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Weizmann, Dr. Chaim, 1942.

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MOST HELPFUL ALL HERE WOULD WELCOME CHUIM=

CHAIM WEIZMANN.

ABBA.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

COPY

HOTEL ST. REGIS

Fifth Avenue and Fifty-fifth Street

NEW YORK April 30th, 1942

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

My dear Dr. Silver, (salutation written by hand)

I have your very kind letter of today's date. It goes without saying that I am anxious to help the United Jewish Appeal, but I must warn you that I am at my worst in talking into a microphone. I have a natural aversion for the instrument, but if you think I shall be useful in furthering the campaign, I shall do my best.

It was good to see you yesterday.

(the following is handwritten)

Yours ever

Ch. Weizmann

ON THE ROAD TO VICTORY

Text of Radio Address

By DR. CHAIM WEIZMANN
President, Jewish Agency for Palestine

National Broadcasting Company, Thursday, May 14, 6:30 P.M.

Auspices, United Jewish Appeal for Refugees, Overseas Needs and Palestine

- - - - -

I have been in this country about four weeks, and have observed a great transformation since my last visit. America has entered into the war, and this has brought a new faith into the hearts of freedom-loving peoples throughout the world. This spirit has penetrated into the darkest corners of the earth. It has given the signal to all peoples everywhere,--that we are on the road to victory.

The war aims of the United Nations as outlined by President Roosevelt have made kin of every freedom-loving human being, from Norway to Greece, from France to Yugoslavia. The millions who have been captured, but not conquered, the millions who have been enslaved, but not won over, have been inspired by the utterances of your President.

The Jews, who were the first victims of Hitler's attack, never lost hope or faith, though the world at large remained indifferent, at the beginning, at any rate, to their fate. If as long ago as 1933 the free nations of the world had considered that Hitler's violent attack upon the Jews in Germany was of sufficient importance to warrant prompt and effective action, this entire world conflagration might have been averted. It is only because the world powers accepted Hitler's lie that he was simply fighting a "Jewish war" that they lost sight of his ultimate objective and neglected to intervene.

The enormous losses which the Jews have sustained will remain dark stains on the pages of history. Yet we carry on. For no persecutions can break the spirit of an ancient race or destroy the faith of the Jews in democracy -- a faith rooted in their most hallowed tradition. But we have a right to expect the solution of the Jewish problem to be made a part of the entire program for post-war reconstruction. It must not again be postponed, delayed or pigeonholed. We make this demand because we cannot contemplate a revival of chaos in which the slightest economic or political tremor will once again set off disturbances using the Jews as scapegoats and as weapons to shatter the peace of the world. The United Nations must face this problem squarely. Shall they approach the Jewish problem courageously and seek a constructive solution in the face of

undeniable difficulties? Or shall they lay it aside and risk the repetition of rabid anti-Semitism hitched to any new political adventurers that might seek to emulate Hitler in the years to come? How is the reconstruction of the Jewish people to be achieved?

Following the first world war, two steps were taken in an attempt to clarify and stabilize the status of the Jews and other minorities. The rights of the Jews in their respective countries of origin were internationally established and recognized and the League of Nations issued a Mandate to Great Britain for the establishment of a Jewish National Home in Palestine. The aims of neither of these programs have as yet been realized with any degree of fulfillment. Nevertheless they are the cornerstone upon which a far-reaching reconstruction program will have to be devised following the present conflict. In this the American people will undoubtedly wish to make their leadership and influence felt.

Recognition must be given to the primary position of Palestine as a homeland for the Jewish people and as the one country where large-scale immigration and colonization will be possible. It is both in the living consciousness of the Jew and in the living consciousness of the world, that Palestine and the Jewish people are seen as complementary. It is through the contact of the Jews with Palestine that enormous energies were released - energies which had been stored up for thousands of years, waiting for the opportunity to manifest themselves. When the opportunity came they were transformed into a force which gave birth to the unparalleled achievements of the Jewish homeland. It can be said of the Jewish people that its destiny, tomorrow or today, is to reconstruct its spirit and its form in the land of its origin.

It is highly significant that in a period when mankind is enduring its greatest moral and spiritual ordeal, Palestine has once more assumed a position of unique importance. The Jews who have gone there to rebuild their life and revive the traditions of their people have developed a strong, proud and productive community of 550,000 men, women and children. They are building, fighting, sacrificing for the cause of free humanity. Town and village, industry and agriculture - all of these accomplishments which have received help through the United Palestine Appeal, have been harnessed to the war effort. Thousands of men and women have joined the British forces on the Middle Eastern front. They have not only offered, they have demanded the right to do more in the battle for human liberty. But however decisive the role of Palestine during the war, history has assigned an even greater role to that ancient land in the post-war

era. Palestine is the bridge between three continents, linking the East and the West and standing guard over the route from Europe to India. Because of its strategic position, the United States, England and Russia are naturally interested in developing the Near and Middle East and the modernization of Palestine clearly points the way to the revival of the entire Mediterranean area.

The problem of post-war reconstruction will be so vast that no private agency or philanthropy will be able to cope with it. But any inter-governmental action will have to be based on the experiences of such agencies as those which are represented in the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees, Overseas Needs and Palestine. The record of the past decade reveals that whatever has been accomplished through America in the rescue of the victims of persecution was almost solely the result of the efforts of the Joint Distribution Committee, the United Palestine Appeal and the National Refugee Service.

For example, the United Palestine Appeal has helped in the settlement in Palestine of more than 300,000 refugees since 1933. The agricultural and industrial development of the Jewish National Home through the support of the United Palestine Appeal has enlarged the capacity of Palestine to receive additional hundreds of thousands of refugees after the war.

During the time I spent in Lisbon waiting for a Clipper to take me to the United States, I had an excellent opportunity to observe at first hand the relief activities of the Joint Distribution Committee. I came to admire the zeal and devotion with which Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, the European Chairman of the J.D.C. and his colleague, Emanuel Rosen, carried on their work. The experience which the J.D.C. has accumulated since its establishment twenty-seven years ago has enabled this agency to carry on war relief activities today in widely scattered sections of the globe.

Despite the fact that America is at war, the work of emigrating refugees from Europe continues. While I was in Lisbon, in addition to earlier boats, contracts were signed for two boat sailings for the rescue of 1,200 persons who had been anxiously waiting to escape to a haven overseas. As I spoke to some of the prospective passengers, I was profoundly moved by the happiness which shone from their faces.

I am also mindful of the fact that the National Refugee Service has been responsible for the adjustment and retraining of the refugees who have found a welcome in this country in the highest spirit of American hospitality. Wherever the refugees have been given a haven they rewarded that land with skill and talents of exceptional value. We have seen in Britain and I have seen here in the United States how those, whose loyalty to democracy has gone through the ordeal of Nazi oppression have thrown themselves wholeheartedly into every sphere of war activity to hasten the day of victory for freedom. That service of giving the refugees in your midst the means to share in the tasks of production for the war is in itself ample testimony to the achievements of the National Refugee Service.

These are the programs which are being supported through the campaign of the United Jewish Appeal. Surely this work must be given every support in this crucial time because we have pledged ourselves to support the democratic cause wherever and however it can be strengthened. But the significance of these rescue activities transcends the present emergency. They are in effect the scaffolding on which a history-making program of post-war reconstruction can be set up through the cooperation of the United Nations. The American people who are in the van of the struggle for the liberation of mankind will without question also stand ready to lead the way to the restoration of the peoples who have been battered and persecuted by the forces of evil. Out of the present inferno must emerge a new humanity worthy of the free civilization for which so many are giving their lives.

UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL
41 EAST 42nd STREET

MEMORANDUM

Date May 15, 1942

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

From Mr. Henry Montor

Subject

In view of the fact that a meeting has been called by Mr. Rosenwald, as intended in the attached memorandum, I think it would be very important for the prestige of the UPA and certainly for the prestige of Dr. Weizmann that you call Mr. Rosenwald to express resentment at any inquiry as to what Dr. Weizmann has said.

I hope that you agree with my view point on this. If it is to be made into an issue the UPA should make its position unmistakably clear.

The telephone number of Mr. Rosenwald is Ashland 4-7940

C
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M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Dr. Jonah B. Wise
Mr. Arthur Greenleigh
Mr. Henry Montor
Mr. Roman Slobodin
Mr. Meyer F. Steinglass

May 15, 1942

FROM: Mr. Isidor Coons

Subject: Meeting to discuss United Jewish Appeal broadcast of Thursday, May 14th.

Mr. William Rosenwald, National Chairman, has asked me to convene a meeting for the above noted purpose at the office of the United Jewish Appeal on Monday morning, May 18th at 1130 A. M.

Mr. Rosenwald regards this as a very important meeting and urges your presence.

IC:BMW
cc: William Rosenwald

(signed) Isidor Coons

MEMORANDUM

Date May 15, 1942

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

From Henry Montor

Subject

In view of the fact that there may be repercussions to this incident, I am calling it to your attention. It refers to the broadcast which Dr. Weizmann delivered on behalf of the UJA on Thursday, May 14th.

You will recall that you had originally invited Dr. Weizmann to give this broadcast. Dr. Weizmann's name had been considered and approved by "the agencies" of the UJA prior to the extension of the invitation to him by you.

Instead of taking it for granted that Dr. Weizmann would give appropriate consideration to the JDC and the NRS, as well as to Palestine, the JDC and the NRS began hammering away a week before the broadcast to demand that Dr. Weizmann insert certain references to the JDC. The material which the JDC submitted was placed before Dr. Weizmann. He incorporated it into his preliminary draft, but a day before the broadcast Mr. Joseph Hyman and Mr. William Rosenwald submitted formal protest to the UJA saying that they were completely unsatisfied with the document, that it did injustice to both the JDC and the NRS. On Thursday afternoon of the broadcast at 4 o'clock additional material that was submitted by Mr. Hyman was in turn transmitted to Dr. Weizmann, who incorporated the largest part of it into the text of his address. I understand that the morning following the broadcast both the JDC and the NRS expressed resentment that Dr. Weizmann had not said much more about these agencies.

I have rarely seen a more flagrant exhibition of boorishness and bad manners than were displayed by both the JDC and the NRS in this matter. The violence of the comment expressed with regard to Dr. Weizmann both before and after the broadcast merely demonstrated further the comment I made to you when you were here as to the burdens of being "in Golos".

I am not at all concerned about the incident because it is merely an extension of an attitude with which I have been unfortunately familiar for almost four years. But it happens that these "big" people will not go directly to the source but will take it out on poor Steinglass, who was completely helpless in this situation and did everything to meet the requests made of him by "the agencies". After all, it was Dr. Weizmann who wrote the speech and delivered it. Apparently the JDC and the NRS thought that Dr. Weizmann could be used as an errand boy to read off the latest publicity release issued from their offices.

For quite a long time now Mr. Coons, Mr. Hyman, Mr. Rosenwald and other representatives and officers of the JDC and NRS have been "gunning" for Mr. Steinglass. The reason for that is overwhelmingly because he happens to have been associated with the UPA prior to his association with the UJA. It is in these seemingly trivial but nevertheless deeply irritating incidents that the honesty of the good faith pretended by these people is measured.

I do hope that nothing develops with this situation that would in any way give further offense to the dignity of Dr. Weizmann.

I am enclosing herewith the text of Dr. Weizmann's address for you to judge whether or not he was fair to all concerned. I think you will agree that if any protest is made, as it is likely to be, it will not be solely because Dr. Weizmann did not go out of his way to be sympathetic to the UJA as a whole.

P. S. Since dictating the above a memo has been circulated at the request of Mr. William Rosenwald for a meeting on Monday morning, May 18th, at 11:30, to discuss this situation. Apparently a cause celebre is involved.

HM:EH
Encls.



CABLE ADDRESS "SAINTREGIS NEW YORK"



Hotel St. Regis.

Fifth Avenue and Fifty-fifth Street

New York May 15, 1942

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple, Cleveland, O.

My dear Dr. Silver,

In the heat of the meeting, and after your excellent address, we had no time to have a talk. I do not know when you will be in New York again, and I am rather anxious to have a word with you now that I begin to understand the situation here. My movements are as follows: I shall be here all of next week, but shall probably have to leave for Washington on Sunday the 24th, remaining in Washington the best part of the week and then returning to New York. I shall be looking forward to an early opportunity of having a real quiet talk with you, and would be grateful if you would let me know your plans for the next fortnight.

With affectionate regards to you, Mrs. Silver and the children, in which Mrs. Weizmann joins me, I remain

Yours ever
A. Weizmann

May 20, 1942

Dr. Chaim Weizmann
Hotel St. Regis
Fifth Avenue and Fifty-fifth St.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Weizmann:

Thank you for your kind letter.
I do not know when I will be free to come
to New York again. This week is all taken
up with the Holidays and Confirmation and next
week I have the Annual Meeting of my congregation
and some other Temple activities. I had not
intended to come to New York before June 10th.
However, if you think it important enough, I shall
make a special effort to come for a day after
the 1st of June.

I thought that the Conference in
New York was very good and generally helpful.

With all good wishes to you and Mrs.
Weizmann, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

Hotel St. Regis.

Fifth Avenue and Fifty-fifth Street

New York May 23d, 1942

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple, Cleveland

My dear Dr. Silver,

Very many thanks for your letter, and for your kind offer to make a special visit to New York so that we may have a quiet talk together. But I would not for the world ask you to do this, although it would be most helpful if you could so arrange matters as to stay over after the June 10th dinner. It would be good to know that you could do this.

All good wishes to you and yours from
Mrs. Weizmann and myself.

Yours ever
C. Weizmann

CABLE ADDRESS "SAINTREGIS NEW YORK"



Hotel St. Regis.

Fifth Avenue and Fifty-fifth Street

New York

June 1, 1942

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Silver:

I am inviting the members of the American Emergency Committee for Zionist Affairs to meet with me on Tuesday, June 16th, at 3 P.M. at the St. Regis Hotel. The meeting will continue for the rest of the day and evening.

It is desirable that we should have a free exchange of views and opinions regarding the present Zionist situation and the immediate tasks ahead. We should do this now before the summer months set in.

I therefore hope that regardless of other engagements, you will make every effort to attend this meeting.

Very cordially yours,

Chaim Weizmann
Chaim Weizmann

FR

June 5, 1942

Dr. Chaim Weizmann
Hotel St. Regis
Fifth Avenue and Fifty-fifth Street
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Weizmann:

I will be in New York on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 9th and 10th and I shall give myself the pleasure of calling on you on Wednesday, possibly in the morning. I shall telephone you.

I will not be able to attend the meeting which you have called for Tuesday, June 16th, as I must be in Cleveland on that day.

Looking forward with pleasure to seeing you, and with kindest regards to Mrs. Weizmann, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

June 12, 1942

Dr. Chaim Weizmann
Hotel St. Regis
Fifth Avenue and Fifty-fifth Street
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Weizmann:

I am enclosing herewith the address which I delivered the other night. Mrs. Weizmann asked for it and I am very happy to send it.

I thought the affair was a perfectly magnificent one, one of the most impressive which I have attended, and it should have done your heart good.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

P.S. I shall be in New York on the 23rd and 24th of this month and I shall call on you.

CABLE ADDRESS "SAINTREGIS NEW YORK"



Hotel St. Regis.

Fifth Avenue and Fifty-fifth Street

New York June 14, 1942

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple, Cleveland, O.

My dear Dr Silver,

Ever so many thanks for your note, and Mrs. Weizmann also wishes me to thank you most heartily for so kindly sending her the manuscript of your speech. She is also anxious to find an hour so that she may continue the conversation which you had with her in Lisbon on the difference between Judaism and Christianity. She was much impressed by the admirable way in which you presented the case.

I am afraid that I shall not be in New York on the 24th. My work will bring me on that date to Peoria, and I shall not reach New York until late on the 25th or possibly the morning of the 26th. We seem to be missing each other all the time, and I am most anxious to have a real conversation with you on our situation here and what has to be done as soon as ever possible. The week following the 28th I shall, no doubt, be in Washington. After that it seems that there will be more leisure. Could we make a point of meeting sometime somewhere after the 4th or 5th of July? * It seems rather distant? but unfortunately one is so much rushed about that I cannot make any other suggestion at the moment. I am genuinely distressed that we have had no real opportunity of talking matters over with you in a quiet way. *or in Washington?*

It was a great pleasure to see and hear you at the dinner, and it was a matter of genuine regret to me that it is all in such a rush.

With affectionate regards I am

Yours ever Ch Weizmann

*My heartiest greetings & respects
to Mrs Silver & the boys.*

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FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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

6-19-42

Dr. Chaim Weizmann
Drake Hotel
Chicago, Ill.

WRHS



Will arrive tomorrow morning stopping
your hotel. Kindest regards.
Silver

COPY OF CABLE TO LORD HALIFAX

(Sent from Chicago)

June 20, 1942

IN VIEW OF THE PRESENT EMERGENCY IN THE MIDDLE EAST I RESPECTFULLY REITERATE OUR ARDENT WISH TO TAKE A GREATER PART IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST THE INVADING ARMIES AND TO PARTICIPATE MORE DIRECTLY AND EFFECTIVELY IN THE DEFENSE OF PALESTINE. THIS AS YOU KNOW CAN ONLY BE ACHIEVED BY THE ORGANIZATION OF A JEWISH MILITARY FORCE OUT OF THE EXISTING UNITS AND THEIR AUGMENTATION THROUGH FURTHER ENLISTMENT IN PALESTINE TO FIGHT UNDER ITS OWN FLAG UNDER BRITISH COMMAND.

I WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT THIS REQUEST THROUGH YOU TO THE PRIME MINISTER WHOSE MISSION I TRUST WILL BE EMINENTLY SUCCESSFUL AND WHO AS A RESULT OF THE LONG DISCUSSIONS ON THE SUBJECT IS FAMILIAR WITH EVERY ASPECT OF THE PLAN. MORE THAN EVER I AM CONVINCED NOW IS THE TIME TO IMPLEMENT THE PROMISE MADE MORE THAN A YEAR AGO. FOR IT WILL NOT ONLY CONTRIBUTE SUBSTANTIALLY TO THE DEFENSE IN THE CRITICAL AREA BUT WILL ALSO HAVE AN ENORMOUS EFFECT ON THE MORALE OF AMERICAN AND WORLD JEWRY. I AM EQUALLY CONVINCED THAT WITHOUT IN ANY WAY DISTURBING THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST SUCH AN ACT OF SIMPLE JUSTICE AND PRUDENCE AT THIS TIME WILL GO A LONG WAY TOWARDS CREATING THAT GOODWILL TOWARDS THE BRITISH CAUSE IN THIS COUNTRY SO ESSENTIAL AT THIS CRUCIAL MOMENT.

CHAIM WEIZMANN

COPY OF LETTER
TO Mr. WINSTON CHURCHILL
FROM Dr. CHAIM WEIZMANN

June 25, 1942

On learning of the news of the fall of Tobruk which reached me while I was in Chicago last week, I took occasion to send a telegram to Lord Halifax, the contents of which I hope may have been brought to your attention. I attach a copy and should like to add a few words by way of amplification on one or two points.

The new and critical developments in the military situation in the Middle East impel me to put before you again, as a matter of extreme urgency, the proposal for the organization of a military force, composed primarily of Jews from Palestine, to fight in the Middle East under British Command. Your express approval in September 1940 of a similar proposal, which I then had the honor to submit to you, was for various reasons not acted upon. Today again, the Jews of Palestine are facing a period of supreme danger. It is not only the annihilation of our work but the actual physical existence of nearly 600,000 Jews in Palestine which is at stake.

Approximately 14,000 Jews from Palestine are at present enrolled in various British military and air force formations. For the most part they are organized in auxiliary technical and pioneer units, in the ground forces of the RAF, and in a number of infantry companies stationed in Palestine. These diverse and scattered units fail altogether to meet the claim of Palestine Jewry to defend themselves through a single, organized military force of their own, fighting under their own flag alongside the armies of the United Nations. At least two and probably three divisions could be raised in Palestine in this way for immediate service.

If I may repeat what I said in the critical days of June 1940, if we go down in Palestine, we are entitled to go down fighting. The Mandatory Power is in duty bound to grant us this elementary human right. I know that I speak for the great mass of Jews everywhere when I say that the refusal to grant this right will never be understood. I most earnestly urge that you, who perceived the wisdom and justice of this claim nearly two years ago, should now see that it is implemented without delay. Speed may make all the difference between life and death for us.