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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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United Jewish Appeal, United Palestine Appeal,
American Palestine Committee, 1941.

AMERICAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE

41 EAST 42ND STREET, NEW YORK

WASHINGTON OFFICE: 1720 - 16TH STREET, N.W.

ROBERT F. WAGNER, *Chairman*; CHARLES L. McNARY, *Co-Chairman*; WILLIAM GREEN, WILLIAM H. KING, JOHN A. RYAN, *Vice-Chairmen*.



STATEMENT OF AIMS AND PRINCIPLES

THE AMERICAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE, inaugurated April 30th, 1941, is the vehicle for the expression of the sympathy and good will of Christian America for the movement to reestablish the Jewish National Home in Palestine.

On September 27th, 1922 this sentiment of sympathy and good will received official expression from the government of the United States when President Warren G. Harding affixed his signature to a joint resolution adopted by the House of Representatives and Senate of the United States, reading as follows:

"THAT the United States of America favors the establishment in Palestine of the National Home for the Jewish people, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of non-Jewish communities in Palestine, and that the holy places and religious buildings and sites in Palestine shall be adequately protected."

The policy expressed in this resolution has also received the public endorsement of all the Presidents of the United States since 1917: Woodrow Wilson, Warren G. Harding, Calvin Coolidge, Herbert Hoover and Franklin D. Roosevelt.

THE fulfillment of the millennial hope for the reunion of the Jewish people with the land of its ancient inheritance, a hope that accords with the spirit of Biblical prophecy, has always commanded the sympathy of the liberal Christian world. Today, by reason of the inhuman persecutions of which millions of Jewish people are the victims, the fulfillment of this hope is an urgent and tragic necessity. In the past twenty years, moreover, Palestine has demonstrated its capacity to absorb large numbers of Jewish immigrants. In 1920 the Jews in Palestine numbered 83,000; today there are more than 500,000. Since 1933 Palestine has given refuge to 280,000 victims of persecution, a number exceeding those who have found havens of safety in all the rest of the world. That Palestine could accommodate millions of additional inhabitants is attested by competent expert evidence.

The record of Jewish heroism and achievement in the Holy Land has been among the most inspiring works of free, liberty loving people in the Old World in the last two decades. Cities, villages, and farmsteads have sprung up over sand dunes, marshes and rocky wastes. Agriculture, industry and commerce have been modernized and extended to the advantage of the native Arabs as well as the immigrants. The foundations for a sound and liberal Commonwealth have been laid, and a people for whom no sacrifice has been too great in the furtherance of the task is pleading for the opportunity to build further upon them.

In truth and in fact, the Jewish National Home in Palestine has been a world-sanctioned experiment in democracy. It must be protected and cherished today as an outpost of freedom and social justice. Its continued upbuilding must be a vital part of a just world order when the present conflict is over.

THE aim of the AMERICAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE is to give every possible encouragement to this statesmanlike and humanitarian cause. The COMMITTEE will extend moral support to this effort by disseminating correct information to the American public on the progress of the Jewish National Home, and by seconding, with its collective and individual influence, all proper measures that may be taken for its furtherance.

My signature hereto testifies to my approval of this statement and my readiness to serve as a member of the AMERICAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE.

ADDRESS