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

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

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Zionist Organization of America, Torczyner, Jacques, 1946-1947.

T. Meyer

C O P Y

September 19, 1946

ANTWERPEN

NLT EMANUEL NEUMANN
521 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

SNEH INFORMS ME AGENCY NOT GOING CONFERENCE YET NOTWITHSTANDING
STRONG PRESSURE MODERATES STOP EXECUTIVE PROMISED ACT ONLY AFTER
CONSULTATION SMALL ACTIONS COMMITTEE STOP SATURDAY HOLLAND SUNDAY
MEETING BERNSTEIN PARIS STOP UNFORTUNATELY OUR PEOPLE NEGLECT
ELECTIONS REGARDS



M/

Paris, 24.9.46

Dear Mr. Neuman,

As you know, I am at Paris together with Hartman and apart from talks with the émigré-part of the Executive we try to do something for General Zionism. To-day we met Torczyner and so had some first hand information about happenings in America. He confirms what we had supposed to be the situation though the official versions were very different.

Now I wish to draw your attention to the two main aspects of our General Zionist problem. I trust you, as the spiritual father of the Palestine merger, will fully understand my point of view.

Despite great difficulties and serious apprehensions I made a great effort to carry the merger through, since I had become convinced that there would be no change of regime, and therefore no change in external Zionist policy without such change in the internal situation as would give us appropriate influence within the Executive and within the Yishuv. I leave aside for a moment the possibility of such constitutional changes in Palestine which would seriously affect the position of the Jewish Agency, like partition or even federalisation. I don't know what will be the result of the London Conference and therefore make the following remarks as though the position and the functions of the Agency Executive remain unchanged, at least until Congress.

You know that I and many of our friends are utterly opposed to the line of external Zionist policy as conducted by the Executive with decisive influence of the London group and without effective resistance on the part of the so-called activists. I myself think it an unbelievable mistake, that the Executive proposed partition, and I doubt whether we ever will get rid of the consequences of that fatal step. The handling of the conference-affair seems to me hopelessly wrong, and in my opinion also the "strong" men in the Executive rather willingly let themselves be coerced by the Weizman-Goldman-Kaplan group.

But I understand quite well that at Congress and at the Conference of General Zionists there will be a big fight Silver-Nachum Goldman, and around this an attempt to split General Zionism on external policy. There are even hints at tactical moves to build up the new Executive on a Silver-Ben Gurion pact along the lines of "strong" external policy. Any such thing will not materialise. B. G. even stated in a talk that a man as Kaplan could not be kept out for his vision on external policy. In other words: there will be no Executive more or less homogenous on issues of Zionist policy. In my opinion the preponderance of a Zionist party based on social and economical theories (and practice) in general precludes the formation of an Executive on common lines of Zionist policy. This cannot be changed as long as the preponderance lasts. I regret it more than anyone else. But those are the facts.

Therefore there is no chance of ever getting a basis for a more adequate Zionist policy, unless we can change the internal party situation.

What are the implications of those, in my opinion, fundamental facts?

1. To avoid, at the Conference of General Zionists before the Congress, as far as humanly possible, a debate on Zionist policy, in past and future.
2. No commitments on our part before the Congress with regard to Executive combinations.

3. Straightening out, before the Congress, of the Silver-Hadassah quarrel.
4. Every endeavor to keep General Zionists together as a voting-bloc at Congress.
5. Concentrating on General Zionism as a factor of upbuilding in Palestine, partly within Histadruth frame, partly within the free sector.

The last paragraph comprises the money question. I gather from your letter to Hartman that the \$500,000 are still very much in the air. It is definitely not a matter of a Congress resolution. It must be a UPA decision and must be taken before Congress. At Congress we only demand recognition of a *מסגרת כלכלית ופיננסית*

I need not tell you what money could do especially in organising the non-Histadruth sector. Something really powerful and useful could be built up.

I suppose Sneh and Hartman will be in America after Congress elections in Palestine (14.10). I myself cannot very well leave Palestine for any length of time.

With kind regards,

Yours,

(signed) F. Bernstein



M/

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JOSEPH L. EGAN
PRESIDENT

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FROM PARIS

TO LC EMANUEL NEUMANN 521 FIFTH AVE NY

Via _____

MONEY HARTMAN WAIT MY RETURN STOP CONFIDENTIAL DAVID SENT LONG
FRIENDLY LETTER ABBA STOP DAVID RESIGNED SAME CONDITIONS SUCH (SNEH?)
STOP CASANOVA DECLARED NO AMBITION AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE WASHINGTON
ONLY UNO STOP FROM 7500 CABLE 2000 DR ROTH SIEGFRIED ARANY JANOS U T
24 BUDAPEST WIRE CONFIRMATION CERAMIC STOP TAKING CARE HOTEL BASEL
HAPPY NEWYEAR GOOD FAST REGARDS

JACQUES

T. C. Zuer

C O P Y

OCTOBER 6, 1946

PARIS

NLT EMANUEL NEUMANN
521 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

HEAR KAUFMAN BUYING MORRIS WEINBERG PAPERS STOP OFFICIALS HERE CURIOUS
RESPONSIBILITY PRESIDENT STATEMENT STOP HAVE TROUBLE PLANE RESERVATION
TWV

JACQUES



C O P Y

OCTOBER 6, 1946

PARIS
NLT EMANUEL NEUMANN
521 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

PALESTINIANS INSIST CALLING GENERAL ZIONIST NEWYORK NOVEMBER 15TH
PREPARE CONGRESS INVITING SOUTHAMERICANS CANADA SOUTHAFRICA MAIN
PURPOSE CREATE UNITY AS CONFIDENTIALLY BENGURION GOING VIA TO INFLUENCE
HADASSAH BREAK STOP FEEL SNEH VISIT NOW VITAL OUR INTERESTS MUST HAVE
VISA URGENTLY REGARDS

JACQUES



Trojan Onion Skin

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Oct. 7, 1946

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PD26 1 Paris 34/32 7

NLT EMANUEL NEUMANN 521 FIFTH AVE NEWYORK

FRIEDRICH BERNSTEIN PALESTINIAN PASSPORT N219886 9/9/1946 EDITOR BORN
MEININGEN GERMANY 6 12 1890 STOP MAY I GIVE ADDITIONAL THOUSAND FRANCE
MAXIMUM 2 MANDATES

Jacques

Treasury

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Oct. 8, 1946

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C_O_P_Y_

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

Via _____

LC Emanuel Neumann 521 Fifth Avenue NEWYORK

SNEH VISA REFUSED STATE DEPARTMENT EPSTEIN KNOWS REASON UNACCEPTABLE
MEMBER JEWISH AGENCY EXECUTIVE CANNOT VISIT ZIONISTS AMERICA BECAUSE OF
FOREIGN PRESSURE STOP INSIST REVERSAL DECISION ACT PROMPTLY AS SHIP PASSAGE
FOR 14TH STOP PALESTINIAN PASSPORT ISSUED JERUSALEM NUMBER 184358 BORN RADZYN
POLAND JANUARY 6TH 1909 STOP DAVID GOING STATES EFFORT BINDING HADASSAH TO HIM
THEREFORE NECESSARY STRENGTHEN GENERALZIONIST UNITY INCLUDING HADASSAH STOP CAN
YOU GET EMBASSY PARIS TO GIVE ME PLANE PRIORITY REGARDS

Jacques

T. Neumann

[October 1946?]

C O P Y

Jacques Torczyner
Hotel Ceramic
34 Avenue de Wagram
Paris 8, France

Dr. Emanuel Neumann
521 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Neumann:-

I sincerely hope that you have spent a nice week-end and have received my two cables. As usual with confidential matters there was a dispatch in today's Observer which contained all the 'inside' information as our moderates have a special way of supplying it to the right sources. I enclose this dispatch for your interest.

It is rumored today in Paris that Goldman, Loder, and Brodetzky will be here this week trying to convince again Ben-Gurion of the necessity to go to the Conference.

The danger of the informal discussions with the British is that the same people who have led us into this catastrophic position have a free hand and that whenever we go officially to the Conference we shall be once more faced with a fait accompli. The question is no longer that of freeing innocent members of the Agency, but it is one of a general amnesty.

I had long conversations with Dr. Bernstein and Hartman, and also private conversations with each of them separately. Dr. Bernstein has written you a long letter which will give you a clear picture of his position. The more I think of the future and the more I discuss the problems of the General Zionist delegates to the next Congress, the more I am frightened by the impossibility of keeping together so many people with so many various political opinions and so many frustrated ambitions. We lack the discipline and the strong arm of Mapai which it has over its people. Even speaking with Bernstein I see clearly that there are still differences between the A's and B's.

SNEH VISA: There seems to be some trouble in getting Sneh a visa. The Agency office handled the matter here and was informed by the Embassy that the State Department will make the Final decision. Thereupon, Elishu Epstein was advised to intervene with the State Department and to prevent dual-intervention from harming Sneh's possibilities to go to America. I cabled this information to you today.

Without having seen the GPU or the Gestapo, I remember a similar episode in 1945 when you had to go to the London Conference and some people tried to make it difficult for you to join the deliberations. In the last week the moderate Sneh, who could not understand the American determination to attack certain people of the Executive very strongly,

has himself become an out-spoken critic of the Executive. It is only his love for Ben-Gurion which keeps him from coming out in the open. Therefore, it is not excluded that some people do not want him to join forces with other opponents of the extremely moderate trend in our movement.

CONGRESS: I cabled Sidney Marks that the matter of the delegates will be handled by Hartman in Jerusalem. I do not believe that we shall have 122 of 400 but 122 of 300, which seems to be the right proportion.

The elections will take place in the various countries around October 13th and there is not a doubt that the General Zionists will have a very large representation. When I shall be back in the United States I shall report to you on matters of detail which I have also discussed here. We must have a permanent representative who understands our point of view and who can transmit private information to us. This should not be expensive and will easily be handled on the spot. If we shall take a definite interest in the Confederation of General Zionists, we must have one of our people right here all the time.

I do not know if I shall have the opportunity to write to you before my return. I therefore want to express to you my best wishes for a happy New Year. I still have not my return plane but have quite reasonable hope to leave on October 7th.

Please accept my warm personal greetings to you and your family.

Yours very sincerely,

JACQUES TORCZYNER

JT/cs

C O P Y

LONDON OBSERVER SEPT. 29th Sunday

BRITAIN MAKES ANOTHER APPROACH TO JEWS

By a Special Correspondent

Hope that the Jews will attend the London Conference on Palestine has been revived. A new approach, it is learnt, has been made by the British Government to the Jewish Agency. After discussions, in which Mr. George Hall - Colonial Secretary - took part, it was proposed that preparatory informal discussions should take place between the two to create conditions enabling the Jewish Agency to attend the Conference.

It was indicated in authoritative quarters in London that should these discussions prove fruitful and should the Jews not insist on the immediate presence of those Agency leaders detained at Latrun - among them Moshe Shertok, its political secretary - the question of a general amnesty might be considered almost at once.

Before agreeing to the Government's proposals, Agency leaders in London have had discussions with Mr. Ben Gurion in Paris and with members of the Zionist Executive in Jerusalem. These, it is believed are sending Miss Goldie Myerson, Mr. Shertok's deputy, to London where she is expected tomorrow.

These informal discussions are scheduled to take place not at Lancaster House, but either at the Foreign or Colonial Office so as to distinguish them from the official Conference.

Dr. Weizmann, the Zionist leader decided on Thursday to resign his position as President of the World Zionist Organisation because the unwavering attitude of the British Government and of the Zionist Executive in Jerusalem had made his position no longer tenable as moderate leader.

Following the new approach from the Government and the more cooperative attitude shown in Jerusalem, however, he has temporarily postponed publication of his decision. But if there is again deadlock he proposed to go through with it.

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 Regards

A. H. Silver

Sender's name and address
(For reference only)

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673 BROADWAY

673 LUKASHOK

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