



## Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

Featuring collections from the Western Reserve Historical Society and  
The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

### **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.

---

Reel  
100

Box  
35

Folder  
45

Stark, Freya and Shafiq Haddad, 1943.



*Freya Stark*  
C o p y

THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

Office of the Executive  
P.O.Box 92  
Jerusalem

July 29th, 1943

Arthur Lourie, Esq.,  
41 East 42nd St.,  
New York  
U. S. A.

Dear Arthur,

I think you should be informed that Miss Freya Stark and Shafiq Haddad are shortly leaving for the United States where they will be making propaganda for the Arab cause. According to our information, they will, inter alia, try to explain why the White Paper policy should be maintained and why the Jews of the United States should not be permitted to operate as a factor aiding to achieve a Zionist solution of the Jewish problem.

There is, of course, no need to tell you who Freya Stark is. You have undoubtedly read some of her books on Arabia. She is unquestionably sincerely enamoured of the Arabs, and when a woman is in love, reason and justice don't come into the picture. I have no desire to appear critical of her staunch sponsoring of the Arab cause. She is entitled to her opinions and to shout them from the housetops. I thought you should know, however, of one fact. She is now visiting Palestine prior to her departure. She has not troubled to become acquainted with what the Jews have done in Palestine by seeing for herself, nor has she ultimately found it possible to meet with us. We received a telephone message that she would like to call to see us. I extended an invitation to her to come to my home for tea. She pleaded a previous engagement and we consequently fixed an appointment for this morning at 11 o'clock at the Jewish Agency offices. Shortly before that time we received a message from the Public Information Officer to the effect that she could not leave their office then as she was expecting some out of town call, suggesting that I should go and see her there. Of course, if it had been a matter between a lady and a gentleman I certainly should have agreed to call on her anywhere, but as she had found time to call on other people, I did not feel that the Jewish Agency, whom she was really wanting to see, could properly be expected in our country to go and visit her. My secretary accordingly informed her that I would be glad to see her at any other time convenient to her. In the result she cried off and I am afraid that I shall be without the pleasure now of having made her personal acquaintance.

She is evidently troubled about the danger of Jews wanting to infiltrate into neighbouring Arab countries with a view, I suppose, to ultimately dominating them. All this no doubt results from the views she must have had from Dr. Magnes and his coterie on this subject. I had hoped to be able to assure her that it is no part of Zionist policy to encourage Jews to settle in Arab countries. On the contrary, at present we are greatly worried as to how we can get as many Jews as possible out of those countries into Palestine, particularly from Iraq, where I fear very much what may happen to them when the restraining hand and the presence of a large British Force is removed from that country at the termination of the War.

As for Shafiq Haddad, he is a Christian Arab who is in the service of the Iraq Government and will evidently be attached to their Legation in Washington. He is an Arab patriot by profession. Some time back he wanted us to support his then master, the Emir Zeid, who was a candidate for kingship in Syria, the Lebanon and Palestine, in return for which he was ready to promise us the fullest opportunity of implementing our Zionist programme.

Yours,

(Sgd.) Bormard Joseph