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Jewish Agency, Zionist General Council, 1947.

## THE EXECUTIVE OF THE ZIONIST ORGANISATION

Ref. No. : מספר

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16th November, 1947.

TO THE ZIONIST FEDERATIONS AND SEPARATE UNIONS

Gentlemen,

The Zionist General Council, at its recent session in Zurich, passed the following resolution:-

"The General Council calls upon all sections of the movement everywhere, and instructs the Executive, to conduct a comprehensive and effective campaign of enlightenment regarding the moral and political harm caused by terrorist activities and by the very existence of dissident groups which defy national authority and employ murder as a political weapon".

In conformity with this resolution we are sending you enclosed some information material received by us on the activities in recent weeks of the dissident groups in Palestine.

We hope to be able to send you material on these matters regularly.

It would, in our opinion, be desirable to give this material the widest and most effective publicity.

With Zion's greetings,  
Yours faithfully,

11. Hurvitz Everywhere

ORGANISATION DEPARTMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE



The Zionist movement has firmly and authoritatively laid down its line of conduct and that of the Yishuv towards the dissident organisations - the I.Z.L. and the Stern Group - and their activities.

On the basis of a resolution of the 22nd Zionist Congress at Basle on the question of terror, the meeting of the Zionist General Council at Zurich confirmed the decisions of the Executive in this matter. In deciding to extend the full support of the Zionist movement and the organised Yishuv to efforts against the dissidents and their organisations (the I.Z.L. and the Stern Group) and against terrorist activities, it upheld the resolutions of the Elected Assembly of Palestine Jewry in the matter of opposing forcibly every effort of the terrorist organisations to impose their will on the whole Yishuv and on individuals within it.

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The resolutions of the Elected Assembly of Palestine Jewry (passed in Jerusalem at the fifth session of the fourth Elected Assembly, in May 1947), which were supported by the Zionist General Council, said in unambiguous terms:

"The system of murder and terror raging in Palestine is perverting and obstructing the struggle of the Yishuv, leading to provocation in its relations with the neighbouring people, arousing dark instincts among the masses, poisoning the soul of our young people and aiding the anti-Zionist schemes of the Government".

"The Elected Assembly of Palestine Jewry notes the restraint shown by the Yishuv up to now in its war against the terrorist organisations, from a realisation of the danger of internecine war in the Yishuv and its exploitation by external factors which would be interested in this. But the provocative deeds of the perpetrators of terrorism are constantly on the increase. Therefore the Elected Assembly resolves to continue forcible opposition to every attempt of the terrorists to impose their will on the entire Yishuv and on individuals within it, to frustrate everywhere in the Yishuv terrorist activities and propaganda for murder; to give warning to those who are in danger of their lives, to ostracise terrorist groups, to cut off their sources of supply in Palestine and abroad, and to increase the work of enlightenment among young people.

This struggle is the struggle of the independent Yishuv, with the authority of its representative institutions, and without cooperation of any kind with the oppressive regime of the White Paper and of the deportation of immigrants, which creates the background for the orgy of bloodshed in Palestine".

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After the meeting of the Zionist General Council at Zurich (from the end of August to the beginning of September, 1947), a "truce" in the activities of the dissident organisations continued for about two months.

During the period of this "truce" in Palestine, they continued their activities abroad. They aimed to upset the sacred work of rescuing Jewish survivors in the Diaspora; one of the results of their activities in this field was the murder of Eitan Avidov (sent



to organise rescue activities in the Innsbruck camp) during their attempt to "seize power", to capture and control this point, which is one of the stations in the wanderings of Jewish survivors on their road to salvation in Palestine. (Attached are the conclusions of the committee which investigated this matter).

Eitan Avidov is not the first Jewish victim to fall at the hands of the dissidents. Yehuda Litmanowitch, who was murdered by them at Haifa in April when, delegated by the organised Yishuv, he was on his way to prevent terrorist acts by the dissidents; Zeev Werber, who was killed in June at Tel-Aviv, when he gave up his life to prevent a frightful outrage which had been planned by the dissidents, the blowing-up of Citrus House in Tel-Aviv; Zadok Lisbona, who was murdered by the dissidents in August at Haifa while trying to defend himself during a robbery - these are the loyal sons of the Yishuv, the men of Hagana, the men of sterling courage who were murdered by the bullets and mines of the dissidents and who have fallen at the hands of the latter in the last few months.

#### The "Truce" of the Dissidents and the Reasons for it

As stated above, the I.Z.L. and the Stern Group "truce" in Palestine lasted nearly two months.

They did not trouble to explain to the Yishuv the reason for this break in their activities. The reason is not only the confusion reigning in the dissident organisations at the moment (and it does exist within their ranks; we shall revert to this later). It is also the sharp opposition aroused in the Yishuv (even in such circles as had at first adopted a lenient attitude towards the dissidents and their works) by the hanging of the two kidnapped British sergeants by the I.Z.L. and the killing of soldiers innocently crossing the street in Tel-Aviv, by the Stern Group. In such a situation they feared to continue with their actions before the wrath of the Yishuv at their wanton deeds had died down. They also feared that their activities in this period would make them, in the eyes of the "lenient" circles of the Yishuv, guilty of upsetting the United Nations discussions on the UNSCOP recommendations, which had been received with great satisfaction by the Yishuv, which is longing for a Jewish State. It was also not easy for the dissidents to tell the public about denunciations to the authorities by their men, and about serious leakages within their ranks, as a result of which arms stores belonging to the dissidents were discovered and many of their members imprisoned by the authorities in addition to those already under arrest.

All these factors added more than a little to the difficulties of continuing their operations. Of course it was not convenient for them to tell all this to the public, so instead they continued their false and vile allegations against the authoritative institutions of the Yishuv and the Zionist movement.

A not inconsiderable factor in the "truce" was the lack of the money necessary for their activities. This affected their organisation, so they concentrated their forces in the field of extortion and robbery. As has been said, while there was a "truce" in their operations against external elements and the authorities they directed their terrorism against the Yishuv.

#### Interference with Dissidents' Activities

The terrorist organisations do not accept the national authority recognised by the people; they do not assent to it (and are



therefore called "dissidents"), they spurn it and undermine it.

There cannot possibly be any effective operations by any military organisation whatsoever that are not directed by a political authority towards a political object. There cannot be a military organisation of a people which is not under that people's national authority, embodied in its representative institutions.

No people which desires a normal political life can agree to this, or allow such a morbid and obstructive phenomenon; it cannot acquiesce in this, and its primary duty is to burn out the evil from its midst.

Thus, citizens of the Yishuv who are loyal to its policy, which was laid down by the highest national authority - the supreme institutions of the Zionist movement and the Jewish community of Palestine - are interfering with the activities of the dissidents.

In spite of the dissidents' activity among schoolchildren to procure the latter's enlistment in their ranks, which was done more than once with serious threats and the actual use of force - a stop was put to this attempt at "mobilisation".

There has been interference with the dissemination of their propaganda, which more than once has called for the murder of Jews and the leaders of the Yishuv, in addition to their lying propaganda whose intention is to draw the Yishuv into a maelstrom of blood.

Protection has been provided for Jews threatened with extortion.

Dissident hooligans and terrorist gangsters were punished.

Provocative acts were prevented which were likely to lead to murder, drowning the political endeavours of the Zionist movement and the Yishuv in a wave of blood and spelling disaster to the last of our hopes.

In accordance with the resolutions of the national institutions, protection has been provided against the violence of the dissidents; when they threaten a Jew who refuses to give money to the terrorists, he is given protection. When the dissidents continue threatening such a Jew and even attempt to use force against him (things which have actually happened here recently) those who attack him are punished. When they threaten young boys or girls and force them to join the ranks of the dissidents (as stated above, such things occur in the schools and outside them), protection is provided for the former. For there is an iron resolve to repel with force every attempt of the dissident organisations to annoy the population.

The dissident extortioners, the terrorists and those who are responsible for mobilisation, are attempting to revenge themselves on those who do not submit to them, but reaction to such acts of revenge is not long delayed.

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#### The Weapons of the Dissidents are turned against the Yishuv

These counter-activities by the men of the Yishuv who are loyal to the supreme national authority have more than once led to a certain disillusionment in the dissident ranks and have caused obvious signs of disruption in their midst. The dissident organisations have begun to realise that they are in their natural place - isolated within the Yishuv, which desires to place them outside its ranks,



which must be purged if it wishes to live and if it wishes for a normal political life on the way to statehood.

The dissident organisations decided to abandon the "truce" with the outside world which they had determined upon (for reasons mentioned above) and turned their terrorist weapons mainly inwards, on to the Yishuv. They decided to plunge it into a maelstrom of disturbances, a "civil war", as it were. The dissidents had their own reasons for doing so.

These were their calculations: In the days when the question of our political and national independence is being discussed at the forum of the peoples of the world, at the United Nations, there can certainly be found in the Yishuv and the Zionist movement some circles which, from fear of internal clashes, will demand that all activities against the terrorists cease, even if these same circles do not usually see eye to eye with the dissidents and their works and understand the need for action against them "in normal times". Such a demand by these circles will open up the road to political and financial blackmail by the dissidents. This is one of the calculations of the latter which has guided them in their activities of the last few weeks. An additional calculation, of no less value to them than the first, is the staging of civil war in the Yishuv, so that the resulting call from different groups for help for the "persecuted" will reinforce the morale of the members of the dissident organisations, quite a number of whom have become aware of the insignificance of the terrorist organisations which undermine and dissociate themselves from our stand on the threshold of Jewish independence and from the necessity for defence which the Yishuv will face in the days to come.

These calculations were present in the mind of the dissident organisations when they decided to create conflict in the Yishuv.

And they began a wave of such conflict; when they decided on it, they did not hesitate to open fire and shed Jewish blood.

A wave of internal terrorism has come about in the country, and with it calls from the dissidents for "help for the persecuted" and their cries to the Yishuv against "civil war" and hypocritical accusations about the "persecuted and wounded".

They thought that they would win this murderous game, and they hoped that all their calculations would be realised in full.

The reaction of the men of the organised Yishuv was and is restrained, although firm and consistent. It is restrained because it is guided by considerations of political responsibility dictated by the needs of the hour.

At a time when the organised forces of the Yishuv were engaged in the great tasks of the hour, in strengthening our positions and defence, taking up positions in the frontier regions of the country, preparing and taking stock of things to come in agriculture, defence, existing colonisation and preparation for the establishment of new settlements, organising immigration and the absorption of immigrants - the dissident organisations were engaged in street clashes with Jews; that is the only form of their existence and activity. Their separation from the organised community leads to a total lack of perception on their part of what is now going on in the country and on the political front. Here is one example:- At the time when the men of the organised Yishuv were mobilised for guarding Galilee against the possibility of invasion, this being a popular mass mobilisation for the defence of the country, they appeared too - 15 to 20 of them riding on motor-cycles in a group along the streets in order to "defend the frontier region".



It is a lie that clashes in the Yishuv developed in connection with the putting-up and tearing-down of posters (this being but one of the external manifestations of the struggle, and even that has not occurred in the last few days).

The truth is that recently the internal danger of the dissident organisations has been revealed in all its horror, a danger which it was possible to foresee from the start and which was one of the principal motives for the firm decision to take steps against them. For all this is logical, and the natural development of every armed separatist group which spurns the rule of the political authority of the nation. It has been indubitably revealed that the dissidents are turning their weapons against the organised Yishuv. Even those who hesitated before to adopt energetic measures of interference with the dissidents see clearly that, just as the latter had no scruples in their activities against outside elements (and they can have no such scruples as long as there is no political authority for their military activities, which are carried out without any political judgment and without any link with the general political struggle) they have no scruples and will not have any in their evil schemes and operations against internal forces. Not only from conjecture on the plots being hatched in the hiding-places of the dissidents, but also from their public announcements, it is possible to learn of their attempts to prepare the soil and the background for political assassination in the Yishuv and attacks on personalities of the Zionist movement and the Yishuv.

In the midst of this whirlpool of terrorist outbreaks and disorder, directed against the Yishuv, those who submit to the authority of the Zionist movement and the organised Yishuv have adopted a precise and unequivocal stand - they will not be incited by provocative acts, and they will at the same time incapacitate the terrorists, smash internal terrorism and react forcibly to attempts to impose a reign of violence on the Yishuv.

As has been said, activities against the dissident organisations are restricted by the bounds of political responsibility, particularly in the light of the discussions at the international forum of the United Nations, but counter-action is continuing and will continue, and separatism will not go on unchecked.

The Zionist movement can suggest only one alternative to the dissidents - to cancel their separatism and give up their arms. Like every other Jew, their members will be able to find their way back to the organised Yishuv, which is defending itself and preparing for things to come, - and they may then take their place in the struggle for the setting-up of our national and political independence.

For there is danger in standing aside from our political struggle, and there is danger in standing aside when we close our ranks to face the days to come.

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Jerusalem, 14th November, 1947.



Below is the full text of the proclamation put out by all Zionist parties in Austria in connection with the killing of Eitan Avidov.

### P R O C L A M A T I O N

To the Jewish public in Austria and other countries!

Astounded and shocked to the depths of our soul, we announce to the Jewish public the dreadful fratricidal killing carried out on the morning of the 27th September in the refugee camp at Wiesenhof near Innsbruck (in the French Zone of Austria) by an armed gang of more than a hundred Jewish brigands.

The details of the incident are as follows:- On Friday night the attackers, armed with automatic weapons, revolvers and explosives, gathered in a wood near the camp. From the early morning some of them occupied the roads leading to the camp. At approximately 7 o'clock they surrounded and burst into the camp, cut all the telephone wires, and, threatening them with their weapons, compelled all the workers, officials and inmates to concentrate in one spot.

A band of killers numbering about 10 entered the rooms of the relief workers from Palestine. One of these was shot at and killed on the spot, a second was severely wounded and another two received lesser injuries. The attackers forced the wounded to stand against the wall with their hands raised, while blood ran from their wounds.

A woman with a baby in her arms began to shriek at the dreadful sight of wounded men with blood flowing and nobody to save them. In response to her cries the attackers knocked her down with the same cruelty.

It may be that it is only due to the confusion of the killers themselves by their wild and indiscriminate shooting that there were not more victims.

At the same time, others of the gang of killers went out to other parts of the camp and demolished furniture, stole money and valuable articles from the cash box of the camp and from individuals. Others broke the vehicles which were used for the transport of the refugees.

Meanwhile, one of the leaders of the gang made a speech to the inmates, who had been gathered together, and informed them that from then on the running of the camp would be in the hands of Betar; he promised all those who would continue working with them a much higher salary than they had been receiving until then.

The general picture was most dreadful and shocking; many of those present state that it reminded them of the awful days of the "actions" by the German Gestapo.

It is worth noting that the band of killers, despite their appearing as "heroes" before unarmed people, was a quite disorderly and inefficient mob. They shot wildly and all their behaviour was not reasoned; in their flight they left a great deal of material which indicts them. This material is now in the possession of the appropriate institutions, just as almost 80 men who took part in the attack are already in the hands of the security forces.

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Eye-witnesses report that the killers called each other "Betar man" or "brother" during the "action".

It has also been established that among the killers who have been imprisoned are many active commanders and leaders of the Revisionists and Betar who are known to those active in Jewish public affairs for their party "activities".

There are no words to describe the frightfulness of the "operation". All their murderous stratagems pale in comparison with this incident. In broad day-light they took the young life of the Palestinian-born Halutz, the boy from Nahalal, who had come only four days previously full of enthusiasm and readiness to help the survivors on their hard way to Palestine; this young life, so ready for self-sacrifice, was ended by the hand of a Revisionist.

FELLOW-JEWS!

This is how the fine Betar behaviour looks in reality, this is the result of a degenerate ideology and poisonous education over many years - it could not bear any other fruit than that which we witness today. It is a doctrine of destruction and ruin, an education which unceasingly calls for murder and hatred of everything which creates, builds and is progressive in the life of Jews and Zionism.

BROTHER JEWS! OSTRACISE THIS DESTRUCTIVE BAND!

ISOLATE THE GANG OF EVILDOERS FROM JEWISH PUBLIC LIFE!

STAMP THE MARK OF CAIN ON THE FOREHEAD OF THE TRAITORS TO THE JEWISH PEOPLE, AND PLACE THEM OUTSIDE OUR CAMP!

In accordance with the instructions of the supreme Zionist institutions, we announce that we have broken off all relations with the representatives of the Revisionists and Betar in all Zionist and public bodies.

Rally round those who are endeavouring to develop Palestine, and round the pioneering forces which are building and realising the liberation of the Jewish people through work and creation, by disciplined struggle and organised immigration, against all opposition, to our homeland!

THE ZIONIST FEDERATION OF AUSTRIA

Headquarters	of the General Zionists in Austria
"	" Poale Zion (Z.S.) " "
"	" " (Z.S.) World Union
"	" Left Poale Zion
"	" Hitachduth in Austria
"	" Hashomer Hatzair in Austria
"	" Mizrachi " "
"	" Pachach " "



that the transfer of its men and material should not be open to inspection by any other body. (It came out that the prisoners L. and F. acted on the instructions of the I.Z.L. and were both also members of Betar. It is worthy of note that F. was transferred to Saalfelden on the instructions of the Betar area commander in the Linz area, on the basis of a special command of S., who was an officer of their executive in Austria and was at the time already outside the country, a fact which arouses suspicion). It may also be that they counted on winning the sympathy of the new refugees from Roumania who are in a very distressed condition; most of them are not organised in any movement, and in their plight they might become an easy prey to anybody who promises speedy rescue.

8. The Committee declares that the relations among the parties in Austria are at present very strained, and the Innsbruck incident has aroused violent feelings in such a degree that it will make it more difficult to keep up the normal work of the Zionist and Jewish institutions. We draw the attention of the Executive to the many depositions attached herewith, and to the memorandum and petition of the institutions in the Saalfelden camp which testify to the tense situation. In our view, we must strive for well-regulated Zionist and communal work on behalf of the survivors in Austria. At the same time, in accordance with the resolution of our supreme institutions, we must adopt measures of organisation and propaganda to isolate the dissidents, who are endangering the peace of the community and the existence of our institutions and all who assist them.

9. The Committee also attempted to investigate the case of Milo Friedlich, who according to I.Z.L. proclamations was killed by the Hagana in the Gnadenwald camp. From all the evidence we have collected, it has turned out that there never was such a person in Gnadenwald, and that no man has died in the place all the time it has existed. In this connection we also draw your attention to the testimony of M.M. We therefore consider that the story is a fabrication from beginning to end.

10. These conclusions were adopted unanimously.

Signed

Dr. Chaim Hoffmann  
Z. Strauch  
G. Shadmi

Salzburg, 26th October, 1947.



## C O N C L U S I O N S

of the

Committee of Inquiry into the Killing of Eitan Avidov

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The Committee which was appointed by the Executive of the Jewish Agency for Palestine stayed in Austria from the 23rd to the 26th October, 1947, and visited the camps of Gnadenwald and Wiesen-  
hof near Innsbruck, of Saalfelden and Salzburg, and collected evidence from eye-witnesses as well as from representatives of communal organisations.

On the basis of this enquiry the Committee reached the following conclusions:-

1. On the morning of Saturday, the 27th September, 1947, a large group of men (between 100 and 200), many of them armed, attacked the camp at Wiesenhof, near Innsbruck. They searched the place, stole money and documents and damaged camp property. When Avidov opposed them they opened fire, killing him and wounding two other relief workers. At a meeting of camp workers, whom the attackers concentrated by force in the dining-room, the spokesman for the invaders announced that they had come to capture the place and would run it from then on. As a result of this attack, the French police, who had been warned in the meantime, arrested 71 men, 52 of whom were released and returned to the American Zone while 19 remained under arrest to face trial.
2. In our opinion the invaders did not intend to take Avidov's life, so we cannot speak of premeditated murder but of the killing of a man. Yet it is clear that whoever organises an attack by hundreds of men on an isolated point and arms them, shares the responsibility for the loss of life in this operation.
3. In a proclamation published by the I.Z.L. in Austria immediately after the event, they admit that the deed was carried out by them. Since this statement has not been denied to this day, we hereby accept it as a legally valid admission.
4. It has been revealed to us that among the invaders were many members of Betar (Brith Trumpeldor), who directed the operation. Many of them occupied important posts in this organisation at the time of the attack or before it. We give as examples:
  - a) Y.E., the spokesman of the invaders at the meeting of the camp workers, was one of the active Betar members in the Riedenburg camp, and afterwards, at the suggestion of Betar, leader of the camp Both Herzl at Salzburg.
  - b) A.N., who conducted the search in the room of the deputy director of the place, was an active member of Betar in the camps of Steyr and Wegscheid, a delegate to the conference of the Revisionists and Betar, and a correspondent for the Revisionist newspaper.
  - c) D.S., among the organisers of the attack, was the administrator of the Betar centre in Saalfelden, and was sent there on special instructions from the Betar Command in the Salzburg area.
  - d) Z.D. was sent to work in that spot on the recommendation of Betar. He, together with A.R., who was sent to work there by the Agudat Israel but was also a member of Betar, acted as guide for the attackers.



- e) M.D., a member of the high command, if not the commander, of the Betar centre in Hallein.
- f) M.K., a member of the Revisionists in Abelsberg, fired a gun in the courtyard.
- g) B., who commanded the operation. According to authoritative statements by the heads of the I.Z.L. in Austria, he is a member of Betar and lives in the Betar block in the Parsch camp (New Palestine).
- h) Z.S. was commander of the Betar division in Braunau.
- i) A.M., identified as the man who killed Avidov, is a member of Betar in Hallein.

5. We have no proof that the operation was decided on, or carried out with the knowledge of the Betar commanders. Despite this, the Betar organisation in Austria cannot be absolved from responsibility for the deed. If Betar did not knowingly shield the actions of the I.Z.L. in Austria, at least it did nothing (even according to the evidence of Betar representatives) to prevent I.Z.L. men infiltrating into its ranks, so that it happened that even holders of responsible positions in Betar were nominated by the dissident organisation. Moreover, the information and educational activity of Betar did not clearly express opposition to the dissidents' actions, but often stressed sympathy with them. This caused a blurring of distinctions in the mind of the general public, and it may be assumed that many who took part in their activities may have believed that they were acting on the orders of Betar. This blurring of distinctions was also recognisable in those who direct activities. Even after the Innsbruck affair Betar denounced the deed itself, but did not take effective measures to root out the dissident centres from its ranks, but was satisfied with removing a number of the men whose share in the attack had been publicly proved.

6. The explanation of the I.Z.L. that the operation had been carried out in order to free three of their members who were being held in the place, does not strike us as plausible. It is indeed true that at the time of the attack there were 7 men in custody for having, on their own responsibility and for payment, conducted activities designed to get people to Palestine - which was likely to affect organised rescue efforts severely, but

- a) These men were not detained at Wiesenhof but at the Gnadenwald camp, one kilometre away. This was well known to the attackers, and the guides knew the place well.
- b) Before the attacks there had been no intervention or any approach to the leaders of the place for the release of the detained men.
- c) The spokesman for the invaders did not mention the detained men in his speech, but said only that they (the invaders) would run the place henceforward.

Note: As to the question of detention, we are of the opinion that, for reasons of security and in order to protect rescue efforts, it may at times be necessary to detain those who interfere with them, but the responsible institutions must lay down a fixed practice in respect of the duration and conditions of detention.

7. We cannot hold that the reason for the attack was the wish to transfer many more members of a certain movement to the coast, for even Betar representatives have testified before us that there was no discrimination against their movement and that they have no complaints on this score. We may therefore accept the conclusion that the I.Z.L. command was interested in occupying the point in order



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## B. FINANCE AND BUDGET OF THE JEWISH AGENCY

### I. URGENT NEEDS OF THE UPBUILDING OF PALESTINE

In the hour of trials and great decisions for Palestine and the Jewish people the Zionist General Council stresses the urgency and the vital necessity of great and intensified financial activity and popular support for the uninterrupted rebuilding of Palestine, for increased immigration under all circumstances and for maximum security and defence of the Yishuv and all its achievements.

Assembled during the days of a symbolic and real "Exodus 1947" the Zionist General Council regards it as the highest and most urgent duty of every Jew and every Jewish body in the world to participate in the raising of the necessary means and provide funds for

Encouraging and facilitating the remnants of the Jewish people eager to settle in Palestine and wishing to reach the shores of their homeland in masses as soon as possible;

To give the Jewish Agency and the Yishuv the necessary means for strong self-defence and full Jewish security in the country;

To redeem within the next few months of the transition period large areas of land for the creation of pioneer settlements and new outposts of the Yishuv;

To strengthen, protect and expand the existing positions in agriculture, industry and other fields of Jewish economy in Palestine, to increase in time the absorptive capacity of the country for new mass immigration and to provide the immigrants with productive work and occupation

On the threshold of great new possibilities for the Jewish people and the reconstruction of its Homeland which must not be neglected, but must be utilized to the fullest extent, the Zionist General Council calls upon the Jewish people as a whole and makes it obligatory on every Zionist and every Zionist institution throughout the world to mobilise all resources and to make all efforts to secure to the Zionist Organisation, the Jewish Agency and the National Funds the necessary means for the realisation of their programme of large-scale immigration, building, and redemption.

Every Zionist must consider himself mobilised and be conscious of his obligation to take his full share in the decisive struggle and the constructive effort in and for Palestine.



## II. BUDGET 1946/47

In accordance with the decisions of the 22nd Zionist Congress the Permanent Budget Commission in Jerusalem has worked out the details of the budget for the year 1946/47 as outlined by Congress, and has submitted the full budget to the Zionist General Council, now in session, for ratification.

The Zionist General Council hereby confirms the budget for 1946/47 and authorizes the Permanent Budget Commission to proceed with its work for the budget of the year 1947/48.

## III. BUDGET 1947/48

1. In view of the present political position in Zionism, the great and decisive task incumbent on the Zionist Movement in its work of upbuilding and on the Jewish People whose fate is bound up with Palestine, and taking into consideration the necessity of mobilizing for the year 1947/48 larger means than ever before, the Zionist General Council decides that the Zionist Executive continue working during the first quarter of the year 1947/48 within the limits of the budget of the previous budgetary year and instructs the Permanent Budget Committee in Jerusalem to prepare together with the Executive the budget for the year 1947/48. After the Commission will have confirmed the budget estimates, it will become valid for the Executive and be presented to the Zionist General Council's next session for final ratification.

2. The Council imposes upon the Zionist Executive the duty to mobilise all resources necessary for the realization of the programme decided upon through increased revenue and contributions to the national funds, through long-term loans and through all other sources the Jewish Agency will find suitable.

## IV. THE COMPOSITION OF THE PERMANENT BUDGET COMMITTESSION

1. The Zionist General Council appoints Messrs. D.Z. Pinkas and A. Kestenbaum members of the Permanent Budget Commission in the place of Messrs. D.B. Weiss and Y. Werfel who have resigned.
2. The "Aliyah Hadasha" will participate in the Permanent Budget Commission with consulting rights and will be represented by Dr. Siegfried Moses.

## V. CONTROL OFFICE

1. The Zionist General Council affirms that the Control Office, which is beginning to function immediately after the present session of the Zionist General Council, is to conduct its activities in accordance with resolutions adopted at the 19th Zionist Congress.

2. The Zionist General Council authorizes the Permanent Budget Committee in Jerusalem to make available for the Control Office the funds necessary for its work, this being a separate budgetary item. The administration of the office is to be independent.



3. Unless the Zionist Congress or the Zionist General Council decides otherwise, the Control Office is to deal exclusively with the institutions and departments which are within the competence and under full control of the Zionist Executive and the Head Offices of the national funds.
4. The Control Office shall submit in each case its reports and recommendations to the managing body of the respective institution, and if no satisfaction is given, they must be referred to the Executive.
5. Matters which concern directly the Zionist Executive may be brought before a meeting of the Executive by the head of the Control Office who may be present at this meeting.
6. The Control Office is to present reports on its activity to the Zionist General Council through the Zionist Executive.
7. In accordance with the resolution of the 22nd Zionist Congress the General Council appoints Dr. Emil Schmorak head of the Control Office for the period until the 23rd Congress.
8. The General Council appoints a Committee of six members, composed of Messrs. E. Hachohen, Dr. S. Moses, Rabbi E. Neufeld, A. Reiss, Dr. H. Rosenblum and A. Shechter, who, together with the Head of the Control Office, will constitute the Control Board.

#### VI. NATIONAL FUNDS, SPECIAL FUNDS AND OTHER CAMPAIGNS

1. The General Council re-affirms the importance of the resolution of Zionist congresses concerning the priority of the Keren Kayemeth Leisrael and the Keren Hayesod, and the coordination of campaigns for Palestine and Zionist purposes. All parts of the Zionist Organization are called upon to adhere strictly to those resolutions. The Executive shall supervise their execution and shall ensure the proper functioning of the committees set up for this purpose.
2. The Zionist General Council empowers the Executive together with the Presidium of the General Council to appoint, in accordance with the resolutions of the 22nd Zionist Congress, a Central Committee of Three for the coordination of Zionist fund-raising campaigns.
3. In conjunction with this Committee of Three an advisory committee shall be established, composed of representatives of all special funds and campaigns.

#### VII. PENSIONS

1. The Zionist General Council notes with satisfaction the statement by the Executive that negotiations are in progress with representatives of its officials on the subject of pensions to the officials of the Jewish Agency and the national funds in Palestine and hopes that the negotiations will be brought to a satisfactory conclusion by the beginning of the year 1947/48, at any rate before the next Zionist Congress.



2. The Zionist General Council has heard the proposal on pensions to be paid to every elected member of the Executive on reaching a certain age after having been a member of the Executive for not less than six years consecutively. The pension shall be based on a certain percentage of the salary of the member of the Executive and the number of years of service on the Executive. The Zionist General Council accepts this proposal in principle and refers the matter to the Permanent Budget Commission in Jerusalem to work out details.

## C. ORGANISATION

### I. ZIONIST FEDERATIONS

1. The Zionist General Council records with satisfaction the endeavours of the Organisation Department of the Executive to establish Zionist Federations.

The Zionist General Council requests the Organisation Department to make every effort to set up, in agreement with the local Zionist parties, Zionist Federations in all those countries in which no such Federations have as yet been established.

2. The Zionist Federations have exclusive competence in all matters pertaining to their sphere of activity, and the duty of discipline devolves upon all members of the Federation in regard to the decisions of its governing bodies.

3. The Zionist Federations shall have competence in at least the following activities:-

- a) Joint Zionist information and propaganda;
- b) Distribution of the Shekel, elections to Congresses and to the joint local Zionist institutions;
- c) The National Funds (Keren Hayesod and Keren Kayemeth Leisrael);
- d) Support for the Zionist Youth Federations and the Halutz movement in all its branches;
- e) Information service on Palestine;
- f) Propagation of the Hebrew language and support for all educational activities of any part of the Zionist movement;
- g) Founding Hebrew schools, it being understood that the administrative and educational autonomy of the religious section of our movement be preserved;



h) External representation:

1. in all above fields of Zionist activities which fall within the competence of the Federations,
2. in all those political questions on which the Federation has decided by a two-thirds' majority and which are in conformity with the political decisions of the governing bodies of the World Zionist Organisation.
3. in countries in which a political office of the Executive exists, the political office shall have the task of external political representation, within its sphere of activity, and shall work in contact with the Zionist Federation.
4. The Executive shall see to it that in every Federation a constitution be drafted, according to which an executive committee of the Federation shall, after a certain transition period, be set up, elected in a national conference and in conformity with the democratic principles of the World Zionist Organisation. A two-thirds' majority is required for the adoption of the constitution.
5. The Zionist General Council requests the Executive to extend the maximum moral and material support to the Zionist Federations, and to promote their consolidation and the expansion of their activities.

II. REGIONAL CONFERENCES AND OFFICES

1. The Zionist General Council considers it important to convene regional conferences of Zionist Federations, like that of the Zionist Federations of Europe at Karlovey Vary (Carlsbad), and urges the Executive to convene such conferences also in other regions.
2. Insofar as regional offices of the Organisation Department will be established, advisory committees, representing all Zionist parties existing in that region, shall be attached to these offices.

III. SHEKEL 5707 AND 5708

Owing to the fact that the 22nd Zionist Congress took place in December, 1946, the 5707 Shekel-drive has actually begun with a delay of several months. From the fact that the 23rd Zionist Congress will take place in the summer of 1948 and the 5708 Shekel-drive must be concluded by 15th April, 1948, it follows that the Shekalim for the two years 5707 and 5708 would have to be distributed within 15 to 16 months. In view of this situation the Zionist General Council decides that the 5707 Shekel may be distributed until the latest term fixed for the distribution of the 5708 Shekel.



#### IV. DISCIPLINE

Considering the necessity of strengthening in this fateful hour the discipline of all parts of the Zionist movement, the Zionist General Council requests the Executive to act immediately in every case involving a breach of discipline (particularly in the political sphere) in accordance with the provisions of Article 79 of the Constitution of the Zionist Organization.

#### V. REVISIONISTS

The Zionist General Council delegates to the Executive its right to recognize the United Zionist-Revisionists as a Zionist Separate Union, after examining the legal and actual position together with the Congress Attorney.

#### VI. "WIZO"

The Organisation Commission of the Zionist General Council has heard with attention the representatives of the WIZO, who have put forward in detail requests for representation at the Zionist Congress and the Zionist General Council.

The Organisation Commission of the Zionist General Council has decided to refer this question to the Permanent Organisation Committee in Jerusalem which shall deliberate upon this matter and find a solution.

#### VII. BUDGET OF THE ZIONIST EXECUTIVE

1. The Zionist General Council records with satisfaction the efforts of the Organisation Department of the Executive to strengthen the organizational framework of the Zionist movement. At the same time, the Zionist General Council states that the resources which have been made available for that work bear no relation to the multitude of requirements in the field of organisation activities. The Zionist General Council requests the Executive and the National Funds to allocate the necessary moneys for developing and extending the work of the Organisation Department in Jerusalem and of the Zionist Federations in various countries.

2. In virtue of Article 49a of the Constitution of the Zionist Organisation, the Zionist General Council confirms the budget of the Executive of the World Zionist Organisation for the year 5708, amounting to LP 103,000. The Zionist General Council empowers the Permanent Organisation Committee in Jerusalem to deal with the items of expenditure and to adapt them, as far as possible, to the requests expressed in the course of the deliberations of the Organisation Commission of the Zionist General Council.

3. The Zionist General Council authorises the Permanent Organisation Committee to confirm the budgets of the Zionist Executive for the years 5706 and 5707.



4. The Zionist General Council takes note of the decision of the Executive of the Jewish Agency that the expenses of holding Zionist Congresses and meetings of the Zionist General Council shall not be covered from the budget of the Organisation Department of the Executive, but be borne by the Jewish Agency together with the National Funds and other Zionist financial institutions. The Zionist General Council calls upon the Executive of the Jewish Agency to arrive at an agreement with the above bodies in regard to these expenses.

#### VIII. EXPENSES OF CONGRESS ELECTIONS

The Zionist General Council states that the expenses involved in conducting Congress elections in various countries shall not be borne by the Executive. The Executive is entitled to allocate to the countries for this purpose 10% of their Shekel income.

#### IX. VETERAN ZIONISTS

The Zionist General Council authorises the Permanent Organisation Committee to decide in the matter of establishing a committee, representing the Zionist parties, attached to the Central Committee for Veteran Zionists in Jerusalem.

#### X. HEBREW SCHOOLS IN THE DIASPORA

The Zionist General Council notes with satisfaction that an important beginning has been made by the Organisation Department in organising the sending of the first 100 teachers from Palestine to the camps in Germany, Austria and Italy. The Zionist General Council appreciates the help which has been given in this matter by all quarters, particularly by the American Joint Distribution Committee.

The Zionist General Council is of the opinion that these important activities must not be limited to the camps and to the European countries, but should extend to all countries of the Diaspora. The Executive is requested to make every effort to expand this work to the greatest possible degree.

#### XI. UNIFICATION OF PUBLICATION ACTIVITIES

The Zionist General Council requests the Executive to make further efforts towards the greatest possible unification of publication activities for the purposes of information and propaganda of the Zionist Executive and the National Funds.

#### XII. TRANSFER OF HERZL'S REMAINS TO PALESTINE

The Zionist General Council expresses the wish that the remains of Dr. Theodor Herzl be transferred to Palestine as soon as possible.

The Zionist General Council empowers the Executive to decide, together with the Presidium of the Zionist General Council, in all matters concerning the implementation of this resolution.



5/16  
1.

The ZIONIST GENERAL COUNCIL has given preliminary consideration to the Report and recommendations of the UNSCOP.

The study carried out by the UNSCOP and its report represent an earnest effort to arrive at a practicable solution of the Palestine problem.

2.

The ZC notes with satisfaction that a substantial majority of the UNSCOP has recommended the early establishment of a sovereign Jewish State.

The territory proposed is a minor part of the territory originally promised to the Jewish people on the basis of its historic rights and does not include areas of the utmost importance. There are other features of the proposal which require careful examination

The Executive will after a further study of the Report present the views of the Jewish Agency to the forthcoming Assembly of the UN.

The definitive attitude of the Jewish people will be determined after the Assembly will have taken its decision on the Palestine problem.

3.

The Council regrets that the proposals put forward by the minority of the UNSCOP are wholly unacceptable. The suggested federal state would actually convert Palestine into an Arab State in which the Jews would be condemned to remain a permanent minority and their right of immigration effectively denied by making such immigration subject to the decision of the Arab minority. The proposals deny even to the present Jewish inhabitants of Palestine the right to settle in most parts of the federal state of which they are presumably to be citizens. The term "Jewish State" as employed in these proposals is misleading. Far from conferring statehood they would perpetuate the territorial ghetto created



by the policy of the White Paper 1939. The constructive and progressive forces of the Jewish people would in the suggested federal state be fettered and stifled, and the economic and social development of the country thereby impeded.

4.

No settlement of the Palestine problem can be accepted by the Jewish people which fails to assure the right of Jews to return to their homeland and the establishment of a sovereign Jewish State.

The Executive is instructed to continue its efforts to secure a speedy and satisfactory settlement on these lines.

