



## 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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Tydings, Senator Millard E., 1944.



MINUTES OF CONVERSATION WITH SENATOR MILLARD E. TYDINGS,  
Washington, D.C. Monday, January 3, 1944

Present: Senator Millard E. Tydings of Maryland, and Mr. Leo Sack

Any attempted legislative expression by the Senate which refers to British policy in Palestine "will be a terrible mistake" in the opinion of Senator Millard E. Tydings of Maryland, an outspoken and,-- in my opinion--a genuine friend of the Jewish people. Senator Tydings is a long time friend of the Jewish Homeland and is a member of the American Palestine Committee.

"No good will be accomplished by an effort to have the Senate pass a resolution criticizing directly or indirectly the British White Paper." Senator Tydings told me today. "Instead much harm will be done.

"Men who have the utmost good will to the Jewish cause and are anxious to be of help will be put on the spot. They will be forced, reluctantly to vote against a resolution and a movement for which they have the utmost sympathy. They will feel that they are intruding upon the domestic policy of a friendly government which would be resented even as we in the Senate would resent a resolution in Commons, for example, to the effect that our policy in the Philippines is all wrong. (Senator Tydings is the author of the Philippines independence act.)

"I appreciate that the Jewish people are emotionally upset by conditions in Europe and by the White Paper policy of the British government. They would not be human otherwise. But because they are upset there is the possibility that they will make a grave mistake in procedure.

"Now make no mistake about this; the Senate is in sympathy with the Palestine project. If, however, a resolution is sponsored at this time, which means anything at all, Senators against their will, will be forced to vote against it on the grounds that it is an interference with a friendly government."



It should be said here that Millard Tydings is no Administration "water boy". He does not parrot White House or other "high Administration source" views. In three terms in the Senate he has established a reputation for independence and integrity which equals that of any man in the Senate.

About six years ago he sponsored a Senate resolution, at the request of Maryland friends, sharply criticizing Hitler's treatment of the Jews. At that time he advised his friends that no good would be accomplished by the resolution. As a matter of fact the resolution, according to subsequent developments, annoyed Hitler and made him more determined than ever to carry on his diabolical policy. About this time, however, Tydings went to New York to deliver a forceful address at a Madison Square Garden protest meeting.

It is Senator Tydings' opinion that as soon as the European war is over "The United Nations will right the wrong done unto the Jews."

"This will include Palestine," he continued. "It is my opinion that the White Paper does not represent British policy or British opinion. It was just so much political sop for the Arabs. When the war is over the White Paper will be forgotten. The British will find a graceful way out. The United Nations owe too much to the Jews. They have suffered the most in this war. I do not think they will be forgotten."

It is Senator Tydings opinion that the Palestine issue should be kept alive" but I don't think that you should do anything for which you will be sorry."

"And you will be sorry if you endeavor to have the Senate express an opinion on British policy. If such a resolution is defeated it will be regarded as a defeat for Jewish aspirations--and none of us want that to occur."

LRS

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