



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.

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

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

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Co. Harold Boies Hoskins (Executive Assistant to Assistant
Secretary of State), 1944.

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM RE PALESTINE

FEBRUARY 4, 1944

From: J.T.A.
To: M.W.W.

In British quarters the viewpoint is maintained that the British Government will make no decision with regard to Palestine until the war is over. They are inclined to the belief that the reports emanating from Zionist sources about the Churchill-Weizmann interview are exaggerated. They do not believe that Churchill has gone beyond general assurances.

The British are very much annoyed that the Zionists are trying to push through a resolution in Congress and they stated that the State Department too is annoyed, but will not fight the resolution because of the impending elections. (It is quite probable that some Senators, representing states in which there are only very small Jewish populations, may oppose the resolution on the floor of the Senate.)

British intelligence in the Mid-East, the Palestine Administration, and the British Minister in Cairo have, in frequent reports, warned the Colonial and the Foreign Office that any strong pro-Zionist measure or whittling down the White Paper at this time may lead to disturbances not only in Palestine, but in the Arab world in general. The British are resigned to the view that it will not be possible ~~to~~ to stop the adoption of the resolution by the Congress. They would welcome if the American Jewish community would formulate constructive views with regard to Palestine and what should be done with regard to the Jews in Europe. They intimated that it may perhaps be advisable to invite ~~men~~ over to the United States for purposes of consultation, men such as Lord Samuel and James de

Rothschild, who are known for their moderate views.

Murray has not gone over to London and Hoskins, who was there, I am told submitted rather unintelligible proposals. The Zionists claim that the joint British-American statement with regard to Palestine, favorable to the Zionists, may be issued. However, according to the British, this statement, if issued, will be innocuous and may stress the view that an Arab-Jewish agreement, if reached, would be welcome and afford the necessary basis for settling the Palestine problem.

I was told by Breckenridge Long that some negotiations have been held between Hull and the British also with regard to the Palestine issue, but it was up to Hull to state the upshot of the talks. Mr. Long pointed out that the United States had no juridical rights to intervene with regard to Palestine, but added that we are interested to see that a solution be found.