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American Zionist Emergency Council, press releases, 1945.

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.

Murray Hill 2-1160

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1/3/55  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

REORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL COMPLETED

- - - -

CHAIM GREENBERG, POALE-ZION LEADER, ELECTED CHAIRMAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
AND HERMAN SHULMAN CHAIRMAN NEW ADMINISTRATIVE BODY

- - - -

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE SENT TO LLOYD GEORGE

- - - -

New York --At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council held on Tuesday, January 3rd, and presided by Dr. Stephen S. Wise, the reorganization of the American Zionist Emergency Council was completed.

Chaim Greenberg, editor of the Jewish Frontier and Poale-Zion leader, was elected chairman of the Executive Committee. Herman Shulman, member of the law firm of Eays, Podell and Shulman, was elected chairman of a new smaller Administrative Committee, responsible to the Executive Committee and charged with the implementation of the policies of the Council in the political and public relations fields. This new body will consist of the heads of the four constituent organizations -- Zionist Organization of America, Hadassah, Poale-Zion and Mizrahi -- together with its chairman, the chairman of the Executive Committee and of the Council, and representatives of the Jewish Agency for Palestine. It was also decided to appoint a new Finance Committee to consist of representatives of the four parties and a chairman.

The meeting took notice of the forthcoming arrival in this country of the British Colonial Secretary, Col. Stanley, who will speak on January 19th  
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on British Colonial Policy at the Foreign Policy Association.

A message was sent to Earl Lloyd George of Dwyfor, congratulating the venerable British statesman on the occasion of his elevation to the peerage and expressing to him the sense of indebtedness of American Zionists for the decisive part played by him in the earlier days of Britain's connection with Palestine and in the issuance of the Balfour Declaration.

The cable reads as follows:

"January 3, 1945

"David Lloyd George  
House of Commons  
England

"ON BEHALF OF ALL THE AMERICAN ZIONIST ORGANIZATIONS PLEASE  
ACCEPT OUR HEARTFELT CONGRATULATIONS AND WARMEST GOOD WISHES  
ON THE OCCASION OF YOUR ELEVATION TO THE PEERAGE WE SHALL ALWAYS  
RECALL WITH A SENSE OF DEEPEST GRATITUDE AND ADMIRATION THE  
DECISIVE PART PLAYED BY YOU IN THE ACCEPTANCE IN 1917 OF THE  
POLICY FOR THE RECONSTITUTION OF PALESTINE AS THE JEWISH  
NATIONAL HOME WITH DEEP RESPECT AND AFFECTION WE EXPRESS THE  
HOPE THAT YOU MAY HAVE BEFORE YOU MANY YEARS OF GREAT AND CONTINUED  
SERVICE TO YOUR COUNTRY AND TO ALL MANKIND

"STEPHEN S. WISE

CHAIRMAN AMERICAN ZIONIST  
EMERGENCY COUNCIL"

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

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi • Poale-Zion  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL CONDEMNS STATEMENT  
OF SIR JAMES GRIGG AS "TRAVESTY OF JUSTICE"**

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New York -- The American Zionist Emergency Council today criticized the statement of Sir James Grigg, new British Minister of State Resident in the Middle East, to the effect that the Jews of Palestine must eliminate the terrorist group in Palestine or suffer the loss of world-wide Christian support for their hopes of an independent nation, as a "travesty of justice."

"It accords ill ... to suggest that civilized humanity will be deflected by the acts of a few crazed individuals from its purpose to restore the Jews to their rightful place among the nations of the world, and thereby to fulfill an undertaking founded on profound moral and humanitarian considerations," the Council declared.

Pointing out that the Jews of Palestine had condemned these acts of terror and were cooperating with the Government to stamp them out, the Council asserted:

"To permit these acts to affect the basic issue, that of the right of the Jewish people to national restoration in their own land would be a travesty of justice."

The Council speaks for all the major Zionist bodies in the United States -- Zionist Organization of America, Hadassah, Mizrahi and Poale Zion. Dr. Stephen S. Wise is chairman and Mr. Hayim Greenberg is chairman of its Executive Committee.

The statement issued by the Council follows:

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"The American Zionist Emergency Council notes that Sir James Grigg, in his first public statement as British Minister of State Resident in the Middle East, has sought to link continued support by the Christian world of Jewish aspirations in Palestine with the problem of the elimination of the small terrorist group there. Sir James Grigg earned the gratitude of the Jewish people by refusing, together with Mr. Winston Churchill and others, to vote in 1939 with the members of his party in the House of Commons in favor of the Chamberlain White Paper which sought to put an end to the Jewish National Home in Palestine. He thereby gave proof of his unwillingness to support a policy which was fundamentally unjust.

"It accords ill with that attitude to suggest that civilized humanity will be deflected by the acts of a few crazed individuals from its purpose to restore the Jews to their rightful place among the nations of the world, and thereby to fulfill an undertaking founded on profound moral and humanitarian considerations. These isolated acts of terror violate the spirit of justice proclaimed and practised by Jewish tradition, and scrupulously observed by the Jews of Palestine in resolute self-discipline through the years. Obviously, the primary duty to eradicate the terrorists rests with the Government, but the Jews of Palestine have through their authorized and representative institutions unequivocally condemned these outrages and pledged themselves to full cooperation with the Government to that end. To permit these acts to affect the basic issue, that of the right of the Jewish people to national restoration in their own land, would be a travesty of justice.

"We believe that the support of the Christian world is based on deeper convictions and on a sense of values which will not lose sight, because of the irresponsible acts of a few individuals, of the great problem of the homelessness of the Jews as a people, the solution of which is so long overdue."

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New York — On the occasion of the forthcoming meeting of President Roosevelt with the leaders of the principal Allied nations, at which the problems of peace are scheduled to be discussed, the American Zionist Emergency Council, in conjunction with many national Jewish organizations of this country, is mobilizing Jewish and Christian public opinion for the support of the President in his epochal mission.

The Synagogue Council of America, of which Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein is president, has issued a call for special prayers during services in all orthodox, conservative and reform congregations on Saturday, January 27th, for the success of the coming meeting which is so vital to the future peace of the world.

According to plans as outlined, messages will be sent to the President by communities throughout the country wishing him success in his deliberations and drawing his attention to the urgent need for the rescue of the remnants of the Jewish people in war-torn Europe, to the necessity of opening the doors of Palestine to Jewish refugees, and to the reconstitution of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth.

The American Palestine Committee, which is headed by Senator Robert F. Wagner of New York, and the Christian Council on Palestine, under the leadership of Dr. Henry A. Atkinson, General Secretary of the Church Peace Union, are co-operating in this endeavor.

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1/19/45

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New York, N. Y., January 19th -- The Synagogue Council of America having designated the Sabbath of January 26-27 as a day of prayer for President Roosevelt's forthcoming meeting with the Allied leaders, the American Zionist Emergency Council today issued an appeal to all Jews in the country to cooperate with the rabbinate and the congregations. On this Sabbath, special prayers will be offered for the health of the President, for a wise administration and for the success of his conference with Prime Minister Churchill and Premier Stalin.

The Emergency Council's call was issued on the eve of the President's inauguration by Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, chairman of the Emergency Council, Rabbi Israel Goldstein and Rabbi Wolf Gold.

The Synagogue Council of America, which represents orthodox, conservative and reformed Jewish congregations and their rabbis and which is headed by Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein of New York, has addressed its plea to the two thousand rabbis and congregations affiliated with the Council, who have been asked to give expression to the fervent hope that the forthcoming conference of the three leaders of the United Nations will ensure the liberation of all enslaved peoples, the rescue of the persecuted remnants of Israel in war-ravaged Europe and bring about justice for the Jew in the Holy Land of Palestine.

"It is entirely likely that crucial decisions will be reached at this conference affecting the future of the Jewish people of Europe and of Palestine. It is our hope that at this conference there will be a decision to re-open the doors of Palestine to Jewish immigration so that every Jew who wishes to do so may be entitled to return to his ancestral home and to rebuild his life in

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Palestine where, we pray, there may soon be reconstituted a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth," the Emergency Council declared.

Dr. Robert Gordis, president of the Rabbinical Assembly of America, and Rabbi William Drazin, president of the Rabbinical Council of America, have both issued special calls to the members of the groups which they head urging them to set aside the Sabbath of January 26-27 for special prayers and sermons in accordance with the suggestion of the Synagogue Council of America. In addition, the officers of the United Synagogue of America, the Women's League of the United Synagogue of America, of the Union of the Orthodox Jewish Congregation in America, of National Young Israel and of other national bodies, have issued special directives to the groups affiliated with their organizations, urging their general cooperation. These organizations are affiliated with the Synagogue Council of America.

The Executive Council of the American Palestine Committee at a meeting in Washington on January 18, addressed a plea to the President signed by Senator Robert F. Wagner, committee chairman, and other members of the committee, in which it declared:

"It is our conviction that the most significant contribution to the settlement of this problem is the establishment of Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth and, in our considered opinion, this is the practicable, permanent, just and inevitable solution."



To the Editor: It is respectfully suggested that in connection with the story on the special Sabbath of Prayer for the President, the following editorial comment be utilized.

This week President Roosevelt began his fourth term. Under his administration during the past four years, the people of America have united to mobilize for defense; in the next four years, we pray that they may unite as effectively to take the offensive.

We do not speak in terms of military objectives. This is not a war of geography and frontiers. It is a war against tyranny; a war to lay the foundations of an enduring world society in which all men may live together in freedom and peace.

The war on the battlefronts has been long and hard and costly, but none can doubt the final outcome. Victory for the arms of the United Nations is inevitable. But the political front has been beclouded with doubts and uncertainty. There are differences within our own camp; these must be resolved. There is a looming ambiguity over our objectives; these must be clarified. The United Nations must indeed unite.

This becomes one of the major considerations as the President assumes his responsibilities anew. One of the first entries on his appointment book is a conference with Prime Minister Churchill and Premier Stalin. A long awaited meeting of the leaders of the United Nations is soon to be held. At this meeting we confidently hope there will be a reconciliation of all apparent differences so that the United Nations may press forward with singleness of purpose in the cause of civilization.

The prayers of American Jewry will be lifted at services throughout the land on this Sabbath. We shall pray that the President's administration will be blessed with wisdom and that his re-inauguration "may be the harbinger of a wise and fruitful administration and the beginning of an era of enduring peace." Jews everywhere will respond to the call of the Synagogue Council to unite in this plea.

In this long and costly war, our people have suffered greater casualties than any other. Today, as victory nears, those who have survived the ghastly terror of Nazi oppression emerge as ghosts from a vanished world. They are dispossessed, homeless and almost without hope. Their restoration to their rightful place in the future must be given consideration by the leaders of the United Nations. It will not be accomplished automatically by the advance of tanks and airplanes or by the distribution of relief alone.

The obligation of the United Nations to make possible the resettlement and rehabilitation of these people in their ancestral home, in Palestine, is dictated by more than humanitarian and philanthropic considerations. It is commanded by the moral imperatives which must guide us if the peace is to be secured and guaranteed. An obligation rests on the United Nations to restore the Jewish people to its rightful status in the family of nations; we plead not for favor, but for justice.

We pray that the leaders of the United Nations may no longer defer a decision so crucial to the future of the Jewish people: Palestine, the hope of millions of Jews all over the world, must be reconstituted as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth.

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**PRESS RELEASE from**

**AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations:*

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi • Poale-Zion  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**2,000 PROFESSORS APPEAL TO ROOSEVELT  
FOR FREE JEWISH COMMONWEALTH IN PALESTINE**

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Washington, D. C., January 25 -- On the eve of President Roosevelt's departure for his historic conference with other leaders of the United Nations, a petition by 2,000 American university professors was submitted to him urging the chief executive to use the influence and power of his high office "to the end that the doors of Palestine shall be opened for free entry of Jews into that country, and that there shall be full opportunity for colonization, so that the Jewish people may ultimately reconstitute Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth."

Professors from more than 250 colleges in 45 states, including more than 150 university presidents, are among the signers of the appeal to Mr. Roosevelt.

The petition stresses "the gigantic catastrophe that has re-emphasized the national homelessness of the Jews and their need for a land to which they may come as of right and not on tolerance." The document quotes Mr. Churchill's statement that the British White Paper of 1939, threatening the doom of the Jewish National Home, is "a plain breach of a solemn obligation," and demands that the United States Government should intercede "of legal right no less than of moral obligation."

The full text of the Petition follows:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**IOWA APPEALS FOR JEWISH PALESTINE**

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**TWENTIETH STATE LEGISLATURE JOINS DEMAND FOR JEWISH COMMONWEALTH**

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New York, February 7th - The Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Iowa adopted a resolution demanding "that the United States should take appropriate measures to the end that Palestine should be opened for free immigration and unrestricted colonization so that the Jewish people may rebuild their ancestral homeland as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth."

Iowa is the twentieth state to adopt a resolution endorsing the reconstitution of Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth.

The resolution points to the tragic suffering of European Jewry, the pro-Palestine resolution of the United States Congress of 1922, the Democratic and Republican Party Platforms of 1944, and the historic declaration of President Roosevelt on October 15, 1944, supporting Jewish aspirations in Palestine as "in accord with the traditional American policy and in keeping with the spirit of the Four Freedoms."

Similar resolutions have been passed previously by the following nineteen states comprising more than 60% of the population of the United States: 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 text of the Iowa resolution follows:

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"WHEREAS, the Nazi persecution and wholesale slaughter of Jews in Europe have outraged the conscience of the civilized world and have vastly aggravated the tragedy of the Jewish problem there, and

"WHEREAS, at the end of the present War large numbers of European Jews will find themselves in desperate need for a new home where they can rebuild their lives in dignity and security, and

"WHEREAS, after World War I, Great Britain had accepted at the instance of the Allied and Associated Powers the Mandate for Palestine and had undertaken 'to facilitate the establishment of a Jewish National Home in Palestine,' an undertaking subsequently approved by fifty-two nations, including the United States, and

"WHEREAS, this policy was concurred in by a Joint Resolution unanimously adopted by both Houses of the Congress of the United States on June 30, 1922, and

"WHEREAS, the Democratic and the Republican Party in their National Conventions of 1944, adopted platforms in favor of the re-establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth, and

"WHEREAS, the President of the United States on October 15, 1944, expressed his approval of this aim which he stated to be 'in accord with the traditional American policy and in keeping with the spirit of the Four Freedoms;'

"BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED by the Senate of the State of Iowa, the House of Representatives concurring, that we of the State of Iowa express our profound sympathy with the millions of innocent victims of the enemy's ruthless extermination policy, and that we demand just punishment of all those who perpetrated these horrible crimes against humanity, and

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the United States should take appropriate measures to the end that Palestine should be opened for free immigration and unrestricted colonization so that the Jewish people may rebuild their ancestral homeland as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth, and

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution should be forwarded to the President, the Secretary of State, the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America."

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**ZIONIST COUNCIL PROTESTS TRANSFER OF JEWS TO NORTH AFRICAN CAMP**  
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New York -- In an appeal for the resettlement in Palestine of 1,670 Jews recently rescued from German concentration camps, the American Zionist Emergency Council today attacked their exclusion from Palestine by the British Government and the plan to send them to an UNRPA camp in North Africa, in a statement issued following a meeting of the Council at 342 Madison Avenue.

"For the Jews of Europe liberation will not be liberation unless they are entitled to enter the Jewish National Homeland," the Council said. "The appalling situation in which most of them find themselves is revealed with every new dispatch which comes from Europe. There can be no justification for continuing to treat them as homeless wanderers, and the iniquitous policy of the 1939 White Paper which closes Palestine to Jewish immigration, must not be allowed to stand in their way."

Dr. Stephen S. Wise is chairman of the American Zionist Emergency Council, which speaks for all major Zionist bodies in the United States -- the Zionist Organization of America, Hadassah, Mizrahi and Poale-Zion.

The Council declared that it cannot accept the explanation by Lord Cranborne, former Colonial Secretary, given in the House of Lords this week, to the effect that exclusion from Palestine is justified because of the "housing shortage" in that country.

"Admittedly there is a shortage of housing today in Palestine, just as there is everywhere else in the world. But the Jews of Palestine eagerly demand the right to receive their stricken brethren.

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"These refugees expected to be settled permanently among their own people in Palestine, where they will be made welcome as nowhere else in the world.

The statement follows:

"We regret to learn that 1,670 Jews recently rescued from Germany and now in Switzerland will be sent to an UNRRA camp in Algiers. For each of their removal now to a temporary camp in North Africa is a prolongation of their individual tragedy. These refugees expected to be settled permanently among their own people in Palestine, and there can be no justification for continuing to treat them as homeless wanderers.

"The issue in this case emphasizes the plight of the Jews throughout liberated Europe. In Rumania, Bulgaria, Italy and elsewhere great numbers of those who survived the Hitler terror are anxious to rebuild their shattered lives in Palestine. The iniquitous policy of the 1939 White Paper which closes Palestine to Jewish immigration, must not be allowed to stand in their way. The answer given this week in the House of Lords by Lord Cranborne, former Colonial Secretary, that the policy of exclusion is justified because of the 'housing shortage' in Palestine cannot be accepted. Admittedly there is a shortage of housing today in Palestine, just as there is everywhere else in the world. But the Jews of Palestine eagerly demand the right to receive their stricken brethren. Pending permanent arrangement the new arrivals can, at the worst, be housed in the UNRRA camps in Palestine now being emptied of Greeks, Yugoslavs and Poles returning to their own lands.

"For the Jews of Europe liberation will not be liberation unless they are entitled as of right to enter the Jewish National Home. The appalling situation in which most of them find themselves is revealed with every new dispatch which comes from Europe. In the name of justice and humanity we call upon the leaders of the United Nations to open the gates of Palestine to these Jews and to facilitate their immediate transfer and re-settlement in the one country where they will be made welcome as nowhere else in the world."

PRESS RELEASE from

American Jewish Conference  
American Zionist Emergency Council  
Jewish Agency for Palestine

Ernest Barbarash  
1720 - 16th St., N. W.  
Washington, D. C. Michigan 4480

FOR RELEASE AFTER 11:00 A. M., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

JEWISH LEADERS ASK IMMEDIATE OPENING OF PALESTINE

DELEGATION PRESENTS STATEMENT TO EARL HALIFAX, BRITISH AMBASSADOR

Washington, D. C., February 16 -- An appeal to the British Government to open the gates of Palestine immediately so that large numbers of homeless Jews now in liberated areas in Europe, may be permitted to enter Palestine at once was made today to Earl Halifax, British ambassador to the United States, by a joint committee representing the American Jewish Conference, the American Zionist Emergency Council and the Jewish Agency for Palestine.

Pointing out that "the psychological and material condition of the Jewish survivors in Europe is beyond description" the statement to the British Government declared:

"The world will not understand a policy of inaction at a time when delay may mean for these people death by starvation and disease. They plead to be allowed to rebuild their lives in the Jewish National Home. It is inconceivable that while their own people in Palestine are waiting to receive and welcome them they should be condemned to continue in utter hopelessness where they are unwanted and do not wish to remain -- in surroundings associated for them with recollections of grief and horror."

Among those who called on Earl Halifax were Dr. Stephen S. Wise, chairman of the American Zionist Emergency Council, Hayim Greenberg and Herman Shulman,

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officers of the Council, Dr. Israel Goldstein and Louis Lipsky, co-chairmen of the Interim Committee of the American Jewish Conference, and Dr. Nahum Goldmann, American representative of the Jewish Agency for Palestine.

The memorandum further pointed out that the immigration certificates into Palestine still available under the Palestine White Paper of 1939 were "so negligible in relation to immigration needs, that Jewish immigration into Palestine may be regarded as virtually stopped.

"We believe that even as a war measure the policy of the White Paper was short-sighted and mistaken. Its application today is as indefensible as it is heartless. One result of this policy is that even when action is taken by the democratic powers in behalf of the refugees, that action is vitiated by the refusal to recognize that an end must be put to Jewish wandering and that every Jew who so desires must be entitled to enter Palestine as of right and to settle among his own people there."

The statement referred to reports that the majority of the 270,000 Jews in Rumania are completely pauperized and that at least 80% of Rumanian Jewry wish to go to Palestine.

A similar situation prevails in other liberated territories, it was stated. As a "striking instance of the futility and cruelty of the White Paper Policy," the Jewish spokesmen pointed to the fact that some 1700 Jews who recently escaped from Germany and who hoped to go to Palestine, are to be sent to temporary refugee camps in Algiers -- "a prolongation of the individual tragedy of each of these refugees.

"There is no justification for the failure to send them to Palestine. If ships are available to take them to Algiers, they must likewise be available to take them instead to Haifa... The removal of the refugees to North Africa and their subsequent transfer elsewhere for final rehabilitation is wasteful in terms both of human life and of available resources and should be abandoned in favor of immediate settlement in Palestine.

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"In the crucial decisions now being taken, the question as to what is to become of European Jewry can no longer be ignored... The survivors are entitled to demand that the home promised to the Jewish people by the nations of the world a quarter of a century ago shall forthwith be opened to every Jew who wishes to settle there. Pending the determination of the future status of Palestine as the Jewish Commonwealth, there can be no justification for delay on the question of immediate Jewish immigration into Palestine.

"Time is all important and the issue must be dealt with now. We appeal to His Majesty's Government to meet this problem with the same spirit of broad and constructive humanity and with the historic vision of its decision when it issued the Balfour Declaration, with its promise of a restored homeland for the Jewish people."

The American Jewish Conference is an over-all body representing major national Jewish membership organizations and Jewish communities throughout the United States on overseas matters. The American Zionist Emergency Council speaks for the four major Zionist bodies in the United States -- the Zionist Organization of America, Hadassah, Mizrachi and Poale Zion -- and the Jewish Agency for Palestine is the body officially recognized under the British Mandate for Palestine representing Jewish interests in the Jewish National Home.



Memorandum  
Submitted on behalf of the American Jewish  
Conference, American Zionist Emergency  
Council, and the Jewish Agency for Palestine.

1. Reports from the liberated areas of Europe reveal the appalling plight of the surviving Jews of Europe. Not only has the Jewish population been decimated, but the psychological and material condition of the survivors is in many cases beyond description.

2. As one example we cite the case of the Jews of Rumania of whom there are today about 270,000. Persecuted and robbed under the Axis, they continue today to be singled out as pariahs in a state where a long established anti-semitism has been nurtured by the poison of Nazi propaganda. A representative of the Jewish Agency at present in Bucharest reports that:

"The majority are completely pauperized; without means of existence, without food, without clothing, and in many cases without a place to sleep. But above all they are afflicted by fear of the future and a general sense of despair. At least 80% of Rumanian Jewry wishes to go to Palestine. When the news reached Bucharest that from 500 to 700 Palestine immigration certificates per month were all that were available for Rumanian Jewry (and that only until the balance remaining under the White Paper runs out in April) there was a general day of mourning among the Jews."

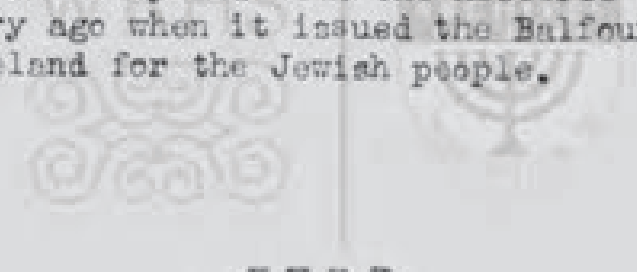
3. Everywhere among the Jews of Europe there is an overwhelming demand to emigrate and begin life afresh in Palestine. But the number of Palestine immigration certificates still available under the White Paper is so negligible in relation to Jewish needs, that that immigration may be regarded as virtually stopped. The conscience of mankind has been deeply shocked by the outrages perpetrated on the Jews. The answer however, in the past, to every plea for action by the United Nations to save these victims of the Nazis, was that there was no possibility of taking effective measures to rescue any large numbers as long as they were in enemy controlled territory. Today the fate of most of those who survive is in the hands of the United Nations. The world will not understand a policy of inaction at a time when delay may mean for these people death by starvation and disease. They plead to be allowed forthwith to rebuild their lives in the Jewish National Home. It is inconceivable that while their own people in Palestine are waiting to receive and welcome them, they should be condemned to continue in utter hopelessness where they are unwanted and do not wish to remain -- in surroundings associated for them with recollections of grief and horror.

4. We believe that even as a war measure the policy of the White Paper was short-sighted and mistaken. Its application today is as indefensible as it is heartless. One result of this policy is that even when action is taken by the democratic powers in behalf of the refugees, that action is vitiated by the refusal to recognize that an end must be put to Jewish wandering and that every Jew who so desires must be entitled to enter Palestine as of right and to settle among his own people there.

5. A striking instance of the futility and cruelty of a policy which ignores this claim has just arisen in connection with some 1,700 Jews who had escaped from Germany and are now in Switzerland. It appears that this group cannot remain in Switzerland and is about to be sent to temporary refugee camps in Algiers. The great majority of them had eagerly looked forward to settlement in Palestine and

their disappointment is correspondingly intense. Their removal now to a temporary camp in North Africa means the prolongation of the individual tragedy of each of these refugees. There is no justification for the failure to send them to Palestine. If ships are available to take them to Algiers, they must likewise be available to take them instead to Haifa. The excuse that there is a housing shortage in Palestine is an untenable one. Admittedly, just as with every other country in the world today, Palestine suffers from a shortage of housing; but the Jews of Palestine are anxious and, if assisted by the local Administration, will be ready and able to provide the necessary accommodations for these immigrants. Moreover, there are large UNRRA camps in Palestine previously used to accommodate Poles, Yugoslavs, Czechs and others who are now returning to their own countries. As a temporary measure the Jewish immigrants could be housed in these camps until their absorption into the general economy of the country. The removal of the refugees to North Africa and their subsequent transfer elsewhere for final rehabilitation is wasteful in terms both of human life and of available resources and should be abandoned in favor of immediate settlement in Palestine.

6. In the crucial decisions now being taken, the question as to what is to become of European Jewry can no longer be ignored. Eight Jews in every ten in Europe have been butchered by the Nazis. The survivors are entitled to demand that the home promised to the Jewish people by the nations of the world a quarter of a century ago shall forthwith be opened to every Jew who wishes to settle there. Pending the determination of the future status of Palestine as the Jewish Commonwealth, there can be no justification for delay on the question of immediate Jewish immigration into Palestine. Time is all important and the issue must be dealt with now. We appeal to His Majesty's Government to meet this problem in the same spirit of broad and constructive humanity and with the historic vision of its decision over a quarter of a century ago when it issued the Balfour Declaration, with its promise of a restored homeland for the Jewish people.



2/16/45

**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

*file*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

22 STATES VOTE TO OPEN PALESTINE TO JEWISH IMMIGRATION

- - - - -

MICHIGAN AND TENNESSEE LATEST TO JOIN IN DEMAND FOR JEWISH COMMONWEALTH

- - - - -

New York - With the adoption this week of resolutions by the states of Tennessee and Michigan advocating the opening of Palestine to unrestricted Jewish immigration and colonization in Palestine, the American Zionist Emergency Council, 342 Madison Avenue, New York City, today (February 21) announced that 22 states, including 66% of the population of the United States, have demonstrated their favor of reconstituting Palestine as a free, democratic Jewish Commonwealth. In the light of the Big Three Conference at Yalta, and disclosure of President Roosevelt's subsequent meetings both with Prime Minister Churchill and Arab leaders, this expression of sentiment by representatives of a majority of the American people is of great importance, the Council asserted.

Citing a resolution adopted June 30, 1922 by a joint session of the Congress of the United States, approving the Balfour Declaration, the Tennessee resolution, which was introduced by Rep. Harry U. Scruggs, Memphis Democrat, declared: "We favor the immediate abrogation of the White Paper, and the removal of any restrictions on Jewish immigration into Palestine, and any attempt to limit the right of Jews to purchase land in Palestine." Rep. Jack Ellstein, Detroit Democrat, at a meeting of the State Legislature, presented the Michigan resolution which urges "that the United States should take appropriate measures to the end that Palestine should be opened for free immigration and unrestricted

(more)

colonization so that the Jewish people may rebuild their ancestral homeland as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth."

Copies of the resolutions were forwarded to President Roosevelt, Secretary of State Stettinius, the British Ambassador to the United States, and to the United States House and Senate. Other states which have previously adopted similar resolutions are Alabama, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia and Washington.

#146 - 2/21/45

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**PRESS RELEASE from**

**AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations:*

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

file

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TWENTY-FIVE STATE LEGISLATURES, REPRESENTING 70% OF AMERICAN  
POPULATION, URGE ESTABLISHMENT OF JEWISH COMMONWEALTH

- - - -

NORTH CAROLINA, NORTH DAKOTA AND WYOMING LATEST TO ADOPT RESOLUTIONS

- - - -

New York -- The state legislatures of North Carolina, North Dakota and Wyoming this week adopted resolutions demanding the re-establishment of Palestine as a free, democratic Jewish Commonwealth. This brings the total of states which have passed such resolutions to 25, the American Zionist Emergency Council, 342 Madison Avenue, New York City, announced today.

Representatives of over 70% of the American people have now expressed themselves in support of free immigration and colonization of Jews in Palestine, the Council asserted. The resolutions call attention to the need of the Jews as a people for a national homeland, and to the endorsement of the Jewish Commonwealth objective contained in the 1944 platforms of the Democratic and Republican parties, and in the statement of President Roosevelt of October 15, 1944.

The Wyoming resolution expresses "profound sympathy with the millions of innocent victims of the enemy's ruthless extermination policy," and demands "just punishment of all those who perpetrated these horrible crimes against humanity." State Senators Joseph Blythe of Charlotte and George Penny of Greensboro introduced the North Carolina resolution, which points out that "the need for the full implementation of the promise of a Homeland of their own for the stricken and persecuted Jewish masses has become not merely a matter of justice but a dire necessity." The North Dakota resolution, introduced by Senators W. H. Shure and Joseph Bridston

(more)

and Representatives James L. Brady and K. A. Fitch, likewise draws attention to the urgent need of the Jews as a people for their own homeland and for the establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth. Copies of the resolutions were sent to President Roosevelt, Secretary of State Stettinius, the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Other states which have passed similar resolutions are Alabama, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and Washington.

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#147 - 2/28/45





**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

3/8

FOR RELEASE FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 1945

# JEWISH REPRESENTATION DEMANDED AT FORTHCOMING SAN FRANCISCO CONFERENCE

- - - - -

PLEADING CASE OF 5,000,000 JEWISH DEAD, ZIONISTS HERE  
 AND ABROAD ASK THAT AUTHORIZED SPOKESMEN FOR JEWISH NATIONAL HOME  
 BE GIVEN OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN DECISIONS  
 AFFECTING ENTIRE FUTURE OF JEWS IN PALESTINE

- - - - -

## URGE IMMEDIATE OPENING OF DOORS OF PALESTINE TO SURVIVING JEWS OF EUROPE

New York -- Declaring that "the very issues for which the war is being fought lie at stake," the American Zionist Emergency Council, acting in concert with spokesmen of the World Zionist Organization now in Jerusalem, today demanded Jewish representation at the forthcoming Security Conference in San Francisco on April 25 "in regard to all matters affecting Palestine and the future there of the Jewish people."

In a formal statement issued here the Council, which speaks for all major Zionist bodies in the United States, asserted that Prime Minister Churchill's statement postponing decision on Palestine until the end of the war "makes it even more imperative that authorized spokesmen for the Jewish National Home be accorded the same right and opportunity to be heard as accorded all other countries." It pointed out that Arab nations in neighboring countries will be represented as such, and that Jewish Palestine

(more)

should be entitled to participate in decisions which will affect its entire future.

"The ghosts of 5,000,000 Jewish dead already haunt the forthcoming Conference in San Francisco," the statement declared. "We ask the world how great must this ghastly company grow before the voice of those still living will be heard?"

Calling upon the nations of the world now -- "when decisions of overwhelming importance are being made" -- to give the Jewish people an opportunity to present their case, the Council added that an intolerable situation will be created next month when under the Chamberlain White Paper all Jewish immigration into Palestine ceases "at a time when hundreds of thousands of Jewish victims of Nazism are appealing for the right to rebuild their shattered lives among their own people in Palestine."

The statement emphasized that though 39 nations have been invited to the Conference, among them nations "which had to be coerced not to betray the democracies," the Jewish people alone, first victims and adversaries of Nazism, are ignored. It also pointed out that the subject of mandates will be discussed at the Conference, and asked, "How in the name of common decency and justice can the Jews, whose very existence as a people is bound up with mandated Palestine, not be represented?"

Full text of the statement, which supplements similar action taken in Jerusalem this week, follows:

"We call upon the nations of the world now -- when decisions of overwhelming importance are being made -- to give the Jewish people the opportunity to present their case before them, a case whose urgency has been written in the blood and agony of 5,000,000 men, women and children attacked as Jews and slaughtered as Jews. We hold that the very issues for which the war is being fought lie at stake here.

(more)



"Four great powers have now invited 39 nations to attend the San Francisco Conference. Ways were found to invite countries which had not been members of the United Nations on the ground that they had shown their good faith and thus their eligibility to attend by declaring war, however, late, upon the Axis. Among these are nations which have not lifted a finger to help the cause of the United Nations; who, quite the contrary, actually had to be coerced not to betray the democracies. If it were not so tragic, it would be a matter for cynical comment to observe with what belated haste certain nations moved to declare war upon the Axis in the hope of obtaining seats at the Conference.

"Great decisions will be taken at San Francisco. They will affect the future of the world and of all its peoples. Yet the only people who have been at war with Hitler since 1933, the first victims and adversaries of the Nazis, the people who remained the sole bulwark of democracy in the whole Middle East, whose casualty lists of 5,000,000 exceed that of any other people -- this suffering people has not been invited.

"Among the subjects to be discussed at the Conference is that of mandates. How in the name of common decency and justice can the Jews, whose very existence as a people is bound up with mandated Palestine, not be represented? The Arabs will be present as such; they are sending delegates; why should not the Jewish people have the right to protect their position in Palestine?

"The national status of the Jews in Palestine has been recognized by 52 nations of the world and today more than 30,000 Jews of tiny Palestine -- proportionately equivalent to 8,000,000 volunteers in the United States -- are fighting under their own flag and in Jewish units of the British Army. The Jews as a people are entitled to be heard in San Francisco.

(more)

"The recent statement of Prime Minister Churchill following the Middle East meetings that any decision on Palestine must await the war's end -- which we fervently hope does not represent the final judgment of the United Nations on this subject -- makes it even more imperative that authorized spokesmen for the Jewish National Home be accorded the same right and opportunity to be heard as accorded all other peoples.

"But the Jews -- and they alone -- are told to wait; to stand outside; to watch the remnants of their people ground to death in Europe; to watch those liberated in the Balkans die of slow starvation while the gates of Palestine, where they would be welcome as nowhere else in the world, are forcibly shut upon them.

"Liberation has not meant liberation for the Jews of Europe. It has not restored them to their position. Their plight is appalling. Proposals to remove them to camps in North Africa, or to establish settlements in Cyrenaica, merely prolong their agony. That is only to substitute homelessness for homelessness, to remove them from nowhere to nowhere else. These Jews can rebuild their lives only in Palestine. Palestine alone is prepared for them, Palestine alone is ready to welcome them, and welcome them not as refugees, not as transients, not as strangers, but as incoming citizens who come there as of right.

"Yet the Jews -- and they alone -- are told to wait. How long must they wait? When the Jewish people consider how many hundreds of thousands of their brethren have died since the plea to open the gates of Palestine was first sounded, and the answer 'Wait' was first given, they must ask again and again, when will promises finally be turned into deeds? When shall these persecuted, tortured, helpless Jews of Europe know justice? If it be when the war is over, few among them may be alive to know it. The ghosts of 5,000,000 dead already haunt the forthcoming Conference in

(more)

San Francisco. We ask the world how great must this ghastly company grow before the voice of those still living will be heard?

"In the name of justice to all peoples, in the name of millions of men, women and children whose annihilation will stand to the everlasting shame of the human race, we ask for a seat in the councils of the nations at San Francisco in regard to all matters affecting Palestine and the future there of the Jewish people.

"We ask the simple right of presenting our case."

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#148 - 3/8/45



149.  
3/22  
**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

**JEWES WELCOME PRESIDENT'S STAND ON PALESTINE**

**BUT DEMAND DECISION NOW**

- - - - -

New York -- Asserting that Jews everywhere "warmly welcomed" President Roosevelt's recent declaration confirming his determination to solve the Palestine problem by establishing Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth, the American Zionist Emergency Council today issued a statement demanding "action now."

The statement, made public following a six-hour conference at the Council Headquarters, 342 Madison Avenue, asserted:

"We would be failing in our duty were we not to emphasize the sense of deep disappointment which has been aroused among Jews by the fact that no visible action is being taken to give reality to this program. The tragic plight of the Jewish people makes it imperative that the solution to which the President is lending the support of his great name and office be adopted and put into effect as soon as possible. In the interests of justice and humanity, there must be no further delay. We ask action now. Immediate steps must be taken to inaugurate forthwith the process of large-scale Jewish immigration into Palestine and the conversion of that country into a Jewish State."

On Friday, President Roosevelt in his first interview with a Zionist spokesman since his conversations with King Ibn Saud of Saudi Arabia, told Dr. Stephen S. Wise, chairman of the Council, which speaks for all major Zionist groups in the United States:

"I made my position on Zionism clear in October. That position I have not changed and shall continue to seek to bring about its earliest realization."

(more)

The President was referring to his letter in October to Senator Robert F. Wagner, Democrat, of New York, in which he said that if re-elected he would help to bring about the establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth.

Today's statement by the Council continues:

"Mr. Churchill's recent intimation that a final solution of the Palestine problem will be deferred until the war is over is deeply disturbing. . . . Hundreds of thousands of Jews are today clamoring to enter Palestine. Survivors of unimaginable horrors, all but an insignificant few are prohibited from entering the land promised them. The Jews of the world are entitled to have the doors of Palestine opened immediately to free and unrestricted Jewish immigration. The need for action in this respect is of such urgency that it should not await the formal decision establishing Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth.

"At San Francisco and in succeeding conferences many matters affecting the Mandate system in general and Palestine in particular will come up for consideration. We affirm the right of the Jewish people to be represented and heard at these conferences through the Jewish Agency for Palestine, internationally recognized as the spokesman of the Jewish people on all matters affecting Palestine.

"We are confident that the justice of this position will be appreciated by all people of good will. Certain of their support, the American Zionist Emergency Council will continue its vigorous and unremitting efforts toward the attainment of these objectives."

**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

31 STATES REPRESENTING MORE THAN 4/5 U. S. POPULATION

URGE ESTABLISHMENT OF JEWISH COMMONWEALTH

- - - -

ARKANSAS, INDIANA, NEVADA, OHIO, OREGON AND UTAH

LATEST TO ADOPT ZIONIST RESOLUTIONS

- - - -

New York: -- The State Legislatures of Arkansas, Indiana, Nevada, Ohio, Oregon and Utah today announced the adoption of pro-Zionist resolutions, thus bringing to thirty-one the number of states which have formally urged the United States Government to take appropriate measures now to open the gates of Palestine and reconstitute that country as a Jewish Commonwealth. The thirty-one states represent more than 82% of the population of the United States.

Pointing out that President Roosevelt recently reiterated his approval of the Zionist program and that he declared it to be "in accord with the traditional American policy and in keeping with the spirit of the Four Freedoms," the Ohio resolution petitions the President, the Congress and the Secretary of State "to take appropriate measures to the end that Palestine be opened for free immigration and unrestricted colonization so that the Jewish people may rebuild their ancestral home as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth."

The thirty-one states now on record as supporting Zionist aspirations are: Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington and Wyoming.



**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

**ZIONISTS MOURN THE DEATH OF ROOSEVELT**

- - - - -

New York -- At a memorial service in tribute to President Roosevelt, which was held on Friday, April 13, 1945 at 2:30 P. M., under the auspices of the American Zionist Emergency Council, Dr. Israel Goldstein, President of the Zionist Organization of America, declared that "through the tragic death of President Roosevelt, the post-war world has been deprived of its architect-in-chief and the Jewish people has lost an understanding friend as well as an avowed supporter of Zionism."

Rabbi Wolf Gold, chairman of the World Executive of the Mizrahi Organization, religious Zionist movement, read the 47th Psalm. He characterized the late president, as a "great friend of the oppressed peoples of the world," and expressed his hope that President Truman would follow closely in the footsteps of Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Stressing the urgency for unity in this hour of sorrow, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, President of Hadassah, called upon the nation "to tighten its ranks in order to complete the historic task so brilliantly carried out by our great President until the very last moment of his life."

With bowed heads, more than 200 mourners heard Dr. Goldstein, who presided, intone the traditional Kaddish (prayer for dead) in the original Hebrew text.

The organizations which participated in the memorial meeting are the American Zionist Emergency Council, Zionist Organization of America, Hadassah, Poale-Zion, Mizrahi, Jewish National Fund, Jewish Agency for Palestine, Palestine Foundation Fund, United Palestine Appeal and the Zionist Archives and Library.

APR 24 1945

File

## **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

#### **GIANT MASS RALLY FOR JEWISH RIGHTS**

**TO BE HELD AT LEWISOHN STADIUM, SUNDAY, APRIL 29**

- - - -

**SENATOR WAGNER, MAYOR LA GUARDIA, DR. WISE, DR. SILVER**

**AND OTHER NATIONAL FIGURES TO DEMAND OPENING OF GATES OF PALESTINE**

- - - -

New York -- With Senator Robert F. Wagner, (Dem., N.Y.), Mayor La Guardia, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Dr. Hayim Greenberg and Louis Lipsky among the scheduled speakers, a giant mass rally for Jewish rights will be held Sunday, April 29, at Lewisohn Stadium, at 2:30 P. M.

Held under joint auspices of the American Jewish Conference, which represents the majority of American Jewry, and the American Zionist Emergency Council, which speaks for major Zionist bodies in the United States, the rally will demand:

1. A hearing for the Jewish case at San Francisco;
2. Immediate opening of the gates of Palestine to the survivors of European Jewry;
3. Reconstruction of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth.

Prior to the opening of the meeting, there will be exercises by the Jewish War Veterans and a memorial service for the 5,000,000 Jewish dead of this war. The crowd is expected to fill every seat in the Stadium at 136th Street and Amsterdam Avenue, and overflow into the adjoining Jasper Oval, according to M. Malvoin Bernig, chairman of the Committee on Arrangements. Admission will be free.

Declaring that he called upon "all citizens who are lovers of humanity --

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Jews and non-Jews alike -- to join their voices with ours," at the rally, Dr. Wise, chairman of the meeting, asserted:

"At this grave moment in the history of mankind, an urgent plea comes to the world statesmen at San Francisco -- a plea on behalf of the Jewish survivors of Nazi bestiality.

"The American public knows that the condition of the vast majority is so appalling that it beggars description. The United Nations stand on the threshold of victory. They dare not ignore the plea of these victims of one of the most heinous crimes in history. The gates of Palestine must be opened -- and opened now -- not tomorrow when it may be too late.

"The Jewish community in Palestine waits to welcome them. It is ready to absorb them in farms and industry. It is ready to give them work for their hands and sustenance for their spirit.

"But -- and this is a situation so intolerable that it cries out to the heart of humanity -- they cannot enter. There is a ban, apart from an insignificant number still to enter, on all further Jewish immigration into Palestine. The question of Palestine has been 'put off.'

"I call upon all citizens who are lovers of humanity -- Jews and non-Jews alike -- to join their voices with ours in demanding human rights and human dignity for these bitterly persecuted people.

"The undertaking of the nations of the world at the end of the last war that Palestine shall be reestablished as the Jewish national home and that, in the words of President Wilson, 'There shall be laid there the foundations of a Jewish Commonwealth' must be fulfilled in letter and in spirit.

"Peace is the sum of all its parts and the restoration of the Jews to a place of dignity among the nations is integral to that just and enduring world order which we all profoundly hope will be inaugurated at San Francisco."



WRHS



Mr. Harry L. Shapiro  
5 Prospect Pl.,  
Tulor City, N. Y.

155  
4/20  
PRESS RELEASE from

JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

342 Madison Avenue

New York 17, N. Y. MURRAY HILL 2-8003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STEPHEN S. WISE AND NAHUM GOLDMANN

DESIGNATED AS JEWISH AGENCY

EMISSARIES TO SAN FRANCISCO

- - - - -

New York -- Dr. Stephen S. Wise and Dr. Nahum Goldmann, both of New York, have been designated as special emissaries by the Executive of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, to represent that body at San Francisco. They will leave at once for San Francisco where they will act solely in that capacity.

A special memorandum setting forth the Zionist position on the establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth is being submitted to the Conference over the signature of Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency. This memorandum after reviewing the legal status of the Jewish Agency and the history of the "undertaking contained in the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate for Palestine," declares:

"No action should be taken at the San Francisco Conference which would be inconsistent with or prejudicial to the special rights of the Jewish people under the Balfour Declaration and the Palestine Mandate, and all such rights shall be expressly reserved and safeguarded."

It points out that while the agenda of the Conference is intended to preclude consideration of specific territorial questions, the Conference will have under consideration questions affecting the future of the Mandates systems of the League of Nations, and "to this extent the Conference will bring into issue matters of vital concern to the rights of the Jewish people in respect to Palestine." It

(more)

asks that no decision as the future of Palestine itself can be considered valid unless the Jewish Agency participates in the deliberations leading to that decision.

"In view of the unique character of the Palestine Mandate and the special rights of the Jewish people thereunder," the Memorandum states, "any plan which may be adopted for a mandates system or an international trusteeship in succession to the existing system of League of Nations' Mandates, should be sufficiently flexible and broad in scope to permit within its framework of the solution of the Palestine problem in accordance with the underlying intent and purpose of the Balfour Declaration and the Palestine Mandate."

Dr. Wise and Dr. Goldmann will have the cooperation in San Francisco of the Joint Committee representing the American Jewish Conference, the World Jewish Congress and the Board of Deputies of the British Jews. Members of the American Zionist Emergency Council who will be present in San Francisco will act in a consultative capacity to the Jewish Agency emissaries.

**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

4-57

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEMORIAL MARCH TO OPEN GIANT "DECISION NOW" DEMONSTRATION

AT LEWISOHN STADIUM, SUNDAY, APRIL 29th

- - - - -

MORE THAN 50,000 EXPECTED TO ATTEND RALLY

FOR OPENING OF GATES OF PALESTINE

- - - - -

New York -- A solemn memorial march of thousands of Zionist youth will open what is expected to be one of the largest mass rallies in New York history Sunday, April 29th, at Lewisohn Stadium at 2:00 P.M.

Crowds estimated to exceed 50,000 persons will jam the Stadium and the adjoining Jasper Oval in a giant "Decision Now" demonstration to demand immediate opening of the gates of Palestine to the survivors of European Jewry who have no other haven.

The meeting, which will be addressed by Senator Robert F. Wagner (Dem., N.Y.), Mayor La Guardia, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Louis Lipsky and others, will also demand that the Jewish Agency for Palestine be heard at San Francisco on all matters affecting the future status of Palestine, and that Palestine itself be reconstituted as a Jewish Commonwealth.

Taking part in military exercises on the field will be members of the Jewish War Veterans of World Wars I and II, and members of the Jewish Legion, who fought in World War I under General Allenby for the liberation of Palestine.

A military detail from Fort Hamilton will present the colors, and the audience will rise for a moment of silence in memory of the late President Roosevelt.

(more)

The program will include memorial and religious services for the 5,000,000 Jewish dead of this war, and tribute will also be paid to the 30,000 volunteer Palestinian Jews now fighting in the Jewish Brigade under General Mark Clark, and in units of the British Army.

The rally is being held under auspices of the American Jewish Conference, which represents the majority of Jewish organizations in the United States, and the American Zionist Emergency Council, which speaks for all major Zionist bodies in this country.

Admission to the rally is free.

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#156 - 4/27/45





## RESOLUTION

ADOPTED AT RALLY FOR JEWISH RIGHTS  
LEWISOHN STADIUM, NEW YORK CITY  
SUNDAY, APRIL 29, 1945

We greet the Conference of the United Nations about to assemble in San Francisco to lay the foundations of a lasting peace; we join in prayer with all liberty-loving Americans that the aspirations of civilized mankind for a new world order that shall respect the dignity of man and assure to all peoples the right to live in peace and security may be realized.

WHEREAS, the solution of the problem of the homelessness of the Jews as a people is integral to the establishment of a just and durable peace and the nations of the world gave international recognition at the end of the last war through the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate for Palestine to the right of the Jewish people to re-establish their national home in Palestine,

WHEREAS, the situation of the survivors of European Jewry whose full tragedy has been revealed by our liberating forces continues calamitous, and

WHEREAS, great numbers of these survivors, homeless and uprooted, and living under conditions of physical and moral degradation seek the right and opportunity to begin life again among their own people in their own land, and

WHEREAS, ignoring the humanitarian needs of the situation as well as the rights internationally guaranteed to the Jewish people and these survivors of the Nazi holocaust are still today prohibited entry into Palestine, and groups of them are even being transferred to new detention camps in North Africa, and

WHEREAS, the recent request of the Jewish Agency for Palestine for additional immigration certificates has been rejected by the British Government thus prolonging unnecessarily the individual tragedy of every one of these persons,

(more)

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this gathering urges:

1. The abolition forthwith of all present restrictions and limitations on free Jewish immigration into Palestine and on the right of Jews to purchase and settle on the land there.
2. The immediate announcement by the responsible Powers of their determination to reconstitute Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth in consonance with the underlying intent and purpose of the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate for Palestine.
3. The grant to the Jewish Agency for Palestine of representation and a voice in all international conferences, including that at San Francisco, in all matters which may affect the future status of Palestine and Jewish rights or interests there.

We also urge that the Jews in liberated areas who desire to emigrate to Palestine and to rebuild their lives in the Jewish National Home be given all possible assistance to that end by the Great Powers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to the President of the United States, to the Secretary of State, and to the Embassies in Washington of Great Britain, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Republic of France.

For release after 6:00 P.M.  
Sunday, April 29, 1945

Address by Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia  
Before the Rally for Jewish Rights at  
Lewisohn Stadium, New York, N.Y.  
Sunday, April 29, 1945.

In time of great crisis, times of great sorrow, we must keep our heads and act intelligently and courageously. Our sorrow is so great at this time that we cannot even afford to cry, for we have run dry of tears. All that we have been taught of compassion has turned to indignation. We are no longer cooperating -- we are protesting! We are no longer pleading -- we are demanding!

No one can claim that anything that has happened was unexpected. No one can claim that the suggestions we are making here this afternoon are new. I for one am not going to discuss the problem or argue any longer. It has been before the American people and the American Government for over twenty-seven years! Twenty-six years ago when I returned to Congress, resolutions were passed. Twenty-five years ago resolutions were passed again. The American Congress accepted the Balfour Declaration. My friends, as American citizens we have a right to talk freely and frankly. To me, as horrible as this mass massacre may be, it is just as cruel to let any people linger and suffer and to smother them with resolutions of sympathy!

Let us understand each other. We are unequivocally for world peace, but we mean peace to all the people of the world. We accept as a gospel of peace the Atlantic Charter, and we say that it says what it means and means what it says, and that no nation no matter how great can change its original intent. We have a right to talk. We have given so much in lives to these ideals. What are you here this afternoon asking? The right for people of the Jewish faith to go freely, if they desire, to Palestine and to give those people the opportunity, the privilege and the right to establish their own government. And I repeat that that has been discussed for twenty-seven years

in our country and the principle has been publicly approved by every President, by every Secretary of State, and by every Congress since that time. We have every right to expect fulfillment of all these promises and so speaking for you this afternoon, if I may, I call upon our Government to give action, to make good, and to establish a Homeland in Palestine according to the promises made to the American people.



Speech by Louis Lipsky  
At The Rally For Jewish Rights  
Lewisohn Stadium, New York City  
April 29, 1945

The American Jewish Conference, representing the overwhelming majority of American Jewry, calls upon the United Nations Conference to give consideration, in accordance with its procedures, to the following measures:

1. An International Bill of Rights.
2. Immediate restoration to Jews in Europe of all rights formerly guaranteed by constitutions and international treaties.
3. Outlawing of anti-Semitism as an instrument of national and international policy.
4. Punishment for crimes wherever committed by the Axis powers and their accomplices against the Jewish people.
5. United Nations' aid in relief and rehabilitation of Jews in a spirit of equality and equity.
6. Assistance from governmental and intergovernmental agencies in the resettlement of displaced Jews, regardless of their nationality or present place of residence.
7. Elimination of statelessness.
8. Restitution to Jews -- individuals and communities -- of their property losses caused by Axis expropriation, looting, destruction and forced sales; and reparations for general damages caused by the Axis to the Jewish people.
9. Opening of the doors of Palestine for free Jewish immigration and the reconstitution of that country as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth.
10. Representation of the Jewish people for the purpose of advice and consultation concerning postwar Jewish needs, on the councils and agencies of the United Nations.

In the world-wide discussion of United Nations plans for the promotion of international justice and security, we, as Americans and as Jews, are impelled once more to ask for just consideration of the tragic position of the Jewish people and their vital interest in the postwar world.

American opinion has been advised not to expect from San Francisco anything more than the draft of a constitution.

It would be a stultification of the great cause for which millions have died if the first public assembly of free states, after the devastation which has impaired the foundations of modern civilization, were thus to ignore the mood and temper of the world and pass without comment or consideration the grievances that have to be registered, the injustices that must be protested, the universal conditions that make for peace or war, and would regard as relevant only the bare bones of a new world structure.

The Dumbarton Oaks proposals, influenced by what are called realistic considerations, sought to avoid the use of abstract principles and gave only passing expression to sentiments of justice and human rights. But the vital questions that press heavily upon the conscience of the world will not so easily be excluded from any international gathering for the adoption of the legal framework of a world organization or for any other purpose.

What the war was fought for cannot be waived aside on the ground that it may interfere with routine or convenience, or may provoke embarrassment.

The great army of the dead will be looking over the shoulders of the statesmen, admonishing them to live up to the ideals for which so many sacrifices have been made.

What is to be done to insure a brighter future for human rights; what kind of world is to be established; how peace and brotherhood and equality are to be achieved; what fundamental wrongs have to be considered before the proceedings begin -- must find a place in the record of San Francisco, even if it be not incorporated in final decisions.

When the roll was called at San Francisco this week, a basic question immediately arose, which goes beyond the rules of order: Ab initio, -- who are its members and who has a right to appear? The names of all states allied in the war (and present in San Francisco) have been called and their accredited delegates have received credentials. Even the names of states who sabotaged the war and remained enemies until the last day of grace (and who came to San Francisco with



pomp and colorful decorations) were called.

But the people who submit an international covenant, subscribed to by fifty-two nations, under which they were accorded recognition as a people; who, in the first act of the Hitler tragedy, appeared as disfranchised aliens, homeless and stateless, and were abandoned to their fate by the democratic world; who, in the second act, were a people in flight everywhere, stripped of dignity, everywhere hunted and destroyed, serving only as human barricades against the aggressor; and who, in the last act, were the victims of a mass extermination unparalleled in history -- this people have not been called. Their representatives are not present. There are no credentials for them. On the register of living peoples with rights and status, their name does not appear.

Nor will they be heard to present their bill of particulars -- who wronged them and how, what they ask to be done to repair injuries, to give them security and freedom. They are compelled to wander about in the lobbies, without identification, barred from entrance to official councils, passing their memoranda, sending letters to the authorities, seeking a friend at court to speak for them. Only that greatly wronged people have found every door closed, every window barred, every crevice sealed, and every legal technicality invoked to deny them the right to appear among the free peoples of the world and to speak on their own behalf.

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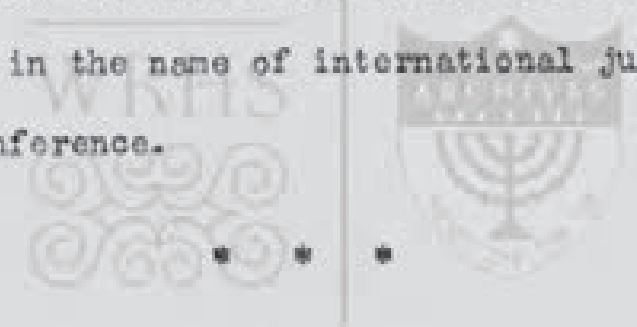
For twelve heartrending years the Jewish people have endured a systematic persecution that has moved with mounting speed and ferocity to a dreadful climax. Appeals for the rescue of the millions of Jews trapped in Europe were not heard by the Allied nations. Demands for the abrogation of the White Paper and the opening of the doors of Palestine to Jewish immigration received only a formal hearing and a practical denial. Assurances have been given that when the war is over, it would be possible to consider the question. But the whole question of Jewry's suffering and survival has not as yet come within the range of the agenda of the nations gathered to establish a permanent peace.

It is repugnant to our sense of justice that the first formal step in the creation of a new world federation should, by indirection or omission, by legal definition, congeal a fundamental wrong which radically affects the status of a people.

The first League of Nations gave recognition to the historic association of the Jewish people with Palestine. The Jewish people were given the opportunity, under law, to set in motion the creation of their own self-governing state.

What the League of Nations approved and sanctioned, the trustee of the Mandate nullified by illegal action.

Against procedure which subordinates a fundamental human right to formal definition, which rules out in advance the right of a people to plead its own case, which establishes a people as an "outsider" in the society of peoples, this great assembly registers its protest and addresses itself to San Francisco, to take cognizance of this protest in the name of international justice, which is the declared purpose of the Conference.



For Release After 6:00 P.M.  
Sunday, April 29, 1945.

Address by Senator Robert F. Wagner of New York  
At Mass Rally for Jewish Rights under  
Joint Auspices of American Jewish Conference and  
American Zionist Emergency Council  
Lewisohn Stadium, New York City, Sunday, April 29, 1945

We meet in an hour of great decision. On the battlefields of the world, we are winning liberty by the sword. In the assemblies of San Francisco, we are working toward security by international organization.

For the victory which is now in sight mankind has paid a stupendous price -- in the lives of countless heroes, and the tortured bodies of Hitler's victims.

Our own Franklin D. Roosevelt gave his life so that out of the victory so dearly won may grow universal tranquility and international justice -- justice for all the peoples of the globe, the mighty and the weak, of every color and race and creed.

Justice for the monsters who started this war means retribution, stern and swift. Justice for the innocent sufferers of this war means restitution to the limit of human possibility.

In all the four corners of the world, men and women are urgently looking for a sign -- a sign which will indicate whether this great hope of justice will be realized, -- a sign to make certain that never again shall we experience bitter disillusionment, cynicism, selfishness and ghastly war.

Because Palestine is so small among the nations, -- because it has no power except the appeal to conscience, -- little Palestine is the sign and symbol of that hope, the touchstone of the world's integrity.

Twenty-five years ago, almost to the day, the Palestine Mandate was allotted to Great Britain. In 1920, when that historic event happened, we expected that we would assemble in 1945 to celebrate a great international achievement. Instead, we meet today to protest its non-fulfillment.

What I shall say today is well known to everyone here. My real purpose is to address an audience beyond the sea, -- the brave people of Britain who are

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fighting this war against slavery and brutality, shoulder to shoulder with our own boys. I want to speak to the people of England because I have faith in their honor, in their sense of fair play. And I shall speak as one speaks to a friend: -- bluntly.

In this spirit, I say to our British friends and allies: "You have not fulfilled your obligation in Palestine. You are in default. The American people believe it is high time that you redeem your pledge."

Great Britain made at least three promises.

It promised to use its best endeavors to facilitate the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people.

It promised to facilitate Jewish immigration into Palestine.

It promised to encourage close settlement by Jews on the land in Palestine.

It made these promises in writing, solemnly, in the name of His Britannic Majesty. In return for these promises, Britain received much. From the Allied Powers and the United States, it received the mandate to govern Palestine. From the Jews, it received a vast sacrifice of sweat and treasure which have converted that neglected wasteland into a Paradise. From the Jews, also, Britain received on a per capita basis an unexcelled outpouring of blood in this war, as Palestine became the Eastern bastion for the defense of Britain's life line.

But Britain has taken without giving in return. It has not facilitated Jewish immigration into Palestine. On the contrary, it has restricted and prevented immigration, even by the hunted refugees from the terror of Hitlerism. It has not encouraged Jewish settlement on the land. On the contrary, it has stripped Palestine of half its territory; and in the remainder has placed every conceivable obstacle in the way of land purchase by Jews. It has not used its best efforts to establish a national home for the Jewish people. On the contrary, it has frustrated that holy aspiration of the Jews.

I do not need to pronounce judgment on this record. Mr. Churchill called it a breach of faith.

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There is no defense to this indictment. Great Britain has at all times kept, and still keeps, the benefits she received from the Palestine Mandate. These benefits have multiplied. She has had previously the power to perform her promise. She never had that power more adequately than today.

The officials who today keep the doors of Palestine locked are British officials. The laws which obstruct Jewish land purchases are British laws. The power which is preventing the development of a Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine is British power.

We do not believe that England lacks the strength to perform its obligations. We do believe that its Palestinian policies are a tragic revival of the disease of appeasement.

Appeasement starts with little things, just as an avalanche starts with a faint, crackling noise. But those who do not hear that faint, fore-warning, those whose conscience is not quick to act at the first sign, are heedless of history since 1933. No one expects big aggressions shortly after this war. The world is too exhausted for that. But it is the world's reaction to smaller aggressions, upon the rights and liberties of small minorities, which will determine whether we can avoid permanently big aggressions when the world recuperates.

That is why I say that the Palestine question is transcendently important, -- an importance overlooked by short-sighted persons who count the number of Jews with faces turned toward Palestine, as against the total population of the world. The people of the Sudetan also did not count for much -- in numbers.

If I am critical of our allies across the Atlantic, let me remind them and others that I have never hesitated to protest against injustice here in my own country. If I did not feel that my record at home was clear, I would not point a finger at others. Let me make it equally clear that, while the primary responsibility for the treatment of Palestine is a British responsibility, I have never forgotten that America has a responsibility as well. The whole concept of world organization is founded upon the proposition that no great nation can resign

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totally, from responsibility for fundamental questions of justice and right anywhere in the world.

I have always insisted that America should make known to the world its position on the Palestine question, in unmistakable terms.

In Congress, I have fought for a resolution expressing the sense of the American people that Jewish entry into Palestine should be unrestricted, and that Palestine should be brought into the association of free democratic nations. If the decision had been mine, Palestine would now be represented at San Francisco. My influence will ever be exerted in the direction of my beliefs. If I held higher office, I would exercise the influence of that higher office in the same direction.

As an American who holds these views, I believe in my right and my solemn duty to say to our Allies in Arms and our prospective treaty partners: The time is ripe to do justice to the Jews. No group of people has suffered longer, or more intensely, from the bestial brutality which Hitler has let loose upon civilization. Most of the Jews of Europe have been annihilated. Only a remnant remains -- a brand saved from the flames.

Are the Jews alone to find no solace in the destruction of Hitlerism? Are they alone to be denied a haven, where they can rekindle their will to live, and contribute to the progress of Mankind?

The time is short.

The hour is urgent.

Let all the Nations now put their hand to their neglected task of constituting a Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine. When intelligence of that great deed is broadcast, then the lowliest and humblest of men everywhere will know that at last Justice and Liberty have been proclaimed throughout the world.



Address of Dr. Stephen S. Wise  
Before the Rally for Jewish Rights  
Lewisohn Stadium, New York City  
Sunday afternoon, April 29, 1945

We meet today under the shadow of a great sorrow and the inspiration of a great hope. Our sorrow is over our fallen but unlost leader, Franklin Delano Roosevelt; our hope derives from the two-fold inspiration of the juncture at Torgau, Germany, of the armies of the United Nations and the meeting of these United Nations in the San Francisco Conference.

Two weeks ago this day the world stood in sorrow and gratitude at the fresh-made grave of Roosevelt. His mortal form rests in the home on the slope of the Hudson River, which he loved. But Roosevelt the leader; Roosevelt the inspirer; Roosevelt the friend of man; the Roosevelt we loved and followed is not dead. I have known as few men have known how truly he was a friend to the Jewish people. Such were the tolerance and catholicity of his own great soul that he thought not of a man as Jew or Christian, as white or brown or black. He loved and served men, and willed and strove that all men should be free, and that justice be the portion of every man and every people and every faith on earth.

These things I must say of him today before this great assembly of men. No man hated Nazism more than he did. No man rebelled against it sooner than did he. As early as March and April 1933, while timid counselors -- Jews, alas, as well as others -- counselled him to be forbearing and cautious in his dealings with Hitler, he spoke as freely as the President of the United States could, and did not conceal his detestation of Fascism and Nazism. With the prophetic spirit, he forefelt that these would become the curse and bane of all the world. He revolted, as early as 1933, against the wrongs which Nazism inflicted upon the Jew, and if his country had sooner come to the realization of the peril to world peace which came from Nazism as he understood it, he would even sooner than 1937 have sought to quarantine the aggressor nations.

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As for Zionism, Roosevelt gave his undeviating and unreserved support to it. Passionate lover of human freedom that he was, he never failed to understand why Jews sought to rebuild their National Home. Having had a full talk with him soon after his return from his last pilgrimage, I tell you today that one of the objectives he pursued was to bring about an understanding in the Near East of what the rebuilding of Palestine had already come to mean, and what it might bring by way of example and of influence, to the surrounding Arab peoples. I shall never forget nor cease to be grateful for the promptness -- indeed, eagerness -- with which he gave approval to the ideals of a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth. This Democrat of democrats understood and sympathized with the will of the Jewish people once again to have and hold their own home, not only that it might give shelter and security to those who dwelt within its walls, but that it might once again become a center of moral light and spiritual leading to all mankind. No people sorrow more deeply over the passing of Roosevelt than do we who knew him and loved him, who long recognized and cherished in him a servant of human freedom, a fearless defender of human justice.

In fewest words I wish you to know that some of us were privileged soon after his inauguration to meet with President Truman. Without hesitation and without reservation he declared to us, "I shall follow the program of President Roosevelt in relation to Palestine." He stood with us, as United States Senator from Missouri and member of the Democratic National Convention in Chicago, when he gave his full support to the adoption of the Palestine plank in the Democratic Platform. My associates and I who met with him are persuaded not only that President Truman in his own words accepts and will carry out the Roosevelt Program in relation to Palestine, but that out of conviction he will move to translate that program into action. Confidently I register my own faith in President Truman. Like Roosevelt, Truman, American and President, will give his full help to us who are resolved not only that the Jewish National Home shall come to pass, but that it shall take the form of a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth, by the

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side of all the great and small democracies throughout the world.

The first and immediate appeal of this mass demonstration of American Jews and their Christian neighbors and sympathizers is that the Jewish case be placed upon the agenda of San Francisco. There are incontrovertible reasons for including the case of the Jewish people within the San Francisco Conference. As far as there is a Jewish question, it is a world question and a world problem. In truth, it is a problem of Christendom. It is a problem for America and for all humanity. With the appearance of Hitler, the world ignored the crimes against the Jewish people whom Hitler swore to annihilate. Between five and six million of our fellow-Jews have been most foully and unnaturally murdered.

Moreover, the Jewish question is not an Arab question. Arab blindness or Arab greed will not solve the Jewish problem. The answer can only be given by the Jewish people with the help of the United Nations. Out of the first World War, neutral Arab provinces emerged as five free and independent kingdoms. After the second World War, whatever inert, neutral, or hostile Arab principalities may urge to the contrary, as against 1,000,000 square miles of Arab territory, there must emerge the 10,000 square miles of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth. This can only be if the doors of Palestine are opened and if they will remain open as they should remain open. They alone can oppose Jewish immigration through the open door of Palestine who are opposed to the Jewish National Home as a free and democratic Commonwealth.

It is for the Mandatory Government to make the decision now -- now that the European war is virtually ended, which served as a bar to decisions -- that the British Government with the cooperation of all the United Nations, including our own, make possible the opening of the door to Palestine for large immigration and land resettlement. Establishing the foundations of the Jewish Commonwealth is the least of reparations which a world of law and justice owes to the Jew. No threats of violence against the Jewish population will avail to deflect the Jewish will.

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We have reached an inexorable decision. It remains for a civilized and united world to give its approval, its cooperation to the Jewish people as they undertake, after twenty unspeakable Hitler years, to create not another temporary refuge but an enduring national home. It must be a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth which shall take its place by the side of the free democracies of earth.



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APRIL 29, 1945

RABBI STEPHEN S. WISE  
AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL  
NEW YORK CITY

TODAY AS THE ALLIED ARMIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOREVER FREE THE PEOPLES OF THE ENSLAVED NATIONS FROM THE BRUTAL CLUTCHES OF THE NAZI AGGRESSORS, IT IS THE OPPORTUNITY AND DUTY OF ALL MEN OF GOODWILL TO SEE THAT THE SURVIVORS OF THE OPPRESSED PEOPLE OF EUROPE AND THE REST OF THE WORLD WIN THE BATTLE FOR LIBERTY IN THE DAYS TO COME. THEY MUST WIN THE SUBSTANCE -- NOT MERELY THE HOLLOW SHELL OF MILITARY TRIUMPH. THE NAZI OPPRESSORS WILL SOON BE GONE BUT MANY OF THEIR VICTIMS WILL WISH NEVER TO RETURN TO THE SCENES WHERE THEY WERE ABUSED, IMPRISONED, TORTURED, WHERE THEIR FAMILIES WERE KILLED. WE HAVE A SACRED OBLIGATION TO AND PROVIDE FOR THEM OPPORTUNITY FOR SANCTUARY FOR PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT, /TO SECURE THE WORLD AGAINST OPPRESSIONS. IT IS THEREFORE IMPERATIVE FOR THE CAUSE OF WORLD PEACE THAT THE UNFORTUNATE PERSECUTED AND HOMELESS JEWISH PEOPLE OF EUROPE BE RECOGNIZED AS HUMAN BEINGS ENTITLED TO LIFE AND DIGNITY AND THE RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION. I HAVE LONG VIGOROUSLY CHAMPIONED AND BELIEVE THAT ACTION SHOULD NO LONGER WAIT FOR THE OPENING OF PALESTINE TO THE UNLIMITED IMMIGRATION AND LAND OWNERSHIP OF THE MILLIONS OF DISTRESSED JEWS. IT IS ONLY FITTING THAT THEIR PROBLEMS MUST BE ON THE CURRENT AGENDA OF ALL INTERNATIONAL DELIBERATIONS. THEIR REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD BE INVITED TO PLEAD THEIR CAUSE.

(SIGNED) THOMAS E. DEWEY

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4/30

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

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

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SENATOR WAGNER CHARGES GREAT BRITAIN'S POLICIES IN PALESTINE ARE

"TRAGIC REVIVAL OF DISEASE OF APPEASEMENT"

- - - -

MORE THAN 65,000 PERSONS OVERFLOW LEWISOHN STADIUM

IN GIANT MASS RALLY FOR JEWISH RIGHTS

- - - -

MAYOR LA GUARDIA, DR. STEPHEN S. WISE, DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER AND

LOUIS LIPSKY JOIN IN DEMAND THAT JEWISH CASE BE HEARD

AT SAN FRANCISCO AND GATES OF PALESTINE BE OPENED AT ONCE

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New York, April 30 -- Charging that "the power which is preventing the development of a Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine is British power," and that Great Britain's policies in Palestine "are a tragic revival of the disease of appeasement," Senator Robert F. Wagner (Dem., N.Y.) yesterday urged that the nations of the world "put their hands to their neglected task of constituting a Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine."

Speaking before a Rally for Jewish Rights demonstration of more than 65,000 persons who jammed Lewisohn Stadium and overflowed into the adjoining Jasper Oval, he declared: "I say to our British friends and Allies, you have not fulfilled your obligations to Palestine. You are in default. The American people believe it is high time that you redeem your pledge."

Mayor LaGuardia, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Louis Lipsky and other Zionist leaders also addressed the great crowd which heard a telegram read from Governor Dewey, asserting that he believed "action should no longer wait

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for the opening of Palestine to unlimited immigration and land ownership of the millions of distressed Jews."

Flags of the United Nations led by the red, white and blue of the United States fluttered in the breeze with the blue and white banner of Zion as Mayor LaGuardia, striking the keynote of the afternoon, declared:

"What is it you here today are asking? The right for people of the Jewish faith to go freely, if they desire, to Palestine and to give those people the opportunity, the privilege and the right to establish their own government. And I repeat that that has been discussed for twenty-seven years in our country and the principle has been publicly approved by every President, by every Secretary of State, and by every Congress since that time. We have every right to expect fulfillment of all these promises, and so speaking for you this afternoon, I call upon our Government to give action, to make good, and to establish a Homeland in Palestine according to the promises made to the American people."

Senator Wagner, reminding his audience that "while the primary responsibility for the treatment of Palestine is a British responsibility, I have never forgotten that America has a responsibility as well," urged the United States to "make known its position on the Palestine question."

"My real purpose this afternoon," he said, "is to address an audience beyond the sea -- the brave people of Britain. I shall speak as one speaks to a friend -- bluntly. As an American I believe in my right and my solemn duty to say to our Allies: The time is ripe to do justice to the Jews. Are the Jews alone to find no solace in the destruction of Hitlerism? Are they alone to be denied a haven where they can rekindle their will to live?

"The time is short, the hour is urgent. Let all the nations of the world now put their hands to their neglected task of constituting a Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine."

Dr. Wise, Chairman of the Rally, recalled his last meeting with the late President Roosevelt shortly after his return from Yalta.

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"One of the objectives President Roosevelt pursued was to bring about an understanding in the Near East of what the rebuilding of Palestine had already come to mean, and what it might bring by way of example and of influence, to the surrounding Arab peoples," Dr. Wise said. He added: "In fewest words I wish you to know that some of us were privileged soon after his inauguration to meet with President Truman. Without hesitation and without reservations he declared to us, 'I shall follow the program of President Roosevelt in relation to Palestine.' My associates and I who met with him are persuaded not only that President Truman in his own words accepts and will carry out the Roosevelt program in relation to Palestine, but that out of conviction he will move to translate that program into action."

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, noted Zionist spokesman, in a moving address, asserted: "It has been the sustaining hope of mankind that a victory of the United Nations will rectify historic wrongs. Will the principle of reparation and restoration -- the principle of justice -- be applied to all peoples after the war except the Jewish people? Is our loyalty alone to go unrequited, our sacrifices unrewarded and our dead forgotten?"

"Justice demands that the Jewish nation shall henceforth be included among the United Nations, shall have a voice and a seat in the Council of Nations, and shall be made secure and free in that hallowed land where already hundreds of thousands of our people have found sanctuary and to which many more must come from a war-ravaged and unwelcoming world, or perish."

Asking why so little has been done by our Government "to achieve the objective of a Jewish Commonwealth endorsed by the American people and by Presidents Roosevelt and Truman," Dr. Silver demanded: "What steps are being taken today -- and the sands of time are running out for our unfortunate brothers in Europe -- by our State Department to meet the wishes of the American people? What is our Government doing about the legally and morally unjustifiable White Paper which the present Prime Minister of Great Britain himself denounced a few years ago in Parliament?"

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What forces in Washington are at work to circumvent the will of the Chief Executives of our Government, who pledged themselves to work for the establishment of the Jewish State?"

Louis Lipsky, Chairman of the American Jewish Conference, co-sponsor of the meeting with the American Zionist Emergency Council — the two organizations speak for the majority of American Jewry and the major Zionist bodies of the United States respectively — called upon the San Francisco Conference to consider an International Bill of Rights, immediate restoration to Jews in Europe of all rights formerly guaranteed by constitution and international treaties, outlawing of anti-Semitism, punishment for crimes against the Jewish people by the Axis powers, opening of the doors of Palestine and reconstitution of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth.

"The first League of Nations gave recognition to the historic association of the Jewish people with Palestine. The Jewish people were given the opportunity, under law, to set in motion the creation of their own self-governing state," Lipsky asserted.

"What the League of Nations approved and sanctioned, the trustees of the Mandate nullified by illegal action.

"Against procedure which subordinates a fundamental human right to formal definition, which rules out in advance the right of a people to plead its own case, this great assembly registers its protest and addresses itself to San Francisco to take cognizance of this protest in the name of international justice, which is the declared purpose of the conference."

A four point resolution urging the opening of the doors of Palestine, an immediate announcement by the responsible powers of their determination to establish Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth, that the Jewish Agency be granted status at San Francisco, and that the United Nations give all possible assistance to surviving Jews in liberated areas who seek to emigrate to Palestine was adopted unanimously at the meeting. It was presented by Hyman J. Reit, President of the Manhattan Zionist Region.

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A resolution earlier adopted by the American Labor Party read to the gathering by Benjamin Fielding, executive secretary of the ALP, called for "lifting of all restrictions on Jewish immigration into Palestine and its reconstitution as a Jewish Commonwealth."

In introducing Dr. Wise, M. Maldwin Fortig, Chairman of the Committee on Arrangements, said, "It is of paramount importance that the rights of the Jewish people under the Balfour Declaration and the Palestine Mandate shall be safeguarded and any plan for an international trusteeship should be sufficiently flexible to permit within its framework the solution of the Palestine problem in accordance with the purpose of the Balfour Declaration."

Greetings from Hadassah were given by Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, national president of the organization.

The program opened with presentation of the colors by a military detail from Fort Hamiltan, a youth memorial march and a minute of silent tribute to the late President Roosevelt. Thousands of persons stood in tears as Rabbi Joseph Lockstein, Chairman of the Palestine Committee of the American Jewish Conference, memorialized the martyred Jews of Europe, and Rabbi Harry Halpern, President, Rabbinical Association of Brooklyn, Cantor David Patterman of the Park Avenue Synagogue and Dr. Jacob Hoffman, former Chief Rabbi of Frankfurt-on-Main, Germany, conducted services for "our slaughtered and massacred brethren." There were also exercises by Jewish War Veterans and the Jewish Legion which fought under General Allenby in World War I for the liberation of Palestine. Scores of banners reading, "Open the Gates of Palestine" and "Rescue the Living" were carried by members of the Young Zionist Actions Committee and other Jewish youth groups.

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

1720 - 16th Street, N. W.  
Washington 9, D. C.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESIDENT TRUMAN TO CARRY OUT ROOSEVELT POLICY ON PALESTINE.

HE TELLS ZIONIST DELEGATION.

Washington, D. C. -- President Harry S. Truman told a delegation of Zionist leaders consisting of Dr. Stephen S. Wise, chairman of the American Zionist Emergency Council, Hayim Greenberg, chairman of its Executive Committee and Herman Shulman, chairman of its Administrative Committee, that he will carry out the policies of the late President Roosevelt in relation to Palestine.

A statement issued by the delegation, following their visit to the President at the White House declared:

"The President authorized us to say that he is carrying out the policies of President Roosevelt, that we know what President Roosevelt's policy regarding Palestine has been. The late President's recent statements on Zionism were before him and he indicated to us in clear and unmistakable terms that he is supporting that program."

The statements by President Roosevelt, copies of which President Truman had before him, were the message by the late President addressed the 47th annual Convention of the Zionist Organization of America on October 15th at Atlantic City in which he pledged himself to "effectuate the establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth" - and the subsequent statement made to Dr. Stephen S. Wise on March 16th in which President Roosevelt reaffirmed that pledge.

The October 15th statement by President Roosevelt which was brought to the Zionist convention by Senator Wagner reads:

"Dear Bob:

"Knowing that you are to attend the 47th Annual Convention of the Zionist Organization of America, I ask you to convey to the delegates assembled my most cordial greetings. Please express my satisfaction that in accord with traditional American policy, and in keeping with the spirit of the Four Freedoms, the Democratic Party at its July convention this year included the following plank in its platform:

"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".

"Efforts will be made to find appropriate ways and means of effectuating this policy as soon as practicable. I know how long and ardently the Jewish people



have worked and prayed for the establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth. I am convinced that the American people give their support to this aim; and if reelected I shall help to bring its realization.

"With cordial regards and best wishes,

"Franklin Delano Roosevelt."

President Roosevelt on March 16th made the following statement to Rabbi Wise:

"I made my position on Zionism clear in October. That position I have not changed and shall continue to seek to bring about its earliest realization."

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

*Associated Organizations:*

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

33 STATES REPRESENTING 85% OF U. S. POPULATION

DEMAND PALESTINE AS JEWISH COMMONWEALTH

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RHODE ISLAND URGES REPRESENTATION OF JEWISH PEOPLE

AT SAN FRANCISCO CONFERENCE

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New York -- The State Legislatures of Minnesota, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island this week adopted resolutions urging the United States Government to use its good offices for the opening of Palestine to unrestricted immigration and colonization to enable the Jewish people to establish a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth there.

The General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island added the request that the Jewish people should be afforded representation at the United Nations Conference now taking place at San Francisco. The Resolutions referred to the late President Roosevelt's publicly stated approval of the Zionist program, and declared it to be, "in accord with the traditional American policy and in keeping with the spirit of the Four Freedoms." President Truman recently pledged himself to carry out the pro-Zionist policy of Mr. Roosevelt.

To date, thirty-three states have adopted resolutions petitioning the United States Government to act in favor of the Jewish aspirations in Palestine. The population of these thirty-three states comprises eighty-five per cent of the people of the United States. They are Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington and Wyoming.

PRESS RELEASE

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL  
1720 Sixteenth Street, N.W.  
Washington 9, D. C.  
Michigan 4480

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FOR RELEASE MAY 17, 1945

OFFICIAL ZIONIST BODY DENOUNCES SO-CALLED HEBREW GROUP

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"The Hebrew Committee of National Liberation" was repudiated in a statement issued today by the American Zionist Emergency Council, comprising all major Zionist bodies in the United States and headed by Dr. Stephen S. Wise.

The statement was issued in connection with the action of the so-called Hebrew Committee in sponsoring a joint Congressional resolution regarding the future of Palestine.

The statement reads:

"It has been announced in the press that a resolution regarding Palestine, sponsored by the self-styled Hebrew Committee of National Liberation, is being introduced in Congress. We do not doubt the friendly motives of the honorable members of Congress who have been persuaded to sponsor that resolution. They undoubtedly have been led to believe that in this they are of assistance to the Jewish people. But we must point out with all the vigor at our command that the so-called Hebrew Committee of National Liberation has been repudiated by every responsible Jewish organization in the United States and abroad, including the highest Jewish authority in Palestine itself, the Jewish National Assembly, which is the democratically elected spokesman for the Jews of Palestine. It is a matter of public record that the so-called Hebrew Committee of National Liberation was repudiated by the Jewish Agency for Palestine, the democratically elected spokesman for the Jewish people, Zionist and non-Zionist alike, recognized in this capacity under Article IV of the Mandate for Palestine, confirmed by Great Britain, the

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United States, and 50 other nations of the world. The 'Committee' has also been publicly denounced by the American Jewish Conference, which represents the overwhelming majority of American Jewry; by the American Zionist Emergency Council, which represents all major Zionist bodies in the United States; by the Palestine Labor Federation, and by a host of other representative Jewish bodies.

"It should again be pointed out that the Hebrew Committee of National Liberation, headed by Mr. Peter Bergson, represents neither the Jews of Palestine, nor those of Europe, nor those of the United States. In fact, that 'Committee' represents no one and is responsible to no one.

"As is well known, resolutions in support of the Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine were introduced in the Senate and the House by the majority and minority leaders of both houses. Action on these resolutions had to be deferred at the request of the Administration. We wish to stress most earnestly that any attempt to force action at this time by either the Senate or the House on a resolution such as the one sponsored by the Hebrew Committee of National Liberation would, in our considered opinion, constitute a tragic disservice to the Jewish people."

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STATE OF UTAH  
Office of the Governor  
SALT LAKE CITY

Herbert B. Maw  
Governor

Honorable Harry S. Truman  
President of the United States  
White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I have the honor to transmit to you herewith a petition initiated by Governors Dewey of New York, Baldwin of Connecticut, Tobin of Massachusetts, McGrath of Rhode Island, and me, which has been signed by 37 State Governors of the United States.

Concerned as it is with the position of the Jewish people in Europe and the future of the Jewish National Home in Palestine, we believe that this petition raises matters of immediate and far-reaching humanitarian and political importance. The considerations which prevented action in regard to these pressing issues while war still raged in Europe, no longer applies. The urgency of the Jewish problem and its solution in Palestine has become such that I venture the earnest hope that it may be thought opportune to give attention to this question in the course of your forthcoming conversations with the Prime Minister of Great Britain and Marshal Stalin.

Together with my fellow Governors, I take this opportunity of wishing you every success in the historic task which confronts you in Berlin, and a happy return to our own country.

May your decision be guided by Providence and founded in wisdom.

Yours sincerely,

Herbert B. Maw  
Governor

Governor's Office  
State Capitol  
Salt Lake City, Utah

FOR RELEASE AFTER 2:00 P.M.  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 4th.

THIRTY-SEVEN GOVERNORS PETITION PRESIDENT TRUMAN TO  
TAKE IMMEDIATE STEPS TO OPEN DOORS OF PALESTINE  
TO JEWISH MASS IMMIGRATION AND COLONIZATION

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PRESIDENT URGED TO DISCUSS WAYS AND MEANS WITH  
CHURCHILL AND STALIN AT FORTHCOMING BIG THREE CONFERENCE

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Mackinac Island, Michigan, July 4 -- President Truman today was asked by the Governors of thirty-seven States to take immediate steps to open Palestine "to Jewish mass immigration and colonization, and to bring about the earliest transformation of that country into a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth."

A Petition bearing the signatures of the thirty-seven State executives is now on its way to President Truman, accompanied by a covering letter from Governor Herbert B. Maw of Utah expressing hope that the President will discuss ways and means to achieve this with Prime Minister Churchill and Marshal Stalin at the forthcoming Big Three conference in Berlin.

Governor Maw, who initiated the Petition with Governors Dewey of New York, Tobin of Massachusetts, Baldwin of Connecticut, and McGrath of Rhode Island, released its text today at the close of the Governors' Conference here at which he presided.

"Concerned as it is with the position of the Jewish people in Europe and the future of the Jewish National Home in Palestine, we believe that this Petition raises matters of immediate and far-reaching humanitarian and political importance," the accompanying letter declares. "The considerations which prevented action in regard to these pressing issues while war still raged in Europe, no longer applies. The urgency of the Jewish problem and its solution in Palestine has become such that I venture the earnest hope that it may be thought opportune to give

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attention to this question in the course of your forthcoming conversations with the Prime Minister of Great Britain and Marshal Stalin."

Text of the Petition, which is entitled, "A Petition to the President of the United States From the Governors of the Several States," follows:

"Dear Mr. President:

"At this time, when decisions affecting the future peace of the world are being made, we, the undersigned Governors, wish to call your attention to a problem which in the interest of humanity and justice demands an early solution.

"The tragic plight of the Jews of Europe who have survived the horrors of the Nazi occupation makes imperative the speedy fulfillment of the underlying intent and purpose of the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate for Palestine. At the end of the last war 51 nations, with the support of the United States, entered into a solemn covenant which was designed to open the gates of Palestine to Jewish immigration and settlement and to pave the way for the establishment of Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth. Today hundreds of thousands of Jews, to whom for social, economic and psychological reasons continued life in Europe is intolerable, plead for the right to be admitted to the Jewish national home in Palestine and to begin life again among their own people. More than ever it is necessary to open Palestine for unrestricted Jewish immigration and to bring about its transformation into a Jewish Commonwealth, in which the civil, cultural and religious rights of all sections shall be safeguarded, and all of whose inhabitants shall enjoy equality before the law.

"The policy embodied in the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate for Palestine has had the full support of every American President, Democrat and Republican alike, from Woodrow Wilson to Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The American people, through the two major political parties have also recorded their unqualified support for this historic objective, for which, further, within recent months, 33 States of the United States representing 80 percent of the population of our country have, through resolutions adopted by their respective State Legislatures,

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also expressed themselves in full accord. In his historic message of October 15, 1944, President Roosevelt spoke for the overwhelming majority of the American people when he said; "I am convinced that the American people give their support to this aim" and pledged himself to bring about at the earliest practical moment the realization of the Zionist program.

"We believe that the time has come when concrete measures must be taken to open the doors of Palestine to Jewish mass immigration and colonization and to bring about the earliest transformation of that country into a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth, and we most earnestly urge you to take such action as will contribute to this end. In any steps which, Mr. President, you may take to bring about the realization of this program we desire to assure you that you can rely upon the approbation of the American people and count on our individual support."

The thirty-seven Governors who signed the Petition are: Sparks (Ala.), Osborn (Ariz.), Loney (Ark.), Baldwin (Conn.), Bacon (Dela.), Caldwell (Fla.), Green (Ill.), Gossett (Idaho), Blue (Ia.), Schoeppel (Kans.), Willis (Ky.), O'Connor (Ma.) Kelly (Mich.), Thye (Minn.), Donnelly (Mo.), Ford (Mont.), Carville (Nev.), Dale (N.E.), Farley (N.J.), Dempsey (N. Mex.), Dewey (N.Y.), Cherry (N.C.), Aandahl (N.Dak.), Lausche (Ohio), Kerr (Okla.), Snell (Ore.) Martin (Pa.), McGrath (R.I.), Williams (S.C.), Sharpe (S.Dak.), McCord (Tenn.), Stevenson (Tex.), Maw (Utah), Proctor (Vt.), Meadows (W. Va.), Hunt (Wyo.) and Tobin (Mass.).

**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

LEADERS OF AMERICAN ZIONISM MOURN HERMAN SHULMAN, PROMINENT ZIONIST SPOKESMAN

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New York -- Leaders of American Zionism today joined in mourning the passing of Herman Shulman, vice-chairman of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council, who died yesterday.

On behalf of the American Zionist Emergency Council, which represents all major Zionist organizations in the United States, Dr. Stephen S. Wise and Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Joint Chairmen of the Council, sent the following telegram to Mrs. Shulman at her home in Stamford, Connecticut:

"Our shock at the untimely passing of our dear colleague, Herman Shulman, is equalled only by the realization that we are deprived of his great gifts and invaluable counsel. His untiring efforts and unsurpassed zeal in behalf of his people have created a shining record of service which will remain an unforgettable example for his co-workers and future servants of the Jewish cause. We share your heartbreak in this tragic hour and extend to you and your sons our deepest sympathy. May you find solace and comfort in the knowledge that he will be remembered and mourned by countless Jews for whose welfare he worked and sacrificed so unstintingly.

Stephen S. Wise  
 Abba Hillel Silver"

Mr. Shulman, one of this country's outstanding attorneys, earned a unique place in the American Zionist movement during the past years. One of the most active members of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council, he contributed greatly to the deliberations of that body. He served as chairman of the Administrative Committee from January of this year until last week, when, with the reorganization of the American Zionist Emergency Council, he was elected a vice-chairman of the Executive Committee.

During the past three years, Mr. Shulman devoted his talents and energies to the presentation of the Zionist case in official circles. He led numerous delegations to Washington and achieved wide acclaim for his statement of the Zionist position at the hearings on the Palestine Resolution held before the House Foreign Affairs Committee in February 1944. He also played a major role as a Zionist spokesman at the last Democratic National Convention, which adopted a strong pro-Palestine plank, and at the San Francisco Conference. Mr. Shulman was scheduled to attend the forthcoming World Zionist Conference in London as a representative of the American Zionist Emergency Council.

#165 - 7/23/45

# **PRESS RELEASE from**

## **AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations:*

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi • Poale-Zion,  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ELECTION OF LABOR MAJORITY IN ENGLAND GIVES HOPE THAT  
"INTOLERABLE WHITE PAPER REGIME" IN PALESTINE WILL COME TO AN END, SAYS  
AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

- - - - -

New York -- The American Zionist Emergency Council today issued the following statement on the results of the British elections:

"The results of the British elections have been received with keenest interest by the Zionist movement in this country. It will be recalled that at the Annual Conference of the British Labor Party in December, 1944, the Conference approved the statement on Palestine by the Executive of that Party that 'there is surely neither hope nor meaning in a Jewish National Home unless we are prepared to let Jews, if they wish, enter this tiny land in such numbers as to become a majority. There was a strong case for this before the war. There is an irresistible case now.'

"The policy contained in this statement was reaffirmed by the National Executive Committee of the British Labor Party less than three months ago.

"The election of a Labor majority in the House of Commons and the consequent appointment of a Labor Government gives hope that the intolerable regime in Palestine of the White Paper, which has been continued even after the termination of the war in Europe, will now come to an end and that the sorely tried Jewish people may at last look forward to effective action in behalf of the establishment of Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth."

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, of Cleveland, and Dr. Stephen S. Wise, of New York, are joint chairmen of the American Zionist Emergency Council, which represents all major Zionist organizations in the United States.

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**PRESS RELEASE from**

**AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations:*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JUDGE ROTHENBERG, SPEAKING FOR ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL, HAILS V-J DAY

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CALLS FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION ON PALESTINE  
— — — — —

New York — Judge Morris Rothenberg, chairman of the Interim Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council, today issued a statement hailing the end of the war with Japan. The Interim Committee is acting for the Council during the absence of the Executive Committee, whose members have been participating in the World Zionist Conference in London.

Judge Rothenberg's statement follows:

"On this historic day of rejoicing, we give thanks that the blessings of peace have returned to our beloved America and that our sons and daughters will soon be with their loved ones. We are ushering in what all of us pray will be a new era of progress for mankind. Let there, then, be solemn rededication to those principles of human decency and freedom for which so many have bled and died. Let there be a high resolve that justice will at long last be done to those who have suffered most at the hands of fascist barbarism and militarism.

"The Jewish people, whose agony during these many years of war and aggression is unparalleled in the history of human misery, must share in the victory for which it sacrificed and worked so unstintingly. Our just demands for the rebuilding of our shattered national existence in Palestine should receive the full moral and material support of the United Nations.

"There should be an end to delay and vacillation. The Jewish tragedy in Europe continues unabated, and immediate action must be taken by the principal Allies in this war for man's freedom, else the chief victims of our common enemy shall again be condemned to a life of insecurity and persecution.

"Palestine must be reconstituted as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth and the doors of their ancient Homeland should be opened wide to the Jewish people. For this countless numbers of Jews have worked and died, and for this we will continue to strive unrelentingly."

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

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FOR RELEASE: MONDAY, AUGUST 27, 1945

FACTS ON ROOSEVELT'S ATTITUDE ON ZIONISM STATED BY ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

IN ANSWER TO STORY PUT OUT BY AZZAM BEY, SECRETARY OF ARAB LEAGUE

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New York -- The American Zionist Emergency Council, speaking for all major Zionist organizations in the United States, today made the following comment on the statement issued by Azzam Bey, secretary general of the new Arab League, which alleges that the late President Roosevelt gave a pledge to King Ibn Saud of Saudi Arabia that he would not support Zionist claims:

"In a statement issued by Azzam Bey, secretary general of the new Arab League, a highly dramatic account is given of an alleged pledge by President Roosevelt to King Ibn Saud, according to which the late President placed his hand in the hand of Ibn Saud and swore that he would not support the claims of the Zionists.

"President Roosevelt issued a widely-publicized statement on October 15, 1944 in which he referred to the plank in the Democratic Party platform favoring '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,' and in which he declared, 'I am convinced that the American people give their support to this aim and if re-elected I shall help to bring about its realization.'

"On March 16, 1945, after his return from Yalta and of course subsequent to his interview with Ibn Saud, President Roosevelt allowed it to be stated on his behalf in an initialed note to Dr. Stephen S. Wise that he had made clear his

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position on Zionism in the October 15th statement, that this position remained unchanged, and that he would 'continue to seek to bring about its earliest realization.'

"In these circumstances, either the story put out by Azzam Bey is manufactured out of whole cloth or else the late President was guilty of a quite incredible piece of deceit. It will be recalled that when President Roosevelt's statement of March 16, 1945 was issued, nothing was heard from Ibn Saud of any alleged promise to him. It is not until months after the President's death that this unsupported story is suddenly produced.

"At the conclusion of his statement, Azzam Bey urged the Yugoslav Government to discontinue its demand for the prosecution of the Mufti of Jerusalem as a war criminal. The Mufti, following his pro-Axis activities in Palestine and Syria, was responsible for the Rashid Ali revolt in Iraq at a most critical time in the war. Subsequently he fled to Germany and became a henchman of the Goebbels propaganda ministry in Berlin. He was responsible also for large-scale massacres of opponents of the Axis in Yugoslavia.

"Azzam Bey's support of this arch-criminal is, to say the least, significant."



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9/23  
**PRESS RELEASE from**

**AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PALESTINE JEWS WILL "RESIST TO BITTER END" REPORTED BRITISH DECISION  
TO CONTINUE WHITE PAPER POLICY -- DR. WISE AND DR. SILVER

- - - - -

ZIONIST LEADERS CALL PROTEST MEETING AT MADISON SQUARE GARDEN AND IN  
WASHINGTON; DEMAND U. S. GOVERNMENT ACT TO PREVENT "SHAMEFUL INJUSTICE"

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New York -- The Jews of Palestine will "resist to the bitter end" the decision reportedly being taken by the British Government "to continue with slight modifications the infamous policy of the Palestine White Paper and to restrict Jewish immigration there to a trickle," Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Stephen S. Wise, co-chairmen of the American Zionist Emergency Council, declared in a joint statement issued today.

Speaking "with full awareness of our responsibility as leaders of the Zionist movement in this country," Dr. Silver and Dr. Wise expressed a "solemn warning that such a decision can lead only to a catastrophe." They called on the British people and the U. S. Government, "which bears a major responsibility in this crisis," to take immediate steps "to prevent a shameful and perhaps irreparable injustice."

A mass meeting to give expression to "the sense of apprehension and indignation aroused by this news" will be held at Madison Square Garden on Sunday evening, September 30th, to be followed by an Emergency Conference of Zionist leaders in Washington, Dr. Silver and Dr. Wise announced.

The text of the statement follows:

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"News of the utmost gravity has reached us concerning the policy to be pursued by the British Government in regard to Palestine. In spite of the unequivocal resolution adopted by the Labor Party Conference last May in favor of the opening of Palestine to unrestricted Jewish immigration and the establishment there of a Jewish majority; in spite further of the appalling condition of those Jews in Europe who survived the Nazi massacres and for whom there is no hope except among their own people in Palestine, the new Labor Government, from which so much had been expected, apparently intends to continue with slight modifications the infamous policy of the Palestine White Paper and to restrict Jewish immigration there to a trickle.

"This policy the Jewish people will never accept. With full awareness of our responsibility as leaders of the Zionist movement in this country, we express the solemn warning that such a decision can lead only to a catastrophe. The Jews of Palestine will undoubtedly resist to the bitter end. They will not stand calmly by and watch the final destruction, after "liberation," of the surviving remnants of their brothers and sisters in Europe. Nor will they for themselves accept the prospect of becoming ultimately a minority, tolerated or otherwise, within one of the many Arab States. The recollection is too close of the threats and pogroms of the Mufti of Jerusalem and of the massacre of the Assyrian minority by the Arabs of Iraq. They will have the unqualified support of Jews everywhere, as well as of those who have not closed their minds to the horrors visited on the Jews of Europe.

"We believe that there are still in Britain those whose conscience will not be stilled and who, if they are made aware of the facts, will not permit this cynical denial of aims previously affirmed. At this eleventh hour we call on them to take action. But we call also on our own Government which bears a major responsibility in this crisis. Despite a series of commitments by President Roosevelt reaffirmed by President Truman looking to the opening of Palestine

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to Jewish immigration and to the establishment of a Jewish State, no effective action has been taken to that end. The moral and political authority of our Government is deeply involved and we look to the Administration of President Truman to take immediate steps to prevent a shameful and perhaps irreparable injustice.

"To give expression to the sense of apprehension and indignation aroused by this news, a mass meeting will be held at Madison Square Garden on Sunday evening, September 30th, to be followed by an Emergency Conference of Zionist leaders in Washington."

#173 - 9/23/45



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7/21

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

*Associated Organizations:*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EXCHANGE OF TELEGRAMS BETWEEN HITLER AND MUFTI DISCLOSED

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AMIN EL HUSSEINI PLEDGED ARAB SUPPORT TO AXIS

- - - - -

New York -- An exchange of telegrams between Adolf Hitler and the notorious ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, Amin el Hussein, discovered among the secret diplomatic correspondence of the Fuehrer, was disclosed today by the American Zionist Emergency Council. The ex-Mufti's telegram, sent at the time when Field Marshal Rommel's victories threatened the entire Middle East, congratulated Hitler "on the occasion of the Axis victory in North Africa," and declared that "the Arab people will further continue to fight on your side against the common enemy up to ultimate victory."

Hitler's message of thanks was transmitted to Amin el Hussein by German Staatsminister Dr. Weissner, and reads as follows: "The Fuehrer ordered me to transmit to your Eminence his heartiest thanks for your friendly congratulations of which the Fuehrer took notice with satisfaction."

The exchange of telegrams was found in Germany filed under the heading, "Volume 13, Letters and Telegrams From Foreign Heads of State." Amin el Hussein's telegram to Hitler, dated July 4, 1942, reads:

"Allow me, Fuehrer, to express to you the sincere joy of the Arabian people and my best wishes on the occasion of the Axis victory in North Africa. These successes were crowned by the solemn declarations of the German and Italian Governments, in which the sovereignty and independence of Egypt were recognized and assured. These wise policies of the Axis powers, which guided the German-Italian armies from victory to victory, will produce a very good echo not only in Egypt but also in all the other Arab lands and in the entire Orient, for they offer the best proof of the noble aims of the Axis governments and assure the other Arab lands of their liberty and independence. The Arab people will further continue to fight on your side against the common enemy up to ultimate victory."

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In releasing the text of the ex-Mufti's telegram, the American Zionist Emergency Council stated: "This revelation is most timely, in view of the Arab campaign of pressure aiming at the release of the ex-Mufti from his present detention in France, where he is under house arrest. Spokesmen of the Arab League in Cairo, as well as of the nationalistic Arab groups in Palestine, have recently repeatedly demanded that Amin el Hussein be exonerated of any responsibility for his anti-Allied activities during the war, and that he be allowed to return to Palestine, presumably to resume his violent anti-British, anti-Jewish and anti-democratic activities.

"Amin el Hussein was placed on the list of war criminals by the Yugoslav Government, for in addition to his well-remembered pro-Axis actions in Palestine and Iraq, he was also the organizer of the Wehrmacht's Moslem Divisions in the Balkans.

"This telegram from the Mufti to the Fuehrer, in which the Arab adventurer pledged the full support of the Arab people to the Axis, should reduce the hopes of his colleagues in Cairo and in Jerusalem to make the world accept an obviously distorted picture of the orientation and alignment of the Arab rulers in World War II."

MASS DEMONSTRATION FOR A JEWISH PALESTINE  
Under the Auspices of the American Zionist Emergency Council  
Madison Square Garden, New York City  
Sunday Evening, September 30, 1945

Excerpts from Address of Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Joint Chairman  
of the American Zionist Emergency Council

We are not here tonight to denounce England or to abuse its government. We are here to demand that England do justice to the Jew. Justice to the Jew from Britain, its Labor Government, means more than certificates of admission to Palestine. Justice to the Jew means not certificates of admission to Palestine, but the admission of Palestine to the United Nations Organization as a Jewish State.

There can be no justice to the Jew from Britain unless it reach the decision too long awaited, too often deferred -- that there be established the Jewish State of Palestine.

Justice to the Jew does not mean a Jewish ghetto in an Arab empire. The only status for a free and great people is the status of Statehood.

We dare to say to Britain, -- Britain cannot end or destroy the Jewish State. It can do much to inaugurate and establish it speedily and -- as our Fathers said -- in our own day.

We do not forget that it was England which wrote the Balfour Declaration, and no other country. We ask England to remember this and to end its repudiation of the Balfour Declaration. The continuance for another hour of the White Paper as the basis of British rule in Palestine is the utter repudiation of Balfour and Lloyd George and Churchill.

At Carnegie Hall 28 years ago, as the President of the Zionist Organization of America, I said to thousands of my rejoicing fellow-Jews that the "Balfour Declaration will be fulfilled, for it is written in English, the language of freedom." Must we after nearly a generation say that the Balfour Declaration might just as well have been written in German? As long as the White Paper stands, it is nothing more than a scrap of paper.



Why do we tonight ask justice for the Jew? -- Because of centuries of injustice to the Jew, the most terrible of which years and centuries were the last five or ten years.

The world did not intervene as it could have intervened; - as it should have intervened - to save six million Jews, who now lie slain by the Nazi government. We could not save ourselves, because we lacked the status of Statehood.

A Jewish State, however small, might have saved many hundreds of thousands of our brother Jews, who would have come within the reach of international law, had there been a Jewish State.

It is England which holds the Mandate over Palestine. Let England say now to the Jewish people -- Enter into the Family of Nations. You have a moral and spiritual charter. Yours is now to be a Political Charter, to enter as a political equal into the Family of Nations.

Temporary expedients have been offered -- the White Paper only the worst of them. We have waited and waited with supreme patience. We cannot, dare not, wait any longer. There must be no more offers of temporary expedients. In the spirit of justice to the Jew, we demand a permanent solution.

There is only one permanent solution -- the Status of Statehood in Palestine.

We cry to England tonight: "Open unto us the gates of righteousness." If England does, and if these be gates of righteousness and justice, then will England have obeyed the command: Justice, Justice shalt thou pursue -- Justice to England; Justice to the Jew.

Instead of the injustice of repudiation of Balfour, let there be the justice of reparation to the Jew.

\* \* \* \*

MASS DEMONSTRATION FOR A JEWISH PALESTINE  
Under the Auspices of the American Zionist Emergency Council  
Madison Square Garden, New York City  
Sunday Evening, September 30, 1945

Excerpts from Address of Henry Monsky, Co-Chairman of the  
Interim Committee of the American Jewish Conference

It was my privilege to serve as consultant to the United States delegation at the San Francisco Conference. I was designated by the American Jewish Conference. I was, as you all were, gratified that a Charter was adopted, since approved by this Government, by the British Government, by many other powers large and small, based upon the principles of justice and equality.

That Charter reaffirms our faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small. (Its stated purpose is to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, and to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom.) The nations were to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples.

In the light of present experience, we pose the questions: Are these but empty phrases? What about the Balfour Declaration and the League of Nations Mandate and the treaties relating thereto? What about the obligations that have admittedly arisen therefrom? Or are we, after having expended the awful cost in lives and material to make such Charter and its implementation possible, going back to the tragic policy of the days of Munich? Will the larger influential nations determine what is righteous, what is just, what is humanitarian, what is essential for the decent regard of human personality and a decent respect for the solemn covenants, and having thus determined, proceed to implement their decisions? Or will the policies of appeasement, expediency, their considerations and all of the iniquitous and unmoral considerations which brought on the war be followed once again? In this case will justice determine the fate of the Jew in relation to Palestine, or will it be determined by the whim and the threat of the Arab League?

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CABLEGRAM TO DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER AND DR. STEPHEN S. WISE,  
JOINT CHAIRMEN OF THE AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL,  
FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE JEWISH GEMEINDE (COMMUNITY) OF BERLIN

Jews now in Berlin comprise remnant Polish (and) German Jewry, plead opportunity  
enter Palestine stop our families murdered, life seems futile, Eretz Yisrael  
(Palestine) only hope stop please rescue us

Erich Nelhans  
President, Jewish Gemeinde, Berlin

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CABLEGRAM TO DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER AND DR. STEPHEN S. WISE,  
JOINT CHAIRMEN OF THE AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL,  
FROM MAJOR JUDAH NADICH, JEWISH CHAPLAIN SERVING AS ADVISER TO  
GENERAL EISENHOWER ON THE PROBLEM OF JEWISH DISPLACED PERSONS

WRTS  
AFTER SURVEY VISITS ALL JEWISH DISPLACED PERSONS (in) CAMPS (of) AMERICAN ZONE  
(in) GERMANY, FIND OVERWHELMING MAJORITY DESIRE IMMIGRATION (to) ERETZ YISRAEL  
(Palestine). CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATE EIGHTY PERCENT stop THESE REMNANTS (of)  
EUROPEAN JEWRY LIVE ONLY FOR DAY PALESTINE DOORS OPEN

Judah Nadich

MASS DEMONSTRATION FOR A JEWISH PALESTINE  
Under the Auspices of the American Zionist Emergency Council  
Madison Square Garden, New York City  
Sunday Evening, September 30, 1945

TEXT OF ADDRESS DELIVERED BY MAYOR FIORELLO LA GUARDIA

Mr. Monsky, ladies and gentlemen, I am not going to make a speech tonight, the situation is too serious. We are not discussing any new proposition. We believed that the problem had been decided in November 1917. Today is September 30, 1945. I am not going to review the statistics of sorrow. No language can adequately express the horror that has been inflicted upon a minority people in Europe. I am not going to talk tonight to any foreign government - I am going to talk to my own government.

The situation is too serious now for repeated promises. Millions of innocent men and women and children have been murdered, awaiting the fulfillment of promises. It is now time for action.

If this were a new proposition, there might be some reason for asking for time and for conferences. The decent people of the world resent conferences while people are dying.

Now I address myself directly to our government in Washington as one American citizen. I say to the State Department that we demand some show of statesmanship, not schmoes! You and I, and millions of suffering, oppressed, persecuted people in Europe had renewed hope when we received word flashed through the air from a battleship in mid-ocean, when the whole world heard with stunned admiration the principles of the Atlantic Charter. That brought renewed hope to all liberty-loving people, to all peace-loving people. I am quite sure that the two men who agreed on the principles were absolutely sincere, because when men are under the stress of sorrow, when men are facing serious trouble, when leaders of nations are in grave danger, they speak from the bottom of their hearts, and the promise made by Winston Churchill, and Franklin Delano Roosevelt that oppressed people would be liberated, that there would be no more persecution, that people would have a

right to determine for themselves the kind of government that they wanted, and that all people would be guaranteed the freedom from fear -- since that day, millions have died; since that day hundreds of thousands of our men have given of their lives.

The principles were so easy to understand because they were honest, and when you are confronted with the involved, intricate language of diplomacy, then you know that it is not on the level.

I said that I would talk to our own government, because we must necessarily address ourselves to our own government, and then it becomes the duty of our government to translate the wishes, the thought and the desires of the American people in their negotiations with foreign governments.

Number one: Our President, in all sincerity has asked, and it was very modest, for certificates of admission for 100,000 men and women to enter Palestine because these people have no home, have nowhere to go. I suggest that perhaps that demand might be re-enforced if at the same time our President would be authorized by Congress to say, "And we too will take 100,000 here in our homeland." There are not very many relatives and orphans of these murdered, oppressed, persecuted people left. It would be so easy for the Big Four, while they are deliberating, to relieve the congestion of unhappiness in Europe - the United States, Canada, Australia, Central and South America, South Africa. It would cause no problem at all, and would bring life and hope to people who have been suffering for years and years.

Isn't it strange, in the midst of the roar of cannons and the explosion of bombs, we could hear proclamations of self-determination, of homeland in Palestine, of liberty for the oppressed, and now that the shooting has stopped, nothing is said anymore. I didn't hear, perhaps you did, much argument in the deciding of the fate of Hong-Kong. I thought we would hear something new there, but we didn't.

Ten thousand square miles, a mite of a piece of land, not a new demand, something that had been pledged and talked and discussed and considered and promised for twenty-eight years.

I am not going to talk to the people of Great Britain tonight, although Lord Halifax, the British Ambassador, only a week ago talked to the American people. A week ago he was not talking about an ideal, he was not talking about giving the hope of life to oppressed peoples, if I remember correctly he was talking about another loan. And I want to say to my good friend Lord Halifax, as one businessman to another, that the best way to establish credit is to give an indication that the borrower knows how to keep his word.

I want to say to my good friend, "Lord" Attlee, inasmuch as he has informed us through his Ambassador that nothing drastic will happen, that the program of Churchill will be carried out, to remind him once more of the pledge made by his predecessor concerning Palestine.

And may I say to my very good friend Mr. Clayton of the State Department, now that he is in conference with Lord Keynes and Lord Keynes is persuading him for a continuance of some sort of lend-lease, that he ask Lord Keynes if Great Britain would not give just a little bit of lend-lease in the way of justice for the people of Palestine.

Friends, the situation is critical. It is far more important for an immediate decision than anything else that is now under discussion. No one can adequately comprehend the cruelty and the brutality to which these suffering people have been subjected. We talked about these things after the last war. The people of America refuse to wait any longer for a decision! And therefore I repeat, this is no time for just talk. We must do something about it. We must make it clear, very clear to our President and through him, to the State Department that we expect a fulfillment of pledges, solemn pledges made, that we expect all the beautiful rhetoric of Churchill to be translated into action.

As Americans, we must direct our appeal to our own government, and let it be said from Madison Square Garden in New York City, that we hold the President of the United States responsible if he fails to act.



Mass Demonstration for A Jewish Palestine  
Madison Square Garden, New York City  
Sunday Evening, September 30, 1945

REMARKS OF DR. DANIEL A. POLING, EDITOR, "CHRISTIAN HERALD;"

MINISTER, BAPTIST TEMPLE, PHILADELPHIA; COLUMNIST "AMERICANS ALL"

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No American citizen, whatever his attitude toward Zionism, believes that the British Government would weaken Anglo-American friendship by restoring the Balfour Declaration. Rather Anglo-American friendship would be immeasurably strengthened by the restoration of the Balfour Declaration. The United States, along with more than 50 other countries, is also under solemn commitment to the Balfour Declaration. But the United States honored her Ally's request that the return of the Jew to Palestine be not made an issue during the war. God forgive us all for that! And now that the "exigencies of war" are no longer even an excuse, the tortured Jewish remnant is sacrificed to the pusillanimous "exigencies of Peace!"

The administration of Palestine as a Jewish State would insure to Arab, Christian and Jew alike religious freedom and all other freedoms of a truly democratic government. Charges to the contrary are not supported by the Balfour Declaration and they are directly refuted by acts of Jewish communities in Palestine, which even under great difficulties have demonstrated Jewish good faith. On the other hand, tonight in shame I am compelled to acknowledge and condemn the breach of good faith by Christian nations.

I believe that pledges, honest vows should be kept. I believe that the failure to keep and to implement the Balfour pledge, which failure has already cost the lives of hundreds of thousands of Jews, now threatens the lives of yet other tens of thousands. But there is something else equally ominous; this continuing failure menaces allied unity to win the peace. To those who insist that the Arab world will not accept and will resist the re-establishing of Palestine as a Jewish State, I reply that even more serious would be perpetuating the infamy of the White Paper. I reply that Axis propaganda stimulated the Arab world to

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repudiate King Feisal's hearty acceptance of the Balfour Declaration, but that the breach of good faith by Christian nations encouraged the Arab to political aggressions and physical violence and now inspires him to graver threats. I reply that now the British Labor Government invites a major tragedy by failing to redeem its unequivocal campaign pledge of May 1945. There would be, there could be no serious Arab dissension over Palestine as a Jewish State, no possible troubles and tragedies equalling those our vacillation, weakness and denial have already produced, if Great Britain, supported by the United States, would withdraw the White Paper, restore the Balfour Declaration, redeem Britain's pledge to the Jewish people and do it now!

It has been suggested that in the grave matter bringing us together tonight, a Christian should not speak because, as to Zionism there is a difference of opinion among Jews. To that suggestion there are least two replies: First, this difference of opinion among Jews is numerically, if not financially, negligible. While I do not question the good faith of the minority, I do believe that it is terribly mistaken. But overwhelmingly all Jews are Zionists. And over the world, among those Jews to whom Palestine is the irreducible minimum for life and hope, I have found the verdict for Zion unanimous. But the second answer to the suggestion that as a Christian I remain silent, that second answer is to me more important. Indeed it is final. I must live with my conscience and my conscience makes me speak. I do not judge any man of my faith who is not a Zionist, but I do judge myself. I am a Zionist not because Jews are Zionists, but because I am a Christian.

In the present crisis I could not remain silent without denying my conscience and without betraying my faith.

Cable To Prime Minister Attlee from  
The Mass Demonstration for A Jewish Palestine  
Held Under the Auspices of the American Zionist Emergency Council  
Madison Square Garden, Sunday Evening, September 30, 1945

Mr. Prime Minister;

This message is being sent to you from Madison Square Garden in New York City, a place which during the long years of war held many a gathering assembled to express sympathy and offer help to Great Britain at the time when she stood alone in the war against the Axis, or later to help cement and strengthen British-American friendship. It is sent to you from the same people who sympathized with Britain's difficulties, who contributed to British War Relief, who, at a crucial moment in the history of Britain and of the civilized world, helped to swing America from distrust of imperialistic Britain to an all-out friendship with your country.

Tonight, Madison Square Garden is once again filled to capacity, but the multitude of Americans assembled here have no words of sympathy and confidence to offer to Britain. We are here to express our deepest protest and indignation at the continuing policy of cruelty and betrayal displayed by your Government towards the Jewish National Home. Hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions, of European Jews could have been saved during the war years if your Government had not kept the doors of Palestine closed to the Jewish people, and tens of thousands are doomed today as a result of your Government's brutal policy.

We are here to demand that Great Britain shall fulfill the letter and the spirit of the solemn pledges given to the Jewish people; that it open the gates of Palestine to free and unrestricted Jewish immigration, and that it announce an immediate decision to establish Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth.

As in the past, we prefer to be friends of Britain. We do not want our youth in Palestine to come to regard you as their enemies. Unless you act quickly and justly, irreparable damage will be done to Britain's name and prestige in the world. In this, we speak the mind of vast numbers of Americans of all faiths and all walks of life.

TELEGRAM TO PRESIDENT TRUMAN FROM THE MASS DEMONSTRATION FOR A JEWISH  
PALESTINE, HELD UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY  
COUNCIL, MADISON SQUARE GARDEN, SUNDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 30, 1945

Mr. President:

Tens of thousands of American citizens, both Jews and non-Jews, are assembled tonight in Madison Square Garden to demand justice for the Jewish people. In conveying to you the sentiments of this great gathering, we express our deep appreciation for your recent acts in behalf of the suffering Jewish survivors in Europe. Both your directive to General Eisenhower regarding conditions in American-controlled refugee camps and your letter to Prime Minister Attlee requesting 100,000 immigration certificates into Palestine for Europe's Jews are noble humanitarian actions in the best tradition of democratic America.

We feel, however, that it is our duty to inform you of the predominant sentiment of American Jewry, shared by vast numbers of Christian Americans of all walks of life. Philanthropic and relief measures alone, commendable and long-overdue as they are, cannot solve the Jewish problem. It can be solved only by the re-establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth, where men of all races and creeds will enjoy full equality of rights and opportunity. This was the meaning of the Balfour Declaration, of the Palestine Mandate and of all the pledges given to the Jewish people by Great Britain -- pledges in which America has shared and which America has repeatedly endorsed. If the present British policy regarding Palestine is allowed to continue, it will not only perpetuate the Jewish tragedy in the world, but it will also damage the cause of Anglo-American friendship so essential to the maintenance of peace in the world.

Speaking for the people which suffered most in this war, and speaking as Americans who have contributed our full share in making this land of ours free, democratic and strong, we ask your unreserved support for the immediate opening of Palestine to unrestricted Jewish immigration and the announcement of an immediate decision to establish Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth.

DECLARATION ADDRESSED TO THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR, READ IN UNISON BY  
THE ENTIRE AUDIENCE AT THE MASS DEMONSTRATION FOR  
A JEWISH PALESTINE, AND DISTRIBUTED TO ALL PARTICIPANTS IN THE RALLY

- - - - -

His Excellency  
His Britannic Majesty's Ambassador  
The Right Honorable Lord Halifax  
The British Embassy  
Washington, D. C.

Your Excellency:

For years we waited patiently for the fulfillment of  
Great Britain's pledges to the Jewish people. We waited in  
vain. In the meantime, six million Jews were killed in Europe,  
while you and your colleagues gave us promises and meaningless  
words of sympathy. The British Government bears a great share  
of the responsibility for the Jewish tragedy in Europe!

Our patience is at an end! We shall not continue to suffer  
British injustices silently. As Jews and as American citizens,  
we will fight back relentlessly until the legitimate rights of  
the Jewish people are recognized -- until Palestine is opened  
wide to free Jewish immigration and a Jewish State is re-estab-  
lished.

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Signature

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Address

PAUL E. LOCKWOOD - SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNOR

STATE OF NEW YORK  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER  
ALBANY

TEXT OF THE ADDRESS DELIVERED BY  
GOVERNOR THOMAS E. DWEY AT THE  
MASS MEETING SPONSORED BY THE  
AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL,  
HELD IN MADISON SQUARE GARDEN, NEW  
YORK CITY, SUNDAY EVENING, SEPT. 30, 1945

It is a thrilling thing to see so many thousands of people gathered together on short notice to voice their united sentiments in this great and moving cause. Through untold sacrifices and by the grace of God, the great war for freedom has been won. Yes, the war is at an end but the battle for individual liberty goes on. Tonight's meeting in the cause of liberty and sanctuary for the oppressed is vivid testimony to the unswerving devotion of our people to the unending struggle against oppression wherever it exists. I am happy to be a part of this great meeting.

It was almost 7 years ago that mass outrages broke out against the Jews all over Germany. That was nearly a year before the outbreak of the war and many months before the world learned of the systematic and brutally efficient Nazi effort to exterminate the Jews of Europe. In a radio speech at that time I risked the role of prophet in saying that the outbursts of plunder and savagery which had taken place throughout Germany and Austria bore the unmistakable earmarks of an organized plot to wipe out the Jewish people. The intervening years have spelled out in letters of horror the truth of that prophecy.

Today, as we look back, it is clear that in all history there has never been a more skillfully designed and cold-blooded effort to slaughter an entire people. More than 6,000,000 Jews lived on the continent of Europe outside of Russia before the war. Today less than 2,000,000 survive. It is the most tragic chapter of sheer brutality in history.

But the urgent, moving problem, unsolved by war, remains. The question is how these survivors are living and under what conditions. Civilized humanity has scarcely yet grasped the horror of the murder of 4 million helpless people. Nor has the conscience of mankind yet been fully aroused to the meaning of that frightful crime. If there had been full realization, it is possible that the doors of Palestine would not have been closed to the hunted Jewish people of Europe in the hour of their bitterest need. It is possible that millions now dead might still be living. That unbelievable tragedy will stand out

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concentration camps where they saw their families and their fellow men murdered. They are called "non-repatriables". So they stay there because there is no housing elsewhere and no other country to which to go.

There can be no doubt that our country and the other nations of the world are faced with serious internal and external difficulties. These problems are testing the best of thought and best of effort. They call for the strongest and ablest of leadership. But none of them is an excuse for leaving unrelieved the greatest human tragedy of this war, the plight of the first victims of Nazi terror, who still, five months after the fall of Germany, remain victims. There is no other problem which calls in such clarion tones for the sympathetic and effective action of an aroused humanity.

These people ask simply for the right to have a home of their own. That home was promised them a quarter of a century ago by the nations of the world. I can understand no legitimate reason for its continued denial. I cannot believe that the British people or the American people or the other peoples of good will in the world will remain deaf to the cries of these suffering hundreds of thousands. Since their voices cannot be heard, it is our privilege and our duty to make sure that at this mighty meeting we voice their pleas in clear and unmistakable terms.

Whatever the arguments which might properly have been advanced during the war to justify the continuation of the exclusion policy from Palestine, those arguments no longer apply. As I have said repeatedly, the homeless and persecuted Jews of Europe are entitled to life and dignity and the right of self-determination. They are entitled to live free of the fetters of persecution. They are entitled to live away from scenes haunted by memories of loot, torture and murder. They are entitled to the fundamental rights of free men, a home of their own, in a land where they can live as free, equal men and women.

There is one place they can call their own -- their very own -- and to which they should be entitled to go as their right, to live in peace and security, to develop their genius -- to be free forever from all the horrors of the dreadful past. That place is Palestine, the homeland.

There has already been demonstrated in Palestine what men can do impelled by the force of an inspired ideal. The desert and the marsh have been transformed. A land long fallen into decay has been restored into a blooming, fruitful, happy country.

Even more striking has been the change in the ex-grants themselves. Drawn for the most part from the oppressed and poverty-stricken sections of Europe, they have created a vigorous and productive society. They are sturdy and self-reliant.

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PAUL E. LOCKWOOD - SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNOR

STATE OF NEW YORK  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER  
ALBANY

TEXT OF THE ADDRESS DELIVERED BY  
GOVERNOR THOMAS E. DEWEY AT THE  
MASS MEETING SPONSORED BY THE  
AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL,  
HELD IN MADISON SQUARE GARDEN, NEW  
YORK CITY, SUNDAY EVENING, SEPT. 20, 1945

It is a thrilling thing to see so many thousands of people gathered together on short notice to voice their united sentiments in this great and moving cause. Through untold sacrifices and by the grace of God, the great war for freedom has been won. Yes, the war is at an end but the battle for individual liberty goes on. Tonight's meeting in the cause of liberty and sanctuary for the oppressed is vivid testimony to the unswerving devotion of our people to the unending struggle against oppression wherever it exists. I am happy to be a part of this great meeting.

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But the urgent, moving problem, unsolved by war, remains. The question is how these survivors are living and under what conditions. Civilized humanity has scarcely yet grasped the horror of the murder of 4 million helpless people. Nor has the conscience of mankind yet been fully aroused to the meaning of that frightful crime. If there had been full realization, it is possible that the doors of Palestine would not have been closed to the hunted Jewish people of Europe in the hour of their bitterest need. It is possible that millions now dead might still be living. ~~That unbelievable tragedy will stand out as~~ a mark against our civilization of the twentieth century in all the years to come.

In Europe today there are hundreds of thousands of Jewish people to whom peace and liberation have brought little or nothing by way of comfort or even hope. They live in desperation, filled with bitter recollection of past horrors, badly clothed and tragically underfed. Actually, tens of thousands of them still live in the same

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concentration camps where they saw their families and their fellow men murdered. They are called "non-repatriables". So they stay there because there is no housing elsewhere and no other country to which to go.

There can be no doubt that our country and the other nations of the world are faced with serious internal and external difficulties. These problems are testing the best of thought and best of effort. They call for the strongest and ablest of leadership. But none of them is an excuse for leaving unrelieved the greatest human tragedy of this war, the plight of the first victims of Nazi terror, who still, five months after the fall of Germany, remain victims. There is no other problem which calls in such clarion tones for the sympathetic and effective action of an aroused humanity.

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There is one place they can call their own -- their very own -- and to which they should be entitled to go as their right, to live in peace and security, to develop their genius -- to be free forever from all the horrors of the dreadful past. That place is Palestine, the homeland.

There has already been demonstrated in Palestine what men can do impelled by the force of an inspired ideal. The desert and the marsh have been transformed. A land long fallen into decay has been restored into a blooming, fruitful, happy country.

Even more striking has been the change in the emigrants themselves. Drawn for the most part from the oppressed and poverty-stricken sections of Europe, they have created a vigorous and productive society. They are sturdy and self-reliant. Despite all obstacles they have in fact laid the foundation of a Jewish Commonwealth.

They have played an impressive part in the war effort in the Middle East and North Africa. And it is some slight satisfaction to know that in the Jewish Brigade group their young men are having their share in the occupation of Germany.

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Moreover, let us get this point clear. Palestine's great economic development has not been achieved at the expense of the Arab inhabitants. On the contrary the Arabs have increased in numbers while their standards of living, of education and of health have improved greatly in these last 25 years.

The rights of the Jewish people in Palestine are not a local problem. These rights have wide historic human and political implications, as we have learned at such bitter cost. The attitude of nations to the problem of minorities is a touchstone to their approach to other and wider problems. Unless a society bases itself on a sincere acknowledgment of its responsibilities to the weak as well as to the strong, it will, in the inexorable process of the passage of time, perish.

What is needed today is not mere sympathy. What is needed today is action. We have a right to ask -- we have a right to insist as we do here tonight, that these victims of Nazi oppression be given not pity, not words but justice by action. They are entitled to insist and we insist on their behalf that solemn international covenants shall be respected and carried out.

Our own government and people are deeply involved. It was the common victory of ourselves and our allies in World War I which made possible the British Mandate of Palestine -- which made possible that mandate expressly granted for the purpose of promoting the development of a Jewish homeland. It was to that victory, incidentally, that the independent Arab states were also obligated for their creation. The text of the Palestine Mandate is incorporated in the convention between our country and Great Britain. It has been confirmed by every president since 1920 and both our great political parties are publicly committed to bring it to fruition.

In Great Britain, only last May the party now there in power adopted a resolution which declares, in these words:

"There is surely neither hope nor meaning in a 'Jewish National Home' unless we are prepared to let Jews, if they wish, enter this tiny land in such numbers as to become a majority. There was a strong case for this before the war. There is an irresistible case now, after the unspeakable atrocities of the cold and calculated German Nazi plan to kill all Jews in Europe."

We call tonight for the redemption of this and all the similar pledges. We call for action in accordance with our own traditions of justice and humanity. We speak on behalf of the survivors of Nazi terror who still live in misery. We call out in their name that they must not be left to die in camps. We say that those outside the camps must not be forced to remain in an atmosphere poisoned by the memory of unbelievable horrors and the all pervasive aftermath of years of anti-Semitic propaganda.

We call for the free right of immigration into Palestine and for its establishment now. The conscience of civilization must find expression. It can wait no longer.



**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 JEWRY CALLED TO MOBILIZE IN FIGHT FOR PALESTINE AS JEWISH STATE

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MORE THAN 70,000 ATTEND MOST MILITANT ZIONIST MASS DEMONSTRATION  
 IN HISTORY AT MADISON SQUARE GARDEN IN NEW YORK CITY

- - - - -

New York — "From here on, every Jew becomes a soldier in the Army of Jewish Liberation!"

With this rallying cry sounded by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, joint chairman of the American Zionist Emergency Council before one of the most militant Zionist mass demonstrations in history, American Jewry last night was mobilized in the battle for Palestine as a Jewish State.

More than 70,000 men and women — Jews and non-Jews alike — jammed New York's gigantic Madison Square Garden and packed the streets outside to cheer Dr. Silver's call to action, and to cheer again as Governor Dewey of New York, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, joint chairman with Dr. Silver of the Council, Mayor La Guardia and Dr. Israel Goldstein, President of the Zionist Organization of America, demanded that Great Britain redeem the Balfour Declaration, open the gates of Palestine, and reconstitute it now as a Jewish Commonwealth.

Loud speakers carried the addresses to the vast crowds outside, and the thundering applause from the hall as speaker after speaker hammered home the keynote of the meeting: "Our patience is at an end!" echoed for blocks through midtown New York.

Stirring climax of the meeting came when the entire audience, led by the chairman, Henry Monsky, co-chairman of the Interim Committee of the American Jewish

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Conference, rose as one and in one voice pledged themselves "as Jews and American citizens" to "fight back relentlessly until the legitimate rights of the Jewish people are recognized -- until Palestine is opened wide to free Jewish immigration and a Jewish State is re-established." The pledge, printed on postal cards and addressed to British Ambassador Lord Halifax, was signed on the spot by the audience and mailed in batches of thousands.

"Mr. Attlee!" declared Dr. Silver, addressing himself in his speech to the new Prime Minister of Great Britain and the leader of the British Labor Party which before election pledged itself to open the gates of Palestine, "Mr. Attlee, the doors of Palestine will be opened!

"British bayonets will not bar the way of our survivors. Nor will British tanks crush the hope of our people. Do you recall when your armies fled, beaten from Europe, at Dunkirk? They had a home to return to. Our people, too, had to flee from Europe because of Nazi terror and slaughter. But the home which they prepared for themselves, fearing just such an eventuality, was closed tight against them by your country.

"You now propose to continue to keep these doors shut against our survivors, after six million of our people perished, for whose death your country is not without blame.

"You will not succeed, Mr. Attlee! The conscience of mankind and of your own people will not permit it!"

The audience cheered then, as it did when Dr. Wise declared solemnly, "I tell you that I believe that I shall live to see the reconstitution of Palestine as a Jewish State!"

The audience booed the names of American Jews who oppose the Zionist program, who were described by Dr. Silver as "a few high-placed, shell-shocked Jews, befuddled and befuddling, who attempt to confuse this basic problem...who speak for an insignificant section of American Jewry -- those who are afraid lest the establishment of a Jewish State will endanger their own comfortable existence here."

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Governor Dewey charged that the independent Arab states which concede "this sacred right" of the Jewish people were denying the very principles on which these Arab states were founded at the end of World War I. Governor Dewey also reminded Prime Minister Attlee that the Labor Party last May had urged the reopening of Palestine to the Jews and called for the "redemption of this and all the other pledges.

"We call for action in accordance with our own traditions of justice and humanity. We speak on behalf of the survivors of Nazi terror who still live in misery. We call out in their name that they must not be left to die in camps. We say that those outside the camps must not be forced to remain in an atmosphere poisoned by the memory of unbelievable horrors and the all-pervasive aftermath of years on anti-Semitic propaganda."

Declaring that the Jews are entitled to the fundamental rights of free men, a home of their own, in a land where they could live as free and equal men and women, the Governor asserted emphatically: "That place is Palestine, their homeland!

"What is needed today is not more sympathy: what is needed is action. We have a right to ask -- we have a right to insist -- that these victims of Nazi oppression be given not pity, not words, but justice by action!"

Governor Dewey's words were made the more impressive by the reading of two cabled pleas received by Dr. Silver and Dr. Wise. One came from Erich Nelhans, president of the surviving Jewish community in Berlin, which pleaded that "Eretz Yisrael is our only hope," and begged, "Please rescue us!" The second came from Maj. Judah Nadich, Jewish chaplain who is adviser to Gen. Eisenhower on the problem of displaced Jewish persons. It read: "After survey visits all Jewish displaced persons camps American zone Germany find overwhelming majority desire immigration Eretz Yisrael conservative estimate 80 percent these remnants European Jewry live only for day Palestine doors open."

(more)

Mayer La Guardia, who made an unscheduled appearance as a speaker, drew repeated ovations from the audience by his terse, challenging statements.

"I address myself to our State Department and I say: We demand some display of statesmanship and not of schmooz!" he declared, and again, speaking of the visit to this country of Lord Keynes, British financial expert, he drew applause and laughter when he said:

"I would like to remind my good friend, Lord Halifax, who made a speech to the American people indicating he wanted to borrow some money for his government, that the best way to establish credit is to convince people that the borrower knows how to keep his word!"

Dr. Silver in his address paid tribute to President Truman for "performing an admirable service to the cause of humanity by dispatching a letter to Prime Minister Attlee requesting that 100,000 certificates be made immediately available to our people," but added:

"You realize, of course, that your request of Great Britain, even when granted, is not the solution of the Jewish problem which existed long before the war and which is continuing after the war. It is not a refugee problem. It cannot be solved by palliative relief measures. It is the age-old problem of Jewish national homelessness, which has been the fontal source of our tragedies throughout the ages."

Referring to those anti-Zionist Jews who called upon the President Saturday to explain to him that there was a difference between rescue and a Jewish State, Dr. Silver exclaimed:

"Oh yes, indeed, they said better than they thought when they said there was a difference between rescue and a Jewish State! We know rescue. Have we not rescued and rescued again throughout the years? Now we want a Jewish State to put an end to that endless need for rescue of Jews!

"Who does not want a Jewish State?" he demanded, and as he replied to his own question, boos greeted the names:

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"The American Jewish Committee does not want a Jewish State. The Council for Judaism does not want a Jewish State. The New York Times does not want a Jewish State.

"But who does want a Jewish State...?"

"The 600,000 Jews of Palestine want a Jewish State! You want a Jewish State!"

The audience leaped to its feet and the speaker was unable to continue for a few minutes as men and women broke out in the words of "Hatikvah."

Dr. Stephen S. Wise declared in a stirring address:

"Justice to the Jew does not mean a Jewish ghetto in an Arab empire. The only status for a free and great people -- and we, my friends, are a free and great people -- is the status of Statehood! We dare say to Britain -- Britain cannot end or destroy the Jewish State. It can do much to inaugurate and establish it speedily and -- as our Father said -- in our own day.

"We must not forget that it was England which wrote the Balfour Declaration, and not other country. We ask England to remember this and to end its repudiation of the Balfour Declaration. The continuance for another hour of the White Paper as the basis of British rule in Palestine is the utter repudiation of Balfour and Lloyd George and Churchill. As long as the White Paper stands the Balfour Declaration is nothing more than a scrap of paper.

"We cry to England tonight: 'Open unto us the gates of righteousness.' If England does, and if these be gates of righteousness and justice, then will England have obeyed the command: Justice, Justice shalt thou pursue -- Justice to England, Justice to the Jew."

In his address, Mr. Monsky recalled the San Francisco Conference which he attended as consultant to the United States delegation, and called attention to the stated purpose of the San Francisco Charter: "To establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained."

He asserted:

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"In the light of present experience, we pose the questions: Are these but empty phrases? What about the Balfour Declaration and the League of Nations Mandate and the treaties relating thereto? What about the obligations that have admittedly arisen therefrom? Or are we, after having expended the awful cost in lives and matériel to make such Charter and its implementation possible, going back to the tragic policy of the days of Munich? Will the larger influential nations determine what is righteous, what is just, what is humanitarian, what is essential for the decent regard of human personality and a decent respect for the solemn covenants, and having thus determined, proceed to implement their decisions? Or will the policies of appeasement, expediency, their considerations and all of the iniquitous and unmoral considerations which brought on the war be followed once again? In this case will justice determine the fate of the Jew in relation to Palestine, or will it be determined by the whim and the threat of the Arab League?"

Dr. Daniel A. Poling, noted churchman and editor of the "Christian Herald," another speaker, told the audience:

"It has been suggested that in the grave matter bringing us together tonight, a Christian should not speak because, as to Zionism there is a difference of opinion among Jews. To that suggestion there are at least two replies: First, this difference of opinion among Jews is numerically, if not financially, negligible. While I do not question the good faith of the minority, I do believe that it is terribly mistaken. But overwhelmingly all Jews are Zionists. And over the world, among those Jews to whom Palestine is the irreducible minimum for life and hope, I have found the verdict for Zion unanimous. But the second answer to the suggestion that as a Christian I remain silent, that second answer is to me more important. Indeed it is final. I must live with my conscience and my conscience makes me speak. I do not judge any man of my faith who is not a Zionist, but I do judge myself. I am a Zionist not because Jews are Zionists, but because I am a Christian."

Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the Zionist Organization of America declared:

"England's greatest hour was when she stood alone against the armed might of Hitler and did not flinch. Her meanest hour would be now if after having emerged victorious she would betray the Jewish people when her own peril is behind her. There are reports that the new Labor Government is about to slide into the Tory Colonial Office groove of appeasement. According to these reports, the British Cabinet is thinking of a new immigration schedule for Palestine which would, in effect, continue the principle of the iniquitous White Paper -- that Jews should be unable to become the majority in Palestine, that land purchase by Jews shall not be free from restrictions, and that a Jewish State in Palestine is 'verboden.'

"If the alarming reports which have come out of London prove to be authentic the Labor Government would be guilty of a compounded sin besides which even the grievous sins of the Tory Government would pale. Not only would it be a stab ~~in~~ in the back of hundreds of thousands of Jewish survivors in Europe, now in German camps and in lands where they have been repatriated in name only. Thousands of Jews in despair are committing suicide. Scores of thousands refusing to yield to despair have been sustained by the hope of Palestine. To destroy that hope would mean murder in the second degree only one degree removed from Hitlerian murder."

He added: "Two months ago I was in Germany and saw thousands of Jews in the camps for displaced persons. I can still hear their cries, 'Tell the Jews of America they must get the gates of Palestine opened for us! We have had enough of camps, we want home. The lands from which we came are no longer home to us. Our families were slaughtered there. Home to us means Palestine where we are wanted by our fellow Jews. For God's sake get us to Palestine quickly!'

"We raise our voices tonight in their behalf and in behalf of hundreds of thousands of other Jews who have left the camps but are repatriated in name only."

(more)

Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, president of Hadassah, in her address to the rally, asserted:

"The war was not started by the attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941. The war in Germany began with the Nazi hordes marching into Poland in September 1939. History is made in moments of decision when men have the freedom of choice. At such times failure to follow moral directives, and to bend to expediency bring about results which cannot be changed. Thus when the persecution of the Jews of Germany began in 1933, the signal was given that there were abroad forces which had to be curbed before they got so strong that they could threaten the whole civilized world.

"We are now in another period of decision. If men are once more to bend moral directives to expediency, we will once more be involved in situations which may bring tragedy in their wake. In 1933 the Jews were a test case and a symbol. The Jews once more become that test case and symbol. We trust that the American people, that the British people, and that the governments of those two great countries which have so successfully waged this great war will see that to fail to enforce justice and right at this moment of decision would be the defeat of the great moral course that won the war on the battlefield."

Other speakers included Chaim Greenberg, noted Labor Zionist, editor of the Jewish Frontier, who speaking in Yiddish declared that although he was a socialist he was criticizing the socialist government of Britain because it deserved criticism, and Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein, vice-president of Mizrahi, who memorialized the massacred Jews of Europe and pointed out that Palestine was promised to the Jews not only in the Balfour Declaration but thousands of years ago in the Bible.

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A telegram to President Truman and a cable to Prime Minister Attlee were sent off in the name of the thousands present at the rally. Text of the message to the President reads:

"Tens of thousands of American citizens, both Jews and non-Jews, are assembled tonight in Madison Square Garden to demand justice for the Jewish people. In conveying to you the sentiments of this great gathering, we express our deep appreciation for your recent acts in behalf of the suffering Jewish survivors in Europe. Both your directive to General Eisenhower regarding conditions in American-controlled refugee camps and your letter to Prime Minister Attlee requesting 100,000 certificates into Palestine for Europe's Jews are noble humanitarian actions in the best tradition of Democratic America.

"We feel, however, that it is our duty to inform you of the predominant sentiment of American Jewry, shared by vast numbers of Christian Americans of all walks of life. Philanthropic and relief measures alone, commendable and long overdue as they are, cannot solve the Jewish problem. It can be solved only by the re-establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth, where men of all races and creeds will enjoy full equality of rights and opportunity. This was the meaning of the Balfour Declaration, of the Palestine Mandate and of all the pledges given to the Jewish people by Great Britain--pledges in which America has shared and which America has repeatedly endorsed. If the present British policy regarding Palestine is allowed to continue, it will not only perpetuate the Jewish tragedy in the world, but it will also damage the cause of Anglo-American friendship so essential to the maintenance of peace in the world.

"Speaking for the people which suffered most in this war, and speaking as Americans who have contributed our full share in making this land of ours free, democratic and strong, we ask your unreserved support for the immediate opening of Palestine to unrestricted Jewish immigration and the announcement of an immediate decision to establish Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth."

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The cable to Prime Minister Attlee reads:

"This message is being sent to you from Madison Square Garden in New York City, a place which during the long years of war held many a gathering assembled to express sympathy and offer help to Great Britain at a time when she stood alone in the war against the Axis, or later to help cement and strengthen British-American friendship. It is sent to you from the same people who sympathized with Britain's difficulties, who contributed to British War Relief, who, at a crucial moment in the history of Britain and of the civilized world, helped to swing America from distrust of imperialistic Britain to an all-out friendship with your country.

"Tonight, Madison Square Garden is once again filled to capacity, but the multitude of Americans assembled here have no words of sympathy and confidence to offer to Britain. We are here to express our deepest protest and indignation at the continuing policy of cruelty and betrayal displayed by your Government towards the Jewish National Home. Hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions of European Jews could have been saved during the war years if your Government had not kept the doors of Palestine closed to the Jewish people, and tens of thousands are doomed today as a result of your Government's brutal policy.

"We are here to demand that Great Britain shall fulfill the letter and the spirit of the solemn pledge given to the Jewish people; that it open the gates of Palestine to free and unrestricted Jewish immigration, and that it announce an immediate decision to establish Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth.

"As in the past, we prefer to be friends of Britain. We do not want our youth in Palestine to come to regard you as their enemies. Unless you act quickly and justly, irreparable damage will be done to Britain's name and prestige in the world. In this, we speak the mind of vast numbers of Americans of all faiths and all walks of life."

Complete text of the pledge taken by the audience and mailed to Ambassador Halifax reads:

(more)

"Your Excellency:

"For years we waited patiently for the fulfillment of Great Britain's pledges to the Jewish people. We waited in vain. In the meantime, six million Jews were killed in Europe, while you and your colleagues gave us promises and meaningless words of sympathy. The British Government bears a great share of the responsibility for the Jewish tragedy in Europe!

"Our patience is at an end! We shall not continue to suffer British injustices silently. As Jews and as American citizens, we will fight back relentlessly until the legitimate rights of the Jewish people are recognized --until Palestine is opened wide to free Jewish immigration and a Jewish State is re-established."

Letter boxes were placed throughout the great hall and the signed postal cards were dropped in these as the audience filed out.

#178 - 10/1/45



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

American Palestine Committee

41 East 42nd Street  
New York 17, N. Y.

MUrray Hill 2-4917

Christian Council on Palestine

70 Fifth Avenue  
New York 11, N. Y.

ALgonquin 4-2720

FOR RELEASE: MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1945

REP. HELEN GAHAGAN DOUGLAS DEMANDS BRITAIN FULFILL PLEDGE ON PALESTINE

- - - - -

SPEAKERS AT CHRISTIAN YOUTH MEETING ASSAIL

BRITISH POLICY AS "CRUEL AND INHUMAN"

- - - - -

New York -- Speaking in Christ Church, Park Avenue and 60th Street, at a youth meeting called by the American Christian Palestine Committee as part of a three-day Christian Conference on Palestine, Representative Helen Gahagan Douglas (D., Cal.) last night (Sunday evening, October 14) demanded that the British Labor Government fulfill its oft-repeated pledge of a Jewish Palestine now, "when a hopeless future stares in the face of European Jewry, when every consideration of mercy, justice and political logic calls for a Jewish Palestine."

Rep. Douglas declared that "Jews in Palestine today are making the Bible's prophecies come true; they are consciously attempting to build a society worthy of their ethical heritage... The interests of the Jews of Palestine and those of their Arab neighbors are complementary rather than conflicting. What Jewish Palestine has already done by force of example gives us assurance as Americans that it is the key to the democratization of the Arab lands and that its development is, therefore, to America's own interest."

Dr. Carl Hermann Voss, extension secretary of the Church Peace Union and co-director of the American Christian Palestine Committee, told the youth meeting that "after appealing to the conscience of mankind for six horrible years, during which their brethren in Europe were annihilated by the millions, the Jews of

(more)

Palestine have now reached the end of their patience. They can no longer suffer in silence while Britain's cruel policy on Palestine makes a mockery of the ideals for which we fought the Second World War and for which an estimated six million Jews lost their lives. The responsibility for making a battlefield of the Holy Land is Britain's and Britain's alone."

Dean Howard M. LeSourd of Boston University, director of the American Christian Palestine Committee, declared: "Unless Great Britain immediately reverses her inhuman attitude on Palestine, a catastrophe is inevitable. If we remain silent while British colonial policy begins where Nazi barbarism left off we shall become partners in one of the great crimes in human history."

Rabbi Ahron Opher, of the Hebrew Tabernacle, said: "The British Labor Government violates its sacred promise and contributes to the disaster of Europe's shattered remnants of Israel. Prime Minister Attlee, in yielding to the 1939 appeasement of reactionary Arab rulers, nullifies the foundation of the new world order and jeopardizes the best interests of the English people."

The three-day Conference will be continued today (Monday, October 15) at the Hotel Commodore, where a ministers' luncheon will be held at 12:30 P.M. Speakers at the luncheon will be Senator Owen Brewster (R., Me.), Dr. Henry A. Atkinson, general secretary of the World Alliance for International Friendship through the Churches, Dr. Guy Emery Sipler, editor of The Churchman, Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein, executive director of the Committee on Army and Navy Religious Activities of the National Jewish Welfare Board, and Dr. Voss.

**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

**RETURN TO FILES**

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10/23

NOTE TO EDITORS

The attached memorandum was submitted today to Secretary of State James F. Byrnes at the State Department in Washington by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Stephen S. Wise, joint chairmen of the American Zionist Emergency Council. The memorandum deals with the exchange of correspondence between President Roosevelt and King Ibn Saud which was made public a few days ago by the State Department.

The statement by Dr. Silver, which is also attached, was released in Washington today at a press conference following the meeting of Dr. Silver and Dr. Wise with the Secretary of State.

We are sending you the full text of the memorandum and the statement, believing that you will want this information for future reference and that you may wish to add some of it to the story that you receive today from Washington.

October 23, 1945.



**PRESS RELEASE from**

**AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations:*

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

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10/25

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**GREATEST ZIONIST DEMONSTRATION DEMANDS**

**JEWISH STATE AND PLEDGES SOLIDARITY WITH JEWISH PALESTINE**

- - - -

New York, October 24 -- The voice of America spoke today in words heard round the world.

It spoke for a Jewish Palestine -- for the immediate opening of Palestine's doors -- for the establishment of Palestine as a Jewish State.

It spoke in the mighty accents of a quarter of a million men, women and children -- Jews and non-Jews alike, who left office, workbench and schoolroom in mid-afternoon of a cold and threatening day to meet at Madison Square Park in the heart of New York, to denounce the British White Paper and to pledge themselves unreservedly as fellow-fighters in the Yishuv's fight for freedom.

Two hundred and fifty thousand strong, with thousands of members of Jewish youth, religious, civic and veterans groups marching in parade formation to the park carrying militant banners and placards, the rally was a demonstration of mass solidarity and mass indignation on a scale never before seen in New York, scene of many a historic protest gathering. Military bands played, Palestinian songs were sung, and for blocks around the streets echoed with the reverberations of the speakers' words and the thunderous roars of applause.

"We have joined in a mighty demonstration of support for your heroic struggle to rebuild the national life of the Jewish people and to restore dignity and honor to the broken remnants of European Jewry," read the message sent to the 600,000 Jews of Palestine by this vast multitude which itself equalled in numbers almost half the Yishuv. "We will not rest until the present shameful British policy on Palestine is destroyed. Your struggle is our struggle, too.

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"Jews of Palestine -- the American people are with you in this great cause!"

Sponsored by the American Zionist Emergency Council, the rally applauded such speakers as Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the Zionist Organization of America; Louis Lipsky, co-chairman of the American Jewish Conference and chairman of the demonstration; Thomas Murray, president of the New York State Federation of Labor; Louis Hollander, chairman of the New York State Industrial Union Council, CIO; Rabbi Seymour M. Zambrowsky, general secretary of Mizrachi; and David Wertheim, head of Poale Zion.

Governor Thomas E. Dewey of New York wired the rally a message of support reading in part:

"I consider it the solemn duty of each of us to add our voices to this great gathering of New York citizens demanding justice for the Jewish people of the world and the restoration of the Jewish nation in its historic homeland -- Palestine!"

Then the audience heard Jewish and non-Jewish leaders denounce British policy on Palestine, commend President Truman for his request of 100,000 immigration certificates to Palestine for displaced Jews, and warn that American public opinion would not be silent in the face of Britain's repudiation of the covenant made with the Jewish people.

"We refuse to recognize the term 'illegal' as applied to Jewish immigration without certificates into Palestine." Dr. Goldstein declared, and above the sea of faces before him placards reading, "Fight British Betrayal!" and "Don't Trade Jewish Blood for Arab Oil!" flashed in the brilliant rays of powerful searchlights which played upon the speakers' platform.

"Every Jew who enters the Jewish National Home does so as of right. Illegal is the hand and the government that attempts to bar the Jew from the Jewish National Home!"

Assailing Britain's "hypocrisy" in demanding freedom of speech, assembly and press in other countries and denying it in Palestine, Dr. Goldstein warned, "the truth will out -- it will spring out of the ground and, if necessary, out of the underground!"

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At this mention of the resistance now exhibited by Jews in Palestine as they aid Jewish refugees to cross the borders into the Jewish Homeland, the audience cheered. Side by side the American flag and the blue and white flag of Eretz Israel fluttered in the sharp autumn breeze.

"American public opinion backs you up," Dr. Goldstein assured President Truman in his address, as he called upon him to "keep insisting" on the immediate admittance of 100,000 Jews into Palestine. "We expect you to keep reminding Great Britain of that American policy which is on the record in party platforms and Congress resolutions. We expect you to prove yourself the forthright, courageous, warmhearted human being we know you to be, by seeing this issue through to its proper fulfillment -- Palestine opened wide to Jewish masses and then reconstituted as a Jewish state."

Louis Lipsky attacked British policy in Palestine because it "is making a parade of military strength...expelling unfriendly foreign correspondents...engaging in propaganda in Cairo, in London and in Washington, to create the impression that it is preparing to prevent civil war in Palestine." He denounced the "intention of the British Empire to legalize the larceny of Jewish rights and make that wrong permanent," and added bitterly:

"It is an amazing display of the old British imperialist method which comes as a shock to the whole liberal world, knowing that a Labor Government leads the affairs of the Empire, and that we are supposed to be engaged in the creation of a new world order of justice and peace."

State AFE president Murray made a blistering attack on King Ibn Saud -- "that lecherous old man...whose people are 100 percent illiterate, whose unfortunate subjects have their hands amputated for minor offenses and into whose coffers millions of dollars for oil have poured without so much as one penny filtering down to his people."

Bringing the "unreserved pledge" of the American Federation of Labor to the cause of Jewish aspirations in Palestine, Murray charged:

(more)

"It is to appease these oil-rich Charlie McCarthys sitting on Britain's imperialistic knee, speaking with Britain's imperialistic voice, that pledges are repudiated; that the Jewish people are betrayed; that American labor and the wishes of American labor, the American people and the oft-repeated wishes of American people, are dismissed so callously and so disdainfully! On behalf of the American Federation of Labor I pledge that we will exert every power at our command to see that the pledge to the Jewish people is carried out. We will not stand idly by! We are in this fight to the end!"

CIO spokesman Hollander charged that it was the "fascist-minded Arab landlords, the Effendis and their kind who are against the Jews in Palestine. They hate Jewish Palestine because they have witnessed the rise of a powerful labor movement there and they see in it their doom."

He voiced the CIO's complete support of the Jewish cause -- "the revocation of the White Paper and the opening of the doors of Palestine to unrestricted Jewish immigration."

Hollander called upon the British Government "to redeem the broken pledges of the Tory government to the Jewish people: we ask the Labor Government of Premier Attlee to redeem the good name of the British people who have over and over again manifested their sympathy with a Jewish Homeland in Palestine.

"We say to the British Government: We will not be silent! We will not rest until you have redeemed your pledge! We will not be diverted by the false issues which your Colonial Office injects into the picture to confuse us. We will not be fooled by the boggy of so-called Arab might; we will not be lulled into acceptance of your brutal Palestine policy by the legend that if you attempt to carry out your pledges on Palestine, Arab armies will rise against us! We see this falsehood for what it is!"

He voiced the CIO's complete support of the Jewish cause. "To the Jews of Palestine, we say: stand fast -- we are with you!"

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Rabbi Zambrowsky declared: "Where is the conscience of the world? A place of refuge must be given to the long-suffering and downtrodden Jewish victims of Nazism, to those who are teaching that one has to give a haven even to criminals. The Jews have an old mandate over Palestine -- the Bible. And no power in the world will be able to wipe out this mandate."

Mr. Wertheim in his address appealed to the British Labor Government not to blemish the name of socialism. "The entire liberal world," he asserted, "placed its hopes in the British Labor Party. It now looks forward to your favorable decision with regard to the Jews and Palestine."

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#195 - 10/25/48



## PRESS RELEASE

### AMERICAN CHRISTIAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE

American Palestine Committee

41 East 42nd Street  
New York 17, N. Y.

Murray Hill 2-4917

Christian Council on Palestine

70 Fifth Avenue  
New York 11, N. Y.

ALgonquin 4-2720

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10/29/45  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### 25 NATIONS WILL BE REPRESENTED AT INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE FOR PALESTINE

- - - - -

#### LEADERS OF PRO-PALESTINE COMMITTEES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD WILL MEET IN WASHINGTON

- - - - -

Washington -- Representatives of twenty-five nations will participate in an unprecedented two-day International Christian Conference for Palestine, which will be held in the Hotel Statler, Washington, D. C., on Thursday, November 1 and Friday, November 2, it was announced today by the American Christian Palestine Committee, which is sponsoring the Conference.

Leaders of Christian pro-Palestine committees from the following nations will take part in the Conference:

Australia, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Canada, Dutch Guiana, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Great Britain, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Mexico, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Peru, Portugal, Sweden, Uruguay, United States of America, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

The formal opening of the Conference on Thursday will be preceded by a Women's Tea, to be held in the Congressional Room of the Hotel Statler on Wednesday, October 31. Mrs. Lorna Wingate, delegate from Great Britain and widow of the late British war hero, General Orde C. Wingate, will address this gathering. Other speakers will be Lady Flavelle, who, with her husband, Sir Ellsworth Flavelle, Bart., will be among those representing Canada at the Conference; Mrs. Corina Rodriguez, delegate from Costa Rica, and Mrs. Gordon Wright, another member of the

(more)



Canadian delegation. Representative Helen Cahagan Douglas (D., Cal.), Mrs. Walter Clay Lowdermilk and Mrs. Robert A. Taft will act as hostesses at the tea, which is scheduled for 3:30 P.M.

The Conference will discuss the work being carried on by Christian pro-Palestine committees throughout the world. Among the projects to be considered will be the organization of an Inter-American Christian pro-Palestine Committee, representing North America and Latin America, and the formation of an International Christian pro-Palestine Committee.

Prominent Washingtonians will honor the visiting delegates at a luncheon, to be held on Thursday, November 1, and a dinner, which is scheduled for Friday, November 2 at 7:00 P.M.

Speakers at the luncheon, which will take place in the South American Room of the Statler will include the Very Rev. Dr. Kenneth C. Evans, Dean of the Diocese of Montreal and Rector of Christ Church Cathedral, Montreal; and Dr. Walter Clay Lowdermilk, Assistant Chief of the Soil Conservation Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and leading authority on the absorptive capacity of Palestine. Rev. Frederick Brown Harris, Chaplain of the U. S. Senate, will be the chairman of the luncheon session. Dr. Henry A. Atkinson, chairman of the Christian Council on Palestine, will deliver the address of welcome to the visitors from abroad and Senator Eduardo Chibas of Cuba will speak in the name of the delegates. The invocation will be delivered by Dr. Guy Emery Sipler of New York.

Friday's dinner, which will close the Conference, will be presided over by Senator Robert F. Wagner, (D., N.Y.), with Dr. Daniel L. Marsh, President of Boston University, acting as toastmaster. Speakers will include Senator Owen Brewster (R., Me.); Mrs. Lorna Wingate; William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor; M. J. Coldwell, leader of the Commonwealth Party of Canada and member of the Canadian Parliament; Dr. Daniel A. Poling, editor of The Christian Herald; Senator Gabriel Gonzales Videla of Chile, and Senator Arthur Wentworth Roebuck, who will speak for the Canadian Palestine Committee. The invocation will be delivered by Dr. Evans.

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10/30  
**PRESS RELEASE from**

**AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations:*

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

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FOUR-POINT PROGRAM FOR JOINT ANGLO-AMERICAN POLICY**

**ON PALESTINE PRESENTED BY AMERICAN ZIONISTS**

- - - - -

ZIONISTS SEND MEMORANDUM TO PRESIDENT TRUMAN WARNING AGAINST  
POSTPONEMENT BY NEW INQUIRY: CHARGE IN STATEMENT ISSUED HERE THAT  
PROPOSAL IS "NEW EVASION OF PALESTINE PROBLEM BY BRITISH GOVERNMENT"

- - - - -

New York -- A four-point program for the implementation of a joint Anglo-American policy on Palestine was made public today in a statement issued by the American Zionist Emergency Council.

The statement also disclosed that the Council had forwarded a memorandum to President Truman characterizing the contemplated appointment of a new commission to study the situation of Jewish survivors in Europe and their emigration needs as an unacceptable substitute for positive action.

The Council's statement today charged that the setting up of such a commission at this late date was "a new evasion of the Palestine problem by the British Government."

Text of the statement follows:

"Reports from London indicate that in reply to President Truman's admirable request for immediate entry of 100,000 Jews into Palestine, we are to be presented with a new evasion of the Palestine problem by the British Government.

"These reports imply that on the suggestion of the British, the Governments of Great Britain and the United States are considering the appointment of a Joint Commission to visit Europe and study once more the situation of the Jewish survivors and their emigration needs, and to determine again how many of them want

(more)

to go to Palestine and how many can be placed elsewhere. Neither the representatives of the Zionist organizations in this country nor the representatives of the Jewish Agency for Palestine in London have been consulted or informed regarding this proposal and we are therefore without official confirmation.

"However, it is a subject of such importance that we have today forwarded a memorandum to President Truman conveying our alarm at this further postponement of immediate rescue measures to alleviate the plight of European Jewry and warning our Government of the futility of any approach to this problem which fails to take into account the central issue of Jewish rights with regard to Palestine.

"We do not need another roving expedition or a further time-consuming investigation of a situation which is quite thoroughly understood, but immediate, concrete measures in conformity with a policy long established and clearly defined by valid international agreements.

"What is urgently needed is action to save lives — not one more report to add to the Earl Harrison report, the American Red Cross report, and the innumerable private and public reports which mirror all too vividly the appalling condition of uprooted, homeless European Jewry and their overwhelming desire to emigrate to Palestine.

"Such a farther study will not bring the solution one step nearer. On the contrary it will only complicate the situation making for interminable delays and leading to confusion worse confounded.

"Indeed, if one were to seek a subterfuge by which an indignant world opinion could be assuaged while the Jewish National Homeland continues barred to the Jewish people, no better device could be found than the appointment of such a commission. In the guise of a search for facts, it postpones action: it succeeds in maintaining the status quo in the very teeth of a growing protest against that status quo.

"Six million Jews are dead, thousands are dying, and the appeals that come from those still alive spell Palestine. Now to appoint still another commission

(more)

is tantamount to fighting a fire by measuring the temperature of the flames. Each day this proposed commission sits will mean one day more in human lives and human misery.

"Within the last three years four major intergovernmental conferences and committees -- including the U.S. Refugee Board appointed in 1944 and already dissolved -- have dealt unsuccessfully with the question of Jewish refugees and Jewish emigration. They were the International Conference on Refugees at Evian in 1937; the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees; and the Bermuda Conference on Refugees in 1943. Each ended in failure because they based their deliberations upon the fallacious assumption that the doors of Palestine, unlawfully barred to Jewish immigration by the Chamberlain White Paper in 1939, must of necessity remain barred. These commissions concentrated their attention on the possibility of immigration into other countries in spite of the dominant reality that no other country would admit any substantial number of Jewish refugees.

"We submit that no inquiry can be acceptable which does not base itself on the internationally recognized right of the Jewish people to reconstitute their national home in Palestine. That alone makes possible any solution of the problem. That alone gives substance and direction to the inquiry. That is the central issue and any avoidance of it is a flight from reality.

"We would therefore urge the following four-point program for the implementation of a joint Anglo-American policy on Palestine:

"1. Immediate admission into Palestine of 100,000 displaced Jews of Europe as requested by President Truman.

"2. Immediate abandonment or revocation by the British Government of the White Paper of 1939, which was a unilateral act of the British Government in violation of international obligations, contrary to the opinion of the Mandate's Commission of the League of Nations and without the approval of the United States. That abrogation is a responsibility resting upon the British Government alone.

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"3. A joint reaffirmation by the British and American Governments of their intention to pursue a Palestine policy in keeping with the original purpose and intent of the Balfour Declaration and the Palestine Mandate.

"4. Establishment thereafter of a joint commission to determine how both countries may cooperate in the implementation of that policy with due regard to their respective interests and responsibilities. The opening of Palestine to Jewish immigration and its re-establishment as a free and independent Jewish Commonwealth should be accompanied by a program for the economic development of the whole of the Middle East which would benefit all the peoples of that undeveloped and poverty-stricken area.

"In conclusion, we warn again against any proposals designed to evade the central inescapable issue, whether by postponement or any other ingenious expedients and improvisations. Once more we call upon our Government to use its moral and political influence to the end that justice and mercy prevail."

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**PRESS RELEASE from**

**AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations:*

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

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ZIONISTS ATTACK ALLEGATION THAT ESTABLISHMENT OF JEWISH STATE  
INVOLVES RACIAL OR RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION; POINT OUT THAT  
ARABS WILL BE ENTITLED TO EQUAL RIGHTS OF CITIZENSHIP WITH  
JEWS AND ALL OTHER INHABITANTS OF PALESTINE

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DISCLOSE TEXT OF LETTER TO EX-SENATOR GILLETTE CALLING UPON HIM  
TO CORRECT "DAMAGING STATEMENTS" REGARDING ZIONIST AIMS

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New York -- A Jewish State in Palestine will mean free and democratic rights for all citizens, Arabs and Jews alike, the American Zionist Emergency Council, spokesman for the organized Zionist movement in this country, pointed out today.

In a letter addressed to former Senator Guy M. Gillette, the Council declared that Mr. Gillette was "misled" when he repeatedly asserted, either directly or by implication, that if a Jewish State were to be established in Palestine, Arabs would be excluded from citizenship or otherwise suffer loss of civil, religious or group rights.

Text of the letter, signed by Arthur Lourie, Political Secretary of the Council, reads:

"Dear Mr. Gillette:

"I am directed to address to you the following communication on behalf of the American Zionist Emergency Council which represents the organized Zionist movement in this country.

"On two occasions, recently, the press reports you as declaring -- directly or by implication -- that the establishment of a Jewish State in Palestine in

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accordance with Zionist aims would involve racial or religious discrimination, and that the Arabs would be excluded from citizenship in such a State. These statements are untrue and constitute a libel on the Zionist cause and the Zionist ideal.

"The Zionist movement here and abroad has made it abundantly clear that its objective is the establishment of Palestine as a democratic Jewish Commonwealth, whose Arab inhabitants shall be entitled, not only to full rights of citizenship and to complete equality in every other respect with their Jewish fellow citizens, but, in addition, to group rights in respect of their own language, religion and culture. To this Zionism stands publicly and unequivocally committed, and all its literature, all its political statements and the resolutions of its governing bodies, dealing with the problem of Arab-Jewish relations, refute your suggestion. In alleging otherwise, you are being misled by a handful of self-appointed Jewish spokesmen whose pretensions to speak for the Jews of Palestine have been unanimously rejected by the authorized representatives of Palestine Jewry and by the entire Jewish press in Palestine, and who represent neither the Jews of this country nor of any other.

"We have no reason to doubt that you are genuinely anxious to help suffering Jewry to find a haven in Palestine and to recreate their National Homeland. It is in that belief that we call upon you to correct the damaging statements above referred to.

"Yours sincerely,

Arthur Lourie  
Political Secretary"

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**PRESS RELEASE from**  
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342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RIOTS IN EGYPT ENGINEERED BY ARAB LEAGUE,  
AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL CHARGES

- - - -

"BRITAIN'S IMPERIAL POLICY CANNOT ESCAPE ITS SHARE OF BLAME,"

SAYS OFFICIAL STATEMENT

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New York -- The Arab League was held directly responsible for the rioting which occurred in Cairo, Alexandria and other cities of Egypt in a statement issued today by the American Zionist Emergency Council, which speaks for the entire Zionist movement in the United States.

"It is now abundantly clear that the outbreaks were not a spontaneous rising of the masses, but a deliberate program engineered, in the words of the Prime Minister of Egypt, Nokrashy Pasha, by 'evil hands'. . . The 'evil hands' which unleashed this disgraceful outbreak were those of the Arab League, which has been threatening and inviting just such violence for some time now. But the ultimate responsibility goes farther. The Arab League itself has come into being with the blessing and support of Britain's Colonial officials in the Middle East. Without that support, not only the League, but even the individual Arab states in that area could not hope to survive. Britain's imperial policy in the Middle East cannot escape its share of blame for what has occurred and for what will continue to occur if it pursues its present line," the statement said.

The full text of the statement follows:

"The rioting which occurred in Cairo, in Alexandria and in other cities of Egypt toward the close of last week was the natural and inevitable consequence

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of the inflammatory campaign conducted against the Jewish National Home by the Arab League in the few months of the League's existence. It is now abundantly clear that the outbreaks were not a spontaneous rising of the masses but a deliberate pogrom engineered, in the words of the Prime Minister of Egypt, Mokraschy Pasha, by 'evil hands.' To stir the urban masses to lawless action was not difficult. Hungry, discontented and illiterate, the latter were readily inflamed; but as the results show, they were motivated more by the desire for loot than by any real hostility to Zionism, and eventually they attacked indiscriminately the property of Jews and non-Jews alike, including churches.

"The 'evil hands' which unleashed this disgraceful outbreak were those of the Arab League, which has been threatening and inviting just such violence for some time now. But the ultimate responsibility goes further. The Arab League itself has come into being with the blessing and support of Britain's Colonial officials in the Middle East. Without that support not only the League but even the individual Arab states in that area could not hope to survive. Britain's imperial policy in the Middle East cannot escape its share of blame for what has occurred and for what will continue to occur if it pursues its present line. That policy seeks on the one hand for its own purposes to establish and maintain the hollow facade of a grandiose confederation of the reactionary regimes in the Middle East. On the other hand, Britain shows itself ready, as a sop to the delusions of grandeur thus aroused, to betray its pledged word to the Jewish people in regard to Palestine.

"There is an inescapable parallel between the appeasement of Munich in 1939 and the new appeasement to which in recent weeks the British Labor Government has committed itself by continuing the iniquitous policy of the Palestine White Paper. The former was followed two months later by the burning of the synagogues in Germany. The latter has already brought in its train the destruction of synagogues in Cairo, the burning of Jewish books and murderous attacks on peaceful citizens.

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The British Government has given the Arabs an example in lawlessness; it has repudiated its oft-repeated pledge to honor the Balfour Declaration, violated with impunity obligations undertaken under the Mandate, and closed the doors of Palestine in the face of the desperate victims of the Nazis.

"The England responsible for this policy is not the England which is worthy of her own best traditions. We choose to believe that that nobler England will yet reassert itself. But for the Jewish people there is no other way than to go forward. If proof were needed that acceptance by the Jews of Palestine of the permanent minority status contemplated by the White Paper would be intolerable and impossible, that proof has now been given.

"Nor will the Jewish people be terrorized by the unwarranted intrusion of Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, or any of the other Arab states into an issue which was settled by the unanimous action of the nations of the world a quarter of a century ago. The Arab states are in this matter without legal standing of any kind and their attitude in recent years is certainly far from giving them a moral voice in this issue. Palestine was recognized twenty-eight years ago and remains today the one answer to the problem of Jewish national homelessness. Confident that the cause of justice and international good faith, upon which the security of all nations is founded, must in the end prevail, the Jewish people, supported by men and women of good will everywhere, stands steadfast and will not falter in the days ahead."

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11/14/45  
**PRESS RELEASE from**

**AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations:*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DR. SILVER AND DR. WISE ASSAIL JOINT ANGLO-AMERICAN

COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY ON PALESTINE

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U. S. GOVERNMENT HAS FALLEN INTO CAREFULLY PREPARED TRAP, STATEMENT SAYS

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New York -- Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Stephen S. Wise, joint chairmen of the American Zionist Emergency Council, today issued the following comment on the statements on Palestine and on Jewish emigration from Europe made yesterday (Tuesday, November 13th) by British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin and by President Truman:

(1) The statement by Foreign Secretary Bevin, yesterday, on Palestine and on Jewish emigration from Europe brings to a climax the self-stultification and the betrayal of pledges which have characterized the policy of the British Labor Government on the Palestine issue since its assumption of office.

(2) As recently as April 1945, the National Executive Committee of the British Labor Party reaffirmed its support for the Jewish National Home in the following terms:

"There is surely neither hope nor meaning in a Jewish National Home unless we are prepared to let the Jews, if they wish, enter this tiny land in such numbers as to become a majority. There was a strong case for this before the war, and there is an irresistible case for it now."

This may be compared with Mr. Bevin's insulting remark when dealing with this issue yesterday:

"If the Jews, with all their sufferings, want to get too much at the head of the queue, you have the danger of another anti-Semitic reaction through it all."

(more)

(3) Instead of carrying out its unequivocal commitments, the Labor Government has sought in every way to procrastinate and to avoid the fulfillment of its pledges.

(4) In this policy of delay it has now succeeded in enlisting the inadvertent support of the President of the United States. By agreeing to the proposal for a joint Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry, the United States Government has fallen into a carefully prepared trap.

(5) In his letter to Mr. Attlee of August 31, 1945, the President stated on the basis of the investigation conducted at his direction by Mr. Earl G. Harrison, that the main solution for the non-repatriable Jews of Europe was the quick evacuation of those who wished it, to Palestine. "If it is to be effective," wrote Mr. Truman, "such action should not be long delayed," and he urged the immediate grant of 100,000 immigration certificates to Palestine. Instead of acceding to this request, the British Government turned it aside by the proposal for a joint Anglo-American Committee of Investigation. President Truman now states that he continues to adhere to the views expressed in his letter to Mr. Attlee. But his acceptance of the British scheme, with its provision for a paltry fifteen hundred certificates per month until such time as the Committee makes its recommendation, represents a complete recession from his original position.

(6) The possibilities of Jewish emigration to countries other than Palestine were exhaustively considered at international conferences at Bermuda and at Evian in 1937 and 1943 and the results were nil. The Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, further, has been in existence for years with a like object and with a like result. The burning desire of the majority of the Jews of Europe to emigrate to Palestine is established not only by the reports of Mr. Harrison, of Judge Rifkind and of Mr. Gibson of the Red Cross, but by every unbiased observer. In these circumstances, the appointment of another Committee of Inquiry is a mockery. Instead of concrete measures in conformity with clearly defined and valid international agreements, the Jews of Europe are again to be

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treated to empty words while, physically and spiritually, they rot and perish. The President has done an ill-service to the cause of saving the Jews of Europe by cooperating in a procedure which will postpone for many months any possibility of a solution of their problems and any decision in regard to the opening of the doors of Palestine.

(7) At no point in Mr. Bevin's statement of policy is there any direct reference to the obligations of His Majesty's Government in regard to the establishment of the Jewish National Home. The British Foreign Secretary has, on the other hand, by implication, accepted the continuance of the infamous policy of the Chamberlain White Paper with its gross discrimination on racial grounds against Jewish purchase of land in Palestine and its limitation of Jewish immigration to a trickle. All this, despite the fact that the Party of which Mr. Bevin is a leader, in 1939 condemned the White Paper policy as a "cynical breach of pledges given to the Jews and the world, including America;" and despite the express statement by Mr. Herbert Morrison, now Lord President of the Council, that that policy would not be automatically binding upon the successors of the Chamberlain Government.

(8) Finally, we must point out that the President of the United States has associated this country with a Committee of Inquiry whose conclusions have already, in important respects, been determined in advance by the British Foreign Secretary. In spite of the unequivocal commitments of our Government and people to the re-establishment of Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth; in spite of the statements of President Wilson, of Prime Minister David Lloyd George, of Mr. Winston Churchill, of General Smuts and others at the time of the Balfour Declaration that what was contemplated was the ultimate establishment in Palestine of a Jewish State, the British Foreign Secretary has already declared that the establishment of Palestine as a Jewish State is precluded. Mr. Bevin has further prejudged the issue by declaring that Palestine cannot, by itself, "provide sufficient opportunity for grappling with the problems" of the surviving Jews of Europe — a conclusion which

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is in diametrical conflict with authoritative investigations, such as those of Dr. Walter Clay Lowdermilk of the United States Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Bevin's statement, further, altogether ignores the fact that as was stated by the British Royal Commission on Palestine "unquestionably the primary purpose of the Palestine Mandate was the establishment of the Jewish National Home."

(9) The closer cooperation of our own country with Great Britain in the settlement of the problem of Jewish national homelessness and of Palestine is warmly to be welcomed, but we deeply deplore the form which this cooperation has taken. It is with the utmost regret that we charge our Government with having allowed itself to be involved in a procedure whose main purpose is delay where action is long overdue. We desire to draw attention further to the fact that the terms of reference of the proposed Joint Committee omit all mention of the basic commitments of the British Government in regard to the reconstitution of the Jewish National Home in accordance with the Balfour Declaration and the Palestine Mandate. Under no circumstances can this Committee be allowed under the guise of an impartial inquiry to stifle the agonized cries of the surviving Jews of Europe and to undermine and eventually destroy the rights of the Jewish people to Palestine, internationally guaranteed by 52 nations of the world, including the United States of America.

## **PRESS RELEASE from**

### **AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations:*

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

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE, IN CABLE TO BYRNES, ACCUSES BRITISH  
OF INTRODUCING REGIME OF TERROR IN PALESTINE WITH VIEW TO INTIMIDATING JEWS

- - - -

New York -- The British Administration of Palestine was accused of "introducing a regime of terror with a view to intimidating the Jews of Palestine into submission to the White Paper policy and the cessation of Jewish immigration" in a cable sent to Secretary of State James F. Byrnes from Jerusalem by the Jewish Agency for Palestine. This was announced today by the American Zionist Emergency Council, which received a copy of the Jewish Agency's cable this morning.

The cable discloses that six Jews were killed and fifty others, many of them children, were wounded by British troops and police in Tel Aviv last week, "although not a single shot was fired by Jews." The cable also charges British forces with forcibly entering three peaceful Jewish agricultural settlements, wantonly beating hundreds of men and women, killing four persons and wounding many others "without any reason or provocation."

The message requests Mr. Byrnes to "bring the above information and our solemn protest to the notice of the United States Senate and House of Representatives."

The text of the Jewish Agency's cable to Secretary of State Byrnes follows:

"BRITISH TROOPS AND POLICE FORCIBLY ENTERED THREE PEACEFUL JEWISH  
LABOUR AGRICULTURAL SETTLEMENTS WANTONLY BEAT HUNDREDS MEN AND  
WOMEN SHOT AND KILLED FOUR PERSONS WOUNDED MANY OTHERS WITHOUT ANY

(more)

REASON OR PROVOCATION AND ALTHOUGH SETTLERS AND NUMEROUS FRIENDS  
FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD WHO ASSEMBLED THERE WERE ENTIRELY UNARMED step  
FORCES ALSO SMASHED FURNITURE AND DAMAGED HUTS step THIS COMES AFTER  
SHOOTING IN TELAVIV LAST WEEK OF SIX JEWS DEAD AND WOUNDING FIFTY  
OTHERS MANY OF THEM CHILDREN UNDER TEN ALTHOUGH NOT SINGLE SHOT  
FIRED BY JEWS step IMPRESSION GROWING MANDATORY GOVERNMENT IS  
INTRODUCING REGIME OF TERROR WITH VIEW INTIMIDATING JEWS OF PALES-  
TINE INTO SUBMISSION TO WHITE PAPER POLICY AND CESSATION JEWISH  
IMMIGRATION step RESPECTFULLY REQUEST BRING ABOVE INFORMATION AND  
OUR SOLEMN PROTEST TO NOTICE UNITED STATES SENATE AND HOUSE REPRE-  
SENTATIVES.



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JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE



#202 - 11/27/45

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**PRESS RELEASE from**

**AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMERICAN ZIONISTS PROTEST TO PRESIDENT TRUMAN AGAINST BRITISH BRUTALITY  
IN PALESTINE AND BRITISH-CONTROLLED CAMPS IN EUROPE

- - - - -

CHARGE PLAN TO INTIMIDATE SURVIVORS OF NAZI TERROR INTO ACCEPTANCE OF  
BRITISH POLICY AND ATTEMPT TO COERCE PALESTINE JEWRY  
INTO "FEAR AND SILENCE"

- - - - -

Call Upon President To Insist British Military Cease

"Reprehensible Activities"

New York -- Leaders of the four major bodies representing Zionists of the  
United States today wired President Truman protesting brutalities by British  
troops against undefended Jewish settlements in Palestine.

The wire also charged that these activities in Palestine and similar brutal-  
ities reported against Jews at the British-controlled displaced persons camp in  
Bergen-Belsen were part of a plan to "coerce Jews into fear and silence in antici-  
pation of the inquiry to be made by the recently announced Anglo-American Committee  
of Inquiry."

Text of the protest to the President, as released by the American Zionist  
Emergency Council, reads:

"SPEAKING FOR HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF AMERICAN ZIONISTS WE WISH TO COM-  
MUNICATE TO YOU OUR SENSE OF SHOCK AND INDIGNATION AT BRITAIN'S MILITARY ACTION  
AGAINST UNDEFENDED JEWISH SETTLEMENTS IN PALESTINE AS A RESULT OF WHICH SCORES  
OF JEWS WERE KILLED AND WOUNDED. REPORTS HAVE NOW COME TO HAND FURTHER OF THE

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ARREST AND BEATING OF JEWS IN THE BRITISH-CONTROLLED CAMP FOR DISPLACED PERSONS AT BERGEM-BELSEN IN AN EFFORT TO INTIMIDATE THESE SURVIVORS OF THE NAZI TERROR INTO ACCEPTANCE OF THE BRITISH POLICY IN REGARD TO PALESTINE AND TO SUPPRESS THEIR DESIRES AND HOPES OF JOINING THEIR OWN PEOPLE IN THAT COUNTRY.

"ALL THIS IS BEING DONE UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE BRITISH LABOR GOVERNMENT AS PART OF A PLAN TO COERCE JEWS INTO FEAR AND SILENCE IN ANTICIPATION OF THE INQUIRY TO BE MADE BY THE RECENTLY ANNOUNCED ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY.

"WE URGE AND IMPORE YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, TO TAKE NOTE OF THE WIDESPREAD BITTERNESS AND ANGER WHICH THESE BRUTAL ATTACKS HAVE AROUSED IN THIS COUNTRY. WE LOOK TO YOU AS THE HEAD OF OUR FREE DEMOCRACY TO INSIST THAT THE HOUNDED JEWS OF EUROPE FIND SANCTUARY AND PERMANENT PEACE IN PALESTINE AND THAT THE REPREHENSIBLE ACTIVITIES OF THE BRITISH MILITARY BE NOT PERMITTED TO CONTINUE.

"WE HAVE SENT A PROTEST TO THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR AND HAVE ALSO CABLED OUR SUPPORT TO THE JEWISH COLONIES OF PALESTINE AND TO THE GENERAL JEWISH COUNCIL THERE IN THE STRUGGLE INTO WHICH THE JEWISH PEOPLE HAS BEEN FORCED.

EMANUEL MORGENTHAU, ACTING PRESIDENT,  
ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

JUDITH EPSTEIN, PRESIDENT, HADASSAH

LEON GELLMAN, PRESIDENT, MIZRACHI

DAVID WERTHEIM, SECRETARY, POALE ZION"



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12/1/45

**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

DR. WISE, COMMENTING ON PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S WITHDRAWAL OF SUPPORT FROM PALESTINE RESOLUTION, DECLARES: "WILL THIS NOT LEAD UNHAPPY CONFIRMATION TO CURRENT CHARGE THAT POLITICAL PROMISES MADE TO ELECTORATE IN INTEREST OF JEWISH PEOPLE HAVE BEEN NO MORE THAN MERE VOTE-GETTING DEVICES?"

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New York -- Dr. Stephen S. Wise, joint chairman of the American Zionist Emergency Council, today voiced the sense of disillusionment felt by American Zionists over President Truman's statement at his press conference of Thursday, November 29th, expressing his opposition to the Palestine resolution now pending in the Congress of the United States.

"The President's reversal of his Party's pledge will give countless American citizens, non-Jews as well as Jews, reason for pause and reflection. Will this not lend unhappy confirmation to the current charge that political promises made to the electorate in the interest of the Jewish people have been no more than mere vote-getting devices?" Dr. Wise declared in a statement issued here after he had sent a telegram to President Truman on behalf of the Council, as well as on his own behalf.

"President Truman stated that he had supported the resolution when he was Vice-President, but that he is now opposed to it. I feel constrained to remind the President that only a few short weeks ago he gave his verbal approval to the bill when its sponsors, Senator Robert F. Wagner and Senator Robert A. Taft, conferred with him prior to its introduction in the Senate. Senators Taft and Wagner sought -- and secured -- the approval of both the President and Secretary of State Byrnes in order to assure themselves that the Administration would not oppose the resolution,

(more)

as had been done in the case of a similar measure last year," Dr. Wise said.

The full text of Dr. Wise's statement follows:

"Today I wired a message to President Truman conveying on behalf of the American Zionist Emergency Council, as well as on my own behalf, our overwhelming sense of consternation over his statement at the press conference of Thursday, November 29th, expressing his opposition to the Palestine resolution now pending in the Congress of the United States.

"President Truman stated that he had supported the resolution 'when he was Vice-President,' but that he is now opposed to it. I feel constrained to remind the President that only a few short weeks ago he gave his verbal approval to the bill when its sponsors, Senator Robert F. Wagner and Senator Robert A. Taft, conferred with him prior to its introduction in the Senate. Senators Taft and Wagner sought - and secured -- the approval of both the President and Secretary of State Byrnes in order to assure themselves that the Administration would not oppose the resolution, as had been done in the case of a similar measure last year.

"Moreover, we had every reason to believe that the President was and would remain a convinced supporter of the program to re-establish Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth, by reason of his cooperation in bringing about the adoption of the Palestine plank at the Democratic National Convention which nominated him. As President, Mr. Truman made his admirable proposal to Prime Minister Attlee that Great Britain open the doors of Palestine to the immediate admission of 100,000 displaced European Jews. This desperately needed first step, suggested by the President on his own account, never materialized. Instead, the President allowed himself to be persuaded by the British Government to accept the procrastinating substitute of a so-called 'fact-finding inquiry.' This change of position is precisely what the Foreign Office of Great Britain had been maneuvering for months to bring about. The proposed Anglo-American Commission of Inquiry is, as we have made clear to the President, another of the many British devices making for delay in the place of decision and action.

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"The President's reversal of his Party's pledge will give countless American citizens, non-Jews as well as Jews, reason for pause and reflection. Will this not lend unhappy confirmation to the current charge that political promises made to the electorate in the interest of the Jewish people have been no more than mere vote-getting devices?

"At this crucial moment in the life of our sorely-tried people, we cannot do less than make known our feeling of sorrow and disillusionment over President Truman's retreat from the position he had long held in relation to Palestine, as a member of the Senate, as Vice-President and as President of the United States."

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#205 - 12/1/45



**PRESS RELEASE from**

**AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations:*

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

12/10/45<sup>207</sup>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY ON PALESTINE IS

"ATTEMPT TO MAKE UNITED STATES A PARTNER OF BRITISH BETRAYAL."

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL CHARGES

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New York — Immediately following today's announcement of the composition of the joint Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine, the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council convened to consider its position. Acting on behalf of the entire membership of its constituent organizations, the Zionist Organization of America, Hadassah, Poale Zion and Mizrahi, the Executive Committee authorized Dr. Stephen S. Wise, joint chairman of the Council, to issue the following statement:

"Having learned of the composition of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry, we see no reason to alter the position which we took on principle weeks before, as conveyed in our telegraph message to President Truman on November 15th. Without reflecting upon the character and the intentions of any of those who have been appointed to serve on the Committee, we express once more our unalterable opposition to the entire procedure.

"Pending the submission of a more complete and formal statement of our views to the appropriate authorities in Washington, and in order that in the meantime there should be no possible misunderstanding of our attitude, we make the following comment: we view with the greatest distrust this entire procedure which was originated by the Colonial and Foreign Offices of the British Government. It is a clever but transparent maneuver to deflect American efforts to bring about the immediate opening of the doors of Palestine for the admission

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of Jewish refugees dying by the thousands in European camps. The official statements made by British Foreign Minister Bevin, when he announced the proposed procedure on November 13th, revealed his bias and his clear purpose to liquidate the Jewish National Home. By his statements, Mr. Bevin prejudged the inquiry and anticipated its conclusions so far as the British Government is concerned.

"For its size, Palestine is the most investigated country on earth. Since the Balfour Declaration was issued, no less than thirteen inquiries and commissions have investigated every conceivable aspect of the Palestine question. The most important of these inquiries was that conducted by the Royal Commission, headed by Lord Peel in 1936-37, which issued a voluminous report. The problem of refugees and of Jewish migration was likewise dealt with by numerous committees and commissions and international conferences, including the Evian Conference on Refugees; the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, which grew out of that Conference (1938); the <sup>Conference</sup> Bermuda/on Refugees (1943); the American War Refugee Board (1944), and the investigation conducted by Mr. Earl G. Harrison, a personal appointee of President Truman (July 1945). All of these attempts were doomed to failure because of the insistence of the British Government that the gates of Palestine were to remain barred.

"The results of these innumerable inquiries into the Palestine problem and the problem of Jewish migration are on record and well known. The procedure on which the British and American Governments are now embarked means, at best, a further unconscionable delay in dealing with a problem involving many thousands of lives in the only constructive way possible, by the immediate admission of the uprooted European Jews into Palestine. Actually, we have every reason to believe that the negative purpose of the British Government is more far-reaching: to evade its responsibilities under the Mandate and divest itself of all its international obligations toward the Jewish people under cover of recommendations emanating from a joint Anglo-American Committee, which has virtually been directed in advance by the British Foreign Secretary. It is clearly an attempt to enmesh

(more)

the United States in the teils of British policy and to make this country a partner of British betrayal.

"The ultimate decision of the whole Zionist movement regarding the position it will take in relation to the proposed inquiry rests with the Executive of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, now meeting in Jerusalem. We, speaking on behalf of the Zionists of America, cannot refrain from voicing our sense of shock and resentment that our Government should lend itself to this device of the British Government, by participating in a Committee whose findings have been so largely prejudged by the spokesman of that government -- a procedure repugnant to every American notion of fair play and in defiance of all Anglo-Saxon traditions of judicial inquiry."

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**PRESS RELEASE from**

**AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations:*

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi • Poale-Zion  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DR. SILVER AND DR. WISE CALL ON PRESIDENT TRUMAN TO DISSOCIATE  
AMERICAN GOVERNMENT FROM BRITAIN'S LATEST "INIQUITY" -- THE SHUTTING  
OFF OF ALL JEWISH IMMIGRATION TO PALESTINE

- - - - -

POINT OUT THAT BRITISH GOVERNMENT STOPPED EVEN TINY  
TRICKLE OF JEWISH IMMIGRATION AFTER AMERICAN CONSENT TO  
JOINT COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY HAD BEEN OBTAINED

- - - - -

New York -- Assailing the British Government's action in shutting off all Jewish immigration to Palestine, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Stephen S. Wise, joint chairmen of the American Zionist Emergency Council, today pointed out in a telegram to President Truman that this move comes after Great Britain has obtained American consent to participate in the Joint Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine, and called on Mr. Truman to "take necessary steps to dissociate the American Government from all participation in this latest of a succession of injustices and iniquities."

"We hope that you will not countenance that the Joint Committee procedure, to which you were induced to give your consent should be used to prolong the agony of homeless Jewish refugees refused admission into their National Home," the telegram said.

The text of the wire to President Truman follows:

"MR. PRESIDENT: WHEN THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WAS PREVAILED UPON TO CONSENT TO THE BRITISH PROPOSAL OF A JOINT COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY ON PALESTINE, IT WAS GENERALLY UNDERSTOOD IN THIS COUNTRY, AND DOUBTLESSLY BY YOU TOO, THAT BRITAIN

(more)

WILL CONTINUE THE TINY TRICKLE OF JEWISH IMMIGRATION TO PALESTINE AT ABOUT 1500 PERSONS A MONTH. THIS WAS STATED BY THE BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY, MR. BEVIN, ON NOVEMBER 13TH, WHEN HE DECLARED THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WILL CONSULT THE ARABS WITH A VIEW TO AN ARRANGEMENT WHICH WILL INSURE THAT, PENDING RECEIPT OF THE AD INTERIM RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY WILL MAKE IN THE MATTER, THERE IS NO INTERRUPTION OF JEWISH IMMIGRATION AT THE PRESENT MONTHLY RATE UNQUOTE. WE WISH TO DRAW YOUR ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT, HAVING OBTAINED AMERICAN CONSENT TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE, THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT IS NOW WITHHOLDING ALL FURTHER IMMIGRATION PERMITS FROM JEWS. LONDON PRESS REPORTS INDICATE THAT THIS WAS DONE BECAUSE ARAB STATES REFUSED THEIR CONSENT AND THAT THE STOPPAGE OF JEWISH IMMIGRATION WILL CONTINUE UNTIL THE JOINT COMMITTEE TERMINATES ITS WORK, I.E., THROUGHOUT THE WINTER AND EARLY SPRING. YOU WILL RECALL, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT SECRETARY BYRNES IN HIS STATEMENT OF OCTOBER 18 HAD INDICATED THAT EVEN THE IMMEDIATE ADMISSION OF 100,000 JEWISH REFUGEES WOULD NOT CHANGE THE BASIC SITUATION IN PALESTINE, AND, THEREFORE, SHOULD NOT REQUIRE CONSULTATION WITH ARAB LEADERS. BUT APPARENTLY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT DESIRES TO GRANT THE ARAB STATES VETO POWER EVEN OVER THE PITIFULLY SMALL IMMIGRATION QUOTA HITHERTO ALLOWED. IN BRINGING THIS TO YOUR ATTENTION, MR. PRESIDENT, WE HOPE THAT YOU WILL NOT COUNTENANCE THAT THE JOINT COMMITTEE PROCEDURE, TO WHICH YOU WERE INDUCED TO GIVE YOUR CONSENT, SHOULD BE USED TO PROLONG THE AGONY OF HOMELESS JEWISH REFUGEES REFUSED ADMISSION INTO THEIR NATIONAL HOME. WE ARE CERTAIN THAT CONSIDERATIONS OF HUMANITY, AS WELL AS OF AMERICAN POLICY AND DIGNITY, WILL CAUSE YOU TO TAKE NECESSARY STEPS TO DISSOCIATE THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT FROM ALL PARTICIPATION IN THIS LATEST OF A SUCCESSION OF INJUSTICES AND INIQUITIES.

ABBA HILLEL SILVER      STEPHEN S. WISE  
JOINT CHAIRMEN, AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL"