



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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Box
35

Folder
101

Shulman, Herman, 1943.

October 7, 1943

Dear

The American Zionist Emergency Council has just undergone a reorganization for the purpose of enabling us to meet more effectively the grave political problems now facing Jewish Palestine. I have been named the Chairman of the American Palestine Committee of the Emergency Council, the group which is endeavoring to mobilize on a national level the voice of Christian America to support our needs and hopes with respect to Palestine.

It is my earnest hope - and this is an invitation - that you will accept membership on that Committee. It will be a small group of men and women who will undertake to plan the work of this most important instrument of action to aid Palestine. Since it will be an intimate group, comprising, I trust, some of the most alert minds which we can assemble, it should not involve for any one individual more additional labor than he can properly handle. May I add that I am sustained in this invitation to you by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, the new Chairman of the Emergency Council's Executive Committee, under whose guidance the reorganization program for effective action is taking place.

Palestine is now faced with its most critical period because of the White Paper, scheduled to go into effect in May, 1944. We will have to act quickly. We will need the benefit of the counsel and active cooperation that you can provide so helpfully.

The first meeting of this Committee will be held on Tuesday, October 19th, at 4:00 P.M. at the office of the American Zionist Emergency Council, 41 East 42nd Street, New York City.

It will be most encouraging to hear from you that you accept membership on the Committee; and also that we may expect you at the first organizing committee meeting. In the event that you cannot attend the first meeting, I would still wish your membership on the committee in the thought that I would be able to communicate with you personally and also expect you at times when your calendar will permit attendance at full meetings, which will be called when convenient to the majority of members.

Sincerely yours,

Herman Shulman, Chairman
American Palestine Committee of the
Emergency Council

MEMBERS OF AMERICAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE

Herman Shulman, Chairman

George Backer

Dr. Jacob Billikopf

Miss Naomi Chertoff

Mark Eisner

Mrs. Moses P. Epstein

Leon Gellman

Archie Greenberg

David Ralph Hertz

Edmund I. Kaufmann

Judge Louis E. Levinthal

Philip Levy

Rabbi Joshua L. Liebman

Henry Monsky

Robert Nathan

Emanuel Neumann

Judge Simon Rifkind

Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt

Mrs. Archibald Silverman

Judge Meier Steinbrink

Nathan Straus

Mrs. Raphael Tourover

David Wertheim



Mr. Herman Shulman

November 1, 1943

Mr. Henry Montor

For your visit to Washington this week, may I send you the following reminders:

- (1) You wish to see Senator Wagner to get his approval
 - (a) for the membership campaign for the American Palestine Committee
 - (b) for a Christian Conference to be held in Washington, Philadelphia or New York -- as circumstances will permit. Attached is a draft of a letter for Senator Wagner to examine. This letter is essential if we are to get out of the talking stage and into the actual planning for the Conference. Attached also is an outline of a conference plan.
 - (c) to ask Congressman Will Rogers, Jr. to serve as Secretary of the American Palestine Committee.
 - (d) to assure Senator Wagner's own participation in the Conference.
 - (e) for a small list (not more than ten people) to be Executive Committee of American Palestine Committee in Washington.
- (2) You wish to see Congressman Will Rogers, Jr. to get his general support of our work and to draw him closer by asking him to become Secretary of the American Palestine Committee. Perhaps you might find your effort facilitated (in view of his present organizational connections) if Senator Wagner telephoned to Mr. Rogers in support of that invitation.
- (3) Please note that, at my request, Mr. Nathan Straus is trying to arrange a personal meeting with Postmaster General Walker for Dr. Silver, Dr. Wise, etc.
- (4) You were to try to get Senator Tom Connally to arrange for a lunch or dinner meeting of the members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to hear Dr. Silver.
- (5) You wanted to ask Mr. Lee Sack for a list of his "contacts".
- (6) Inasmuch as Senator Mead could not come to New York for that private dinner Mr. Leichtman was planning, it would be essential for you to meet promptly with Mr. Mead in Washington.

Please let me know if you wish me to accompany you on any of the above matters.

HM:FE

December 20, 1943

Mr. Herman Shulman
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Shulman:

What is being done to follow up the campaign which you have launched to enroll 100,000 members in the American Palestine Committee? How many letters have been sent out through the country? How regularly are these letters being sent out? What has been the response?

Has the Executive Committee finally been formed, and has its composition been given to the press? The campaign should be actively pushed, or it will peter out.

We ought not to concentrate on the proposed conference to the exclusion of this large scale popular effort. There are about a dozen important church periodicals such as the Christian Century, the Churchman, etc., and it might be well to insert a full page advertisement in these periodicals. You might wish to consult Dr. Voss about this matter.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

December 23, 1943

Mr. Herman Shulman
39 Broadway
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Shulman:

I have been thinking over the draft of the resolution which you submitted to the Emergency Committee at its last meeting. My general reaction to it is that it is too long and too argumentative. The resolution should be far more concise and simple -- something along the line of the drafts which I enclose herewith. Please look them over and show them to Judge Rothenberg. I should like your reactions to them in the next few days.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

Please reply to Dr. Silver to
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio