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Zionist Organization of America, Neumann, Emanuel, 1945-1948.

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

41 EAST 42ND STREET
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

November 13, 1945

To: Members of the General Zionist Bloc of American Jewish Conference

Dear Friends:

As you are no doubt aware, the Fourth Session of the American Jewish Conference, meeting in Chicago, November 29 - December 1, will discuss plans for the establishment of a permanent organization to represent democratically the American Jewish community.

The Zionist Organization, which took an active part in the setting up of the American Jewish Conference, is greatly interested in the realization of the project which would bring order, union and cohesion into American Jewish life.

For the past four years the American Jewish Conference has been rendering a historic service to the cause of Jewish Palestine by advocating before the U. S. Government the urgent need for establishing Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth. Voicing the views of American Jewry, representatives of the Conference appeared before the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry, submitted memoranda to other inter-governmental bodies established to deal with the Palestine problem, and made numerous representations to our own Government. As the only organization in which Zionists and non-Zionists work together, the Conference has exercised a great deal of influence in shaping opinion in this country. It has also greatly contributed to the unification of all Jewish forces and the defense of Jewish rights abroad; and was instrumental in bringing about the establishment of the Jewish Restitution Commission, of which the Jewish Agency is a part.

Without expressing at this juncture a definite opinion with regard to the many aspects of the plan drafted by the Committee on Future Organization, I believe that it is of the greatest importance that the Zionist forces should be fully represented at the Chicago Session and that they should lend complete support to the concerted attempt to establish an authorized spokesman for American Jewry. The General Zionist bloc, being one of the largest and strongest in the Conference, carries the greatest responsibility for the fate of the organization and for the eventual establishment of a permanent organization. It is the duty of all Zionists who are delegates to the American Jewish Conference to take part in the Fourth Session of the American Jewish Conference and to contribute their utmost to the successful completion of the plans which will be submitted there.

Sincerely,

Emanuel Neumann
Dr. Emanuel Neumann
President

EN/M1

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MORRIS WEINBERG, New York, N. Y.

HERMAN L. WEISMAN, Scarsdale, N. Y.

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Dr. Emanuel Neumann
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver ✓

DATE: July 31, 1947

FROM:

Dr. Sidney Marks

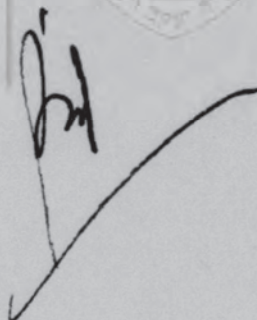
SUBJECT:

I am herewith enclosing copy of letter received from
Dr. Lauterbach, with reference to the transfer of
Dr. Herzl's remains, which bears your scrutiny.

What are your advices?

Kindest personal regards.

Enc.



195/9137

ORGANISATION DEPARTMENT

Jerusalem, P.O.B.92

July 25, 1947

Dr. Sidney Marks
Zionist Organisation of America
41 East 42nd Street,
New York

Dear Dr. Marks:

I am addressing you on behalf of the Executive in the following urgent matter:-

According to press reports, your Organisation has set up a committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Silver, to deal with the transfer of Herzl's remains to Palestine.

I am to inform you that our Executive has devoted much attention to this matter and is firmly resolved to effect an early realisation of this plan, long overdue. A report on the matter which, as you perhaps know, is rather involved, will be submitted to the forthcoming session of the Actions Committee, before whom some contentious questions will be laid for authoritative decision.

Our request is that pending that action you and your friends take no steps in this difficult and delicate matter and communicate to us as soon as possible any plans that you may have in mind so that we can give them our consideration in advance of the A.C. meeting.

A brief cable to this effect has been sent to you.

Waiting to hear from you, I am,

With Zion's greetings,

/s/ L. L. Lauterbach

ORGANISATION DEPT. OF THE EXECUTIVE

October 1st, 1947

Memorandum

To: Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
From: Mr. Emanuel Neumann

I am enclosing request received from the Speakers' Bureau to address the student and officers' body at the U.S. Naval Academy. This is the Sunday of the week-end that the UPA National Conference takes place. Would you be able to make it? In the meantime I am getting more information as to how the request originated and will advise you.

EN:BW

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Emanuel Neumann

DATE: September 26, 1947

FROM: Mrs. Howard Daniel

SUBJECT:

We have a request for you or Dr. Silver to address the Sunday morning services of the UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY in Annapolis on Sunday, October 12 at 9:45 A.M.

The services

~~It~~ will be attended by the entire student and officers body of the Academy.

Jess Nathan, our director in Norfolk, tells me that arrangements would be made for the speaker to be picked up by car in Washington, and also to be returned by car.

Would you be good enough to advise me whether you yourself will accept this invitation, or whether you would like to suggest somebody else.

Sincerely,

Judith Daniel

October 5, 1947

Mr. Emanuel Neumann
749 West End Ave.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Emanuel:

With reference to addressing the U. S. Naval Academy on October 12 -- that is the Sunday on which I open my services at The Temple. I am, of course, unable to accept the invitation. If at all possible, you should go there.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

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PRESIDENT

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October 22, 1947

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

Dear Mr. Neumann:

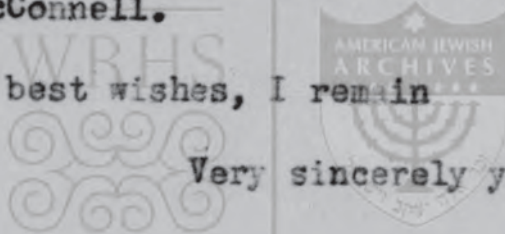
Dr. Silver requested me to send you
the enclosed copy of a letter which he received
from Bishop McConnell.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

BJK

Secretary to Dr. Silver



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RE BALFOUR DAY DINNER WALDORF-ASTORIA NYC SEVEN PM NOVEMBER

THIRD ANXIOUS YOUR ATTENDANCE AND ADDRESS PLEASE WIRE

CONFIRMATION REGARDS=

EMANUEL NEUMANN.

.PM.

BY

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Dr 1090

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(C O P Y)

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OCT 23 1947

NLT DR AMMANUEL NEUMANN
16 EAST 66 STREET NEWYORK

MEETING OF EUROPEAN BUREAU OF WORLD CONFEDERATION OF GENERAL ZIONISTS JUST CONCLUDED
IN LONDON REQUESTED US SEND YOU CONGRATULATIONS AND EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE FOR YOUR
EXCELLENT WORK IN CONNECTION UNITED NATIONS DISCUSSION OF PALESTINE PROBLEM STOP ALL
OUR REPORTS CONFIRM THAT EUROPEAN JEWRY LOOKING WITH HOPE TOWARDS YOUR EFFORT

SELIG BRODETSKY DR JOSEPH SAGALL AARON LUXEMBOURG
SAM SEGAL ABRAHAM BAUM

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ZIONIST ORGANISATION OF AMERICA
NEW YORK, U.S.A.

P.O.B. BOX 1159
Jerusalem 9th Nov. 1947

Ref. No. 212

Dr. Emanuel Neumann,
521 Fifth Ave.
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Emanuel,

A further talk took place between Messrs. Rokach, Saphir and Arie, and myself, in the home of Max Greenberg. The main part was taken on this occasion by Saphir who very accurately analysed the situation in the Yishuv. His case is that as the General Zionist party is still so weak, it would be foolish to ask the Ihud Ezrahi to liquidate its organisation and simply ask all its adherents to join the party, even though places were given in the leadership of the party, also to the leaders of the Ihud. This, he contends, would only mean a loss of the present power which the Ihud is able to operate, with little compensation in the additional numbers in the party. The Ihud, as you know, has managed to line up various groupings such as the farmers, merchants, manufacturers, businessmen, and in some cases in the municipalities, members of the Revisionist party and even of the Mizrahi have joined the bloc. As a result of this organisation the Ihud was able to secure a 50% representation in the Jewish National body responsible for internal security. The other 50% is held by the Histadrut. It is thus not on a party basis. The Ihud is proud of its position in this committee and no doubt fulfills its function in a very responsible and loyal manner. At all events no one has suggested any change in that balance of forces.

It is on the basis of that precedent that the Ihud is now insisting upon a 50% representation in its proposed emergency national council to lead the Yishuv in the coming critical times.

Mr. Saphir argued therefore that the economic groupings organized by the Ihud, should be retained even though their members join the General Zionist party. Furthermore they recommend that such matters as security, municipal affairs and economic enterprise, should be placed by the General Zionist party in the hands of the Ihud group also after it joins the party. Discussing this with Auster (who at one time was a leader of the Ihud but broke away when they abjured the party), he said that he would agree to this proposal provided that the general policy in those three subjects, as in all other subjects, should be determined by the party as a whole, inclusive of the Ihud elements, and that the execution of that policy be in the hands of the Ihud economic groupings. This seems to me to provide a basis for discussion although undoubtedly there is much more to be said on both sides.

Naturally the attitude is the Histadrut will be a difficult poser. I raised this point and the others agreed that the Histadrut must be recognized, but insisted upon the demand of the General Zionists that it be de-politicised, being carried out. If the Histadrut should become a trade union and not more, then the issue would be much clearer. As you know, we have the situation of the Oved Zioni which is in the Histadrut and which undoubtedly is much opposed to the Ihud. This difficulty will, I think, have to be straightened out sooner

or later. I think the Oved Zioni will have to determine in what respect it differs from the Histadrut in policy, justifying it remaining a separate organization, joined to the General Zionists, because if they oppose the Ihud on class lines, it is difficult to distinguish between them and the other socialist labour parties.

The present conflict between the Ihud and the Histadrut in regard to cooperation on new emergency measures is having serious repercussions in the General Zionist ranks. I do not know whether you are aware that there still persist within the party shadow or skeleton groups of A and B which even meet separately. At a meeting of the General Zionists at which leading representatives from Tel Aviv and outside were present, Mr. Greenbaum attacked the right wing and threatened to resign if his own line was not followed. I have since learned that he continues to talk of withdrawal from the party with his supporters of group A. I cannot say how strong such support would be. Sometimes I think that it might be healthier in the end if some such operation took place, but I realise of course that abroad this might have very awkward consequences.

At a meeting of the Confederation Merkaz, Kolodny referred to the Ihud attitude as obstructionist and as you know the Oved Zioni joined other labour groups in signing a call for mobilization, to which only labour groups were signatory.

2. Since I last wrote on the subject, there have been occasional reports of steps being taken towards evacuation by the British. These are mostly of a preparatory nature, but certain large contracting jobs for the Airforce, for which tenders were submitted lately, have been suspended. Generally expansion of military airfields has been interrupted and only routine repairs are being made.

There have been dismissals of temporary officials in certain departments, and it is even said that some 15,000 soldiers have left the country in the last three months. Some camps in the south are reported to have been evacuated and left in the hands of guards only.

2. The quarrel between the Hagana and the dissident groups has also occupied much attention. I may be permitted to remind you that a considerable time ago I foresaw that the dissident groups would not disperse even when they considered their fight with Britain was over. It is now clear beyond all doubt, on the admission of those concerned, that they expect a definite place in the leadership of the movement. They charge Ben Gurion with desiring their liquidation, and hence proposing that they disband and join the official organisation as individuals. They regard this as political suicide. Zivav has written an article on this subject in which he severely criticises the Hagana and the Jewish Agency in their attitude to the dissidents. He argues that it was for the Agency to conduct an educational campaign against the dissidents and for the Hagana to confine itself to its purely defensive purpose. Instead the Agency avoided its duty, and left to the Hagana the task of "education" by physical struggle with the dissident groups. This began by attacking the pamphleteers, which soon developed into a war of posters, which also grew from fisticuffs to arms and fatalities. Now, he argues, that when the Jewish State is established and the Hagana becomes

9th Nov., 1947

its official force, it will find a partisan organisation competing with it! He argues that if the educational campaign of the Agency was thoroughly carried out, then an atmosphere would be created in which, with mutual goodwill on both sides, the dissidents would agree to an organized disarmament. (Incidentally he criticises those Zionist leaders who attempted to deny a connection between the Agency and the Hagana)

Haaretz too has deplored the internal friction and corresponding lack of action in the Yishuv. Since it complained that mobilization centers had not been set up, owing to differences in the Yishuv, it has been stated that such offices have now been opened, but their constitution is not revealed. It is clear that an agreement has not been reached with the Ihud, the latter are not participating.

Sincerely yours,

Elias

Rokach told me he received your wire and answered positively. I told him that obviously one of the matters on which consultation was desired was General Zionism.



November 14, 1947

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

My dear Emanuel:

Dr. Falkman informed me yesterday that Mr. Abe Luntz has received no notice about his appointment to the Executive of the ZOA nor has he received any notices. I had assumed at the time of the Convention that Mr. Luntz would be appointed a member of the Executive. This is very important inasmuch as Mr. Luntz is a key man to all Zionist activities here in the city.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ANS:BK

TELEGRAM SENT ON DECEMBER 6, 1947

Dr. Emanuel Neumann, President
Zionist Organization of America
300 Central Park West
New York, N.Y.

PLEASE EXPRESS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ZOA EXECUTIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES MY PROFOUND REGRETS AT BEING UNABLE TO ATTEND THE SESSIONS. THE CLEVELAND COMMUNITY IS HAVING A PUBLIC CELEBRATION ON SUNDAY EVENING AND MY OWN TEMPLE IN THE MORNING. THEY WILL READILY UNDERSTAND THAT I CANNOT ABSENT MYSELF FROM THESE CELEBRATIONS IN MY OWN HOME TOWN. PLEASE CONVEY MY HEARTIEST FELICITATIONS TO ALL THE ZIONIST LEADERS IN ATTENDANCE WHO HAVE THROUGH THE YEARS BORNE THE BRUNT OF THE STRUGGLE FOR OUR NATIONAL RESTORATION. OUR VICTORY IS THE CONSUMMATION OF THE HEROIC EFFORTS AND SACIFICES OF MYRIADS OF JEWS THROUGH-
-OUT THE WORLD AND OVER A LONG PERIOD OF YEARS, FIRST AND FOREMOST OF THE JEWS OF PALESTINE ITSELF STOP IT WAS THE GREAT PRIVILEGE OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF AMERICA TO HOLD THE KEY POSITION IN THE FINAL YEARS OF THE STRUGGLE AND HISTORY WILL RECORD THAT IT WAS NOT FOUND WANTING. MANY GREAT TASKS LIE AHEAD BUT WE SHALL BE EQUAL TO THEM. I SALUTE THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA FOR SPEARHEADING THROUGHOUT THE YEARS THE BATTLE IN THE UNITED STATES FOR OUR NATIONAL REDEMPTION.

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

12-6-47

DR. EMANUEL NEUMANN
300 CENTRAL PARK WEST
NEW YORK, N.Y.

PLEASE EXPRESS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ZOA EXECUTIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES MY PROFOUND REGRETS AT BEING UNABLE TO ATTEND THE SESSIONS. THE CLEVELAND COMMUNITY IS HAVING A PUBLIC CELEBRATION ON SUNDAY EVENING AND MY OWN TEMPLE IN THE MORNING. ^{They} ~~you~~ WILL READILY UNDERSTAND THAT I CANNOT ABSENT MYSELF FROM THESE CELEBRATIONS IN MY ^{own} HOME TOWN. PLEASE CONVEY MY HEARTIEST FELICITATIONS TO ALL THE ZIONIST LEADERS IN ATTENDANCE WHO HAVE THROUGH THE YEARS ^{borne} ~~CARRIED~~ THE BRUNT OF THE STRUGGLE FOR OUR NATIONAL RESTORATION. OUR ~~NATIONAL~~ VICTORY IS THE CONSUMMATION OF THE HEROIC EFFORTS AND SACRIFICES OF ^{myriads of} JEWS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD AND ~~it~~ ^{long} OVER A ~~CONSIDERABLE~~ PERIOD OF YEARS, FIRST AND FOREMOST ^{of the Jews} ~~IS THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF PALESTINE ITSELF.~~ ^{stop} IT WAS THE ^{Great} ~~FORTUNATE~~ PRIVILEGE OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF AMERICA TO HOLD ^{the} ~~a~~ KEY POSITION IN THE FINAL YEARS OF THE STRUGGLE AND HISTORY WILL RECORD THAT IT WAS NOT FOUND WANTING. ~~I PERSONALLY EXPERIENCE A DEEP SENSE OF~~ ~~PRIDE AND HUMILITY THAT I HAD A SHARE WITH~~ ~~IN THIS HISTORIC ACHIEVEMENT.~~ ^{through the years} MANY GREAT TASKS LIE AHEAD BUT WE SHALL BE EQUAL TO THEM. I SALUTE THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA FOR SPEARHEADING THE BATTLE IN THE UNITED STATES FOR OUR NATIONAL REDEMPTION.

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

December 12, 1947

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

My dear Emanuel:

I am enclosing herewith an article from the
Hadoar to indicate how the story of the United
Nations is recorded. This is evidently not a
magazine which is supported by the ZOA.

With all good wishes, I remain

As ever yours,

AHS:BKE
Enc.



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A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

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Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

12-15-47 19

To EMANUEL NEUMANN

Care of or Apt. No. 521 Fifth Ave.

Street and No. New York, N.Y.

Place

WOULD SUGGEST THAT OUR SMALL MEETING BE HELD ELEVEN WEDNESDAY MORNING.

AFTERN OON AND EVENING TAKEN. REGARDS.

ABBA

Sender's name and address
(For reference only)

Sender's telephone
number

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A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

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Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

To Dr. Emanuel Neumann

12-15-47 19

Care of or Apt. No. 521 Fifth Ave.

Street and No. New York, N.Y.

Place

I HAVE CONTACTED NATHANIEL GOLDSTEIN ABOUT DEWEY AND I SUGGEST THAT YOU DO

NOT HAVE ANYONE ELSE APPROACH HIM IN THE MENATIME. REGARDS

ABBA

Sender's name and address
(For reference only)

Sender's telephone
number

December 22, 1947

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

My dear Emanuel:

I don't know whether you have been following closely the reports of the activities of the Haganah emanating from Palestine. It seems that their communications are being channeled to the United States through the Histadruth thus giving the impression that the Haganah is exclusively a Histadruth activity.

I noticed the full page ad today of the Labor Zionist Shekel Committee in which the Histadruth label is being tagged on to the Labor Zionist as if the Histadruth contained none but Labor Zionists. I think that both of these maneuvers ought to be exposed forthwith. I believe that Palestine ought to be apprised of the manner in which the security activities of the Yishuv are being monopolized by the Mapai in this country. A cable should be dispatched forthwith, in my judgment.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially,

AHS:BK

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

NEUMANN CHARGES TRAP FOR JEWISH STATE
IN NEW PROPOSALS TO U.N.

- - - - -

ZIONIST PRESIDENT DECLARES PALESTINE JEWS READY FOR
GENUINE MILITARY TRUCE, BUT NOT FOR POLITICAL SURRENDER

New York. - Dr. Emanuel Neumann, President of the Zionist Organization of America and member of the American Section of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, this week declared that the U.S. trusteeship proposal is a "dead duck," adding "unless our Government employs the utmost pressure and steam roller tactics to shove it through and then sends an army to force it upon the Jews and Arabs in Palestine."

The Zionist leader, speaking at a special meeting of Regional Directors of the Zionist Organization of America held here, asserted, however, that "it is generally assumed that our Government will do neither." He said, "Certainly no one has yet been able to give a rational answer to the question: If force is to be used to implement trusteeship and if force is available, why should it not be used to implement the partition resolution of November 29th?"

Earlier in his address, Dr. Neumann asserted that the Jewish State "exists de facto and cannot be destroyed except by overwhelming force." He pointed to "another danger" that had arisen, warning:

"An attempt is now being made to halt the emergence of the Jewish State under the misleading formula of a proposed truce for the whole of Palestine. What is actually being proposed is not a simple 'cease fire' agreement or a military truce between the contending forces, but a political settlement,

(more)

supposedly temporary in character - virtually a temporary trusteeship under the guise of a 'truce.' It is an attempt to accomplish by indirection what cannot be achieved directly through regular processes, under United Nations procedures."

The ZOA head asserted that "American Zionists hope that neither the Jewish Agency nor the Provisional Council of Government of the Jewish State will fall into such a trap. It is not to be expected that they will voluntarily, by their own act, sign away the rights they had acquired by virtue of the decision of November 29th, or forego the hard-won fruits of the military successes of the Haganah, the Jewish State Militia. The Provisional Government of the Jewish State has already been set up - and is functioning. It has taken over progressively, administrative functions as they are relinquished by the Mandatory Power and will take over the balance on the expiration of the Mandate, May 15th. They are ready and willing to enter into a genuine truce, i.e., a military truce. They are not ready for a political surrender.

"If the United Nations and the United States are sincerely anxious to find a way out of the present difficulty," he declared, "that way is clear:

1. Recognize the de facto existence of the Jewish State.
2. Bring to bear upon the Arab States the full weight of international authority to prevent further acts of aggression on their part.

Peace in Palestine cannot be achieved by any attempts to cajole or coerce the embattled Jews of that country into further concessions to Arab aggression. They will hold what they have won and will defend it to the utmost of their ability."

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Excerpts of Address by Dr. Emanuel Neumann
President, Zionist Organization of America
at Special meeting of Regional Directors
May 3, 1948

Since the Special Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations was convened about a fortnight ago, the political situation regarding Palestine has undergone further development. All indications in Palestine are that partition is already an accomplished fact, and in Lake Success the indications are that the trusteeship proposal is a "dead duck." The Jewish State exists de facto and cannot be destroyed except by overwhelming force. On the other hand, trusteeship cannot pass the Assembly unless our Government employs the utmost pressure and steam-roller tactics to shove it through and then sends an army to force it upon the Jews and Arabs in Palestine. It is generally assumed that our Government will do neither. Certainly no one has yet been able to give a rational answer to the question: If force is to be used to implement trusteeship and if such force is available, why should it not be used to implement the partition resolution of November 29th?

But another danger has arisen. An attempt is now being made to halt the emergence of the Jewish State under the misleading formula of a proposed "truce" for the whole of Palestine. What is actually being proposed is not a simple "cease fire" agreement or a military truce between the contending forces, but a political settlement - supposedly temporary in character - virtually a temporary trusteeship under the guise of a "truce." It is an attempt to accomplish by indirection what cannot be achieved directly through regular processes under United Nations procedure.

American Zionists hope that neither the Jewish Agency nor the Provisional Council of Government of the Jewish State will fall into such a trap. It is not to be expected that they will voluntarily, by their own act, sign away the rights they had acquired by virtue of the decision of November 29th, or forego the hard-won fruits of the military successes of the Haganah, the Jewish State Militia. The Provisional Government of the Jewish State has already been set up - and is functioning. It has taken over, progressively, administrative functions as they are relinquished by the Mandatory Power and will take over the balance on the expiration of the Mandate, May 15. They are ready and willing to enter into a genuine truce, i.e., a military truce. They are not ready for a political surrender.

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