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Zionist Organization of America, Barbarash, Ernest, 1947-1948.

MEMORANDUM

TO: All ZOA District Presidents and Secretaries

DATE: September 4, 1947

FROM: Ernest E. Barbarash, Director, Public Relations

SUBJECT:

The official stand of the world Zionist movement toward the majority and minority recommendations of the Special United Nations Committee on Palestine has been voiced in the following resolution adopted at the concluding session of the Actions Committee at Zurich:

The Zionist General Council Actions Committee has given preliminary consideration to the report and recommendations of the UNSCOP. It considers the study carried out by the UNSCOP and its report to be an earnest effort to arrive at a practicable solution of the Palestine problem.

The Zionist General Council 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 proposals which require careful examination. The Executive will, after a further study of the proposals, present the views of the Jewish Agency to the forthcoming Assembly of UN. The definite attitude of the Jewish people will be determined after the Assembly will have taken its decision on the Palestine question.

The Zionist General Council regrets to have to state that the proposals put forward by the minority of the UNSCOP are wholly unacceptable and cannot serve as a basis of discussion. The suggested Federal State would actually convert Palestine into an Arab State in which the Jews would be condemned to remain a permanent minority. Their right of immigration, being subject to the decision of the Arab majority, would be effectively denied. According to the proposed constitution, the will of the Arab majority would on all major issues, be decisive. In the context of these proposals the use of the term "Jewish State" is misleading. 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.

The Zionist General Council proclaims that Palestine, and Palestine alone, can solve the problem of the national homelessness of the Jewish people. No settlement of the Palestine problem can be accepted by the Jewish people which fails to ensure 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.

The above resolution is binding upon American Zionists and reflects the official American Zionist stand.

In a statement made to the press in Zurich, Dr. Emanuel Neumann, ZOA president, declared:

"My position was expressed in the declaration adopted by the Zionist Executive, which I helped to draft. It is important to point out that the recommendations of the minority on the UNSCOP was unanimously rejected by the Executive even as a basis for discussion. As to the majority recommendation, it represents the irreducible minimum. The Jews hope that the territory assigned to the Jewish state will be enlarged before accepting the majority report. The loss of Jerusalem and western Galilee is unimaginable to the Jewish people. We trust American influence will help retrieve as much territory as will be indispensable for the absorption into the Jewish state of the million and one half Jewish survivors in Europe.

"On the whole," Dr. Neumann added, "the results of Geneva are better than expected. Also the unity manifested within the Zionist Executive on the recommendations are exceedingly gratifying and prove that the coalition can work. Now is the time for American public opinion to be mobilized behind Jewish claims in Palestine."

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Chairman of the American Section of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, declared;

"The United States is the key of the tortured problem of Palestine." He stated, according to press reports, "that the recommendations of the majority of the UNSCOP are a great advance on any previous proposal and must be regarded as an expression of the conscience of humanity. The recommendation for the immediate establishment of a Jewish state constitutes a recognition of Zionist ideology by the greatest international body and is a great triumph. However, the recommendations dealing with territorial allocations are a great defeat that must be fought. Generally, Dr. Silver said, I stand on my position that we must demand all of Palestine, awaiting a proposal from the UN which we can accept. When the majority Commission proposal will come to us direct from the UN Assembly, it will be seriously considered by the Zionist Executive which in turn will then be submitted to the World Zionist Congress for ratification."

Dr. Silver continued: "America must help us now or we will never realize Jewish aspirations to Palestine.

"If the American Government assumes leadership in carrying through the solution in the spirit of the majority report of the UNSCOP, such a solution is bound to be acceptable to the United Nations. The American Government has indicated time and again, by Presidential pronouncements and Congressional resolutions, the desire to see a free democratic Jewish commonwealth established in Palestine.

"Here is an historic opportunity to back up its many protestations. The American people, who have demonstrated such a consistent interest in the Jewish National Home, will watch with closest attention the action of the State Department and the President in the next few critical weeks."

A comprehensive analysis of the majority recommendations of the UNSCOP, together with the official and unofficial reaction to the reports in London, Jerusalem, Washington and Lake Success, will be published in the September 12th issue of "The New Palestine-News Reporter."



ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

41 EAST 42ND STREET • MURRAY Hill 2-3205 • NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPT.
ERNEST E. BARBARASH, *Director*

September 23rd, 1947

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

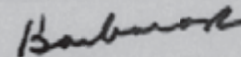
Dear Dr. Silver:

I am returning herewith the original letter of the Southwest Region containing text of resolution adopted. It will be a pleasure to reprint it.

May I take this opportunity to express to you my own personal affection and esteem.

Heartily reciprocating your New Year's wishes,

Cordially yours,



Ernest E. Barbarash

EEB:gg
Encl.

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ZOA
Calling
the U.S.A.

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
41 EAST 42nd STREET • MU 2-3205 • NEW YORK 17

SPOT NEWS

WASHINGTON

LONDON

JERUSALEM

VOL. II, NO. 1

October 21, 1947

BOUNDARIES AND IMPLEMENTATION DISCUSSED BY U.N. SUB COMMITTEES

First Phase of Battle Over

Following the address-in the order of their appearance- of Moshe Shertok, political head of the Jewish Agency for Palestine and Dr. Chaim Weizmann, former president of the World Zionist Organization (who spoke at the invitation extended him on behalf of the Agency by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, head of the American Section) the ad hoc committee on Palestine of the U.N. began discussions, through sub-committees, of various specific proposals including the preparation of a detailed plan on all phases of partition and its implementation.

Shertok Answers Arabs

Moshe Shertok, in his 90 minute address, answered the numerous distortions and charges made in frequent addresses by the representatives of the Arab states, and termed as a "myth" the allegations that Arabs were rendered landless by Jewish land purchases. This-he said-was disproved by official inquiries and it has not a shred of evidence in its support. "In the Jewish state, he declared, not only will the self-interest of the Arabs in not selling out completely operate at least as vigorously as before, but the Jewish authorities, because more directly responsible, will be even more scrupulous in the observance of their principles of not leaving Arabs landless as a result of purchases by Jews. Good treatment of Arabs in the Jewish state, he pointed out, will be in the interest of the Jews themselves."

Shertok also rejected the Arab allegation that the Jews do not employ Arabs. He cited evidence that for every single Jew employed in Arab economy, there are 100 Arabs employed by Jews.

Jews Will Not Permit Governmental Vacuum

Shertok appealed to the British Government to join with the United States and the Soviet Union in supporting partition as a solution of the Palestine problem. Lauding the decisions taken by the U.S. and U.S.S.R., he expressed the opinion that the prospect of agreement between America and Russia on the Palestine issue is most "encouraging" but that the prospect of British cooperation with them, "is still clouded by uncertainty, and evil forebodings have not been dispelled." He assured the delegates of the 57 nations that the Jews would not permit a governmental vacuum to exist in Palestine in the event Britain refused to cooperate in enforcing a U.N. decision. The Jew "must have his own Jewish state", he said. "Nothing will stifle in his soul the urge for freedom in his own land. If he is robbed of his due, he will not submit."

ZOA PRESIDENT AT UNITED NATIONS

Our nationwide membership will take pride in the fact that Dr. Emanuel Neumann, ZOA President and member of the Jewish Agency Executive and of the Agency sub-committee which deals with daily strategy in connection with the Palestine discussions at the U. N., is attending all sessions at the U. N. on the Palestine problem. Dr. Neumann has been constantly conferring with the heads of the American government as well as with representatives of all major powers and other nations. He has been working side by side with Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Moshe Shertok and other Agency members in the presentation of the Jewish case.

Weizmann's Address

Dr. Chaim Weizmann, who followed Jamal Husseini, representative of the Palestine Arab Committee, in his address Saturday afternoon expressed the hope that the U. N. will decide in favor of the establishment of a Jewish state in a partitioned Palestine and will also admit the Jews to its "honorable table" as an equal member. The aged Zionist leader also appealed to the U. N. to make full use of the assistance of the Jews in setting up the defense of the projected Jewish state. Emphasizing that the Jews do not anticipate Arab aggression and "do not fear any such aggression," the veteran leader of the world Zionist movement declared:

Asks International Police Force

"We feel, however, that the prospects of peace will be brightest if the Jewish forces maintaining security within our own state are accompanied at the outset by an international force to symbolize the consent and decision of the United Nations. But in all circumstances our people are prepared to make full provision for their own defense."

Arab-Jewish Cooperation

Explaining why he considers partition the best solution under the circumstances, he said: "It is the only solution which promises finality, a clear definition of the limits within which Jews and Arabs are free to develop their national wills. Above all it offers equality which is the essential precondition of Arab-Jewish cooperation. When the Jews face the Arabs, as equals, members of this Assembly, and of the family of nations, only then will the prospect of a real partnership open out. A Jewish state in Palestine will in its own interests, as well as by its own ideals, seek close cooperation with the Arab states on its borders. The majority report in a moving passage refers to the results which can ensue from such equal cooperation between the two Semitic peoples."

Dr. Weizmann stressed that despite some of the things that have been said by the Arab delegations in the debate he retains his belief in the prospect of Arab-Jewish cooperation once a solution based on finality and equality has received the sanction of the U.N. The Jewish state in Palestine, he declared, may become "a pilot plant" for processes and examples which may have a constructive message for its neighbors as well. "The smallness of the state will be no bar to its full intellectual achievement," Weizmann stated. "Athens was only one small city and the whole world is its debtor."

Touching upon the problems of the displaced Jews, Weizmann said this problem as well as the problem of other Jews in Europe who may be impelled to seek new homes elsewhere can be solved within the framework of the partition plan. "The Jewish problem in its acute phase today is the problem of one million Jews in Europe and the Orient who have no assurance of a secure existence. The proposed Jewish state by intensive agriculture and irrigation and by industrial development can provide homes for them all."

Jewish-British Friendship Will Grow Again, Weizmann Asserts

Weizmann expressed the hope that when the Jewish people is secure in its independence the traditional British-Jewish friendship will once again become evident and the present tension will vanish as "a passing nightmare." The "great services which Britain rendered in helping to lay the foundations of Jewish independence will be remembered with appreciation while the sordid consequences of the White Paper pass into forgotten history," he declared.

The Jewish leader emphasized that by deciding in favor of the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine the U.N. will fulfill "a proud historic mission." He enumerated the considerations "of justice and humanity" for a persecuted people which should motivate the U.N. to establish a Jewish state: Equality for the Jewish people amongst the nations; the redemption of desert soil by cultivation; the creation of a new economy and society; the embodiment of progressive social ideas in an area that has fallen behind the best standards of modern life; the revival of one of the oldest cultures of mankind."

Weizmann said he was "interested and not a little repelled" to hear Zionism described by the representatives of Iraq and Syria as Nazism. "Making due allowance for the legitimate joys of debate, I consider that this carries distortion and libel very far," he stated. "Of course, I do not dispute the right of those two gentlemen to speak with authority and intimacy on the nature of Nazism. I cannot rival their contacts in that field. But on the nature of Zionism I hold myself a better exponent than they. The character of our movement as a genuine effort at national liberation and society building cannot be obscured by such slanders. Some of them, including absurd allegations about children being snatched from their homes, are worthy successors of the most atrocious libels in the sordid history of anti-Jewish incitement. No one who invents or gives currency to such statements can have any reason for pride."

Weizmann concluded by appealing to the members of the United Nations to hear the Jews "at this moment of their agony" and to solve their problem by establishing for them an independent state in Palestine. If the Jews are admitted to membership in the U.N., he said, they will enter it with a sense of the spiritual and intellectual challenge which the idea of the U.N. holds for the conscience of man. "In giving us this opportunity you will be faithful to the noblest ideals which have been conceived by our ancestors and transmitted by them to the common heritage of the world," he pointed out.

Arab Attacks U.S. Position

Jamal Husseini speaking on behalf of the Palestine Arab Higher Committee warned the U.N. against accepting a decision in favor of partition. "The Arabs," he said, "will never give way under any pressure to part with any portion of Palestine."

Bitterly attacking the United States for favoring partition, Husseini called upon the American people to prevent the U.S. Government from participating in the enforcement of a pro-partition decision, threatening that such participation would work against American interests.

First Phase Completed

The first phase of the Jewish Agency's work in the ad hoc committee was substantially completed soon after the representatives of the U.S.A. and Soviet Russia had publicly endorsed in principle the majority report of UNSCOP. The positions taken by these two major powers served to rally many of the smaller nations which had heretofore waited until these two powers had spoken.

The invitation extended to Dr. Weizmann by the American section of the Jewish Agency was made as a gesture of friendship and unity. Even as he spoke, the Jewish Agency had already proceeded to concentrate upon the second phase of its activities in the Palestine Committee of the U.N. through the appointment of a sub-committee, composed of Moshe Shertok, Dr. Emanuel Neumann and Dr. Nahum Goldmann, to work with the ad hoc committee of U.N. The sub-committee has named three units of experts to deal with the following aspects: (1) territorial problems and boundaries; (2) transition and security; and (3) economic and financial aspects.

Creech-Jones Whitewashes Britain

Creech-Jones, Colonial Secretary of Great Britain, addressing the ad hoc committee again announced that while "Britain would consider an invitation to participate in giving effect to a settlement of the Palestine problem in partnership with other members of the U.N., it will not accept sole or chief responsibility for the enforcement of any decision of the U.N." He again blamed the Jews and Arabs for Britain's failure in Palestine and said that Britain had made many attempts in recent years to bring about a just solution, apparently referring to such proposals as the rejected Morrison plan.

The British representative lashed out against so-called "illegal" immigration and stated flatly that as long as Britain stays on she will not permit such immigration because "it disrupts law and order." He denied that Britain was inciting the Arab states to bloodshed in Palestine.

It was noted that despite his reiteration of Britain's determination to leave Palestine, he set no deadline on withdrawal. He implied that as long as Britain stays on irrespective of the U.N. decision, she will not permit the admission of 150,000 Jews into Palestine.

After taking credit for the country's development and the growth of the Jewish National Home, Creech-Jones said that it was hard to imagine circumstances in which the United Kingdom would wish to prevent the application of a settlement recommended by the Assembly regarding the future of Palestine... Our single-minded purpose is to end the tragic situation in Palestine," he said.

British Dominions Support Majority Plan

It was termed significant that Canada, South Africa and New Zealand joined the camp of the nations endorsing the Majority report. Australia at the time of this writing, is still on the fence. However, it is indicated that a determined stand by the U.S. Government to line up delegates may bring Australia also into the fold of those nations favoring the report.

The Twohey Analysis of Newspaper Opinion of Washington, reports that 70% of the American press commenting on the Palestine situation, denounced the Arab threats of war, and demanding strong measures from both the U.N. and the United States against the "outrage."

Other papers declare that the handling of the Palestine problem will determine the efficacy of U.N. control.

Two-Thirds Majority Attainable, If --

As the ad hoc committee settled down to consider various specific proposals, the consensus is at this moment that the two-thirds majority necessary for the adoption of the Majority report by the Assembly is attainable. However this is definitely contingent upon the manner in which the U.S. will follow up its forthright declaration in favor of the report. Warnings have already been sounded that despite the position taken in the address by Herschel Johnson, powerful forces are already at work to the end that the U.S. sit back and let the other nations shift for themselves. I.F. Stone, in PM, reveals that "the White House seems to be the center of a bewildered tug-of-war with major influences in the Army strong for partition and resettlement of Jewish DP's in Palestine and the State Department bureaucracy almost unanimously opposed." Stone further charges that "some of the people in it have been very indiscreet in making it evident to other countries that they do not agree with American declared policy and in hinting that the U.S. will not consider a vote against partition or abstention from voting at all unfriendly." Stone declares that "on the one hand top makers of American policy seem to be putting no real steam behind the Majority recommendations and the men in the lower echelons, as it were, are spreading the impression that the U.S. would be relieved if it were defeated.

"European delegations accustomed to seeing the U.S. get out the steamroller for the things it wants are amazed to see countries like Cuba and China, both dependent on the U.S. for financial and economic aid, in opposition to the U.S. on Palestine. Even little Liberia has suddenly developed independent policies on this one subject."

Neumann Asks U.S. To See It Through

These warnings should be heeded and the dangers of a lack of vigorous follow up by the U.S. was indicated in the telegram which Dr. Emanuel Neumann, ZOA president and member of the Jewish Agency Executive addressed to both President Truman and Secretary of State Marshall. Extending to them as well as to Herschel Johnson congratulations and deep appreciation of the ZOA for the position taken by the American delegation, Dr. Neumann voiced the hope that "having given such a clear definition to the policy of the U.S. you will continue to press with all vigor and firmness for the final solution along these lines at this session of the General Assembly of the U.N."

In other words, both President Truman and Secretary Marshall were asked to see it through to the end.

Even the New York Times in a Late Success dispatch, concedes that some of the Latin American countries which have not disclosed their position, will join their colleagues in endorsing the Majority report provided the U.S. "if it chose to do so" can give them a lead that would ensure the support of a two-thirds majority for partition.

Full Text of Dr. Silver's Address

The full text of the historic address delivered by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver before the Palestine Committee at the U.N. was published in the current issue of the New Palestine. Copies may be obtained by writing to the ZOA or the American Zionist Emergency Council.

Yishuv Prepares to Take Over Administration and Security

Jerusalem.-The Yishuv is completing all preparations to take over every phase of the government of the territory allotted to the Jewish State, immediately upon withdrawal of the British troops. All steps taken will be effected in cooperation with any international security force which will be decided upon by the U.N.

According to a Jerusalem dispatch from the correspondent of the New York Times, it is planned to call the new Jewish State, Eretz Israel. David Remez, chairman of the Vaad Leumi, Jewish National Council, declared "that the creation of a government in the proposed Jewish State of Palestine will be simple as the foundations of democracy in the Yishuv were laid 30 years ago. The community as an elected assembly of (Assefat Hanivharim) of 171 members with a progressive constitution and the electoral system is very nearly the same as that proposed by the UNSCOP for the establishment of a government in the Jewish state. He said that eventually national institutions would be enlarged to include the Arabs, adding "it is safe to assume we will need some time before Arabs will enter the administration." He emphasized that Arab cooperation would be welcome.

Although the form of government of the Jewish state has not yet been given serious discussion, the Jewish Agency for Palestine and the Jewish National Council are concentrating upon the immediate creation of a provisional administration that could immediately take over the public services upon British withdrawal from Palestine. A census is being taken of Jewish civil servants in the existing governmental structure. Similar census of British, Arab and other civil servants will be started. David Ben Gurion, chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive, indicated that they will receive jobs if they are capable and willing.

Efforts are also being made to seek out administrative and technical experts not presently employed in the Palestine Government. Active consideration is being given to procuring experienced men abroad, both Jewish and non-Jewish.

Significance is naturally attached to an agreement on the boundary lines between the Jewish and Arab states as well as on the machinery for implementation of partition.

Boundaries of Jewish State

David Ben Gurion speaking in Jerusalem warned that many dangers face us and that we still have to fight for the borders of the future state in the UN and stand guard over them here. He called on all Jews to put forth their greatest efforts to avert the chaos predicted by High Commissioner, Sir Alan Cunningham, when the British evacuate the country.

Zionists Do Not Represent Jews, Say Arab Spokesmen

Throughout the numerous addresses by spokesmen of the Arab states and by Jamal Husseini, leader of the Arab High Committee, there ran the refrain that American Jews are divided on Zionism; "Zionists misrepresent the facts when they state that American Jewry backs them." Moshe Shertok in his address, was impelled to reply to these allegations when he declared, "One wonders how many organized and dues paying members the so-called national bloc in Syria had through all the years of its existence. Zionism is the quintessence of the Jewish national life and striving. There is no source of national will and energy, no centre of creative activity, which operates in Jewish life outside the Zionist or the Jewish movement centered on Palestine."

We know that American Jewry stands united behind the Zionist program. However, never has it been so imperative to demonstrate this support through organized Zionist membership. The "Roll-Call for the Jewish state" launched by the ZOA must rally every American Jew. The success of the roll-call must be assured. ZCA region and district leaders and key workers!! Mobilize every adult Jew in your community for the roll-call for the Jewish state.

The U.N. Situation - An Appraisal

S. Dingol, writing in the Jewish Day, gives the following appraisal of the U. N. situation as of this date:

(1) The general debate in the ad hoc committee on Palestine was a marked gain for the Jewish case. The first battle has been won.

(2) The battle must however be compared to a boxing match where a number of rounds are yet to be fought out. The final round has yet to be won. The General Assembly where the report has to be endorsed by a two-thirds majority and the Security Council, have yet to say their word.

(3) The Security Council will not cause too much concern. It consists of eleven members, five permanent -- U.S.A., England, Russia, France and China,-- and six interchanging smaller nations. Of the latter, only two are known to be against the Majority report. Of the Big Five, each has the right of veto. In the case of Palestine, Dingol believes there is no danger that any of the big powers will exercise their veto since America and Russia have endorsed the Majority report. France has previously manifested its sympathy with the Jewish cause. In the case of England, if she will not help, she will also not hinder. China has never previously exercised its veto and will certainly not do so in the case of Palestine since she herself declared that the question is unfamiliar to her.

4. Different is the situation in the Assembly. Up until now a few scores of governments have spoken on the question and with the exception of the Arab states, the majority of the delegates favor a Jewish state.

Dingol is uncertain however whether the vote in the ad hoc Palestine committee will be by majority or two-thirds vote. It is possible that even if the report is adopted within that committee by a majority, the chairman may decide that this is sufficient to refer it as adopted, to the Assembly for its vote.

It is expected that the sub-committee appointed by the ad hoc committee will take from two to three weeks to complete its recommendations to the full UN ad hoc Palestine committee.

The Arabs presently count upon thirteen votes against the Majority report. These votes include their own seven states as well as Argentina, Cuba and China. To be assured of a two-thirds vote for the report, it will be necessary to have at least 38 votes out of a total of 57.

Dingol states that the Arabs have a great advantage over the Jews in the UN since they are represented by seven states while the Jews have not a single representative at the UN. The Jewish state however has advantage over the Arabs, and that is the fact that two of the major powers of the world, United States and Soviet Russia who exercise the greatest influence on the smaller countries, have already endorsed the Jewish state.

If America and Soviet Russia will follow through their policy and fight with the same vigor as they fight for other political issues at the UN, then our victory is assured. Dingol thinks however that the "if" still looms - .

U. S. Warns Arabs Against Force

The Washington correspondent of The Day reports that the U. S. Government warned the Arab states bordering on Palestine that it will not tolerate any military acts of force against the new Jewish state, if the U. N. will approve the recommendations of UNSCOP. The U. S. Government, the report states, has notified unofficially the ambassadors and ministers of the Arab states that "irresponsible talk about a holy war by the Arab League has caused great resentment on the part of our Government and that if such talk will continue, an official announcement of the U. S. position will be made."

L A T E N E W S

As this bulletin goes to press, we learn that the United States has taken issue with Britain on the question whether the British have the legal right to unilaterally surrender the Palestine mandate and withdraw their troops and thus discard its obligations to the countries which entrusted her with the mandate. Officials of the U.S. Delegation at the United Nations emphasize that inasmuch as the U.S. is a co-signatory to the mandate and is responsible for protecting American interests in Palestine, Washington does not agree with the view that the British Government that the mandate can be terminated by Britain and her troops withdraw whenever she so desires, even before an international security force has been set up.

Concern is still felt about the attitude of the U.S. Delegation in not following up its stand by urging other nations to join in the endorsement of the Majority UNSCOP report. There are even reports that smaller Latin American countries have approached the U.S. Delegation for advice but were told that they can vote as they wish on the partition issue.

Paris dispatches indicate that while France may abstain from voting altogether. This attitude of the French Government - which may undergo a change later is due to its concern with the Arabs in its own North African territory.

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

41 EAST 42ND STREET

• MURRAY HILL 2-3205

• NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPT.

ERNEST E. BARBARASH, *Director*

October 23, 1947

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Will it be all right to publish the attached item in
the New Palestine?

With kindest personal regards,

Very sincerely yours,

EE Barbarash

Ernest E. Barbarash

EEB/rr
Enclosure

Dr. A. H. Silver Gets Leave of Absence

Rabbi A. H. Silver, spiritual leader of the Temple has been granted an indefinite leave of absence by the board



RABBI A. H. SILVER

of trustees of the Temple. It will take effect the first of next year.

Dr. Silver, chairman of the American section of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, will visit his parents in the Holy Land during part of his leave.

Army Role in

Ernest E. Barbarash, Director, Public Relations
Zionist Organization of America
41 East 42nd Street
New York, N Y.

RELEASE ON RECEIPT

BATTLE WON THROUGH UNITED WILL OF JEWISH PEOPLE, SAYS EMANUEL NEUMANN

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CONGRATULATORY WIRES TO SILVER AND NEUMANN POUR IN
TO ZOA HEADQUARTERS

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TWO-DAY EXTRAORDINARY ASSEMBLY TO CONVENE DECEMBER 6-7 IN NEW YORK

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New York. -- Wires and written messages are pouring in to the headquarters of the Zionist Organization of America from hundreds of communities throughout the country congratulating Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Emanuel Neumann on the victory achieved at the United Nations for the establishment of a sovereign Jewish State in Palestine.

Dr. Emanuel Neumann, President of the ZOA and member of the Jewish Agency Executive, who together with Dr. Silver and other members of the Jewish Agency Executive carried the burden in the struggle waged for the just claims of the Jewish people, declared that "the battle was won only through the united will and determination of the Jewish people throughout the world, led and inspired by the Yishuv."

Voicing the gratitude of American Zionists to the United States, to the Soviet Union and to the members of the other countries who supported the Zionist program at the UN, the ZOA President declared that "this is one of the greatest moments in Jewish history. It is also a high moment in the life of the United Nations. The decision arrived at does not fully satisfy the just claims and historic aspirations of the Jewish people, but it does offer us a measure of justice. It is a triumphant vindication of the Zionist ideal at the hands of the highest international tribunal and holds the promise of national freedom and early independence.

"The battle has been long and hard. It was won only through the united will and determination of the Jewish people throughout the world, led and inspired by the Yishuv.

"The Zionists of America are profoundly grateful," he added, "that they were invited to contribute their share toward the outcome. They have long realized the particular responsibilities resting upon them in view of the key position and leading role of the United States in the international arena.

Today American Zionists are happy that their prolonged and strenuous efforts to win the support of the American people and Government have been crowned with success, for without that support victory at the UN would have been impossible.

"I hope that the feeling of joy which must sweep through the Jews of the world will be tempered by a sober sense of the very great tasks and heavy responsibilities which devolve upon us all if the political decision is to be translated into concrete reality.

"In this solemn moment," continued Dr. Neumann, "I send the greetings of American Zionists to the Yishuv whose magnificent courage, steadfastness and moral strength have been our inspiration in darkest days.

"Our first thought is of the millions of our brothers and sisters whose ashes are stewn over the continent of Europe and, above all, of the survivors who have been suffering and waiting so long for the beginning of the redemption."

Extraordinary Conference December 6-7

An extraordinary conference of the National Administrative Council, the ruling body of the Zionist Organization of America between conventions, will be convened at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City beginning Saturday night, December 6th through all day Sunday, December 7th. This extraordinary assembly will be devoted to a review of all major problems confronting the movement and the Yishuv with the establishment of Jewish Statehood and to a consideration of the future program and policies of the Zionist Organization of America. The conference will be addressed by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Chairman of the American section of the Jewish Agency for Palestine; Dr. Emanuel Neumann, ZOA President, and other outstanding leaders of the world Zionist movement. Speakers will include Dr. Israel Goldstein, Daniel Frisch and Rabbi Irving Miller, Chairman of the National Administrative Council, who will preside at the Council sessions.

Mass Thanksgiving and Victory Rally Held

A mass thanksgiving and victory rally, sponsored by the Zionist Organization of America, was held Tuesday night at the Manhattan Center in New York City. An overflow crowd of many thousands jammed the surrounding streets and listened over the loud-speaker system to addresses by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Dr. Emanuel Neumann and other outstanding Zionist leaders. Rabbi Miller presided.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

DATE: December 12, 1947

FROM: Mr. Ernest E. Barbarash

SUBJECT:

The writer of the attached letter is the
Chief of the Washington Bureau of the
"New York Herald Tribune."



copy

NEW YORK HERALD-TRIBUNE
Washington Bureau

National Press Building
Washington 4, D.C.

December 10, 1947

Ernest E. Barbarash, Editor
New Palestine
41 East 42d Street
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Barbarash:

Your current issue, which arrived at my home this morning is truly a great number, historically and journalistically.

Your throwback to Theodore Herzl's prophetic words just fifty years ago dramatized magnificently the almost miraculous timing of the UN decision.

Your tribute to our great Jewish leaders who toiled so tirelessly for this great day was eloquent and could not have been over-emphasized.

Might I, however, as just another elated Jew and Zionist suggest that in this day of triumph we must not forget our great Gentile friends who deserve so much gratitude because, unlike us, our cause was not in their blood—just in their hearts.

I have in mind the unswerving loyalty and work of such men as James G. McDonald and to a slightly lesser degree others too numerous to name. Perhaps even more I have in mind the loyalty and friendship, not generally known to many of us, of such a man as General John H. Hildring. His arrival on the scene as U.S. adviser on Palestine was, as I guardedly pointed out in the New York Herald Tribune of Sept. 19, a momentous development. He was a great engineer and diplomat for our cause. He, of course, was not alone. Warren Austin had always been a friend. With the help of our own great leaders, these men must be credited to a great extent with the achievement we celebrate today—even to the counteracting of the last minute unofficial treachery of some of the career State Department stooges of the Arab leaders.

Sincerely yours,
(signed)
Carl Levin

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. A. H. Silver
Dr. Emanuel Neumann

DATE: February 26, 1948

FROM: Ernest E. Barbarash

SUBJECT:

You will be interested in the following extract of the latest issue of the Twohey Analysis of Newspaper Opinion of Washington, ending February 21st:

UNITED NATIONS - PALESTINE

Palestine takes 60% of attention going to UN affairs. The UN Palestine Commission request that the Security Council provide the necessary police force to carry out partition is upheld by 40%, while 20% take a more neutral position. Those urging creation of an international police force point out it is the only way to prevent bloodshed when Britain withdraws, insist the Security Council must act promptly to maintain UN prestige, and hold that the very existence of UN is at stake in Arab defiance of UN's decision. 12% in this group criticize U. S. inaction, hold we should take the lead in UN action and deprecate danger to the oil fields if America acts. The neutral group is fearful of Russian participation in an international police force, dislikes the idea of using U. S. troops against the Arabs, doubts there is any solution to the mess or deprecates the seriousness of Arab threats."

Ernest E. Barbarash, Director, Public Relations
Zionist Organization of America
41 East 42nd Street
New York 17, N.Y.
Murray Hill 2-3205

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HILLDRING, CRUM, McDONALD TO ADDRESS ZIONIST CONVENTION

New York. - General John H. Hilldring, who served as U.S. representative to the U.N. General Assembly, James G. McDonald and Bartley Crum, members of the Anglo-American Commission of Inquiry on Palestine, will be among the principal speakers at the 51st annual convention of the Zionist Organization of America, which will meet in Pittsburgh from July 2nd through July 5th with more than 2,000 delegates in attendance.

General Hilldring who, due to ill health, recently turned down the appointment as Special Assistant to Secretary of State Marshall in Charge of Palestine Affairs, is scheduled to speak at the formal opening of the four-day sessions on Saturday night, July 3rd. This session will feature the presidential address by Dr. Neumann

James G. McDonald will address the special Jewish National Fund session on Sunday morning, which will in addition be highlighted by an address by Judge Morris Rothenberg, president of the JNF.

The relationship of American Zionists toward the Republic of Israel, constitutional division and organizational changes embracing general policies, youth and education will be the major topics of the four-day convention sessions.

Henry Morgenthau, Jr., national chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, will address a special UJA session during the convention. General Zionist problems will be discussed at the special session led by Dr. Israel Goldstein, chairman of the World Confederation of General Zionists.

The convention will close with a "Salute to Israel" banquet on Monday night, July 5th, which will be in tribute to Dr. Abba Hille Silver, chairman of the American Section of the Jewish Agency for Palestine.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

51ST ANNUAL ZIONIST CONVENTION TO DEFINE RELATIONSHIP
TO JEWISH STATE

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Future American Zionist Program to be Presented in Presidential
Address by Dr. Emanuel Neumann. - Abba Hillel Silver to Review
Political Situation

WRHS

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

- - -

McDONALD TO DELIVER FIRST PUBLIC ADDRESS SINCE APPOINTMENT
AS U.S. DIPLOMATIC ENVOY TO ISRAEL; MAJ.- GEN. HILLDRING,
SEN. PEPPER, BARTLEY CRUM, EBAN, MORGENTHAU TO ADDRESS SESSIONS

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Dr. Israel Goldstein and Judge Morris Rothenberg Principal
Speakers at Special Convention Sessions

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New York - With an expected attendance of some 2,000 delegates representing
650 regions and districts in 47 states throughout the country and the territory
of Hawaii, the 51st annual convention of the Zionist Organization of America
will convene beginning July 2nd through July 5th at the Wm. Penn Hotel in
Pittsburgh.

Meeting for the first time since the establishment of the Jewish State, the convention will be called upon to chart a new course for the Zionist movement and to define in clear terms the future relationship of American Zionists toward the new-born Republic of Israel.

The formal opening of the convention will be preceded by a Friday evening dinner under the auspices of the American Zionist Youth Commission.

The future program of the ZOA will be presented for consideration of the convention by Dr. Emanuel Neumann in his presidential address at the formal opening session on Saturday evening, July 3rd.

Outstanding Figures to Speak

The convention sessions will be addressed by outstanding Jewish and non-Jewish leaders on the American and international scene. These will include Dr. James G. McDonald, newly-appointed U.S. diplomatic envoy to Israel (in his first public address since his appointment, speaking at the special Jewish National Fund session on Sunday, July 4th); Major-General John H. Hilldring, who was offered the post of Special Assistant to Secretary of State Marshall on Palestine Affairs; Senator Claude Pepper; Hon. Bartley Crum, member of the Anglo-American Commission of Inquiry; Major Aubrey S. Eban, Special Representative of Israel to the UN; Henry Morgenthau, Jr., national chairman of the United Jewish Appeal.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of the American Section of the Jewish Agency for Palestine and chairman of the American Zionist Emergency Committee, will review the political situation and deliver an important address thereon at the Sunday afternoon session. This session will be highlighted by a full discussion following the presentation of resolutions.

Dr. Israel Goldstein, as chairman of the World Confederation of General Zionists, will be the principal speaker at the special session Monday morning, July 5th, devoted to a discussion of General Zionist problems. Dr. Goldstein will also preside at the special United Jewish Appeal session on Sunday night. Another speaker will be Charles Ress, President of the Keren Hayesod.

Judge Morris Rothenberg, president of the Jewish National Fund, will be the principal speaker, together with Dr. McDonald, at the JNF session on Sunday noon.

Cultural

Saturday afternoon will be given over to an Oneg Shabbat (Sabbath Joy) in cooperation with the Histadruth Ivrit, national Hebrew organization of America, which will be presided over by Samuel J. Borowsky. Speakers will include Dr. Emanuel Neumann, Dr. Israel Goldstein and Menachem Ribalow, editor of the Hebrew weekly, "Hadoar."

The Sabbath morning sermon will be delivered by Rabbi David Polish of Chicago.

The Friday evening youth dinner will be presided over by Abraham Berkowitz of Birmingham, Ala. Speakers will be Louis Schwefel of New York, chairman of the General Zionist Chalutzit (Pioneer) Commission; Dr. Simon Greenberg, Provost of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America; and Herman L. Weisman of Scarsdale, N.Y., chairman of the American Zionist Youth Commission.

Reports

Sunday morning, July 4th, will feature Independence Day exercises, presided over by Major William Kapelman of New York. Joseph W. Greenleaf of Mt. Vernon will preside over the Sunday forenoon sessions which will be devoted to reports on various phases of ZOA activities by Dr. Sidney Marks, executive director; membership, Joseph Goldberg of Worcester; American Zionist Fund, Mendell M. Selig, Leominster, Mass.; Education, Dr. Robert M. Gordis, New York; Committee on Unity, Dr. Felix A. Levy, Chicago; Israel Equipment Project, Benjamin J. Dof, Long Island; Life Membership, Willy Nordwind, Chicago; Youth Groups, Jack Snyder, President of Masada.

Dr. Harris J. Levine of N.Y., Jewish National Fund chairman for the ZOA and Mendell Fisher, executive director of the JNF will be rapporteurs for the JNF session on Sunday noon. Jacques Torczyner of New York will preside at the General Zionist session on Monday morning, at which speakers will include Itzhak J. Karpman, executive director of the World Confederation of General Zionists;

Dr. Jacob M. Alkow, director of American Palestine Enterprises, Incorporated; and Meir Hartman of Tel Aviv, special economic representative for Israel.

Election of officers is scheduled to be held at the Sunday afternoon session.

Salute to Israel Banquet

The convention will close formally on Monday evening, July 5th, with a "Salute to Israel" banquet which will take the form of a tribute to Dr. Abba Hillel Silver. This session will be marked by an address by Major-General John H. Hilldring and Governor James H. Duff of Pennsylvania. Dr. Emanuel Neumann will preside.

Samuel Goldstock of Pittsburgh is chairman of the Convention Committee.



June 25, 1948
Con. #4 AD

Ernest E. Barbarash, Director, Public Relations
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41 East 42nd Street
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Murray Hill 2-3205

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New York, N. Y. - Herewith are the new Officers and the National Executive Committee elected at the 51st Annual ZOA Convention held at Pittsburgh, Pa. July 2nd through 5th.

President - Dr. Emanuel Neumann, New York, N. Y.

Honorary Vice President - Dr. Harry Friedenwald, Baltimore, Md.

Treasurer - Mr. Mark Sugarman, Coatesville, Pa.

Associate Treasurers - Mr. Joseph W. Greenleaf, Mt. Vernon, N. Y., and Mr. William H. Sylk, Philadelphia, Pa.

Vice Presidents - Mr. Benjamin Browdy, New York; Rabbi Leon Feuer, Toledo, O.; Daniel Frisch, New York; Abe Goldstein, Hartford, Conn; Abraham Goodman, Miami Beach, Fla; Mortimer May, Nashville, Tenn.; Harry Pine, Newark, N. J.; Charles Ress, Mt. Vernon, N. Y.; Dewey Stone, Brockton, Mass; Elihu D. Stone, Boston, Mass; Herman L. Weisman, Scarsdale, N. Y.

National Secretary - Dr. Sidney Marks, Queens, N. Y.

Chairman of the Finance Committee - Milton Pollack, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Chairman of the Administrative Council - Rabbi Irving Miller, Woodmere, L.I.

Vice Chairman of the Administrative Council - Jacques Torczyner, New York, N.Y.

Secretary of the Administrative Council - Jacob Richman, Philadelphia, Pa.

more

FOR THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Marcus Abramson, Bronx, New York
Abe Berkowitz, Birmingham, Ala.
Abe R. Cohen, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Harry Cohen, Bronx, New York
Sol Cohen, Long Island, New York
Rabbi Samuel Cooper, Ohio Valley
Benjamin Doft, Long Island
Michael Egnal, Philadelphia, Pa.
Louis Falk, New Jersey
John Fox, New Haven, Conn.
Irving Galt, New York, N. Y.
Ben Zion Ginsberg, Chicago, Ill.
Joseph Goldberg, Worcester, Mass.
Samuel Goldstock, Pittsburgh, Pa.
I. R. Goodman, Miami Beach, Fla.
Jacob Goodman, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Rabbi Robert Gordis, Long Island
Benjamin E. Gordon, New Jersey
Rabbi Simon Greenberg, New York, N. Y.
Morris Jacobs, Detroit, Mich.
Judge Harry Kalodner, Philadelphia, Pa.
Paul Kaminsky, New York City
William Kapelman, Bronx, N. Y.
Edmund Koblenz, Albany, New York
Leon Kohn, New York City
Dr. Harris Levine, Bronx, N. Y.
Julius Livingston, Tulsa, Okla.
Jacob Lukashok, New Rochelle, N. Y.
A. Luntz, Cleveland, Ohio
Dr. Samuel Margoshes, New York City
David Moskowitz, Bronx, N. Y.
Dr. Morton J. Robbins, Nashua, New Hampshire
Dr. David Reiss, St. Louis, Mo.
B. G. Rudolph, Syracuse, New York
Joachanon Rudavsky, Brooklyn, New York
Albert Schiff, Columbus, Ohio
Milton Silverman, Chicago, Ill.
David Spiegel, Brooklyn, New York
Theodore Strimling, Los Angeles, Calif.
I. S. Turover, Washington, D. C.
Morris Weinberg, New York City

Five vacancies (1 vice-president and 4 members of the National Executive) will be elected at the next meeting of the Administrative Council. Eight members at large are to be named by the ZOA President for election by the Administrative Council.

7/7/48