

#### Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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#### MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.

Series II: Harold P. Manson File (Zionism Files), 1940-1949, undated. Sub-series A: Main Manson File, 1940-1949.

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National Conference for Palestine, 1942.

#### THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY Washington

January 7, 1942

The National Conference for Palestine Hotel Statler Cleveland, Ohio

This Conference, which in normal times would be another laudable appeal to American Zionists for the Zionist cause, in our turbulent days rises immeasurably in importance. The appeal today is no longer addressed to Zionists alone, but to all Zionists, non-Zionists and non-Jews who believe in justice and freedom. It no longer appeals to Americans alone, but to the people of all free nations. And the cause is identified with the all-embracing cause of Democracy.

The appeal of this Conference is to fortify the ideals of social good, the ideals of true democracy, the ideals of a just peace which will secure to the smallest nations equal justice with the great - ideals which are the cornerstone and foundation of the Jewish spirit, unconquered and unconquerable.

To all at this Conference dedicated to victory in our just cause, I send my heartiest greetings.

Henry Morgenthau, Jr.

#### FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY Washington

Office of The Administrator

January 14, 1942

Dear Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, National Chairman United Palestine Appeal 41 East 42nd Street New York City

Dear Dr. Silver:

In response to your recent letter, it is a matter of deep regret that I am unable to be with you in Cleveland at the National Conference for Palestine. I should like to extend to you and your colleagues, who diligently work throughout the year for freedom and security for the homeless among the Jewish people, my greetings and sincere wishes for success.

You have devoted yourselves to the great task of building a homeland in Palestine for the Jews of the world.

A homeland there may be, a shrine and temple for the ideals and aspirations of men.

But there is no refuge. One cannot quarantine a land against tyranny and persecution.

The world is one. If aggression stalks the peoples of the earth, no land, no person is immune.

The world "cannot endure half slave and half free."

So it is that this year your colonists from all the world stand with the free men from every land, armed against a common foe. And all their labors are bent to the service of a victory which shall be a victory of mankind. Through the triumph of the joint efforts of the Nations united for the preservation of democracy, freedom and security will again be possible for all Nations on this earth.

There are black months ahead for us. But this goal is worth the sacrifice.

With kindest regards and every good wish, I am

Very cordially yours,

(Signed) Paul V. McNutt
Administrator

#### OABLE

HW242 CABLE BRIT GOVT LONDON 147/145 1/34 16 636P

(Received January 16, 1942)

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER THE TEMPLE CLEVELAND, OHIO

FROM AIRMINISTRY WHITEHALL A872 16/1 PLEASE CONVEY THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM ME TO THE EXTRAORDINARY CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL OF AMERICA NOW DUE TO ASSEMBLE UNDER YOUR PRESIDENCY.

NOW MORE THAN EVER THE FORTUNES OF WORLD JEWRY STAND OR FALL WITH THE VICTORY OF THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM-LOVING PEOPLES EVERYWHERE. TO THE UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL OF AMERICA I SEND GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES.

YOUR WORK FOR PALESTINE IN THE PAST HAS COMMANDED MY ADMIRATION AND RESPECT AND I LOOK FORWARD TO THE DAYS WHEN THE RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF THE REIGN OF LAW AMONG THE NATIONS WILL ENABLE YOU TO SET FREE ALL YOUR ENERGIES AGAIN FOR THIS WORK. UNTIL THAT DAY DAWNS I WISH YOU EVERY ENCOURAGEMENT IN THE BATTLE FOR FREEDOM AGAINST NAZI TYRANNY.

ARCHIBALD SINCLAIR
(From the Aircraft Ministry)

Bitis hunter anany

#### CABLE

(Received January 16)

HW150 CABLE - LONDON 92 1/44 16/545P

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER
NATIONAL CHAIRMAN UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL
NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PALESTINE
CLEVELAND, OHIO

THIS IS TO THANK YOU FOR THE GREAT CONTRIBUTION MADE TO DEMOCRACY BY THE JEWS IN PALESTINE IN VOLUNTEERING THEIR MANPOWER, AND FOR THE EFFICIENT MOBILIZATION OF INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES IN A CRITICAL AREA ON THE WORLD'S WAR FRONT.

I WISH YOUR CONFERENCE EVERY SUCCESS IN GIVING SUPPORT AND FULL REALIZATION TO A CONTRIBUTION BUILT ON SACRIFICE AND VOLUNTEERING TO SACRIFICE TO DEFEND YOUR OWN AND IN THE NAME OF ALL PEOPLE EVERYWHERE.

JOHN G. WINANT
(Ambassador to the Court of St. James)

#### MESSAGE TO THE UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL CONFERENCE

#### BY MYRON C. TAYLOR

#### President of Intergovernmental Committee for Refugees And President Roosevelt's Envoy to the Vatican

1/17+18/1942

I greatly regret my inability to be present at the National Conference for Palestine to be held in Cleveland on January 17th and 18th.

I knew Palestine when, following the last great war, its doors were opened for the establishment in Palestine of a National Home for the Jewish people.

I saw the beginning of its development. It is an heroic undertaking, conceived of human sympathy, fostered by racial and religious fidelity and sustained by unparalleled generosity.

The refugee problem has grown by leaps and bounds since those days. These intervening years have been filled with fear, hunger, suffering, despair and death. The brute forces of the world are unleashed in final combat. Before the forces of seeming relentless destiny, we as individuals are as nothing, and it is easy to despair. But to despair is futile in a day when courage and action are needed. Never before have the nations that love peace and justice assumed such a responsibility for the future of the world.

In the far past, exiles had to fight their way to new homelands, or, wandering as men and women without countries, they have become the slaves of whoever picked them up. In the near past, refugees have been no one's concern, and no international responsibility was assumed for those who were compelled to flee their homes, and who are today scattered throughout the world.

But in the recent past, under the leadership of President Roosevelt, many nations associated themselves in the Intergovernmental Committee on Political Refugees, to assist in arriving at a species of order in the transit of exiles and to introduce a policy of resettlement on an international basis. These activities, with which you are all familiar, had progressed most commendably. A growing measure of success in the activities of the Intergovernmental Committee

was in sight, when the war intervened and changed the scene and enlarged the problem. Its organization is intact, its office in London continues to function. Its future is important, for it is beyond question that when this war comes to its weary end, there will be a refugee problem which will be almost in the nature of a migration problem, and which, if not settled properly, may hold within it a whole new series of wars.

And so if the peace which comes to Europe, or if the peace which comes to Asia, is to be anything more than an armed truce, the peace treaties must be peace treaties and not war treaties, and the question of racial and religious minorities must be settled in those treaties.

In the interim, the utmost that this fine Palestine organization and its associated groups can contribute is to give and to serve as never before, to save what is left of honor and justice and decency from perishing.

You are cordially invited to attend the

#### National Conference for Palestine

Sponsored by the

#### United Palestine Appeal

For consideration of a program of mobilization of American Jewry to sustain the Jewish community of Palestine in its war-time emergency tasks

Saturday evening, January Seventeenth and Sunday, January Eighteenth Nineteen hundred and forty=two

> Hotel Statler Cleveland, Ohio



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## NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR PALESTINE of the

#### UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL



JANUARY 17 and 18, 1942

#### 1-ONEG SHABBAT-Saturday, January 17 Euclid Ballroom-2:45 to 5:00 p.m.

SPEAKERS: Emanuel Neumann Morris D. Waldman Dr. Martin Rosenbluth Dr. Baruch Braunstein Henry Montor

#### 2—OPENING SESSION—Saturday, January 17 Grand Ballroom-8:00 p.m.

Judge Louis E. Levinthal, President, Zionist Organization of America, presiding

"Star Spangled Banner," led by Mrs. Mildred Zimbalist Rabbi Armond E. Cohen, Cleveland, Opening Prayer

Philmore J. Haber, President, Jewish Community Council of

Cleveland, Greetings

Hon. Frank J. Lausche, Mayor of Cleveland, Welcome to Delegates

Report of the National Chairman of U.P.A.—Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Land and Homeland—Dr. Israel Goldstein, President of Jewish National Fund

American Jewry's Responsibility-Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Chairman, Administrative Committee, United Palestine Appeal

"Hatikvah"

The Mutual Broadcasting System network will carry an address on the Conference by Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Saturday, January 17, 11:15 to 11:30 P.M.

#### 3-SUNDAY MORNING SESSION-January 18

Euclid Ballroom-10:00 a.m.

Hon. George Z. Medalie, President, New York Federation of Jewish Philanthropic Societies, presiding

Financial Report of United Palestine Appeal—Charles J. Rosenbloom, Pittsburgh, National Treasurer

The Keren Hayesod—Charles Ress, Chairman, Board of Directors

Spirit of the Yishuv—David Ben Gurion, Jerusalem, Chairman of the Executive of the Jewish Agency for Palestine

Discussion

The Columbia Broadcasting System network will carry an address from the Conference by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Sunday, January 18, 12:15 to 12:30 P.M.

#### **4**—LUNCHEON SESSION

Grand Ballroom-1:00 p.m.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, presiding

Saying of Grace—Rabbi Philip Bernstein, Rochester

"The Naval Strategy of the War and Palestine's Place in It"

Admiral Yates Stirling, Jr., former Chief of Staff of United States Navy

Address-Dr. Nahum Goldmann

Vocal selection by Kurt Baum, leading tenor, Metropolitan Opera Company— Management: Columbia Concerts Corp. Accompanied by Leon Machan, Cleveland

#### 5-AFTERNOON SESSION

Grand Ballroom—3:30 p.m.

Eugene M. Solow, Dallas, presiding

"The Rôle of Palestine in the Rehabilitation of the Near East"

Dr. William F. Albright, Professor of Semitics, Johns Hopkins
University

"Palestine and the Post-War World"
Louis Lipsky, National Co-Chairman, United Palestine Appeal

"The Social Vision of Palestine"
Rabbi Barnett R. Brickner, Cleveland,
Vice-Chairman, United Palestine Appeal

Reports of Committees
Discussion

### 6—BANQUET SESSION—Sunday, January 18 Grand Ballroom—7:30 p.m.

In honor of Dr. Abba Hillel Silver for his services as National Chairman of United Palestine Appeal

Judge Morris Rothenberg, Co-Chairman, Council of Jewish Agency, presiding

Saying of Grace—Rabbi Morris Adler, Detroit

Hon. Alben W. Barkley, United States Senator from Kentucky

Henry Monsky, President of B'nai B'rith

GREETINGS: Mrs. David de Sola Pool, President of Hadassah Leon Gellman, President of Mizrachi David Wertheim, Secretary, Poale Zion

Vocal selections by Kurt Baum, leading tenor, Metropolitan Opera Company— Management: Columbia Concerts Corp. Accompanied by Leon Machan, Cleveland PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY 106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

VOL. IX. NO. 20

Sunday, January 25, 1942

#### 10,000 JEWS DEPORTED FROM GERMANY TO POLAND IN ONE WEEK; DEPORTATIONS CONTINUE

STOCKHOLM, Jan. 23. (JTA) -- Ten thousand Jews were deported from Germany to Poland and other Nazi-held Eastern countries during one week this month, the Berlin correspondent of the Swedish newspaper Goteborgs Posten reported today.

The mass-deportations of Jews from Berlin and other German cities are being conducted on such a huge scale that civilian traffic for Germans has been restricted, the correspondent states. This, and not the typhus epidemics in Poland and the Baltics, explains why the German authorities last week suspended for several days the expulsion of Jews from the Reich and re-routed to the Czech Protectorate some of the transports with Jewish deportees, which were on their way to Lodz, Minsk, Riga and Kaunas, he adds.

On January 13, the correspondent reports, 5,000 Jews were transported from Berlin to Poland. Four days later another transport with 5,000 Jewish deportees followed. This necessitated restricting civilian travel on trains for the third time. A twenty-five percent reduction in the normal civilian railway traffic was ordered and the mass-deportation of Jews was resumed, the Swedish journalist reports.

The Berlin correspondent of the Swedish newspaper Svenska Dagbladet reports today that the Nazi authorities announced that Jews who are taken to work in Cerman war industries are not to benefit from the existing Labor Protection Law. Similarly, the regulations with regard to working hours are not to be applied to Jews over 18 years old.

#### ZIONISTS ARRESTED IN BULGARIA; JEWISH INDUSTRIALIST SEIZED IN CROATIA

ANKARA, Jan. 23. (JTA) -- Reliable reports received here today from Bulgaria state that a number of Zionists, mostly members of the New Zionist Organization, have been arrested in Sofia, charged with conducting secret emigration of Bulgarian Jews to Turkey with a view of later securing passage for them to Palestine.

The reports also inform that Baron Guttman, who was one of the largest Jewish industrialists in Yugoslavia, has been arrested and all his property and factories confiscated by the government of the Nazi puppet-state of Croatia.

The Utro, a Bulgarian newspaper reaching here today, reports that a Bulgarian version of the anti-Semitic film "The Eternal Jew" is now being shown all over Bulgaria. The first showing took place in Sofia last week at the Gloria theatre.

#### AIR-RAID SHELTER ERECTED IN JERUSALEM NEAR WAILING WALL

JERUSALEM, Jan. 23. (JTA) -- Palestine's preparations for the possible spread of war to the Near East were emphasized today with the completion of an air-raid shelter near the Wailing Wall. The construction of other shelters in Jerusalem is being planned.

#### ROSENWALD, RABBI SILVER, RABBI J.B. WISE ELECTED NATIONAL CHAIRMEN OF U.J.A. FOR 1942

NEW YORK, Jan. 23. (JTA) -- William Rosenwald, President of the National Refugee Service, Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, National Chairman of the United Palestine Appeal and Rabbi Jonah B. Wise, Fund-Raising Chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee, have been elected to serve as 1942 National Chairmen of the United Jewish Appeal, the unified fund-raising drive for these three major American rescue agencies, it was announced here today.

Upon assuming the tasks of National Chairmen of the 1942 United Jewish Appeal, Rabbi Silver, Rabbi Wise and Mr. Rosenwald issued a joint statement in which they summoned Jewish communities throughout the country to give wider support to the United Jewish Appeal not only as a means of meeting the increased needs of large numbers of Jews confronted with the problems of war and oppression, but also of siding the world-wide front for democracy.

The National Chairmen outlined as follows the 1942 needs and programs of the Joint Distribution Committee, United Palestine Appeal and National Refugee Service:

#### Relief Program of the Joint Distribution Committee for 1942

The J.D.C. which in 1941 spent \$5,694,100 bringing direct aid to 930,000 Jews in fifty countries on five continents, must, according to the announcement, among other tasks, continue to aid Jews in neutral countries of the old world; to aid refugees to emigrate to safety from Portugal and other neutral countries, from which limited emigration continues; to provide sustenance, in cooperation with the Polish Government-in-Exile, for 600,000 Polish-Jewish refugees who fled before the advance of the Nazi war machine and are now living in destitution in Asiatic Russia; to provide assistance for hundreds of thousands in enemy-occupied territories such as Poland, Hungary, Rumania and Shanghai where, following the precedent of the last war, local committees have been authorized to borrow funds on the guarantee of the J.D.C. to repay when that can be done without aiding the enemy. These commitments for the next six months total \$1,500,000. On a minimal basis, for the first half of 1942, the Joint Distribution Committee needs \$5,200,000.

#### United Palestine Appeal and N.R.S. Obligations for the Year

The United Palestine Appeal must provide in 1942 for the absorption, adjustment and retraining of thousands of refugees who continue to emigrate to Palestine from Russia, Syria, Turkey, Iran, Iraq, Yemen and Australia. It must purchase land and also help to establish from eight to ten colonies vital for food production, refugee settlement and for post-war absorption of thousands of homeless Jews; to maintain measures for the assurance of internal security of the Jews in Palestine; to stimulate trade and industry, artisans and small trades, so that increased materials may be made available to the British army; and to support the Jewish school system, which now has a student body of 60,000 Jewish children. The sum of \$8,037,527 will be required for these activities in 1942.

The National Refugee Service has, in 1942, the responsibility of acting as an essential liaison organization between the federal government and Jewish communities concerning refugee status and control, and providing the communities with prompt information and advice on these matters. War has also increased the other obligations of the N.R.S. A rising relief program, due to the unemployment caused both by a "priorities depression" and wartime anti-alien sentiment, must be met by N.R.S. so no refugee will become a burden to the public. The N.R.S. program for resettling refugees away from the major ports of entry continues with government permission and will be an important part of the agency's work. The N.R.S. spent \$3,059,295 in 1941.

No. P-217

February 2, 1942

Dear Rabbi Silver,

I am obliged to you for your kind letter of

January 26th and am delighted the message I addressed to the

National Conference for Palestine brought, in some small measure,

both encouragement and inspiration to the many men and women

attending your meeting.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) A. Loudon
Netherlands Minister

RABBI Abba Hillel Silver, United Palestine Appeal, 41 East 42nd Street, New York, N. Y. Charge to the account of\_

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STAY OVER MONDAY.

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

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# WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS

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#### MESSAGE TO THE UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL CONFERENCE

#### BY HERBERT H. LEHMAN

#### Governor of the State of New York

I am sincerely sorry that it will be impossible for me to join you and the delegates to the National Conference for Palestine in Cleveland this weekend. My official duties have, of course, been greatly intensified during recent weeks as a result of the present crisis, and I am sure you will understand that it is not possible for me, at least for the present, to leave the State.

For many years, I have been deeply interested in Palestine and in the magnificent reconstructive work which has been carried on in behalf of our co-religionists there. It has always seemed to me that the work in Palestine offers a signal opportunity to translate into practical terms that better understanding among people of different origins and creeds which we are all striving to achieve. The years of labor invested in Palestine are bearing fruit today, when that land is able to occupy a key position in the entire Middle East campaign of Great Britain and the Allies. We may all be proud of the contributions which Palestine has made, in terms of industry and supply and manpower, to the struggle for victory in that sector. The discipline and courage displayed by the population of Palestine are second to none.

It is unnecessary to stress the role which has been played by the Jews of America in achieving Palestine's present stature. My very best wishes go to the delegates assembled at the Conference for the further progress of the United Palestine Appeal and the two agencies associated with it in the United Jewish Appeal. The continued fund-raising partnership of the United Palestine Appeal, the Joint Distribution Committee and the National Refugee Service seems to me to be an avidence of that collaboration which is indispensable if we are to emerge from the present conflict victorious not only in the war but in the peace.