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American Zionist Emergency Council, press releases, 1944.

**PRESS RELEASE from**

**AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations:*

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi • Poale-Zion

342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

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FOR RELEASE:

MONDAY P. M., JANUARY 10, 1944

TUESDAY A. M., JANUARY 11, 1944

**ZIONISTS BLAST "LEAGUE FOR A FREE PALESTINE"**

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**EMERGENCY COUNCIL CHARGES SMALL GROUP CREATES  
"ONE PAPER ORGANIZATION AFTER ANOTHER"**

New York -- The American Zionist Emergency Council, representing all major Zionist groups in the United States, today assailed the League for a Free Palestine, declaring that its founders 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."

In a formal statement, the Council, whose co-chairmen are Dr. Abba Hillel Silver of Cleveland and Dr. Stephen S. Wise of New York, charged that "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."

The statement listed the "paper organizations" created by the League's founders as follows: the Friends of a Jewish Palestine, the Committee for a Jewish Army and the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe. "None of these organizations or committees have had any official relationship, direct or indirect, with any responsible body in American Jewish life," the Council added.

The statement pointed out that while "the promoters of the new organization acknowledge the great contribution made by the World Zionist movement to Palestine and to the Jewish people, they 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

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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."

This definition was described by the Council as "specious nonsense," and the statement continued:

"Through the Balfour Declaration and the Palestine Mandate, the Zionist movement secured international approval of its aim to reestablish 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 American Zionist Emergency Council speaks for the Zionist Organization of America, Hadassah, Mizrachi and Poale Zion, whose respective heads are Dr. Israel Goldstein, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Leon Gellman and David Wertheim.

The text of the Council's statement follows:

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STATEMENT BY AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL  
ON LEAGUE FOR A FREE PALESTINE

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,

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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 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 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.

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**PRESS RELEASE from**

**AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND COMMEMORATE

BALFOUR DECLARATION ANNIVERSARY;

THIRTEEN STATES MARKING OCCASION

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CHRISTIAN SPOKESMEN CALL FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

TO FULFILL BALFOUR PLEDGE

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New York — Statements commemorating the twenty-seventh anniversary of the Balfour Declaration which takes place on November 2nd, and urging support for the movement to reconstitute Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth, were issued today by Governor Leverett Saltonstall of Massachusetts and Governor J. Howard McGrath of Rhode Island, bringing to thirteen the total number of states who are marking the anniversary. This was announced today by the American Zionist Emergency Council, whose co-chairmen are Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Stephen S. Wise.

The Council also announced that a message had been received from Dr. Carl Hermann Voss, executive secretary of the Christian Council on Palestine, and Dr. Howard M. LeSourd, director of the American Palestine Committee, declaring that "immediate action must be taken to implement the Balfour Declaration and the historic pledges made to the Jewish people in recent months." The Christian Council on Palestine represents 2,000 Christian ministers and religious educators, and the American Palestine Committee speaks for more than 4,000 non-Jewish supporters of the Jewish National Home, many of them leaders of public opinion.

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"Not only the Jewish people, but large numbers of Christians, recognizing the justice of the demand for the reconstitution of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth, are calling for speedy and definitive action on this vital question," the message said.

Calling on the people of Massachusetts to observe November 2nd as "Palestine Day," Governor Saltonstall declared, "We behold in our vision the rebirth of the Jewish people on the banks of the Jordan, where a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth will be established granting the Jewish people a place of equality and dignity in the family of the peace-loving nations of the world."

"It is a truly American action that in the height of the exercise of our own liberties of election and in the midst of a mighty war to preserve our own freedoms, that we should pause to share with the Jews of the world their commemoration of the twenty-seventh anniversary of the Balfour Declaration," Governor McGrath said.

Other states which have acted to mark the anniversary are Colorado, Connecticut, Indiana, Maryland, Montana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW JERSEY STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

BLASTS WHITE PAPER ON PALESTINE

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MAYOR MURPHY INTRODUCES RESOLUTION

URGING OPEN DOOR FOR JEWS

The New Jersey State Federation of Labor has joined in the fight for the abrogation of the Chamberlain White Paper, which would prohibit all new Jewish immigration into Palestine after March 31.

In a resolution adopted at the body's 65th convention, held in Newark, the Federation followed the action of its parent body, the American Federation of Labor, in condemning the White Paper as "a flagrant violation of the British Mandate over Palestine." The resolution was introduced by Mayor Vincent J. Murphy of Newark, Secretary-Treasurer of the New Jersey State Federation of Labor.

"In consonance with the friendship thus far demonstrated by organized labor to the development of Palestine as a self-governing Jewish Commonwealth, we ask that the gates of that country be opened for entry and settlement of as many Jewish refugees as may need or shall desire to go there, where they may help the pioneers and organized workers to build for a just social and economic order," the resolution declared.

The text of the resolution follows:

"WHEREAS the American government in 1922 by joint resolution of the Congress of the United States which was unanimously adopted, endorsed the establishment in Palestine of a National Homeland for the Jewish people; and

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"WHEREAS the American Federation of Labor, through its leadership and the expressed sentiment of many of its conventions, has repeatedly emphasized its friendly and sincere interest in such movement; and

"WHEREAS the mandatory government of Great Britain is now preparing to invoke the White Paper which it issued in 1939, and which decrees the complete cessation of Jewish immigration in Palestine by the end of next March; and

"WHEREAS the White Paper constitutes a flagrant violation of the British Mandate over Palestine and if it should be put into effect it would deal a severe blow to Jewish achievements and the necessity of finding a haven of settlement for countless thousands of persecuted and homeless people;

"NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by this 65th convention of the New Jersey State Federation of Labor assembled in the City of Newark that we join with our parent body the American Federation of Labor in condemning the White Paper and calling for its immediate repeal; and

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we join in demanding the abrogation of the White Paper and protesting any action which restricts the right of Jewish immigration into Palestine. In consonance with the friendship thus far demonstrated by organized labor to the development of Palestine as a self-governing Jewish Commonwealth, we ask that the gates of that country be opened for entry and settlement of as many Jewish refugees as may need or shall desire to go there, where they may help the pioneers and organized workers to build for a just social and economic order, and

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to the State Department at Washington, D. C. and to our parent body the American Federation of Labor."

**PRESS RELEASE from****AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL***Associated Organizations:*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## 27 NEW YORK YOUTH GROUPS FORM YOUNG ZIONIST ACTIONS COMMITTEE

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New York, N. Y. — Twenty-seven Zionist youth organizations of Greater New York have united to form the YOUNG ZIONIST ACTIONS COMMITTEE OF NEW YORK to "engage in a vigorous fight against the White Paper and for the full implementation of the Balfour Declaration which calls for the establishment of a National Homeland for the Jewish people in Palestine." This announcement was made today by the American Zionist Emergency Council, which is giving its active support to the new group.

The Youth Committee has elected the following officers: Dr. Otto Schirn, chairman; N. Golinkin, vice-chairman; Samuel Ducker, chairman of the Executive Board; Raphael Pinchas, treasurer; Naomi Cheurgon, Betty Margoshes and Sylvia Stern, secretaries.

The Young Zionist Actions Committee will enlist the active cooperation of the entire membership of its 27 constituent organizations in crystallizing public opinion for its emergency program through speakers, publications, and varied activities on college campuses.

The organizations represented on the Committee are:

Achduth, Habonim, Hakoah, Hapoel Hamizrachi, Hashomer Hadati, Hashomer Hatzair, Hechalutz, Hillel Foundation Brooklyn College, Hillel Foundation City College, Hillel Foundation Columbia University, Hillel Foundation Hunter College, Hista'rut Young Peoples Division.

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New York Junior Hadassah, Brooklyn Junior Hadassah, Junior Mizrahi,  
League for Labor Palestine, Maccabi, Manhattan Zionist Club, Masada, Pioneer  
Women-Business and Professional Groups, Poale Zion-Metropolitan Branch, Students'  
Group - Jewish Institute of Religion, Students' Organization-Jewish Theological  
Seminary, Students' Organization-Yeshiva, Students' Organization-Yeshiva College,  
Young Israel, Young Judaea.

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#26-1/21/44



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27.

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FOR RELEASE: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1944.

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SENATOR MEAD DEMANDS WHITE PAPER ON PALESTINE

BE "RIPPED TO SHREDS"

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URGES UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE TO ASSURE

JEWISH COMMONWEALTH

New York — Declaring that the United Nations have "another great conference opportunity" in Palestine, Senator James M. Mead of New York last night demanded that the British White Paper of 1939, which would prohibit all new Jewish immigration into Palestine after March 31st, be "ripped to shreds." He also urged that the Jewish people "be given, through the formation of a Jewish Commonwealth, the opportunity to take their place in dignity and honor among the world family of peoples."

Speaking at a reception which was sponsored by the Zionist District of Far Rockaway, with the cooperation of 31 Christian and Jewish organizations, Senator Mead said:

"We of the United Nations have shown that when we want to, we can rise to great heights not only on the battlefield but in the conference chamber as well. We rose to great heights at Moscow. We rose to great heights at Cairo. We rose to great heights at Teheran. Here in Palestine is another great conference opportunity for the United Nations. Let us liquidate every injustice at the conference table and give the lie to our enemies. I say it is another opportunity for the United Nations because the fate of the Jewish people is

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not the exclusive responsibility of any single country -- it is the concern of all mankind.

"Let us of the United Nations therefore have the greatness and the nobility to seize that opportunity and to seize it now. Let us scrap the White Paper and destroy our last link with appeasement. Let us open the doors of Palestine and give new hope to millions. Let us affirm the right of the Jewish people to a commonwealth in Palestine and end their fears that it is to become a ghetto. And let us, by showing such greatness, restore the Holy Land to the world as a symbol of truth and justice; of truth because we shall be honoring our solemn commitment. Of justice -- because we shall be ending one of history's gravest injustices."

Senator Mead paid tribute to Palestine Jewry's contributions to the cause of the United Nations and declared that "one need but set foot in Palestine, to feel the depth of its dedication to the democratic ideal, to social progress, to human freedom. And let me remind those whose memories are short of one simple fact. The most important conference of this war, possibly of all history, was held in the Middle East. But it was not so very long ago that Jewish Palestine was the single oasis of democracy in a vast Middle Eastern desert of indifference and lukewarmness to democracy's fate. And it was not so long ago either that the Jews of Palestine had to wring from the United Nations the opportunity to give all they had in the fight against our common enemies."

The full text of the speech follows:

SPEECH OF UNITED STATES SENATOR JAMES M. MEAD,  
BEFORE ZIONIST DISTRICT OF THE FIVE TOWNS AND FAR ROCKAWAY,  
AT LAWRENCE HIGH SCHOOL - LAWRENCE, L.I., NEW YORK, JANUARY 25, 1944.

The honor which you have conferred on me this evening is one to which I can respond only with the deepest humility. I know that Palestine is the source of the eternal truths of religion and morality on which our future civilization must rest. I know too that the bond between Palestine and the Jewish people is one of history's most persistent and most inspiring facts. By your generous action tonight, you have linked one who pursues so temporary a business as politics with so eternal a phenomenon as the Holy Land. That is something which must make the most arrogant of us humble. It is in that spirit of humility that I express to you my profound appreciation.

I am certain that historians will see the story of the past twenty years as a series of amazing paradoxes, of remarkable contradictions between the things we said and the things we did. We recognized the need for unity and teamwork among nations. Yet we encouraged disunity by embracing isolationism. We spoke eloquently of peace. Yet we did little to stop the drift to war. We talked loudly of international social progress. But we continually gave comfort to forces of reaction. Indeed, in this war itself, the United Nations have proclaimed generous ideals. Yet we frequently shrink from putting them into practice.

But I doubt whether any paradox will seem more striking than our policy with regard to the Jewish National Homeland in Palestine. And let me make one thing clear at the outset, because I want no one to misinterpret my words. I say our policy on Palestine. By that I mean precisely what I say. I mean British policy, I mean American policy, <sup>I mean</sup> United Nations policy. However, there has been far too great a tendency, I believe, to regard the things that are happening in Palestine as exclusively the result of British policy. But we have fortunately reached a stage in this war when our major policies are common policies. No important decision affecting the United Nations can now be taken unless there is a considerable measure of agreement among its major members. If policy on Palestine today is what it is, then you and I and all the people in the United States must shoulder our share of the responsibility. Had we made our own attitude clear and



categorical, had we protested as vigorously as justice, decency and our own solemn declarations demanded, then I am convinced that the sombre shadow of the British White Paper would not be lengthening today over Palestine and the fate of the Jewish people.

I said a few moments ago that present policy on Palestine is one of the most striking of contemporary paradoxes. Few ventures in history have commanded such eloquent verbal support as the restoration of the Jewish National Homeland. The Balfour Declaration was endorsed by over fifty nations at San Remo. Its principle was unanimously endorsed by our own Congress in 1922. Every American president since that date has reaffirmed that principle. Our present Chief Executive has made his position crystal clear. I doubt whether there is a single important statesman in any of the democratic countries who has not expressed unbounded admiration and support of the achievements of the Jewish people in Palestine.

But I also doubt whether any project so warmly endorsed in words was ever so consistently discouraged in practice. Every new policy announced with regard to Palestine since 1922 has represented another violation of the letter and spirit of the original Balfour Declaration. The development of the Jewish National Homeland should have been encouraged and facilitated. Instead, it has been retarded and frustrated. And today, we have actually reached the stage where, in a matter of weeks, no Jew will be able to enter Palestine because he is a Jew! No Jew will be able to buy land in Palestine because he is a Jew! If the British White Paper is enforced, the promise of a Jewish National Homeland in Palestine will be transformed into the reality of a national ghetto. And there will be set up in Palestine, in the Holy Land, legal discriminations against Jews which would not be permitted in any free country in the world.

How can we explain this amazing fact? Why have we so denied by our acts the ideals we professed with our words?

Is it because the Jewish people no longer want Palestine? Surely no man with an ounce of respect for the truth will make such a claim! Surely the blood and the sweat and toil with which the Jewish people have fertilized the soil of Palestine should cast that lie back in the teeth of those who utter it! Surely the tens of

thousands of Jews who have been kept alive only by the hope of reaching its borders desperately want their homeland! I know that a few Jews do not support Zionism. Some people therefore argue that the Jewish people do not want Palestine. That is as valid as claiming that the American people want Hitler over here because a few American citizens have been indicted for acting as his agents.

Is it because the Jewish people of Europe no longer need Palestine? That argument might conceivably make some sense if the other countries had kept open their doors to the helpless victims of hatred who cried for compassion. But the millions of Jews who have been murdered in Europe are millions of answers to those who suggest that the Jews do not need Palestine. These people have been oppressed as Jews, tortured as Jews, killed as Jews. Surely, then, the Jewish people urgently need their homeland where they can regain their dignity as Jews, build creatively as Jews, breathe freely as Jews, live proudly as Jews.

Is it because the Jewish people have proved incapable of building their homeland? I challenge anyone who makes that claim to take one look at some of the things I saw in Palestine a few short months ago. During the past few years, the world saw painfully few examples of creative statesmanship. But I doubt if many examples of constructive effort in all history exceed that of the Jewish people in Palestine. While the rest of the world was plunging headlong into the abyss of depression and war, Jewish Palestine was building and expanding. A tiny settlement of some tens of thousands was growing into a modern nation of more than a half million. Where other nations were devoting their energies to destructive purposes, the Jews of Palestine were uniting in creative enterprise. Where aggressor armies were ravaging whole countries, the Jews were transforming a wasteland. Where others brought death, the Jewish National Homeland brought life.

Is it because we were uncertain of the loyalty of the Jews of Palestine to the ideals for which we of the United Nations are fighting? To that I can say only this: one need but set foot in Palestine, to feel the depth of its dedication to the democratic ideal, to social progress, to human freedom. And let me remind those whose memories are short, of one simple fact. The most important

conference of this war, possibly of all history, was held in the Middle East. But it was not so very long ago that Jewish Palestine was the single oasis of democracy in a vast middle eastern desert of indifference and lukewarmness to democracy's fate. And it was not so long ago either that the Jews of Palestine had to wring from the United Nations the opportunity to give all they had in the fight against our common enemies.

The Jewish people, I therefore say, passionately want Palestine. The Jewish people desperately need Palestine. The Jewish people have supremely proved their ability to rebuild Palestine. The Jewish people have overwhelmingly demonstrated that they will build a genuinely democratic Palestine.

Then why do we of the United Nations persist in our determination to liquidate the Jewish National Homeland? Why do we continue to thwart one of history's noblest and most inspiring adventures? Why do we make Palestine the scene of one of the most tragic injustices of this generation?

I can think of only one possible answer ----- expediency. We are playing a game. We are sacrificing the certain loyalties of some people for the doubtful loyalties of others. We know that the Jewish people, come what may, will never abandon their fight against Fascism. Do we think that by sacrificing the Jewish National Homeland we can win the allegiance or the neutrality of others whose love for democracy may prove to be <sup>a</sup> doubtful affair?

That, I say, is the kind of expediency that persuaded the democracies to shut their eyes to Manchuria and Ethiopia. That is the kind of expediency that lead straight to Munich. That is the kind of expediency that plunged the world into war.

But is it expediency to shatter the greatest hope of the Jewish people in the hour of their greatest need?

Is it expediency to toy like a pawn with the fate of a people?

Is it expediency to hamstring one of the world's most creative developments when so much that is good is being destroyed?

Is it expediency to announce to millions who have rallied to our cause that they can place no faith in our promises, no trust in our humanity, no hope in our justice?



May I suggest to you this evening my own conception of expediency?

Throughout Europe there are hundreds of thousands of Jews who have been driven from their homes and uprooted from their lands. Some few have escaped to neutral soil. The rest await the fanatical fury of Fascism which is certain to be unleashed against them in the final agony of defeat. Many of these people can be helped to escape -- if there is somewhere they can escape to. I say that it is expedient to throw wide open the gates of Palestine to every Jew who can be brought out of Europe to its shores.

Throughout Europe, there are millions of people who are risking their lives because they have faith in our pledges. I say that it is expedient to maintain that faith by honoring our commitment to the Jewish people.

Throughout Asia, there has been in many sections, an encouraging surge of democratic feeling. That is of vital importance for lasting peace and progress. I say that it is expedient to foster that movement by strengthening the most powerful advance base of the democratic ideal in Asia --- Jewish Palestine.

Throughout Asia, standards of living will have to be raised and industrialization extended if Democracy is to grow and flourish. I say that it is expedient to encourage that development by strengthening the most fertile source of creative inspiration in the Middle East -- Jewish Palestine.

Humanity, justice, honor, expediency, therefore, all demand from us not that we shut the doors of Palestine but that we open them; not that the development of Jewish Palestine be frustrated but that it be encouraged; not that the British White Paper be enforced but that it be ripped to shreds; not that the Jews of Palestine be reduced to the status of a minority but that they be given through the formation of a Jewish commonwealth the opportunity to take their place in dignity and honor among the world family of peoples.

We of the United Nations have shown that when we want to, we can rise to great heights not only on the battlefield but in the conference chamber as well. We rose to great heights at Moscow.

We rose to great heights at Cairo. We rose to great heights at Teheran. Here in Palestine is another great conference opportunity for the United Nations. Let us liquidate every injustice at the conference table and give the lie to our enemies. I say it is another opportunity for the United Nations because the fate of the Jewish people is not the exclusive responsibility of any single country -- it is the concern of all mankind. Let us of the United Nations therefore have the greatness and the nobility to seize that opportunity, and to seize it now. Let us scrap the White Paper and destroy our last link with appeasement. Let us open the doors of Palestine and give new hope to millions. Let us affirm the right of the Jewish people to a commonwealth in Palestine and end their fears that it is to become a ghetto. And let us, by showing such greatness, restore the Holy Land to the world as a symbol of truth and justice; of truth because we shall be honoring our solemn commitment. Of justice -- because we shall be ending one of history's gravest injustices.

While the military forces of the United Nations are fighting to preserve our right to life, liberty, and happiness, let us, through the instrumentality of the conference table, insure that right to the Jews of Palestine and to all the oppressed everywhere in the world.

**PRESS RELEASE from**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL FORMS RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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DR. I. B. BERKSON, NOTED EDUCATOR, TO HEAD UNIT

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New York — An Institute for Palestine Research, headed by Dr. I. B. Berkson, noted educator and author, has been established by the American Zionist Emergency Council, it was announced today by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of the executive committee of the Council. The Institute has been created to collect and organize data relative to the establishment of the Jewish National Home in Palestine and to Zionist matters generally.

Dr. Berkson, who will direct this activity, has made notable contributions to education both here and in the Middle East for many years. In 1928 he was invited to come to Palestine to organize the Hebrew school system and remained there until 1935. From 1931 to 1935 he was a member of the executive of the Jewish Agency. Upon his return to the United States he directed the 1936 survey of Jewish education in New York City. For the past year and a half he has been Director of the Esco Foundation Palestine Study which undertook a comprehensive study of the problems of the development of a National Home for the Jewish people.

Among the many works published by Dr. Berkson are a "Preface to an Educational Philosophy" and "Theories of Americanization." His latest work, "Education Faces the Future," was published in 1943. It is a discussion of contemporary trends in education with special reference to progressive education.

Assisting Dr. Berkson in this work is Dr. Benjamin Shwadran, graduate of

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the Hebrew University and well-known writer on Zionist affairs. Dr. Shwadron will specialize on matters involving the policy of the League of Nations and Great Britain. Dr. E. Weinryb, formerly Director of the Economic Research Institute of the Jewish Agency in Palestine will concentrate on material relating to the development of the Jewish National Home. Both men have been associated with the Zionist movement for many years.

The American Zionist Emergency Council speaks for the four major Zionist parties in the United States; the Zionist Organization of America, Ha'assah, Mizrahi and Poale-Zion.

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#28-1/26/44



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## HOUSE GETS RESOLUTION CALLING FOR FREE JEWISH IMMIGRATION INTO PALESTINE

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REPRESENTATIVES WRIGHT AND COMPTON INTRODUCE MEASUREENDORING JEWISH COMMONWEALTH; McCORMACK AND MARTIN GIVE THEIR SUPPORT  
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Washington — A bi-partisan resolution calling on the United States to "use its good offices and take appropriate measures to the end that the doors of Palestine shall be opened for free entry of Jews into that country, and that there shall be full opportunity for colonization, so that the Jewish people may ultimately reconstitute Palestine as a free and democratic Commonwealth" was introduced today in the House of Representatives of the United States. Representatives James A. Wright (Democrat, Pennsylvania) and Ranulf Compton (Republican, Connecticut) are co-authors of the measure.

The bi-partisan nature of the resolution was further emphasized when statements endorsing it were issued to the press by House Majority Leader John W. McCormack (Democrat, Massachusetts) and House Minority Leader Joseph W. Martin, Jr. (Republican, Massachusetts).

"This resolution expresses the policy of our country in the light of the stern realities of the present hour and voices the desire of the American people that the Jews, who were the first victims of Nazi terror, shall be given the chance to enter their National Homeland, to settle and work there on farm and in factory, and to join with those Jews who have preceded them to continue to build a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth. All decent men will wish them well and all

(more)

Americans of good-will join their voices to this manifestation of encouragement and hope," Representative McCormack said.

Declaring that "it is nothing but elementary justice to enable the homeless Jews of Europe -- the victims of the Nazi tyranny -- to enter Palestine, not on sufferance but as a matter of right," Representative Martin added that the resolution is "a reaffirmation of the established policy of the United States in favor of a Jewish National Home in harmony with the new and terrible realities with which the Jews of Europe are faced today."

DR. SILVER "GRATIFIED"

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of the executive committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council, asserted that he is gratified over the introduction of the resolution, which he described as "a great act in behalf of a great cause in a great historic hour." "All men of good-will everywhere -- Jews and non-Jews alike -- will applaud and endorse the spirit of statesmanship and noble humanity which motivated the introduction of this resolution," he added.

Dr. Silver warned that the work of the newly-formed War Refugee Board "will be doomed to failure, as were all previous efforts on the part of intergovernmental agencies, if Palestine is again excluded from consideration as the major place for large-scale Jewish immigration." He also declared that the British White Paper policy, which would prohibit all new Jewish immigration into Palestine after March 31, "is not only a repudiation of an international obligation to which the United States subscribed, but it will interfere in a most disastrous manner with the rescue program of the War Refugee Board."

QUOTE 1922 RESOLUTION

The resolution calls attention to the measure adopted by the 67th Congress of the United States on June 30, 1922. At that time the Congress resolved "that the United States of America favors the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which

(more)

may prejudice the civil and religious rights of Christian and all other non-Jewish communities in Palestine, and that the holy places and religious buildings and sites in Palestine shall be adequately protected."

The text of the resolution introduced by Representatives Wright and Compton follows:

"Whereas, the 67th Congress of the United States on June 30, 1922 unanimously resolved, 'that the United States of America favors the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of Christian and all other non-Jewish communities in Palestine, and that the holy places and religious buildings and sites in Palestine shall be adequately protected,' and

"Whereas, the ruthless persecution of the Jewish people in Europe has clearly demonstrated the need for a Jewish Homeland as a haven for the large numbers who have become homeless as a result of this persecution,

"THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the United States of America that the United States shall use its good offices and take appropriate measures to the end that the doors of Palestine shall be opened for free entry of Jews into that country, and that there shall be full opportunity for colonization, so that the Jewish people may ultimately reconstitute Palestine as a free and democratic <sup>Jewish</sup> Commonwealth."



STATEMENT BY MAJORITY LEADER JOHN W. McCORMACK

After the victory of the United Nations, which is inevitable and which, I hope, will come soon, the world will be confronted with a gigantic task of rehabilitation for millions of uprooted and homeless human beings. Among these, the plight of the Jews who will have survived the Nazi program of extermination will be indeed tragic. It will be imperative to find a solution for this pressing problem.

Palestine represents the most practical, available opportunity for Jews to rebuild their broken lives, and to become self-sustaining and self-respecting human beings. This is so because of the remarkable achievements of the present Jewish community of 600,000 in Palestine, which during the last quarter of a century has laid a magnificent and solid foundation; for the Jewish homeland is the result of the opportunity afforded it by the nations of the world, including the United States, after the last war.

This resolution expresses the policy of our country in the light of the stern realities of the present hour and voices the desire of the American people that the Jews who were the first victims of Nazi terror shall be given the chance to enter their National Homeland, to settle and work there on farm and in factory, and to join with those Jews who have preceded them to continue to build a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth.

All decent men will wish them well and all Americans of goodwill will join their voices to this manifestation of encouragement and hope.

STATEMENT BY HOUSE MINORITY LEADER JOSEPH W. MARTIN, JR.

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The Palestine resolution meets with my hearty approval. It is an expression of the sympathy of the people of the United States with Jewish aspirations for the restoration of their national lives in Palestine. It is a reassertion of the historic attitude of the United States as embodied in the Lodge Palestine Resolution which was adopted by Congress in 1922.

The tragedy of the Jewish people has never been so deep as it is today.

The terrible persecution and mass murder of the Jews of Europe is so ghastly that no true Christian heart can withhold its sympathy. But all will not be destroyed. That is the hope and prayer of all civilized men. Those Jews who will escape Nazi extermination will face cruel homelessness -- except for Palestine.

Following the victorious conclusion of the war, the only country which will be capable of receiving and absorbing large numbers of these unfortunate people will be Palestine, which country was made ready for that purpose.

During the last two decades, the Jewish pioneers in Palestine have turned sand dunes into orange groves. They have pushed further into the wastelands the frontiers of cultivation and settlement. They have developed industries and made for Palestine a better place to live in/all of its inhabitants, regardless of race or creed.

The 600,000 Jews of Palestine have made a magnificent contribution to the war effort of the United Nations. Thousands of their sons have volunteered in the armed services of Great Britain and gave a good account of themselves on the field of battle.

It is nothing but elementary justice to enable the homeless Jews of Europe -- the victims of the Nazi tyranny -- to enter Palestine, not on sufferance but as a matter of right.

This resolution is a reaffirmation of the established policy of the United States in favor of a Jewish National Home, in harmony with the new and terrible realities with which the Jews of Europe are faced today.



STATEMENT BY DR. ABBA HILIEL SILVER

We are, of course, highly gratified that Congressman Compton of Connecticut and Congressman Wright of Pennsylvania have introduced the Palestine Resolution in Congress. We note with pleasure the enthusiastic endorsement which both Majority Leader McCormack and Minority Leader Martin have given to this Resolution. These men, we believe, voice the true sentiment of the American people which once before -- through a resolution unanimously adopted by the House and the Senate of the United States in 1922 -- expressed its hearty approval of the establishment in Palestine of a National Home for the Jewish people.

Since that time the Jews have been at work rebuilding Palestine on a scale and in a manner which has evoked the admiration of the whole world. This remarkable development which has brought more than a half million Jews into the country since the last World War, saved hundreds of thousands of refugees who might otherwise have perished at the hands of the Nazis, and enabled Palestine to make a most significant contribution to the war effort of the United Nations, is now threatened by the illegal and morally unjustifiable policy of the White Paper, which would close the doors of Palestine to future Jewish immigration.

This policy is not only a repudiation of an international obligation to which the United States subscribed, but it will interfere in a most disastrous manner with the rescue program of the War Refugee Board, which the President of the United States has recently established. Palestine is the most likely and readily-available haven and shelter for these millions whom it is hoped to save from extermination. The work of the War Refugee Board will be doomed to failure, as were all previous efforts on the part of intergovernmental agencies, if Palestine is again excluded from consideration as the major place for large-scale Jewish immigration.

The Palestine Resolution now introduced in Congress is a great act in behalf of a great cause in a great and historic hour. All men of good will everywhere -- Jews and non-Jews alike -- will applaud and endorse the spirit of statesmanship and noble humanity which motivated the introduction of this Resolution.

American Zionist Emergency Council  
342 Madison Avenue, New York City

N O T E

FROM: Harold P. Manson, Director of Information      January 28, 1944  
American Zionist Emergency Council

The attached copies of addresses by Representatives Wright and Compton will serve to supplement the material on the Palestine Resolution, introduced in the House yesterday, which you have already received.

HPM:SH

HOUSE ADDRESS OF REPRESENTATIVE JAMES A. WRIGHT (D)  
OF PENNSYLVANIA - IN CONNECTION WITH THE PALESTINE RESOLUTION

Mr. Speaker:

These resolutions introduced today by myself and by the gentleman of Connecticut, Mr. Compton, constitute a restatement of the established American policy relative to the Jewish National Home in Palestine as declared by the 67th Congress, through the adoption of the Palestine Resolution in 1922. It is in harmony with the ideals for which this war is being fought.

The tragedy of Jewish homelessness in Europe as intensified by the Nazi persecutions, makes it imperative on the part of the United Nations to deal effectively with this grave human problem. After the victory there will be hundreds of thousands of Jews in Europe for whom it will be necessary to find a place of shelter.

The country most available to receive this large number of destitute people is Palestine, where the Jewish pioneers, as a result of their own achievements and sacrifices, have prepared the Jewish National Home to absorb these victims of the Nazi oppression. The very designation of Palestine as a Jewish National Home connotes the freedom of entry of Jews into Palestine as a matter of right. This is a basic attribute of a homeland.

It is worthy of mention that the Jewish community of Palestine has rendered magnificent service to the cause of the United Nations through the work of its factories, the produce of its farms and the volunteer service of 30,000 of its young men in the armed forces of Great Britain, as members of General Montgomery's heroic 8th Army.

In speaking of Palestine, President Roosevelt said:

"Two decades have witnessed a remarkable exemplification of the vitality and vision of the Jewish Pioneers in Palestine. It should be a source of pride to Jewish citizens of the United States that they, too, have had a share in this great work of revival and restoration."

The adoption of this resolution will be a source of comfort to all nations who are now crushed under the heel of the Nazi tyrant.

To the Jews of Europe the adoption of this Resolution will give renewed hope and faith.

1/27/44

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HOUSE ADDRESS OF REPRESENTATIVE RANULF COMPTON (R)  
OF CONNECTICUT IN CONNECTION WITH THE PALESTINE RESOLUTION

Mr. Speaker:

It is a signal honor as well as a moral duty to be the joint author and sponsor of House Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_ simultaneously introduced by the Honorable James A. Wright, member from Pennsylvania on the majority side of the House. This is a subject that has been near my heart for many years and as I have indicated I am most happy to be privileged as a member of Congress to take some action looking toward the abrogation of the British White Paper which attempts to hold the Jewish people as a permanent minority in Palestine and which precludes the relief to the suffering Jew so long and so vividly presented to us in Europe. It is hoped that this joint action by the Congress will give the State Department encouragement to take active steps to bring about favorable action in Europe. It is also my hope that this concerted joint action, with the engendered sympathetic public opinion reawakened by these resolutions, will spur the administration to pursue an aggressive policy toward that end.

Let no one say this is not our business to interfere with Great Britain in this matter. Decidedly it is our affair. Great Britain formally initiated the project in 1917 and wanted our approval and encouragement which we and the other Allies of World War One gave at that time. Subsequently, Great Britain became the trustee— mark you, the trustee — for fifty-two nations of the League of Nations in establishing a Jewish National Home in Palestine. We must not forget that in 1922 a Joint Congressional Resolution favoring the establishment of a Jewish Home for the Jewish people in Palestine was adopted unanimously, and we must not forget that in 1924 a special treaty between England and the United States gave special significance and sanction to the mandate for Palestine.

It is worthy of note that the treaty specifically set forth that any changes must be with our assent. This is ample reason, if there were no humanitarian ones, for us to actively and energetically insist that Great Britain abrogate the British White Paper which was enunciated without our assent or approval.

Every humanitarian impulse is toward opening wide the doors of Palestine to our suffering brothers of the Jewish faith. Let me say in conclusion that literally thousands of my constituents in Connecticut, both Jew and Gentile, have urged me to lend assistance to any action that might speed the day when Palestine would once more be a haven for the Jew.

Answering these thousands and acting on behalf of the sympathetic members of the minority I have taken this action today. It is my earnest hope that the House will give unanimous approval to the adoption of the Resolution.



**PRESS RELEASE from**  
**AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations:*

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi • Poale-Zion

342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SENATORS WAGNER AND TAFT INTRODUCE PALESTINE RESOLUTION**

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**MEASURE URGES FREE IMMIGRATION AND JEWISH COMMONWEALTH; BACKED BY BARKLEY AND WHITE**

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Washington -- Senator Robert F. Wagner (Democrat, New York) and Senator Robert A. Taft (Republican, Ohio) today introduced in the U.S. Senate a resolution urging the United States "to use its good offices and take appropriate measures to the end that the doors of Palestine shall be opened for free entry of Jews into that country, and that there shall be full opportunity for colonization so that the Jewish people may ultimately reconstitute Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth."

The bi-partisan measure was hailed on the floor of the Senate by Majority Leader Alben W. Barkley (Democrat, Kentucky) and Acting Minority Leader Wallace H. White, Jr. (Republican, Maine).

In presenting the resolution, Senator Wagner drew attention to the Joint Resolution which was unanimously adopted by the Congress of the United States in June, 1923, and which declared that "the United States of America favors the establishment in Palestine of a National Home for the Jewish people."

"This resolution (the Wagner-Taft measure) reaffirms the historic policy of the Government of the United States," Senator Wagner asserted.

Reviewing the history of Palestine since the days when the British Government after World War I, with the approval of the United States and the allied and associated nations, assumed the Mandate over Palestine, Senator Wagner said:

(more)

"While Palestine achieved remarkable growth in the next twenty years, a new day did not dawn for the world at large. Instead, under the prodding of Hitler and Mussolini, and under other influences, a series of unfortunate developments conspired to divert the orderly fulfillment of a great objective. During the 'Munich Period,' the then British Government adopted the so-called 'White Paper' restricting immigration, land purchase and celenization of Palestine by Jewish settlers. This policy then, as now, shocked the sensibilities of men of good will everywhere. No one was more outspoken in opposition to the White Paper than Prime Minister Winston Churchill.

"In the meantime, the present war began, and Hitler's murder squads undertook their deliberate program of exterminating the Jewish population of Europe. At a time when Palestine should have been open to welcome these unfortunate people and utilize their contribution to the utmost, the gates were virtually closed.

"Those Jews who were fortunate enough to be in Palestine have made and are making a truly glorious contribution to the Allied cause. While General Montgomery and his valiant Eighth Army were fighting with their backs to the Suez Canal, and Rommel already had invited guests to his contemplated first dinner party in Cairo, the Jews of Palestine were performing heroic deeds as commandos and as other shock troops. In Palestine the entire community of men and women dedicated their lives to the defense of their homeland and to the production of urgently needed materials of war for the Allied forces. President Roosevelt, Mr. Churchill, and other Allied leaders have spoken most generously of their contribution.

"Now and in the post-war period, this Jewish community stands ready to give refuge to their persecuted brethren in Europe. From 1933 to 1939, Palestine welcomed more refugees from Hitlerian terror than were absorbed by the rest of the world. When the war ends, Palestine has the capacity to absorb the uprooted and the destitute Jews who will survive Hitler's vengeance. The need then will be greater than ever before.

"Our government has done and is doing its utmost to alleviate the conditions of European refugees during the war. Every President of the United States since Woodrow Wilson has looked with favor upon the Jewish homeland as the permanent solution of a vexing problem. This Resolution will help uphold the hand of our government in support of its traditional policy — a policy that is in furtherance of the ideals of all the United Nations."

Senator White seconded the Resolution and asserted:

"The cruelties inflicted upon the Jewish people in late years, and their present desperate plight, appeal to the heart of the Christian world for remedial measures and for fulfillment of this plan for a home for them. This Resolution encourages hope that there will soon come realization of these aspirations. It should have early and favorable consideration by the Senate."

Senator Taft, co-sponsor of the measure, declared that "until a place is found to which the unhappy Jews of Europe can repair and get a new start in life, free of unreasonable economic sanction and blind religious and racial hatred, the fundamental causes for anti-Semitism will continue in Europe."

"It seems to me that the only solution of this problem lies in the restoration of free and unrestricted immigration of Jews into Palestine, at least until that land has absorbed as many people as it can," he added.

An impassioned plea in behalf of the persecuted Jews of Europe and a tribute to the Jews of Palestine was voiced by Senator Barkley, who declared:

"I have been frequently inspired by the devotion and the enthusiasm with which men and women who have never seen Palestine, and will never see it, have devoted their lives and their means to provide a home for the persecuted Jews of Europe."

"It is my opinion that Palestine can yet absorb many hundreds of thousands. I have been informed from reliable sources that ultimately, by the process of improvement in agriculture and industry and all the other things which go to make life worthwhile, that in all likelihood Palestine could absorb and support approximately  
(core)

3,000,000 Jews. If that is true -- and I have no reason to doubt it -- it seems to me that we ought to encourage every effort, not only as American citizens, but that as a government we ought to encourage every effort to facilitate the migration of oppressed, harassed people into the land of their ancient ancestors."

The bi-partisan nature of the Wagner-Taft Resolution parallels that of the measure which was introduced in the House of Representatives on January 27, by Representatives James A. Wright (Democrat, Pennsylvania) and Ranulf Compton (Republican, Connecticut). That Resolution was endorsed by House Majority Leader John W. McCormack (Democrat, Massachusetts) and House Minority Leader Joseph W. Martin, Jr. (Republican, Massachusetts).

The text of the Wagner-Taft Resolution follows:

"Resolved, that the United States shall use its good offices and take appropriate measures to the end that the doors of Palestine shall be opened for free entry of Jews into that country, and that there shall be full opportunity for colonization so that the Jewish people may ultimately reconstitute Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth."



STATEMENT OF SENATOR ROBERT F. WAGNER (DEMOCRAT, NEW YORK)

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Mr. President:

I deem it a great privilege to join Senator Taft in sponsoring this Resolution, concerning one of the greatest humanitarian movements before the American people today - to right the tragic plight of the Jews of the Old World and help them re-build their ancestral homeland, where they may live as free men and useful citizens.

This Resolution re-affirms the historic policy of the government of the United States, formulated by the Congress in June 1922, when it unanimously passed a Joint Resolution sponsored by the late Senator Lodge of Massachusetts, then Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations. The Congress then declared "that the United States of America favors the establishment in Palestine of a National Home for the Jewish people, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of Christian and of other non-Jewish communities in Palestine, and that the Holy places and religious buildings and sites in Palestine shall be adequately protected."

The Lodge Resolution concerned the famous Balfour Declaration, establishing in Palestine a homeland for the Jewish people. Although it was issued in the name of the British Government, the Balfour Declaration was, as a matter of fact, a joint policy of the Governments of Great Britain and the United States. Before its official publication it was the subject of prolonged and cordial negotiations between Mr. Woodrow Wilson and Mr. Lloyd George, the respective heads of the two governments. In the words of Hon. Josephus Daniels, the United States was a "moral co-sponsor" of the entire plan.

It was hoped then by the Allied Government and by men of good will everywhere that the establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine would solve an age-old problem. It was contemplated that the disgraceful era of economic and social persecution of the Jews in Europe would terminate, and thence again this people, from

whom we derive our Christianity, our basic literature and our basic laws, among many other contributions, would once again be allowed to work out their salvation in peace and freedom.

With this in mind the British Government after World War 1, with the approval of the United States, and the allied and associated nations assumed the Mandate over Palestine.

While Palestine achieved remarkable growth in the next twenty years, a new day did not dawn for the world at large. Instead, under the prodding of Hitler and Mussolini, and under other influences, a series of unfortunate developments conspired to divert the orderly fulfillment of a great objective. During the "Munich Period", the then British Government adopted the so-called "White Paper" restricting immigration, land purchase and colonization of Palestine by Jewish settlers. This policy then, as now, shocked the sensibilities of men of good will everywhere. No one was more out-spoken in opposition to the White Paper than Prime Minister Winston Churchill.

In the meantime the present war began, and Hitler's murder squads undertook their deliberate program of exterminating the Jewish population of Europe. At a time when Palestine should have been open to welcome these unfortunate people and utilize their contribution to the utmost, the gates were virtually closed.

Those Jews who were fortunate enough to be in Palestine have made and are making a truly glorious contribution to the Allied cause. While General Montgomery and his valiant Eighth Army were fighting with their backs to the Suez Canal, and Rommel already had invited guests to his contemplated first dinner party in Cairo, the Jews of Palestine were performing heroic deeds as commandos and as other shock troops. In Palestine the entire community of men and women dedicated their lives to the defense of their homeland and to the production of urgently needed materials of war for the Allied forces. President Roosevelt, Mr. Churchill, and other allied leaders have spoken most generously of their contribution.

Now and in the post-war period, this Jewish community stands ready to give refuge to their persecuted brethren in Europe. From 1933 to 1939, Palestine welcomed more refugees from Hitlerian terror than were absorbed by the rest of the world. When the war ends, Palestine has the capacity to absorb the uprooted and the destitute Jews who will survive Hitler's vengeance. The need then will be greater than ever before.

Our government has done and is doing its utmost to alleviate the conditions of European refugees during the war. Every President of the United States since Woodrow Wilson has looked with favor upon the Jewish homeland as the permanent solution of a vexing problem. This Resolution will help uphold the hand of our government in support of its traditional policy - a policy that is in furtherance of the ideals of all the United Nations.

\* \* \* \* \*

February 1, 1944.



STATEMENT OF SENATOR ROBERT A. TAFT (REPUBLICAN, OHIO)

Mr. President:

I am joining today with the Senator from New York (Mr. Wagner) in offering a resolution favoring the establishment of Palestine as a place for the permanent settlement of millions of European Jews.

The resolution recently reported by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee provided for the establishment of a commission to investigate and report on one of the most serious problems which faces the world today. Without waiting for the Senate to act, the President has set up such a commission which shall determine the best method of saving those Jews who have not been massacred, who are in Germany or its satellite countries, and those who are wandering without homes throughout the earth. Until a place is found to which the unhappy Jews of Europe can repair and get a new start in life, free of unreasonable, economic sanction and blind religious and racial hatred, the fundamental causes for anti-Semitism will continue in Europe.

It seems to me that the only solution of this problem lies in the restoration of free and unrestricted immigration of Jews into Palestine, at least until that land has absorbed as many people as it can.

Palestine was set aside as a homeland for the Jews during the First World War. The League of Nations approved this solution and our government and the British government also agreed to it. In 1922, under the leadership of Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, a Republican Congress unanimously gave its approval to Palestine as a Jewish Homeland. A Republican President signed the legislation. Unfortunately, considerations of military policy led the British Government to change that policy and forbid, in effect, the further immigration of Jews into Palestine, when the Jewish population is still only one-half of the Arab population.

The resolution now presented is really a reaffirmation of the historic policy of the Congress. It is a step toward the solution of one of the problems which must be solved if peace is to exist throughout the world. I hope that all people of good will can join in approving the resolution.

February 1, 1944.

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STATEMENT OF SENATOR ALLEN W. BARKLEY (DEMOCRAT, KENTUCKY)

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Mr. President:

I am glad to join with my colleagues in an expression of sympathetic interest with the objective to be attained by the Resolution just presented.

In 1919, just 25 years ago, there were only 55,000 Jews in Palestine. Today there are more than 600,000. Their population has increased; migration has gone in that direction in the past quarter of a century in large measure because Jews and non-Jews who have been interested in the establishment not only of Palestine as a homeland for the Jews, but in more recent years as a refuge for persecuted Jews, have by their contributions and their cooperation and their organization made it possible not only for Palestine to absorb 600,000 Jews in a quarter of a century, but have made it possible for Palestine to absorb many other hundreds of thousands of Jews.

I visited Palestine about six or seven years ago. I saw the results of their great improvements. It was necessary at the outset to irrigate waste lands, to drain flat land, and to re-forest. But what has been done there in the establishment of new communities, and new enterprises, has been a source of great inspiration. More than 600 factories have been established in Palestine. These factories are turning out more materials than are being sent into Russia, Turkey and even into India.

By the reclamation program which has been in process of completion during the last decade, which resembles in some respect the reclamation program of our own country in reclaiming arid and waste lands, a condition of economic welfare has been brought about which has truly been a model for a country like Palestine.

The Jew ordinarily is not looked upon as an agriculturist. Especially in our own country the Jew is mainly engaged in mercantile manufacturing and trade activities. But in Palestine even those who have never before lived upon farms or cultivated land have been able to acclimate themselves to the readjustment necessary, so that they are becoming real farmers in the land of their ancestry.

There is a perfectly natural link that binds the Jew to Palestine, which we can all understand. During the last ten years more than 300,000 Jews have gone into

Palestine from the oppressed countries of Europe since the rise of Hitler. He has been responsible for the cold-blooded murder of more than three million men, women and children since the war began in 1939. These men, women and children were not killed because they were engaging in war. They were not among those who were killed ~~because they were Jews~~. They were murdered merely because they were Jews, and for no other reason, in an effort to consummate the threat, or promise, whichever way one may take it, of Hitler to exterminate the Jews in Europe. We of the Christian world can more thoroughly appreciate today than we could a week ago the feeling of Jews all over the world on account of the ruthless murder of their people. We can more fittingly understand the reactions of Jews everywhere to these murders and slaughters now that we have learned of the ruthless, conscienceless murder of men of our own nation by one of the Axis Powers.

I have been frequently inspired by the devotion and the enthusiasm with which men and women who have never seen Palestine, and will never see it, have devoted their lives and their means to provide a home for the persecuted Jews of Europe.

It is my opinion that Palestine can yet absorb many hundreds of thousands. I have been informed from reliable sources that ultimately, by the process of improvement in agriculture and industry and all the other things which go to make life worthwhile, that in all likelihood Palestine could absorb and support approximately 3,000,000 Jews. If that is true and I have no reason to doubt it - it seems to me that we ought to encourage every effort, not only as American citizens, but that as a government we ought to encourage every effort to facilitate the migration of oppressed, harassed people into the land of their ancient ancestors. Recently I have been reading a book by Emil Ludvig entitled "The Mediterranean." It is a wonderful book, patterned somewhat after the fashion of his book on the Nile. It is not the history of any nation, or of any people, but it is the history of all the civilizations that have risen and have flourished on the shores of the Mediterranean Sea. The Roman Empire, the Grecian Empire, the Persian Empire, and Byzantine Empire and all the empires that have flourished there have passed away, and are now nations only to memory

and on the pages of history. Palestine still remains, and is there, and will remain through all the centuries of the future.

Mr. President, I hope the aspirations of those who look upon it and are seeking to make it a homeland for the Jews will have success beyond their fondest dreams.

\* \* \* \* \*

February 1, 1944.



STATEMENT OF SENATOR WALLACE H. WHITE, JR. (REPUBLICAN, MAINE)

Mr. President:

I take great satisfaction in the introduction of the Resolution just presented to the Senate. If I correctly understand its purpose and its terms, it is a reaffirmation of an attitude of the Congress expressed more than 20 years ago with respect to the establishment in Palestine of a National Home for the Jewish people.

The cruelties inflicted upon the Jewish people in late years, and their present desperate plight, appeal to the heart of the Christian world for remedial measures and for fulfillment of this plan for a home for them.

This Resolution encourages hope that there will soon come realization of these aspirations. It should have early and favorable consideration by the Senate.

\* \* \* \* \*

February 1, 1944



**PRESS RELEASE from****AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL***Associated Organizations:*

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi • Poale-Zion

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**REPRESENTATIVE EDITH NOURSE ROGERS PLEDGES SUPPORT  
TO WRIGHT-COMPTON RESOLUTION ON PALESTINE**

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**FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBER URGES JEWISH COMMONWEALTH**

- - - - -

Washington -- Representative Edith Nourse Rogers (Republican, Massachusetts), a member of the House Foreign Relations Committee, today pledged her support to the Wright-Compton Resolution on Palestine, which was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives on January 27.

The bi-partisan Resolution calls on the United States to "use its good offices and take appropriate measures to the end that the doors of Palestine shall be opened for free entry of Jews into that country." It also expresses itself in favor of the reconstitution of Palestine as "a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth."

A similar measure was introduced in the U.S. Senate yesterday by Senator Robert F. Wagner (Democrat, New York) and Senator Robert A. Taft (Republican, Ohio). Both resolutions have been endorsed by the Majority and Minority Leaders of the Senate and the House.

Representative Rogers declared that the Wright-Compton Resolution "is expressive of the sentiments of the American people," and added that the Jewish people "have more than justified the expectations of mankind with reference to Palestine."

"By their skill, energy, labor and sacrifice, they reclaimed the soil of their Homeland and rebuilt the country in a manner that compelled the admiration of the civilized world," she said.

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Harold P. Manson  
342 Madison Avenue  
New York 17, New York  
Murray Hill 2-1160

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHICAGO LEADERS QUIT EMERGENCY COMMITTEE  
TO SAVE JEWISH PEOPLE OF EUROPE

- - - - -

McMAHON ANNOUNCES RESIGNATIONS

- - - - -

Chicago -- Dr. Francis E. McMahon of the University of Chicago, chairman of the Chicago Chapter of the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe, and fourteen other officers have announced their resignation from the organization.

Dr. McMahon has made public a telegram to Gabriel A. Wechsler of New York, national secretary of the Emergency Committee, in which the resigning officers said their action was occasioned by "increasing confusion between its (the Emergency Committee's) activities and objectives and those of the American League for a Free Palestine."

"We are still resolved to work for the rescue of the Jewish people of Europe, but we prefer for the time being to take independent action," the telegram said.

Dr. McMahon pointed out that the signers of the telegram felt that the League is political in character, whereas the character of the Emergency Committee is primarily humanitarian.

The resigning Chicago officers include Michael Mann, executive secretary of the Chicago Industrial Union Council (C.I.O.); the Rev. Michael J. O'Connell, C.M., president of De Paul University, and J. Bryan Allin, vice-presidents; Robert C. Sorenson, executive secretary; Ernest Byfield, treasurer, and the following executive board members:

Prof. James Luther Adams, Courtenay Barber, Jr., Julian Bentley, Wallace Heistad, Frank McCullough, Dr. John A. Lapp, Leo Nellis, Earl Dickerson and Andrew J. Onderdonk,

**PRESS RELEASE from****AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL***Associated Organizations:*

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi • Poale-Zion  
 342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**REPRESENTATIVE WRIGHT DEMANDS JEWISH COMMONWEALTH****IN PALESTINE**

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**SAYS THIS WAS INTENDED BY FRAMERS OF BALFOUR DECLARATION**

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New York -- Representative James A. Wright (Democrat, Pennsylvania), co-sponsor of the Palestine resolution now pending in the United States House of Representatives, yesterday demanded the reconstitution of Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth, declaring that those responsible for the Balfour Declaration "intended that Palestine was to belong to the Jews, that their immigration would be encouraged until they would form a majority of the population, and that eventually they would form their own government."

Speaking at the 25th anniversary celebration of the Jewish Teachers Seminary and Peoples' University, held at the Commodore Hotel, Representative Wright discussed the purposes of the Wright-Compton measure, which resolves that "the United States shall use its good offices and take appropriate measures to the end that the doors of Palestine shall be opened for free entry of Jews into that country, and that there shall be full opportunity for colonization so that the Jewish people may ultimately reconstitute Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish commonwealth."

Representative Wright noted the argument that the last part of the resolution should be deleted and that nothing should be said about the ultimate object of reconstituting Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish commonwealth. He declared that if this is done, "the resolution is nothing but an empty expression of good

(more)

will. As Representative Will Rogers, Jr. so well said at the hearings just the other day before the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House: 'There is no doubt in my mind that at the time of the Declaration it was intended that the Jews should govern Palestine. If the words of the Declaration are ambiguous, if they are capable of the interpretation given them in the White Paper, it is high time that they be clarified, and the original intent which was merely implicit then should now be explicitly stated.'

Declaring that "our attitude towards the suffering Jews of Europe is significant to all suffering and oppressed peoples of the world," and that it "might well be significant to the Chinese and other Europeans of our attitude and intentions toward them," Representative Wright added, "there is no group of people more justly entitled to the relief and recognition which it now seeks than the Jewish people.

"The Jewish claim to Palestine is based not only upon common justice and humanity but likewise upon the firmest foundation of international law. We are asking Britain to execute a trust which she has assumed at the request of the fifty-two signatory nations comprising the League of Nations, as well as the United States. There is no attempt to obtain any new privileges when we ask that the White Paper be abrogated. This movement is merely an insistence upon the maintenance of that status which was agreed to by solemn treaty among all civilized nations of the world," Representative Wright said.



**PRESS RELEASE from**  
**AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations:*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ZIONISTS HIT EGYPTIAN PREMIER'S PROTEST AGAINST PRO-PALESTINE  
STATEMENT IN CONGRESS

- - - - -

ANY EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS IGNORE UNITED NATIONS WAR EFFORT

- - - - -

Washington — The American Zionist Emergency Council today rebuked Premier Nahas Pasha of Egypt for his protest against speeches made in the Congress of the United States favoring the recognition of Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth and the unrestricted settlement of Jews there.

In a formal statement, the Council declared:

"At the time that the German General Rommel was knocking at the gates of Cairo and Alexandria and threatening to bottle up Suez, the life-line of the British Empire, the Jews in Palestine were giving their lives as combat troops. Men, women and children, and the aged, were working in factories, manufacturing everything from marmalade to munitions, to supply the British Eighth Army.

"At that time we heard of no protest either from Cairo or from any Egyptian government official over the invasion of Egyptian soil by Rommel. The Egyptian Prime Minister would do better to concern himself with the contribution which Egypt might make even now to the war effort of the United Nations."

**PRESS RELEASE****AMERICAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE**

1720—16th Street, N.W., Washington 9, D. C. • MI 4480

3/2/44

WE ARE PASSING ALONG TO YOU THE FOLLOWING RELEASE  
RECEIVED FROM SENATOR ROBERT F. WAGNER'S OFFICE.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SENATOR WAGNER REBUKES IRAQ OFFICIALS  
WHO URGED HIM TO WITHDRAW PALESTINE RESOLUTION

- - - - -

Washington ——"The Congress of the United States has been able, for more than a century"to reach its own conclusions without advice from officials of foreign nations," Senator Robert F. Wagner of New York today advised officials of the Iraq parliament who cabled him urging that he withdraw the Wagner-Taft resolution now pending in the Senate. This measure re-affirms the historic approval of the American government of Palestine as a national homeland for the Jewish people.

Senator Wagner's reply was addressed to Jamil al Madfai, President of the Iraq Senate, and Muhammad Ridha Shabibi, President of the Chamber of Deputies.

Senator Wagner expressed confidence that "the Congress will, in due course, act favorably upon my resolution, and such action will be applauded by all freedom-loving peoples."

His reply follows:

"This is to acknowledge your messages to which I have given earnest consideration. First, let me express my deep friendship and that of the American people for the Arab countries and peoples whose national aspirations have not only enjoyed the sympathy of freedom-loving nations but have achieved such generous realization after the last war as the result of the support and sacrifices of the

(more)

Allied Armies.

"May I, however, be permitted to express surprise at some of the contentions advanced in your messages. The historic right of the Jews to return to Palestine and to reconstitute their national life in their ancestral homeland seems to me to be no longer a debatable question. That right was recognized by the official Arab Delegation to the Paris Peace Conference, headed by the late and noble King Feisal. It was written into international law by the solemn action of fifty-two nations, including our own country. The settlement, since that time, of more than a half million Jews in Palestine does not bear out your fears for the future.

"The Arabs of Palestine have not been forced out. On the contrary, their numbers have greatly increased. The Jews have brought untold benefits to one of the backward areas of the earth, benefits which have been shared by the non-Jewish population.

"Experts of our government have assured me that the continued development of Palestine would enable it to support a much larger population than at present, thus affording haven to those victims of oppression for whom you have so cordially expressed your sympathy.

"The resolution I have introduced into the Senate of the United States simply reaffirms the traditional friendship of this country for the national aspirations of the Jewish people. This is surely in accord with the principles of that great document, the Atlantic Charter, to which you refer. Such an expression on our part is especially timely in view of the horrible events of which the Jewish people has been the victim. It is no more than a just recognition of the great service rendered the war effort of the United Nations by the Jewish community of Palestine. Surely your country which has joined the ranks of the United Nations will not wish to deny the worth of this service. If the spirit of fair-play so dear to us Americans prevails, there need be no enmity between the great Arab lands and the small country reserved by the nations of the world for the

(more)

righting of an age-old historic injustice.

"The Congress of the United States, which for more than a century has been able to reach its own conclusions without advice from officials of foreign nations is fully able to reach a wise conclusion in this matter which will be in accord with the wishes of the American people. I am confident that in due course the Congress will act favorably upon my resolution and that such action will be applauded by all freedom-loving peoples."

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#61-3/2/44





**PRESS RELEASE from****AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL***Associated Organizations:*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**U.S. SOIL EXPERT PROPOSES GIANT RECLAMATION PROJECT FOR PALESTINE**

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**DR. LOWDERMILK'S PLAN WOULD MAKE POSSIBLE THE ABSORPTION OF  
 ADDITIONAL 4 MILLION REFUGEES**

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New York ---The proposal for the creation of a Jordan Valley Authority -- a counterpart of TVA in Palestine -- which would be the largest reclamation project in history, is set forth in "Palestine, Land of Promise" by Dr. Walter C. Lowdermilk, which was published yesterday by Harper & Brothers. Dr. Lowdermilk's plan would make possible the absorption in Palestine of at least 4 million immigrants in addition to the 1,800,000 people in that country now.

Dr. Lowdermilk is the Assistant Chief of the Soil Conservation Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. "Palestine, Land of Promise" is the result of a survey made on-the-spot which was undertaken at the request of the Department in the interests of land conservation in the United States.

During the course of Dr. Lowdermilk's study, he motored extensively through Palestine and flew over much of it. This afforded him the opportunity to study the topography of the entire land from the snow-capped Mt. Hermon to the rift in which lies the Dead Sea area 1300 feet below sea level. Dr. Lowdermilk found that the Valley of the Jordan possesses a combination of natural features and a concentration of resources which offers a splendid opportunity for this great project. Some of the foremost consulting engineers of America, who have seen the plans of the project, have pronounced it as workable.

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Dr. Lowdermilk recently returned from a survey of land conditions in China made at the request of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek. His mission there, as adviser to the Chinese government, was to discover ways and means of increasing Chinese production of food as a war measure. Dr. Lowdermilk is also President of the American Geophysical Union.

#53-3/9/44



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**PRESS RELEASE from**

**AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations:*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CELLER SUPPORTS JEWISH COMMONWEALTH DEMAND  
IN PENDING PALESTINE RESOLUTION**

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Washington — Representative Emanuel Celler (Democrat, New York) today denied that he was in favor of omitting from the pending Wright-Compton resolution that portion of the measure calling for the reconstitution of Palestine as "a free and democratic Jewish commonwealth."

"Unfortunately my views on the Wright-Compton resolution have been misinterpreted to you," Representative Celler asserted in the House of Representatives. "Of times in the heat of debate gratuitous remarks are injected which, uncorrelated with definite views theretofore expressed, may give erroneous impressions. I am and ever have been for the establishment of a Jewish commonwealth in Palestine. As to the pending resolution, I shall oppose any amendment which would militate against such commonwealth," he declared.

The Wright-Compton resolution urges the United States to "use its good offices and take appropriate measures to the end that the doors of Palestine shall be opened for free entry of Jews into that country, and that there shall be full opportunity for colonization so that the Jewish people may ultimately reconstitute Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish commonwealth."

Representative Celler's remarks followed published reports that he had supported a suggestion by Representative Hamilton Fish (Republican, New York) that the word "commonwealth" be omitted from the Palestine resolution.

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#54-3/16/44

**PRESS RELEASE from**

**AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations:*

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342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

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FOR RELEASE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

MESSAGES TO THE RALLY FOR PALESTINE, HELD IN MADISON SQUARE

GARDEN ON MARCH 21, 1944, UNDER THE AUSPICES

OF THE AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

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MESSAGE FROM GOVERNOR THOMAS E. DEWEY OF NEW YORK

"As the successes of our fighting forces bring us closer to ultimate victory, the significance of Palestine becomes greater every month. We also come closer to the necessity to remember well and hard the lessons of the First World War. The peace which followed World War I failed to solve the problems confronting the minorities and that failure contributed to bringing about the present cruel conflict. The methods followed by Axis propaganda in the Middle East showed clearly how the problem of minorities and the dilemma of Palestine became a strategic factor for the forces of hate and oppression.

"It is essential that a way be found to open the doors of Palestine, especially with so many doors elsewhere which remain closed. This question has ceased to be the concern of merely one or two nations. It is the concern of men of good will all over the world. There will be no easy solution. At the same time, if no home is found for hundreds of thousands of helpless and wandering Jews, the problem will be magnified throughout the entire world. That is a spectacle which no Jew could tolerate and no Christian could observe with anything but abhorrence.

"The doors of Palestine must be permanently opened. My warm best wishes to you in your purpose tonight with all it means to the future happiness of people everywhere as well as to the peace of the world."

MESSAGE FROM SENATOR ELBERT D. THOMAS (DEMOCRAT, UTAH)

"To neglect the advancement of the cause for a Jewish Homeland at this time when the thoughts of the whole world should be on the plight of the Jew would be a step backward. Let us not fail to help all mankind by furthering the Zionist cause which has become almost a universal desire."

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MESSAGE FROM SENATOR HAROLD H. BURTON (REPUBLICAN, OHIO)

"I believe the Congress favors the Taft-Wagner Resolution now pending on the subject and stands by the position previously taken in support of the Balfour agreement. America's cause and ideals are as broad as her original Declaration of Independence, and while our first and dominating duty is to win the war we are in, and be faithful to the men who are fighting it, we should not abandon any of our fundamental beliefs in the right of men everywhere to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

MESSAGE FROM SENATOR EDWIN C. JOHNSON (DEMOCRAT, COLORADO)

"The high handed illegal closing of Palestine to Jews without consulting the United States must not be tolerated by our Government. This is not something to wait for the end of the war. It needs to be settled now."

MESSAGE FROM SENATOR TOM STEWART (DEMOCRAT, TENNESSEE)

"I am glad to advise you that I have given the question of free entry of Jews into Palestine some study and find myself in complete sympathy with the movement and aims of S. 247, the Wagner-Taft Resolution."

MESSAGE FROM REPRESENTATIVE RANULF COMPTON (REPUBLICAN, CONNECTICUT)

"The cause has overcome many obstacles and survived many reverses, therefore you and we shall continue to insist that this administration approve the Palestine Resolution and that it pass the House to the end that the haven be reopened to the suffering Jews in Europe. Justice and humanity must prevail."

MESSAGE FROM REPRESENTATIVE WILL ROGERS, JR. (DEMOCRAT, CALIFORNIA)

"It is my most sincere wish that at the earliest possible opportunity the United States Government take some action to see that the gates of Palestine be reopened in compliance with pledges which England gave when she received the mandate. While fighting Nazism in Germany we must not allow an anti-Semitic type of Nazism to arise in the United States. Congratulations to the Zionist Emergency Council for the work they have done."

MESSAGE FROM REPRESENTATIVE JOSEPH W. MARTIN, JR. (REPUBLICAN, MASSACHUSETTS)

"I am deeply sympathetic with the Palestine movement and I want to be as helpful as I can in opening the doors of Palestine to the Jewish people."

MESSAGE FROM REPRESENTATIVE EMANUEL CELLER (DEMOCRAT, NEW YORK)

"The obvious illegality of the MacDonald White Paper calls for its abrogation. It is a violation of the Balfour Declaration, a violation of the ratification of 52 nations of the Palestine Mandate and a violation of the Anglo-American Treaty of 1924. If the Permanent Mandates Commission of the League of Nations condemned it in 1939, then how much stronger must its condemnation be today in the interest

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of justice and humanity.

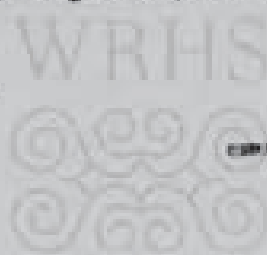
"The Jewish National Homeland must not be jeopardized by power politics, nor shall property rights supercede the human rights. It must be remembered in the words of Churchill, 'The Jews are in Palestine by right and not on sufferance.'"

MESSAGE FROM GOVERNOR WAITER E. EDGE OF NEW JERSEY

"All the far-sighted and tolerant citizenry necessarily must have sympathy for any movement to assure your people a home and community life of their own."

MESSAGE FROM GOVERNOR LEVERETT SALTONSTALL OF MASSACHUSETTS

"In these hours of ever multiplying distress for the Jewish people, the citizens of Massachusetts of every race and creed share a common feeling of deep sympathy. They rejoice when an oppressed people finds a place of refuge in its escape from barbarous persecution. The Jews of Palestine have reclaimed the desert and made the land bloom once more. Their upbuilding of their ancient land is truly considered one of the greatest achievements of modern times. It is but elementary justice that the doors of Palestine be reopened to the fullest extent practicable under present military considerations for the Jews of Europe against whom Hitler has so savagely expended his fury."



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#58-3/21/44

FOR RELEASE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

HIGHLIGHTS OF ADDRESS BY MATTHEW WOLL

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Matthew Woll, vice-president of the American Federation of Labor, brought to the Rally a "salute and a pledge of support from the American Federation of Labor to a gallant people," and called upon the world "to fulfill its long-standing pledge to the Jewish people by enabling them to build up their own homeland by opening wide the doors of Palestine to the victims of the Nazi terror."

Branding the White Paper "a death warrant which must be withdrawn," Mr. Woll appealed to Winston Churchill "who rose in the House of Commons and unequivocally condemned the White Paper as a 'plain breach of a solemn obligation' of the pledge of the Balfour Declaration" to reaffirm his stand of 1939.

"Will the Churchill of 1944 bring to reality the condemnation of the Churchill of 1939? The world is eagerly awaiting the decision," Mr. Woll declared.

"Tonight we pray that he, in this crucial hour for the Jewish people, may reassert the dignity of a people which holds its obligations sacred," Mr. Woll continued. "Tonight we look with utmost hope and anticipation to a people which yields to no one in its devotion to the pledged word -- a people which holds principle above expediency."

Declaring that America "always has been and shall continue to be vitally concerned in the future of the Jewish national home in whose creation we had a hand," Mr. Woll voiced deep concern over the deferment of action on the Palestine resolutions now pending in both Houses of Congress, and asserted that the "formulation of the policies of the peace is not a matter to be determined by military considerations of the moment." He declared that to "enjoin silence upon the Congress of the United States at this time on the question of Jewish rights to Palestine when these rights are threatened with destruction, is to formulate a policy of appeasement."

FOR RELEASE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

EXCERPTS FROM ADDRESS BY DOROTHY THOMPSON  
DELIVERED AT THE RALLY FOR PALESTINE, HELD AT  
MADISON SQUARE GARDEN UNDER THE AUSPICES OF  
THE AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL -- MARCH 21, 1944

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"It is reckoned that of the 3,500,000 Jews originally in Poland, not a quarter of a million still live. Those who do are protected by non-Jewish members of the underground, or live, like cave men, in the Polish forests. They live to tell a story, not to save a people. The people is gone.

"But those who live have learned one thing: A people without a homeland of their own is a doomed people. What Theodor Herzl preached long ago, while the civilized Jews of Europe refused to listen, has been proved in our lifetime. And from one end of Europe to another, Jews sit down and weep, aye they weep, because they remember Zion. And I say: Their word should go out through all the earth and their cry to the end of the world. And there should be no speech and language where their voice is not heard!

"Hear this cry! It comes from the remnant of Polish Jewry. 'At this last moment before our death, we, the surviving remnant of the Polish Jews cry out to the world for rescue. We know that you sense the agony of our martyrdom but are powerless to help us. But we know also that there are those who might help if only they would. To them we say, for the blood of three million slaughtered vengeance will fall not only upon Hitler's beasts but upon the indifferent who instead of action offered only words of sympathy. We, the last of the Mohicans, will not forget nor forgive.'

"The opponents of Zionism are hypocrites. They oppose the Jewish homeland on behalf of the Arabs. Very well then, What Christian country, however underpopulated, is prepared to receive all who come. Will Canada -- with a population of a mere eleven million, in a country that could support fifty million? Will

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Australia, with a population of seven million, in a country that could support thirty million? Will Brazil, larger than the entire United States, and greatly underpopulated?

"Before this war, when it was possible to remove every Jew from Europe, the democratic nations held a conference in Evian, in France, to consider just this problem -- of refuge for the German Jews thrown out of economic and social life by Hitler's Nuremberg laws. Did the conference accomplish anything? Were millions of threatened Jews offered homes anywhere on this earth? The answer is No. Dribblets were allowed into most countries, and under the most careful restrictions. Nowhere were they welcomed. Everywhere they were merely tolerated -- as a sop to the democratic conscience.

"The plain unadulterated and brutal truth is that the only spot on this whole immense earth where European Jewish refugees were received with open arms, and with acclaim; the only spot where they were received as assets, and not liabilities -- was Palestine.

"Colonization and imperialism are the opposite poles of man's efforts for survival. Imperialism is the exploitation of other lands and other peoples for the increment of one's own land and one's own people. The British, American, or French capitalist who erects a factory in India because raw materials are close and plentiful and cheap and labor much much cheaper than in Lancashire or New Hampshire, and who then sends the profits home, is dis-employing Englishmen and Americans, and exploiting for his own personal and national purposes the lands and resources of others. The British or American company which seeks out and leases Near Eastern Oil is adding the fees he pays to the pockets of Near Eastern potentates, but he is draining the oil, placed in the ground by nature, far from its sources, and using it for other peoples in other lands.

"But the colonist brings to a country his own hands, his own muscles, his own back, and his own capital. He ploughs it all into the country itself.

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He is not the exploiter; he is the enricher.

"I have no patience with the argument that Palestine 'belongs' to the Arabs, because they are the original settlers there. If Britain had tried to colonize Canada, Australia, New Zealand, or South Africa, on the basis of an immigration restricted to a certain proportion of the native inhabitants there never would have been any British Commonwealth. Yet, today, though many decry the British Empire, none decry the Commonwealth. For there British colonists have been true creators. They have redeemed wildernesses and made them into homes for civilized men. They have enriched the world."

#58-3/21/44



**PRESS RELEASE from****AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL***Associated Organizations:*

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi • Poale-Zion  
 342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

FOR RELEASE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

TEXT OF RESOLUTION ADOPTED AT THE RALLY FOR PALESTINE,  
 SPONSORED BY THE AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL,  
 HELD AT MADISON SQUARE GARDEN, NEW YORK, N.Y.

MARCH 21, 1944  
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New York ---A resolution expressing confidence in Prime Minister Churchill's "loyal adherence to the principles of the Balfour Declaration," and appealing to the Prime Minister "to give early effect to his words of 1939 by bringing about the abrogation of the White Paper," which prohibits new Jewish immigration into Palestine after March 31, was adopted last night at the Rally for Palestine, held in Madison Square Garden under the auspices of the American Zionist Emergency Council.

The resolution also greeted "with satisfaction and gratitude" the statement of President Roosevelt that the American Government has never given its approval to the White Paper, and that "when future decisions are reached, full justice will be done to those who seek a Jewish National Home."

"We trust that the President will use his good offices and the high authority of his position to the end that this full justice which he so earnestly desires may speedily be achieved," the resolution stated.

The resolution also urged/ <sup>passage</sup> "at the earliest moment consistent with the exigencies of the war effort" of the Palestine resolutions now pending in both Houses of Congress.

The full text of the resolution follows:

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"Eleven years ago the assault of the Nazi government upon the Jewish people was the initial step in the murderous war of aggression which Germany has since waged against all civilized mankind. Injustice to the Jew was the first manifestation of that universal injustice which the Nazis sought to impose upon the whole world.

"Today the Jews of Europe lie crushed under the Nazi heel. The fate of these victims of the deliberate and diabolical Nazi policy of extermination, has aroused the conscience of the free peoples of the world. It has brought forcibly to the attention of mankind the possibilities of Palestine as the one great haven of immediate refuge and of permanent rehabilitation. Yet it is at this very time that the Chamberlain White Paper of 1939 bars Palestine to all further Jewish immigration, apart from some 25,000 refugees who, but for administrative restriction, would long since have been admitted.

"As the deadline of March 31, 1944 originally set by the White Paper approaches, we recall with grief and indignation the fate of hundreds of thousands of our fellow-Jews who were consigned to the concentration camps and death chambers of Hitler and who, but for the policy of that White Paper, might have been saved and given sanctuary in Palestine; of those who were drowned on the 'Struma' and the 'Patria' because they were denied refuge in the Jewish homeland; and of the 1,500 Jewish refugees who, having finally reached Palestine, were deported as 'illegal' immigrants to the tropical island of Mauritius where for the past three years they have been rotting away in detention camps.

"Conceived in that bankrupt period of statesmanship when it was sought to mollify enemies by sacrificing friends, the White Paper survives as an anachronistic relic of appeasement and injustice in international relations. It has been denounced by many of Great Britain's present leaders including Prime Minister Winston Churchill. We have faith in that better England which, under his inspired leadership saved civilization in its darkest hour. We have confidence in Mr. Churchill's loyal adherence to the principles of the Balfour  
(more)



Declaration so eloquently endorsed by him in many of his past utterances, and we now appeal to him as an understanding friend and champion of democracy to give early effect to his words of 1939 by bringing about the abrogation of the White Paper.

"We greet with satisfaction and gratitude the statement of our own President on March 9th, that the Government of the United States has never given its approval to the White Paper, and his assurance that 'when future decisions are reached, full justice will be done to those who seek a Jewish National Home, for which our Government and the American people have always had the deepest sympathy.'

"We trust that the President will use his good offices and the high authority of his position to the end that this full justice which he so earnestly desires may speedily be achieved.

"The Jewish people is deeply indebted to the Senators and Congressmen who have sponsored the Palestine Resolutions in both Houses of Congress as well as to all who have given generous support to these Resolutions. While action on the Resolutions has for the time being been deferred by reason of military considerations, it has been made expressly clear that the grounds for this deferment are without reference to the merits of the Resolutions. We therefore urge their passage at the earliest moment consistent with the exigencies of the war effort thereby serving to join the Legislative and Executive branches of our Government in the expression of a common policy designed to end the sufferings of the Jewish people and to restore it to a place of honor and dignity among the nations of the earth.

"In the name of humanity and of justice we demand the immediate abolition of the White Paper. We call for the unqualified fulfillment of the intent and purpose of the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate and the opening wide of the gates of Palestine to Jewish immigration and settlement, to the end that the

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Jews may reconstitute Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth.

"All men of good will, Christians and Jews alike, whose spiritual traditions spring from those sources which nourish everything which the Western World holds sacred and dear, unite in looking upon the restoration of Palestine to the Jewish people as a vital and indispensable element in the restoration of righteousness to humanity."

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#68-3/21/44



**PRESS RELEASE from**  
**AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations:*

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342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

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FOR RELEASE: WEDNESDAY,  
MARCH 22

HIGHLIGHTS OF ADDRESS BY SENATOR ROBERT F. WAGNER

AT THE RALLY FOR PALESTINE, HELD IN

MADISON SQUARE GARDEN, MARCH 21, 1944, AND SPONSORED BY

THE AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL  
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New York ---Senator Robert F. Wagner (Democrat, New York) last night demanded that the British White Paper of 1939, which prohibits new Jewish immigration into Palestine after March 31, "be consigned to the flames," and urged that Palestine "be counted in the ranks of tomorrow's society of free nations."

Co-sponsor with Senator Robert A. Taft (Republican, Ohio) of the pending Senate resolution calling for free entry of Jews into Palestine and the reconstitution of that country as a free and democratic Jewish commonwealth, Senator Wagner told the Rally for Palestine, held in Madison Square Garden under the auspices of the American Zionist Emergency Council, that "all of the arguments against this resolution can be refuted by one overwhelming question: 'If the tortured Jews of Europe are not to be allowed to go to Palestine, where shall they go?'"

"The proposal in back of this resolution requires no technical or tedious arguments in its support. It should provide no occasion for lengthy discussions of international law. It is a very plain and simple proposal, as plain and simple as the essential aims of justice and humanity," Senator Wagner declared.

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Senator Wagner applauded President Roosevelt's recent statement that "the American Government has never given its approval to the White Paper of 1939....and that when future decisions are reached, full justice will be done to those who seek a Jewish National Home." This statement "expressed the conscience of America," Senator Wagner said.

Pointing out that "ten days from today, the meagre trickle of immigration to Palestine, permitted under the White Paper of 1939, will come to an end," Senator Wagner added: "By one malevolent blow have a few blind men determined to smash one of the noblest and most successful experiments in the history of statecraft. Should that happen -- and I still pray it will not -- that same blow will rive and split asunder the rock of Britain's honor, the Britain whose name is subscribed to the Balfour Declaration.

"I do not stand alone in that opinion. I share it with the man who is the very embodiment of English conscience, Mr. Winston Churchill.

"Since the beginning of the war, Jewish Palestine has been Great Britain's most dependable ally in the Middle East. There is no conscription. But more than 30,000 of the Jewish community of less than 600,000 have volunteered in the various British military services.

"In Palestine itself, the Jews have mobilized their resources, their brain power and their manpower -- in the fields, shops, factories and scientific institutions, to contribute to victory.

"The record is one of accomplishment against overwhelming odds, of magnificent achievement in the face of official discouragement, of gallantry and heroism unsurpassed. By such performance the Jews have earned the admiration of freedom-lovers everywhere. We cannot be so heartless as to compensate them by the liquidation of the Balfour Declaration.

"The plain truth is that there is nothing which has happened in the past and nothing which can be apprehended in the future which offers any justi-

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fication for the White Paper. Surely the people of England know that this White Paper is masquerading under false colors; that it is the black symbol of appeasement, and brass emblem of dishonor. These twins have produced the wreckage of the past four years.

"And the shabby, the pathetic aspect of it is that this Paper appeases no one but the Mufti of Jerusalem -- a gentleman who was last reported feeding out of Hitler's trough in Berlin and who today is probably crouching in one of the Nazi cellars against the American and British terror that falls from the skies."

#58-3/21/44



**PRESS RELEASE from****AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL***Associated Organizations:*

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi • Poale-Zion  
 342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**SENATORS JOHNSON, CLARK AND BRIDGES BLAST WHITE PAPER**

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**SPEECHES IN SENATE DEMAND JEWISH COMMONWEALTH IN PALESTINE**

- - - - -

Washington -- Three United States Senators joined today in a protest against the British White Paper which, after Friday, March 31st, will completely halt new Jewish immigration into Palestine. They were Senators Johnson (Democrat, Colorado), Clark (Democrat, Missouri) and Bridges (Republican, New Hampshire).

The Senators urged the creation of a Jewish National Home which automatically will provide for unlimited immigration.

"In the past five years that maniac Hitler and his henchmen have been exterminating Jews in Germany, in Poland and in the occupied countries at an estimated rate of more than 10,000 persons a day," Senator Johnson told the Senate. "In other words Hitler killed off more Jews a day - every day - than the Mandatory Government has permitted to find refuge in Palestine in a year. Now Hitler has moved into his satellite countries - Hungary and Rumania - his hangman Himmler is there and Jewish slaughter has again become the first item on his hateful agenda."

Because of the operation of the White Paper, Senator Bridges declared, "untold tens of thousands of these refugees from Hitler were denied a place of refuge. The Jewish National Homeland which was created by great statesmen after World War I has been denied to the Jews, the very people it was intended to help, at a time of the darkest hours in Jewish history, the darkest hours, for that matter, of Christian civilization."

(more)

Senator Clark described the effective cooperation of the Jews of Palestine during the days when the British Eighth Army was fighting with its back to the Suez Canal.

"These people were our heroic allies at an hour of the United Nations' greatest need," Senator Clark declared. "Jews of Palestine volunteered as combat troops with General Montgomery and more than 30,000 of them fought with magnificent courage at El Alamein and Tcbruk, and in every other battle in North Africa, through to Italy, where thousands of Jews are now fighting with the British. In addition, the men, women, and children of Palestine left their orange groves and their other agricultural pursuits to become industrial workers, first for the British Army, and then later for the American troops. In Palestine they manufactured everything from marmalade to munitions."

Senator Clark declared that Jewish technicians driven from Germany by Hitler, reestablished themselves in Palestine and are now making equipment heretofore imported from Germany.

"Palestine's contributions to the Allied cause has been, and is, a magnificent contribution," Senator Clark declared.

The three Senators joined in denouncing the White Paper as a flagrant violation of a treaty concluded between the United States and England in 1925, in which the United States government gave its consent to the British Mandate of Palestine. Because Article 7 of this treaty prohibits any change in the Mandatory without the consent of the United States, the Senators denounced the State Department for its failure to protest the restrictive immigration policy which was imposed without the permission of the United States government. This policy resulted in the loss of "untold tens of thousands of Jewish lives," Senator Johnson said.

The Senators were agreed that the Balfour Declaration, setting up the Jewish National Homeland, should be implemented as soon as possible, in order that Palestine may become a "free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth," as was contemplated when the Declaration was promulgated more than a quarter of century ago.

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Concluding a forty-minute speech, Senator Clark told the Senate: "The question of the termination of the horrible White Paper policy is not a problem of the Jew. It is a problem of the Christians of the world and, by force of circumstances, it is chiefly a problem of the Christians who constitute the governments of the United States and of Great Britain. As a humble member of the legislative branch of the Government of the United States, I feel deeply on this subject. The self-respect of all of us has been challenged and the self-respect of our Government is equally at stake. I believe that other members of the Congress and of the executive branch of the Government will feel as I do so that every possible constructive step to alleviate the sufferings of the Jews of Europe will be taken at the earliest possible moment, so that the gates of Palestine will be reopened speedily and permanently in order that these people may find a welcome at the only place on God's earth where, at the moment, the governments of the world apparently are willing for them to get a new start in life and live as earnest, decent, self-respecting, constructive, helpful citizens as they have always lived in those communities where the Jew is permitted to become a part of the community."

The only way that this can be attained is through the passage of the Wagner-Taft Resolution pending in the Senate, Senator Clark said.

The debate protesting against the White Paper consumed more than an hour of the Senate's session today. The Senators were interrupted frequently by Senators Shipstead of Minnesota and Bone of Washington, both of whom shared the sentiments of the other speakers.



**PRESS RELEASE from****AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL***Associated Organizations:*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**AMERICAN ZIONISTS CONDEMN PALESTINE TERRORISTS**

- - - - -

New York --The American Zionist Emergency Council, representing all major Zionist groups in the United States, today joined the Jewish Agency for Palestine in condemning the recent terrorist outbreaks in Palestine.

At a meeting of the Council, a resolution was adopted favoring the stand taken by the Jewish Agency that "the destructive hand which committed these crimes is unwittingly or maliciously helping the enemies of the Jewish people."

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver of Cleveland and Dr. Stephen S. Wise of New York are co-chairmen of the Council.

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#59-3/28/44

**PRESS RELEASE from****AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL***Associated Organizations:*

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi • Poale-Zion

342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

FOR RELEASE: FRIDAY, MARCH 31

AMERICAN EDUCATORS URGE ROOSEVELT TO ACT FOR FREE IMMIGRATION  
INTO PALESTINE

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DEWEY, EINSTEIN, FRIEDRICH, GIDEONSE ARE AMONG 1500  
WHO SIGNED PETITION CALLING FOR JEWISH COMMONWEALTH

- - - - -

Washington -- A petition signed by 1500 American university professors urging President Roosevelt to act in behalf of free entry of Jews into Palestine was submitted to the White House today, when the British White Paper's ban on all new Jewish immigration into Palestine becomes effective.

Signers of the petition are faculty members of 180 schools of higher learning in 41 states, and include 71 college presidents. Among the signers are: Professor Mortimer J. Adler, of the University of Chicago; Professor William Foxwell Albright, of Johns Hopkins University; Professor John Dewey, of Columbia University; Professor Albert Einstein, of Princeton University; Professor Carl J. Friedrich, of Harvard University; Dr. Harry D. Gideonse, President of Brooklyn College; Professor Maynard P. Krueger, of the University of Chicago; Professor Alain LeRoy Locke, of Howard University; Professor Robert S. Lynd, of Columbia University; Professor Francis E. McMahon, of the University of Chicago; Professor Nelson P. Mead, of the City College of New York; Professor Mark Van Doren, of Columbia University and Dr. Mary E. Wooley, President Emeritus of Mt. Holyoke College.

Declaring that "on the basis of legal right no less than of moral obligation, the government of the United States is entitled and is called upon to intercede on

(more)

behalf of the Jewish people," the petition calls on President Roosevelt "to use the influence and power of your high office to the end that the doors of Palestine shall be opened for free entry of Jews into that country, and that there shall be full opportunity for colonization, so that the Jewish people may ultimately reconstitute Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth."

The text of the Petition follows:

"Dear Mr. President:

"In an hour when the peoples of the United Nations look forward with growing confidence to the early prospect of victory and peace, we, faculty members of American schools of higher learning, respectfully draw attention to a problem of far-reaching human and political implications.

"The Jewish people of Europe was the first target of the Nazi aggressor. Unprotected by a government of its own, this people, which has contributed so much to the progress of our civilization, has undergone a ruthless process of slaughter resulting in the extermination of more than one-third of its number. This gigantic catastrophe has re-emphasized the national homelessness of the Jews and their need for a land to which they may come as of right and not on tolerance.

"In 1922, fifty-two nations endorsed the pledge of Great Britain and the League of Nations "to facilitate the establishment of a national homeland for the Jews in Palestine." This policy, being the basis of the Mandate for Palestine entrusted to Great Britain by the League of Nations, was unanimously approved by the government of the United States in terms of a joint resolution of Congress, adopted at that time.

"In the intervening decades the progress made by the Jewish National Home has been among the most remarkable achievements of modern times. More than a half million victims of prejudice and intolerance have been enabled, without infringing on the rights of any other people or religious group to remake their lives in dignity and self-reliance on their ancestral soil.

"The British White Paper of May, 1939, condemned by Mr. Winston Churchill as "a plain breach of a solemn obligation," threatens the doom of the Jewish National Home by closing the Holy Land to further Jewish immigration.

"We are convinced that the establishment of a Jewish Commonwealth will represent a fundamental contribution to the social and political progress of the world. On the basis of legal right no less than of moral obligation, the government of the United States is entitled and is called upon to intercede on behalf of the Jewish people.

"We respectfully petition you to use the influence and power of your high office to the end that the doors of Palestine shall be opened for free entry of Jews into that country, and that there shall be full opportunity for colonization, so that the Jewish people may ultimately reconstitute Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth."

College and university presidents who signed the Petition are:

A. F. Harman, Alabama College; Raymond R. Paty, University of Alabama; Grady Gammage, State Teachers College, Arizona; Elam J. Anderson, University of Redlands, Calif.; C. Ernest Davis, La Verne College, Calif.; Alexander C. Roberts, San Francisco State College; Claude L. Welch, Los Angeles University; Deak S. Campbell, Florida State College for Women; Hamilton Halt, Rollin College, Florida; William Henry McMasters, University of Miami; Jno J. Tigert, University of Florida; Harmon White Caldwell, University of Georgia; Rufus E. Clement, Atlanta University; Harvey W. Cox, Emory University, Georgia; Hubert T. Quillian, LaGrange College, Georgia; Edmund C. Peters, Paine College, Georgia; R. W. Fairchild, Illinois State Normal University; Leo L. Honor, College of Jewish Studies, Illinois; Erland Nelson, Carthage College, Illinois; William E. Shaw, Illinois Wesleyan University; Herman B. Wells, Indiana University; Irwin J. Lubbers, Central College, Iowa; Hugh A. Kelsey, Sterling College, Kansas; Edgar Godbold, Louisiana College; Franklin Winslow Johnson, Colby College, Maine; Henry I. Stahr, Hood College, Maryland; Harry C. Bentley, Bentley School of Accounting and Finance, Massachusetts; Carl D. Smith, Boston Institute for Business Administration; John L. Seaton, Albion College, Michigan; Merle S. Ward, Ferris Institute, Michigan; M. Earle Collins, Tarkio College, Missouri; Walter H. Ryle, Northeast Missouri State Teachers College; Charles W. Leaphart, Montana State University; Ernest O. Melby, Montana State University; August L. Strand, Montana State College; E. E. Cossentine, Union College, Nebraska; Benjamin F. Schwartz, Nebraska Wesleyan University; D. E. Weidler, York College, Nebraska; Joseph Hunter, Bloomfield College, New Jersey; Arthur K. White, Alma White College, New Jersey; Harry D. Gideonse, Brooklyn College, New York; Paul Klapper, Queens College, New York; Helen McKinstry, Russell Sage College, New York; William P. Tolley, Syracuse University; Harry N. Wright, City College New York.

Frank Porter Graham, University of North Carolina; James E. Shepard, North Carolina College for Negroes; Franklin L. Eversull, North Dakota Agricultural College; W. C. Giersbach, Pacific University, Oregon; L. H. Van Houten, State  
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Teachers College, Pennsylvania; Rev. Raymond V. Kirk, Duquesne University,  
Pennsylvania; Clyde A. Lynch, Lebanon Valley College, Pennsylvania; James A. Reeves,  
Seton Hill College, Pennsylvania; Rev. John J. Dillon, Providence College; John L.  
Flyler, Furman University, South Carolina; Joseph H. Edge, Dakota Wesleyan Univer-  
sity; J. E. Burk, Ward Belmont University, Tennessee; Oliver C. Carmichael, Vander-  
bilt University, Tennessee; Philander Priestley Claxton, Austin Peay State College,  
Tennessee; S. E. Garrison, Peabody College, Tennessee; John McSween, Tusculum  
College, Tennessee; Judson A. Rudd, William Jennings Bryan University, Tennessee;  
E. N. Jones, Texas College of Arts & Industry; E. E. Oberholtzer, University of  
Houston, Texas; Franklin S. Harris, Brigham Young University, Utah; John Marcus  
Ellison, Virginia Union University; Joseph L. Garman, State Teachers College, Vir-  
ginia; John Schoff Millis, University of Vermont; John D. Williams, Marshall College,  
W. Virginia; Frank E. Baker, Milwaukee State College; Rev. Paul Grosshuesch, Mission  
House College & Theological Seminary, Wisconsin; Rev. B. H. Pennings, St. Norbert's  
College, Wisconsin.

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**PRESS RELEASE from**  
**AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations:*

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi • Poale-Zion  
342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**AMERICAN ZIONISTS MOURN PASSING OF WINGATE AS**  
**"LOSS OF NOBLE AND DEVOTED FRIEND"**

- - - - -

New York — The American Zionist Emergency Council yesterday issued a statement at the passing of Major General Orde Wingate, who was killed in a Burma plane crash last week, which read that "his loss would be felt throughout Palestine as the personal loss of a noble and devoted friend." Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Stephen S. Wise are co-chairmen of the Council.

The statement recalled "the intense devotion to the cause of the Jewish National Home of this brilliant and fearless British soldier" and mentioned Wingate's service in Palestine from 1937 to 1939 where he "established with the Jewish colonies unique relations of mutual affection and respect."

"Wingate's great ambition to become the leader of a Palestine Jewish fighting force was not destined to be realized, but the memory of Wingate, of his faith in the new Jewish life in Palestine, and of his conviction that ultimately and inevitably the Jews will again establish a Jewish Commonwealth in their own land will remain as a source of inspiration and of hope," the statement concluded.

The full text of the statement follows:

"The death of Major General Orde Wingate comes as a shock to Jews everywhere who knew of the intense devotion to the cause of the Jewish National Home of this brilliant and fearless British soldier. Coming of a deeply religious family, Wingate saw in the reestablishment of the Jewish National Home a fulfillment of prophecy and a great and historic act of reparation and justice. In

(more)

the course of his duties in Palestine, in the years 1937 to 1939, he had established with the Jewish colonists unique relations of mutual affection and respect. His loss will be felt throughout Palestine as the personal loss of a devoted and noble friend. Wingate's great ambition to become the leader of a Palestine Jewish fighting force was not destined to be realized, but the memory of Wingate, of his faith in the new Jewish life in Palestine and of his conviction that ultimately and inevitably the Jews will again establish a Jewish Commonwealth in their own land will remain as a source of inspiration and of hope."

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#63-4/6/44



**PRESS RELEASE from**  
**AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations:*  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ZIONIST LEADERSHIP WARNS AGAINST ACTIVITIES OF  
"LEAGUE FOR A FREE PALESTINE"

- - - - -

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL STATEMENT  
CHARGES GROUP SEEKS TO DESTROY ZIONISM AND JEWISH AGENCY

- - - - -

New York -- The American Zionist Emergency Council, speaking for all major Zionist bodies in the United States, today issued "A Warning to the Zionists of America" against the activities of the newly-created American League for a Free Palestine.

In a statement circulated to all groups represented in the Council, it was charged that the League is attempting "to destroy Zionism and the Jewish Agency for Palestine, the recognized spokesman of the Jewish people in all matters concerning the future of Palestine." The statement charged further that the League "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."

Declaring that "full-page advertisements will not rebuild the Jewish National Home," the Council's statement scored the tactics of the League and labeled its founders "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." The "paper organizations" listed by the Council are the Friends of a Jewish Palestine, the Committee for a Jewish Army, the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe and the League for a Free Palestine.

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"None of these organizations or committees have had any official relationship, direct or indirect, with any responsible body in American Jewish life," the statement said.

The Council's declaration follows by a few weeks a similar blast against the League for a Free Palestine by Pierre van Paassen, author and expert on Palestine. In a letter to the editor of "The Protestant," printed in the April issue of that publication, Mr. van Paassen described the League's founders as a group of "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... The Irgun is proscribed in Palestine because of its fascistic methods and its advocacy and employment of terror as a political weapon against Jews, Arabs and Britons alike. It is no exaggeration to say that ninety-five and three-quarters per cent of the Jewish population in Palestine have no truck or trade with the Irgun."

The full text of the Council's statement follows:

## A WARNING TO THE ZIONISTS OF AMERICA

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

**PRESS RELEASE from**  
**AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**  
*Associated Organizations:*  
Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi • Poale-Zion  
342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

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FOR RELEASE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 1944

**1700 AMERICAN EDUCATORS APPEAL TO ROOSEVELT**  
**FOR FREE IMMIGRATION INTO PALESTINE**

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**CALL FOR JEWISH COMMONWEALTH ON FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF WHITE PAPER**

- - - - -

Washington, D. C. --

A petition signed by 1700 American university professors urging President Roosevelt to act in behalf of free entry of Jews into Palestine, "so that the Jewish people may ultimately reconstitute Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth," was submitted to the White House today, the fifth anniversary of the issuance of the British White Paper of 1939, which prohibits all new Jewish immigration into Palestine.

Faculty members of 250 schools of higher learning in 44 states, including 150 college presidents, have signed the petition.

Among the prominent signers of the petition are Professor Mortimer J. Adler, of the University of Chicago; Professor William Foxwell Albright, of Johns Hopkins University; Professor John Dewey, of Columbia University; Professor Albert Einstein of Princeton University; Professor Carl J. Friedrich, of Harvard University; Dr. Harry D. Gideonse, President of Brooklyn College; Professor S. Ralph Harlow, of Smith College; Professor Maynard P. Krueger, of the University of Chicago; Professor Alain LeRoy Locke, of Howard University; Professor Robert S. Lynd, of Columbia University; Professor Francis E. McMahon, of the University of Chicago; Professor Nelson P. Mead, of the City College of New York; Professor Richard J. Parcell, of the Catholic University of America; Dr. George M. Shuster, President



of Hunter College; Professor Mark Van Doren, of Columbia University; Dr. Mary E. Woolley, President Emeritus of Mt. Holyoke College, and Dr. H. N. Wright, President of the City College of New York.

Declaring that "on the basis of legal right no less than of moral obligation, the government of the United States is entitled and is called upon to intercede on behalf of the Jewish people," the petition calls on President Roosevelt "to use the influence and power of your high office to the end that the doors of Palestine shall be opened for free entry of Jews into that country, and that there shall be full opportunity for colonization, so that the Jewish people may ultimately reconstitute Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth."

PROTESTANT, CATHOLIC AND JEWISH SCHOLARS DEMAND ACTION

In the preface to a pamphlet containing the text of the petition, which was issued today by the American Zionist Emergency Council, Dr. Mary E. Woolley, President Emeritus of Mt. Holyoke College, Professor Richard J. Purcell, of the Catholic University of America, and Professor Albert Einstein, of Princeton University, joined in demanding that the promise of a Jewish Homeland contained in the Balfour Declaration be fulfilled.

Professor Einstein asserted that "the tragic events of the past decade have made only too clear the vital need for rebuilding Palestine as a new center of life for the hundreds of thousands of innocent men, women and children whom the common foe has hunted from their homes. By taking its place once more in the vanguard of the struggle for a Jewish Palestine, the American Government will add greatly to its long list of achievements in humanity's eternal strife for justice and equality."

"What power politics has shut the door of this promised land to the chosen people in their terrible martyrdom? What war advantage can there be in keeping the Jews a minority in their ancient home? Must the Arab, who watched disinterestedly when the Nazi blitz rolled into Egypt, be appeased for the wealth of India?"

(more)

Professor Purcell declared. "The integrity of the guarantee of the League of Nations must not be impugned. A Resolution of Congress should not appear an idle, political gesture," he added, referring to the Mandate for Palestine and the Joint Resolution which was adopted by Congress in 1933 favoring the establishment in Palestine of a National Home for the Jewish people.

"In these days of terror the Christian turns for strength and inspiration to the New Testament and -- to the Hebrew Prophet. Words written thousands of years ago are startling in their understanding of modern problems and in the way in which they 'speak home to the heart.' If there were no further reason for the interest of the Christian in the Jewish problem and its wise solution, his indebtedness to the Hebrew Prophet would be sufficient," Dr. Woolley said.

#73-5/16/44



FOR RELEASE: SUNDAY, MAY 21, 1944

From the  
Commission on Palestine Surveys  
521 Fifth Avenue  
New York 17, N. Y.

New York, May 20 -- Plans for a large scale irrigation and hydro-electric development, transforming Palestine's agricultural and industrial economy, are in preparation by American scientists and engineers, it was announced today by the Commission on Palestine Surveys.

The project, initiated more than a year ago, compares in magnitude with the Grand Coulee or Boulder Dam developments and would require a capital investment of between \$150,000,000 and \$300,000,000 over a period of years.

The plans call for:

DIVERSION of existing waters and the building of a net-work of artificial streams, which would irrigate arid and semi-arid regions with an area of 600,000 acres.

ERECTION of power plants with an installed capacity of approximately 250,000 KW, generating in excess of 1,000,000,000 KW of electric current per year.

It is estimated that the development of cheap power and the transition from extensive dry farming to intensive irrigation farming would make it possible to double the present farm population in Palestine and double or treble the present total population of 1,500,000.

The engineering surveys and related studies were begun by the Commission at the request of Dr. Chaim Weizmann, renowned scientist and President of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, following the submission of proposals by Walter C. Lowdermilk, reclamation expert and assistant chief of the United States Soil Conservation Service, in a memorandum entitled "The Jordan Valley Authority."

The Lowdermilk proposals were reviewed by the late Colonel Theodore B. Parker, formerly chief engineer of the Tennessee Valley Authority, and more

(more)

recently head of the Department of Civil Engineering of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His interest was aroused by the idea of applying the methods and experience of the TVA for the rehabilitation of the Holy Land and by the special technical problems involved in the Jordan Valley Authority project.

Colonel Parker served as consultant until his death three weeks ago, and he outlined a program of studies and procedure for the Commission's experts.

Contrary to popular misconception, the investigation has revealed that Palestine has a fair amount of annual rainfall, considerably exceeding that of southern California. Average precipitation figures are 22 inches as against 15 inches for southern California, but in Palestine large quantities of water are running to waste. The water resources of Palestine, if properly conserved and prudently utilized for irrigation, can fructify many uncultivated sections of the country providing the basis for a high increase of agricultural output and of the farming population. It has also been found that there exists an important hydro-electric potential, which if exploited would produce substantial quantities of power for irrigation pumping, industrial expansion and for domestic use.

The irrigation program calls for: a) diversion of water from the Jordan and its tributaries and other streams; b) utilization of run-off waters; c) further tapping of ground water by well boring.

The guiding principle is that no drop of water should be allowed to run to waste and the plans therefore call for the building of many dams and reservoirs, of varying sizes, tentative sites for which have been selected, and a network of concrete lined irrigation canals covering the country.

The main feeder canals, excluding laterals, would have an aggregate length of approximately 450 miles. Three of the larger dams would be from 80 to 300 feet in height and from 1200 feet to 8500 feet in length. The quantity of water carried through the irrigation canals, apart from well water, would come to about 750,000 acre feet per year. The major impounding reservoirs, natural and artificial,

(more)



would have an aggregate capacity of approximately 900,000 acre feet.

A major feature of the over-all plan takes into account the unusual topography of the country and the great difference in levels between the surface of the Mediterranean and the Dead Sea, which is the lowest body of water in the world about 1300 feet below sea level.

The Jordan River discharges into the Dead Sea, which is land-locked and has no outlet, its balance being maintained by solar evaporation. Since the irrigation program calls for diversion of Jordan River water for irrigation, it is proposed to replenish the Dead Sea by diverting into it salt water from the Mediterranean in quantities equivalent to the loss caused by the diversion of Jordan waters. This would be done by building a 95 mile system of canals and a short underground tunnel (from three to seven miles in length) starting near Haifa and terminating at the Dead Sea. The Mediterranean water diverted through this channel and the construction of power plants along the route would produce substantial quantities of power.

In addition to the Mediterranean Diversion Plan, the power projects under study include further possibilities such as the continuous and rapid drop of the Jordan River from the headwaters of the Jordan clear down to the south.

The elevation at the northernmost dam site is 1900 feet above sea level. At Lake Huleh it is 230 feet. By the time the Jordan reaches the Sea of Galilee, it is 610 feet below sea level, while at the Dead Sea it is 1290 feet below sea level - a total drop of nearly 3300 feet. These and other supplementary possibilities point to a power potential which would call for an installed capacity of approximately 250,000 KW. generating in excess of 1,000,000,000 KW of electric current per year. This is approximately ten times the amount of electric current generated and sold in Palestine at the present time.

Most of the present supply of electricity is produced by thermal generation, using high priced oil as fuel, only a minor part being supplied by a small

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hydroelectric plant. The country has no coal and the high cost of oil, resulting in high cost of current, is a burden on the economy of the country, handicapping both agricultural and industrial development. Present studies hold out the prospect of cheap electric power comparable in cost to that produced in this country.

If the possibility for cheap power can be realized, it would open up prospects for important industries which would be uneconomic under present conditions. The Dead Sea alone, which contains enormous quantities of minerals in solution, is estimated to hold about 22 billion tons of magnesium salts from which magnesium can be extracted and exploited commercially only with cheap electric current. The manufacture of magnesium would in turn form the basis for numerous subsidiary and related industries.

So far as irrigation possibilities are concerned, hydrologists have estimated that ultimately 750,000 acres of land may be irrigated, as against 95,000 acres now under irrigation. The present studies already point to possibilities for irrigating at least 600,000 additional acres and possibly more at costs which would compare favorably with irrigation works in parts of the United States. The effect of irrigating an additional 600,000 acres would be to revolutionize the agricultural economy. Under Palestine conditions, one acre under irrigation is the economic equivalent of from five to ten acres under the system of extensive "dry farming" now widely practiced. The transition to intensive irrigated farming would amount to an effective increase in the size of the country and of its cultivable area, practically doubling it. It would make room for roughly an additional 100,000 to 120,000 families on the land, or an additional farming population of 400,000 to 600,000. It would also result in a large increase of the national income of the country. On the assumption that one farm family would allow for three to four families engaged in non-agricultural pursuits - industry, commerce, construction, transportation, the professions, etc. - it would mean a further increase in non-farming population in cities, towns and villages

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mounting into the millions. These figures do not take into account other possibilities for agricultural expansion, such as terracing and slope cultivation.

The plans taken as a whole envisage therefore a virtual transformation of the country by endowing it with numerous "artificial streams," watering arid and semi-arid regions; a permanent source of energy, making up for the deficiency in coal; a resultant industrial expansion; a further and more rapid transition from extensive dry farming to intensive irrigation farming; and a transition from dependence on cereal growing to mixed farming, featuring fruits, vegetables and dairy products. They contemplate the eventual almost doubling of the present farming population and doubling or trebling the present total population. In this connection, it should be borne in mind that the population of Palestine has about trebled in the past 25 years, from about 500,000 in 1919 to about 1,500,000 today.

While it is premature to speak of costs with any degree of certainty, it is estimated that the projects in the aggregate will require a capital investment of probably no less than \$150,000,000 and closer to \$200,000,000 - spread over a period of years, since it is conceived of as a program to be carried out in successive stages.

Other studies relate to the questions of public, private or mixed capital to be employed; the role which the government of the country might be expected to play; the effects upon government revenues and fiscal policy; the curing of saline soils by leaching; possibilities for development of organic and inorganic chemical industries, for which the country is particularly suited; and the reclaiming of the Negev or south land, a virtual desert area embracing almost half of the surface of the country, now hardly used and almost uninhabited. The latter calls for various projects, including a long canal carrying water from the northern part of the country enjoying larger rainfall to the more arid south.

One of the objectives of the project is to raise the extremely low standard of living of the Arab peasantry and reduce the present gap between their primitive

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agriculture and the advanced economy of the Jewish section of the population. It would also substantially benefit eastern Palestine, known as Transjordan, helping it to catch up with the more progressive western part of the country. It is also expected that carrying out these plans, even in part, will give a great impetus to modern economic development in the surrounding countries of the Near East, with their vast undeveloped areas. Iraq alone, it is pointed out, can through effective reclamation and development sustain a population of at least 25,000,000 as against its present population of 4,000,000.

The Commission on Palestine Surveys with offices at 531 Fifth Avenue, New York City, has enlisted the cooperation of 21 experts including civil engineers, reclamation and irrigation experts, geologists, hydrologists, soil experts and agronomists, chemists, industrial engineers, economists and one archaeologist. A number of these experts had been to Palestine and carried on investigations in their respective fields, while others worked from a mass of data compiled by the engineering and research staff of the Commission, including rainfall charts, streamflow measurements, soil surveys and soil maps, geological reports, detailed topographical maps and a volume of relevant statistics and economic information. The Commission has also had the cooperation of competent Palestinian engineers working on the spot, and this collaboration is continuing.

The lay members of the Commission on Palestine Surveys are Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Abraham Goodman, Andre Weier, Emanuel Neumann, Judge Morris Rothenberg, Alexander Sachs, Israel Sieff and Robert Szold, all of New York with the exception of Mr. Sieff, who is of London, England.



STATEMENT BY EMANUEL KERNMANN, OF NEW YORK CITY

Lawyer, Member of the Commission on Palestine Surveys,  
in charge of its operations.

Made as he released the attached announcement.

Recently we have heard much about a pipe-line to "oil the next war." This proposal is not a pipe-line for war; it is a life-line to rehabilitate many of the survivors of the present war.

Two years ago, when I first suggested to my friend, Dr. Lowdermilk, that he write up his experiences in Palestine, I never imagined that he would produce this magnificent plan for a "Jordan Valley Authority." When it came in the summer of 1942 I was so impressed with it that I immediately submitted it to Dr. Chaim Weizmann, who was then visiting this country. As a scientist he was profoundly interested and immediately approved the idea of a thorough engineering investigation.

In seeking the cooperation of experts, I met with a gratifying response. A number had been to Palestine; all were eager to help in its rehabilitation. Our consultants are serving gratis.

The Palestine question has been described as "controversial." Statesmen and politicians have wrestled with it for years with results far from satisfactory. It occurred to Dr. Lowdermilk and to us that the problem might also be approached on a different plane. Who knows but that technicians working on a scientific level may help us toward a solution. Perhaps scientists and engineers may succeed where statesmen and politicians have failed.

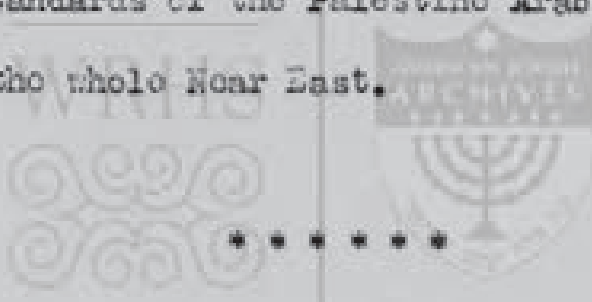
This is an "all American plan." The conception of the idea, the inspiration provided by T.V.A. and Boulder Dam, the techniques, the engineers, the scope and magnitude of the plan, are all American. If it is ever carried out in Palestine, it will be a lasting monument to the American spirit. Already, in a sense, little Palestine is the America of the Near East. The J.V.A. would leave upon it forever the imprint of our American civilization.

The execution of this project and similar projects elsewhere as part of post-war reconstruction will provide a market for American materials, machinery and equipment, as well as American brains and services.

Where will the money come from? To my mind -- and this is a personal opinion -- the financing of such a project over a period of years would require the cooperation of a) the Palestine Government; b) Jewish organisations; c) private capital and d) credits based upon looted Jewish property in Europe, the owners of which have been first robbed and then "liquidated" by the Nazis -- loot for which Germany must make some restitution.

The J.V.A. is a multiple-purpose project in a higher sense of the term:

- 1) It will make room for large numbers of Jewish settlers;
- 2) It will raise the level and living standards of the Palestine Arabs;
- 3) It will serve a model and ferment for the whole Near East.



For further information call  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STATEMENT ON THE FORMATION OF A "HEBREW COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION,"

ISSUED BY DR. LEON FEUER, DIRECTOR OF THE WASHINGTON BUREAU  
OF THE AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

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NOTE: The American Zionist Emergency Council speaks for  
all major Zionist bodies in the United States.

Washington, D. C. -- It is all fantastic and would be comic if it were not so tragic. A handful of young men are attempting to perpetrate a colossal hoax upon the American people, and we would warn the public, the press, and all official circles against being taken in by such a brazen fraud. The self-appointed "Hebrew Committee of National Liberation" is made up of half a dozen adventurers from Palestine with no standing, no credentials, no mandate from anyone unless it be from the Irgun Zevai Leumi in Palestine, an insignificantly small pistol-packing group of extremists who are claiming credit for some of the recent terror outrages. Every movement has its lunatic fringe and irresponsible splinter factions, and it is natural that they should exist also in our midst. The danger is that uninformed people may be taken in and may be led to believe that a new Moses has arisen in Israel.

These boys are stunts; they have thrived on publicity tricks. Like a little stage army, they come on in varying forms and guises -- one day as a Committee for a Jewish Army; the next day as a Committee for the Rescue of European Jews; today, as a "Committee of National Liberation" with an "embassy"; tomorrow, it will be something else. But there is always one common feature -- a persistent request for contributions. No serious or responsible Jewish organization -- neither the Zionist movement, nor the American Jewish Conference, nor the B'nai B'rith, nor the American Jewish Congress, can afford to descend to their level or

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choose to play the mountebank and charlatan. It is the specialty of the "embassy boys."

For more than 40 years, Jews throughout the world have been concerned with the creation of a Jewish National Home in Palestine. To that end, there were constituted on a democratic basis the World Zionist Organization and the Jewish Agency for Palestine which for 25 years have been headed by the foremost Jew of our time, Dr. Chaim Weizmann, of London. The World Zionist Organization's representatives meet biennially as the Zionist Congress and elect their leadership, who constitute the Executive. Together with the representatives of the non-Zionists, they constitute the Jewish Agency for Palestine, officially recognized in the Palestine Mandate to represent Jewish interests and Jewish rights with respect to Palestine. The Jewish Agency maintains permanent offices in London, Jerusalem, Geneva and elsewhere. It carries on necessary political work and handles immigration and colonization into Palestine. For this work it spends annually about \$10,000,000 provided by regular contributions of Jewish communities.

In America, the Zionist movement is represented by the American Zionist Emergency Council, headed by Dr. Stephen S. Wise, of New York, and Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, of Cleveland, as co-chairmen. Affiliated with this Council are the Zionist Organization of America, Hadassah, the women's Zionist organization, Mizrachi, and Poale Zion, with a combined dues-paying membership in excess of 300,000. The Council maintains a Washington Bureau which is in regular contact with government departments and with all important embassies and legations. So far as the Jewish community of Palestine, which numbers approximately 600,000, is concerned, it is democratically organized and is represented by a National Council, the Vaad Leumi. This body is likewise officially recognized by the Palestine Government, controls and directs the Jewish school system, social welfare work, etc. It also has a limited taxing power under the law. The Vaad Leumi, of course, recognizes the Jewish Agency for Palestine and cooperates with it closely.

To complete the picture, it should be added that the overwhelming majority

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of American Jews, through a democratically constituted American Jewish Conference in New York last summer, adopted a post-war program with reference to Jewish rights in Europe, as well as to the Palestine question. Represented in the American Jewish Conference are hundreds of local communities, as well as about 60 leading national organizations, including all the Zionist organizations enumerated above, the B'nai B'rith, the American Jewish Congress, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the Rabbinical Assembly of America, the Council of Jewish Women, etc.

Who, therefore, do the "embassy boys" represent, and who has asked them for "liberation?" Why this new attempt to hoodwink and befuddle the public with a bewildering "ideology" about a Jewish people and a Hebrew nation? They are attempting to justify their separatist and disruptive activity by attempting to build up what they call a non-sectarian movement. But there are important and representative non-sectarian bodies cooperating with the Zionist and Jewish organizations, particularly the American Palestine Committee, headed by Senator Robert F. Wagner, which is carrying on its work effectively and with dignity.

There is also the Christian Council on Palestine, composed of some 1200 clergymen throughout the country. These groups are working together harmoniously and with single-minded devotion to the cause itself.

The truth is that the young gentlemen in question are obsessed with delusions of grandeur and have visions of playing the diplomat and the statesman before a public which they hope is gullible enough to swallow it. They hope to undermine the established authority and prestige of the constituted Jewish authorities and of the Zionist leadership, in particular. Above all, they hope to continue this game of impersonation as long as there are decent but misled folks to whom they can sell their gold bricks. Considering the terrible tragedy which has engulfed the Jewish people and the seriousness of the times, we condemn their irresponsible antics and their self-constituted leadership which the whole of organized Jewry repudiates with scorn.

RELEASED BY JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

Washington Office

1720 - 16th Street, N. W.

Washington, D. C.

For Immediate Release

Dr. Nahum Goldmann, representative of the Jewish Agency for Palestine and the World Zionist Organization in Washington, makes the following comment on the announcement of the formation of the Hebrew Committee of National Liberation:

"The Jewish Agency for Palestine is the only international body recognized under Article IV of the Mandate for Palestine by the British Government, the United States and the League of Nations, as representing the Jewish people in all matters concerning the upbuilding of the Jewish National Home in Palestine. It is composed of all Zionist organizations the world over and numerous non-Zionists in various countries.

"The attempt of a few persons who have come from Palestine to this country without any authority, without having been delegated by any group in Palestine, having played no role whatever in Jewish life in Palestine or elsewhere, to proclaim themselves as the 'trustees of the Hebrew Nation's interest' is an act which, I am sure, will be rejected by all sections of the Jewish people as a fraud.

"There is some danger that well-intentioned non-Jewish groups, eager to help the Jewish people in a time of tragedy, may be misled by the bombastic phrases and claims made by an insignificant group which substitutes noise for complete lack of standing, authority and influence in Jewish life. These well-meaning friends must be warned that by allowing themselves to be persuaded by these impertinent maneuvers they are harming the very cause which they wish to serve.

"The insignificant group which the members of the new committee claim to represent has already done untold damage in Palestine by trying to break the unity of Palestinian Jewry and by introducing methods which the overwhelming majority of Palestinian Jewry has rejected with scorn and contempt. American public opinion should not allow itself to be fooled by the acts of a few men

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whom a normally organized people would deal with as traitors to the common cause and exclude from its community. There is not the slightest chance that any responsible group, Jewish or non-Jewish, not to speak of governments or the League of Nations, will pay any attention to this group, but as they have in the past, through various tricks, succeeded in misleading and confusing spokesmen of American public opinion, this warning is necessary. Whoever wants to help the Jewish people and the Zionist movement must do it by cooperating with the established and recognized organizations, the leading one of which is the Jewish Agency -- the only internationally recognized body authorized to act for the Jewish people in all matters affecting Palestine. By helping the self-styled Hebrew Committee of National Liberation, which purports to speak on behalf of Jews who never gave them authority to represent them, the prestige and influence of the Jewish organizations charged with the complex and responsible task of building the Jewish Homeland will be weakened and harm will be done to the Jewish people."