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Jewish Agency, American section, 1947-1948.

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

January 17th, 1947

From: Isadore Hamlin, Press Officer - Washington Office

Despite the short notice because of Mr. Shertok's unexpected arrival here, the response in the turn-out of correspondents was extremely gratifying.

After the luncheon, Mr. Shertok discussed the present political situation and the state of affairs in Palestine. This material was to be considered as background material only and strictly off-the-record.

The policy of this office has been to invite correspondents for formal press conferences only on occasions when official news or statements on behalf of the Jewish Agency were necessary. Whenever it was felt that an off-the-record meeting with representatives of the press was preferable, we usually adopted the form of the informal luncheon which was applied on this occasion.

The following accredited correspondents and editors attended:

NY TIMES

NY HERALD TRIBUNE
PM

Christian Science Monitor
JTA
Jewish Morning Journal
and Davar
United Press
Associated Press
NY POST
Time & Life
Corps Diplomatique

Colliers
WASHINGTON POST

הסוכנות היהודית לארץ ישראל
THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE
16 EAST 66TH STREET, NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

RHINELANDER 4-4200

Cable Address JEVAGENCY

January 27, 1947

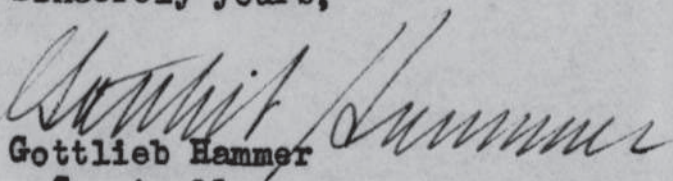
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Last week I suggested the desirability of presenting to you at an early opportunity a comprehensive picture of some of our financial and economic activities. You were kind enough to indicate your agreement to this suggestion.

I know that your time will probably be taken up with many matters when you come to New York on Wednesday, the 29th. There are, however, a number of matters regarding which I feel you should be informed as soon as possible. I would therefore be grateful if you would allocate some of your time on Wednesday for this purpose.

Sincerely yours,


Gottlieb Hammer
Comptroller

GH:mk

Washington
2210 Massachusetts Ave., N.W.
Washington 8, D. C.

London
77, Great Russell Street
London, W.C. 1

Paris
83, Avenue de la Grande Armée
Paris XVI

Jerusalem
Post Office Box 92
Jerusalem, Palestine

הסוכנות היהודית לארץ ישראל

The Jewish Agency for Palestine

MEMORANDUM

January 29/1947

TO: MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE OF THE AMERICAN BRANCH OF THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

FROM: Isadore Hamlin, Press Officer - Washington Office (LH)

Attached hereto you will find a page from the Congressional Record of January 13th, containing "Extension of Remarks" by Congressman Emanuel Celler of New York.

This inclusion consists of an article by Homer Bigart, Palestine correspondent of the New York Herald Tribune.

I am sure you will find it of great interest.

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The great Farben office building in Frank-
furt was confiscated and is now the head-
quarters of the United States Army of Oc-
cupation.

Uninjured residences were commandeered
for the use of our military and civil per-
sonnel.

The famous Kronberg Castle, the hiding
place for the crown jewels, is now being used
as an officers' club.

German citizens are homeless, hungry, and
ragged.

For the want of food they are not strong
enough to perform hard labor.

They have neither milk, butter, sugar, soap,
nor starch.

For 6 weeks I had to live on European food,
and as the result I lost 16 pounds.

There are no fat people today in either
Germany, England, or France.

Linen sent to the laundry looks worse when
returned than when sent out to be washed.

I was cautioned about the scarcity of soap
in Europe, so I took along what I considered
an ample supply.

Because of strikes my return was delayed.

My soap supply began to fade, and when I
reached our returning ship my last portion
had dwindled to about the size of a thin half
dollar.

There is practically no fuel in American-
occupied Germany.

The winters are long and cold.

I saw whole families gathering in their
winter supply of fuel.

Anything that will burn, including green
twigs and limbs of trees no larger than one's
finger, are collected in bundles and either
carried on tired backs, pushed in wheelbar-
rows, or hauled in clumsy carts to their
humble homes.

There is little transportation in Germany.

German men and women pulling and
pushing small carts and wagons clutter the
roads and highways as they wend their weary
ways to either the fields or back to their
dreary homes.

Such are Germans and the Germany of
today.

Germany lost the war and lost all.

Had we lost the war we likewise would have
lost all.

Yet I realize fully that many of our own
people have suffered greatly and have lost
heavily because of the conflict.

If there be such of you now listening to me
let me remind you that what you have left
is just that much saved.

If each of you could see what I saw in
seven countries of Europe you would, I think,
bow your heads and thank God that you live
in Oklahoma and that you are a citizen of
the United States of America.

Hawaii, the Forty-ninth State

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

OF

HON. LAWRENCE H. SMITH

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 1947

Mr. SMITH of Wisconsin. Mr. Speak-
er, under leave to extend my remarks,
I include an editorial from the Milwaukee
Journal, under date of December 21, 1946,
relative to the admission of Hawaii as the
forty-ninth State, as follows:

HAWAII, THE FORTY-NINTH STATE

The Eightieth Congress will again be con-
fronted by Hawaii's ardent request for inclu-
sion in the Union. The last Congress dallied
on this issue. There is no good reason why

the coming session should not grant the re-
quest promptly.

The people of Hawaii have long sought
statehood. In 1940, 67 percent of the voters
favored it. President Truman has given his
endorsement. A subcommittee of the last
House urged statehood unanimously.

Hawaii fulfills the traditional requisites
for statehood. In area, it exceeds any of these
States—Delaware, Connecticut, Rhode Island.
In population, it exceeds Nevada, or Wyo-
ming, or Delaware, or Vermont. It is wealth-
ier than many States, in 1945 its citizens
paid \$174,000,000 to the Federal Treasury—
more than was paid in any of 14 States.

Hawaii is modern. It maintains a high
standard in public works and government
services. Its standing in education, health,
and law enforcement is better than that of
some States. In recent years, it has passed
progressive labor legislation. Financially, its
government is in sound condition.

Hawaii wants statehood because its people
feel they have ended the period of pupillage.
They point out that they are now Americans
without representation and that they may
suffer discrimination as a result. Hawaii's
sons were drafted in the recent war, yet its
people had no voice on the draft law or the
declaration of war. Its people pay Federal
taxes but have no voice in levying or dis-
bursing them. Laws are constantly being
passed in Washington that vitally affect
Hawaiian industry and agriculture, the
Hawaiians have no vote on these laws.

The Hawaiians proved during the war that
they are as good and as patriotic Americans
as any of us on the mainland. They want
this recognized in fact. As their territory
possesses all the other qualifications, we owe
them this recognition.

Special Committee Issue

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

OF

HON. BURNET R. MAYBANK

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Monday, January 13, 1947

Mr. MAYBANK. Mr. President, I ask
unanimous consent to have printed in the
Appendix of the RECORD an editorial en-
titled "Special Committee Issue," pub-
lished in the Washington Evening Star
of January 13, 1947.

There being no objection, the editorial
was ordered to be printed in the RECORD,
as follows:

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ISSUE

Those who thought the Congressional Re-
organization Act meant the doom of special
investigating committees will be surprised
to learn that the question is still a very
live one. In fact, resolutions already have
been introduced in the Senate to authorize
two special inquiries—one of them an ex-
tension of the War Investigating Committee's
powers.

As the preliminary debate on the two reso-
lutions brought out last week, the intent of
the committee which recommended the re-
organization legislation was to do away with
the practice of appointing special commit-
tees independent of the standing committee
set-up. The Senate committee in its report
advocated giving "regular standing commit-
tees" supervision of all "special" inquiries
and recommended special committees be
abolished. The Senate approved this recom-
mendation, but when the bill came up in
the House the provision against special com-
mittees was eliminated. As finally adopted,
the act left the way open for any special

investigations which Congress might authorize.

While the suggestion was injected into the recent debate that political motives might animate opponents of a continuation of the deep-probing Senate war investigating group, there is considerable to be said on the side of those who object to a return to the special committee system of the past. One of the prime purposes of congressional reorganization was to so overhaul and simplify the committee structure as to eliminate the exasperating conflict and confusion resulting from overlapping or outright duplication of committee work.

It is conceivable that situations may arise in which a special committee, authorized to cut across committee lines, could cover ground ordinarily within the scope of several regular committees and thus do the job more efficiently and more thoroughly than any of the standing committees could do it. The majority of inquiries fall within the province of regular committees, however, and good business practice would require that they conduct them, through their own subcommittees. Unless some reasonable curb is placed on the practice of appointing special investigating groups, the good start made toward streamlining the committee organization of Congress will be completely nullified.

British Compel Jews To Run Gantlet

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

OF

HON. EMANUEL CELLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 1947

Mr. CELLER. Mr. Speaker, under leave to extend my remarks, I wish to insert in the RECORD the news story as told in the New York Herald Tribune of January 9, 1947:

BRITISH COMPEL TEL AVIV JEWS TO RUN GANTLET—SOLDIERS BEAT THEM, 29 ARE HURT; ANTI-SEMITISM AND HATRED OF BRITISH GROW

(By Homer Bigart)

TEL AVIV, PALESTINE, January 7.—Two obvious facts—a growing anti-Semitism among British troops and a rising anti-British feeling among all classes of Palestine Jews—dominate all other considerations in the Palestine crisis.

The anti-Semitism has been the inevitable product of terrorist acts, just as terrorism appears to be the inevitable recourse of a people who feel that all legal pressure for achieving security and freedom have failed.

The British troops now in Palestine are certainly no worse than American troops now in Germany. Both forces are composed largely of young recruits who, under strain, are liable to lose their heads. No one could deny that troops here have suffered nagging provocations. But the Saronia incident in Tel Aviv Thursday night was a particularly nasty display of anti-Semitism, and the tragic prospect of further excesses must receive urgent consideration in London.

Shortly after a terrorist attack on the district military headquarters in a citrus house in the heart of Tel Aviv, soldiers and police enter the Montefiore district, on the northeast of the city, rounded up the male population and marched them into Saronia police compound. Some 60 to 70 men were forced to run the gantlet between rows of soldiers and police, who struck them with rifle butts and batons. Twenty-nine were injured, 7 seriously enough to require hospitalization.

A brigade commander of the Sixth Airborne Division, whose troops were involved, told this correspondent tonight that a closed

inquiry would start Wednesday "as a result of allegations made by certain civilians regarding incidents at Saronia, the whole matter is sub judice, he said. "No officer or other rank is empowered to give any further information, by virtue of this fact."

The inquiry had been demanded by Mayor Israel Rokach. The mayor was ill Tuesday, but Town Clerk Yehudah Nedivi, who served 4 years as a captain in the British Army, said the city administration was convinced the allegations were correct.

I drove to the Montefiore district and talked with several men who had been beaten.

Abraham Klajman, owner of a textile mill, said that police entered the factory after 9 p. m. and ordered Klajman and 12 men of the night shift out into the yard. "I asked them whether I should halt the machines, and they replied, 'You'd better—you won't be back very soon.'"

"I told the girl employees they'd better stay inside the factory. We were lined up in the yard. Some of the workers started smoking, but the cigarettes were struck from their hands by the police.

"Suddenly a policeman fired in the air and I heard a command, 'Run.' We ran to the main road, where we mixed with a crowd of men whom the police and soldiers had removed from a bus. We stood there a few minutes, and then the command 'Run' came again. At Saronia, the main gate was open. Soldiers and police were lined up on both sides of a lane leading to the center of the compound—a distance of one-sixth of a mile. I heard the cries of men being beaten in the darkness ahead, and then I realized that the shots fired by the police had been a signal to the soldiers to prepare the gantlet.

"I was a prisoner of the Germans at Radom, back in Poland, and I have learned a few things. I kept in the center of the mass of running men and suffered fewer blows than those on the outside. I was clipped once on the head and twice on the arm, but did not fall. Some of the older men fell. I saw a man clubbed with the butt of a rifle as he lay on the ground.

"In the center of the compound we were ordered to sit in a circle on the ground. The soldiers continued to beat those they could reach at the edge of the perimeter. Some of the men became nauseated, others fainted. I heard one soldier cry, 'Give me a machine gun and I'll kill the whole bloody lot.'

"Then we were put into trucks and taken to the British counterintelligence at Jaffa. There was a stretcher case unconscious in my truck, and another man with a broken leg and one with a badly injured arm.

"At Jaffa they simply took our names and ordered us to go home. I overheard an officer saying, 'Who gave orders to arrest these people? Take them back.'"

Similar stories were obtained from Benny Brabda, who had fought with the Jewish Brigade in Belgium and Holland; Joram Daniell a textile worker, and Joseph Dula, a laborer whose right arm was still in a sling. Dula had fallen during the gantlet run and lost consciousness.

Military Contribution Made by Iowa During World War II

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

OF

HON. CHARLES B. HOEVEN

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 1947

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. Speaker, under leave to extend my remarks in the REC-

ORD, I include Gen. Charles H. of the State of Iowa and Tribune at Des Moines, 1946:

Obviously to tell tion made by the S War II cannot be available. Volume written on this sub touch on the high tribution made by

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PRESS RELEASE

הסוכנות היהודית לארץ ישראל
THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE
16 EAST 66TH STREET, NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

RHINELANDER 4-4200

Please Refer to M. r. I. L. Kenen

For.....February 26.....Release

The Jewish Agency for Palestine will shortly present its views to the Security Council on the request of the United Nations Commission on Palestine now before it. Pending that statement, the Jewish Agency feels called upon to make the following observations.

Within the last few days, reports have been sedulously circulated that new attempts to revise the United Nations decision on the partition of Palestine are to be made and that the Jewish Agency is prepared to agree to revision and to new concessions. These reports are entirely without foundation.

At the time the partition plan was discussed before the General Assembly of the United Nations last October, the Jewish Agency stated that the plan of partition which was proposed involved an enormous sacrifice on the part of the Jewish people which, in all justice, should not have been demanded of it. But in order to help solve the grave international problem, and as evidence of its willingness to join with the community of nations in an effort to bring peace to the troubled land, the Jewish Agency stated that it most reluctantly accepts that sacrifice. "Beyond it," it declared, "we cannot, we will not go."

This position remains unchanged. The Jewish people has accepted the decision of the United Nations. It means loyally to cooperate with it. It awaits a corresponding loyal and faithful implementation of that decision by the United Nations.

הסוכנות היהודית לארץ ישראל

טלפון 4671, ת. ד. 92

המחלקה

מספר

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ירושלים כ"ט אייר תש"ז
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לכבוד
חבר ד"ר א.ה. סילבר,
ניו-יורק.

ד"ר סילבר הנכבד,

הריני מתכבד בזאת להגיש
לו את ספרי החדש, ספר החסידות.
אשמח מאד אם יאשר קבלתו ויזכני
בחוות דעתו.

בכל הכבוד הראוי

יצחק ורפל

Y. V.

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| RECEIVED |
| MAY 28 1947 |
| AHS |
| ANSWERED |

Air Mail



Rabbi Dr. A.H. Silver,
The Jewish Agency for Palestine,
16 East, 66th Street,
New York 21, N.Y.

U.S.A.

BY AIR MAIL

הסוכנות היהודית לארץ-ישראל
ירושלים

THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE
JERUSALEM

CAUTION: CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

CAUTION: CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

STATEMENT OF DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER, CHAIRMAN
THE AMERICAN SECTION, JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE
BEFORE THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL

Mr. President and Members of the Security Council:

The Jewish Agency is grateful for the opportunity to make some additional observations on the subject which is now before the Security Council. We should like to give our reactions to the Resolutions which are before this Council bearing upon the reports which were submitted to it by the United Nations Palestine Commission, as well as to comment on certain statements which were made here in the course of the discussions.

In the first place, we should like to comment on the statement which was made by the honorable delegate from Egypt to the effect that "it must be admitted that so far the United Nations' efforts in the study of other solutions than Palestine have been less than casual. The General Assembly hardly gave any of those solutions a cursory look . . . The General Assembly did not, either in Committee or in Plenary Session, give any reasonable scope for discussion of any plan but partition."

It should be recalled that the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine submitted to the Assembly two solutions for the Palestine problem, a majority and a minority solution. The minority solution found no support. The Arab States put forward their own proposals. In order to consider all proposals, the Ad Hoc Committee on Palestine appointed two committees, the one to consider the majority report which proposed partition and the other to consider the proposals of the Arab States. Both committees worked for weeks and both submitted separate reports to the Ad Hoc Committee. The delegates of the several Arab States had the fullest opportunity, of which they fully availed themselves, to advocate the proposal which they favored. Many days were consumed in this discussion. When the vote was finally taken the report of the minority committee was decisively rejected.

We submit, therefore, that it is quite inaccurate to state that "the General Assembly did not either in Committee or in Plenary Session give any reasonable scope for discussion of any plan but partition."

The Ad Hoc Committee on Palestine appointed still a third committee -- a Conciliation Subcommittee composed of three members comprising the chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee, the Rapporteur of the Committee -- the representative of Iceland, and the vice-chairman of the Committee -- the representative of Siam. This Committee was given full powers to undertake efforts at conciliation between the Jews and the Arabs. Efforts were made by this Committee to find a formula other than those of the majority and minority proposals which would be

mutually acceptable. According to the testimony of the Chairman of this Committee, Mr. Evatt, the ground was explored from every possible point of view and "we reached the conclusion that right up to the present time no more could be done." Mr. Thor Thors of Iceland, member of this Committee, addressing the Assembly on November 29, just prior to the final vote, declared: "The Conciliation Subcommittee followed developments closely, both in subcommittee one and in subcommittee two. Unfortunately, the gulf between the two parties was too great then to be breached by conciliation. The Arabs did not seem to be willing to permit large-scale immigration of Jews and to grant independence to a Jewish State in Palestine. The Jews would not accept anything less than reasonably free immigration and the prospect of independence. Between these different contentions no conciliation could be found during the treatment of the problem by the United Nations. The Arab Higher Committee was approached by UNSCOP on more than one occasion and was invited to assist in the work of UNSCOP but it refused . . . Now at the eleventh hour, just when the vote is to take place there are criticisms of the work of the Conciliation Subcommittee and vague suggestions about a possibility of conciliation. Actually, the Conciliation Subcommittee tried everything possible, but in vain. Moreover, there has been up to the last few minutes no concrete or specific offer of conciliation or compromise."

In a similar vein the representative of the United States, Ambassador Herschel Johnson, speaking at that same session declared: "This Palestine problem has been of concern to the world now for the past thirty years. It has been the subject of innumerable inquiries and commissions and all conceivable types of solution have been proposed. As members know, the Peel Commission in 1937 recommended the partition of Palestine. However, subsequent events prevented definitive action at that time. Since the conclusion of World War II two renewed attempts have been made to solve the Palestine problem. The work of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry of 1946 was followed by conferences in London in which the so-called Grady-Morrison proposals were evolved. There were further conferences in London last winter. Finally, in May of 1947, an inquiry was undertaken under the auspices of the United Nations. During all of these studies the various solutions of the Palestine problem have been given careful consideration. I know from my study of the report of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine that it made every effort to arrive at a solution which would be acceptable to both the Jews and the Arabs --"

The charge, therefore, which was made here that "so far the United Nations' efforts in the study of other solutions than partition have been less than casual" is not borne out by the facts.

2. The failure to reach an agreed solution after thirty years of questing and searching for it, so eloquently attested by the events themselves and by the testimony of the distinguished representatives, both of Great Britain and of the United States, which were quoted by the spokesman of the Jewish Agency last week, leads us strongly to question the usefulness of that part of the proposal of the United States delegation which calls upon the Committee of the Security Council to be appointed "to consult with the Palestine Commission, the Mandatory Power and representatives of the principal communities of Palestine concerning the implementation of the General Assembly recommendation of 29, November, 1947."

This proposal, undoubtedly suggested by commendable motives, may, we fear, cause long and disastrous delays and the stultification of the activities of the United Nations Commission. The honorable delegate of the United Kingdom correctly pointed out the other day that "the untractable problems facing the Palestine Commission are becoming rapidly insoluble as delay is further protracted and as hope recedes that the Commission will be adequately equipped to take up the immense responsibilities imposed upon it." The United States proposal for new consultations introduces anew an element of uncertainty which invariably inhibits conclusive action. It will be seized upon by the opponents of the United Nations decision as another opportunity to re-open the whole question, to force through those solutions which were rejected by the United Nations or which failed of acceptance time and again on other occasions, or failing in all this, to attempt to entangle and prevent all action.

This grave international problem cannot be solved by indecision or postponement. It was indecision and lack of forthrightness on the part of the Mandatory of Palestine, "the irresistible operation of feeble councils," to use a phrase of Burke, which led to that grave deterioration in the country which finally forced the Mandatory to turn to the United Nations for a final solution of the problem. The United Nations accepted that solemn responsibility and proceeded, earnestly and deliberately, to investigate the problem de novo, to study its history and all of its present implications. It appointed a committee whose members were scrupulously selected for their impartiality and neutrality to make the investigation and to bring in recommendations. After prolonged and serious discussion of their recommendations the United Nations overwhelmingly accepted the plan to set up two independent states in Palestine, one Jewish and one Arab, within the framework of an economic union, and an international regime in Jerusalem. The nations who voted for this plan fully realized that what they were doing was not just endorsing some abstract idea, or making a recommendation which would then be left suspended in mid-air. They were deciding upon a course of action as well as upon a policy. They forthwith appointed a Commission of the United Nations and authorized it to implement their decision, according to a carefully worked out plan of action, and they

called upon the Security Council to take the necessary measures to assist it in carrying through the implementation.

The Commission of the U.N. has already done an enormous amount of effective work in connection with the execution of this plan. The preparatory steps have nearly all been taken. The Commission is now on the eve of taking over its responsibilities in Palestine, as the date of the termination of the Mandate on May 15 rapidly approaches. The British Colonial Secretary stated before this body last week that the Palestine Administration is taking all practical steps to terminate its control by May 15 and that the withdrawal of British forces and stores is already well under way. He further declared on March 2 that "the date of termination of our responsibility is irrevocably fixed."

To raise at this late hour the prospect of new negotiations and consultations between Arabs and Jews on the nature and character of the future government of Palestine is, in our judgment, to endanger the very object which the United Nations, by its action last November, sought to achieve. In that direction lies neither hope nor promise. That road leads to a quagmire of indecision and inaction. There is but a brief time left, and time is fast running out to chaos and anarchy.

3. We should like to comment also on the statement which was repeated here by the Egyptian delegate to the effect that the decision taken last November was "a mere recommendation to the Egyptian Government."

The action taken by the Assembly was action taken in response to the request of the Mandatory Power, the only state member of the United Nations having any authority to act in Palestine - a country placed under an international trust. The request was for the solution of the problem of the future government of Palestine. Before taking any action the General Assembly took note of the declaration by the Mandatory Power that it plans to complete the evacuation of Palestine by August 1, 1948.

The action taken by the General Assembly was a resolution in the form of recommendations to the United Kingdom, as Mandatory Power for Palestine, and to all other members of the United Nations, for the adoption and implementation, with regard to the future Government of Palestine, of the Plan of Partition with Economic Union.

While the United Kingdom has refused to accept special responsibility for the implementation of the plan, it has not, as Mandatory, rejected the recommended plan. On the contrary, the United Kingdom has officially stated that it accepted the decision of the Assembly and announced its intention to terminate its Mandate on May 15, and has further announced its intention and readiness to turn over the administration of Palestine to the United Nations

Commission, as envisaged in the recommended plan. The recommended plan is, therefore, no longer a mere recommendation. The Mandatory is in process of liquidating its Mandate. It has accepted the United Nations plan for Palestine in much the same manner as the states party to the Italian treaty accepted a United Nations plan for the Free Territory of Trieste. On May 15, the only Administration in Palestine having any international standing will be the United Nations Commission. If its authority fails there will be no regime of law in Palestine, and anarchy will prevail.

It is for that reason that the Jewish Agency strongly urges immediate action on the United States Government proposal that the Security Council accept the requests addressed by the General Assembly to it in its Resolution so as to avoid the unwarranted assumption that there is no legal basis in which law and order may be maintained in Palestine after May 15.

It is regrettable that the necessity exists to remind member nations that it is contrary to the Charter of the United Nations for any member state to use force or the threat of force, or to encourage the use of force or the threat of force to obstruct the carrying out of the plan recommended by the Assembly and accepted by the Mandatory Power. Unless the member states accept the overwhelming moral authority of a decision which derives from the collective judgment of the United Nations, the great hope which inspired its organization is tragically doomed. What is involved here is far more than a technical legal question. It is a question whether the United Nations is to be an effective instrument for world peace and the salvation of mankind or whether it is to be but an impressive stage-setting for actors and supernumeraries busily engaged in a meaningless play of long-winded futility.

I submit, Mr. Chairman, that those who would empty the concept of a United Nations resolution of all compelling moral authority are the enemies, not alone of this particular decision of the United Nations, but unconsciously, of the United Nations organization itself.

4. This leads us to an observation on the relation of the Security Council to the implementation of the United Nations decision. Technically, the position which was taken by the distinguished spokesman of the United States delegation and by others, that the Security Council cannot use armed force for the implementation of any decision of the United Nations, but only in cases where it is determined that there exist threats to peace, breaches of the peace, or acts of aggression affecting international peace, may be correct. It may be an important legal and technical distinction to make and we assume that it was made in order to keep the action requested of the Security Council fully within the terms defined by the Charter.

But this legal distinction should not obscure the realities of the situation which should be faced frankly. It is the determined and organized resistance to the decision of the United Nations which has brought about a condition of a breach of peace and a threat to peace in Palestine and has forced the UN Commission to call upon the Security Council "for assistance in the discharge of its duty to the General Assembly." The report states that "powerful Arab interests, both inside and outside Palestine, are defying the Resolution of the General Assembly and are engaged in a deliberate effort to alter by force the settlement envisaged therein." The Commission is further of the opinion that "a basic issue of international order is involved. A dangerous and tragic precedent will have been established if force or the threat of the use of force is to prove an effective deterrent to the will of the United Nations." What the Commission asked for is not an armed force to enforce partition, but "an adequate non-Palestinian force which will assist law-abiding elements in both the Arab and Jewish communities organized under the general direction of the Commission in maintaining order and security in Palestine, and thereby enabling the Commission to carry out the recommendations of the General Assembly." This, we believe, is a fair and pragmatic statement of the issue and in keeping with the legal requirements of the situation.

The role of the Security Council is an integral part of the plan adopted by the United Nations in November. In adopting it, the Assembly of the United Nations relied upon the fullest cooperation of the Security Council. It should not take long for the members of the Security Council to determine the fact that a breach of the peace exists in Palestine and that acts of aggression have taken place. The measure of support which the Security Council will give to the decision of the United Nations in its efforts at implementation will be evidenced by the urgency with which it approaches its task, and by the effective measures which it will take to re-establish a condition of peace in Palestine in which the United Nations Commission can carry out the responsibilities which were entrusted to it. Here again the action of the

Security Council on this issue will have far-reaching implications for the effectiveness of United Nations actions on other issues and for the buttressing of the authority and prestige of this great world organization. Failure of the Security Council to comply with the request of the General Assembly to take the necessary measures to empower the Commission to exercise in Palestine the functions which are assigned to it if a threat to peace develops there during the transitional period, and to determine as a threat to the peace any attempt to alter by force the settlement envisaged in the Resolution, would be a serious matter which goes far beyond the Palestine controversy. It concerns the coordination and the effective functioning of the activities of the various organs of the United Nations. The basic thought underlying these two major organs of the United Nations is that they will coordinate their activities and actively support each other. A serious break in the normal workings of this mechanism would inflict an additional blow to the organization of the United Nations. It is our view that the American Government's proposal that the Council accept the request addressed by the General Assembly to it must be the starting point for any effective action by the Security Council in this matter.

5. While the Security Council is deliberating on the request submitted to it by the UN Commission we are pleased to note that the Commission intends to continue with such of the preparatory work essential to the implementation of the recommendations as can be undertaken without the assistance of the Security Council which it requested. We should like to draw the attention of the Council to the fact that the Jewish militia, whose organization is called for by the plan which was adopted and which will have the responsibility of maintaining law and order in the Jewish State after May 15, has not yet been organized, that its organization is not permitted by the Mandatory Government prior to the termination of the Mandate, and that the request of the UN Commission to permit the preparatory work for the organization of this militia has likewise been denied. In its report, the UN Commission calls the attention of the Security Council to the fact that "the refusal of the Mandatory Power to allow the formation of such militia until the termination of the Mandate will entail delay in the implementation of the Assembly's plan and renders much more difficult the problem of the security of the Jewish State when the Mandate is relinquished." I draw your attention to this statement of the Commission in order that it might serve as a commentary to the statement made by the distinguished spokesman of the United Kingdom delegation on March 2, in which he rejected the accusations that his Government was making the transfer of authority in Palestine as difficult as possible, and was denying assistance to the United Nations. Unfortunately, not only in this most vital question of the militia, but in other essential matters which would have facilitated the coming

of the new regime in Palestine the Mandatory Government has been uncooperative and obstructive. To be sure, it has furnished information of a kind, and it has discussed with the UN Commission various problems. But the test is not willingness to discuss, but willingness to comply with the urgent requests which were made by the Commission and the United Nations. Thus, the Mandatory Government refused to open a port to Jewish immigration on February 1, as called for by the decision of the United Nations. It has refused to permit the United Nations Commission to come to Palestine in ample time properly to prepare for its immense duties. It has rejected the plan of a progressive transfer of areas to the Commission's administration. All this, according to the honored delegate of the United Kingdom, because of "specific threats by the Arabs." This would suggest that the Mandatory does not have an adequate military force to meet these threats. However, when confronted with the suggestion that the security forces of the Mandatory might be supplemented by other forces available in Palestine itself, it has maintained that it alone was responsible for law and order in the country and could not tolerate "the danger of divided responsibility." The delegate of the United Kingdom asserted that "our fervent hope is that this Council will now find a way to secure effective assumption of authority in Palestine by the United Nations when the Mandate is terminated." But we most regretfully note that almost every way which is suggested by the responsible agency of the United Nations is effectively blocked by the Mandatory Power.

The honorable delegate of the United Kingdom declared last Tuesday that they "cannot participate in any way in the implementation of a scheme which involves the coercion of one of the communities." One is forced to recall that for years Great Britain has implemented a scheme in Palestine of its own making, disapproved of by the League of Nations, condemned by its own leading statesmen, including the distinguished British Colonial Secretary himself, which quite definitely involved the coercion of one of the communities of Palestine. When is coercion not coercion? And under what conditions is conscience to be invoked to approve or disapprove of a political policy?

The Jewish Agency appeals to the Security Council and to the members of the United Nations to make earnest representation to the present Mandatory Government of Palestine to permit the immediate organization of an adequate Jewish state militia and the preparation for its equipment to protect the lives of the inhabitants of the new Jewish State who are being threatened by forces inside and outside of Palestine who have proclaimed their resolve to defeat by violence the decision of the United Nations and the new Jewish State which the decision envisages. This, we maintain, is an elementary moral obligation of the United Nations in view of the decision which it has taken. It is likewise an elementary moral obligation on the part of those nations who have approved the plan to remove all embargoes on the shipment of arms to the Jewish people of Palestine who have loyally accepted the decision of the United Nations, and to deny such arms to those who are violently resisting it. Surely this is not an unreasonable request. The organization, recognition and equipment of the Jewish militia is for us of greater urgency than the sending of a non-Palestinian armed force by the Security Council. The Jews of Palestine wish first and foremost to defend themselves but their hands must not be tied. The quicker and the stronger the Jewish militia is permitted to become, the less sizeable need be the international force, which the Commission has requested.

We are still hoping that there may be no need for prolonged and serious conflict in Palestine. We do not wish war with our neighbors, only peace and cooperation. Within the framework of the plan calling for two independent states joined in an economic union there is definitely the possibility for such peace and cooperation. The national status and independence of each people is guaranteed and their economic cooperation for the good of both is provided for. Partition was not the Jewish solution. It fell far short of the just rights and aspirations of the Jewish people. It was a grievous abridgement of these rights. Nevertheless, reluctantly but loyally, we accepted the decision which appeared fair and reasonable to the United Nations. We still hope that the Arabs of Palestine will likewise accept it and thereby put an end to the scourge of strife and bloodshed which can only do incalculable hurt to both peoples. But in the face of the mounting threats and the incursion of armed bands across the frontiers bent on war, the Jewish people of Palestine is compelled to make all necessary preparation for self-defense. We plead with the United Nations to remove all obstacles in the way. We are carrying out the purposes of the United Nations. We should not be penalized for doing so.

We feel under obligation to make our position unmistakably clear. As far as the Jewish people is concerned, it has accepted the decision of the United Nations. We regard it as binding and it is resolved to move forward in the spirit of that decision. Under the plan there are dates to be met. We must assume that these dates will be met.

We fully respect the authority of the United Nations but if it is unable to carry out its own decisions and, as a consequence, the Jewish community of Palestine is confronted with the threat of annihilation, it will be compelled by the considerations of sheer survival, not to speak of the preservation of its rights, to take all necessary measures which the situation will call for.

6. In conclusion we should like to comment on the serious strictures which the distinguished delegate of the United Kingdom made against the Jewish Agency in his address on March 2. He accused the Jewish Agency of "subordinating moral considerations to political expediency." He charged it with "moral weakness and political ineptitude." The Jewish Agency has not had the experience of running a world empire and so may be pardoned for not having the political aptitude which is possessed by the present political leaders of Great Britain, although it is rumored that there is considerable heresy abroad in the world and in the British Isles themselves, which, perversely enough, questions their infallibility. But surely the eminent spokesman of the United Kingdom, who knows better than most the full story of the attitude of his Government and of his Party towards Zionism and Palestine, should be the last man to charge the Jewish Agency with "an equivocal and pusillanimous policy" and with "subordinating moral considerations to political expediency."

Has the honorable Colonial Secretary of Great Britain forgotten the pledges of the British Labor Party on Palestine and its bitter denunciation of the moral turpitude of the British Government for its failure to fulfill its obligations in Palestine? May I remind him of the Resolution adopted by the Labor Party Conference in Southport in 1939 on the subject of the White Paper policy which this Labor Party has been enforcing in Palestine ever since it came into office:

"This Conference endorses the stand taken by the Parliamentary Labor Party against the Government's Statement of Policy on Palestine. It declares that the White Paper, by imposing minority status on the Jews, by departing from the principle of economic absorptive capacity governing Jewish immigration, by making Jewish entry dependent on Arab consent, and by restricting Jewish land settlement, violates the solemn pledges contained in the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate. The policy of the White Paper represents a further surrender to aggression, places a premium on violence and terror, and is a setback to the progressive forces among both Arabs and Jews...This Conference calls upon the Government to rescind the White Paper policy and to reopen the gates of Palestine for Jewish immigration in accordance with the country's economic absorptive capacity." This was in 1939.

Later the British Labor Party reaffirmed its international policy of "building Palestine as the Jewish National Home." This was in 1943.

In December, 1944, the British Labor Party, on the eve of its election to the Government of Great Britain, declared: "There is surely neither hope nor meaning in a Jewish National Home unless we are prepared to let the Jews, if they wish, enter this tiny land (Palestine) in such numbers as to become a majority. There was a strong case for this before the war, and there is an irresistible case for it now, after the unspeakable atrocities of the cold-blooded calculated German-Nazi plan to kill all the Jews of Europe." This Resolution of the Labor Party went further, even beyond the program of the Zionist movement. I quote: "Here too in Palestine surely is a case on human grounds and to promote a stable settlement for transfers of population. Let the Arabs be encouraged to move out as the Jews move in. Let them be compensated handsomely for their land and let their settlement elsewhere be carefully organized and generously financed. The Arabs have many wide territories of their own; they must not claim to exclude the Jews from this small area of Palestine less than the size of Wales. Indeed, we should re-examine also the possibility of extending the present Palestinian boundaries by agreement with Egypt, Syria and Trans-Jordan."

Those who solemnly and publicly made these declarations are today the rulers of Great Britain. But since coming into office, they have refused to honor a single one of these promises.

The words of the honorable delegate of the United Kingdom, Mr. Arthur Creech-Jones, which he uttered the other day, fell unpleasantly on the ears of those who heard him in this very city three years ago when he declared:

"In building up their National Home they (the Jews) have inflicted no wrong on the inhabitants of Palestine. There has been no scheme of colonization in the whole history of mankind which has been carried through with such care, such scrupulous fairness and consideration for the native population as has been displayed by the Jews." All this, of course, was achieved under the guidance and control of that very Jewish Agency which is now being charged with the subordination of moral considerations to political expediency.

"It is clear to us," Mr. Creech-Jones further continued, "that the White Paper policy must be abrogated. It is obvious to us that the restrictions that have been imposed with regard to the development of the National Home during recent years must go; that the gates of Palestine must be opened." How is this to be reconciled with the brutal enforcement of the restrictive measures of the White Paper which have been carried on by the British Colonial Office?

He further stated: "We are encouraged by the fact that American opinion has made itself heard in regard to the Palestine problem. That will fortify us in our advocacy in the House of Commons." But in the House of Commons American public opinion in regard to the Palestine problem is contemptuously derided by the spokesmen of his Party as emanating from political pressure in New York City. He concluded by saying: "It will be for us in London to carry on our work in Parliament and elsewhere so that there is no misadventure, so that the White Paper policy is reversed, so that the Jews can be sure that at last their National Home is being established firmly and securely and they can realize their own Commonwealth, a free nation which can contribute fully and freely to the general life of the whole of mankind." Was there a single echo of all this in the declarations of the honorable spokesman of the United Kingdom delegation on Tuesday last or in any of the recent declarations of his Government? Who then should be charged with moral weakness and with subordinating moral considerations to political expediency?

7. The Jewish Agency has never condoned terrorism. It has deprecated it and denounced it time and again. It has carried on an intensive campaign of education among the Jews of Palestine against it. It took practical steps to combat it, as was acknowledged by the Palestine Government, even at the cost of life. The Jewish Agency, be it remembered, has no governmental or police authority. It could not reach the source of the evil which was feeding terrorism in Palestine. That source was the immoral and iniquitous policy of the White Paper, a self-willed and unlawful policy decreed by Great Britain. This policy was condemned by the foremost of Great Britain's statesmen. "A plain breach of a solemn obligation," Mr. Churchill called it. "The breaking of all the pledges and promises that have been given to the Jews," was the way the Rt. Hon. Leopold Stennett Amery characterized it. And he asked: "Does my Right Hon. Friend believe that these people (the Jews) will be contented to be relegated to the position of a statutory minority, to be denied all hope of giving refuge and relief to their tortured kinsfolk in other countries; that they will wait passively until, in due course, they and the land they created are to be handed over to the Mufti?" The Rt. Hon. Herbert Stanley Morrison, who is now Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Commons, indignantly declared: "I cannot accept the view that His Majesty's Government is doing anything other than counterfeiting this business or that it is doing other than breaking its promises and acting dishonorably before the whole of the civilized world."

This lawless policy, which was imposed upon the Jewish people in Palestine at a time when their brothers and sisters were seeking to escape from the Hell of Europe where they were threatened with extinction and where six million of them ultimately perished, aroused the bitter resentment of the entire population. They came to regard such a repressive Government

as hostile. Resistance flared up. The sharp injustice of seeing thousands of their unfortunate fellow Jews turned away from the shores of Palestine and sent back to concentration camps to resume a life of despair and homelessness inflamed the passions, especially of the youth of Palestine. Is there any wonder then that some of the most intemperate of them resorted to acts which no one condones, which the authoritative organs of our movement have repeatedly condemned and denounced as harmful to the Jewish people, but which everyone in all fairness must try to understand? It is amazing to find not a single word in the statement of the representative of the United Kingdom, not a single humble word which would indicate that the policy of Government was in any way whatsoever, directly or indirectly, a contributory factor to these tragic acts which we all deplore.

It is amazing, too, to note that not a single word of condemnation was uttered against the acts of violence perpetrated by the Arabs against whom no White Paper was ever enforced, who faced no desperate problems of refugeeism and homelessness and who are now perpetrating acts of terror in Palestine in an effort to defeat the United Nations decision and to persuade the world of its unworkability.

We deeply regret that we have to engage in polemics with the spokesman of the United Kingdom. We have no quarrel with the British people. We had hoped that the chapter of Great Britain's mandatory regime in Palestine would end on a happier note. We regret that this was not to be. We are not unmindful of the sympathetic understanding which our cause has always received among the great masses of the British peoples and among its foremost leaders. If the sad events of the recent dark and turbulent years have introduced an element of controversy and estrangement in our relations we hope that it will prove only temporary. We do not wish to forget the gracious pattern of friendship and esteem which has been woven into the long fabric of the years. We are here critical of a Government and of a policy, not of a people. Governments and policies change. The enduring spiritual and intellectual kinship between peoples remains.

Mr. President, the Palestine issue which is before the United Nations is a test case which the whole world is following with utmost concern, for much indeed depends upon its final outcome. Whether justice will finally be done to a sorely tried people whose monumental spiritual achievements made that little land of Palestine the Holy Land of mankind, whether solemn international pledges are truly to be redeemed and whether this international organization which has been built upon the ruins of another such peace organization, wrecked by the failure of the Great Powers to maintain its authority, will share a similar fate or whether it will in truth become the tree whose fruit will be for the healing of the nations, all this is involved in this issue which is now before you and quite discernible to all who can see beneath the surface of single events into the sweep of great historic processes.

We confidently await your action.

16 East 66th Street
New York 21, N.Y.
June 8, 1948

TEXT OF STATEMENT BY DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER, CHAIRMAN,
AMERICAN SECTION, JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

At a meeting of the General Council of the Zionist Organization which was held in Tel Aviv last April, an agreement was confirmed between Haganah and the Irgun Zvai Leumi regarding their future cooperation. Under that arrangement the Irgun was free to collect its own funds.

The agreement also provided that upon the establishment of the Jewish State, Irgun would disband as a separate military force. The State of Israel was established on May 15th. On May 28th the Provisional Government of Israel issued a special order creating "the Defense Army of Israel." The order further stated "It is herewith forbidden to create or maintain any armed force other than the Defense Army of Israel."

In response to an inquiry which was addressed to the Foreign Secretary of Israel, the following cablegram has now been received: "In view of the dissolution of Irgun Zvai Leumi and its impending complete incorporation in the Defense Army of Israel, all separate drives and allocations are unwarranted and should be discontinued forthwith. All parts of the Defense Army are financed with central funds and no question can arise of any section or group of the Army claiming separate financial assistance for its maintenance or operations expenses."

In the light of the above we wish to apprise everyone that any collection of funds in behalf of the Irgun or for any other military organization by any individual or organization in the United States is unwarranted and is contrary to the expressed wishes of the State of Israel. There is today but one Defense Army of Israel - "The Z'va Haganah l'Yisrael" - and it is maintained by the Provisional Government of Israel.

We trust that the fullest publicity will be given to the above in every community.

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WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN
PRESIDENT

1201

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WU N94 PD=BF PHILADELPHIA PENN JUL 6 227P:

=DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER, CARE JEWISH AGENCY=

BEN GURION DICTATORSHIP ABHORRENT. DEMAND END OF HIS
REGIME BEFORE IRREPERABLE DAMAGE IS DONE THE CAUSE OF ISRAEL

=LOUIS YAMPOLSKY 5726 WOODCREST AVE PHILADELPHIA

=5726=323P

Mail to H Silver
Wells

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WU N89 PD=BF PHILADELPHIA PENN JUL 6 227P=

DR ABAA HILLEL SILVER, =CARE JEWISH AGENCY=

=NOTHING LESS THAN MURDER CAN DESCRIBE THE
TREACHEROUS ATTACKS ORDERED BY BEN-GURION AGAINST THE JEWS
ABOARD THE ALTALENA. ONLY ATONEMENT TO THIS CRIME IS THE
IMMEDIATE RESIGNATION OF MEN RESPONSIBLE=

=LOUIS YOLLIN 6422 PARK AVE PHILADELPHIA=

N.F. — Mail to A.H.S.

=6422=311P

use

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RTD LONG TS125 LONG PD=VIA TS CLN=WUX NEW YORK NY 26 214P=
DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER, THE TEMPLE=
105 ST AND ANSEL RD RTE DY CLEVE=

1948 JUL 26 PM 9 04

FOLLOWING PERSONAL CABLE RECEIVED BY GREENBERG FROM
LOCKER QUOTE MEMBERS EXECUTIVE HERE AND PRAESIDIUM OF
ACTIONS COMMITTEE DETERMINED HOLD MEETING 5 AND 8 AUGUST
WHATEVER MEMBERS PARTICIPATE OR ABSTAIN STOP AMERICAN
SECTIONS REPEATED DEMANDS FOR DEFINITE PLANS UNFULFILLABLE
AS MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES DECIDABLE ONLY AFTER COLLECTIVE
CONSULTATION ALL MEMBERS STOP CANNOT POSSIBLY SUGGEST
REDISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENTS BEFORE KNOWING WHETHER AND WHICH
AMERICAN MEMBERS PREPARED ACCEPT DEPARTMENTS HERE STOP
CANNOT DECIDE FUNCTIONS AMERICAN SECTION WITHOUT HEARING
AMERICAN MEMBERS VIEWS THESE PROBLEMS ETC STOP IF AFTER
ALL APPEALS AMERICAN FRIENDS DONT ATTEND MEETINGS THIS
MAY LEAD DISASTROUS RESULTS AND ALL RESPONSIBILITY WILL BE
THEIRS STOP WE APPEAL TO YOU PERSONALLY MAKE SUPREME
EFFORT TO AVOID THIS CONTINGENCY REGARDS UNQUOTE NO
OFFICIAL REPLY YET RECEIVED BY US=

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JULY 28, 1948
TELAVIV

LC JEVAGENCY (THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE 16 E 66TH ST)
NEWYORK

170 FOR SILVER GREENBERG NEUMANN HALPRIN QUOTE YOURS 23/7 THOUGH
SUPREME INTERESTS DEMAND SPEEDIEST CLARIFICATION AND SOLUTION DECIDED
AGREE YOUR PROPOSAL ACCORDINGLY FIXED DEFINITE DATES EXECUTING 17/8
ACTIONS COM 22/8 STOP ASSUME DURATION ACTIONS COM APPROXIMATELY FORTNIGHT
STOP AWAITING YOUR EARLY EXPRESSION OPINION UNQUOTE CONFIRM

ZIONIT