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

Sub-series A: Main Manson File, 1940-1949.

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American League for Free Palestine, 1943-1944.

MEMORANDUM

FROM Rabbi Leon I. Feuer

DATE: May 10, 1944

TO: Dr. A. H. Silver

SUBJECT:

I think we may have hit upon at least one effective way of combatting the American League for a Free Palestine. I held a dinner conference last night, Tuesday, May 9th, between a group of the Jewish Congressmen and ourselves. Congressmen present were: Celler, Dickstein, Weiss, Klein, and Ellison (Bloom and Sabath as usual absented themselves.) Attending the meeting for us were Shulman, Lipsky, Neumann, Sack, and myself.

We told the Congressmen that we had asked them to meet with us to discuss the American League for a Free Palestine. Celler had guessed the purpose of the meeting (he brought some of the League literature with him), and it turned out that all of them were concerned with the problem. Celler and Dickstein seemed particularly worried. They have been flirting with the "boys" but were now evidently afraid that the thing had overreached itself. As long as the activity remained in the field of rescue, it was not only relatively safe but could be considered very praiseworthy and humanitarian to be associated with it. Now that it has entered the field of ideological and organizational controversy, with the Zionists determined to fight back, these Congressmen not only do not feel safe in associating themselves with such a group, but are anxious to scramble out of it as quickly as possible.

We had a lengthy and very frank discussion, a discussion which produced a plan formulated and proposed by the Congressmen themselves, and upon the prosecution of which the five who were present were unanimously agreed.

The plan briefly is this: the Congressmen have received invitations to join the American League for a Free Palestine. That gives them the opportunity to go into the matter. We will submit to each of them individually a memorandum

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FROM Rabbi Leon I. Feuer

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SUBJECT:

- 2 -

which will set forth briefly and clearly the case of the organized Zionist movement versus the Bergson group. It will contrast the official, legal, and responsible position of the Jewish agency ^{and} ~~of~~ the Zionist movement, both in Palestine and in the United States, with the unrepresentative and outlaw position of the other group.

The Congressmen then meeting as a group, in the sort of quasi-official atmosphere of a hearing, will call in representatives of the American League for a Free Palestine, and ask them to produce reasons why the Congressmen should accept their invitations to join, and on the basis of our memorandum will cross-examine them as to the reasons for their existence, the nature of their activities, and particularly why they are working outside of the scope and discipline of the official Zionist bodies. The Congressmen will then make clear to them that, as men representing constituencies of American citizens, they have no choice but to give their support to the official and responsible bodies. They will tell the Bergson group that they (the Congressmen) will have to issue a public statement making their own position clear.

It is inconceivable that Bergson or his representatives would refuse to meet with the Congressmen, but if they should, that makes the procedure all the simpler. It is also inconceivable that they will consent to the suggestion that they give up their activities. The Congressmen will then issue their findings in the form of a report, signed by them as responsible representatives of largely Jewish constituencies, a report which we can make use of in any way that we desire.

MEMORANDUM

To . Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees Date May 11, 1944

From Harry L. Shapiro

IMPORTANT -- CONFIDENTIAL

The American Zionist Emergency Council is mobilizing all responsible groups in American Jewry to combat the activities of the American League for a Free Palestine, the latest in the series of paper organizations created by four or five young men who were sent to the United States as a "Palestine Delegation" by a small political group in the Holy Land known as the Irgun Zevai Leumi. In recent weeks we have come to know all too well what the Irgun is and what methods it employs. The Irgun uses "terror as a political weapon against Jews, Arabs and Britons alike," Pierre van Paassen declares in his recent letter to The Protestant magazine.

The demoralizing effect of this small group of opportunists on American Jewish life must be counteracted now. The attached statement has been released to the Yiddish and Anglo-Jewish press. But we must do more. Exposés of the League for a Free Palestine must be put in the hands of that group's innocent victims (and we use the word advisedly).

You are urged to do the following:

1. Circulate the attached statement and Pierre van Paassen's "A Cruel Hoax on the American Public" among the Jews in your community.

Let us know how many copies of these you will require and they will be forwarded immediately.

2. If you know of individuals (Jews or non-Jews) in your community who have associated themselves with this group, you should approach them in person, acquaint them with the facts as presented in our statement and the van Paassen letter, and urge them to withdraw their support. You understand, of course, that this should be done with the greatest degree of tact.
3. After you have secured the resignation of League members, send us their names, along with any statement which they may care to make, and we will release the story to the Yiddish and Anglo-Jewish papers.

We are confident that you will deal with this extremely important matter promptly and efficiently.

HLS:MBP
Encs.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WASHINGTON

C O P Y

June 7, 1944

My dear Mr. Segal:

I wish to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated May 25, 1944, with enclosures, relating to the American League for a Free Palestine, which has been organized by a group of Palestinian nationals in this country headed by Peter Bergson.

In reply to your inquiry as to the attitude of the Department of State toward this group, I wish to assure you that the Department does not recognize the American League for a Free Palestine as having any representative status.

WRHS
Sincerely yours,

(signed)

EDWARD R. STETTINIUS JR.
ACTING Secretary

Mr. Louis Segal,
General Secretary,
Jewish National Workers' Alliance,
45 East Seventeenth Street
New York 3, N.Y.

C O P Y

AHS
Jewish National Workers' Alliance
45 East 17th St.
New York City

June 8, 1943

Mr. Harry L. Schapiro, Director
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Schapiro,

I am pleased to enclose herewith a copy of
a very important letter which I have received from
Hon. Edward R. Stettinius, Under-Secretary of State,
which is self-explanatory.

I am,

Very sincerely yours,

LOUIS SEGAL
General Secretary

LS:PMK
AFOE
ENC.

CS
6/9/44

C O P Y

June 9, 1944

Mr. Louis Segal
Jewish National Workers' Alliance
45 East 17th Street
New York City

Dear Mr. Segal:

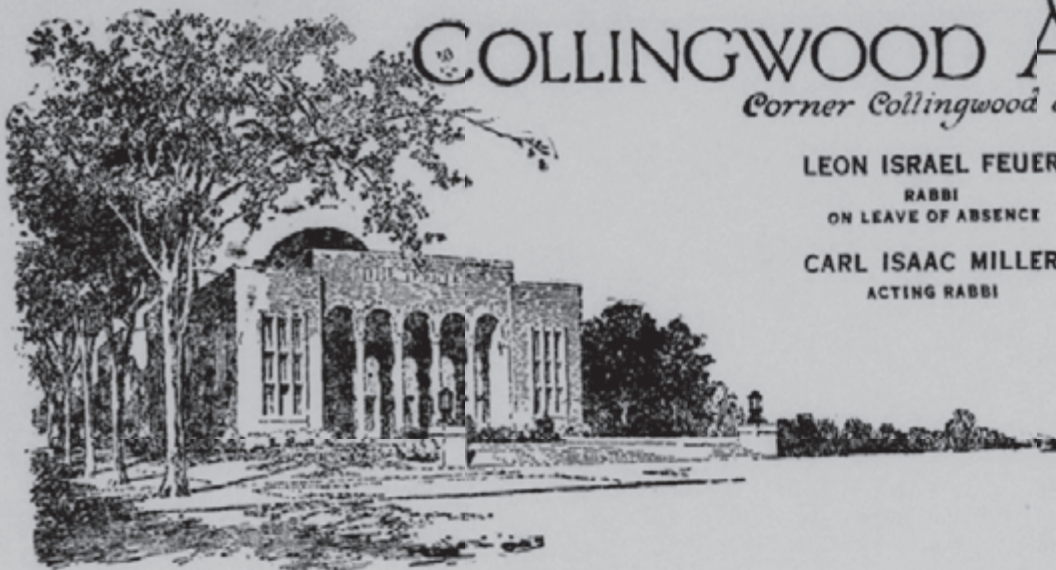
Thank you for your letter of the 8th in which you enclosed copy of the letter which you have received from Under-Secretary of State Hon. Edward R. Stettinius re the American League for a Free Palestine.

This information is very valuable and we are happy to receive it.

Cordially yours,

Harry L. Shapiro
Director

HLS:HCS



COLLINGWOOD AVENUE TEMPLE

Corner Collingwood and Acklin Avenues

LEON ISRAEL FEUER

RABBI

ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE

CARL ISAAC MILLER

ACTING RABBI

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Ex-officio

MRS. JOSEPH B. SMITH
President of Sisterhood

SEYMOUR MINDEL
President of Brotherhood

TOLEDO, OHIO

June 12, 1944

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

Dear Rabbi:

By this time you have received copies of Leo Sack's report on the meeting which Congressman Cellar held between the Jewish Congressmen and Mr. Bergson, and also Senator Bailey's surprising and intemperate attack on us. That was surprising, although I am not actually surprised. I have known of Senator Bailey's more or less unfriendly attitude for some time.

Up to the publication of this attack he has not actually been hostile. His attitude could be better characterized as "indifferent". We have in our Washington files copies of considerable correspondence which has gone back and forth between him and his Jewish constituency in North Carolina. His letters were non-committal, indifferent and seem to indicate a desire not to get mixed up in our business rather than any actual opposition to it. We might go to see him in Washington and try to tone him down, if you think that will do any good. His general attitudes on political and economic questions are very bad. You may recall that a few months ago he made a very intemperate attack in Readers Digest on our "good neighbor" policy in South America, and the State Department called him to task for the numerous falsifications of fact in that article.

With regard to the Jewish Congressmen and Bergson, I am personally inclined to the viewpoint that we ought to drop the matter for the present. It is very clear that they do not want, as a group, to engage in a controversy with Bergson and I am not sure what there is to be gained from pursuing the matter any further. I had several conversations with Cellar before I left Washington in which I strongly urged him and his associates to make a statement without holding any conferences with Bergson. Herman Shulman had a long session with Cellar, in which he also urged him to proceed. He was evidently unwilling to do it and went ahead to meet with Bergson without regard to our wishes in the matter and without letting us know that he was going to do it. His suggestion that you and Wise and some of the other members of the Executive Committee meet with him and

June 12, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

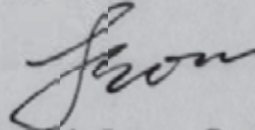
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the other Jewish Congressmen, should not in my opinion be followed. When he talked to me about it over the telephone several days ago I was very non-committal. I think it is an attempt to worm himself into the higher councils of the Zionist Movement for his own personal purposes. I asked him what suggestions or proposals he might have to make to such a meeting between the Jewish Congressmen and the leaders of the Zionist Movement. He confessed that he had no suggestions to make, that he was stumped with regard to the Bergson group but he felt that Bergson and his crowd were dangerous and that the danger was so great that it was worth a conference in Washington between the Zionist leaders and the Jewish Congressmen. I told him that I thought he was exaggerating the danger but that I would discuss it with him further when I come to Washington.

I am planning to be in Washington on Thursday morning and to remain there over the weekend and then to come on to New York for the Executive Committee meeting next Monday. If you have any suggestions about the above matters or anything else, write me in Washington or call me on Thursday.

I understand that the gathering of the material for the book is progressing nicely. I will check into it when I am in Washington and do whatever I can to speed it up. I do not think we will have much trouble in getting together between 350 and 400 statements.

As ever,



Rabbi Leon I. Feuer

LIF-s

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THE LEAGUE FOR A FREE PALESTINE . . .

Another Confusionist Front



Issued by

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

342 MADISON AVENUE

New York 17, N. Y.

A new organization called the AMERICAN LEAGUE FOR A FREE PALESTINE has been launched. Its objects are stated to be "to save the Jewish people of Europe" and "to establish the Hebrew nation in Palestine." The promoters of the new organization acknowledge the great contribution made by the World Zionist movement to Palestine and to the Jewish people, but allege that the Zionist movement is purely sectarian in character and that therefore it is necessary "to fill the long-felt need for a Palestine Freedom movement" with a non-sectarian organization. The new organization differentiates between "European and Palestinian Jews who have no other desire than to live in Palestine," who are members of the "Hebrew" Nation, and Jews living in all other lands, who presumably do not belong to the "Hebrew" Nation. To anyone with the slightest acquaintance with the facts, this definition can only be described as specious nonsense. It is quite evident that an attempt is being made to give a distorted paraphrase of Zionism and to use it to form a new competitive organization.

Through the Balfour Declaration and the Palestine Mandate, the Zionist movement secured international approval of its aim to re-establish the Jews as a nation in Palestine. It was never intended or suggested that Jews should owe political allegiance to any country other than to the land of which they are citizens. The relation of an American Jew to the Jewish National Home, when it is established, will not differ from that of any other American toward the land of his ancestral homeland.

The representative status of the World Zionist Organization, subsequently enlarged in the Jewish Agency for Palestine to include members of non-Zionist groups in many lands, was specifically recognized in the Palestine Mandate. The Zionist

movement has established organizations in every part of the world, which are everywhere recognized as representing local Jewish interests in the development of the Jewish Homeland. From the very start, non-Jewish sympathy and understanding of the objectives of the movement was regarded as of vital importance. In many countries, non-Jewish pro-Palestine committees were established. In the United States, the Zionist movement has welcomed the organization of the AMERICAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE and the CHRISTIAN COUNCIL ON PALESTINE. The JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE is today the recognized spokesman of the Jewish people in all matters concerning the future of Palestine, and is so regarded by Jews, non-Jews, and the governments with which it deals. The new organization is bound to mislead those concerned with the Jewish problem, with regard to the ideals and principles underlying the Zionist movement.

The founders of the so-called League for a Free Palestine are a small group of persons who, within recent years, acting in accordance with the opportunistic impulses of the moment and exploiting the miseries which have befallen our people abroad, have established one paper organization after another. These paper organizations include the FRIENDS OF A JEWISH PALESTINE, the COMMITTEE FOR A JEWISH ARMY, the EMERGENCY COMMITTEE TO SAVE THE JEWISH PEOPLE OF EUROPE, and now, the LEAGUE FOR A FREE PALESTINE. None of these organizations or committees have had any official relationship, direct or indirect, with any responsible body in American Jewish life.

Far from advancing the cause of a Jewish Palestine, or the interests of the Jewish people, the League will be productive of

nothing but public confusion. It will impair the effectiveness and authority of the internationally recognized Jewish Agency for Palestine. It will make for disunity and uncertainty at a time when Jewish singleness of purpose and coordination of effort are of vital importance.

***Do not be misled by this group's publicity —
remember that full-page advertisements will not
rebuild the Jewish National Home***

***Do not support this attempt to destroy Zionism
and the Jewish Agency for Palestine***

***Do not permit a few irresponsible individuals to
speak for the Jewish people***

***Mobilize public opinion behind the accredited
Zionist bodies***

AMERICAN LEAGUE FOR A FREE PALESTINE

Regional Office, 139 N. Clark St., Suite 705, Chicago, Ill.

TRUE to the spirit and traditions of the American people, who have generously fostered and aided all movements of national freedom and independence, and who have, through specific resolutions of Congress, favored the restoration of Palestine to the Jewish people; conscious that the solution of the age-old problem of the Jewish people is an indispensable condition of permanent peace in the world and one of the objectives of democracy; moved, moreover, by the desire to help preserve the lives and restore the dignity of the ancient Jewish people of Europe and Palestine, the American League for a Free Palestine backs the freedom movement of the renascent Hebrew nation and dedicates its efforts to the realization of the following objectives and aims.

IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVES

1. To save the remaining millions of the Jewish people of Europe.
2. To open for them the doors of Palestine.
3. To obtain recognition of the right of the disinherited, dispersed Jews of Europe and the proud Jewish people of Palestine to fight as comrades-in-arms with other nations in this war against our common foe, under their own insignia, in their own army, on every battlefield of the world to which the United Nations High Command will assign them.

POST-WAR AIMS

1. To recognize the Palestinian Jews and the uprooted Jews of the Old World as the renascent Hebrew nation; to secure their right to statehood as a free and independent Government within the historic boundaries of Palestine, it being understood that the Holy Places of all faiths will be placed under the control of a legally constituted international authority and that the non-Jewish population of free Palestine will enjoy the fullest guarantees of citizenship and of individual civic, political, and religious rights.
2. To establish the right of the Jews of the whole world to live in freedom and equality on a par with all other human beings everywhere.
3. And thus to put an end to the scandal of history and the problem that has troubled all the countries of Europe by readmitting a great and ancient people to the family of nations, and by restoring Palestine as a

tions of the renascent Hebrew nation, and hereby pledges its full support to this the principles of the Four Freedoms and the Atlantic Charter.

IN ACCORDANCE with the above objectives and aims, the American League for a Free Palestine recognizes the Free Palestine Committee as representing the aspirations of the renascent Hebrew nation, and hereby pledges its full support to this committee.

BASIC PRINCIPLES OF ORGANIZATION

1. The American League for a Free Palestine is non-sectarian. It is composed of Americans of Jewish descent as well as of all other national origins.
2. Membership in the League, with all the rights and privileges such membership implies, is open to every man or woman, over eighteen years of age, who subscribes to the above Declaration of Aims and Principles and pays the annual membership dues of one dollar.
3. The American League for a Free Palestine adopts the Proclamation on the Moral Rights of the Stateless and Palestinian Jews as the basis of its educational and political activities.

I subscribe to the Declaration of Aims and Principles of the American League for a Free Palestine and enclose herewith one dollar as my annual membership dues.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

CITY.....STATE.....

the T.W. is sponsoring Tuesday evening, Nov. 16 at the Y.W.C.A. He will review "The Seventh Cross" by Anna Seghers.

Brotherhood to Meet—The Temple Brotherhood will hold its next meeting on Thursday, Nov. 18 with Mr. Paul Schwartz

Post War Group to Meet—The Post War Group of the Temple Sisterhood will hold its second meeting on Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 23 at the Temple.

Second Forum Lecture — The second lecture in the Annual Forum Series will be held Sunday, Nov. 14 at the Temple. Charles P. Taft will speak on "Building Towards Post-War America."

Personals—Mrs. Herman Sheyer is visiting relatives in Cleveland, Ohio . . . Mrs. Sam Chase of Detroit, visited her father, Mr. Louis Zweig last week-end.

Evansville Temple To Hear Council Head

Special

EVANSVILLE — Rabbi Elmer Berger of Philadelphia will be the guest of Rabbi and Mrs. Milton Greenwald. Rabbi Berger is the executive director of the American Council for Judaism and Rabbi Greenwald is a member of the Board of Directors of the Council. Rabbi Berger will speak at services at the Washington Avenue Temple on Friday night, Nov. 19.

Evansville A. Z. A.'s Name New Leaders

Special

EVANSVILLE—At an A. Z. A. meeting at the Washington Avenue Temple an election was held to fill vacancies in office by members now serving with the armed forces. Those elected are: Jack Goldman, president; Harry Levin, vice president; Harry Lieberman, secretary, and Roger Levi, treasurer. Harry Levin replaces M. C. Adler now serving in the army and Roger Levi replaces Donald Ellenstein who is serving in the Air Corps.

South Bend A. Z. A. Installs

Special

SOUTH BEND — The newly elected officers of St. Joseph Valley Chapter No. 92, Tleph Zadik Aleph, were installed Sunday at the Hebrew Institute by Dr. Maurice Lemontree. Those inducted are Melvyn Tomber, president; Henry Pols, vice-president; Marvin Soloman, secretary; Irvin Karlin, treasurer; Joseph Gendel and Nor-

resume of the 35 years history of the congregation. The committee consists of Lester Ottenheifer, Lou Rosenblum, Nathan Shorr, Isadore Levin, Ben Sosin, Phil Mossler, Abe Friduss, Ben Levin. The guest speaker will be Dr. Louis Mann, of Temple Sinai of Chicago.

Youth Organization Formed at Hammond—A new youth organization, under the direction of Arthur Weiss, past president of Temple Beth-El of Hammond, had its first meeting Sunday. Outside speakers, visits to industrial centers and other churches and dances will be among the activities the group has planned.

Home Nursing Class Sponsored by Hadassah—A class in home nursing at Temple Beth-El began this week, according to Mrs. Leon Kaplan, president. The class, sponsored by Hadassah and taught by Mrs. Tillie Weiner, will meet each Monday. Reservations may be made by phoning Mrs. L. Kaplan or Mrs. Weiner.

Sisterhood Initiates — At the last meeting of the Beth-El Sisterhood, the Mesdames Charles Kraus, Joseph Kraus, Morton Friedman and Sanders were initiated. Plans were made for a concert in February and it was announced that the Sisterhood will take over the stamp and bond booth in a local drug store with the women of Hadassah.

Jewish Labor Committee Launches Clothing Drive — The Jewish Labor Committee yesterday launched a drive for old clothing and shoes in Hammond and Whiting, to be sent for Russian war relief.

Hyman Schneider, publicity chairman, said all labor organizations are behind the national drive. He will be aided by Mrs. Katie Lipschitz of Whiting and her committee, including Mrs. Rose and Becky Gardner of Whiting, and Mrs. Hyman Barton, Mrs. Hyman Korb and Mrs. Sam Levin, all of Hammond.

man Rubin, sergeants-at-arms; Alfred Farber, reporter, and Neil Silver, chaplain.

Personals—Betty Jane Roth has left for Ann Arbor, Mich., where she is a sophomore, majoring in journalism. Her brother Morris left for Purdue, where he is a freshman taking a pre-medical course. They are the children of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Roth.

Rosenbaum, I. From, R. Silberma, M. R. Herman, S. Brown, J. Tucker, M. Tucker, W. Friedman, I. Tenofsky, P. Weisberger, M. Eir, M. S. Fisher, H. Friedman, H. Rosenstein, A. Piser, A. Finkelstein, M. Bronstein, W. Stein, M. Davidson, S. Warner and M. Dounn.

Hebrew Orthodox Elects

At the congregational meeting held last Sunday, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Theodore Goodman, president; Jack Purey, vice-president; Max Cohen, secretary, and Philip Frank, treasurer.

Young Married Group to Install

—Mrs. Aaron M. Rine will conduct the installation of officers ceremony meeting, to be held at 8:00 o'clock Wednesday evening, Nov. 17 in the Hebrew Institute. A reception will follow the program. Those to be installed are: Joseph Newman, president; Mitchell Elling, vice-president; Mrs. David Moss, secretary, and Ted Halasz, treasurer.

Sinai Sisterhood to Serve Luncheon

—Final plans for the businessmen's luncheon which the Sisterhood is sponsoring Wednesday, Nov. 17, were completed at a meeting held Monday afternoon, at Sinai Synagogue, at which Mrs. Nathan Sutlin presided. The committee in charge of arrangements is Mrs. A. Rivkin, Mrs. S. Hoffman, Mrs. M. S. Fisher, and Mrs. R. Mooren.

Dodim Young Judaea to Install

—The group will hold installation of officers at 8 p. m. Tuesday, Nov. 16, at the Hebrew Institute. Rabbi Aaron M. Rine, adviser of the club, will install the following officers: David Zuravel, president; Melvyn Tomber, vice-president; Lillian Vogel, recording secretary; Mildred Greenhut, corresponding secretary; Louise Solomon, treasurer, and Rose Zubkof and Alice Orlein, sergeants-at-arms. Mr. A. Borr of the South Bend Zionist district will address the group. The club will sponsor a dance next Saturday evening at the Hebrew Institute. Arrangements are in charge of Marvin Soloman, Madelon Marcus, Ruth Hodes and David Zuravel.

Hadassah Board to Meet

—The monthly Hadassah board meeting will be preceded by a luncheon to be held at the home of Mrs. Samuel Fox, at 12:30 p. m. Thursday, Nov. 18.

A W A R N I N G T O T H E Z I O N I S T S O F A M E R I C A

A new organization called the American League for a Free Palestine has been launched. Its objects are stated to be "to save the Jewish people of Europe" and "to establish the Hebrew nation in Palestine." The promoters of the new organization acknowledge the great contribution made by the World Zionist movement to Palestine and to the Jewish people, but allege that the Zionist movement is purely sectarian in character and that therefore it is necessary "to fill the long-felt need for a Palestine Freedom movement" with a non-sectarian organization. The new organization differentiates between "European and Palestinian Jews who have no other desire than to live in Palestine," who are members of the "Hebrew" Nation, and Jews living in all other lands, who presumably do not belong to the "Hebrew" Nation. To anyone with the slightest acquaintance with the facts, this definition can only be described as specious nonsense. It is quite evident that an attempt is being made to give a distorted paraphrase of Zionism and to use it to form a new competitive organization.

Through the Balfour Declaration and the Palestine Mandate, the Zionist movement secured international approval of its aim to re-establish the Jews as a nation in Palestine. It was never intended or suggested that Jews should owe political allegiance to any country other than to the land of which they are citizens. The relation of an American Jew to the Jewish National Home, when it is established, will not differ from that of any other American toward the land of his ancestral homeland.

The representative status of the World Zionist Organization, subsequently enlarged in the Jewish Agency for Palestine to include members of non-Zionist groups in many lands, was specifically recognized in the Palestine Mandate. The Zionist movement has established organizations in every part of the world, which are everywhere recognized as representing local Jewish interests in the development of the Jewish Homeland. From the very start, non-Jewish sympathy and understanding of the objectives of the movement was regarded as of vital importance. In many

countries, non-Jewish pro-Palestine committees were established. In the United States, the Zionist movement has welcomed the organization of the American Palestine Committee and the Christian Council On Palestine. The Jewish Agency for Palestine is today the recognized spokesman of the Jewish people in all matters concerning the future of Palestine, and is so regarded by Jews, non-Jews, and the governments with which it deals. The new organization is bound to mislead those concerned with the Jewish problem, with regard to the ideals and principles underlying the Zionist movement.

The founders of the so-called League for a Free Palestine are a small group of persons who, within recent years, acting in accordance with the opportunistic impulses of the moment and exploiting the miseries which have befallen our people abroad, have established one paper organization after another. These paper organizations include the Friends of a Jewish Palestine, the Committee for a Jewish Army, the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe, and now, the League for a Free Palestine. None of these organizations or committees have had any official relationship, direct or indirect, with any responsible body in American Jewish life.

Far from advancing the cause of a Jewish Palestine, or the interests of the Jewish people, the League will be productive of nothing but public confusion. It will impair the effectiveness and authority of the internationally recognized Jewish Agency for Palestine. It will make for disunity and uncertainty at a time when Jewish singleness of purpose and coordination of effort are of vital importance.

DO NOT BE MISLED BY THIS GROUP'S PUBLICITY -- REMEMBER THAT
FULL-PAGE ADVERTISEMENTS WILL NOT REBUILD THE JEWISH NATIONAL HOME

DO NOT SUPPORT THIS ATTEMPT TO DESTROY ZIONISM AND
THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

DO NOT PERMIT A FEW IRRESPONSIBLE INDIVIDUALS TO SPEAK
FOR THE JEWISH PEOPLE

MOBILIZE PUBLIC OPINION BEHIND THE ACCREDITED ZIONIST BODIES

1st Draft.

League for Free Palestine.

Of recent weeks a body styling itself the American League for a Free Palestine has begun to distribute literature and application blanks preparatory to embarking on a membership campaign. The objects of the League are stated to be "to save the Jewish people of Europe" and "to establish the Hebrew Nation in Palestine." It is obvious that these purposes are in fact those of the organized Zionist movement in this country which for over forty years has been the authorized spokesman of American Jewry in regard to the re-establishment of the Jewish National Home in Palestine.

That some explanation of this attempt to set up a new and competing organization is called for, is apparently realized by those sponsoring the League. In a statement entitled "Concept and Purpose" the new organization "acknowledges the great contribution made by the World Zionist Movement to Palestine and to the Jewish people."

It is alleged, however
~~The allegation is made, however,~~ that the Zionist movement is "purely sectarian" in character, and that it has therefore been found necessary "to fill the long felt need for a Palestine freedom movement." To anyone with the slightest acquaintance with the facts this statement can only be described as specious nonsense. The Zionist movement itself embraces a wide variety of opinions. In addition, it has always regarded non-Jewish sympathy and understanding of the objective of a Jewish Palestine as of vital importance and has consistently worked with that end in view. It cooperates and has the closest ties with many non-Jewish bodies and individuals as, for example, the American Palestine Committee and the Christian Council for Palestine. In the eyes of Jews and non-Jews alike, the Zionist movement and the Jewish Agency for Palestine today stand as

the unquestioned spokesmen of the Jewish people in all matters concern-

ing the future of Palestine. / The creation of a competing organization

can only create confusion, will serve to mislead many non-Jews and in

particular will create a most unfortunate impression of division in

Jewish ranks on the subject of Palestine.

The founders of the League are a small group of persons

who within recent years have established, according to the opportunistic

impulse of the moment and in exploitation of the miseries which have

befallen our people abroad, one paper organization after another. These

include ^{the} Friends of a Jewish Palestine, the Committee for a Jewish Army,

the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe, and now

the League for a Free Palestine. None of these organizations have had

any official relationship with any democratically organized body in

American Jewish life. We do not know how many other front organiza-

tions the members of this group propose to create, nor under how many

other titles they propose to travel. Already, apparently, it is in-

tended in addition to the American League for a Free Palestine, to

establish a Free Palestine Committee "truly representative of the

Hebrew Nation of Europe and Palestine." We can only say that far

from advancing the cause of a Jewish Palestine, the League will be

productive of nothing but confusion; it will make for disunion and

uncertainty at a time when Jewish unity and singleness of purpose

is above all vital; and we are confident that in so far as the

measure of its success is the extent to which it undermines the

authority of the democratically elected internationally recognized

[The letter body
is internationally
recognized by
Article 4 of the Mandate
for Palestine as
representing Jewish
interests in
regard to
Palestine]

Jewish bodies, American Jewry will wish to dissociate themselves from the activities of these self-appointed champions of the Jewish people



LIPSKY REDRAFT

A new organization to be called the American League for a Free Palestine is about to be launched. Its objects are stated to be "to save the Jewish people of Europe" and "to establish the Hebrew Nation in Palestine". The promoters of the new organization acknowledge the great contribution made by the World Zionist movement to Palestine and to the Jewish people, but allege that the Zionist movement is purely sectarian in character and that therefore it is necessary "to fill the long-felt need for a Palestine Freedom movement" with a non-sectarian organization. The new organization will differentiate between Jews in Palestine, who are members of the "Hebrew" Nation, and Jews living in all other lands, who presumably do not belong to the "Hebrew" Nation. To anyone with the slightest acquaintance with the facts, this definition can only be described as specious nonsense. It is quite evident that an attempt is being made to give a distorted paraphrase of Zionism and to use it to form a new competitive organization.

~~There has been no break in the old Jewish tradition of emancipation through the redemption of Zion and the modern Zionist movement, aiming to establish a Jewish National Home in Palestine under international law.~~ The Zionist movement secured the approval of Zionism in the form of the Balfour Declaration, and subsequently, through the League of Nations, had Palestine placed under a Mandate for the express purpose of facilitating the development of a Jewish National Home. The status of the

WorldZionist Organization, subsequently enlarged to include representatives of non-Zionist groups in many lands, was recognized in the Mandate. The Zionist movement has established organizations in every part of the world, which are legally recognized for the purposes of Zionism in the territories in which they operate. From the very start, non-Jewish sympathy and understanding of the objectives of the movement was regarded as of vital importance. In many countries, non-Jewish pro-Palestine committees were established. In the United States, the Zionist movement has welcomed the organization of the American Palestine Committee and the Christian Council for Palestine. The Jewish Agency for Palestine is today the recognized spokesman of the Jewish people in all matters concerning the future of Palestine, and is so regarded by Jews, non-Jews, and the governments with which it deals. The new organization is bound to mislead all concerned in the Jewish problem, with regard to the ideals and principles underlying the Zionist movement.

The founders of the so-called League for a Free Palestine are a small group of persons who, within recent years, acting in accordance with the opportunistic impulses of the moment and exploiting the miseries which have befallen our people abroad, have established one paper organization after another. These paper organizations include the Friends of a Jewish Palestine, the Committee for a Jewish Army, the Emergency Committee to Save the Jews of Europe, and now, the proposed League for a Free Palestine. None of these organizations or committees have had any official relationship, direct or indirect, with any responsible body in American Jewish life.

Far from advancing the cause of a Jewish Palestine, or the interests of the Jewish people, the League, if established, will be

productive of nothing but public confusion. It will make for disunity and uncertainty at a time when Jewish singleness of purpose and coordination of effort are of vital importance. It will impair the effectiveness and authority of the internationally recognized Jewish Agency for Palestine.



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LIPSKY REDRAFT

Draft 3.

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The Survival and Freedom of the Hebrew Nation Is Your Concern!

●

*Whether You Are an
American of Hebrew
Descent, or of any
Other Origin - this
Is Your Problem*

●

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT IT?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING ABOUT IT?



American League for a Free Palestine
11 West 42nd Street
New York 18, N. Y.

The Problem

One century and a half ago, our forefathers rebelled against the tyranny of taxation without representation. As a result of this rebellion a new and mighty nation, the United States of America, was born.

Today, we witness the greatest scandal of history when a people most heavily taxed, not only in property and human dignity but also in torrents of blood, is denied any representation in a war against the common enemy and even a fair chance to survive. This people has already suffered more casualties during this war than all the United Nations of Europe combined, with the exception of Russia. Nevertheless it is refused recognition as a belligerent and representation as a national entity.

It is precisely this lack of recognition which robbed the Hebrew people of Europe and Palestine of their elementary right to a place on the battlefield—a Hebrew Palestine Army to fight the brutal and remorseless enemy. Because they alone lacked recognition as a national entity, they became not only the first of Hitler's victims but his principal ones and were denied the status of partnership in the fight to free the world from this latest scourge. Because of their lack of recognition as a national entity, they were deprived of representation in any council, in any conclave of the United Nations. Because they lacked representation, no adequate measures of salvation could be undertaken in their behalf.

More than that. The soldiers of the United Nations are enduring the greatest hardships—they are making the supreme sacrifice with the hope that after victory everyone will return to a peaceful and happy life with all the opportunities that a democratic and liberal order presents. The farmers will go back to the soil, the workers to their plants, the professionals to their offices and the businessmen to their trades.

No such hope, however, comforts the Hebrew in Europe, and no such prospect strengthens his spirit. For him there are no jobs waiting. For him there is no home—though in truth, even before Hitler, the Hebrew was insecure, politically discriminated against and economically uprooted, in one word—homeless.

What is to become of these Hebrews, ex-citizens of Europe's many countries, who will have escaped death, survived torture, concentration camps and executions? Does the world expect these weary people to return to the scenes of their torture, there to seek in vain the faces of those they once loved and perhaps now forever missing? Is it for this prospect that two million or more Hebrews have been martyred—for which millions more have endured torture?

What alternative is there?

The Solution

Those Hebrews of Eastern Europe who went through repeated waves of persecution and extermination throughout their history have been melted into an ethno-political entity—a *renascent nation*. They are determined to secure recognition and the fair chance of creating a majority, an independent government and a free state in Palestine where the vanguard of this nation already lives.

To Avoid Confusion

It has to be stated, in all fairness, that no such ethno-political entity exists in America. The five million so-called "American Jews" are not generic to this entity. They are an integral part of the American nation. They are, properly defined, Americans of Hebrew descent only when we refer to their origin. They are properly called Jews only when referring to their religion.

The Principle of Self-Determination

Unfortunately, the objective approach that goes contrary to partisan and prejudicial conception is an unfamiliar one and the principle of self-determination, accepted for all other peoples, is scorned when it is applied to the Hebrew people. Thus, for instance, Mr. Sulzberger, publisher of the *New York Times*, presumes to speak not only for the Americans of Hebrew descent, of which he is one, but also for the Hebrews of Europe and Palestine, with whom he shares nothing—neither civilian insecurity, nor common language, nor common way of life, and certainly not the intense and immediate need for political status. His contention therefore, that the politically disenfranchised Hebrew people of Europe and Palestine do not exist as a nation, is arbitrary and his contention that he is in a position to speak for them is sheer nonsense. It is safe to predict that permitted a plebiscite, the Hebrew people of Europe and Palestine would identify themselves in no other way than explicitly as a Hebrew nation and then, by a vote of 99%.

On the other hand, when a Hebrew of Europe comes to this country and declares that all Americans of Hebrew descent belong to a universal "Jewish nation" he too is speaking arbitrarily and contrary to the facts, because a plebiscite would show that 99% of the Americans of Hebrew descent would declare themselves belonging to the American nation.

Self-determination is the sacred right of all peoples. It is under this sacred right that the Hebrew people of Europe and Palestine demand recognition as a nation.

The Hebrew Committee of National Liberation— What It Stands For

In order to put an end to the scandal of history, of a great and ancient people compelled to haunt the corridors of Time as ghosts and beggars and waifs of every storm that rages, the Hebrew Committee of National Liberation extends a bold and dynamic plan of action, and brings to this country a new and imaginative approach to this complex problem. (See definition of Aims and Objectives—pages 5-6.)

The Hebrew Committee of National Liberation is not known to many. Its achievements and activities are. Within the past three years a handful of its members initiated, as spearheads in the fight for the survival of the Hebrew people, the following organization in this country: The American Friends of a Jewish Palestine, the Committee for a Jewish Army of Stateless and Palestinian Jews, the Emergency Conference and the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe. Among their more notable achievements was the organization of the great documentary pageant, "We Will Never Die" and the nationwide Proclamation on the Moral Rights of the Stateless and Palestinian Jews.

The Hebrew Committee of National Liberation represents the freedom movement of the Hebrew people of Europe and Palestine on whose banner is inscribed: "Survival and Freedom." All the activities of this movement and its leadership are dedicated to and motivated by these two principles: "Survival and Freedom."

The American League for a Free Palestine, therefore, recognizes the aims of the Hebrew Committee of National Liberation as the only logical solution to the age-old problem of the Hebrew people.

American League for a Free Palestine

Definition of Aims and Objectives

"True to the spirit and traditions of the American people, who have generously fostered and aided all movements of national freedom and independence, and who have through specific resolutions in Congress favored the restoration of Palestine to the Hebrew people;

conscious that the solution of the age-old problem of the Hebrew people is an indispensable condition of permanent peace in the world and one of the objectives of democracy;

THE AMERICAN LEAGUE FOR A FREE PALESTINE BACKS THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE HEBREW COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION, FOR THE RECOGNITION OF THE HEBREW PEOPLE OF EUROPE AND PALESTINE AS A RENASCENT NATION, AND THE UP-BUILDING OF PALESTINE IN ITS HISTORIC BOUNDARIES AS AN INDEPENDENT STATE, WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF A WORLD ORDER BASED ON THE PRINCIPLES OF THE FOUR FREEDOMS AND THE ATLANTIC CHARTER; It Being Understood That

- to the nascent Hebrew nation will belong only those who freely adhere to it—and that the "Jewish Americans," being part of the American nation, are not Hebrews but Americans of Hebrew descent;
- in a Free Palestine, the non-Hebrew population will enjoy the fullest guarantees of individual and collective, civic and political as well as religious rights;
- the holy places of all faiths will be placed under the control of a legally constituted international authority.

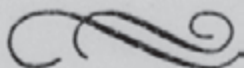
The American League for a Free Palestine will therefore dedicate its efforts to the realization of the following immediate objectives:

Immediate Objectives:

1. "To secure the constant cooperation of the Government and people of the United States for the rescue of the Hebrew people of Europe.
2. "To secure open doors of Palestine for the Hebrew people of Europe of whom large numbers must be evacuated during hostilities.
3. "To secure recognition for the Hebrew people of Europe and Palestine to form an army of their own in order to participate, under their own flag, in the invasion of Europe and the occupation of Germany."

"The American League for a Free Palestine is non-sectarian. Membership in the League, with all the rights and privileges such membership implies, is open to every man or woman, over eighteen years of age, regardless of race, origin or religion, who subscribes to its Aims and Objectives and pays the annual membership dues of one dollar."

This definition of aims and objectives is subject to changes, amendments and revision by the Inaugural Congress of the American League for a Free Palestine to be held in June, 1944.



Facts and Background of the Hebrew Freedom Movement

1. To Establish a Nation by Colonization Is Not Unusual in History:

It is a recurrent precedent. The United States began as a colony. So did almost all of the British Commonwealth of Nations—Australia, Canada, South Africa, New Zealand.

There is a basic difference between imperialism and colonization. Imperialism is exploitation of a foreign land; colonization is the redemption of waste and barren land, bringing into it life, democracy and new civilization.

2. A Nation Is Not a Supernatural Genesis:

It is merely the decision of groups of everyday men; a fusion of men resulting from common interests and ideals, reacting upon economic, political environments.

The Hebrew Freedom Movement, demanding national recognition for the Hebrew people of Europe and Palestine, follows a historic precedent. It points to the years when the United States was taking shape as a nation, when Europe's oppressed came to these shores, driven by the need for religious, social or economic readjustment. Despite innumerable differences among themselves, they rebelled against the unjust and tyrannical treatment of the American colonies by the King's political and military representatives. These colonists decided to shake off the yoke of the oppressor and become an independent nation. They decided to fight for this right to nationhood, and called this fight "revolution." They fought and won, and became the greatest, the most powerful and most advanced industrial and political democracy in the world.

It is true that the Hebrew people of Europe, and even the Palestinian vanguard, do not have great experience as a nation; neither did the American colonists. They may come of widely divergent backgrounds both as to education and social status, but they have been fused in a furnace of agony. They may not have common concepts of life, social order or religion. They may be stratified in taste, culture and social caste. All this is important, but not decisive.

This fact is decisive: they cannot and will not continue to live under tyranny—whether

under Hitler's fiendish barbarism, or the obscene brutality of Polish and Rumanian tyranny of the period between the wars, or the Czarist tyranny before the first World War.

3. The Hebrew Nation and Palestine:

The whole history of the Hebrew people, if we are to draw from it any meaning at all, lies in the need and the rightful demand for the political restoration of Palestine.

Dr. William E. Blackstone,* quoting the foremost authorities on international law, pointed out as early as 1891 that since the Hebrews never gave up their title to Palestine, the general "law of dereliction" could not hold in their case: "for they never abandoned the land. They made no treaty, they didn't even surrender. They simply succumbed, after the most desperate conflict, to the overwhelming power of the Romans . . . and were captured or enslaved. . . . Since then . . . they have disputed the possession of the land, by continued protest . . ."

Blackstone quotes the outstanding legal luminaries of his day who agreed that the Hebrew claim was, at least, legally sound. He points out that according to the logical precedents established by such authorities as Boswell, Wheaton, Clifford, Phillimore and others, "the forcible manner by which the Hebrew nation has been kept out of the land, with no means of redress, is equivalent in principle to a continued state of war," and that therefore "limitations should in no event run against them until they have had the opportunity to present their claim at the bar of the only possible earthly court, an International Conference."

The historical connection between the Hebrew people and its land, Palestine, was officially recognized by the great powers in a series of international documents and conventions; i.e., the Balfour Declaration, the Mandate, and the American-British Convention of 1925. The Mandate as well as the British-American Convention stipulate explicitly:

*"Recognition has thereby been given to the historical connection of the Jewish** people with Palestine and to the grounds of reconstituting their national home in that country."*

* Famous authority on international law.

** In all these documents the term Jewish was used because this was the acknowledged terminology of the Zionists.

4. A Breach of Faith and of a Solemn Obligation:

The Mandate, as ratified and included in the American-British Convention, stipulates that the purpose of putting Palestine under a British mandate was that

"the Mandatory shall be responsible for placing the country under such political, administrative and economic conditions as will secure the establishment of the Jewish National Home, as laid down in the preamble, and the development of self-governing institutions and also for safeguarding the civil and religious rights of all the inhabitants of Palestine, irrespective of race and religion." (Article 2)

In another article of the Mandate, as ratified and included in the American-British Convention, it is stipulated that

"No person shall be excluded from Palestine on the sole ground of his religious belief." (Article 15)

The American-British Convention stipulates that

"Nothing contained in the . . . convention shall be affected by any modification which may be made in the terms of the Mandate as decided above, unless such modification shall have been assented to by the United States." (Article 7)

All these stipulations of international obligations on the part of Great Britain have been violated during the long period of twenty-five years of British administration in Palestine. This policy of violating the Balfour Declaration, the Mandate and the American-British Convention, was climaxed in the British White Paper of May, 1939, which is a purely anti-Semitic document containing discriminatory laws of the worst kind.

According to this document, the Hebrews alone of all peoples are denied admission to Palestine.

According to this document, the Hebrew population is confined to live in an especially assigned and very limited territory of Palestine (about 4% of all Palestinian territory) and they are not permitted to buy land nor even to rent houses outside their pale of settlement.

This is in the spirit and pattern of the old Czarist Russian anti-Semitic regime.

For violating these laws, Hebrews are sentenced to many years of imprisonment.

Violation of the law may consist of the purchase of a cow, or the renting of a house, or the planting of a tree outside the pale of settlement.

Palestine is the only country, except for German-dominated territory, where such explicitly anti-Semitic laws prevail.

Churchill condemned this document most vehemently when it came out and was discussed in Parliament. He termed it as a breach of faith:

"I should feel personally embarrassed in the most acute manner if I lent myself by silence or inaction to what I must regard as an act of repudiation . . . of the Balfour Declaration . . . and a Breach of Faith."

Other members of the present government came out equally as strong against this document, declaring it illegal. They were Archibald Sinclair, now Secretary of State for Air; Emery, now Secretary of State for India; Morrison, now Secretary of State for Home Affairs. Yet, the anti-Semitic laws prevail in Palestine.

President Roosevelt declared on March 9 that the United States never gave its approval of the White Paper.

5. Absorptive Capacity of Palestine:

Palestine, on both sides of the Jordan, has an area of 44,850 square miles, slightly larger than Tennessee. Its total population today is about 1,600,000 Hebrews and Arabs together. Here is a table which shows how great a population the originally mandated Hebrew National Home (Cis-Jordan and Trans-Jordan) would hold if it were as thickly populated, per square mile, as the following:

	Sq. Mi.	Population	Palestine
Belgium . . .	11,785	8,159,185	31,027,230
England . . .	50,874	37,350,917	32,933,355
Holland . . .	13,202	8,061,571	26,609,505
Massachusetts	8,266	4,303,330	23,402,730
New Jersey .	8,224	4,193,000	22,864,530
Puerto Rico .	3,435	1,543,913	20,160,075
Rhode Island	1,248	702,000	25,228,125
Sicily	9,935	4,426,113	19,980,675

6. The Hebrew Freedom Movement Offers Reconciliation, Rather Than Strife:

Concerning the theoretical and yet so passionately debated concept called "World Jewry," there are three trends of thought, those of:

- A. National reconstruction in Palestine; or
- B. Individual and minority rights in Eastern European countries; or
- C. The right of unhampered social, economic and political assimilation in their countries of birth or adoption.

Among the proponents of these three trends of thought, a merciless feud goes on. The Hebrew Freedom Movement, however, has no part in this quarrel. It appreciates the point of view of each of these factions under the condition, however, that none of the proponents of any one compels the others to become subjected to its will.

The Hebrew Freedom Movement holds that these three trends need not necessarily exclude each other; on the contrary, it holds that there is a certain harmony and equilibrium among these three trends of thought which must be recognized as the main elements of sound normalization of the very abnormal "Jewish situation."

The masses of the Hebrew people of Europe and Palestine who are determined to build their future in the security of an independent nation have the right to do so, but this should not be achieved at the expense of either individual and minority rights in Eastern European countries, or of the rights of complete adjustment and assimilation in those countries where it is objectively possible or desirable.

The Hebrew Committee of National Liberation believes that the different groups and organizations dealing with this problem should not fight each other on the points on which they disagree, but should seek cooperation on the points on which they *can* agree. Thus there is a bright prospect that the eternal feuds among the different trends of thought will subside and give place to a new, harmonious solidarity.

7. The Hebrew Freedom Movement and the Arabs:

The Hebrew Freedom Movement is not anti-Arab but *pro-Arab* in the sense that it is determined to

build up a Free Palestine with the Arab population as a partner in democracy and civilization.

8. The Hebrew Freedom Movement and Great Britain:

The Hebrew Freedom Movement is not anti-British. On the contrary, it is *pro-British* due to the Hebrew admiration of British Culture and of the sense of justice of the English people. The Hebrew Freedom Movement is favorably predisposed to reach a friendly agreement about safeguarding the British interests in the Middle East. It opposes, however, the cruel, inhuman, reactionary clique of the British Colonial Office who are afraid of Hebrew penetration in the Middle East, lest the Hebrews bring with them civilization, democracy, a higher standard of living and higher wages for the distressed, dispossessed, backward masses of Arabs who are held down by the tyrannical British Colonial Administration and their allies, the feudal landlords, colleagues and followers of the ex-Mufti (now in Berlin) who are the worst of reactionaries and Nazi agents.

9. American Interests in the Middle East, and a Free Palestine:

The United States, as a world power and chief partner in the up-building of a new-democratic world order, cannot be disinterested in such a vital geographic and strategic position as Palestine. Nearly all the main sea roads between west and east traverse the Suez Canal; the main airplanes cross it. And so will the main land, sea and air routes of the future, linking Capetown to Damascus, and China and India. That corner of the Mediterranean where Palestine is situated, is the site of the most important crossroads of the future. Its hinterland is not only Arabia, with its rich oil fields, but the whole of that south-eastern corner of Asia where dwells one half of the human race—nearly one thousand millions of human beings.

The United States of America cannot and should not remain without economic and spiritual influence upon this vitally important zone. It has already, and is going to have, great interests there. A friendly nation in that theater of world affairs is indispensable for the success of American influence in the Middle East.

A Hebrew nation, indebted for its freedom to America, can be the guarantee of friendship and co-operation with American interests there.

A Plea to America

With these clear-cut definitions of aims and purpose—with this clear-cut distinction between the Hebrew people of Europe and Palestine on the one hand, and Americans of Hebrew descent on the other, the Hebrew Committee of National Liberation has come to the United States to appeal to the one country in this world which has always championed the freedom and independence of other nations as earlier it had sought its own.

For the Sake of a Lasting Peace

Now the great American nation is engaged in a desperate war. Its sons are shedding their blood on every battlefield of the world in the hope of winning peace—peace for themselves and for their children. But how can we expect a lasting peace in Europe or anywhere in the world if the ulcer of Anti-Semitism is not removed?

How can we expect a lasting peace in Europe, or anywhere in the world, if a people, an entire people, are left with the bitter conviction that this war is not for the disenfranchised; that it means nothing to them in the way of a sound and happy future; that the Atlantic Charter and the Four Freedoms are "restricted"; that they find themselves united with the Allies only because they are fighting a common, merciless enemy.

That is why the world must be interested in a final and integral solution to the homelessness and dispersal of the Hebrew people of Europe. To offer a democratic world such a solution is the mission of the Hebrew Committee of National Liberation which directs its appeal to the American people, irrespective of religion and national origin, to support the Hebrew Freedom Movement. This we can do by becoming members of the American League for a Free Palestine.

When an American organization of considerable size elects to exert its determined will and influence on the side of justice and humanity, it must be successful. In its success lies the salvation of the Hebrew people of Europe and Palestine.

Today a spiritual and ideological basis for such an American movement already exists. Three thousand leaders of American public opinion, signatories of the Proclamation on the Moral Rights of the State-

less and Palestinian Jews, have provided, in traditional American style, the foundation for such a movement. (A condensed text of this Proclamation is enclosed.)

The American League for a Free Palestine will implement this historic document—and will stretch out a helping hand to the freedom movement of the renascent Hebrew nation in its fight for freedom and independence.

A Test Case of Democracy

"In this tragic conflict we must be for or against the Hebrew People^{}: there can be no neutrality. Our attitude towards them becomes the test of our professions and the sincerity of our war aims. It strikes at the root of our morale, and if we abandon them we abandon everything, because Hitler has chosen to make them his special target. Whether we like it or not, and however inconvenient it may be, the Hebrew people has become the personification of the issues involved in this world struggle between right and wrong, between good and evil. If we desert them . . . we betray our avowed war aims.*

"Surely it is the height of folly to repudiate our principles and to cold-shoulder our friends in order to curry favor with neutrals or potential enemies." (Lord Davies, in speech in House of Lords, March 10, 1942.)

^{*} Lord Davies uses the term "Jewish."

"The Hebrew People must formulate clearly their aims in Palestine and in no circumstance must they compromise on these aims. They must refuse to accept anything that is not in accordance with their rights and needs as a nation. . . . They must press their vital demands and fight for a final solution of their problem.*

"The British are a just people. If the Hebrews were efficient in bringing their case in Palestine to their attention, justice would be done to their claims. There was, however, one lesson to be learnt from history, namely that you must twist the British Lion's tail before he sits up and takes notice. The Hebrews should study the history of Ireland and the events that led eventually to a change of British policy there. No doubt, the Irish question could have been solved earlier and better, but it required the Easter Rising and Sinn Fein before the British changed their attitude. As long as the Hebrews remain docile, they would get much praise and much sympathy, but nothing would be done for them." Mr. Clement Davies, K.C., M.P. From a Speech, Lords, March 6, 1943.

"In this searching test for nations and individuals there is no surer way for men and for nations to show themselves worthy of liberty than to fight for its preservation." Cordell Hull.

* Clement Davies uses the term "Jewish."

AMERICAN LEAGUE FOR A FREE PALESTINE

Organizing Committee

Congressman Will Rogers, Jr.
Congressman Andrew L. Somers
Congressman Harry R. Sheppard
Konrad Bercovici
Louis Bromfield
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The American League for a Free Palestine is non-sectarian. Membership in the League, with all the rights and privileges such membership implies, is open to every man or woman, over eighteen years of age, regardless of race, origin or religion, who subscribes to its Aims and Objectives and pays the annual membership dues of one (\$1.00) dollar.

A Proclamation

ON THE MORAL RIGHTS OF THE STATELESS AND PALESTINIAN JEWS

(Abridged)

We, free people of America, a nation proudly fighting under its own flag against the enemies of freedom and civilization in this global war for survival,

Proclaim to our valiant allies, the British Commonwealth of Nations, to the free peoples everywhere in the world, as well as to our godless enemies:

That we shall no longer witness with pity alone, and with passive sympathy, the calculated extermination of the ancient Jewish people by the barbarous Nazis.

To commiserate is not enough. Our pity will not stay the doom of millions more. To pride ourselves on tolerance and good-will and to make predictions and promises that after the war somehow or other everybody and everything will naturally slip back into place, is tantamount to evasion of harrowing reality.

We will be judged guilty if we do not change our present remote attitude to a positive, bold course of moral action.

A single injustice makes our whole cause unjust and only justice is the guarantee of victory.

The role of leader has fallen to America. The eyes of all the world's oppressed and heavy-laden are on Washington. From this nation, free and mighty, the world expects the moral leadership for liberation. From America, the hearth of liberty and democracy, the spark of freedom that still smoulders under the ashes everywhere in the world can and will be fanned into flame for all people, lest our own freedom perish.

Therefore, from this day onward, as heirs of the glorious American tradition and by virtue of the great moral authority vested in our Nation at the present critical historic juncture, we, people of America, recognize the solution

of the age-old Jewish problem in Europe as one of the objectives of democracy and as a preliminary condition to permanent peace in the world.

We recognize the right of these Jews to return to their place among the free peoples of the earth; so that the remnant of tortured Israel, those who went through the fiery furnace of this war, may take up life as a free people and raise their voice with the voices of other nations on earth in a new and supreme harmony of mankind, which is that "genuine world civilization" for which President Roosevelt calls.

We recognize the right of the dispersed, disinherited Jews of Europe and the proud Jewish people of Palestine, to fight as fellow-partners in this war against our common foe in their own army, under their own insignia, on every battlefield of the world to which the United Nations' High Command will assign them.

Thus, in a new regenerated humanity which will arise from the ruins of a world of blood and hatred, an end will be put to the scandal of history, of a great and ancient people compelled to haunt the corridors of Time as ghosts and beggars and waifs of every storm that rages.

And to that end we, the undersigned, place our names on this proclamation.

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