both places are on the lifeline of the British Empire route to India.

Enough said. When we do state or analyze these problems about which volumes need to be written, it is because we have a direct interest in them, since they originate in the countries of our origin.

IS THIS WAR?

"Al-Hoda" - Nov. 3

EDITORIAL(on the same subject)

Commenting on the riots of Egyptian students and the recent terrors in Palestine, Al-Hoda asks this important question: Is this war?

"No doubt the stand regarding Palestine is charged with terrible danger and it is well known that this danger is not limited to Palestine but spreads to many important parts of the world and in particular to the Arab World. What the Jews lack is made up for by the Arabs who, it seems, are determined to fight it out and to stop every move which is aimed to ward helping the Jews realize their scheme of owning Palestine through the establishment there of their Jewish National Home.

"The important news today is that the riots in Egypt are much greater than in Palestine. Their significance lies in that they occurred in a country outside Palestine which is a clear indication that the Arab World backed by the Islamic World, may revolt over the Balfour Declaration and may cause another terrible war.

"The sky around Palestine is full of the ghosts of fear and while we see the Jews, and part of the Christian World, in accord with their humanitarian principles, working to make Palestine a safe refuge for these poor, persecuted, unhappy people, still we find the Arab World denying them and others the right to take Palestine and make it a National Home for an element regarded by it as a foreign element."

HASN'T THE WORLD A LIVING CONSCIENCE?

"As-Sayeh(N.Y.Semi-Weekly) Oct. 29, 1945

EDITORIAL

A leading Jew asks this question: "Hasn't the world a living conscience? If we can't save the rest of the Jews in Europe from death, we will not be any the less criminals than those who put to death and exterminated six million Jews." And so he goes on until he says: "who is more to be believed of the two - Ibn Saud or the Bible?" And while he voices surprise at the conscience of a world which allowed six million Jews to perish, he demands that Palestine be opened to the remainder of these persecuted Jews, in spite of her own people, as compensation. But he doesn't tell us how the living conscience of the world permits Palestine to pay the penalty for the deeds of Hitler and his associates. Why does he want Arab Palestine to pay for what the Nazis did in Europe during this last war?

And as for his asking which one is more to be believed on the question of Palestine - the Bible or Ibn Saud - we can answer that query. Ibn Saud said that Palestine had been an Arab land from the time of Canaan, 3500 years before Christ, until today. Besides, the Bible says the same as H.M. the Arab King said: that the first Jew, Abraham, came as a refugee to Palestine and lived there some time, but his sons and grandsons left the land for Egypt (taking flight from hunger) and when they came back in Joshua's time, they fought her people in an inhuman war. They lived in Palestine for a while and established a kingdom which was divided against itself and fell under the domination of Romans, Greeks, Persians and others until the advent of the Arab Conquest and Islam; then Palestine remained Arab, in spite of the Crusades and the Turks.

Now we have a right to join the Jewish writer and ask with him: Hasn't the world a living conscience? And how can this conscience permit Palestine to be given as a present to the Jews to compensate them for what they suffered in Europe? Why not give the Jews another land that can absorb, as Palestine did, six hundred thousands Jews? Let the powers who want to help the Jews share their burden like Palestine. Then we may say that the world has a living conscience!...

IN DEFENSE OF RIGHT AND JUSTICE - SENATOR BAILEY AND ARAB PALESTINE

Merant-Ul-Gharb (N.Y. Daily) Nov. 1, 1945

COMMENTS

In this great democratic country of ours the voice of everyone can be heard. Both right and wrong make headlines and sometimes wrong makes a lot of noise, but the decision that finally prevails is far from wrong. It is always right. The Zionists are angry. They are mustering their forces asking everyone for help. And we have politicians coming to their rescue. But this is not all, for the side of justice also has its champions and here we have the Hon. Senator Josiah W. Bailey of North Carolina who, seeing what the Zionists are doing, addresses a letter to our Secretary of States James F. Byrnes telling him that he will carry an opposition fight to the Senate floor if America were to take part in setting up a Jewish State in Palestine.

Senator Bailey is not the only public figure in America who believes in the right of free peoples to determine their own fate, and it is up to us to continue our efforts in making it known to the American public that the Arabs of Palestine are there to defend themselves against any aggressors and with them are aligned their brothers of other Arab States. Their cause is right and the Americans are just.

A CONTROVERSY OVER SAVING THE ARAB LAND OF PALESTINE

("Al-Islah" - (N.Y. Semi-Weekly) Nov. 2, 1945

by special correspondent

Professor Ibrahim Abdul-Kader Al-Masini wrote an article in Al-Balagh, the Egyptian paper, criticizing the Project of Palestine M. Al-Alami for the reclaiming of Arab land in Palestine. Prof. Masini says: "The project of Al-Alami cannot give results. He states that the Jews spend ten million guineas yearly for the purchase of lands in Palestine. If this is true, and I believe it is because the Jews collect money all over the world for their project, then, how can five million guineas, be spent over a period of five years be sufficient. This is what Al-Alami proposes that the Arab States contribute a mere five millions to cover a five year project. Prof. Al-Alami estimates that every village needs thirty thousand guineas in order to modernize and improve its production, so since there are one thousand villages, according to the estimate of Al-Alami, this would cost thirty million guineas. We ask ourselves again, how can five millions, every five years, be enough? I surely prefer that the Alami project

of the League of Arab States had not been published, but kept a secret until after discussions and consideration by the League council. Then the project could have been planned on the basis of need.

PALESTINE ON THE AIR

THE ARAB POINT OF VIEW

"Al-Islah(N.Y.Semi-Weekly) Nov. 2, 1945

Our brilliant compatriot Ahmad Al-Shaqiri, Director of the Arab office in Washington, D.C., was the guest at a radio discussion on the 26th of October 1945 over W.O.R. when he argued the Arab case against Rev. W. Phillips, known for his defense of Zionism. There are some of the points that our brilliant Palestinian lawyer made: First, that Zionism which is the expression of international Jewish extremism, has assumed, to achieve its purpose, an aggressive animosity. Zionism works toward establishing a Jewish National State and chooses for that State a piece of land in the Arab countries - land which has been Arab for centuries.

This piece of land - Palestine - is an Arab land, part and parcel of the whole, undivided Arab countries. The inhabitants of Palestine are the grandsons of Canaan of the Bible, and Canaan is an Arab race that has inhabited Palestine century after century, from the dawn of history.

The goal of Zionism is to uproot the Arab people of Palestine. They gather Jews from all over the world and bring them to Palestine imposing them on the remainder of the Arabs, after killing the Arab natural life.

Second the Arabs have the answer to the Zionism invasion. There are millions of Arabs and Moslems there to defeat this invasion which resorts to all sorts of endeavors and deeds.

If someone asks: by what right does Zionism strive to attain its aims? Here is your answer. Zionism relies on two factors to substantiate its claim on Palestine. First the historical and when the Arabs answer that Palestine was invaded by the Jews and to some extent dominated by them only for about 400 years of her whole history, and that this invasion is and was like the other invasions and dominations of Palestine in that Palestine remained Arab in spite of all the various conquerors. Then the Zionists switch to the legal factor - the Balfour Declaration. To this the Arabs reply that this famous sin of promise accorded the Jews only a place of refuge in Palestine - a National Home - and this by definition of the various governments of Great Britain, while the Zionists say it meant the National Home - because Zionism does not want the Balfour Declaration but an expanding of that promise to mean the Jewish National Home of Palestine - a sort of a commonwealth.

When these two important arguments are answered, the Zionists use its most effective weapon of today - humanitarianism. The Zionists cry pity for the persecuted Jews of Europe. The Arabs have the answer to that too. The burden of giving refuge to the persecuted Jews should not be the burden of the Arabs alone. Let the other nations be as generous and the burden will disappear.

OUR COMMUNITY IN CHICAGO DESERVES THE PRAISE OF HER COUNTRY

Al-Aklat(N.Y. Semi Weekly) Oct. 31, 1945

PRESS RELEASE

The Institute of Arab American Affairs sent to the Arabic press the following release:-

"When a large group of our compatriots gathered for the funeral of Ibrahim Abu-Khdeir, a Palestinian Arab present in the gathering suggested that instead of buying flowers for the grave of the late Ibrahim, those people assembled should contribute money to the defense of Palestine. As everybody approved, the contribution was made and the amount of one thousand and six dollars was sent to the treasury of the Institute.

This patriotic act is proof of the generous hearts of our people everywhere and their zeal is known when it comes to the defense of our cause. Our country feels proud, and hope for the success of our cause fills our hearts. "

(signed) ISMAIL EL KHALIDI
Secretary of the Institute



November 2, 1945

Mr. Charles Sands
47 The Arcade
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Friend:

Thank you so much for your kind note and for the check of \$250 which you sent me. It is indeed very generous of you, and will be very helpful. I have transmitted your check today to Mr. M. E. Glass, who is chairman of the Cleveland Committee.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

JA
Haganah
48-46

LAW OFFICES
EZRA SHAPIRO
540 GUARDIAN BUILDING
CLEVELAND, OHIO
CHERRY 3737

November 5, 1945.

Mr. Rudolf G. Sonneborn,
88 Lexington Avenue,
New York, New York.

Dear Mr. Sonneborn:

Pursuant to a phone request which came about three weeks ago, I communicated with Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and we arranged a meeting of a limited number of persons who were invited to a meeting by a committee headed by Mr. M. E. Glass, whose address is c/o Texas Distributing Company, 2501 West 3rd Street, Cleveland. At this meeting, Dr. Silver told the story in most effective manner and we there and then raised the bulk of the fund. Mr. Glass was most cooperative and helpful.

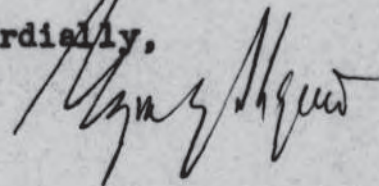
In accordance with Henry's suggestion, I told people to make checks payable to the "Jewish Agency" and I also advised them that their contributions were tax deductible. I enclose herewith checks in the total sum of \$11,420.00, together with a list, in duplicate, of the names of the contributors and the amounts contributed by them.

I expect within the next ten days or so to transmit whatever additional funds we may secure in a sum which I would presently estimate not to exceed \$1,000.00.

I would be interested to hear what results were obtained elsewhere.

With kindest personal regards, I am,

Cordially,



EZS:A
Encs.

✓ CC - Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
- Mr. M. E. Glass

LAW OFFICES
EZRA SHAPIRO
540 GUARDIAN BUILDING
CLEVELAND, OHIO
CHERRY 3737

November 5, 1945.

Mr. M. E. Glass,
% Texas Distributing Company,
2501 West 3rd Street,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Mike:

I enclose herewith a copy of my letter to Mr. Sonneborn, together with the list of the contributors. I have sent a similar copy of the letter and list to Dr. Silver. For your information, on the list which I sent to New York, I omitted the addresses.

I would suggest the following proposed "thank you" letter which of course you can change to suit yourself:

"Dear Mr. _____:

May we express our gratitude to you for your recent generous contribution to the fund which we raised for immediate imperative life-saving purposes. As you know, we deliberately reached a limited number of persons. The response was most gratifying.

We feel certain that our effort in this matter was most worthwhile.

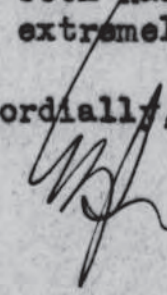
Sincerely,

The Emergency Committee

M. E. Glass, Chairman"

May I, personally, express my appreciation for your genuine helpfulness. I trust you feel, as both Rabbi Silver and I have felt, that this emergency project was extremely worthwhile.

Cordially,



EZS:A

Encs.

Dr. Silver

NO. 12

EXTRACTS FROM THE ARAB PRESS IN THE U.S.A.

(Issued by the Office of the Jewish Agency for Palestine in Washington, D.C.)

ONE OF MANY FOR THE SUGGESTION BOX: AN INTERNATIONAL PALESTINE
"Al-Nada" (N.Y. Daily) Nov. 7, 1945

EDITORIAL

The suggestions for the solution of the complex problem of the political status of Palestine were numerous. Some of the factors which contribute to the difficulty are as follows: Geographically, Palestine is located in the heart of the Arab East. Besides being astride the crossroads of the world, it is the birthplace of two religions - the Jewish and the Christian. Moreover, the country is closely bound to Islam, the third monotheist religion of the world. Palestine is considered the Holy Land for all three of these religions and their followers. So in spite of the willingness of the major powers to find a solution suitable to all concerned, the international aspect of this problem has clearly increased its difficulty.

Some have suggested, (among them, this paper, which a few years back received a reply to a similar proposal from a British general) that Palestine be made the capital of the League of Nations and placed under its rule as an international territory. In this way there would arise no further dispute over its possession by Jews or Arabs, Moslems or Christians, but it would be a part of all the nations associated with the World Council of Nations.

But neither the Arabs nor the Jews will agree to anything but the independent possession of Palestine. Out of this controversy arose this complex and very difficult problem. No solution can be found for such a controversy because both parties are adamant in their claims; consequently, the only possible out is the international plan proposed by certain thinkers. Thus, the Jews and the Arabs would share like all the other powers in Palestine, and neither would emerge the victor in this struggle.

Today we have the suggestion of a leading Catholic personality from the Holy Land who resides in America. This suggestion differs only in one particular from the above, for it presents the same international solution, with the claim however, that the rights of the Christians to the land of Palestine should receive first consideration. He is Monsignor Michel Ibrahim, a native of Lebanon and pastor of the Holy Heart Church of Michigan City, Indiana. He wrote to us that he is forwarding his proposal to the proper authorities in Washington, D.C. and to the American press. It is possible that with the proper approach he will find many supporters for his idea. Here is the Monsignor's proposal:

"Christians in Palestine"

"Palestine is lately receiving a lot of attention in the American press. Those who write about Palestine are divided into two groups - one for the Arabs, the other for the Jews. Each is trying to make out a case for his group from the historical and religious facts alone. But the Christians, who have prior claims to Palestine, remain silent, making no demands in this noisy embroilment.

The Christians have land there which was blessed by Christ in Bethlehem, his birthplace and sanctified by his dying on the cross in Golgotha and his sacred tomb in Jerusalem. The Christians have built memorial churches and numerous places of worship and institutions all over the land. Thousands of pilgrims travel to Palestine each year to contemplate the holy places where all their sacred ceremonies originated and where their sacraments were instituted. Palestine is the cradle of Christianity. But these sacred places are under the

guardianship of the Moslems; they hold the keys to the Holy Sepulchre, the Church of Resurrection, the Chamber of Zion where our Lord instituted the Holy Eucharist Sacrament; also the place where our Lord ascended to heaven on the Mount of Oliveth. The Christians have legal rights in Palestine - if not more, then at least equal to those of the Moslems and the Jews. Why then not put Palestine under the international guardianship of the United Nations who will appoint a committee representing the major powers to govern the land? The Christians were in Palestine before the Moslems and they remained there after the extinction of the Kingdom of Israel. They are the owners of the Holy Land and theirs are the most historical and sacred places in the land.

The major powers should look into this proposal carefully before any decision is arrived at in Palestine, for this is the only solution that does justice to all concerned and establishes permanent peace."

(signed) Monsignor Michel Ibrahim

Delegate of the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem in America.

DENOUNCING THE TERROR - PROPAGANDA EXPENSES

("Al-Naba" (N.Y. Daily) Nov. 6, 1948)

EDITORIAL

Responsible quarters in both Arab and Jewish affairs are denouncing the reign of terror in Palestine and the Arab States which took place on the day commemorating the Balfour Declaration. These outbreaks first arose in Palestine and were the work of a small terrorist band of Zionist extremists. But they soon spread to all the Arab States. Nobody was safe, even in Syria and Lebanon, but the most serious rioting was in Egypt where it was directed not only against the Jews but against all foreign elements there.

We have no doubt of the sincerity of Arab and Jewish leaders in denouncing the terrorism, for they know this will not help but will rather hinder and harm any solution to the complex problem of Palestine.

It seems from the tone of the declarations of both the Arabs and the Jews that they are nearer to agreement now than at any previous time, especially since the Arabs have renewed their declaration of help and sympathy to the Jewish victims of Europe by letting some of them enter into Palestine as a humanitarian-not a political-gesture.

Moreover, we believe that the two great powers, America and Britain, are taking important steps toward the solution of the problem. America moved by a humanitarian motive and Britain out of her interest in the Arab East (supported in its claims by Moslems all over the world). Also, Britain cannot afford any disturbances which might endanger her world empire in a region where the Moslems have so much influence.

PROPAGANDA EXPENSES -- It seems that the amount of money appropriated by the League of Arab States from its various members for the dissemination of Arab information and for their two offices in London and Washington is one million two hundred thousand dollars (\$1,200,000.) for this current year. We have no doubt that this amount is large enough to cover all the expenses necessary to voice the Arabs' defense of Palestine as well as other Arab national problems.

ORGANIZED ARAB PROPAGANDA

"Al-Naba" (N.Y. Daily) Nov. 8, 1948

EDITORIAL

For the first time since the opening of the Arab Office in the United States, we read an advertisement in yesterday's large American papers explaining the Arab point of view in regard to Palestine and the political ambitions of the Zionists there.

The advertisement is well planned and well done. It shows an expert hand arranged it. Whether it was edited by members of the Office in Washington, or made under their supervision by experts, they are to be congratulated on a job well done.

This is the manner in which the Nazis go about it. It is far preferable to a speech at an affair or over the radio, because the listener cannot retain all the arguments presented thus for long after the speech. But publicity in the press, placed in the hands of the reader, is something to ponder and reflect upon.

We have a few observations to make. First, the Arab Office plan carefully the day to release publicity. For instance, they should choose a better day than, as in this case, one when the American papers were full of the election returns and comments. Second, the print this time was very small and we believe that as funds are available now they can pay more and appear in larger print. The last observation is that the office may gain from publishing the same English text in the Arabic Press in order that the Arab reader may show it to his American friends and thus convince them, by well written arguments of the Arab claims and their just views.

With this first step we can predict sure success for the Arab office in America which enjoys both the material necessities for its work and the financial means as well, for the League it represents has both money and men to do a good job.

PROGRESS IN THE EAST - FAR AND NEAR
"As-Sameer" (Brooklyn Daily) Nov. 9, 1945

EDITORIAL

Rebellion in Tripolitania - Riots in Egypt - Civil war in China - Revolt in Java. Why all these terrible upheavals and riots in both the Far and the Near East. If we analyze this we can come to but one single, true explanation of causes. The big powers have stuffed the ears of all these dominated peoples with these two principles - Freedom and the right of people to self-determination. It is they who furnished the fuel and lit the fire of these troubles, revolts and riots in the East. Need drives a man crazy. This is an old saying. It runs true now. Crazy, mad bands in Cairo and in Tripoli are rioting and planting terror in their path. These are sorry misdeeds and they accomplish the opposite purpose. A crazy friend will injure you and your cause. He is more dangerous than your enemy.

This does not mean that the cauldron boiling at top speed on the fire of hate is going to cool off. No, by no means. It is up to those imperialist powers who are still practicing their old game of subduing people by force of arms instead of treating them with humanity and understanding. It is up to them to give proof that they are going to keep the promises they made during the war to those people who helped them win believing they were helping the cause of humanity and freedom.

If Tripolitania does not deserve to be independent yet, she surely does not deserve either to be an Italian, Russian or an English colony. And around Tripoli there are many people in chains, suffering and waiting. These are the peoples of Tunisia and Morocco. Hence, in order to be true and permanent in the East, depends on the major powers. They are the responsible ones, because they are there with their armies, prestige and influence - or with their money.

"AL-HOLAH" AND HER HOUSING ACT
"As-Sameer" (Brooklyn Daily) Nov. 8, 1945

EDITORIAL

People are surprised by "Al-Hoda"'s interpretations which make no sense at all, and

and in particular by what he writes about Monsignor Akl, but we are not, because we know "Al-Hoda" and its editor and know that they are forever uttering nonsense camouflaging their thoughts, always getting away from the truth and trying to make people believe that their lies are the only truth.

The Maronite Patriarch has made more than one statement that he is for the complete independence of Lebanon, and lately sent an order to Monsignor Akl to stop talking politics and to return to Lebanon. Of course the Monsignor refused to obey the order and is still using his propaganda against the national government of his country. But the funny part is that "Al-Hoda" says after all this that whoever is against the Monsignor is against his spiritual chief the Patriarch.

We know that Monsignor Akl is against the national independence of Lebanon and wants his masters the French back and we said this to our people so that they would not be deceived by his work. And if "Al-Hoda" defends the Monsignor and says that we have no right to doubt his mission, and that the Arabic papers that cabled the Patriarch asking for information about the mission of the Monsignor are doing wrong and they have no right to do so, then the truth is that "Al-Hoda" is not for independence but for the DeFaullists, its friends and masters.

THE ARAB OFFICE SPEAKS TO THE AMERICAN PUBLIC
"As-Sameer" (Brooklyn Daily) Nov. 7, 1945



The Arab Office in Washington, which was established under the sponsorship of the seven Arab States, published in today's New York Times an advertisement in which the Office argued against and defeated the contentions of the Zionists. It declared that Zionism is a political movement of aggression and not a humanitarian one; that the Jewish problem is a European problem and it is not right that the Arabs alone should be burdened with it. To the American public the Office poses these questions:

- 1- Do you want to give the Jews, who have no country and no state, a sovereign state inside your frontiers?
- 2- Do you accept the interference of foreign countries in your internal affairs?
- 3- Do you give foreign governments the right to fix the immigration rate in your country?

THE CABLE THE MONSIGNOR AND "AL-HODA"
"Al-Islah" (N.Y. Semi-Weekly) Nov. 6, 1945

EDITORIAL

"Al-Hoda" comes to us with unbelievable logic. The editor says that those Arabic newspapermen who cabled the Patriarch of Lebanon and the dean of the Lebanese press at Beirut have malice in their hearts and that they hate the Patriarch's delegate Monsignor Akl.

The editor of "Al-Hoda" insists on repeating that the Arabic newspapers in America made it their business to invent and create an atmosphere of suspicions and doubts around the mission of the Monsignor and by such action they show themselves against the Patriarch who sent him to this country.

It is of no use repeating to "Al-Hoda" that the Patriarch didn't send the Monsignor on a political mission and that his Beatitude is for the independence of Lebanon, not like the Monsignor who wants a protector for the Christians of Lebanon and approves the Zionists designs on Palestine.

ACTIVITIES OF THE INSTITUTE OF ARAB AMERICAN AFFAIRS"As-Sayeh" (N. Y. Semi-Weekly) Nov. 8, 1945

A few days from now, delegates of the Institute of Arab American Affairs will go on a tour to Detroit and Flint, Michigan and to Chicago, Illinois for the purpose of establishing Branches which will go into action for the Arab cause in these two states. And in the meantime, we are asking our communities to participate in all these efforts through every means - money, contributions and the like. The need is pressing and the Arab view must be made known to the American public in order to safeguard their old countries from the aggression of the foreigners.

The delegates are Dr. Khalil Totah, Director of the Institute, and Mr. Ismail El-Khalidi, general secretary.

We have no doubt that our people will do their best to greet the delegates and to help them in their efforts and actions in order that the Institute may continue its good work.



Dr. Silver

NO. 53

November 12, 1945

Dr. Nahum Goldmann

Eliahu Epstein

Attached is the full text of a cable sent by a prominent American journalist in Cairo to his paper in New York. However, only a part of it was used for publication. The omitted paragraph was at the end of the cable and reads as follows:

"The Arab League is meeting at a regular bi-annual council session, and no decision is expected to be taken on Palestine. Ibn Saud's visit to Cairo is being planned by the Egyptians only, but Farouk is trying to call a conference of all Arab rulers and presidents, mainly to discuss Palestine."

EBirk

Attachment - 1

CC: Dr. Wise
Dr. Akvin for Dr. Silver and Mr. Shapiro
Mr. Lipky
Messrs. Lourie and Weisgal
Mr. Shortek

(C O P Y)

TELEGRAMM SEINER EMINENZ GROSSMUFTI AMIN EL HUSSEINI

AN DEN FÜHRER UND REICHKANZLER.

Berlin, den 4. Juli, 1942.

Gestatten Sie mir, Führer, Ihnen die aufrichtige Freude des arabischen Volkes und meine besten Glückwünsche zum Siege der Achsenverbände in Nordafrika zu übermitteln. Diese Erfolge wurden gekrönt durch die feierliche Erklärung der deutschen und der italienischen Regierungen in der die Souveränität und Unabhängigkeit Ägyptens anerkannt und versichert wird. Diese weise Politik der Achsenmächte, die die Deutsch-Italienischen Verbände von Sieg zu Sieg führte wird einen sehr guten Wiederhall nicht nur in Ägypten finden, sondern auch in allen übrigen arabischen Ländern und im ganzen Orient, da sie den besten Beweis für die edelen Ziele der Achsen-Regierungen liefert und die anderen arabischen Länder ihrer Freiheit und Selbständigkeit sichert. Das arabische Volk wird daher an Ihrer Seite gegen den gemeinsamen Feind bis endgültigen Sieg weiterkämpfen.

Amin El Hussein

ANTWORTTELEGRAM VON 6. Juli 1942:

Seiner Eminenz Grossmufti Amin El Hussein
Goethestr. 31/32

Berlin-Zehlendorf

Der Führer hat mich beauftragt Eurer Eminenz seinen herzlichen Dank für das freundliche Glückwunschtelegramm zu übermitteln von dessen Inhalt der Führer mit Befriedigung Kenntnis genommen hat.

Staatsminister Dr. Meißner

FOUND IN:

"Band 13, Brief und Telegrammwechsel mit fremden Staatsoberhäupter."

COPY

CAIRO CABLE

sent November 3, 1945

ARAB LEAGUE & PALESTINE ISSUE:

It looked as if the mid-East cauldron was boiling over. On the eve of the anniversary of the Balfour Declaration and the morrow of the announcement that the Attlee-Truman talks would cover Palestine, the Zionist underground went to war. Throughout Palestine's length and breadth, in a masterly sabotage plan, the railway system was blown up at 153 points. Mortars hidden in dark orange groves demolished stations, and big-boned, tanned youths sprang out with tommy guns. In a dead young Jew's haversack were machine gun belts and a dozen sticks of deadly gelignite. An explosion near the High Commissioner's residence where Field Marshal Allan Brooks was staying rent the night quiet. Haifa refineries at a terminal of the mid-East pipeline were exploded and harbor police launches attacked.

Friday, the twenty-eighth anniversary of the Balfour Declaration which opened Palestine's gates to the Jews, the Arabs went on strike, held mass meetings in Jerusalem's sacred Omar Mosque. In Damascus, Baghdad, Beirut and Jaffa, Shakhis, Effendis and Fellaheen paraded the streets shouting anti-Jewish slogans, threatened to wage a holy war.

In Egypt large-scale hooliganism broke loose! Synagogues were sacked and burned, scrolls publicly burned, sulphuric acid poured from the rooftops on the winding dingy streets of Cairo's Jewish quarter, Jewish department stores looted and every shop window in Cairo's and Alexandria's predominantly Jewish downtown shipping centers smashed.

Egypt's firm, tight-lipped Premier, Fahmy el Nokrashy Pasha, hastened to denounce the rioting, so did Moslem organizations which had planned quiet demonstrations. Official statements denied the attacks were on the Jews in particular.

The Arabs were clearly anxious not to lose prestige with the British. Iank Abdul Rahman Azam Bey, the Arab League's Secretary-General, returned from a whirlwind tour of Whitehall and cheerfully hinted he had brought back a pocketful of promises. Explained Azam, his scheduled Washington visit had been cancelled because an air priority was not available. But there wasn't any hurry. "It was really easy to handle the British," Azam said, "just don't rub them the wrong way." His greatest accomplishment, the Arabs thought, has been to get British assurance that Palestine would be relegated to the background in the United Nations scheme to save world Jewry. The best Arab policy, therefore, was to play for time. Azam diverted the Arab League's attention to other Arab claims. "Tripoli and Libya must gain independence before the Powers seal the fate of the Jewish colonies," he declared, "Palestine can wait six months, maybe a year."

Zionists didn't think so. With hundreds of refugees on their way across the Mediterranean in small fishing smacks, thousands waiting to slip across Palestine's borders, and millions of Europe's bleeding Jewry crying for help, immigration was the most urgent problem for the United Nations.

The latest and best-organized terrorist outbreak since the war's end was ascribed to the powerful disciplined Hagana. But this time even moderate Zionists merely shrugged their shoulders. The Jewish agency declared: "It repudiates recourse to violence as an instrument of political struggle, but finds its capacity to impose restraint severely taxed." The conservative Palestine Post editorialized: "It is difficult to see how any Jew can be dissociated in thought, if not in fact, from what has happened."

Dr. Silver

No. 54

Dr. Nahum Goldmann

November 12, 1945

Eliahu Epstein

Attached is an exchange of letters between Mr. Salloun A. Mekarzel, editor and publisher of "Al-Hoda," and myself regarding Monsignor Agel's activities in this country.



HB:rk

CC: Dr. Wise
Dr. Aksin for Dr. Silver and Mr. Shapiro
Mr. Lipsky
Messrs. Lourie and Weisgal
Mr. Shertok

C O P Y

October 31, 1945

Mr. Salloun Mokarzel
Al-Noda
55 Washington Street
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Mokarzel:

The "Al-Islaah" paper of New York, in its issue of October 19, 1945, published an article regarding a conference in Detroit.

Among other things the article mentions a decision which was made in favor of the Jewish National Home in Palestine. I would be grateful to you for enlightening me on this subject, and also what really happened at that conference regarding the Palestine question.

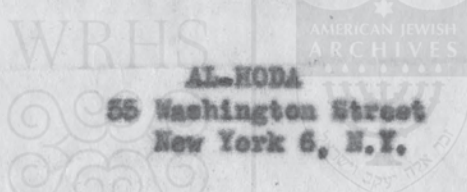
Thankyou very much.

Yours sincerely,

Eliahu Epstein

EE:rk

C O P Y



November 2, 1945

Dr. Eliahu Epstein
2210 Massachusetts Avenue
Washington 8, D. C.

Dear Mr. Epstein

The article that you refer to which appeared in Al-Islaah, did not escape my attention. I have not, however, received any direct report on any such meeting being held or such resolutions passed. To me it appears as if this report was manufactured of wholecloth and designed to create mistrust in the mission of Msgr. Akl. There being among Arab-Americans no little resentment against the Zionist Movement, the pro-Arab papers want to tie up Msgr. Akl's mission with the Zionist Movement for the evident purpose of placing obstacles in his way.

As you must have noticed, both Ministers of Syria and Lebanon in Washington took time out to refute some of Msgr. Akl's statements. At the present time, Msgr. Akl is traveling in the Middle West visiting our communities and apparently meeting with considerable success. He has not as yet received directly from the Patriarch, the order rescinding his credentials which the Minister of Lebanon announced had been issued.

This being a resume of the information I have on the subject up to the present, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

S. A. Mokarzel, Editor

SAN:am

O. Silver

No. 57

CONFIDENTIAL

Dr. Nahum Goldmann

November 12, 1945

Eliahu Epstein

SUBJECT: Exchange of cables with the Prime Minister of Greece, Mr. P. Kanellopoulos

The following is an exchange of cables with the Prime Minister of Greece, Mr. P. Kanellopoulos. He is one of the outstanding scholars in Greece, occupying the chair of sociology in Athens University. He is a great friend of Jews and Zionism. I met him on many occasions in Cairo when he was in exile during the war. He is a young man with progressive views and has great prestige and influence with the young Greek generation. I value the continuation of our contacts with him.

RADIOGRAM

November 3, 1945

HIT

HIS EXCELLENCY PRIME MINISTER KANELLOPOULOS
ATHENS GREECE

PLEASE ACCEPT MY SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS AND
BEST WISHES STOP I RECOLLECT WITH PLEASURE
OUR MEETINGS CAIRO

ELIAHU EPSTEIN, WASHINGTON OFFICE
JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE
2210 Massachusetts Ave., N. W.

RADIOGRAM

November 8, 1945 (rec'd)

LG

ELIAHU EPSTEIN WASHINGTON OFFICE
JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE 2210 MASSACHUSETTS AVE
WASHINGTON

MANY THANKS AND KIND REGARDS

KANELLOPOULOS.

EE:rk

CC: Dr. Wise; Dr. Akzin for Dr. Silver and Mr. Shapiro; Mr. Lipsky;
Messrs. Lourie and Weisgal; Mr. Shertok

Dr. Silver

No. 13

EXTRACTS FROM THE ARAB PRESS IN
THE U.S.A.

(Issued by the Office of the Jewish Agency for Palestine in Washington, D. C.)

TWO STORIES - GREAT BRITAIN AND PALESTINE
"As-Sameer" - Nov. 15, 1945

EDITORIAL

The first story - A man fell in love with a beautiful woman and married her. Then after a while, he saw another beautiful woman, fell in love with her, and married her in secret. On day the two women met and a dispute arose. The man in difficulty, not knowing what to do, said to the two women: Why all this trouble? Can't you live together happily? It is up to you two. - And this is exactly what Mr. Bevin said: It is up to the Arabs and the Jews to live together in peace. He also said that Britain will take care of Palestine until the committee investigating the problems there can give its report and further, the solution would be to put Palestine under the trusteeship of the United Nations - and, of course, the Council of the UNO will give Great Britain the right to be the trusted power to watch over Palestine.

And now we come to the other story. One of the monkeys and the two cats who were quarrelling over a piece of cheese came to the second monkey to ask him to be the judge. The story is well known - the judge ate all the cheese!

All this doesn't surprise us, coming from Great Britain but why the anger of Zionism? If what they think is that Britain is maneuvering as usual and that this is a new trick to back track on their pledge, the Arabs have more to be angry about than the Zionists, for they have been waiting 25 years for Britain to officially recognize her mistake in promising the Jews something that doesn't belong to them. Zionism hasn't lost anything, but the Arabs will lose in any solution that does not insure their legal rights in Arab Palestine.

THE KILLED ONE IS SATISFIED BUT THE KILLER IS NOT
"As-Sameer" - Nov. 16, 1945

EDITORIAL

A cable from Cairo states that the Arabs are somewhat satisfied with Mr. Bevin's declaration concerning Palestine. If this is true and we compare this with what the American press is publishing on the anger of the Jews at Great Britain, their complaints against President Truman and all humanity, and their threats - then we have a right to say with the Arab poet "the killed one is satisfied, but the killer is not."

Zionism as a concept is but a form of ambitious, evil aggression. This is what the Arabs are fighting and will fight to the end. Zionism created this fight with the Arabs, and if it weren't for Zionist aggression, the Arabs and the Jews would never have come to this. Both Arabs and Jews are of the same origin. Both lived together in peace in Palestine and elsewhere.

And those who show such feeling and humanity for the Jews persecuted in Europe are not truthful. Their humanity is hypocritical. These so-called humanitarians have special interests and are out to attain their own aims. Else why not safeguard the Jews of Europe in Europe? And why not open their own countries to the Jews?

No, nothing stand in their way, but the Middle East holds fortunes for the strong, and many a rich interest for some big exploiter; and the Arab poet says: "Everyone in this world is hunting game - fishing! But the kind of nets vary." Zionism is after game! Power politics is after game! And big game is there in the Middle East.

DIRECTOR OF ARAB OFFICE AT THE ARABIAN NIGHTS"Meraat-ul-Gharb" (N. Y. Daily) Nov. 15, 1945

Ahmad Al-Shukairy, Head of the Arab Office in Washington, D. C., spoke at the Arabian Nights Program, the Arab Community hour of Brooklyn, last Friday night for the first time. His speech was a salutation from the Arab countries of the East to their sons in the New World. This is the way the eloquent speaker began his speech:

"You, my countrymen in this New World, are a sovereign power and masters of their destiny now. You hated the slavery, tyranny, poverty and ignorance under the government of old in the Middle East. You left, caravan after caravan, for this great country of your choice, where you worked as pioneers to establish yourselves and your sons a future so brilliant that your old countries could point to it and be proud of it."

Then he goes on to outline Arab history of the past fourteen centuries and marks their contributions to world civilization, their brightest and darkest hours, especially under the Turks, until he comes to the present time and the new movement of Arab Renaissance, concluding his speech with the following:

"You brothers, if you are known by your Arab origin, you will increase the links of friendship with America, this great democratic nation. The Arab is known for his goodness, his gratitude and for keeping his pledge. You will increase and strengthen the links between these two great nations and peoples, the Arab and the American. You will be the means to a mutual friendship based on respect for the rights of each, and justice."

"One of the most important interests of the Arab today - peoples, states, kings and presidents - is Palestine. All the Arabs have and is pledged to the safety of Palestine as an Arab State in the Arab Nation. Palestine is the port of Iraq, Syria and Transjordan on the White sea. Palestine is the left arm of Lebanon, the right arm of Egypt. Palestine is the window of the Arabian Island; she is the heart of the Near East and its key. The Arab Nation will never give up Palestine. This is the pledge and Charter of the Arab Nation."

"The Arabs of Palestine, your brothers, were and are defending Palestine with every effort and sacrifice of blood and soul. They will continue to do so until Palestine becomes a member of the Arab family inside the Arab nation."

"This is a greeting from all your old countries to you all."

AN ARAB MAGAZINE FOR THE JEWS - BOOKS PUBLISHED IN PALESTINE"Al-Akhlaq" (New York Semi-Weekly) Nov. 16, 1945

I. A new monthly magazine has appeared in Egypt called "Al-Kateh Al-Misri" (The Egyptian writer). The editor is Dr. Tah Hussein, the great Egyptian philosopher. The Egyptian magazine "Akher Sa'at" (The last Hour) reveals that the new magazine is the organ of the Jews in Egypt.

II. Dr. Ishaq Mousen Al-Husseini of Palestine says that the number of Arabic books published in Palestine in the year of 1941 was ten, and that the average number of Hebrew books published in Palestine yearly is three hundred and fifty.

THE MINISTRY OF PROFESSOR AL-SODA"Al-Hoda" (N. Y. Daily) Nov. 14, 1945EDITORIAL

Professor Joseph Al-Soda is one of the best lawyers in Lebanon who believes in and devotes himself to the Lebanese Question - which is her independence. We greet his appointment by the President of Lebanon to his great new post as Minister to Brasil.

Professor Al-Soda is the author of "The Universal History of Lebanon" the book which supports with facts the right of Lebanon to independence (because Lebanon was always an independent state). The brilliance of Professor Al-Soda showed in his defense of Lebanon when he stood with pride at the Arab Lawyers Conference in Damascus and stated with eloquence and logic that: "Lebanon, alone in the Middle East is the true democratic state, and for this fact alone, no one can deny Lebanon her independence."

He is, of course, a happy choice, but we ask ourselves if we have in Lebanon anyone with enough daring to stand before his country proclaiming it the only democratic state, compared to its neighbors?

We hope to be sure, that in Lebanon there are plenty of the stamp of Minister Al-Soda who is going to represent his country in a great democracy, one which comes second only to the U.S.A.

THE INDEPENDENCE DAY OF LEBANON"Al-Hoda" (N.Y. Daily) Nov. 15, 1945EDITORIAL

Which is the right date for the Independence Day of Lebanon; is it Nov. 22 or Sept. 6?

Last year at this same time we received a call from H. E., the President of the Republic of Lebanon, asking the Lebanese to celebrate the independence of Lebanon on the 22nd of November. His call came through the American War Information Office.

And as at that time Lebanon had no representation in America, the Lebanon League of Progress with the Lebanese National Committee organized the celebration and it was successful. Among those present at the celebration were the delegates from all the Lebanese societies in America, the Consuls of France and Great Britain, a delegate from the OWI and the delegations to the International Business Conference of Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, etc.

Dr. Philip Hitti, in his speech there, said the following: "This is not the celebration for the Independence, but for the confirmation of the Independence of Lebanon. Because, if today we celebrate the Independence of Lebanon, this celebration would mean that Lebanon was not independent previously, which is not the truth."

A little while afterward, we received papers from the old countries confirming the fact and the event. For if we had to cancel or erase everything that happened during the French era of protection and mandate, we would be confirming that our independence was a gift from the French, which is not so.

Today we received from the Lebanese Legation a call to celebrate Independence Day on November 22nd and since the Legation represents the Lebanese Government and

acts under her orders, we now ask: Has the date been changed and which is the National Day?

RIOTING AND KILLING OF JEWS IN ARAB COUNTRIES

"As-Sayeh" (N. Y. Weekly) Nov. 15, 1945

EDITORIAL

Since the Arab conquest and previous to it, Arabs and Jews have lived together like one people; and never was there a time like now when hundreds of innocent Jews perish at the hands of Arab mobs in Tripoli and elsewhere. God! What evil designs can do! This is what happens now and all of it since the advent of aggressive Zionism, this evil of evils.

We hear the cries of the Zionists lamenting, complaining, calling the Major Powers to see what happened in Nazi Europe to their brothers, the Jews, asking that they should be given Palestine in order to establish for them there a free democratic government.

We are grieved and sorry for what has happened to the poor innocent Jews in Arab lands, and we hope that some wise and good Jews will put a stop to the nefarious Zionist propaganda which is harming the Jews everywhere.

THE FUTURE OF ARAB COUNTRIES

"Al-Islah" (N.Y. 3 times Weekly) Nov. 17, 1945



EDITORIAL

Under the above title "Al-Islah" discusses the future of Palestine and says the following:

Among the many problems that Arab countries must find solutions for is the problem of Palestine.

The Palestine problem, we have a right to say is the most important. Both Washington and London are trying their best to find a solution which will not hurt the Arabs. But Palestine is an Arab country, and, as the Arabs do not like to impose their will on anyone, so, they do not like anyone, powerful or small, to tread on their rights. The League of Arab States is doing its best to see that Britain gives Palestine an independent National Government composed of the sons of Arab Palestine.

This government will be like Iraq and Egypt, and will negotiate a treaty with Great Britain similar to the treaties of the other Arab States.

We hope that in the near future such an independent government in Palestine will be established for the sake of peace and security in the Near East.

**EXTRACTS FROM THE ARAB PRESS IN
THE U.S.A.**

(Issued by the Office of the Jewish Agency for Palestine in Washington, D.C.)

PLANNED TROUBLE IN PALESTINE**EDITORIAL**

(As-Sameer" (Brooklyn, Daily) - Nov. 19, 1945

The bloodshed and rioting in Tripoli and Egypt, the sabotage and terrorism in Palestine and the rioting in Arab lands started as a protest against Great Britain's policy and Balfour Day - Nov. 2. In Egypt the Prime Minister Nokrashi Pasha said that these grave incidents saddened him and all the Egyptians. It is true that these are sorry events and no reasoning Arab will subscribe to what has occurred.

In Palestine the Zionists held the center of attention. There were Arab protests, parades and strikes in that country as well as in neighboring Syria, Lebanon and Iraq. But there was something else in Palestine, perhaps much graver and of far more reaching consequence. There was evidence of a well-planned and carefully executed sabotage and terrorism on a large scale. Railroads were cut in more than 35 places. British police were killed and ammunition plundered under the noses of British officials.

British officials both in Jerusalem and London view the troubles in Palestine with much concern and see in them a wide and well organized move on the part of the Zionists to discredit British policy and authority by acts of terrorism and force. It is time for Great Britain to understand.

DR. NAJLA IZZEDDIN OF THE ARAB OFFICE

("Mernat-Ul-Gharb" (N.Y. Daily) Nov. 21, 1945

The Sunday issue of the "New York Herald-Tribune" Nov. 4th carried a lengthy interview with Dr. Najla Izzeddin, at present a member of the Arab Office in Washington, D.C.

The Arab League, said the dark eyed little Arab spokeswoman, in its opposition to unrestricted Jewish immigration to Palestine, is taking an anti-Zionist, not an anti-Jewish stand.

Dr. Izzeddin explained the Arabs themselves are Semites and cannot be accused of anti-Semitism. We are, however, she said, firmly opposed to Zionism, which is a political movement. We feel that Zionism is playing up the sufferings of the Jews in order to achieve political domination and not to solve a human problem in a sound and lasting way.

Dr. Izzeddin defended the Arabs of Palestine and refuted the accusation of backwardness hurled against them by Zionism.

The increase in Arab as well as Jewish immigration to Palestine cannot be accredited to Zionist colonization, she declared. Under the British Mandate there has been general modernization of both the physical and economic standard of living. If the Arabs appear primitive in comparison it is because we do not receive financial aid from other countries as the Zionists do.

And now a word about Dr. Najla Izzeddin. She received her B.A. degree from Vassar College and later her Doctor of Philosophy degree from the University of Chicago.

Since Dr. Izzeddin's return to the Near East, she has been occupied with teaching and writing. She is considered an authority on Arab history. From 1939 - 1941 she taught in the Iraqi Girls' Training School and in the Higher Training College

for men and women. She was the first woman who had ever lectured to mens' classes in Iraq. In 1944-1945 she was principal of the Girls' Lycee in Damascus.

Dr. Isseddin is engaged in lecturing before American Womens' clubs and University organizations. On November 8th she spoke before the Vassar Club of New Haven. Last month she addressed the American Association of University Women in Washington and the Womens' Faculty Club of Columbia University.

1 SYRIA AND LEBANON ACT TO FIGHT ZIONISM

11 UNFINISHED BUSINESS WITH THE FRENCH

(Al-Bayan (Washington, D.C. 3 times weekly) Nov. 20, 1945 (SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE BY AIR)

The belief and the hope of the Arabs in this great American democracy are vanishing all because of the help that it is giving the Zionists, who are trying to dispossess the Arabs of their own homes in Palestine. The Arabs are sure that if the American people and President Truman were to study carefully and listen to what the Arabs have to say, they would not support the aggressive ambitions of the Zionists. If they will not listen the Arabs will have the right to say that truth and justice and their staunch defenders went down like the atomic bomb and with the same power of destruction.

Now this vanishing hope has brought a reaction in Arab thinking and we see a new point of view - namely that the Arabs have to rely on themselves to defend what they have and must bend all their efforts to it.

Someone may say: What are the Arabs afraid of - they are millions compared to the Jews! To this we answer that if the Zionists themselves were to stand alone before the Arabs, they of course would be wiped out in no time, but this is not what they do. Their way is to incite by their powerful propaganda one major power after another and make the people in those countries in which they are enjoying full liberty feel and work for them. Their poisonous lies have no end. If the powers would say to the Zionists: go and fight your case out yourselves, this of course would end the whole problem; but to insist on helping the Zionists and to condemn the Arabs of Palestine and the neighboring countries to destruction is not just and will never be accepted easily by the Arabs. That is why the Arabs are preparing themselves to end this grave danger.

Syria and Lebanon - are doing their utmost, by all sorts of measures, to stop the smuggling into Palestine of Jews and arms for the Zionists. The Presidents of both countries met with their Prime Ministers and decided to put a stop to it, and to guard the frontiers of Palestine. Still some Arab traitors are trafficking with the Zionists. Both countries were shocked when Deputy Rafat Qasoun of Lebanon was arrested and found to be smuggling arms to the Zionists in his own auto. Deputies have a cedar insignia on their cars and used to cross the borders freely. The arrest of Deputy Qasoun made the Lebanese Government declare that from now on only the cars of the President, Prime Minister and the Parliament president will carry the cedar in order that every car be inspected. No one is immune from now on.

It was said that the measures discussed at the meeting of the two Presidents were of a political and economic nature.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - It is believed that the meeting in London of both Foreign Secretaries and their ambassadors on reaching an understanding on the problems of the Near East, made the French hesitate in their settlement of the various problems connected with the complete transfer of all interests that the Syrian and Lebanese Governments had asked for. The French have ignored the resolutions of San Francisco, whereby Syria and Lebanon were accepted as completely independent States. It may be

that the French are certain that the solutions arrived at in London will insure the interests of powers that have the arm to enforce their problems. In that case we will see a repetition of what happened in the League of Nations after the First World War - that League of Nations which operated under the water-force of the Imperialistic powers only.

AL-BAYAN (Nov. 22, 1945)

SOMETHING NEW

EDITORIAL

After much waiting, something new has come up on the question of Palestine. Both Washington and London have announced that a joint commission on Palestine to be established by Anglo-American agreement will investigate the state of Jews in Europe and examine the entire situation of Jewish refugees in order to determine who of these refugees really desire to go to Palestine, and who will elect to remain in Europe or accept as a substitute for Palestine some other country, where such is available.

At first we thought it really something new, but after reflection we found it is the same old game with the exception that this time it's an Anglo-American commission and not a British one alone. Here a just, impartial commission to study the problems of the Jews and Palestine we are sure that such a commission would have to mete justice to the Arab case. But when we hear of the activity of the Zionists and that President Truman recommends that the commission should hurry and find a solution to so complex a problem just because winter is very close and many Jews will die from hunger and cold in Europe if no quick solution is arrived at, then we cannot but ask: How can a commission which is constituted now and, now it is already winter, devise a solution to the Jewish problem in such a hurry and how can the commission study thoroughly these problems of such complexity that the many commissions set up so far failed to arrive at any decision which would satisfy both Zionists and Arabs?

Is this all? By no means. For after this the committee of Congress or the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee decided to propose again that Jewish immigration to Palestine be unrestricted. So why the commission of the leaders of Congress have resolved to give Palestine to the Jews? And it is a fact that Congress can force the President to follow a policy. If Congress is for that policy, and stand resolutely behind it.

The American Congress is the main cause for the complexity of the problem of Palestine and the obstruction of its right solution. If it weren't for these leaders in Congress the Zionists would have been defeated and a just solution would have been arrived at by the Arabs and the Jews for everybody's benefit.

THE HOLY LAND AND THE UNITED NATIONS

("Al-Bada" (N.Y. Daily) - Nov. 19, 1945)

EDITORIAL

A few days ago we published for Monsignor Michel Ibrahim his suggestion of making Palestine an International State under the rule of a committee of the United Nations Organization with the idea that Christians all over the world have prior rights to the Holy Land. At the same time we said that two years ago we had suggested that in order to solve this complex problem for all concerned, Palestine should be made international and the seat of the permanent council of the future League of Nations which is now called the UNO. At that time we received some observations pertaining to this suggestion from a British General.

It seems that the world is beginning to react along the same lines to this important question of Palestine because of the opposing attitude of both the Arabs and the Jews toward this solution which neither party is willing to accept.

Today we have the opinion of Monsignor Thomas McManis, the head of the Catholic Committee of Relief for the East, published in the Tablet Sunday issue, with counsel to the Christian World that it should begin to demand this solution through a regular organized effort.

We must point out what everybody has seen - how various cities in the U.S.A. are beginning to organize in order to have the seat of the World organization assigned to one of these cities - like San Francisco, New York, Boston, etc. And who can blame them - for to be the Capital of the WHO will mean being the capital of the world.

HAS THE WAR ENDED?

("Al-Izlah" (N.Y. 3 times weekly) - Nov. 20, 1945)

EDITORIAL

It seems we aren't finished with wars. A revolt in Azerbaijan, the Persian State on the Russian frontier, is in the making and, it is believed that the arms and equipment of the rebels come from Red Russia.

Persia today called Iran has always clashed with the Imperialist interests of both Russia and Great Britain, and for some time previous Iran was made two zones of influence, the North for Russia and the south for Britain. The struggle between the two powers seems to be renewed now and we don't know if America is favoring either at present.

The civil war in China is another case where Red China, with the help of Russia, is trying to beat Chiang to Manchuria and it was said that our U.S. Army there had to sustain some attacks from the Reds.

In the Arab East there is a lot of trouble and the Arabs claim that it is caused by the British and the Jews. And at the same time the Arabs threaten the British that if they do not put a stop to this they, the Arabs, will look towards Russia, as if Russia were the terrible octopus ready to eat every fish in her way. So people are terrifying each other with this modern dragon.

No doubt Russia is today the greatest military power in Europe, and everybody knows her ambitions for expansion. - she went as far as to demand a base on the Red Sea and mandates over certain countries and islands in the Mediterranean.

All this is happening in the Old World, but America is not asleep. We note how careful our leaders are - from General Marshall to Eisenhower and many others - in asking that the country be always ready to face any contingency the night next. This and other measures, the countryward careful planning that the secret of the atomic bomb be well guarded until such a time as we have assurances that will render it outlawed and harmless.

And after all this can we really say to ourselves that the war has ended?

MAKE UP, YOUNG ARABS

("Al-Izlah" (N.Y. 3 times weekly) - Nov. 20, 1945)

Under this title Al-Izlah publishes an editorial from the well-known Arabic paper Al-Jumhour of Beirut, the capital of Lebanon, which was written about the granting of oil refinery in Lebanon to certain big oil companies.

The Lebanese paper says:

Beware, you Arabs. Your oil ... and your oil... is the cause of great competition and maneuvering between British and American imperialism. Both want to eat it up - your oil.....

We have previously said that our political leaders in this country do not see further than their noses and this is the truth because their noses are feudal noses. Otherwise they would have noticed what foreign imperialism is preparing to take in our countries.- the Near and Middle East - under the guise of blessing our independence and encouraging the independence of the Arab lands.

This is a basic truth, and we want the Arabs to understand it well. It is important for all of us to know that we cannot be politically independent unless we are economically independent, and for as long as foreign imperialism has been and is dictating our national economy, all these bright shows of our independence are fake and tricks, for they will act as pressures on our minds and fortunes. Economic independence is the only real, genuine independence.

We have to remind the Arabs that friendship of foreign powers means interests in our lands. And to the extent that this interest is big or small so we will see the measure of their friendship, big or small. From these interests is born this excessive love they show us from time to time. So beware you Arabs.... oil....oi....!

WHAT WAS SAID BY THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF LEBANON

Excerpts from the speech (by our special correspondent)

("As-Sayeh" (N.Y. Semi-Weekly) - Nov. 19, 1945

Bechara Al-Khourri, the first president of Lebanon, on his first tour to Northern Lebanon gave a speech in which he defined the policy of His Government. Here we are reprinting the most important excerpts of it in regard to problems past and present:

No concession and no prestige- We followed this policy toward the East and the West. With the West our aim is real independence. No treaty, no tie-up, no concessions and no privilege status or prestige, but mutual friendship on the basis of equality, because countries are not judged by the bigness or smallness of their territory but by their progress and state of civilization; and I consider Lebanon as progressive and civilized as the biggest country in the world.

Zionism is dictatorship with selfishness - Judaism is a religion that we respect and revere, Zionism is a concept of selfish imposition on others. If the Jews represented a majority in Palestine by virtue of their having been born in Palestine, then Palestine would be rightfully theirs the way they want it to be. But to be a majority through immigration to Palestine, this is something that neither justice, nor humanity, nor religion can accept.

CONFIDENTIAL

Paris
November 25, 1945

Dear Eliahu:

I am happy in the thought that finally I shall be able to leave here and start in the work with you that is so close to my heart. I wish to point out to you, and I have also written to our chaverim on this matter, that it is necessary to send one or two of our people here without delay. The possibilities for fruitful activity are great and the dangers that are inherent in the various confusions here are many.

I have had some interesting conversations with R. Montagne and with Randot of the "Ecole de Hautes Etudes d'Administration Musulmane." Montagne lectured in the "Centre de Politique Etrangere" on "The Jews and Palestine" in which he was favorable to political Zionism with few reservations. France is not in favor of the spreading of Zionism in North Africa since it will result in difficulties for her. (Professor Massignon spoke to me in the same terms) with the Arabs. I replied that we will not cease our activities simply because other people are not pleased. He agreed and said that he understood. (I spoke on this with Aldouiet, Secretary of the French Administration in Algeria, and we agreed that activities shall continue but without loud demonstrations. I told him to contact Heller. This Aldouiet is an excellent fellow - was a secretary to Chatineau when in the French Legation in Beirut.) Montagne's second reservation: according to him we are supporting "Greater Syria" and the Arab Federation. He gathered as much from Kadini Cohn's book and from Magnes' utterances. We debated this at length and I believe I was able to change some of his views. Randot, a fine young man of 38, is engaged in similar activities in the same institution. Regards to you from both of them. We spoke at length about you.

I arranged for our London office to send appropriate documents. They have a school here for training political officers which is a copy of the British one in Jerusalem. Incidentally, in requesting material to be sent to such institutions as the Centre of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Ministry (the library of the Afro-Levant Section), the Alexander Institute, the French National Library and others, it is significant to remember that the material is being used. I have requested material of a serious political character and not propaganda. Lowdermilk has been translated into French. I have suggested the translation of numerous articles and other material.

Our problems are being dealt with in the Afro-Levant Section of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Chief, Bonneau is a pleasant fellow and is assisted by one Lucet. Contact with these men has been established and occasional visits are had especially with Lucet who is the veteran in the section (he worked in Turkey). I have suggested that they appoint a special official to deal with our problems. To this purpose a young man of 32, named Jordan, was appointed. He was in Palestine from 1940 - 1942, in Damascus in 1942. Participated with our Commandos in the Libyan campaign. He has been studying material such as Israel Cohen's book on Zionism, (incidentally this book is also being translated into French), Lowdermilk's book, political pamphlets published by our office in London, etc. Today, after a few months of study he is a man with whom one may discuss these problems intelligently. Although he is close-mouthed like all

CONFIDENTIAL

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officials of the Ministry (and much more so than his superiors), nevertheless he is sincere.

On the question of the Mufsi - they do not choose to discuss it and always turn to another subject. I explained the danger of possibility of "escape." They said that he is being guarded more carefully now (he used to freely commute to the city, etc.). I have reason to believe that there is an agreement between them and the British on this subject. Persons who deal with him participated in the Conference of the British representatives in the Middle East which occurred in London two or three weeks ago. The questions in the British Parliament on the subject dramatize its lack of clarity. The British say he is in the hands of the French, and the French say, in illogical fashion, that the British do not desire his detention. Recently a few newspapers have created a stir when they adopted the following tone: "Is it in the interests of France to engage in petty politics by protecting an enemy of the British who are becoming increasingly bitter on this subject." This attitude is also being adopted by some pre-French British newspapers such as the "Manchester Guardian," etc. They are likewise attacking France on the question of Rashid Ali, etc. (I sent you the articles as they appeared.) I am requesting London to present this subject through one of our friends among the M.P.'s, by putting this question in Parliament to the Foreign Secretary, but not to the Colonial Secretary.

I have been seeing many newspaper men and foreign correspondents, some of which whom we have good relations. I saw Francisco Morino and we talked for three-quarters of an hour on Palestine, Lebanon, etc. I also saw Emilio Bure, (owner of "L'Ordre"), King of Reuters, a "New York Times" man and others. I saw Paul Mover, brother of Edgar, who reprints very friendly material from the "New York Post" into the "Paris Post." Of scholastic circles, I have not with various professors, heads of various institutions, etc. In the Ministry of Information we have two good friends. I saw Jouve of A.F.P. and I also made contact with their expert on Eastern affairs, Forte who is an Egyptian Jew, a Communist, but a sympathizer of our movement. I also met with Laseuligne and at times with Goulet and Alessandro of the 2nd Bureau. He left his office a week ago and returned to the army. His cousin is the General Alessandro who is at present with the forces in Indo-China. The office in which he worked is now in an unfavorable position. It is being attacked by the press which is divulging many "back-room secrets" about the Bureau and its liquidation is being demanded. The leftist press is especially active in this. During the elections the Bureau concerned itself with various preparations. Since Alessandro left, I have not been anxious, nor have I seen, anyone else in the office.

Yours,

Z.A.

JA

LAW OFFICES
EZRA SHAPIRO
540 GUARDIAN BUILDING
CLEVELAND, OHIO
CHERRY 3737

November 26, 1945.

Registered Mail
Return Receipt Requested

Mr. Rudolf G. Sonneborn,
88 Lexington Avenue,
New York 16, New York.

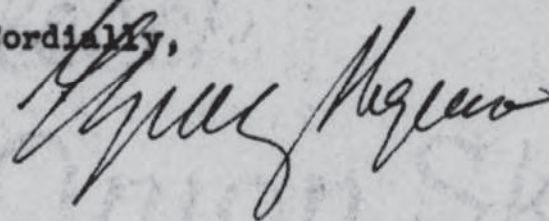
Dear Mr. Sonneborn:

I am enclosing herewith checks in the sum of \$2,225.00 in accordance with the list attached hereto, as additional contributions to The Jewish Agency for the known purposes. This, together with the \$11,420.00, which I sent you on November 5, makes a total of \$13,645.00. Incidentally, I understand that, at the Zionist Convention, Mr. Alfred H. Sachs, of Cleveland, Ohio, gave another \$500.00, which really bring four total to \$14,145.00.

I would appreciate your acknowledgment of these checks.

With kindest personal regards, I am,

Cordially,



EZS:A

Encs.

CC - Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
Mr. M. E. Glass

LAW OFFICES
EZRA SHAPIRO
540 GUARDIAN BUILDING
CLEVELAND, OHIO
CHERRY 3737

November 26, 1945

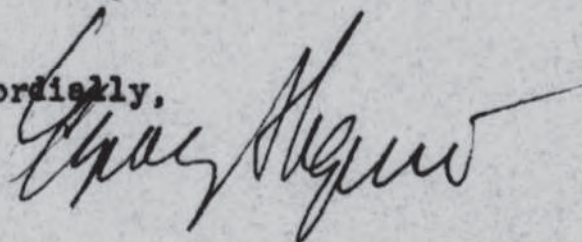
Mr. M. E. Glass,
% Texas Distributing Co.,
2501 West 3rd Street,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Mike:

I enclose herewith a copy of my letter to Mr. Sonneborn, which is self-explanatory. I think you are now in shape to write the simple "thank you" note about which we spoke. Suggs Garber suggested that you might also drop a note to William Friedman, of the American Savings Bank, who secured the pledges from Ritmore Sportswear (C. Stein), and Liberty Publishing Company (Zolton Gombos).

I think, on the whole, we did a pretty good job and I again want to express my appreciation for your fine cooperation.

Cordially,



EZS:A

Enc.

LIST B

Anchor Rubber Products, Inc.	1740 London Rd	\$ 400.00
Jacob Fisher	% Harry Fisher, 635 Empire Building	25.00
Suggs Garber	710 Hippodrome Building	200.00
Zolton Gombos	% Liberty Publishing Co., 1736 East 22nd Street	250.00
Irving Kane	3139 Kingsley Road	50.00
Marvin A. Kane	) ()	
A. J. Kane		
B. M. Kane		
Abraham Lev	3687 Bainbridge	50.00
J. Morgenstern	% Electroline Mfg. Co., 1975 E. 61st Street	500.00
Chas. Sands	47 The Arcade	250.00
Jacob Spielman	Mentor-on-the-Lake, Ohio	25.00
C. Stein	% Ritmor Sportswear Co., 2230 Superior Avenue	250.00
Mrs. Anne Horwitz	2956 East Overlook Road	25.00
		\$ 2,225.00

Dr. Silver

No. 66

CONFIDENTIAL

Members of the Executive, Jewish Agency for Palestine, December 1, 1945
Washington/London/Jerusalem

FROM: Eliahu Epstein

Attached is an address given by Abdul Rahman Azem Bey, Secretary of the
Arab League to the British ^{and} Parliament Labor Group on October 17, 1945.

This material is secret; proceedings of meetings of M.P.'s held in the
House are not supposed to be divulged.

b.2.



RE: rk

Attachment - 1

CC: Dr. Wise
Dr. Akzin for Messrs. Neuman and Shapiro
Messrs. Lourie and Weisgal

FROM "THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE"
CAIRO

December 4, 1945

FACTS CAN'T BE HIDDEN.

Although Mohamed Aly Alluba Pasha's defence of Haj Amin el Husseini, the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem (as published in our news columns, yesterday), may seem laudable from the Arab standpoint, it is definitely neither pleasing nor convincing to the vast majority of British ears. To suggest, as Alluba Pasha does, that the accusations levelled against the ex-Mufti are only a Zionist trick to besmirch the name of one of the most powerful Arabs, because they fear his return to Palestine, is a red herring that will deceive no one. The facts are too well known to require any elaboration by propaganda.

1920 / For more than a quarter of a century Haj Amin has worked against the British Government in Palestine. Twice we have overlooked his past and lived to regret it. On the outbreak of war in 1914 he entered a military training college in Constantinople and subsequently joined the Turkish Army. He was allowed to return to Jerusalem following the British occupation and held a series of minor posts. In 1930 he eluded a ten-year sentence for incitement to revolt by fleeing to Transjordan. The following year he was pardoned by the High Commissioner Lord (then Sir Herbert) Samuel, who a few weeks later also appointed him Grand Mufti and President of the Moslem Supreme Court in succession to his deceased brother although he had been returned only fourth in the election.

In 1937 he incited more riots and in the next year, after being deprived of his position, he fled to the Lebanon and later moved to Baghdad. When the war came he cooperated with Axis agents in instigating the Rashid Ali revolt; when that failed he escaped into Persia and from there to Italy and Germany. All the time he was broadcasting from Axis stations against the Allies. The Yugoslavs further allege that during the Axis occupation of their country, Haj Amin had several conferences with Bosnian Moslem leaders and as a result not only was an S.S. division organised but Allied airmen who had forced landed were handed over to the enemy.

Alluba Pasha now seeks to refute these Yugoslav allegations, and possibly in time we shall have official Axis documents to show which side is right. But whether he is eventually held to be a rebel and not a "war criminal", we believe there is sufficient in his past record - which no amount of whitewash can hide - to show his bitter hostility to Britain and the danger of a third pardon. While we have always sought the friendship and understanding of the Arab peoples, Haj Amin is a price that no self-respecting Briton can accept and any attempt to press his case would rapidly alienate British sympathy for the Arab cause.

JA

LAW OFFICES
EZRA SHAPIRO
540 GUARDIAN BUILDING
CLEVELAND, OHIO
CHERRY 3737

December 5, 1945.

Mr. Rudolf G. Sonneborn,
88 Lexington Avenue,
New York 16, New York.

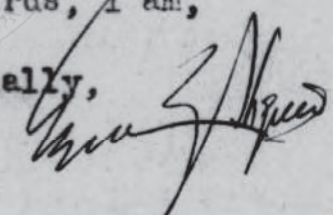
Dear Mr. Sonneborn:

I have received a check for \$100.00 from Mr. A. H. Weinstein, 1650 Lee Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio, which was made payable to Rudolph M. Rosenthal and endorsed by him, for account of The Jewish Agency. This appears to be the last check in our matter, bringing our Cleveland total up to the sum of \$14,245.00.

Please acknowledge receipt of this check at your convenience.

With kindest personal regards, I am,

Cordially,



EZS:A
Enc.

CC - Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
Mr. M. E. Glass

Mr. Glass - You might send your acknowledgment letter to Mr. Weinstein. Your girl also wanted the correct addresses of the following two persons:
Abraham Lev, ~~2390 East 134th Street~~ now living in Tucson, Arizona - pass him up.
Mrs. Anne Horwitz, 2378 Euclid Heights Blvd.

The Jewish Agency for Palestine

MEMORANDUM No. 67

CONFIDENTIAL

To: **Members of the Executive, Jewish Agency for Palestine December 7, 1945**
Washington/London/Jerusalem

FROM: **Eliahu Epstein**

Attached is a letter by Mr. T. Arasi, who for several months was engaged in establishing contacts with the members of French political organisations dealing with Middle Eastern and Arab questions.



Mark

Attachment - 1

CC: Dr. Wise

Dr. Aksin for Messrs. Neuman and Shapiro

Messrs. Lourie and Weisgal

Mr. Ettinghausen

JA

LAW OFFICES
EZRA SHAPIRO
540 GUARDIAN BUILDING
CLEVELAND, OHIO
CHERRY 3737

December 8, 1945.

Mr. Rudolf G. Sonneborn,
88 Lexington Avenue,
New York 16, New York.

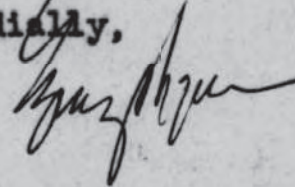
Dear Mr. Sonneborn:

In my letter to you of November 26 I referred to a contribution of Mr. Alfred H. Sachs, of Cleveland, Ohio, in the sum of \$500.00, in addition to an earlier contribution of \$500.00, thus making a total contribution of \$1,000.00 from him. I enclose herewith Mr. Sachs' check for this additional \$500.00, dated December 6, 1945, made payable to Jewish Agency for Palestine.

This still leaves the total of Cleveland contribution at the figure mentioned in my letter of December 5, to wit, the sum of \$14,245.00.

With kindest personal regards, I am,

Cordially,



EZS:A
Enc.

CC - ✓ Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
Mr. M. E. Glass

L. Silver

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 71

December 27, 1945

Members of the Executive, Jewish Agency for Palestine,
Washington/London/Jerusalem
Eliahu Epstein

Subject: Conversation with Mr. W.L. Jenkins of the State Department

When I called this morning to see Mr. Evan M. Wilson (see my report No. 70) he introduced me to Mr. William L. Jenkins who will be in charge of the Palestine desk during Mr. Wilson's absence with the Palestine Inquiry Commission. During the first part of the war Jenkins served with the War Production Board as Chief of its Foreign Section. He returned to the State Department on August 30, 1944. Before the war he had served as consul in Treibersend, Nairobi and Calcutta. He is very well acquainted with Russian and Moslem Affairs but has a limited knowledge of the Middle East.

In my conversation with Mr. Jenkins I asked him whether today's report by the "New York Times" correspondent in Jerusalem on the ban on Jewish immigration to Palestine was enacted with the knowledge of the American Government. Mr. Jenkins replied that he had seen the release in the "New York Times" this morning himself and that the State Department has already cabled to Mr. Pinkerton asking for information on the matter. That was an indication to me that whatever action has been taken by the British was taken without consulting with the Americans. I went on to say that such an act on behalf of the British Government is jeopardizing the prestige and effectiveness of the Commission. It would not be disclosing a secret for me to say that one of the things that encouraged us to cooperate with the Commission was the belief that its American members would have a fair chance to study the Palestine problem and, there being nothing for us to hide from them, we shall be only too glad to assist the Commission provided that its work is not prejudiced by a fait accompli and/or separate actions taken by the British Government during the Commission's investigation. Assuming Currihan's despatch is correct, (and I have no doubt that a responsible paper like the "New York Times" would not carry statements made by Jewish Agency spokesmen unless they were authentic), the bar on Jewish immigration even at the rate of 1500 a month constitutes an open and arbitrary breach of Mr. Bevin's declaration in the House of Commons on November 13. I have informed Mr. Jenkins that we on our side have cabled to our office in Jerusalem for confirmation and further details of Currihan's despatch.

I have the very definite impression that Mr. Jenkins was rather annoyed by the matter and when I was talking about the prestige of the Commission he interrupted me by saying: "Yes, the British must remember that only one-half of the Commission was appointed by Mr. Bevin; the other half was appointed by President Truman."

I also called Mr. Jenkins' attention to another violation of the Commission's

prerogatives by a statement issued by the British Embassy in Cairo and released for publication to the Arab press in Egypt and in Palestine. This statement was published in the "Falastin", the Jaffa Arab Daily, on December 12th. The gist of the statement was that one has to remember that the Arabs cannot bear the burden to the solution of the Jewish problem alone and that Palestine cannot be the only refuge for the suffering Jews of Europe. Mr. Jenkins noted this matter also and asked me whether I could supply him with the issue of the "Falastin" where the statement referred to was published. I have already taken action on the matter by asking Jerusalem to supply me with all the necessary data.

EE/rc

cc:Dr. Wise

Dr. Akzin for Dr. Silver and Messrs. Neumann and Shapiro

Mr. Lipsky

Mr. Lourie

Mr. Weisgal and Mr. Zaslani

Mr. Ettinghausen for Professor Brodetsky and Mr. B. Locker

Mr. Kaplan (New York)

Dr. Silver

No. 69

Members of the Executive, Jewish Agency for Palestine
Washington/London/Jerusalem
Eliahu Epstein

December 27, 1945

Attached is an editorial on The Mufti published in "The Egyptian Gazette" Cairo on December 4, 1945. "The Egyptian Gazette" is a semi-official organ of the British Embassy in Cairo.

Alluba Pasha is an Egyptian senator, is one of the leaders of the Liberal Party, is an out-spoken Pan-Islamist and is one of the old friends and supporters of The Mufti.



EE:rk
Attachment - 1

cc: Dr. Wise
Dr. Aksin for Dr. Silver and Messrs. Neuman and Shapiro
Mr. Lipsky
Mr. Lourie
Mr. Weisgal
Mr. Ettinghausen

PREDICTS ARMED RISING

Exiled Arab Leader warns of Result of Political Failures

by Clifton Daniel

N.Y. Times Dec. 31, 1945

Beirut, Lebanon, Dec. 30-

Jamal Husseini, exiled leader of the Palestine Arab party who has come here seeking readmittance to Jerusalem, predicted today that there would be an armed Arab uprising in Palestine if the Arabs lost hope of defeating Zionism by political tactics. In such case, he said, Palestinian Arabs would probably not receive formal assistance from Arab States but the borders of Palestine would be crowded with volunteers rallying to the anti-Zionist battle.

Mr. Husseini, who fled from Palestine in 1937 during the Arab disturbances, accused the British authorities of being more lenient with Jewish than with Arab terrorists. During the Arab disturbances, he said, some forty villages were wiped out and at least 2,000 Arabs were hanged, but no Jewish villages have been destroyed and no Jews have been executed.

After almost nine years' exile, Mr. Husseini said, a formal application will be made to allow him to return to Palestine and testify before the Anglo-American commission. He expressed faith in the strength of the Arabs' case and desired to testify, although he said that the commission had already been prejudiced by a pro-Zionist resolution in the American Congress.

The commission could not refuse to hear him, Mr. Husseini said, because of his long leadership among the Arabs. He was for twenty-five years chairman of the Arab executive and was chairman of the Arab delegation to the London round-table conference in 1933. He is still chairman of the Arab party and a member of the Arab Higher Committee recently formed through the efforts of the Arab League. He came here with his brother-in-law, Houssei Bey Elalami, also a member of the Committee.

After being a refugee in Beirut, Baghdad and Teheran, Mr. Husseini surrendered to the British in Iran in 1941 and was sent to southern Rhodesia. He and his brother recently obtained their release on a writ of habeas corpus and were flown to Cairo by the British. He is a cousin of the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, whose return from Paris, he said, is unanimously desired by the Arabs.

December 31, 1943

Editor
"The New York Times"
Times Building
New York, New York

RE CEASING NO.

Sir:-

On December 31st your paper published a conversation that took place in Beirut between Mr. Clifton Daniel and Mr. Jamal Husseini, exiled leader of the Palestine Arab Party. Your correspondent refers to Mr. Husseini as a refugee in Beirut, Baghdad and Teheran who "surrendered to the British in Iran in 1941 and was sent to Southern Rhodesia". He does not mention, however, the reasons for Mr. Husseini's frequent changes of residence and his later detention by the British. In moving from Jerusalem to Beirut and later to Baghdad and Teheran, Mr. Jamal Husseini accompanied his cousin Haj Amin al-Husseini, the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, until that day in Teheran when the ex-Mufti succeeded, through the help of the Japanese Embassy, in escaping to Italy and later to Germany. Mr. Jamal Husseini, being less fortunate, was apprehended by the British upon the latter's entrance into the Iranian capital.

At the time war was declared the Arabs of Palestine, under the leadership of both the ex-Mufti and Mr. Jamal Husseini, had been engaged for four years in disturbances against the Government and the Yishuv in Palestine. It is true that a number of Arab victims of the disturbances cooperated with the British Army in suppressing the anti-British and anti-Jewish disturbances, especially after they had developed into internal terrorism from which the Arabs themselves suffered, (one wonders if they are included among the 2000 Arab victims of the disturbances to which Mr. Jamal Husseini referred in his conversation with your correspondent?). The majority of the Arab population was violently anti-British having been poisoned by the systematic agitation of these same leaders over a period of many years. In addition most of the Arabs displayed considerable sympathy for the Axis powers, especially Germany. Political contacts with the Fascist countries had already been established by Palestinian Arab politicians in the early thirties. These contacts were further strengthened and led to tangible results when the Palestine Arabs received help from the Italians and Germans against the British in the form of arms, guidance and especially money (the Germans living in Palestine played an important role in this connection).

The group of Arab leaders headed by the ex-Mufti and Mr. Jamal Husseini distinguished itself in particular by reason of its connections with the Axis. Accidentally, Mr. Jamal Husseini avoided mentioning to your correspondent that after the Round Table Conference in London in 1937 (erroneously printed 1933), he, the Chairman of the Arab Party and of the Arab Delegation to the Conference, returned to Palestine from London via Berlin.

When the two cousins fled from Palestine in October 1937, they went to the Lebanon and thence to Syria where they established the "Headquarters of the Arab Revolt" from which they continued to direct terroristic activities in Palestine. At that time they also intensified their connections with the Axis. Two months after the outbreak of the war the Husseinis and their "Headquarters" moved to Baghdad where their Nazi activities reached a climax. Anti-British circles in Iraq, including

the Government (which was then headed by the "pro-British" Nuri Pasha Sa'id) welcomed the ex-Mufti, Mr. Jamal Husseini and their entourage and treated them with every mark of respect. With the help of the other Arab countries, and with financial assistance provided by the Axis, they ministered to their wants and enabled them to maintain their political apparatus. The ex-Mufti and Mr. Jamal Husseini also exercised a great deal of influence in the internal affairs of Iraq. They were the wire-pullers who secured the rise to power of Rashid 'Ali al-Kilani in March 1940. Although a number of attempts were still being made by several British agents to negotiate with their enemy and to get them to "reform", their anti-British policy grew still more marked. During Rashid 'Ali al-Kilani's revolt in April 1941, which was designed to administer the knock-out blow to Britain's position in the Middle East and which came at a time when the British were expected to fall and the Germans to invade Syria and Iraq at any moment, the ex-Mufti and Mr. Jamal Husseini played a very active and important role. Throughout that period they were assisted by a group of other Palestinian Arab politicians, one of whom was Mr. Musa al-'Alami, also mentioned in your correspondent's report (for the last two years the accepted representative of the Palestine Arabs by the British and by the Arab League and the Head of the Arab Office in Jerusalem, which has branches in London and Washington).

After Rashid 'Ali's abortive uprising, the ex-Mufti and Mr. Jamal Husseini escaped to Teheran. As already mentioned, Mr. Jamal Husseini "surrendered" himself there to the British while the ex-Mufti escaped to Germany where he became a tool of the Nazis. Since then, and up to the collapse of Germany, he made regular broadcasts of an inflammatory nature shortwaved from the radio station at Bari and later from Berlin. On every Moslem festival or anniversary, his voice was heard pouring out invective against the Allies and Jews and swearing allegiance to "our great, noble, loyal and helpful ally, Germany". In his broadcasts he gave instructions to his Arab adherents and, promising to return to Palestine shortly at the head of the Arab-German Army, he enjoined them to be prepared to rebel whenever he should give the sign.

After and beyond his broadcasts, the ex-Mufti served the Germans well in other fields of activity. He helped to establish and train the "Arab Parachute Brigade", the purpose of which was to invade the Arab countries in advance of the German Armies and to get them to rise up against the Allies. He also helped in the formation of a force consisting of Arabs and Moslems living in the German area of occupation. Considerable publicity was given to the establishment of the Nazi Arab fighting force, especially as a counterblast to the Jewish Brigade. On a number of occasions, too, the ex-Mufti was sent to establish contact with Arab prisoners of war and to induce them to join the German Army. Many of them went over to the other side, displaying considerable willingness and enthusiasm. In addition he was sent on propaganda tours to Libya (when it was generally thought that the Axis might win in North Africa), Yugoslavia, and elsewhere. The ex-Mufti's photograph frequently appeared in connection with his activities in the German illustrated papers, copies of which were disseminated in the Arab countries, one of them showing him with the Führer himself.

If, however, the propaganda of the ex-Mufti, Mr. Jamal Husseini and their supporters did not produce the results the Germans expected in Palestine and elsewhere in the Arab countries, it was due not to Palestine White Paper, which kept the Arab World quiet, (as many Arabs and some of their British friends are trying to indicate), but rather to Wavell's successful defense of Egypt, the liquidation of the Iraqi revolt, the advance into Syria, the powerful action taken in Iran,

Montgomery's victories in Libya and Eisenhower's final crushing of the Axis in North Africa. Arab revolt against the Allies was rife everywhere in spite of the fact that the gates of Palestine were closed to Jewish immigration and that Arab leaders were everywhere told by British agents that the Jewish National Home was a thing of the past. These assurances so far from arousing Arab loyalties only made things worse at that time, for the Arabs, in their primitive realism, maintain that only those who are weak abandon their friends.

The technique of treachery and blackmail to which these tactics inevitably give rise will amaze the world when the history of the Anglo-Arab relations during and since the war is made public. However, Mr. Jamal Husseini is already trying to revive some of this technique of predicting "an armed Arab uprising in Palestine if the Arabs lose hope of defeating Zionism by political tactics."

The British Government has now released Mr. Jamal Husseini from his detention in Southern Rhodesia (instead of putting him in the dock with his friends at Ruessenberg) and there is suspicion in some quarters that the British may further acquiesce to the "unanimous desire of the Arabs for the return of the ex-Mufti to Jerusalem". One wonders if by such actions the British Government will gain much prestige in the eyes of the Arab masses to whom the crude and brutal slogans of Nazi philosophy proved, so recently, of infinitely greater appeal than the British policy of appeasement, which they interpreted as indicating the political degeneracy of the once powerful British Raj.

Now Mr. Husseini expresses his desire to testify before the Anglo-American Commission of Inquiry on Palestine. Were his evidence to be admitted, this would be a reinstatement not only of himself and his cousin, the ex-Mufti, but would represent as well the rehabilitation of the whole policy of Arab collaboration with the Axis, with all its future dangers and implications.

In any event the Yishuv in Palestine will find ways of defending itself in case that "the borders of Palestine would be crowded with volunteers rallying to the anti-Zionist battle" of Mr. Jamal Husseini and his followers in Palestine.

Cordially yours,

Eliahu Epstein
Washington Office
Jewish Agency for Palestine

COPY

4th January 1946

Pol/1/46

The Chairman
General Assembly
United Nations Organization

Sir,

On behalf of the Jewish Agency for Palestine I have the honour to draw the attention of the United Nations Organisation to the action recently taken by five member States of the U.N.O., viz: Egypt, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Syria, and the Lebanon, in proclaiming an economic boycott against the Jews of Palestine.

2. The aforementioned States, at their joint meeting in Cairo held at the beginning of December 1945, decided to institute a boycott against the products of Jewish industries in Palestine and to take steps for its effective enforcement through the machinery of their respective Governments. According to the official communique of the Conference which was issued to the press on December 3rd, "it was decided that the entry into Arab countries of Jewish products and the manufactured goods produced by Jews in Palestine is undesirable; and that, accordingly, "each State is to adopt the appropriate measures before January 1st, 1946, such as the withholding of import licenses, with a view to preventing the importation of Jewish goods and products." For the effective prosecution of the boycott policy it was decided to establish a joint permanent committee. In addition, each State undertook to set up within the framework of its own Government a special commission for the same purpose. As a result of the work of these commissions, administrative measures have been adopted by the Governments concerned to give effect to the joint decision.

3. Thus an edict issued by the King of Saudi Arabia towards the end of December 1945 (reported in the Palestinian Arab press on December 31st) provides for the complete prohibition of the importation of, and the trade in, Palestinian Jewish goods, it being made clear that this definition applies not merely to goods manufactured by Palestinian Jews but also to goods originally imported through their instrumentality from other countries. In Egypt, a special decree was promulgated by the Minister of Finance on December 31, 1945, prohibiting the importation of goods produced in Palestine save by special permission in each case, the obvious intention being to withhold such permission wherever goods of Jewish origin are concerned. In Damascus the following decisions were reported on December 25, 1945, to have been adopted by the Syrian Government: (1) the importation of goods manufactured by Jews in Palestine or supplied by Jewish intermediaries to be prohibited; (2) whoever enters into trade relations with Palestinian Jews or engages in the importation of their goods into Syria to be guilty of a criminal offense and prosecuted under the Defense of Independence Act. Similar decisions are reported to have been adopted by the Government of the Lebanon. According to a press message from Baghdad on January 4, 1946, the Iraqi Government likewise

decided to prohibit the importation of Palestinian goods of Jewish origin and also to restrict the export of Iraqi goods to Palestine.

4. The Jewish Agency for Palestine begs to submit that this decision to wage an economic war against a section of the population of a neighbouring country, first taken jointly by the Governments of the Arab States in council assembled and subsequently acted upon by each Government within its own territory, is inconsistent with the purpose and the whole spirit of the United Nations Organisation. The maintenance of international peace and harmony and the protection of the freedom of all peace-loving peoples to engage in all legitimate activities are of the very essence of the new world order. The course adopted by the five Arab States appears in particular to be contrary to the following express provisions of the Charter of the United Nations:

- (a) The declaration in the Preamble that the peoples of the United Nations are determined "to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights...in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small;" "to practise tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours"; and "to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples".
- (b) The provisions of Article 1(2) according to which one of the purposes of the U.N.O. is "to develop friendly relations among nations" and of Article 1(3) which provides that one of the purposes of the U.N.O. shall be "to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion".
- (c) The provision of Article 56 whereby "all members pledge themselves to take joint and separate action in cooperation with the Organization for the achievement of the purposes set forth in Article 55"; the purposes set forth in Article 55 being "the creation of conditions of stability and well-being which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations" and the promotion of "universal respect for, and observation of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion".

5. The Jewish Agency for Palestine begs further to point out that though the above five States were among the very last to declare war and, on the strength of such declaration, were admitted to the United Nations without having taken any active part in the actual struggle, they have been the first to offend against the Charter of the U.N.O. by officially resorting to action designed to cause racial incitement and economic discrimination, thus adopting one of the characteristic policies pursued by the Nazi and Fascist regimes, which were crushed by the victory of the United Nations. This incitement and discrimination is directed against the Jewish people which was the principal victim of these policies and which, in Palestine and elsewhere, co-operated most actively in the war effort, both in the military and in the economic spheres.

6. The Jewish Agency begs to lodge an emphatic protest against the action taken by these five member States of the United Nations Organisation and to request that the inconsistency of this racial boycott policy with the obligations assumed by member States of the U.N.O. may be impressed upon the five States concerned and that they be required to desist from the course upon which they have embarked. In this connection attention is drawn to the obligations imposed upon members of the U.N.O. by Article 2(2) of the Charter which requires members to "fulfil in good faith the obligations assumed by them in accordance with the present Charter". Reference is also made to Article 4 which restricts membership to States which accept and "are able and willing" to carry out the obligations imposed by the Charter.

7. It is respectfully requested that this communication may be brought to the notice of all member States of the U.N.O.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

M. Shertok
EXECUTIVE OF THE JEWISH AGENCY



Dr. Silver

MEMORANDUM NO. 1

Members of the Executive, Jewish Agency for Palestine January 4, 1946
Washington/London/Jerusalem
Elisha Epstein

Attached is a copy of a dispatch by Clifton Daniel, which was carried by the "New York Times" on December 31, 1945. It is the report of a conversation between Jamal Hussein and Daniel.

Also attached is a letter which I prepared in reply to this news item and which I have already sent to the editor of the "New York Times."



RE:rk
Attachments - 2

cc: Dr. Wise
✓ Dr. Aksin for Dr. Silver and Messrs. Neumann and Shapiro
Mr. Lipsky
Mr. Lourie
Messrs. Weisgal and Zaslani
The Executive of The Jewish Agency for Palestine in London
Mr. Kaplan
Palestine

CABLE ADDRESS
JEWAGENCY

הסוכנות היהודית לארץ ישראל

The Jewish Agency for Palestine

2210 Massachusetts Ave., N. W.
WASHINGTON 8, D. C.
ADAMS 5411

January 7, 1946

Miss Bessie Kline
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

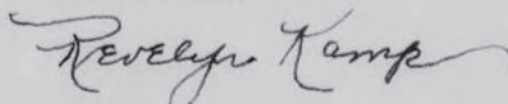
Dear Miss Kline:

Mr. Epstein was glad to have your
letter of December 21.

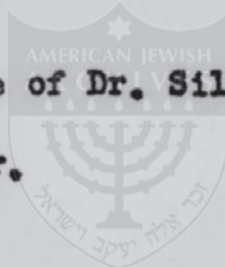
We have taken note of Dr. Silver's
private telephone number.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Revelyn Kamp
Secretary to
Mr. Epstein



CABLE ADDRESS
JEWAGENCY

המוכנות היהודית לארץ ישראל

The Jewish Agency for Palestine

2210 Massachusetts Ave., N. W.
WASHINGTON 8, D. C.
ADAMS 5411

January 7, 1946

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

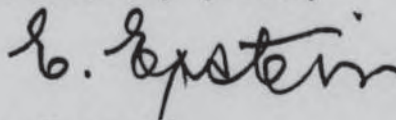
It was very kind of you to write your letter of December 21.

In regard to your letter of December 19, all the necessary steps will be taken to collect from the Air Transport Command the difference in accordance with your return ticket.

When you receive the receipt from Mr. Eisenberg of our office in Jerusalem, kindly forward it to me and I shall take care of the matter of your refund.

With kind personal regards,

Very sincerely yours,



Eliahu Epstein

EE:rk

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DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	ORDINARY
DAY LETTER	URGENT RATE
SERIAL	DEFERRED
OVERNIGHT TELEGRAM	NIGHT LETTER
SPECIAL SERVICE	SHIP RADIOGRAM

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WESTERN UNION

1206-

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CHECK
ACCOUNTING INFORMATION
TIME FILED

Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

CABLE

Cleveland, Ohio
January 15, 1946

Central Committee of Liberated Jews In US
Occupation Zone 3 Sieberstrasse
Munich, Germany

AM WITH YOU IN SPIRIT. COURAGE. THE REDEEMED SHALL RETURN AND COME
WITH SONG TO ZION.

Abba Hillel Silver

~~Sent~~ ~~EXR. P~~
GR

WANT A REPLY?

"Answer by WESTERN UNION"
or similar phrases may be
Included without charge.



phoned this way

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WESTERN UNION

CABLEGRAM

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

LC	Deferred Cablegram
NLT	Cable Night Letter
	Ship Radiogram

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VIA W. U. CABLES

= PSD259 MUNICH 4 3 9

VLT RABBI HILLEL SILVER CLEVELAND OHIO =

WE CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO 3RD CONFERENCE OF SHARIT HA
PLATAH IN US OCCUPATION ZONE GERMANY TO BE OPENED JANUARY 20
1946 2PM IN MUNICH RATHAUS =

CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF LIBERATED JEWS IN US

OCCUPATION ZONE 3 SIEBERSTRASSE MUNICH .

Emanuel Neuman 521 Fifth Ave. New York

Charge to the account of _____

\$ _____

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
ORDINARY	
URGENT RATE	
DEFERRED	
NIGHT LETTER	
SHIP RADIOGRAM	

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise the cablegram will be transmitted at full rates.

WESTERN UNION CABLEGRAM

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

CHECK
ACCOUNTING INFORMATION
TIME FILED

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

January 16, 1946

19

TO OBTAIN OUR FAST AND ACCURATE SERVICE
PLEASE INSERT "Via W.U. Cables" BELOW.

C O P Y

Central Committee of Liberated Jews
In U.S. Occupation Zone 3 - Sieberstrasse
Munich, Germany



Via _____

AM WITH YOU IN SPIRIT STOP COURAGE STOP THE REDEEMED SHALL YET RETURN AND COME
WITH SONG TO ZION

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

Dr. Silver

JAN 28 1946

AHS

EST

HCS

HAM

WIL

AKI

LK

Copy for research?

Members of the Executive Jewish Agency for Palestine
Washington/London/Jerusalem
Elisha Epstein

No. 3.

January 24, 1946.

Attached are transcribed broadcasts of the "Kol Israel" clandestine station
somewhere in Palestine as published in the Daily Reports of the Foreign
Radio Broadcasts issued by the Intelligence Service of the Military Intelligence
Division of the War Department.



EX/EC

cc: Dr. Wise
Dr. Aknin for Dr. Silver and Messrs. Neumann and Shapiro
Mr. Lipsky
Mr. Lourie
Messrs. Weisgal and Zaclani
The Executive of The Jewish Agency for Palestine in London
Mr. Kaplan

"DAILY REPORT FOREIGN RADIO BROADCASTS"

EUROPEAN SECTION

No. 7 - 1946, January 10, 1946

"Sale of Wasteland to Jews Prohibited"

The clandestine "Voice of Israel" radio, in English to Palestine, broadcasts an item, of which the following are excerpts: "What reason is given for our exclusion from 95 percent of Palestinian lands? The Government declares: 'Forbidden areas are already overpopulated and the Arabs' livelihood would be endangered by the further sale (of land).' It is difficult to retain your calm when you look at the desert and are unblushingly told that it is 'overpopulated.'

"The entire Palestine Southern area, Negeb, is barren of population, except for some nomad Bedouins and a few outpost Jewish settlements established in defiance of the land laws. Yet we are told that the Arabs may be crowded out of this vast emptiness.

"The deserted Judea hills, the unpeopled Beitin swampland, and the uninhabited Jordan Valley are all banned as overpopulated...this Government 2 1/3 million Palestine acres are cultivated while 4 million acres are classified as uninhabitable. If they are uninhabitable, why bar their sale? Why not let us do the utmost to reclaim them?

"To create a de facto Palestine partition whereof the Jewish area is smaller than any partition proposed in the past by ill-advised commissions...Free Zion is a patch of ghetto around Tel Aviv and...arbitrarily chopped off by a sordid boundary. We do not believe that Britain's people or the world ever intended this; we do not believe they would countenance it, if they fully knew what has been done and is being done in their names." (Clandestine "Voice of Israel" Radio, in English to Palestine, Jan. 9, 1946, 7:00 a.m. HST)

No. 11 - 1946 - January 16, 1946

"Voice of Israel" Denounces Robbery

"The clandestine "Voice of Israel" radio, in Hebrew to Palestine, broadcasts an item, of which the following are excerpts: "The railway robbery north of Hadara was carried out almost certainly by one or both of the terroristic organizations. This robbery does not serve Jewry's struggle and does not strengthen our lines. It only helps to distort the true national character of our struggle. (Then follows a lengthily contracted talk on the fighting pride and spirit of the Oivat Haim people with the dejection of the Hadara people during yesterday's (Jan. 13) search.--Ed)

"The Hadara settlers were not animated either by a fighting spirit or national pride. Why? Not because of the politeness of the soldiers, and not because the people were allowed to do their shopping when accompanied by soldiers. The Hadara settlers were low-spirited because of the stain thrown on the struggle of Palestinian Jewry. The Hadara settlers were yesterday the victims of searches,

"not for sheltering illegal immigrants or protecting the defenders of immigrants, but because of the money robbery carried out near the settlement, because of an act none whatsoever connected with Yishuv's fight for its rights and future. The robbery does not strengthen our lines in the struggle. This action will give arguments to our enemies endeavoring to distort the aim of our struggle.

"Not the needs of the struggle required this action, but the needs of isolation, the needs of the existence of those who isolated themselves from the Jewish community in Palestine, who do not obey their community. It is these needs, which are not the needs of a fighting people, that are at the basis of such deeds -- deeds Yishuv is far from being proud of." (Clandestine "Voice of Israel" Radio, in Hebrew to Palestine, Jan. 14, 1948, 7:00 a.m. EST)"

No. 12-1948 - January 17, 1948

"Palestine Poses as Fact-Finding Body

"The clandestine radio 'Voice of Israel' broadcasts a talk, of which the following are excerpts: 'What is an Inquiry Commission? It is a group of citizens selected, supposedly for intelligence and fair-mindedness, to examine a subject and report to fellow citizens. We probably all have made up our minds about the Palestine problem. Probably most of the members of the Anglo-American Mission are pretending they have not. In fact, every question asked by the British Co-chairman, Singleton, on the very first day of the inquiry in Washington was so obviously biased that the American team requested a conference in camera. They supposedly said....The idea of this inquiry is to act....long as possible. If....anybody sees your anti-Zionist....right off, you have robbed the Commission of public confidence.

"So let us pretend, like the commissioners, that our minds are not already made up. Maybe we are all British soldiers finding ourselves here quite unexpectedly; let us be an inquiry commission and go up and down the land. We expected to find an overcrowded little country with Jews and Arabs fighting for....From all the outside talk of 'no room', we expected to find thousands of poor, dispossessed Arabs on the roads.

"Is Palestine populated with Arabs is a question that does not take a committee of Knights and Lords, of American college Presidents and judges, to find an answer. Any citizen or soldier can see by taking a bus ride that naturally it is pretty lonesome in the barren desert stretches. The hill country is also interesting. Thousands lived here centuries ago. As an inquiry commission you will naturally want to investigate...Arabs, supposedly displaced by Jews who bought their land.

"Take the Beishan and Hule regions....still find Arabs plowing their lands next to the Jewish settlements. Can it be they never were plowing that land before, that is, the land which became usable for Arabs after the Jews began draining the area? What of the Eschklon coast land? Can it be that it was largely a swamp area, too? Can there have been a mistake about the Arabs being driven off the land by the Jews? Ask the Arabs around your camp, where they were born....Can it be that many of them came from Egypt, Syria, and ...in Palestine...high-sounding phrase 'absorptive economic capacity'. Jewish and American experts claim the country can absorb a hundred thousand...

No. 15-1946 - January 22, 1946

"Jerusalem Rioting Eritrean Reaction"

"The clandestine "Voice of Israel" radio, after attributing the Jan. 20 disturbances in Jerusalem to the Irgun Zvai Leumi, or the Stern Group, or both,--"although we have no exact information on what has happened"--states that the disturbances were a reaction to events in Eritrea, and continues:

"The Government must bear the direct responsibility for the deaths of two Jews in Eritrea as well as the indirect responsibility for the death of two British officers in Jerusalem. There will not be peace or order in this Palestine so long as the present policy continues. (Once) peace and prosperity are assured..the mandate will be observed whose purpose and sole legal basis is to create a Jewish homeland.

Continuance of Immigration

"Those who stepped off the Euzo Sereul cannot any longer be deducted from the schedule which the British Government used arbitrarily to establish each month. No more certificates are left. But Benin promised that immigration would continue even after the White Paper quota was exhausted -- and his promise is being kept for him. Immigration continues. Those coming on the Euzo Sereul and the Euzo Sereul are the forerunners of others who will stream to the shores of Palestine in order to enter the Jewish homeland as a right." (Clandestine "Voice of Israel" Radio in English to Palestine, Jan. 20, 1946, 7:00 a.m. EST)."

Dr. Silver

JAN 28 1946

No. 4

January 24, 1946

Members of the Executive Jewish Agency for Palestine
in Washington, D.C.
Eliahu Epstein

AKS
LK

HTS

HPM

WOK

AKI

LIC

Copy for Research

Attached is a copy of a memorandum sent by the Executive of the
Jewish Agency in Jerusalem to The Chairman of the General Assembly
of the United Nations Organisation.

WRHS
© 1946
© 1946



RE/RC
cc: Dr. Epstein for Dr. Silver and Messrs. Neumann and Shapiro
Dr. Wise
Mr. Lipaky
Messrs. Weisgal and Zaslani

PERSONAL

January 25, 1946 .

Mr. Moshe Shertok
The Jewish Agency for Palestine
P.O.B. 93
Jerusalem, Palestine

Dear Moshe:-

On the occasion of Dolik's returning to Palestine I want to convey to you some of my thoughts as a result of my experience first in San Francisco, later here in Washington and finally after the hearings of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry.

It is most improbable that Americans will be able to grasp in a short time that which has been neglected here for many years, namely proper understanding of international politics, including the problems of the Middle East. As far as policy is concerned, there is very little difference between the approach of the State Department and the Colonial and Foreign Office in their attitude toward the Arabs. Both are sponsoring and encouraging Arab independence although disagreeing frequently on the "agrarian problem" among themselves. Although the Americans are resisting, probably more psychologically than actually, British pressure to make them a party to their anti-Russian policies in the Middle East, the State Department is the last to resist such cooperation, especially in the Middle East. Whatever, therefore, the Committee's decisions may be, the State Department will support the British line not only because they favor the Arabs and have close connections with American vested interests in the Arab countries but also because such thinking is in keeping with the general tendency already mentioned.

Most of the American members of the Committee, especially Judge Hutchison,

represent the general American attitude toward our problem, mainly a humanitarian one. Except for Aydelotte and probably Phillips, all the others will respond, some more and some less, to our challenge on humanitarian grounds and will be ready, in my opinion, - not only McDonald and Cram but also Hutcheson - to go far in supporting our demands for large immigration and colonization. The political aspect of our problem, however, will be a very hard nut to crack, not only with the British, who will probably oppose us, but also with the Americans because of lack of knowledge and understanding.

I am sorry to have to report that my close observations of all that resulted from the Congress Resolution have proved to me without much doubt that there is little hope for us to gain the support of this country for Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth. The rigid ideas of democracy make the Americans very sensitive to the concepts of majority rights, and exposes our demands for Palestine as a Jewish State as a moral and political trespass.

Before we enter the coming struggle which will reach its climax when the Committee arrives in Palestine, we shall, in my opinion, have to decide for ourselves which is preferable: a large and perhaps even a very large immigration to Palestine with possibilities for unrestricted colonisation within a Palestine State - or partition. Whereas the first possibility may have the support of the Americans, who would probably prefer the "practical" solution of large immigration to committing themselves to the "small" political decision of a partitioned Palestine, the second choice - that a partition - will be, I guess, more difficult to effect now also from the British angle than it was in 1937.

The difficulties in establishing a Jewish State, even in part of Palestine, are more evident now not only because of a stronger and more effective Arab opposition than at that time, but also because of the British desire to have America in one way or another, share their responsibilities in Palestine. To keep America connected with Palestine is a major objective of Great Britain,

not only as regards Palestine, but to use her as an ally in a sphere of growing Russian danger. American participation would be readily achieved by means of a vague combined trusteeship (as a long term solution) leaving in the hands of the British ~~the~~^{the} strategic benefits of the Holy Land. It is only in the event that England might look on a Jewish State in a part of Palestine as a promising enterprise (like an "independent" Transjordan) that the plan of partition could gain, in my view, the support of the British Government.

The plan of an U.N.O. trusteeship as a transitional stage between the state of unlimited Jewish immigration to Palestine and the establishment of a Jewish majority could be the right kind of machinery for the ultimate transformation of Palestine into a Jewish Commonwealth. Such a solution might be welcomed by us providing it included a clear definition of a policy which assured broad executive rights to us, the Jewish Agency. A mere trusteeship to "facilitate large Jewish immigration and settlement" might easily be turned into another mandate with all its shortcomings and even bigger dangers. A political definition of the ultimate national character of the Palestine State as a Jewish State is therefore vital for an undivided or partitioned Palestine alike. Realistic considerations brought me to assume the practicability of the latter.

In the last analysis the validity of any political decision depends upon the successful transfer of a maximum number of Jews to Palestine within a minimum of time. It is not because of any change of spirit among the remnants of European Jewry - the number of whom willing to go to Palestine is, according to the conservative estimate of Joseph Schwartz, 600,000 while still larger according to some of our estimates, - but rather because of the unstable political condition which obtains throughout Central and Eastern Europe, that it is difficult to determine the Aliyah potential.

The existing tension in Russo-Anglo-American relations, which shows no

sign of improvement, may result sooner or later in a rigid policy on the part of Russia to prohibit all further emigration from countries within her political orbit in order to stabilize manpower in these areas and to be able to draw on it against any eventuality. Consequently, time is of the essence in effecting the transfer of Europe's Jewish masses to Palestine. Such an undertaking demands of us powers which we can exercise only through an internationally defined policy of a Jewish State in creation. Furthermore, it would be easier to achieve a Jewish majority within the limited confines of a partitioned Palestine than in an undivided Palestine.

While basing our struggle for political, social and economic national existence on close cooperation with Great Britain and the U.S.A. (the first to recognize our historical national rights in Palestine and to assist the establishment of the Jewish National Home) still we should not forget that Russia, beside being a power in world affairs equalled only by the United States and Great Britain is geographically the closest situated to Palestine. Therefore to pursue a course of friendship with her should be one of the basic tenets of our policy. But as long as our international status remains, as now, undefined, it is impossible to assume relations of any sort with the U.S.S.R. as we are lacking the official and diplomatic apparatus of state.

At a meeting of the members of the Executive here a few days ago, I spoke on this subject advocating we support partition as the only possible alternative to a Palestinian-Arab State in Palestine. For I pointed out that although we might even constitute one day a numerical majority in this State, our majority would be jeopardized for all practical purposes by a possible union of the Arab countries which would claim the right to incorporate Palestine as long as it remains "Palestinian" and not Jewish. (Compare with the Lebanese situation). The existence of a Jewish State would not exclude ^{voluntary} however, its/participation in a regional organization of the neighboring

States established for the social, economic and political benefit of a part or of the entire Middle East.

A bi-national state as advocated by the "Hashomer Hatzair" and Dr. Magnes, is neither legally valid nor practically possible. To maintain such a state would require a permanent international trusteeship - or else it would soon develop into an Arab state, regardless of the number of Jewish citizens, for the reason which I have explained above.

Although for reasons of tactics, it would not be wise to start advocating now, in public our desire for partition, we must not, on the other hand postpone so long that we find ourselves in the situation of starting too late to do the necessary. It is especially true as far as this country is concerned, where serious work has to be done in advance in order to have our friends ready for the necessary action when the right moment comes. This is also true regarding most of the American and probably some of the British members of the Committee who may have a sincere desire not only to make a philanthropic gesture, but to come out with constructive political proposals when they are ready to write their report.

Peel's report makes an excellent background which will undoubtedly have at least a psychological effect on the members of the Committee before they sit down to outline their views. This factor must be borne in mind as a possible weapon for influencing at the proper moment public opinion in Great Britain and in the United States and, before anything or anybody else, the members of the Committee.

I want to make clear at once that when talking about partition I mean a satisfactory partition which will have to include the Negev and the Galilee and to exclude only the Arab "triangle". Otherwise it would spell physical degeneration and political suicide, which none of us are ready for under any circumstances. Certainly, I shall not, on my own, do anything to propagate these ideas to anybody before I have your advice on this matter.

Yours,

Elihu Epstein

LABOR STANDARDS ASSOCIATION

805 BANKERS SECURITIES BLDG.

PHILADELPHIA 7, PA.

January 26, 1946

Dear Abba:

Many happy returns of the day! You will be getting lots of such messages, but none more affectionately or deeply felt. Of the countless people whom you've made glad you were born, I'm one of the gladdest.

Here's to a healthy, merry and successful year to be followed by a hundred others, even more satisfactory.

Shalom u'verocho!

Yours,

Billie

הסוכנות היהודית לארץ ישראל

The Jewish Agency for Palestine

MEMORANDUM

14טו/1,
28.1.46.

To:

איש

From:

3 סילבר ה'שנא,

חשני שגאלו יחצו עין בקריאה חרש' האיש אל
השד שמוק. העדעך רחלף.

שגאלו 22 וזכר'ה (אחיה)

א'הו פשק

Anglo American
Comm
of Enquiry
SA

February 4, 1946

Mr. Jacob Billikopf
Bankers Securities Bldg.
Philadelphia, Pa.

My dear Billie:

I wanted to write to you time and again, but somehow the mad rush of things has crowded out so many pleasant activities. I have been on the go for months now under a mounting pressure, and there does not seem to be any prospect of easing up in the near future.

On top of it all, I had a rather severe case of the flue since my return from Palestine.

Zionistically speaking, we are in a sort of lull at the moment before the storm which I am afraid will break as soon as the Anglo-American Committee of Enquiry makes its report. I urged, as you probably know, non-cooperation with this Committee, but I was over-ruled. I believe that many of those who advocated cooperation are already convinced that it was a mistake. But Zionist leadership has been privileged time and again to acquire only post-mortem wisdom.

The "Affaire Morgan" ended in another Jewish debacle and I suspect that certain Jewish leaders had a hand in greasing the return of Morgan. The story, when fully told, will not be a very creditable one.

Here at home we are all well now. Daniel has completed his sophomore year at Harvard. Raphael, his younger brother, will finish high school this June. Daniel has made up his mind to enter the Rabbinate, which gives both Virginia and me a deep sense of gratification.

Are you planning to come to Cleveland to attend the American Jewish Conference? I had hoped to attend the sessions of the Council of Welfare Federations in Detroit next week, but I am scheduled to speak at Harvard on March 10. I understand

Mr. Billikopf

-2-

February 4, 1946

that National Budgeting -- the clever device of Hollander, Blaustein, Schroder, etc. al. to get control of American Jewish life by controlling the purse-strings -- is doomed. Hollander and Blaustein's own town, Baltimore, instructed its ~~own~~ representatives to refrain from voting on the subject.

Virginia joins me in sending you all our fondest wishes.

As ever yours,

AHS:BK



CABLE ADDRESS
JEWAGENCY

SPECIAL DELIVERY

הסוכנות היהודית לארץ ישראל

The Jewish Agency for Palestine

2210 Massachusetts Ave., N. W.
WASHINGTON 8, D. C.
ADAMS 5411

February 6, 1946

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
19810 Shaker Blvd.
Shaker Hgts.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

This morning while reading the statement of the Emergency Council on the return of Jamal el-Husseini to Palestine, I found the following errors:

On Page 1, paragraph 3, the name Amin Tamini was mentioned. This should be "Amin Tamimi," who died several years ago during his detention in Rhodesia and therefore could not now be re-imported to Palestine. On Page 2, paragraph 4, instead of his "nephew, Jamal," it should be his cousin, Jamal; further, in the same paragraph, instead of was arrested by the British in Iraq, it should be Iran; instead of General Secretary of the Arab Higher Committee, it should be Member of the Arab Higher Committee (Secretary General was Fuad Saba); and on the same page, last paragraph, was exiled from Palestine in 1937, should be "fled" from Palestine in 1937.

I think it is my duty to call your attention to these errors which might leave an opening for our enemies to destroy some of our arguments on the grounds of our mis-information. There is no need for me to say how glad I shall be to assist you and your office whenever you may desire in all matters connected with the Arabs and the Middle East.

With kindest personal regards,

Very sincerely yours,

E. Epstein

Eliahu Epstein

EE:rk

February 8, 1946

Mr. Eliahu Epstein
The Jewish Agency for Palestine
2210 Massachusetts Ave., N.W.
Washington 8, D.C.

My dear Mr. Epstein:

Thank you so much for your kindness in writing to me and in calling my attention to the errors which crept into the release of the Emergency Council on Jamal Husseini. I have brought your letter to the attention of the staff, and I am sure that in the future they will check with you on releases involving Arabs or the Arab world.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

X number

May 2, 1946

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

We, the undersigned American members of the Executive of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, deem it our duty to address to you our profoundest satisfaction with the adoption by the Anglo-American Committee of your proposal with respect to the 100,000 displaced persons. We believe, as you do, that it is of the first importance to proceed without delay with the implementation of the program in relation to the actual transfer of the 100,000 to Palestine.

We desire to take this means, Mr. President, to pledge to you our fullest cooperation in this great task not only on behalf of the Jewish Agency for Palestine but also on behalf of the great number of American Zionists whom we have the honor to represent. Our organization here, on the Continent and in Palestine is at your disposal in the execution of any part of the program that may be assigned to us.

With deepest appreciation of the statesmanlike and humane spirit which prompted you to take the initiative in this historic move and with renewed assurance of our abiding gratitude, we have the honor to remain,

Respectfully yours,

Abba Hillel Silver

Stephen S. Wise

Nahum Goldmann

Louis Lipsky

Eliahu Epstein
Washington Representative

Meyer W. Weisgal, Secretary

Budget Briefs

COUNCIL OF JEWISH FEDERATIONS AND WELFARE FUNDS
165 WEST 46th STREET . . . NEW YORK 19, NEW YORK

MAY 8, 1946

NO. 3

ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY ON PALESTINE

SUMMARY OF REPORT

Introduction

The Anglo-American Committee's report on Palestine, issued April 30, 1946, will have a vital bearing on the future planning of Jewish programs for Europe and Palestine. This seems clearly established, even though it is still too early to assess the full implications. Much will depend on whether the major recommendations are implemented and on how quickly they may be put into effect.

All major Jewish organizations, regardless of their attitudes on Zionism, have welcomed and endorsed the recommendations for the immediate immigration of 100,000 Jews to Palestine and for other modifications in the British White Paper of 1939.

Unqualified support for the entire report came from the American Council for Judaism and the American Jewish Committee. Reservations were advanced by Zionist groups which found unacceptable the Committee's rejection of a Jewish State and other long-range aspects of the report.

Emphasis in further political activity will undoubtedly be placed on implementing the report's immediate recommendations. From statements by Jewish leaders, it appears that there may be greater Jewish unity on this issue than there has been in previous political action.

Efforts by the British government to circumvent the report by forcing disarmament of Palestinian Jews is being opposed by Jewish organizations.

Carrying out the report's recommendations will require expenditures for Palestinian development and for immigration which will far exceed previous outlays. Although governmental assistance may be forthcoming, it is safe to assume that voluntary philanthropy will be expected to

The Jewish Agency for Palestine

MEMORANDUM

May 21, 1946

To:

Dr. Nahum Goldmann
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

FROM:

Louis Lipsky

At a recent meeting of the Committee of Eight, over which I presided, it was decided to undertake action leading to the appointment of an eminent counsel to act for the Jewish Agency in the United States. It was further decided that a Committee of three should be appointed to act in this matter. I have accordingly appointed the following:-
Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and myself.

We should meet soon to decide what action should be taken. Before meeting, however, each of us should explore the possibilities so that we can come to the meeting with definite suggestions for action. I on my part will undertake certain inquiries and I hope that you too will act in this matter as quickly as possible.

הסוכנות היהודית לארץ ישראל

THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE.

TELEPHONE: MUSEUM 3815 (6 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.:

JL/LAG

30th May, 1946.

Dear Rabbi Silver,

Thank you for your letter of the 6th instant, regarding
Mr. Ben Arnold.

He has not yet got into touch with me, but when he
does, I shall be very happy to meet him and do all I can
for him.

With warmest greetings,

Yours very sincerely,

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple, East 105th Street at Ansel Road,
Cleveland, 6. Ohio. U.S.A.

JA
Truman

June 17, 1946

Dear Dr. Silver:

Here's a first rough draft of the statement we discussed. The figures and facts came out of my memory, so you may want to have them checked.

It might take the form of a letter to the President from a group of interested Senators and Congressmen with the idea that it be released publicly shortly after it is delivered or sent to the President. Or if you don't like it this way, it might be put out as a press release.

Perhaps a Concurrent Resolution backing it up should also be introduced.

Sincerely,

Oscar Cox

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.

Enclosure

DRAFT

June 17, 1946

Dear President Truman:

The case for the immediate admission into Palestine of 100,000 Jews who have been the victims of Nazi persecution is written in blood and suffering:

1. From 1933 on, the Jews of Europe were the first signal and final depths of Nazi persecution and barbarism.

2. In Hitler's concentration and extermination camps, 6,000,000 Jews were tortured, gassed or burned to death. The rest suffered horrors not much better than death.

3. The 1,500,000 Jews still left alive in Europe are largely destitute, unwanted or homeless with a well-grounded need and want to migrate to Palestine and to leave the scene of the horrors inflicted on them.

4. The Jews still left in Europe had hoped that when victory was achieved over the Nazis more than a year ago, they would then have a reasonable opportunity to go to Palestine soon.

5. On August 31, 1945, you wrote to Prime Minister Atlee asking that 100,000 of the displaced European Jews be allowed to migrate to Palestine.

6. The British Government turned down this request and suggested instead an investigation. The Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry, made up of distinguished British as well as American representatives, was appointed to make this investigation. The Committee was urged by both Governments to proceed with the utmost expedition.

7. The Anglo-American Committee started its work on January 4, 1946. It completed and published its report on April 30, 1946. It unanimously endorsed your proposal of August 31, 1945 that 100,000 European Jews be admitted to Palestine--and it recommended that this be done immediately.

8. The British Government then began to propose conditions of military and economic assistance which had been considered and previously rejected by its own representatives on the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry.

9. Now new committees have been set up, presumably to give technical advice, and new conditions and hurdles will doubtless be tried.

10. Nearly ten months have gone by since you proposed that 100,000 of the displaced and destitute European Jews be allowed to go to Palestine--months of continued suffering and months where this suffering has been offered only the cruelly disappointing cuts of investigations, committees and intolerable delays.

11. The gallant people of Britain who were quickened into effective action by the Nazis and fought them off virtually alone, cannot be behind such delaying and toying with the souls and hearts and bodies of thousands of persecuted and destitute human beings.

12. Neither they nor any of the peoples of the world can or should brook any further delay: Immediately 100,000 of the European Jews who are left should be allowed to go to Palestine. An end to slow death and suffering by committees, investigations and delays. Action--and swift action--is critically needed now.

13. We are sure that the peoples of the world look, in the interests of common humanity and justice, to the British Government to act and to execute at once the unanimous recommendation of its own appointees on the Anglo-American Committee that 100,000 European Jews be allowed immediately to migrate to Palestine.

14. We urgently request you, through direct communications with Prime Minister Atlee, to press again and without let-up, for the admission at once of 100,000 European Jews into Palestine. That would be only right and just.

15. The Government of Great Britain cannot be permitted to repudiate its commitments. To that end, it is high time that British leaders gave heed to the urgent promptings of the President of the Nation that helped to keep the British people from being exterminated.

Very truly yours,

The President

The White House

Washington, D. C.

C
O
P
Y

RCA
RADIOGRAM

June 19, 1946

NLT

JEVAGENCYEXEC
ZIONIBURO
LONDON (ENGLAND)

FOLLOWING MADISON SQUARE GARDEN DEMONSTRATION LAST WEEK
FURTHER MASS DEMONSTRATIONS OF PROTEST AND INDIGNATION
EXPECTABLE HERE STOP WE ASSUME THAT BRITISH JEWRY FROM
WHOM LITTLE HAS YET BEEN HEARD WILL ALSO IN CLEAREST
FASHION PUBLICLY MANIFEST ITS SOLIDARITY WITH JEWS EVERY-
WHERE IN PRESENT CRISIS

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

copies 6/27/46:MH

C
O
P
Y

RCA
RADIOGRAM

June 27, 1946

LONDON

NLT RABBI SILVER JEWAGENCY NEW YORK

YOURS 19/6 REFERRED MATTER TO ZIONIST FEDERATION AND BOARD

DEPUTIES STOP YOUR CABLE WILL BE CONSIDERED AGAIN ON RETURN

SOME MEMBERS EXECUTIVE NOW ABSENT FROM LONDON REGARDS

LINTON

copies 6/27/46:MH

[Undated]

This is to acknowledge your messages to which I have given earnest consideration. First, let me express my deep friendship and that of the American people for the Arab countries and peoples whose national aspirations have not only enjoyed the sympathy of freedom-loving nations but have achieved such generous realizations after the last war as the result of the support and sacrifices of the Allied Armies.

May I, however, be permitted to express surprise at some of the contentions advanced in your messages. The historic right of the Jews to return to Palestine and to reconstitute their national life in their ancestral homeland seems to me to be no longer a debatable question. That right was recognized by the official Arab Delegation to the Paris Peace Conference, headed by the late and noble King Feisal. It was written into international law by the solemn action of fifty-two nations including our own country. The settlement, since that time, of more than a half million Jews in Palestine does not bear out your fears for the future.

The Arabs of Palestine have not been forced out. On the contrary their numbers have greatly increased. The Jews have brought untold benefits to one of the backward areas of the earth, benefits which have been shared by the non-Jewish population.

Experts of our government have assured me that the continued development of Palestine would enable it to support a much larger population than at present, thus affording haven to those victims of oppression for whom you have so cordially expressed your sympathy.

The resolution I have introduced into the Senate of the United States simply reaffirms the traditional friendship of this country for the national aspirations of the Jewish people. This is surely in accord with the principles of that great document, the Atlantic Charter, to which you refer. Such an expression on our part is especially timely in view of the horrible events of which the Jewish people has been the victim. It is no more than a just recognition of the great service rendered the war effort of the United Nations by the Jewish community of Palestine. Surely your country which, we are happy, has at last joined the ranks of the United Nations, will not wish to deny the worth of this service. If the spirit of fair play so dear to us Americans prevails, there need be no enmity between the great Arab lands and the small country reserved by the nations of the world for the righting of an age-old historic injustice.

The Congress of the United States, which for more than a century has been able to reach its own conclusions without advice from officials of foreign nations is fully able to reach a wise conclusion in the matter which will be in accord with the wishes of the American people. I am confident that in due course the Congress will act favorably upon my resolution and that such action will be applauded by all freedom loving peoples.

Abrams, Albert	3583 Shannon	\$ 25.00
Ascherman, Charles	Hippodrome Building	200.00
Axelrod, Harry	3620 Woodland Avenue	50.00
Cahen, A.	2231 West 110 Street	200.00
Cohen, Armond, Rabbi	1383 East Blvd.	50.00
Cornsweet, Nate	909 N. B. C. Building	50.00
Epstein, Hyman	1853 South Compton	200.00
Feldman, Louis	6014 Euclid Avenue	200.00
Feldman, Max	6014 Euclid Avenue	200.00
Fishel, Clarence	3525 Bainbridge Road	50.00
Fisher, Harry J.	3329 Braemer Road	200.00
Friedman, Sam	2964 Courtland Blvd.	500.00
Fodor, Alex	2530 Superior Avenue	100.00
Friedman, Sol	1137 Union Commerce Building	100.00
Freedlander, S. O., Dr.	10515 Carnegie Avenue	200.00
Gans, M. E., Dr.	Keith Building	25.00
Garber, M., Dr.	10515 Carnegie Avenue	200.00
Glass, M. E.	2501 West 3rd Street	300.00
Gorodetzer & Stillman	3685 Ludgate Road	100.00
Goodman, Phil and Al	275 East 131 Street	200.00
Herman, Robert	526 Superior Avenue, % Titan Steel Co.	100.00
Jaffee, Isador	3721 Woodland Avenue	100.00
Joseph, Allan	2501 West 3rd Street	10.00
Kangesser, H. A.	2921 Prospect Avenue	500.00
Katz, E. L.	15725 Saranac, % Central Iron & Metal Co.	100.00
Katz, W. I.	15725 Saranac, % Central Iron & Metal Co.	100.00
Klein, E. M.	3145 Kensington Road	150.00
Klein, Bert L.	3001 Washington Blvd.	300.00
Klein, George J.	2165 Chatfield Road	150.00
Klareich, I. T.	2717 Lorain Avenue	200.00
Klivans, Allen	16901 Shaker Blvd.	100.00
Klopper, Nathan	1795 E. 65th Street	100.00
Kurts, I.	320 Prospect	300.00
Kyman, David	4000 Orange	100.00
Lange, Morris	5713 Euclid Avenue	50.00
Lester, Nathan	3143 Ludlow Road	200.00
Lipman, Dr. William	3564 Shannon	250.00
Lipson, Isaac	3103 East Derbyshire Road	10.00
Luntz, A. B.	2821 Drummond Road	500.00
Miller, James H.	1600 East 30th Street	100.00
Mintz, Alexander	Guardian Building	35.00
Myers, David	2300 West 3rd Street	200.00
Polk, Harry	3604 E. 153 St.	30.00
Polster, Norman H.	2669 Euclid Heights Blvd.	100.00
Ratner, Bros.	% Forest City Lumber Co., 17903 St. Clair	750.00
Rigelhaupt, Dr. Wm.	3812 Franklin Blvd.	100.00
Roseman, Zoltan	3523 E. 151 St.	100.00
Rosenthal, S.	3199 Falmouth Road	200.00
Sachs, Alfred	501 Guardian Building	500.00
Schlesinger, D.	2556 Ashhurst	50.00
Shapiro, Ezra	540 Guardian Building	200.00
Silver, A. H., Dr.	19810 Shaker Blvd.	500.00
Shaw, Milton	410 Superior Avenue	100.00
Sherby, Dan	2020 West 3rd Street	150.00
Simon, M. & D.	700 St. Clair, N.W.	300.00
Singer, Albert	6316 Kinsman Road	500.00
Stein, Frank	2712 Lancashire Road	100.00
Stone, Harry J.	7500 Stanton Avenue	250.00
Teplitz, Meyer	12699 Cedar Road	100.00
Weinraub, Harry	1267 West 6th Street	150.00
Weitz, Sidney N.	Leader Building	100.00
Zevin, B. D.	2231 West 110 Street	200.00

11,285.00

Check of Ezra Z. Shapiro, in exchange for cash contributions of:

Falkman, F. M., Dr.	14128 Superior Road	\$ 50.00
Sachs, Nina, Miss	14400 Shaker Blvd.	35.00
Schweid, Julius	2873 Ludlow Road	50.00

\$ 11,420.00

IMPORTANT:

If either husband or wife is 35 years old or under, Temple dues includes membership in the Mr. and Mrs. Club.

If you are eligible for this group and interested in its activities, please complete this card and return it with your application.

Husband's Name

Wife's Name

Address

Zone

Telephone

WRHS

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