



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

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

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

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Jewish Agency, draft proposals, United Nations, circa 1947,
undated.

DRAFT PROPOSALS

I. It is recommended that the General Assembly of the UN adopt a basic declaration on Palestine embodying the following findings of the Special Committee:

- (a) The Community of Nations has long recognized the historic connection of the Jewish people with Palestine and the grounds for reconstituting their National Home in that country.
- (b) The original intent of the declaration made by the Government of the United Kingdom on November 2, 1917 and the underlying purpose of the Palestine Mandate granted by the League of Nations in 1922 was to facilitate Jewish immigration into Palestine and the development of the Jewish National Home to the point which would justify the reconstitution of Palestine as an independent democratic state under the auspices of an established Jewish majority.
- (c) The ultimate aim of these international agreements and dispositions was to enable the Jewish people to achieve nationhood and national independence in the confines of its National Homeland.
- (d) The Assembly reaffirms the validity of the basic international dispositions with regard to Palestine made after the conclusion of World War I and declares that it is the purpose of the United Nations to ensure the full and speedy realization of the purposes indicated and implied by the terms of the Palestine Mandate.

II. In accordance with the above declaration, the General Assembly approves the following recommendations of the Special Committee regarding the future development and administration of Palestine:

- (a) All those Jews of European and other countries, particularly those residing in formerly Nazi dominated countries, who are desirous of settling in Palestine shall be given every facility to do so by the member states of the United Nations and by the appropriate organs of the United Nations Organization.
- (b) The Jewish Agency for Palestine shall be invited to establish a Resettlement and Development Authority which shall be vested with adequate executive powers to effectuate the transfer of such Jews to Palestine and their resettlement in town and country and to carry out development programs which will facilitate such resettlement and benefit the country as a whole.
- (c) Subject to the powers reserved to the Jewish Agency in the spheres of immigration and resettlement, the general government and administration of the country shall for a period of five years be entrusted to a special body established by the United Nations, to be known as the Executive Council of the Government of Palestine.
- (d) The Executive Council shall consist of five persons nominated by the United Nations, drawn from countries having no special interests of a political, commercial or strategic nature in Palestine or its neighboring countries. In addition to these, the Council shall have six advisory members, three representing the Jewish interest and three representing the Arab interest respectively.

- (e) The British Police and Military Force, now in Palestine shall be replaced by a Security Force recruited from the local population, to be directed and commanded by officers supplied for the purpose by members of the United Nations.
- (f) In addition to carrying on the general administration of the country and the enforcement of law and order, the Executive Committee shall
 - (a) facilitate Jewish resettlement by every appropriate means;
 - (b) promote economic development and the welfare of all the inhabitants;
 - (c) develop self-governing institutions and prepare the country for independence.
- (g) At the end of five years, the United Nations shall consider whether the purposes affirmed in these resolutions have been adequately realized and make a determination regarding the future government of Palestine.

