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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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE ASSAILS

"HEBREW COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION"

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Washington, D. C. — The Jewish Agency for Palestine, recognized spokesman of the Jewish people in all matters concerning the future of Palestine, today branded the Hebrew Committee of National Liberation "an unscrupulous piece of political charlatanism."

In a cable to the American Zionist Emergency Council, the Agency requested that the following be released in behalf of its Executive:

"Appearance in USA of body styling itself Hebrew Committee National Liberation must be branded as unscrupulous piece of political charlatanism. Its contention that Palestine Jewry is not free to speak out through its elected representatives is preposterous. Overwhelming majority of Palestine Jewish community is democratically organized and represented by its constitutionally established organs which are the elected Assembly and the National Council. These bodies have full freedom to voice the feelings and political aspirations of Palestine Jews and have done so repeatedly in outspoken terms in opposition to present official policy. The rights and interests of the Jewish people as a whole in regard to Palestine are represented by the Jewish Agency for Palestine incorporating the World Zionist Organization. A warning must be addressed to all serious-minded people not to let themselves be misled and confused by freak bodies assuming high sounding titles and enunciating policies for which none but their unrepresentative authors are responsible."

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

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6/2/50

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**MRS. BRANDEIS ATTACKS LEAGUE FOR FREE PALESTINE**

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DECLARES BERGSON GROUP WASN'T AUTHORIZED TO USE HER NAME

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Washington, D. C. -- Mrs. Louis D. Brandeis, wife of the late U. S. Supreme Court Justice and outstanding American Zionist, Louis D. Brandeis, today disclosed that the use of her name on the list of sponsors of the American League for a Free Palestine was "completely unauthorized."

"I want to state categorically that I do not wish my name to be in any way associated with the American League for a Free Palestine, or with the Hebrew Committee of National Liberation or any other group which is not a part of the recognized World Zionist Organization and the Jewish Agency for Palestine; I believe that such organizations defeat the causes they purport to serve, and I do not want to be identified with any of them," Mrs. Brandeis declared in an open letter to Peter Bergson, head of the Hebrew Committee of National Liberation.

During the past few years a number of committees have been established in the United States by Mr. Bergson and his associates. These include the American Friends of a Jewish Palestine, the Committee for a Jewish Army, the Emergency Committee to Save the Jews of Europe, the American League for a Free Palestine and the Hebrew Committee of National Liberation. These groups have been denounced by all recognized Zionist agencies, and by prominent labor leaders in the United States.

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Another protest against the unauthorized use of names by the American League for a Free Palestine was issued yesterday by 46 American rabbis.

The text of Mrs. Brandeis' letter to the League follows:

"I am informed that my name appears on your letter-head as one of the sponsors for your organizing committee. This is to advise you that the use of my name is completely unauthorized. Moreover, I want to state categorically that I do not wish my name to be in any way associated with the American League for a Free Palestine, or with the Hebrew Committee of National Liberation or any other group which is not a part of the recognized World Zionist Organization and the Jewish Agency for Palestine. I believe that such organizations defeat the causes they purport to serve, and I do not wish to be identified with any of them."

#81 - 6/2/44


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

G.O.P. LEADERS DEMAND JEWISH COMMONWEALTH IN PALESTINE

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Chicago --- The Republican National Convention yesterday adopted as part of its 1944 platform a plank calling for the opening of Palestine to unrestricted Jewish immigration and land ownership, "so that in accordance with the full intent and purpose of the Balfour Declaration of 1917 and the Resolution of a Republican Congress in 1922, Palestine may be constituted as a free and democratic Commonwealth."

The G.O.P. Palestine plank represents the first platform reference to Palestine by either major political party.

It was disclosed that Governor Thomas E. Dewey, of New York, leading contender for the G.O.P. presidential nomination, had given the plank his unequivocal endorsement and had sent messages urging its passage to members of the Resolutions Committee. Senator Robert A. Taft, of Ohio, Chairman of the Resolutions Committee led the drive in the convention in behalf of the plank. Senator Taft is co-sponsor with Senator Robert F. Wagner (D., N.Y.) of the pending Senate's resolution demanding a Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine.

Other Resolutions Committee members and delegates who were active in bringing about passage of the Palestine resolution were Senator Warren Austin of Vermont, Kenneth S. Macaffer of New York, Mary Donlon of New York, William L. Hatcherson of Indiana, Alfred M. London, of Kansas and Mrs. Ruth Hanna McCormick Simms of New Mexico. Leaders of the Dewey high command at the convention -- the New York Governor's Attorney General, Nathaniel L. Goldstein, John Dulles, Mr. Dewey's personal adviser on foreign affairs, and Herbert Brownell, Mr. Dewey's campaign manager -- worked actively for the plank.

Hailing the G.O.P. action as "a major victory for the forces of humanitarianism," Attorney General Goldstein declared that "here is the imperious call to the

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civilized world to honor its engagements, to enthrone what is right and what is decent, to vindicate the lawful and honest claim of a martyred people."

The text of the plank follows:

"In order to give refuge to millions of distressed Jewish men, women and children driven from their homes by tyranny, we call for the opening of Palestine to their unrestricted immigration and land ownership, so that in accordance with the full intent and purpose of the Balfour Declaration of 1917 and the Resolution of a Republican Congress in 1922, Palestine may be constituted as a free and democratic Commonwealth. We condemn the failure of the President to insist that the mandatory of Palestine carry out the provision of the Balfour Declaration and of the Mandate while he pretends to support them."

6/28/44



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMERICAN ZIONISTS HAIL GOP DEMAND

FOR FREE JEWISH PALESTINE

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New York --- The American Zionist Emergency Council, meeting on Monday, July 10, hailed with satisfaction the section in the plank on Palestine which was included in the Republican Party platform adopted at its recent convention in Chicago, in which the Republican Party calls for the opening of Palestine to unrestricted Jewish immigration and land ownership, so that, in accordance with the full intent and purpose of the Balfour Declaration of 1917 and the resolution unanimously adopted by the Congress of the United States in 1922, Palestine might be constituted as a free and democratic Commonwealth.

It recorded its gratification that the just and historic claims of the Jewish people to Palestine have been acknowledged by one of the major political parties of our country, and that the traditional attitude of friendship on the part of the American people toward the Jewish National Home has thus been again reaffirmed.

The American Zionist Emergency Council expressed the hope that a similar resolution would also be adopted by the forthcoming convention of the Democratic Party.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WISE PLEADS FOR PALESTINE PLANK IN DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

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Chicago — Rabbi Stephen S. Wise of New York, co-chairman of the American Zionist Emergency Council, which includes all major Zionist bodies, and one of the three co-chairmen of the American Jewish Conference representing some 3 million Jews, president of the American and World Jewish Congress founded by Justice Brandeis, made the following statement on Monday evening, July 17, at the Hotel Stevens, Chicago, Ill., before the Resolutions Committee of the Democratic National Convention.

Text of Resolution

"From the days of Woodrow Wilson and throughout the administration of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, it has been the policy of the Democratic Party to support the full implementation of the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate over Palestine. In the light of that historic policy and the uprooting and homelessness of millions of Jews in European lands, we call for the opening of Palestine to unrestricted Jewish immigration and colonization; and, in accordance with the full intent and purpose of the said covenant made with the Jewish people, the establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth, in which all the inhabitants shall have equal civic, religious, and cultural rights, and in which the Holy places of all faiths shall be fully safeguarded."

After reading the above Resolution, submitted by the American Zionist Emergency Council, which Dr. Wise represents, he said:

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"I speak for what has become a great tradition of the Democratic Party, initiated by Woodrow Wilson and continued through the years by Franklin Delano Roosevelt. This is a precious and historic policy which dare not be abandoned at a time when it has become virtually the only hope of European Jews facing extermination. Our Secretary of State, the Honorable Cordell Hull, declared on Friday: 'Reliable reports from Hungary have confirmed news of mass killing of Jews by the Nazis and their Quislings. The entire Jewish community in Hungary, which number nearly 1 million souls, is threatened with extermination' -- extermination in the hideous and hellish Nazi gas chambers in Poland to which these are being deported.

"I speak not only for a vastly overwhelming majority of the 5 million Jews of America, but in addition, for many millions of Christians of all churches who wish Jews to have a national home in Palestine. The National Conference on Palestine, made up altogether of Christian men and women, recently declared in Washington: 'We join with millions of other American Christians in expressing our horror that the appalling assault against the Jewish people continues unabated. In a decade scarred by the sadism of Hitler, the mass destruction of the Jewish people has gone on unflinchingly We therefore reaffirm our faith in the spirit as well as the letter of the Balfour Declaration, and ask for maximum Jewish immigration into Palestine and full opportunity for colonization and economic development. We reaffirm the traditional policy of our Government and ask for all effective measures, to the end that Palestine may be reconstituted by the Jewish people as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth.'

"The Democratic Party and the Administration have through the War Refugee Board set out to save the endangered refugees. The President has called for the creation of a Free Port for Refugees, 1000 in all, but many hundreds of thousands still remain in Hitler's Europe to be saved. Only Palestine, the Jewish National Home, can save them -- little Palestine, which since 1939 has given shelter and abiding home to tens of thousands.

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"Members of the Resolutions Committee, one wishes at a time like this to speak well within the limits of moderation. And yet I cannot help or avoid saying to you that the Convention resolutions without such a plank as we have asked would be regarded as another White Paper, and would bring grimaced disappointment and heartbreaking disillusionment to Jews throughout the world. These have only the democratic countries in which to live and Palestine in which to rebuild their shattered but unconquered lives.

"Members of the Resolutions Committee, may I be forgiven a moment's personal reference. I was a member of the Republican Party until 1911, when I became the follower of Woodrow Wilson, as I have remained a follower of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. For a whole generation and more, I have labored for the honor of your great Party. I ask of you now, who am resolved to continue the support of the Party of Wilson and Roosevelt, that I be not disarmed. It is our Party, which through Wilson, helped to make the Balfour Declaration possible. It is our Party, which under Wilson and Roosevelt alike, always favored fullest implementation thereof. I have never asked aught for myself. I ask nothing even for my fellow Jews. But for the honor of the Democratic Party, and in order that it may be true to its great tradition of democratic service to all peoples, I beseech you to include within your resolutions the plank on Palestine which I have read to you.

"For some years I have earnestly and, alas, in vain, pleaded with the Christian world -- its people and its nation -- to let my people go. Even as Moses pleaded with King Pharaoh. For my fellow Jews were caught and trapped and all but exterminated, and millions of them -- civilians -- have perished. Tonight, I beseech you, trustees and guardians of the Democratic Party, as did the Hebrew Prophet of old -- the Prophet whose words will be read in every undestroyed synagogue next Sabbath morning: Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people, they who live and have not died will again take heart and courage -- and great shall be your reward."

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Following Dr. Wise's statement, Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the Zionist Organization of America, made a brief plea for the inclusion of a Palestine plank in the Democratic platform. Dr. Goldstein emphasized that the Palestine plank included in the 1944 Republican platform had made a strong impression among American Jews, and urged the Democratic Party to equal, if not surpass, the Republican declaration on Palestine.

Also appearing with Dr. Wise in behalf of the Resolution were Herman Shulman of New York, Congressman Sabath of Illinois, Judge Louis E. Levinthal of Philadelphia, and Judge Harry M. Fisher of Chicago.

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#90 - 7/18/44



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DR. WISE HAILS PALESTINE PLANK IN DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

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Chicago -- Dr. Stephen S. Wise, a chairman of the American Zionist Emergency Council, today hailed the Palestine plank included in the platform of the Democratic National Convention as "a message of hope" to the Jewish people.

In a statement issued here, Dr. Wise expressed confidence that the plank "will speedily be translated by definitive action into the fulfillment of the age-old aspirations of the Jewish people."

The text of Dr. Wise's statement follows:

"My associates and I welcome the adoption of the Palestine plank in the platform of the Democratic National Convention, reading as follows:

'We favor the opening of Palestine to unrestricted Jewish immigration and colonization, and such a policy as to result in the establishment there of a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth.'

"We are grateful to the leaders of the Democratic Party, including the co-chairmen of the Committee on Resolutions, the Honorable John W. McCormack and the Honorable Mary T. Norton, and the distinguished leaders of both Houses of Congress who served on the Committee, in addition to the veteran Liberal, the Honorable Josephus Daniels. The Convention delegates, representing the conviction of the American people, adopted the Resolution with enthusiasm and unanimity. By this act, the Democratic Party once again reaffirms the historic policy of Woodrow Wilson and Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

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"When we appeared before the Committee on Platform, I urged upon its members that they speak a word of comfort to our unhappy fellow-Jews throughout the world. This message of hope, which will bring solace and heartening to them that have too long sat in darkness, will, I am confident, speedily be translated by definitive action into the fulfillment of the age-old aspirations of the Jewish people."

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#94 - 7/20/44



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EMERGENCY COUNCIL SAYS ZIONISM IS

"DECLARED OBJECTIVE IN POSTWAR PROGRAM OF U.S."

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ASSERTS BOTH MAJOR PARTIES NOW ENDORSE ZIONIST PROGRAM

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New York —The American Zionist Emergency Council, whose co-chairmen are Dr. Abba Hillel Silver of Cleveland and Dr. Stephen S. Wise of New York, today declared that "with both major political parties giving their unqualified endorsement to the Jewish people's efforts to rebuild their national life in Palestine, Zionism is now a declared objective in the postwar program of the United States."

In a formal statement issued here, the Council, which speaks for all major Zionist bodies in the United States, hailed the plank on Palestine included in the platform of the Democratic National Convention as "an act of statesmanship which will be hailed by friends of the Zionist movement throughout the world."

The plank favors "the opening of Palestine to unrestricted Jewish immigration and colonization, and such a policy as to result in the establishment there of a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth."

Pointing out that this "historic declaration" followed a similar pronouncement by the Republican National Convention, the Council said: "It is a clear-cut expression of the friendship which Americans have always felt for Zionist aims."

The text of the Council's statement follows:

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"The plank included in the platform of the Democratic National Convention which favors 'the opening of Palestine to unrestricted Jewish immigration and colonization, and such a policy as to result in the establishment there of a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth' is an act of statesmanship which will be hailed by friends of the Zionist movement throughout the world.

"This historic declaration, which followed a similar pronouncement by the Republican National Convention, represents another reaffirmation of America's traditional position on the Palestine question. It is a clear-cut expression of the friendship which Americans have always felt for Zionist aims. The Democratic Party, whose leader, President Roosevelt, has declared that 'the American Government has never given its approval to the White Paper of 1939...and when future decisions are reached, full justice will be done to those who seek a Jewish National Home,' is now on record in favor of the full Zionist program.

"With both major political parties giving their unqualified endorsement to the Jewish people's efforts to rebuild their national life in Palestine, Zionism is now a declared objective in the postwar program of the United States. We trust that the time of fulfillment is close at hand."

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New York -- Dean Alfange, leader of the Liberal Party in New York State, in announcing his resignation as co-chairman of the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe, today authorized the American Zionist Emergency Council to release the following statement:

"While I fully sympathize with the humanitarian purposes of the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe, I do not approve of its political affiliations. Though I am a Christian, I have been a life-long Zionist and am a firm believer in the political aims of Zionism as exemplified by the World Zionist movement headed by Dr. Chaim Weizmann. I believe that the most effective way of eradicating anti-Semitism is by creating an independent Jewish State in Palestine through which the Jewish people can express themselves on equal terms with the other peoples of the world.

"Lack of statehood implies lack of equality which, in turn, leads to world-wide discrimination. Zionism is therefore the means of attacking anti-Semitism at its source and should be supported by all liberal-thinking citizens irrespective of their faiths."

The American Zionist Emergency Council speaks for all major Zionist bodies in the United States, and is headed by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver of Cleveland and Dr. Stephen S. Wise of New York, co-chairmen.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHRISTIAN COUNCIL ON PALESTINE, IN YOM KIPPUR MESSAGE,

PLEDGES AID IN STRUGGLE FOR JEWISH HOMELAND

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New York — A Yom Kippur message expressing "oneness with the Jewish people in all their hopes and aspirations" was received today by Dr. Stephen S. Wise and Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, co-chairmen of the American Zionist Emergency Council, from the Christian Council on Palestine, which represents two thousand Christian ministers and religious educators.

Signed by Dr. Henry A. Atkinson, chairman, and Dr. Carl Hermann Voss, executive secretary of the Christian Council, the message said: "We know that throughout the entire Christian world there are tens of thousands of fellow ministers and many hundreds of thousands of our co-religionists who, with us, stand aghast before the spectacle of the unspeakably cruel tortures which have been visited upon your people. Now that victory is in sight, we anticipate the day when justice will again reign supreme and your people will once more live in complete dignity and integrity.

"In the Christian Council on Palestine our efforts are centered upon the tremendous problems which face the Jewish people, especially the lack of a refuge for the millions who wander homeless and stateless across the war-ravaged continent of Europe. We are throwing all our strength into the struggle to insure the establishment and maintenance of Palestine as a National Homeland for the Jewish people. This we do because of our concern for the cruelties and the indignities which your people have suffered for far too many years, but we do it also because of the incalculable debt we owe for the contribution Judaism has made to our Christian heritage."

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHURCHILL PRAISED BY AMERICAN ZIONIST LEADERS FOR AIDING ESTABLISHMENT OF JEWISH BRIGADE GROUP

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New York -- Prime Minister Winston Churchill's statement in the House of Commons yesterday on the formation of a Jewish Brigade Group was hailed today by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Co-Chairmen of the American Zionist Emergency Council. In a cable sent on behalf of the Zionists of America, Dr. Silver and Dr. Wise thanked Mr. Churchill for his "personal share" in bringing about the establishment of the Brigade Group.

The text of the Zionist leaders' cable to Mr. Churchill follows:

"Speaking on behalf of the Zionists of America, we wish to give expression to the deep gratification evoked by the announcement of the establishment of the Jewish Brigade Group. We thank you warmly for your personal share in this decision, and desire to express also our appreciation of the terms of your statement yesterday in the House of Commons in referring to the sufferings of European Jewry and to the moral justification for granting representation to a distinctive Jewish formation which will participate in the final overthrow of the Nazis. We tender to you the expression of our deep respect and admiration."

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#111 - 9/29/44

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NOT TO BE RELEASED UNTIL
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12th

NEW BOOK SHOWS CONGRESS IS OVERWHELMINGLY IN FAVOR OF ZIONIST PROGRAM

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DOCUMENTED RECORD OF U. S. FRIENDSHIP FOR JEWISH PALESTINE ISSUED TODAY

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New York — A volume containing endorsements of Jewish aspirations in Palestine by more than 400 members of the Senate and House of Representatives — 7⁷/₈ of the United States Congress — was issued for the first time at a press conference here today by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Executive Committee Chairman of the American Zionist Emergency Council.

Entitled "America and Palestine," the book, a 500-page volume, has been published and is being distributed by the Council, which is leading the drive to bring about the repeal of the British White Paper policy for Palestine and the establishment of that country as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth.

"America and Palestine" is a documented history of the American Government's traditional policy of friendship for the Zionist program from the first World War up to the present time. Beginning with President Wilson's Declaration in 1919 that "the Allied nations, with the fullest concurrence of our Government and people, are agreed that in Palestine shall be laid the foundations of a Jewish Commonwealth," the book includes all official pronouncements on the Palestine question by the Executive and Legislative branches of the American Government up to and including the present administration. It also contains statements by many Governors, State Legislatures and prominent figures in American public life.

"This volume has great political and historical significance," Dr. Silver declared. "It will serve as a permanent record of the Seventy-Eighth Congress'

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wholehearted endorsement of Zionist aims. Readers of this book — Government officials and the general public alike — cannot fail to be impressed by the vigorous tone of these statements by our elected representatives, and by the fact that there is here remarkable agreement among the leaders of both major political parties," he said.

Recalling that in 1922 the Sixty-Seventh Congress of the United States, by unanimous action, passed a Joint Resolution which declared that "The United States of America favors the establishment in Palestine of a National Home for the Jewish people," Dr. Silver asserted that in January and February of this year Congress moved to reaffirm this traditional policy when Senators Robert F. Wagner (D., N.Y.) and Robert A. Taft (R., Ohio) and Representatives James A. Wright (D., Pa.) and Ranulf Compton (R., Conn.) introduced resolutions urging "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."

"While action on the Palestine resolutions was deferred at the request of the military, there can be no doubt that they will pass overwhelmingly when the proper time comes — and it is not far off now," Dr. Silver declared. "Certainly the hundreds of strong declarations contained in this book, which denounce the restrictive policy of the British White Paper of 1939, which demand unrestricted immigration of Jews into Palestine and the establishment there of a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth — these magnificent utterances by America's statesmen are eloquent proof of Congress' desire to act as speedily as possible on this pressing question which affects the future of an entire people," he added.

"America and Palestine" includes, in addition to the statements by members of Congress, President Roosevelt's notable declaration of March 9th 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

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seek a Jewish National Home."

Highlighted in the book are the pro-Palestine planks included in the platforms of both the Republican and Democratic Parties. The plank adopted on June 27, 1944 by the Republican National Convention reads as follows:

"In order to give refuge to millions of distressed Jewish men, women and children driven from their homes by tyranny, we call for the opening of Palestine to their unrestricted immigration and land ownership, so that in accordance with the full intent and purpose of the Balfour Declaration of 1917 and the Resolution of a Republican Congress in 1922, Palestine may be constituted as a free and democratic Commonwealth..."

The Democratic National Convention included the following declaration in its platform three weeks later, on July 20th:

"We favor the opening of Palestine to unrestricted Jewish immigration and colonization, and such a policy as to result in the establishment there of a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth."

The book also contains the texts of resolutions condemning the White Paper policy and urging support for a Jewish Palestine which have been passed by the Legislatures of nineteen states, comprising approximately 60% of the country's population. These states are Alabama, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia and Washington.

The following statements are typical of the hundreds of declarations which members of Congress authorized the American Zionist Emergency Council to include in the volume:

Senator Owen Brewster (R., Mo.) -- " ... The complete unanimity of support for the Coolidge Convention of 1924 between the United States and Great Britain, covering the guarantees made by Great Britain to the United States concerning a Jewish National Home in Palestine indicates general recognition of the soundness of the Zionist program. ... Two powerful and impelling motives combine to encourage American support for a Jewish National Home in Palestine -- first, as a haven for persecuted Jews from other parts of the world, and second, as a valuable asset in

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the development of American foreign policy."

Senator Harry F. Byrd (D., Va.) — "I wish to express my interest in the movement to establish Palestine as a permanent homeland for the Jews. In these years of unprecedented tragedy, the untold hardship and suffering of European Jewry, it is fitting, I think, that Jewish immigration be allowed to continue into Palestine, where the Jews may live as free men, with the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. I am heartily in favor of this movement and shall support all proper measures toward the development of Palestine as a Jewish National Homeland."

Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg (R., Mich.) — "There can be no doubt in anybody's mind regarding my attitude toward the Jewish National Home in Palestine. I have long been associated with the organizations supporting this great objective. I continue to believe that the Jewish National Home represents one of the greatest of all major ideals in international justice and humanity. Regardless of race, religion or creed it cannot fail to claim the fidelity of those who love their fellow men and who pray for peace with justice in this war-torn world."

Senator Claude Pepper (D., Fla.) — "We are learning through hard and bitter experience that peace is indivisible. We are learning another lesson as well, that so long as freedom is imperiled in any one part of the globe, it is threatened everywhere. To this we must now add the proposition that national security, which is the logical outgrowth and blessing of peace and freedom is indivisible as well. So long as any group anywhere in the world suffers from the inability to fulfill its destiny in nationhood, so long shall peaceful and free nationhood be threatened everywhere. The Jewish people have earned the right to peaceful and free nationhood. They cannot be stopped from attaining it."

Representative Joseph W. Martin, Jr. (House Minority Leader) — "Plain justice should prompt us to keep faith with the Jewish people and permit the building of a Jewish homeland in Palestine. Following the war the Jewish people must find a haven where they can have happiness and security. Unquestionably

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Palestine will be the one place capable of absorbing large numbers. Palestine through years of preparation has been made ready for the emergency which now exists. It would be unfortunate if the great humanitarian movement which prompted its birth should be interrupted. We must not allow it to happen."

Representative John W. McCormack (House Majority Leader) -- "Indeed, if over there was a need for a National Home for the Jewish people, it is now when tens of thousands of helpless men, women and children are trying to escape with their lives from the diabolical massacre at Hitler's foul hands. Their entire hope is centered on Palestine -- the land pledged to them as their National Home. I should like to reiterate the convictions which I have entertained for a long time that the problem of Jewish homelessness can never be solved right unless a place of equality and dignity is granted to the Jewish people through the reconstitution of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth. ... "

Representative Clare Boothe Luce (R., Conn.) -- " ... There is a land which historically belongs to the Jews, but was lost to the military power of more aggressive nations. Now the Jews are scattered all over the world, their families broken by the war, their spirits crushed by Nazi brutality. Alone they do not have the strength to regain what is rightfully theirs. They must have the active help of those who, even though they have never experienced homelessness, can at least understand, from the lesson of their forefathers, the commendable desire for independence and freedom under a national flag. It is hoped that this year, which begins so darkly for the Jews, will end with the first tangible hope that these unfortunate people have known for centuries. It is to be hoped that the splendid example of fortitude which the Jews have set in this last decade of incredible suffering will win them not just sympathizers -- but supporters -- men who will stand at their side in the struggle to attain that one thing so cherished by all mankind -- a home."

Representative George E. Outland (D., Calif.) -- "It is peculiarly fitting that Palestine Jewry should today be in a position to offer safety to persecuted

(more)

Jews in Europe. It was in order to solve the millennial problems of Jewish homelessness that the nations of the world determined to re-establish a National Home for the Jews in their ancient country, Palestine. The purpose of the Palestine Mandate is still far from achieved. In the over-all aggregate of Jews admitted from Hitler-dominated Europe, little Palestine still stands ahead of our own country. ... One cannot but feel its relation to that other great historic task which we once before undertook, and which we must at this moment reaffirm -- that of enabling the Jewish people to resume a normal process of living in a land of its own."

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#110 - 10/12/44



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

New York — More than 400 members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives — 77% of the 78th Congress — have gone on record in support of Jewish aspirations in Palestine, it was disclosed today by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Executive Committee Chairman of the American Zionist Emergency Council, who made public the results of a poll of Congressional opinion taken by the Council.

Dr. Silver revealed that out of a total of 395 statements by members of Congress which the Council was authorized to include in its book, "America and Palestine," only 18 are opposed to immediate action on the Palestine question. Eight of these, however, approve Zionist aims. Sixteen additional endorsements of the Zionist program, not included in the book, bring the number of Senators and Representatives who have gone on record in favor of a Jewish Palestine to 401, Dr. Silver pointed out.

An analysis of the 395 statements published by the Council indicates that support of the Zionist program is bi-partisan. The book contains statements by 77 Senators. Of this number, 49 are Democrats, 27 are Republicans, and 1 is Progressive. Of the 318 Representatives whose declarations appear in the volume, 156 are Democrats, 159 are Republicans, 2 are Progressives and 1 is American Labor Party.

On the basis of this expression and the strong pro-Palestine planks adopted by the Republican and Democratic parties at their national conventions, Dr. Silver called for positive action by the national Administration to help liquidate the British White Paper of 1939, open the doors of Palestine to Jewish mass immigration and the development of that country as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth.

"America and Palestine" is a 500-page volume which records the sympathetic

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position of Congress and which documents the traditional American policy of friendship for the Zionist program from World War I to the present day. The book, which was made public by Dr. Silver today, has been published by the Council, which is leading the fight against the British White Paper and for the re-establishment of Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth.

These objectives are embodied in the Wagner-Taft and Wright-Compton resolutions which have been pending in Congress since their introduction last February. Action on these resolutions was deferred in the spring at the request of the military authorities.

Dr. Silver declared today that in view of the pro-Zionist planks included in the Republican and Democratic platforms, and in view of the statements by the Congressmen, "there can be no doubt that the resolutions pending in Congress will pass overwhelmingly when the proper time comes -- and that time is not far off." Dr. Silver pointed out that "the military situation has changed radically since the spring. The war has moved away, not only from the Near East, but almost from the whole Mediterranean basin."

"Certainly," he added, "these magnificent utterances by American statesmen and political leaders, and President Roosevelt's notable declaration of March 9th that 'full justice will be done to those who seek a Jewish National Home,' are eloquent proof that the nation favors early action to speed fulfillment of Jewish hopes in Palestine. They constitute a clear mandate to the Government to act positively and decisively in a matter which affects the future of an entire people. The time for such action is now."

The recognition of the independence of Syria and Lebanon, Dr. Silver pointed out, did not wait for the end of the war. "Decisions vitally affecting the future of the Near East are being made now, but nothing of importance has been done as yet regarding the problems of European Jewry and the problem of

(more)

Palestine, which are intimately related. Of the 75,000 certificates authorized under the White Paper, all but 10,000 have been exhausted. The number of homeless and stateless Jewish refugees in recently liberated countries who are eager to go to Palestine exceeds by far the 10,000 unused permits, and these are being doled out in dribblets. The problem is becoming more acute daily as the Allied Armies advance. It cannot wait," he added.

"America and Palestine" includes all official pronouncements on the Palestine question by the Executive and Legislative branches of the American Government up to and including the present Administration. It also contains the texts of resolutions condemning the White Paper policy and urging support for a Jewish Palestine which have been passed by the Legislatures of nineteen states, comprising approximately 60% of the country's population. These states are Alabama, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia and Washington.

The following statements are typical of those appearing in the volume:

Senator Owen Brewster (R. Mo.) -- " ... The complete unanimity of support for the Coolidge Convention of 1924 between the United States and Great Britain covering the guarantees made by Great Britain to the United States concerning a Jewish National Home in Palestine indicates general recognition of the soundness of the Zionist program. ... Two powerful and impelling motives combine to encourage American support for a Jewish National Home in Palestine -- first, as a haven for persecuted Jews from other parts of the world, and second, as a valuable asset in the development of American foreign policy."

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Senator Harry F. Byrd (D., Va.) --- "I wish to express my interest in the movement to establish Palestine as a permanent homeland for the Jews. In these years of unprecedented tragedy, the untold hardship and suffering of European Jewry, it is fitting, I think, that Jewish immigration be allowed to continue into Palestine, where the Jews may live as free men, with the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. I am heartily in favor of this movement and shall support all proper measures toward the development of Palestine as a Jewish National Homeland."

Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg (R., Mich.) --- "There can be no doubt in anybody's mind regarding my attitude toward the Jewish National Home in Palestine. I have long been associated with the organizations supporting this great objective. I continue to believe that the Jewish National Home represents one of the greatest of all major ideals in international justice and humanity. Regardless of race, religion or creed it cannot fail to claim the fidelity of those who love their fellow-men and who pray for peace with justice in this war-torn world."

Senator Claude Pepper (D., Fla.) --- "We are learning through hard and bitter experience that peace is indivisible. We are learning another lesson as well, that so long as freedom is imperiled in any one part of the globe, it is threatened everywhere. To this we must now add the proposition that national security, which is the logical outgrowth and blessing of peace and freedom is indivisible as well. So long as any group anywhere in the world suffers from the inability to fulfill its destiny in nationhood, so long shall peaceful and free nationhood be threatened everywhere. The Jewish people have earned the right to peaceful and free nationhood. They cannot be stopped from attaining it."

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Representative Joseph W. Martin, Jr. (House Minority Leader) -- "Plain justice should prompt us to keep faith with the Jewish people and permit the building of a Jewish homeland in Palestine. Following the war the Jewish people must find a haven where they can have happiness and security. Unquestionably Palestine will be the one place capable of absorbing large numbers. Palestine through years of preparation has been made ready for the emergency which now exists. It would be unfortunate if the great humanitarian movement which prompted its birth should be interrupted. We must not allow it to happen."

Representative John W. McCormack (House Majority Leader) -- "Indeed, if ever there was a need for a National Home for the Jewish people, it is now when tens of thousands of helpless men, women and children are trying to escape with their lives from the diabolical massacre at Hitler's foul hands. Their entire hope is centered on Palestine -- the land pledged to them as their National Home. I should like to reiterate the convictions which I have entertained for a long time that the problem of Jewish homelessness can never be solved right unless a place of equality and dignity is granted to the Jewish people through the reconstitution of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth. ..."

Representative Clare Boothe Luce (R., Conn.) -- "... There is a land which historically belongs to the Jews, but was lost to the military power of more aggressive nations. Now the Jews are scattered all over the world, their families broken by the war, their spirits crushed by Nazi brutality. Alone they do not have the strength to regain what is rightfully theirs. They must have the active help of those who, even though they have never experienced homelessness, can at least understand, from the lesson of their forefathers, the commendable desire for independence and freedom under a national flag. It is hoped that this year, which begins so darkly for the Jews, will end with the first tangible hope that these unfortunate people have known for centuries. It is to be hoped that the splendid example of fortitude which the Jews have set in this

(more)

last decade of incredible suffering will win them not just sympathizers -- but supporters -- men who will stand at their side in the struggle to attain that one thing so cherished by all mankind -- a home."

Representative George E. Outland (D., Calif.) -- "It is peculiarly fitting that Palestine Jewry should today be in a position to offer safety to persecuted Jews in Europe. It was in order to solve the millennial problems of Jewish homelessness that the nations of the world determined to re-establish a National Home for the Jews in their ancient country, Palestine. The purpose of the Palestine Mandate is still far from achieved. In the over-all aggregate of Jews admitted from Hitler-dominated Europe, little Palestine still stands ahead of our own country. ...One cannot but feel its relation to that other great historic task which we once before undertook, and which we must at this moment reaffirm -- that of enabling the Jewish people to resume a normal process of living in a land of its own."

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

RETURN TO FILES

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NOT TO BE RELEASED UNTIL
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12th

NEW BOOK SHOWS CONGRESS IS OVERWHELMINGLY IN FAVOR OF ZIONIST PROGRAM

DOCUMENTED RECORD OF U. S. FRIENDSHIP FOR JEWISH PALESTINE ISSUED TODAY

New York — A volume containing endorsements of Jewish aspirations in Palestine by more than 400 members of the Senate and House of Representatives — 77% of the United States Congress — was issued for the first time at a press conference here today by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Executive Committee Chairman of the American Zionist Emergency Council.

Entitled "America and Palestine," the book, a 500-page volume, has been published and is being distributed by the Council, which is leading the drive to bring about the repeal of the British White Paper policy for Palestine and the establishment of that country as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth.

"America and Palestine" is a documented history of the American Government's traditional policy of friendship for the Zionist program from the first World War up to the present time. Beginning with President Wilson's Declaration in 1919 that "the Allied nations, with the fullest concurrence of our Government and people, are agreed that in Palestine shall be laid the foundations of a Jewish Commonwealth," the book includes all official pronouncements on the Palestine question by the Executive and Legislative branches of the American Government up to and including the present administration. It also contains statements by many Governors, State Legislatures and prominent figures in American public life.

"This volume has great political and historical significance," Dr. Silver declared. "It will serve as a permanent record of the Seventy-Eighth Congress'

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wholehearted endorsement of Zionist aims. Readers of this book -- Government officials and the general public alike -- cannot fail to be impressed by the vigorous tone of these statements by our elected representatives, and by the fact that there is here remarkable agreement among the leaders of both major political parties," he said.

Recalling that in 1922 the Sixty-Seventh Congress of the United States, by unanimous action, passed a Joint Resolution which declared that "The United States of America favors the establishment in Palestine of a National Home for the Jewish people," Dr. Silver asserted that in January and February of this year Congress moved to reaffirm this traditional policy when Senators Robert F. Wagner (D., N.Y.) and Robert A. Taft (R., Ohio) and Representatives James A. Wright (D., Pa.) and Ranulf Compton (R., Conn.) introduced resolutions urging "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."

"While action on the Palestine resolutions was deferred at the request of the military, there can be no doubt that they will pass overwhelmingly when the proper time comes -- and it is not far off now," Dr. Silver declared. "Certainly the hundreds of strong declarations contained in this book, which denounce the restrictive policy of the British White Paper of 1939, which demand unrestricted immigration of Jews into Palestine and the establishment there of a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth -- these magnificent utterances by America's statesmen are eloquent proof of Congress' desire to act as speedily as possible on this pressing question which affects the future of an entire people," he added.

"America and Palestine" includes, in addition to the statements by members of Congress, President Roosevelt's notable declaration of March 9th 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

(more)

seek a Jewish National Home."

Highlighted in the book are the pro-Palestine planks included in the platforms of both the Republican and Democratic Parties. The plank adopted on June 27, 1944 by the Republican National Convention reads as follows:

"In order to give refuge to millions of distressed Jewish men, women and children driven from their homes by tyranny, we call for the opening of Palestine to their unrestricted immigration and land ownership, so that in accordance with the full intent and purpose of the Balfour Declaration of 1917 and the Resolution of a Republican Congress in 1922, Palestine may be constituted as a free and democratic Commonwealth..."

The Democratic National Convention included the following declaration in its platform three weeks later, on July 20th:

"We favor the opening of Palestine to unrestricted Jewish immigration and colonization, and such a policy as to result in the establishment there of a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth."

The book also contains the texts of resolutions condemning the White Paper policy and urging support for a Jewish Palestine which have been passed by the Legislatures of nineteen states, comprising approximately 60% of the country's population. These states are Alabama, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia and Washington.

The following statements are typical of the hundreds of declarations which members of Congress authorized the American Zionist Emergency Council to include in the volume:

Senator Owen Brewster (R., Me.) -- " ... The complete unanimity of support for the Coolidge Convention of 1924 between the United States and Great Britain, covering the guarantees made by Great Britain to the United States concerning a Jewish National Home in Palestine indicates general recognition of the soundness of the Zionist program. ... Two powerful and impelling motives combine to encourage American support for a Jewish National Home in Palestine -- first, as a haven for persecuted Jews from other parts of the world, and second, as a valuable asset in

(more)

the development of American foreign policy."

Senator Harry F. Byrd (D., Va.) -- "I wish to express my interest in the movement to establish Palestine as a permanent homeland for the Jews. In these years of unprecedented tragedy, the untold hardship and suffering of European Jewry, it is fitting, I think, that Jewish immigration be allowed to continue into Palestine, where the Jews may live as free men, with the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. I am heartily in favor of this movement and shall support all proper measures toward the development of Palestine as a Jewish National Homeland."

Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg (R., Mich.) -- "There can be no doubt in anybody's mind regarding my attitude toward the Jewish National Home in Palestine. I have long been associated with the organizations supporting this great objective. I continue to believe that the Jewish National Home represents one of the greatest of all major ideals in international justice and humanity. Regardless of race, religion or creed it cannot fail to claim the fidelity of those who love their fellow men and who pray for peace with justice in this war-torn world."

Senator Claude Pepper (D., Fla.) -- "We are learning through hard and bitter experience that peace is indivisible. We are learning another lesson as well, that so long as freedom is imperiled in any one part of the globe, it is threatened everywhere. To this we must now add the proposition that national security, which is the logical outgrowth and blessing of peace and freedom is indivisible as well. So long as any group anywhere in the world suffers from the inability to fulfill its destiny in nationhood, so long shall peaceful and free nationhood be threatened everywhere. The Jewish people have earned the right to peaceful and free nationhood. They cannot be stopped from attaining it."

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Palestine will be the one place capable of absorbing large numbers. Palestine through years of preparation has been made ready for the emergency which now exists. It would be unfortunate if the great humanitarian movement which prompted its birth should be interrupted. We must not allow it to happen."

Representative John W. McCormack (House Majority Leader) -- "Indeed, if ever there was a need for a National Home for the Jewish people, it is now when tens of thousands of helpless men, women and children are trying to escape with their lives from the diabolical massacre at Hitler's foul hands. Their entire hope is centered on Palestine -- the land pledged to them as their National Home. I should like to reiterate the convictions which I have entertained for a long time that the problem of Jewish homelessness can never be solved right unless a place of equality and dignity is granted to the Jewish people through the reconstitution of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth. ... "

Representative Clare Boothe Luce (R., Conn.) -- " ... There is a land which historically belongs to the Jews, but was lost to the military power of more aggressive nations. Now the Jews are scattered all over the world, their families broken by the war, their spirits crushed by Nazi brutality. Alone they do not have the strength to regain what is rightfully theirs. They must have the active help of those who, even though they have never experienced homelessness, can at least understand, from the lesson of their forefathers, the commendable desire for independence and freedom under a national flag. It is hoped that this year, which begins so darkly for the Jews, will end with the first tangible hope that these unfortunate people have known for centuries. It is to be hoped that the splendid example of fortitude which the Jews have set in this last decade of incredible suffering will win them not just sympathizers -- but supporters -- men who will stand at their side in the struggle to attain that one thing so cherished by all mankind -- a home."

Representative George E. Outland (D., Calif.) -- "It is peculiarly fitting that Palestine Jewry should today be in a position to offer safety to persecuted

(more)

Jews in Europe. It was in order to solve the millennial problems of Jewish homelessness that the nations of the world determined to re-establish a National Home for the Jews in their ancient country, Palestine. The purpose of the Palestine Mandate is still far from achieved. In the over-all aggregate of Jews admitted from Hitler-dominated Europe, little Palestine still stands ahead of our own country. ... One cannot but feel its relation to that other great historic task which we once before undertook, and which we must at this moment reaffirm -- that of enabling the Jewish people to resume a normal process of living in a land of its own."

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BEN GURION HAILS ROOSEVELT'S "HISTORIC DECLARATION"

FAVORING JEWISH COMMONWEALTH

— — — — —

JEWISH AGENCY HEAD CONGRATULATES DR. SILVER AND DR. WISE

— — — — —

New York — Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Stephen S. Wise, co-chairmen of the American Zionist Emergency Council, today received the "sincerest congratulations" of the Executive of the Jewish Agency for Palestine and of the Jewish community of Palestine for President Roosevelt's "historic declaration" of October 15th, 1944 favoring the establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth.

Cabling to Dr. Silver and Dr. Wise from Jerusalem, David Ben Gurion, chairman of the Executive of the Jewish Agency, expressed the hope that the President's statement is "the voice of the American conscience and sense of justice, which may soon become the voice of entire civilized humanity.

"American Zionism deserves well of the Jewish people. I hope you both and all friends will live to see the fulfillment of this declaration," Mr. Ben Gurion's cable concluded.

The text of the cable follows:

"Sincerest congratulations of the Executive of the Jewish Agency and of the Jewish community of Palestine for the historic declaration by your great President favoring unrestricted Jewish immigration and colonization and a policy resulting in the establishment of a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth. I trust this to be the voice of the American conscience and sense of justice which may soon become the voice of entire civilized humanity. American Zionism deserves well of the Jewish people. I hope you both and all friends will live to see the fulfillment of this declaration."

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PRESS RELEASE from

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ELEVEN GOVERNORS ACT TO COMMEMORATE
BALFOUR DECLARATION ANNIVERSARY**

- - - - -

NOVEMBER 2ND PROCLAIMED "PALESTINE DAY" IN SOME STATES;

DEWEY ISSUES STATEMENT

- - - - -

New York — Eleven governors have taken action to commemorate the twenty-seventh anniversary of the issuance of the Balfour Declaration which takes place on November 2nd, 1944, it was announced today by the American Zionist Emergency Council.

The Council disclosed that five governors have proclaimed November 2nd "Palestine Day" in their states, and six others, including Governor Thomas E. Dewey of New York, the Republican candidate for the Presidency, have issued statements on the anniversary of the Balfour Declaration, which pledged the re-establishment of the Jewish National Home in Palestine.

Proclamations have been issued by Governor Sam C. Ford of Montana, Governor Matthew M. Neely of West Virginia, Governor Herbert R. O'Connor of Maryland, Governor Henry F. Schrieker of Indiana and Governor John C. Vivian of Colorado.

Statements on the anniversary of the Balfour Declaration have been issued by Governor Raymond E. Baldwin of Connecticut, Governor Robert O. Blood of New Hampshire, Governor Colgate W. Darden, Jr. of Virginia, Governor Dewey, Governor Walter Edge of New Jersey and Governor Edward Martin of Pennsylvania.

(more)

Governor Dewey's statement said that "it is now manifest that a way must be found speedily to open the doors of Palestine. The solution is not the concern of a class or a group or of merely one or two nations. The spectre of hundreds of thousands of homeless Jews is obviously quite incompatible with our aims of establishing a lasting peace with justice for all.

"The splendid accomplishments of the intelligent and indefatigable pioneers who wrought such marvels in establishing the Jewish Home in the Holy Land has earned for all the Jewish people of the world the right to an open door in Palestine," Governor Dewey declared.

Asserting that "the reestablishment of Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth is long overdue and is indeed the hope of Europe's uprooted and hunted people of this race," Governor Martin added in his statement that "the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is vitally interested in having its voice recorded in favor of the fulfillment of the Commonwealth in Palestine."

"Every fair and open-minded American necessarily will rejoice when these harassed and destitute victims of tyranny and oppression are permitted to establish a home and community life of their own," Governor Edge declared.

"Within recent months Americans in all walks of life, including a large majority of members of Congress, have reaffirmed America's traditional policy of friendship for the aspirations of the Jews regarding Palestine," Governor Ford asserted. "It is therefore fitting that the sentiments of the American people concerning this question should be given the widest possible expression on the coming anniversary of the Balfour Declaration...Widespread observance of the occasion will give renewed hope to Europe's uprooted and hunted Jews who look to Palestine for salvation," he added.

In his proclamation Governor Neely recommended to the people of West Virginia that "Palestine Day" be observed "by an earnest endeavor to increase public sentiment in favor of the early and complete redemption of the Balfour

Declaration, to the end that through its operation may be consummated all the blessings which it was designed to afford and for which the Jews have long and devoutly prayed."

"The Balfour Declaration must be fulfilled, and Palestine re-established as a free and democratic Jewish nation," Governor Vivian declared in his proclamation. "In recent months America has spoken in clear and unmistakable terms on this vital question. Endorsements of the movement to reconstitute Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth have been issued by the President, Governor Thomas E. Dewey, a substantial majority of the members of both Houses of Congress, and by both the Democratic and Republican parties, meeting in national convention.... Justice must be done to the Jews," he said.

Governor O'Coner pointed out that "an expression of sentiment from the American people on this question at this time will be of inestimable help towards the maintenance of the morale of Europe's unfortunate Jews who look to Palestine for their salvation."

PALESTINE DAY

November Second

Nineteen Hundred Forty-Four

WRHS





ARTHUR JAMES BALFOUR

THE BALFOUR DECLARATION

November 2, 1917

Dear Lord Rothschild,

I have much pleasure in conveying to you on behalf of His Majesty's Government the following declaration of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations, which has been submitted to and approved by the Cabinet:

His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievements of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country.

I should be grateful if you would bring this Declaration to the knowledge of the Zionist Federation.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur Balfour

PALESTINE DAY

November Second

Nineteen Hundred Forty-Four



THE AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

342 Madison Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.

PALESTINE DAY

1944

On November 2, 1944—the twenty-seventh anniversary of the issuance of the Balfour Declaration—the American people reaffirmed our country's traditional policy of support for the Jewish people's efforts to reconstitute Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth.

On that day scores of editorials appeared in leading newspapers of the nation calling for the fulfillment of the historic pledges made to the Jewish people. Stirring mass rallies demanded definitive action on the Palestine question in conformity with the true intent and purpose of the Balfour Declaration. These great outpourings of sentiment made Balfour Day, 1944, a truly historic occasion.

Particularly significant was the fact that twenty-two states of the Union acted to commemorate Balfour Day. The proclamations and statements made by the governors of these states are reproduced here. They serve as a permanent record of America's determination that justice be done to the long-suffering Jewish people.

Executive Office
State House
Phoenix, Arizona



SIDNEY P. OSBORN
GOVERNOR

Proclamation

PALESTINE DAY

WHEREAS, November second, 1944, is the twenty-seventh anniversary of the issuance of the Balfour Declaration, setting aside Palestine as a haven for persecuted and oppressed Jewish people in the countries of Europe; and

WHEREAS, the Jewish people have, during the past three decades, built a progressive and flourishing civilization in the land of Palestine; and

WHEREAS, the American people are deeply appreciative of the role played in our common life by the Jewish people, both materially and culturally,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sidney P. Osborn, Governor, do hereby designate and proclaim November second, 1944, as PALESTINE DAY in Arizona, urging upon our fellow citizens due recognition of the contribution of the Jewish people to the cause of democracy, peace and progress.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arizona to be affixed this First day of November, in the year of Our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-four.



A large, stylized handwritten signature of Sidney P. Osborn in dark ink.

GOVERNOR

STATE OF COLORADO

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT



JOHN C. VIVIAN
GOVERNOR

Proclamation

PALESTINE DAY

We would take this occasion, the twenty-seventh anniversary of the issuance of the Balfour Declaration, to remind those who will be charged with the task of reconstructing a better world order, that justice must be done to the Jews.

The pioneers who have contributed to the success of the greatest contemporary colonizing achievement, the upbuilding of the Jewish National Homeland in Palestine, have given ample proof to the world that the Jews of Europe are entitled to take their rightful place in a world society, as a creative people in a land of their own.

In recent months America has spoken in clear and unmistakable terms on this vital question. Endorsements of the movement to reconstitute Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth have been issued by the President, Governor Thomas E. Dewey, a substantial majority of the members of both Houses of Congress, and by both the Democratic and Republican parties, meeting in national convention.

The Balfour Declaration must be fulfilled, and Palestine re-established as a free and democratic Jewish nation.

THEREFORE, I, John C. Vivian, as Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim November 2, 1944, as

PALESTINE DAY

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereto set my hand and caused the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, to be hereunto affixed, at Denver, this Twenty-sixth day of October, A. D. 1944.



A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John C. Vivian".

Governor of Colorado

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HARTFORD



RAYMOND E. BALDWIN
GOVERNOR

Statement

Twenty-seven years ago, on November 2, 1917, Arthur James Balfour, British Foreign Secretary, issued a declaration favoring the establishment of a national home for the Jewish people in Palestine.

This is a sound proposal and during the intervening years progress has been made in working toward that goal.

Since the start of the present conflict in Europe millions of innocent Jews have been murdered, persecuted and driven from their homes. Many have become refugees as the result of fiendish orders of the diabolic Hitler. This has been the reward of Jews for their many contributions to civilization.

These wrongs can never be righted completely, for we cannot bring the dead back to life, but something can and must be done for the countless homeless Jewish refugees now scattered all over war-torn Europe. That is the promotion of better and greater opportunities for Jews in Palestine.

Plans should be carefully prepared now for submission to the Peace Conference, when the question of homeless minorities is considered, so that the urgent problem may receive the earliest consideration and facilities for a homeland in Palestine extended.

The Balfour document was a promise of good faith to the Jews.

This promise should be kept.



A handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to read "Raymond E. Baldwin". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Governor

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
SPRINGFIELD
ILLINOIS



DWIGHT H. GREEN
GOVERNOR

Statement

The twenty-seventh anniversary of the issuance of the Balfour declaration, which pledged the re-establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine, occurs November 2. Jews throughout the world will mark this anniversary as a milestone in their long struggle for freedom and security.

Americans instinctively sympathize with Jewish aspirations for a national home, a commonwealth of their own. I gladly commend the appropriate observance of this anniversary to cordial public attention.



Dwight H. Green
GOVERNOR

STATE OF INDIANA
INDIANAPOLIS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



HENRY F. SCHRICKER
GOVERNOR

Statement

Twenty-seven years ago, on Nov. 2, 1917, Arthur James Balfour, British Foreign Secretary, issued a declaration on behalf of his government to the Jewish people. The contents of that communication, written in the midst of war, had been carefully considered not only by Britain, but all the Allied Powers, among them the United States.

Relying upon this Declaration, Jewish pioneers and Jewish capital streamed into Palestine with the result that the Holy Land which, for countless centuries, had remained a backward, swampy and forlorn wilderness, is today a thriving and progressive country and a bastion of democracy in the Middle East. The Jewish National Home is beginning to take shape. There can be no doubt, also, that the "existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine," Arab and others, have greatly benefited from the constructive achievements of their Jewish neighbors.

During the interval between the issuance of the Balfour Declaration and the present tragic state of the world, much has happened to the Jews. The rise of Hitler was accompanied by the most ferocious and barbaric persecution of the Jews since the Middle Ages, and at a time when it was necessary to open wide the gates of Palestine to the Jews of Europe they were unjustly barred in pursuance of a mistaken policy of Arab appeasement.

I would take this occasion, the twenty-seventh anniversary of the issuance of the Balfour Declaration, to remind those who will be charged with the task of reconstructing a better world order out of the debris of this conflict, that justice be done to the Jews. They have served as the barometer of Nazi barbarism, and they will serve as the barometer of justice and democracy.

The pioneers who have contributed to the success of the greatest contemporary colonizing achievement - the upbuilding of the Jewish National Homeland in Palestine - have given ample proof to the world that the Jews of Europe are qualified for something better than persecution and suffering; that they are entitled to take their rightful place in a world society as a creative people in a land of their own. The magnificent contributions made by Palestine Jewry to the war against the Axis should be remembered now, when the Peace is approaching.

In recent months America has spoken in clear and unmistakable terms on this vital question. Forthright endorsements of the movement to reconstitute Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth have been issued by President Roosevelt. There can be no doubt as to the sentiments of the American people on this matter -- the Balfour Declaration must be fulfilled, and Palestine reestablished as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth.



A large, stylized handwritten signature of Henry F. Schricker in dark ink.

Governor of Indiana

STATE OF IOWA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
DES MOINES



BOURKE B. HICKENLOOPER
GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS, on November 2, 1944 Jews throughout the world will commemorate the 27th anniversary of the issuance of the Balfour Declaration which pledged the reestablishment of the Jewish National Home in Palestine, and

WHEREAS, there exists America's traditional policy of friendship for Jewish aspirations in Palestine and that friendship and sympathy has been enlivened by the plight of thousands of Jewish refugees who have been cruelly uprooted in Europe and who look to Palestine as a refuge and a haven in which to rebuild shattered lives, and

WHEREAS, Americans are conscious of a responsibility toward their fellowmen and particularly to those who now suffer the effects of barbarous persecution,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, B. B. Hickenlooper, Governor of Iowa, hereby proclaim November 2, 1944 as

PALESTINE DAY

I call upon the people of Iowa to join with their Jewish neighbors and friends in observance of the day and to renew their interest in the advancement of the cause which that observance signifies.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Iowa to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, in the City of Des Moines,
on this Second Day of November, in the Year of
our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Forty-four.



A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "B. B. Hickenlooper". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

AUGUSTA



SUMNER SEWALL
GOVERNOR

Statement

The plight of the countless thousands of Jewish refugees in Europe can but arouse the deepest sympathy of us all.

It is our earnest hope here in America that they may find a haven in which to rebuild their shattered lives in Palestine.

The creative work of Palestine Jewry in their efforts to build a national home merits the highest praise and the most sympathetic support. May it be remembered and furthered in the making of the peace.

It is my sincere hope that the American people will do all in their power to see that the Balfour Declaration is fulfilled and that Palestine become a free and democratic nation.



A large, stylized handwritten signature of Sumner Sewall. The signature is written in dark ink and is highly cursive, with the first letter 'S' being particularly large and prominent.

Sumner Sewall

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND



HERBERT R. O'CONOR
GOVERNOR

Proclamation

"PALESTINE DAY" -- NOVEMBER 2, 1944

WHEREAS, Jewish people throughout the world will commemorate on November 2, the twenty-seventh anniversary of the issuance of the Balfour Declaration, which pledged the reestablishment of the Jewish National Home in Palestine, and

WHEREAS, during recent months Americans from many walks of life, including members of both houses of Congress, have reaffirmed America's oft-expressed policy of friendship and sympathy for Jewish aspirations in Palestine, and,

WHEREAS, an expression of sentiment from the American people on this question at this time will be of inestimable help towards the maintenance of the morale of Europe's unfortunate Jews who look to Palestine for their salvation,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, HERBERT R. O'CONOR, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor do hereby proclaim Thursday, November 2, as "PALESTINE DAY" in Maryland and express the hope that Jewish aspirations in this regard will be realized in the not too distant future.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland. Done at the city of Annapolis this 25th day of October, in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and forty-four.



A large, stylized handwritten signature of Herbert R. O'Connor in dark ink.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON



LEVERETT SALTONSTALL
GOVERNOR

Statement

In the midst of the First World War, on the second day of November, 1917, His Majesty's Government of Great Britain, with the approval of all allied governments, issued a declaration in favor of the establishment in Palestine of a National Home for the Jewish people. This declaration was a matter of profound interest not only to the Jewish people but to all mankind. It was in accord with the highest dictates of humanity and the loftiest principles of justice that at long last the Jewish people be granted an opportunity to restore their National life in the ancient land of their forefathers.

This declaration received the official approval of the United States of America when the 67th Congress unanimously adopted a resolution on September 11, 1922, "in favor of the establishment in Palestine of a National Home for the Jewish people." Thus recognition has thereby been given to the historic connection of the Jews with Palestine and to the grounds for reconstituting their National Home in that country.

During the last twenty-five years, the Jewish people more than justified the expectation of their well-wishers in Palestine. The Jewish achievements in Palestine have been remarkable. They have turned sand dunes into orange groves. They have pushed ever farther into waste land the frontiers of cultivation and settlement.

Today, under the lash of the Nazis ghastly persecution, their eagerness to return to their homeland is multiplied. The tragedy of a people who have no country has never been so deep as it is today. The sympathy of the people of Massachusetts, their eagerness to do everything they can to help the persecuted Jews in Europe, has never been so firm as it is today.

We recall with profound appreciation the great contribution made by the Jews of Palestine to the war effort of the United Nations. They shall no longer be the forgotten people.

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.

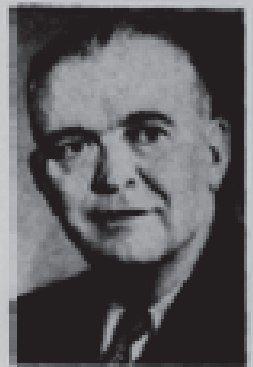
Therefore, I urge the people of Massachusetts to join Nov. 2 in the observance of "Palestine Day."



A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Leverett Saltonstall".

Governor of Massachusetts

STATE OF MICHIGAN
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
LANSING



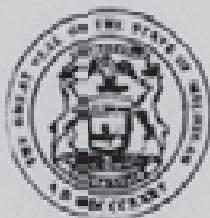
HARRY F. KELLY
GOVERNOR

Statement

On November 2, 1944, Jewish people throughout the world will commemorate the twenty-seventh anniversary of the Balfour Declaration, which pledged the re-establishment of a Jewish national home in Palestine.

The contribution of this persecuted race to the advancement of modern civilization is too great ever to be reckoned or repaid. Their latest affliction at the hands of Adolph Hitler and his gangster cohorts is only one episode in a centuries-long history of injustice and suffering.

Nevertheless, in spite of their trials, the Jewish people have remained undaunted and unsubdued. They have earned the respect and gratitude of men of good will all over the world. The conscience of humanity demands the re-establishment of their traditional national home.



A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harry F. Kelly". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name of the Governor.

Governor

State of Montana
Office of The Governor
Helena



SAM C. FORD
GOVERNOR

Statement

"PALESTINE DAY"

On the second day of November Jews throughout the world are going to commemorate the twenty-seventh anniversary of the issuance of the Balfour Declaration, which pledged the re-establishment of the Jewish national home in Palestine.

Within recent months Americans in all walks of life, including a large majority of members of the Congress, have reaffirmed America's traditional policy of friendship for the aspirations of the Jews regarding Palestine. It is therefore fitting that the sentiments of the American people concerning this question should be given the widest possible expression on the coming anniversary of the Balfour Declaration.

To this end I desire to call the attention of the people of Montana to the second day of November, designating it as "Palestine Day" in this State, and suggesting that it be observed by all those who are in sympathy with the aspirations of the Jews. Widespread observance of the occasion will give renewed hope to Europe's uprooted and hunted Jews who look to Palestine for salvation.



A large, stylized handwritten signature of Sam C. Ford. The signature is written in dark ink and is highly cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being particularly prominent.

Governor of Montana

THE STATE OF NEVADA
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
CARSON CITY



E. P. CARVILLE
GOVERNOR

Statement

I personally urge all Nevadans to study the Balfour Declaration of November 2, 1917, and to give careful thought to methods of making it effective in the post-war years.

November 2 has been set aside as Balfour Day to commemorate the declaration issued 27 years ago by the then British foreign secretary, Arthur James Balfour.

In that declaration the principle of establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people was set forth. The Balfour Declaration favored establishment of such a national commonwealth based on the principles of democracy such as abide in our country.

This vital question is of particular concern to all Americans who believe in the principles of civil and religious freedom.



E. P. Carville
GOVERNOR

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT



WILLIAM E. EDGE
GOVERNOR

Statement

On the important occasion of the 27th Anniversary of the Balfour Declaration on Palestine November 2nd, I wish to express on behalf of the citizens of New Jersey their every hope that Palestine ultimately may be established as the permanent home of the Jewish people.

Complete freedom of religion and religious expression is one of the great fundamental principles upon which our nation was founded and consequently every fair and open-minded American necessarily will rejoice when these harassed and destitute victims of tyranny and oppression are permitted to establish a home and community life of their own.



A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "William E. Edge". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Governor.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY



THOMAS E. DEWEY
GOVERNOR

Statement

I am happy to extend my warmest greetings and best wishes to the members of the American Zionist Emergency Council on the occasion of the 27th anniversary of the Balfour Declaration which pledged the reestablishment of the Jewish National Home in Palestine.

I join you in paying honor to the pioneers who undertook the hard work of establishing that home in the face of such formidable odds. Their success should be a source of pride to all Jewish people, as it has been a source of admiration of the entire civilized world. The cause that you advocate commands the sympathy and active support of all men and women of good will, no matter what their creed. The significance of Palestine becomes greater every month as the success of the fighting forces of the United Nations brings us closer to ultimate victory.

It is now manifest that a way must be found speedily to open the doors of Palestine. The solution is not the concern of a class or a group or of merely one or two nations. The spectre of hundreds of thousands of homeless Jews is obviously quite incompatible with our aims of establishing a lasting peace with justice for all.

The splendid accomplishments of the intelligent and indefatigable pioneers who wrought such marvels in establishing the Jewish Home in the Holy Land has earned for all the Jewish people of the world the right to an open door in Palestine.



Thomas E. Dewey

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

HARRISBURG



EDWARD MARTIN
GOVERNOR

Statement

Throughout the world Jewish groups and countless others who have interested themselves in the reestablishment of the Palestine Homeland will observe November second as a day of rededication in their efforts to realize their aspirations in favorable settlement of this issue.

On this twenty-seventh anniversary of the Balfour Declaration, which pledged the reestablishment of the Jewish National Home in Palestine, they will take renewed strength for their hope of ultimate victory in the thought that their cause is one that constantly attracts new help.

The reestablishment of Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth is long overdue and is indeed the hope of Europe's uprooted and hunted people of this race. The early solution of this long-argued question by returning Palestine once more to the Jewish people is something to be desired and to be worked for, not alone by the Jews, but by their friends in all parts of the world who have so long interested themselves in this noble endeavor to see justice triumph.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is vitally interested in having its voice recorded in favor of the fulfillment of the Commonwealth in Palestine.



A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edward Martin".

EDWARD MARTIN

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND & PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
PROVIDENCE



J. HOWARD MCGRATH
GOVERNOR

Statement

PALESTINE DAY

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.

This is no partisan gesture within our land; for it is to the credit of our major political parties and their candidates that they have endorsed the movement to reconstitute Palestine.

This is no dividing gesture anywhere in the world; for any nation might justly and equitably substitute its own name for that of the government in whose name Balfour spoke:

"His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavors to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country."

As a world re-reads this twenty-seven years later, looking at the thriving and progressive community that Jewish pioneers have achieved in a land forlorn for centuries, looking through eyes dimmed in horror at the sufferings of Jews uprooted and hunted throughout Europe, we must reaffirm our belief in the principles Balfour expressed.

The high purposes of humanity, brotherly love, justice and the determination that the peoples of the world must shoulder the world's burdens and share the world's opportunities as neighbors...all these motives which command us to the sacrifices of war, commend the re-constitution of Palestine as one of the services of a lasting peace.



A cursive signature of J. Howard McGrath, written in dark ink.

GOVERNOR

M. Q. SHARPE

GOVERNOR

PIERRE

SOUTH DAKOTA



M. Q. SHARPE
GOVERNOR

Statement

Today, November 2, 1944, marks the twenty-seventh anniversary of the Balfour Declaration, establishing the policy of a national home in Palestine for Jewish people. Subsequent events and history have demonstrated the wisdom of that policy. With their characteristic industry and ability for development and progress the Jewish people have carried forward the idea by immigration to Palestine and by a spectacular development and improvement of its resources and business affairs. It has accorded this great race of people an opportunity to assume a national status and a position of equality in the political affairs of the world.

The idea of equality of all persons before the law and in the affairs of the communities in which they are citizens has always been upheld by the people of the United States of America. It is an idea which the enemies of modern civilization are today trying to destroy. Nowhere is this more plainly evidenced than in the treatment accorded to the Jewish people by our enemies. It is in the interest of American principles of government and also in the interest of our present war effort to give all possible aid and encouragement to the equality of opportunity proposed for Jewish people by the Balfour Declaration.



M. Q. Sharpe

Governor

STATE OF TEXAS

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

AUSTIN



COKE STEVENSON
GOVERNOR

Proclamation

To Whom all these presents shall come:

WHEREAS, November 2, 1944, marks the twenty-seventh anniversary of the famous Balfour Declaration which stated:

"His Majesty's Government views with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country."

WHEREAS, Texans are interested in the welfare of all groups which have suffered religious persecution under the heel of the oppressor in Europe:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Coke Stevenson, Governor of the State of Texas, do hereby proclaim November 2, 1944, as

TEXAS PALESTINE DAY

commemorating the historic occasion of the Balfour Declaration.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I have hereunto signed my name officially and caused the Seal of State to be affixed hereto at Austin, this the first day of November, A. D., 1944.



A large, stylized handwritten signature of Coke Stevenson. The signature is written in dark ink and is highly cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being prominent.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
RICHMOND



COLGATE W. DARDEN, JR.
GOVERNOR

Statement

I wish to call the attention of the people of Virginia to the fact that November 2nd will mark the 27th anniversary of the Balfour Declaration. This statement of policy made during World War I, by the British Foreign Secretary, is of very great importance to all of us. The Declaration committed His Majesty's Government to the establishment, in Palestine, of a national home for Jewish people of the world. The years that have intervened since this policy was enunciated, have witnessed the unspeakable oppression, torture and slaughter of the Jews of Europe. The need for this haven of refuge is much greater today than it was in 1917. I hope that we shall see established in Palestine that national home to which Mr. Balfour referred. The settlement of this question should engage the attention of those who gather to liquidate the frightful problems of this world struggle.



San Martin

GOVERNOR

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
CHARLESTON



MATTHEW M. NEELY
GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS, on the second of next November the Twenty-seventh Anniversary of the issuance of the Balfour Declaration, which pledged the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, will be commemorated throughout the world by millions of the members of this historic race; and

WHEREAS, because of the frightful, wholesale slaughter and unparalleled, sadistic persecution of this long suffering people by the Axis powers, it is now more necessary than ever before that the Jews be promptly provided the privilege of establishing a national home in the land of their origin, in which security, comfort and happiness may be enjoyed by them and their posterity forever; and

WHEREAS, the pledge of the Balfour Declaration has never been redeemed;

THEREFORE, I, Matthew M. Neely, Governor of West Virginia, hereby designate Thursday, the second of November, 1944, "Palestine Day," and very respectfully recommend to the people of the state that it be appropriately observed by an earnest endeavor to increase public sentiment in favor of the early and complete redemption of the Balfour Declaration, to the end that through its operation may be consummated all the blessings which it was designed to afford and for which the Jews have long and devoutly prayed.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol in the City of Charleston, West Virginia, this the twenty-fifth day of October in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred Forty-four and in the Eighty-second Year of the State.



A large, stylized handwritten signature of Matthew M. Neely in dark ink.

GOVERNOR

The State of Wisconsin

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT



WALTER S. GOODLAND
ACTING GOVERNOR

Proclamation

November second will commemorate the twenty-seventh anniversary of the issuance of the Balfour Declaration which pledged the re-establishment of a Jewish National Home in Palestine. This document was endorsed by fifty-two nations of the world in 1922, including the United States.

Today, the Jewish people of Palestine are making gigantic contributions to the war efforts of the United Nations. More than thirty thousand of them have been, and are, serving in the British Armed Forces of the Middle East. Through their tireless zeal in behalf of liberty and democracy, they contributed immensely toward the ultimate defeat of Rommel during Britain's darkest hour. The Jewish pioneers of Palestine have transformed barren wastes into fertile and fruitful vineyards and orange groves.

Therefore, I, Walter S. Goodland, Acting Governor of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim Thursday, November 2nd, 1944 as

PALESTINE DAY

in Wisconsin. I urge the people of our State to join with the American people in paying tribute on that day to the noteworthy achievements of the Jewish people of Palestine.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol, in the City of Madison, this first day of November, in the year of Our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and forty-four.



Walter S. Goodland

ACTING GOVERNOR

STATE OF WYOMING
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
CHEYENNE



LESTER C. HUNT
GOVERNOR

Proclamation

Balfour Declaration Anniversary

On November 2, Jews throughout the World will commemorate the Twenty-seventh Anniversary of the issuance of the Balfour Declaration, which pledged the reinstatement of the Jewish National Home in Palestine.

The suffering of the European Jews at the hands of the brutal Nazis has made it unthinkable that the doors of Palestine should be closed to them. In their hour of suffering they look to Palestine as their only refuge and salvation, and I hope that all Wyoming Christians of good-will and justice will join with me in favor of the re-establishment of Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lester C. Hunt, Governor of the State of Wyoming, do hereby proclaim November 2, 1944, as

PALESTINE DAY

and urge the people of Wyoming to reaffirm America's traditional policy of friendship for Jewish aspirations in Palestine.



Lester C. Hunt

Governor

PRESS RELEASE from

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

Associated Organizations:

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

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMERICAN ZIONISTS DENOUNCE "FOUL ASSASSINATION" OF LORD MOYNE

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New York — The horror felt by American Zionists over the "foul assassination" of Lord Moyne, British Resident Minister in the Middle East, was expressed today in a statement issued by the American Zionist Emergency Council, which speaks for all major Zionist bodies in the United States.

The following statement was issued by the Council:

"The Zionist Movement in America has learned with horror of the foul assassination of the British Resident Minister in the Middle East, Lord Moyne. While there is still no official confirmation of the identity of the criminals, reports that Jewish extremists may have been responsible for this crime raise in acute form the problem of effective action against a handful of deluded and half-crazed youths who in recent months have perpetrated a series of terrorist outrages in Palestine.

"The Jewish representative bodies in Palestine and the Hebrew press there have been unequivocal in condemning these crimes in the strongest possible terms. The American Zionist Emergency Council associates itself with the attitude of Palestine Jewry in its determination to root out this evil from their midst, and it is confident that the Jews of Palestine will continue to do all in their power to help the authorities to apprehend those responsible for these outrages. The Jewish National Home is founded on justice and international law, and acts of terrorism which stand in diametrical conflict with the moral and spiritual aims of our Movement can do nothing but serve the purposes of enemies of the cause.

"On behalf of American Zionists the Council tenders to the family of the late Lord Moyne their sincere and heartfelt sympathy."

117 1/2

PRESS INTERVIEW

NOVEMBER 10, 1944

STATEMENT BY DR. BERNARD JOSEPH, HONORARY LEGAL ADVISER
TO THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE, WHO HAS JUST
ARRIVED BY AIR FROM JERUSALEM

- - - - -

Palestine is on the eve of momentous decisions affecting the future of that Holy Land. The White Paper regime has proved a dismal and cruel failure. Its effects were disastrous from the humanitarian point of view. It has proved one of the best illustrations of the futility and harmfulness of appeasement as a substitute for a just, political policy.

Tens of thousands of Jewish refugees from Nazi terror who perished in the German death-camps might still be alive had the gates of Palestine not been shut in their faces by the arbitrary restrictions of the British White Paper policy. Those gates have still to be thrown wide open by abolishing the White Paper. The Jews of Palestine urge that this be now done without further delay.

The Jews of Palestine have become convinced that the only effective solution of the tragic Jewish problem is the establishment of Palestine as an autonomous Jewish Commonwealth. The problem is primarily one of immediate large-scale migration to Palestine of the Jewish victims of Nazism in Europe. First place will have to be given to the tens of thousands of Jewish orphan children who are stranded and helpless in the countries liberated by the Allied armies. There is only one country where their problem can be solved, and that is Palestine.

This will necessitate placing the country under a regime that will ensure a comprehensive development scheme, utilizing all the material and human resources available for the purpose. Anyone who knows Palestine will realize that only the Jews will succeed in this, not because they are superior to others, but because of their age-long attachment to their ancient Homeland and because of the dire and pressing need of their persecuted people. For them it is the only chance of achieving creative national life, coupled with security and human dignity.

The great American soil conservationist, Dr. Walter C. Lowdermilk's project for the irrigation of Palestine would enable four million more Jews to be absorbed into the country. We believe that this would solve the problem of the Jewish people and of Palestine. A Jewish Commonwealth would also be a potent factor in the reconstruction of the Middle East and the maintenance of peace on the great land bridge which connects Europe, Africa and Asia.

The Jews of Palestine were gratified by the recent pronouncement of President Roosevelt, pledging his support for the program of establishing Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth. They trust that in the just peace which the principal Allied Powers have repeatedly declared their determination to ensure when the war is won, justice will also at long last be done to the Jewish people.

The Jews of Palestine were glad that the British authorities had finally authorized the establishment of a Jewish Brigade Group. It already existed and our young men, most of whom had been serving in the British Army since soon after the war began, were now happy to be serving in a Jewish force with their own Jewish Flag and the Shield of David emblem. We were confident they would give a good account of themselves in battle with the Nazis, just as hundreds of thousands of other Jews had done serving in the various Allied Armies. We were indebted for this opportunity to the British Prime Minister, Mr. Churchill, whom we honored as a sympathetic and revered friend of the Zionist cause.

Unfortunately, the terrible suffering our people had undergone and the persistent failure to open the gates of Palestine to Jews fleeing from persecution, had unnerved a small group of our young men who had resorted to counsels of despair. They had adopted terrorism as their method. The Jewish public bodies in Palestine had repeatedly condemned these terrorist acts and had decided to do everything in their power to eradicate this terrorist wave from their midst. Their task had not been made easier by the manner in which this difficult situation had been handled by the authorities. But we were determined to persevere in our decision to put an end to this misguided criminal folly which the Jewish community of Palestine abhorred and for which they should not be held responsible.

TEXT OF IRA A. HIRSCHMANN'S STATEMENT ON
THE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE TO SAVE THE JEWISH PEOPLE OF EUROPE

- - - - -

I authorize you to state in my name that as a representative of the American Government I had control over all funds which Mr. Eri Jabotinsky, representative of the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe, received in Constantinople from America, and I say that while I was there I had no evidence whatever that Mr. Jabotinsky - the only one there representing his committee - saved even one European Jew.



11/23/44

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

HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE APPROVES PALESTINE RESOLUTIONS

- - - - -

DR. SILVER HAILS ACTION AS "MILESTONE" IN

JEWISH PEOPLE'S EFFORTS TO REGAIN NATIONHOOD

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Washington, D. C. -- The House Committee on Foreign Affairs today approved the Palestine resolutions (HR 418-419), which had been referred to the Committee following their introduction in the House of Representatives on January 27, 1944 by Representatives James A. Wright (D., Pa.) and Ranulf Compton (R., Conn.)

The resolution, as reported by the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, of which Representative Sol Bloom (D., N. Y.) is chairman, reads as follows:

"Whereas the Sixty-seventh 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, That the United States shall use its good offices 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."

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver of Cleveland, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council, hailed with satisfaction the approval of the resolutions. "I am delighted," he declared, "with this action which reflects

(more)

the overwhelming sentiment of the American people who have time and time again manifested their profound interest and sympathy in the upbuilding of Palestine by the Jewish people.

"This action climaxes a series of historic pronouncements made during this year by the National Conventions of both major political parties and by their standard-bearers. Most significant was the declaration made on October 15th by the President of the United States, in which he said that the American people give their support to the establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth, and that he would help to bring about its realization.

"This action will greatly hearten the hundreds of thousands of Jewish refugees throughout the world, who are looking towards Palestine as their sole hope of re-establishing themselves in freedom and dignity. It will strengthen the hands of those who at tremendous sacrifices have been pioneering in the rebuilding of the Jewish National Home. Another milestone has been reached in the historic effort of the Jewish people to recover its just place as one of the nations of the world," Dr. Silver said.

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

HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE APPROVES PALESTINE RESOLUTIONS

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DR. SILVER HAILS ACTION AS "MILESTONE" IN
JEWISH PEOPLE'S EFFORTS TO REGAIN NATIONHOOD

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Washington, D. C. -- The House Committee on Foreign Affairs today approved the Palestine resolutions (HR 418-419), which had been referred to the Committee following their introduction in the House of Representatives on January 27, 1944 by Representatives James A. Wright (D., Pa.) and Ranulf Compton (R., Conn.)

The resolution, as reported by the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, of which Representative Sol Bloom (D., N. Y.) is chairman, reads as follows:

"Whereas the Sixty-seventh 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, That the United States shall use its good offices 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."

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver of Cleveland, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council, hailed with satisfaction the approval of the resolutions. "I am delighted," he declared, "with this action which reflects

(more)

the overwhelming sentiment of the American people who have time and time again manifested their profound interest and sympathy in the upbuilding of Palestine by the Jewish people.

"This action climaxes a series of historic pronouncements made during this year by the National Conventions of both major political parties and by their standard-bearers. Most significant was the declaration made on October 15th by the President of the United States, in which he said that the American people give their support to the establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth, and that he would help to bring about its realization.

"This action will greatly hearten the hundreds of thousands of Jewish refugees throughout the world, who are looking towards Palestine as their sole hope of re-establishing themselves in freedom and dignity. It will strengthen the hands of those who at tremendous sacrifices have been pioneering in the rebuilding of the Jewish National Home. Another milestone has been reached in the historic effort of the Jewish people to recover its just place as one of the nations of the world," Dr. Silver said.

PRESS RELEASE from

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ZIONIST LEADERS HAIL APPROVAL OF PALESTINE RESOLUTION

BY HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

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New York -- Leaders of American Zionism today hailed the action of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs in approving the Wright-Compton resolution on Palestine which urges that "the United States shall use its good offices 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."

"This represents another major stride forward towards the realization of our people's historic hope," declared Louis Lipsky, veteran Zionist leader. "We look forward to early and favorable action by Congress," he added.

Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, president of Hadassah, Women's Zionist Organization of America, expressed "deep satisfaction over this development, which augurs well for speedy and definitive action on Palestine in conformity with the pledges made to the Jewish people."

David Wertheim, head of Poale Zion -- labor Zionist organization -- asserted that the House Committee's action was an expression of "America's determination that the Jewish people's right to nationhood shall be recognized and upheld."

The Mizrahi Organization of America, which is headed by Leon Gellman and Rabbi Wolf Gold, expressed the hope that Congress will act speedily on the Palestine resolution "so that our oppressed brethren may gather new hope and courage from this historic act of the American people."

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Washington, D. C. -- The American Zionist Emergency Council, which represents all major Zionist organizations in the United States, today reserved comment on the statement issued by the State Department calling for deferment of action on the Palestine resolution which is pending in the Senate of the United States.

The Council is awaiting further clarification by the State Department of its position. In this connection the Council recalled the historic statement issued by President Roosevelt on October 15th addressed to the Zionist Organization of America, wherein the President said that he knew "how long and ardently the Jewish people have worked and prayed for the establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth," expressed the conviction that the American people give their full support to this aim, and pledged that if re-elected he will help to bring about its realization.

The Council also recalled that the 1944 platforms of both the Republican and Democratic parties included planks endorsing the re-establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth; furthermore, that a survey of opinion of the present Congress of the United States, recently made public by the House Foreign Affairs Committee, indicated that 77 Senators and 318 Representatives heartily endorse the re-establishment of a Jewish Palestine.

On November 30, 1944, the Council pointed out, the House Foreign Affairs Committee favorably reported to the House of Representatives a resolution identical with the one which has now been deferred in the Senate.

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Note to Editors:

This statement was phoned in by
our Washington office.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TWELVE MEMBERS OF SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE
RECORD PERSONAL APPROVAL OF PALESTINE RESOLUTION BLOCKED
BY STATE DEPARTMENT

Washington, D. C. -- Twelve members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee today issued a statement recording their own personal approval of the Wagner-Taft resolution on Palestine, action on which was postponed at the request of the State Department.

The Senators are: Senator Joseph F. Guffey (D., Pa.), Senator Claude Pepper (D., Fla.), Senator Bennett Champ Clark (D., Mo.), Senator Robert M. LaFollette, Jr. (Fr., Wisc.), Senator Gerald P. Nye (R., N.D.), Senator Henrik Shipstead (R., Minn.), Senator Robert R. Reynolds (D., N.C.), Senator James J. Davis (R., Pa.), Senator James E. Murray (D., Mont.), Senator James H. Tunnell (D., Del.), Senator Elbert D. Thomas (D., Utah), and Senator Arthur Capper (R., Kans.)

The Senators, two-thirds of the total of 18 members of the Foreign Relations Committee who actively participated in consideration of the Palestine Resolution, declared:

"Although the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, at the request of the State Department, postponed action for the time being on the Palestine Resolution, we wish to record our own personal approval of the Resolution which calls for the free entry of Jews into Palestine and full opportunity for colonization, so that the Jewish people may as soon as practicable reconstitute Palestine as a free and democratic Commonwealth."