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American Zionist Policy Committee, press releases, 1945.

PRESS RELEASE
AMERICAN ZIONIST POLICY COMMITTEE
55 WEST 42 STREET
NEW YORK 18, N.Y.

TEL. LA 4-7319

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TRI-STATE ZIONIST REGION UNANIMOUS FOR DR. SILVER'S RECALL TO LEADERSHIP

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New York-- The Tri-State Zionist Region, comprising almost 9000 members of the Zionist Organization of America from Pittsburgh, Western Pennsylvania, parts of West Virginia and Eastern Ohio, has unanimously adopted a resolution deploring the breach in the American Zionist movement and demanding Dr. Abba Hillel Silver's recall to political leadership. This was announced today by the newly-formed American Zionist Policy Committee.

The Committee disclosed that at a joint meeting of the executive and administrative committees of the Tri-State Region held on February 11th at the William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh, a discussion of the controversy within the Zionist Organization of America took place. Judge Louis Levinthal, of Philadelphia, who had addressed the meeting on "The Expansion Fund of the Z.O.A.," participated in the discussion and delivered a lengthy address criticizing Dr. Silver and defending the Z.O.A. Administration's actions.

Dr. Emanuel Neumann, of New York, who had spoken earlier on "The Political Situation in the Near East," refuted Judge Levinthal's remarks and represented the pro-Silver point of view.

At the conclusion of the discussion, and after both sides had been fully presented, the meeting voted unanimously to recall Dr. Silver to leadership.

2/15/45

#7

[February 7, 1945]

TEL. LA 4 - 7319

PRESS RELEASE FROM
AMERICAN ZIONIST POLICY COMMITTEE
55 WEST 42 STREET
NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

For Immediate Release

AMERICAN ZIONIST POLICY COMMITTEE LAUNCHED;
WILL PRESS FOR DR. SILVER'S POLICIES

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GROUP TO FUNCTION WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF Z. O. A.

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-- The American Zionist Policy Committee, which will function both nationally and locally within the framework of the Zionist Organization of America in order to "press for a militant and dynamic Zionist policy such as has been exemplified by the successful leadership of Dr. Abba Hillel Silver," was launched this week by a group of prominent Zionist leaders throughout the country, headed by Charles J. Rosenbloom of Pittsburgh.

In a letter sent to a number of leading American Zionists, Mr. Rosenbloom, who is treasurer of the United Palestine Appeal and former treasurer of the United Jewish Appeal, listed the purposes of the American Zionist Policy Committee as follows:

"(1) To deepen Zionist thought and the understanding of Zionist problems on the part of our lay leaders and the rank and file.

"(2) To advocate and press for a militant and dynamic Zionist policy such as has been exemplified by the successful leadership of Dr. Abba Hillel Silver.

"(3) To strengthen the Zionist Organization of America from within by developing a vigorous and informed public opinion among its membership and an intelligent interest in national affairs.

"(4) To revitalize the democratic principle basic to our movement so that the composition and policies of the national administration shall reflect the will and temper of the great body of American Zionists."

Mr. Rosenbloom emphasized that the Committee's activities "will in no wise interfere with the political work of the Zionist Emergency Council. As Dr. Silver has repeatedly urged, all constructive Zionist efforts must be carried on with undiminished vigor."

Assailing the Z. O. A. administration's action in forcing Dr. Silver's elimination from the political leadership of American Zionism "after a year of prodigious activity and unprecedented political achievement," Mr. Rosenbloom declared: "That such incredible things could happen in the way they did, points to serious internal conditions which must be corrected if we are to avoid major setbacks. The leadership of the Z. O. A. has revealed an appalling ineptitude and an incapacity to deal in a statesmanlike manner with such crises as are bound to arise. It has acted precipitately and arbitrarily. It has either mistaken the sentiments of the great body of American Zionists, or deliberately ignored them."

The American Zionist Policy Committee is establishing offices at 55 West 42 Street, New York 18, N. Y.

The text of Mr. Rosenbloom's letter follows:

"We have all been shocked and bewildered by the events of the past weeks. Suddenly and without warning we learned that Dr. Abba Hillel Silver has been eliminated from the political leadership after a year of prodigious activity and unprecedented political achievement.

"This blow to our movement was dealt by the ZOA administration without troubling to ascertain the views and wishes of its constituents. No attempt was made to compose differences among the leaders and preserve Zionist unity. All proposals for a cooling off period, all counsels of moderation were rejected. The Emergency Council was hastily 'reorganized' with a slate of officers which added no new talent, but excluded the strongest figure in American Jewish life and the most dynamic and resourceful leader in American Zionism. Thus, at a most critical time, we have been confronted with a fait accompli, an open breach and a bitter controversy.

"That such incredible things could happen in the way they did, points to serious internal conditions which must be corrected if we are to avoid major setbacks. The leadership of the ZOA has revealed an appalling ineptitude and an incapacity to deal in a statesmanlike manner with such crises as are bound to arise. It has acted precipitately and arbitrarily. It has either mistaken the sentiments of the great body of American Zionists, or deliberately ignored them.

"This is but the climax of a general trend which has long disturbed many thoughtful Zionists. Side by side with the gratifying numerical growth of our organization, there has been going on a moral deterioration at its center and a steady weakening of its democratic fiber. Lay leaders in all communities have been receiving orders and assignments which they have cheerfully carried out, but they have not been encouraged to express themselves or to participate effectively in the shaping of Zionist policy.

"Vitaly important posts and committees in the national setup have been increasingly filled by mere satellites or by persons who are considered 'safe.' Criticism is frowned upon and the critics eliminated. Esteemed and seasoned Zionist leaders, such as Emanuel Neumann, Elihu D. Stone and others have been replaced by yes-men lacking their standing, experience or qualifications.

Even our National Convention - the ultimate source of democratic authority - has all but lost its original character of a deliberative assembly and has become a sounding board for a small group of leaders who occupy its platform year in, year out.

"Today the important political gains we have made under Dr. Silver's brilliant leadership are imperilled. There is a danger that the militant spirit he has infused into our ranks will be allowed to die and his dynamic policy abandoned. There is danger that when the powerful momentum he has imparted is spent, our movement will relapse into the state of auto-paralysis and political impotence in which it was bogged down before Dr. Silver took over the responsibility from the very hands which are now lifted against him.

"The time has come for those of us who are leaders and workers in our respective communities, and are deeply concerned about the future of our movement to act and make our influence felt. To this end a number of us have decided to associate ourselves nationally under the name of the American Zionist Policy Committee. Its purposes may be briefly stated as follows:

- "(1) To deepen Zionist thought and the understanding of Zionist problems on the part of our lay leaders and the rank and file.
- "(2) To advocate and press for a militant and dynamic Zionist policy such as has been exemplified by the successful leadership of Dr. Abba Hillel Silver.
- "(3) To strengthen the Zionist Organization of America from within by developing a vigorous and informed public opinion among its membership and an intelligent interest in national affairs.
- "(4) To revitalize the democratic principle basic to our movement so that the composition and policies of the national administration shall reflect the will and temper of the great body of American Zionists.

"Our activity will in no wise interfere with the political work of the Zionist Emergency Council. As Dr. Silver has repeatedly urged, all constructive Zionist efforts must be carried on with undiminished vigor. Our Committee will function both nationally and locally within the framework of the ZOA. It will carry on a campaign of education. It will also lay plans for carrying out necessary reforms in our organization.

"We have taken this initiative upon mature deliberation and after consultation with Dr. Silver, who, we hope, will head our committee in an active or honorary capacity.

"On behalf of my associates and myself, I invite you to indicate your adherence to our views and your willingness to serve on the national council of the American Zionist Policy Committee now in formation.

Very sincerely yours,

Charles J. Rosenbloom"

Press Release:

Lackawanna 4-7319

American Zionist Policy Committee

55 WEST 42nd STREET • NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DR. SILVER URGES ZIONISTS TO MOBILIZE BEHIND VIGOROUS, MILITANT POLICY

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New York - In response to numerous inquiries addressed to him regarding Prime Minister Churchill's statement on the Palestine question and President Roosevelt's brief reference to the Jewish problem there, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, of Cleveland, today made the following comment:

"Prime Minister Churchill's statement with regard to the Palestine question and President Roosevelt's passing reference to the Jewish problem there will come as a shock only to those who have been misled into expecting an imminent decision favorable to our cause. Mr. Churchill has made it clear that no decision on Palestine has been taken, nor is one contemplated until the end of the war. In my opinion there was never solid ground for anticipating a positive pro-Zionist declaration to issue from Malta, Yalta or Egypt. I made no secret of my views, but always cautioned against false hopes and unfounded optimism. Repeatedly I warned my fellow Zionists that our battle was far from won and advocated a policy of constant vigilance and unrelenting militant action along our whole political front to ensure ultimate victory. For this I was bitterly attacked and my policy denounced by those who thought they knew better, who imagined themselves to be in the know, and who fostered a false atmosphere of inflated expectation. They attached exaggerated importance to their personal standing in official circles. They decried public agitation and the pressure of public opinion as harmful and a Congressional Resolution on Palestine as superfluous, untimely and inconsequential. They believed the time had come for our 'diplomats' to take over. Events have proved them to be hopelessly in the wrong. The new Zionist line they have adopted already stands defeated and discredited.

"Where do we go from here? Are we to be doomed again to subsist on pledges while fulfillment is repeatedly deferred? It is pertinent to recall that it is now almost six years since the White Paper was issued and almost five years since Mr. Churchill took office. During these years Jewish blood has flowed in torrents but the Palestine issue still remains where Chamberlain left it. No doubt a few crumbs of consolation will be thrown our way in the form of some immigration permits - granted perhaps 'with Arab consent,' as envisaged in the White Paper - in lieu of the basic political solution so long overdue and so persistently postponed.

"In the face of this new and bitter disappointment, our movement must recover its sense of reality, shake off illusions and gird itself for the great struggle which still lies ahead. We must rally our forces and mobilize all our resources once more for a united, all out effort to bring about the realization of our historic aspirations. The future of Israel is at stake. This is no time for weakness and cautious 'moderation.' The moment calls for high courage and a return to a vigorous, militant policy."

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#9 - 3/7/45

PRESS RELEASE
ABBA HILLEL SILVER TESTIMONIAL DINNER COMMITTEE
SUITE 704
55 WEST 42nd STREET
NEW YORK 18, N.Y.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW YORK ZIONIST LEADERS SERVING AS VICE-CHAIRMEN OF TESTIMONIAL TO DR. SILVER

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CO-CHAIRMEN ARE LEADERS FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE

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New York -- Zionist leaders of Greater New York are acting as vice-chairmen of the testimonial dinner being tendered to Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, of Cleveland, on March 21st in the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel Commodore, New York City, it was announced today by the Abba Hillel Silver Testimonial Dinner Committee, Suite 704, 55 West 42nd Street, New York City.

The vice-chairmen of the committee, most of whom are members of the Z.O.A. National Administrative Council, include Sam Perry, president of the Long Island Zionist Region; Sol Cohen, former member of the National Executive Committee of the Z.O.A. and former president of the Long Island Zionist Region; Sol Low, vice-president of the Long Island Zionist Region; Louis J. Gribetz, vice-president of the Brooklyn Zionist Region and president of the Eastern Parkway Zionist District; J. I. Rudavsky, president of the Boro Park Zionist District; Philip Lassar, membership chairman of the Flatbush Zionist District; Marcus Abramson, chairman of the Administrative Council of the Bronx Zionist Region; Moses Robinson, vice-president of the Bronx Zionist Region; Peter H. Brandt, president of the Van Cortlandt Zionist District; Numa Torczyner, former president of the Belgian Zionist Organization; I. J. Kaplan, president of the Seventh Zionist District, and Max Levy, vice-president of the Seventh Zionist District.

The dinner will pay tribute to Dr. Silver for his outstanding leadership of American Jewry over many years and for his great contributions to American thought

and public welfare. Dr. Silver served as national chairman of the United Palestine Appeal for seven years. His vigorous leadership of the American Zionist Emergency Council throughout the past year is generally regarded as his most notable accomplishment.

Co-chairmen of the dinner committee are leaders from all walks of life, including Professor William F. Albright, of Johns Hopkins University; Hon. M. Maldwin Fertig, president of the Bronx Zionist Region; Rabbi Wolf Gold, leader of World Mizrachi; Hon. Nathaniel L. Goldstein, Attorney-General of New York State; Judge Emanuel Greenberg, of Brooklyn; Professor Horace M. Kallen, of the New School for Social Research; Professor Mordecai M. Kaplan, of the Jewish Theological Seminary; Emanuel Neumann, Zionist leader and former member of the Jewish Agency Executive; David Pinski, poet-playwright and leader of Labor Zionism; Charles J. Rosenbloom, treasurer of the United Palestine Appeal; Hon. Carl Sherman, former Attorney-General of New York State; Supreme Court Justice Meier Steinbrink, and Pierre van Paassen, noted author.

Mark Sugarman is treasurer and Abraham Goodman, Treasurer of the Zionist Organization of America, is secretary of the committee, which is still in formation.

PRESS RELEASE
AMERICAN ZIONIST POLICY COMMITTEE
55 WEST 42 STREET
NEW YORK 18, N.Y.

TEL. LA 4-7319

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

146 LEADING AMERICAN ZIONISTS DEMAND UNITY

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CALL FOR EMERGENCY COUNCIL REORGANIZATION, MILITANT POLICY AND RECALL OF DR. SILVER

New York - - 146 leading American Zionists have called on the President of the Zionist Organization of America and the American Zionist Emergency Council to restore unity in Zionist ranks through "the reorganization of the American Zionist Emergency Council, the adoption of a firm line of militant political action and the prompt recall of Dr. Abba Hillel Silver to leadership."

In a telegram sent to the Z.O.A. President and the Emergency Council, they declared:

"We are deeply perturbed by statements of Churchill and Roosevelt in relation to Palestine which have been received by Zionists with feelings of keenest disappointment. This blow comes at a time when we have been weakened by a breach in our leadership and resultant controversy and are also embarking on independent UPA campaign. We earnestly warn of critical situation developing with serious consequences to our organization and Zionist cause. Prompt action required to heal the breach and restore to our movement its full strength, unity and sense of confidence. We urge Emergency Council and Z.O.A. Administration to take immediate steps towards (1) Reorganization of American Zionist Emergency Council, (2) Adoption of firm line of militant political action, (3) Prompt recall of Dr. Silver to leadership. This should be done in a spirit of devotion to highest interests movement at moment of grave emergency when fate and future of Jewish people are at stake."

Zionist leaders from 30 states and the District of Columbia signed the telegram. They include 36 members of the Z.O.A. National Administrative Council, as well as many delegates to the 1944 National Convention of the Z.O.A.

The signers are: Dr. I.A. Abrams, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Joseph B. Abrams, Boston, Mass.; Irving Abramson, Paterson, N.J.; Marcus Abramson, Bronx, N.Y.; Lester D. Alexander, Toledo, Ohio; O.H. Altschuler, Youngstown, Ohio; Rabbi Morton M. Applebaum, Flint, Mich.; Ben Arnold, Columbia, S.C.; Dr. Ilie Berger, Providence, R.I.; George J. Bergman, Burlington, Vermont; Sam Berlin, Charleston, S.C.; Francis J. Berman, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Oscar Berman, Cincinnati, Ohio; Maurice Bernhart, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Israel Bernstein, Portland, Maine; Jacob J. Bernstein, Jamaica, L.I., N.Y.; Joseph H. Biben, Rochester, N.Y.; Lawrence M. Brile, Fairmont, W. Va.; Rabbi Wm. G. Braude, Providence, R.I.; Ellis Brodstein, Reading, Pa.; Frank Brown, Philadelphia, Pa.; A.L. Buch, Harrisburg, Pa.; Jack B. Cohen, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Lester Cohen, Uniontown, Pa.; Paul Cohen, Bronx, N.Y.; Sol Cohen, Richmond Hill, L.I., N.Y.; Thomas Cohen, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Arthur I. Darman, Woonsocket, R.I.; Bernard Davidson, Lawrence, L.I., N.Y.; Benjamin J. Doft, Lawrence, L.I., N.Y.;

Max Engelberg, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Dr. F.M. Falkman, Cleveland, Ohio; Dr. Edward M. Feiman, Canton, Ohio; Chaplain A.J. Feinberg, Camp Robinson, Little Rock, Ark.; Isadore Fine, New York City; Dr. Abraham G. Fleischman, Des Moines, Iowa; Rabbi Oscar Fleischaker, Portsmouth, N.H.; Rabbi Leon Fram, Detroit, Mich.; Philip Frishberg, Bethlehem, Pa.; Rabbi Leon I. Feuer, Toledo, Ohio; Bernard Fuller, Laurelton, L.I., N.Y.; Irving Galt, New York City; Rabbi I.J. Gerber, Fitchburg, Mass.; Rabbi Jacob J. Gittleman, Louisville, Ky.; Robert J. Glass, Long Beach, L.I., N.Y.; Harry K. Goldenberg, Duluth, Minn.; Rabbi Solomon D. Goldfarb, Charleston, S.C.; Albert Goldman, Rochester, N.Y.; Samuel Goldstock, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Abraham Goodman, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Jack A. Goodman, Indianapolis, Ind.; Jacob Goodman, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Julius Goodman, Troy, N.Y.; Rabbi Theodore H. Gordon, Madison, Wisc.; David Gourse, Fall River, Mass.; Judge Emanuel Greenberg, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Louis J. Gribetz, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Rabbi Gershon Hadas, Kansas City, Mo.; Joseph Halbert, Atlantic City, N.J.; Herman Handmaker, Louisville, Ky.; H. Harrison, Wheeling, W.Va.; Robert A. Hess, Milwaukee, Wisc.; Alex Himmelman, Milwaukee, Wisc.; Jacob D. Hoffman, Philadelphia, Pa.; Samuel Judenfreund, Bronx, New York; Marvin A. Kane, Cleveland, Ohio; Meyer Kaplan, Alexandria, La.; Rabbi C.E. Hillel Kauvar, Denver, Colo.; Samuel Keiser, Baltimore, Md.; Rabbi Abraham Kellner, Albany, N.Y.; Leon A. Kohn, N.Y.C.; Israel Kramer, Trenton, N.J.; Philip Lassar, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Arthur R. Lebenson, Bronx, N.Y.; Joseph Leonard, Allentown, Pa.; Judge Benjamin Lencher, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Joseph Lerner, Newark, N.J.; Max Levy, N.Y.C.; Samuel Leibman, Brooklyn, N.Y.; I.M. Lieberman, Jacksonville, Fla.; Louis Linderman, New Haven, Conn.; Sol Low, Forest Hills, N.Y.; Phil W. Lown, Auburn, Maine; A.M. Luntz, Cleveland, Ohio; Rabbi Carl Manello, Wichita, Kansas; Rabbi Harry Margolis, St. Paul, Minn.; Dr. S. Margoshes, N.Y.C.; Ben D. Marks, Corpus Christi, Texas; Simon Mayer, Charleston, W. Va.; Abraham Mazer, N.Y.C.; Morris Mendelsohn, Youngstown, Ohio; Rabbi Arthur H. Neulander, Richmond Hill, L.I.; Emanuel Neumann, N.Y.C.; A.W. Neumark, Cleveland, Ohio; Rabbi S. Newberger, Oil City, Pa.; Kalman I. Ostow, Brooklyn, N.Y.; I. Papermaster, Fargo, N.D.; Samuel J. Perry, Laurelton, L.I., N.Y.; Rabbi David Raab, Louisville, Ky.; Isidore Rabinovitz, Swampscott, Mass.; Jacob Rabinowitz, Boston, Mass.; Jacob E. Raffel, New Castle, Pa.; Arthur Ravel, Albuquerque, New Mexico; Jacob S. Richman, Philadelphia, Pa.; Sam W. Rivkin, Davenport, Iowa; Bertram Roberts, Kew Gardens, L.I.; Samuel P. Rose, Flushing, L.I.; N.Y.; Henry Rosenbaum, Plainfield, N.J.; Charles Rosenbloom, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Moses Robinson, Bronx, N.Y.; J. I. Rudavsky, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Leo F. Sack, Hudson, N.Y.; Albert Schiff, Columbus, Ohio; Chas. E. Schwartz, Akron, Ohio; A.L. Shalowitz, Washington, D.C.; Harry Sheskin, Kansas City, Mo.; Dr. Jacob Shohan, West Orange, N.J.; Rabbi Abraham B. Shoulson, Erie, Pa.; Samuel A. Shuman, Philadelphia, Pa.; Judge Joseph H. Silbert, Cleveland, Ohio; Max A. Silver, Seattle, Wash.; Rabbi Wm. B. Silverman, Gastonia, N.C.; Philip Slomovitz, Detroit, Mich.; Dr. Samuel W. Sparks, New Kensington, Pa.; Joseph M. Spector, Baltimore, Md.; David Spiegel, Bklyn, N.Y.; Prof. I. Sternberg, Eveleth, Minn.; Elihu D. Stone, Boston, Mass.; Mark Sugarman, So. Coatesville, Pa.; Louis Sutin, Terre Haute, Ind.; Rabbi Louis Swichkow, Milwaukee, Wisc.; Max Tieger, Elizabeth, N.J.; Benjamin Tober, Portsmouth, N.H.; Jacques Torczyner, N.Y.C.; Irving Usen, Newton Centre, Mass.; Elkan Voorsanger, Milwaukee, Wisc.; Rabbi Joseph H. Wagner, Wheeling, W. Va.; Morris Weinberg, Bklyn, N.Y.; Rabbi Max Weine, Camden, N.J.; Samuel B. Weinstein, Portland, Ore.; Sidney N. Weitz, Cleveland, Ohio; Leo Wilson, Bronx, N.Y.; Dr. Alex Wolf, St. Louis, Mo.; Fred Yenkin, Columbus, Ohio; Morris A. Zeldin, Bklyn, N.Y.; Abraham Zerman, Bronx, N.Y.

PRESS RELEASE
ABBA HILLEL SILVER TESTIMONIAL DINNER COMMITTEE
SUITE 704
55 WEST 42nd STREET
NEW YORK 18, N.Y.
TELEPHONE - LA 4 - 7319

FOR RELEASE: MONDAY, MARCH 19, 1945

BARKLEY, LAUSCHE, NIEBUHR, TAFT AMONG SPEAKERS AT TESTIMONIAL TO
DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER

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LEADERS FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE PARTICIPATING IN TRIBUTE

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New York - - Leaders from all walks of life will join in honoring Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, of Cleveland, at a Testimonial Dinner to be held on Wednesday evening, March 21st, in the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel Commodore, New York City. Speakers at the dinner will include Senate Majority Leader Alben W. Barkley (D., Ky.), Rabbi Wolf Gold, leader of the World Mizrachi organization, Governor Frank J. Lausche (D., Ohio), Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr, of Union Theological Seminary, David Pinski, leader of Labor Zionism, Senator Robert A. Taft (R., Ohio), and Dr. Silver. Dr. Emanuel Neumann, Zionist leader, will serve as the dinner chairman, and the invocation will be delivered by Rabbi Leon I. Feuer of Toledo.

Scores of messages paying tribute to Dr. Silver for his vigorous leadership of American Jewry and his great contributions to American life generally over many years of devoted service have been received by the dinner committee.

Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, of the Methodist Church, said in his message: "Dr. Silver's distinguished leadership has been an inspiration to the religious forces of the nation. He has revealed both courage and understanding, and has never forgotten the equally important factor of sympathy. In these hours in which we seek to build a new world, the moral principles he has enunciated are the

essential foundation upon which such a structure may be reared. Christians, everywhere, I am sure, will join me in this brief word of tribute and gratitude."

Dr. Daniel L. Marsh, President of Boston University and Executive Chairman of the American Palestine Committee, said: "Dr. Silver is not only a distinguished and useful leader of the Jewish people in America and throughout the world, he is also one of this generation's greatest American citizens of any faith or of any racial inheritance."

Honorary sponsors of the dinner are: Irving Abramson, president, N.J. State C.I.O.; Sholem Asch, noted author; Senator Alben W. Barkley, (D. Ky.); Senator Ralph O. Brewster, (R. Me.); Senator Harold H. Burton, (R. Ohio); Gedalia Bublick, prominent Yiddish journalist; Fred M. Butzel, Detroit community leader; Representative Emanuel Celler, (D. N.Y.); Prof. Abraham Cronbach, of the Hebrew Union College; Solomon Dingol, prominent Yiddish journalist; Rabbi Abraham J. Feldman, Hartford, Conn. community leader; Rabbi Leon I. Feuer, Zionist leader; Isidor Fine, Brooklyn community leader; Jacob Fishman, veteran Yiddish journalist; George I. Fox, New York community leader; Rabbi Leon Fram, Detroit Zionist leader; Dr. Solomon B. Freehof, noted Jewish scholar and religious leader; Prof. Carl J. Friedrich, of Harvard University; Dean Charles W. Gilkey, of Chicago University; Rabbi Robert Gordis, president of the Rabbinical Assembly of America; William Green, president of the A.F. of L.; Joel Gross, national co-chairman, United Palestine Appeal; Rabbi Harry Halpern, president, Brooklyn Zionist Region; Prof. Ralph S. Harlow, of Smith College; Herman Hoffman, president, Independent Order B'rith Abraham; Rabbi Max Kirshblum, leader of Mizrachi; Dean Winifred G. Leutner, of Western Reserve University; Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein, leader of Mizrachi; Dr. Walter C. Lowdermilk, Assistant Chief, U.S. Soil Conservation Service; Hon. Paul V. McNutt, U.S. Manpower Commissioner; Dr. Daniel L. Marsh, president of Boston University;

David Louis Meckler, editor of the Jewish Morning Journal; Abraham Miller, vice-president, Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union; Rabbi Irving Miller, Zionist leader; Bishop Francis J. McConnell of New York; Representative John W. McCormack, (D. Mass.); Hon. Vincent J. Murphy, Mayor of Newark, N.J.; Isidore Nagler, vice-president of the I.L.G.W.U.; Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam of the Methodist Church; Judge Bernard Rosenblatt, president of the Palestine Foundation Fund; Joseph Schlossberg, Labor Zionist leader; Dr. Ferdinand Sonneborn, New York community leader; Dean W.C. Sperry, of Harvard University; Rabbi Milton Steinberg, Zionist leader; Elihu D. Stone, veteran Zionist leader; Senator Robert A. Taft, (R. Ohio); Morris Weinberg, publisher of The Jewish Day; Hon. Sumner Welles, former Undersecretary of State; Rabbi Samuel Wohl, Cincinnati religious leader; Samuel Wolchok, president of the United Wholesale and Retail Employees Intl. Union; Prof. H.A. Wolfson, of Harvard University; Max Zaritsky, president of the United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers Union.

Co-chairmen of the dinner are: Prof. William F. Albright, of Johns Hopkins University; Hon. M. Maldwin Fertig, president of the Bronx Zionist Region; Rabbi Wolf Gold, leader of World Mizrachi; Hon. Nathaniel L. Goldstein, Attorney-General of New York State; Judge Emanuel Greenberg, Brooklyn community leader; Prof. Horace M. Kallen, of the New School for Social Research; Prof. Mordecai M. Kaplan, of the Jewish Theological Seminary; Emanuel Neumann, Zionist leader; David Pinski, leader of Labor Zionism; Hon. Carl Sherman, former Attorney-General of New York State; Charles J. Rosenbloom, treasurer of the United Palestine Appeal; Justice Meier Steinbrink, N.Y. State Supreme Court Justice; Pierre van Paassen, noted author.

Press Release:

American Zionist Policy Committee

55 WEST 42nd STREET • NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

Lackawanna 4-7319

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMERICAN ZIONIST POLICY COMMITTEE HOPES Z.O.A. EXECUTIVE HAS MADE
GENUINE PEACE MOVE, BUT CHARGES Z.O.A. PRESS RELEASE DISTORTS
FACTS IN REPORTING WHAT TRANSPIRED AT MEETING

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New York -- The American Zionist Policy Committee today made the following comment on the press release issued by the office of the Zionist Organization of America which purports to be an account of what transpired at the Z.O.A. Executive Committee meeting, held on Sunday, April 1st:

"The Official handout suffers from a number of distortions which create an altogether false impression of what took place at the Z.O.A. Executive Committee meeting. Particularly astonishing is the press release's fictitious version of the decisions taken at the meeting.

"The meeting voted in favor of the appointment of a committee which will explore the possibilities of bringing about a solution of the controversy in relation to the American Zionist Emergency Council. So much is correct -- and all sincere Zionists will hope that this move is a genuine one. The general feeling at the meeting was that a sincere effort is being launched to restore peace and unity within our ranks. The Z.O.A. press release, however, is anything but a peace move; it can be described more accurately as a declaration of war.

"There was absolutely no decision taken to instruct the Committee which is to be formed 'to reject any proposal which might be construed as a reprimand to Dr. Wise, or which would imply his ceasing active leadership in the Emergency Council.' What purpose is being served by announcing that such a decision had

been taken is not clear. If it is meant to imply that Dr. Silver's supporters are calling for Dr. Wise's resignation -- and the press release does proceed to report speakers at the meeting as interpreting Dr. Silver's reply to Dr. Wise's letter of March 21st as a request that Dr. Wise resign -- let it be made unmistakably clear that no such request has been made either by Dr. Silver or the American Zionist Policy Committee. The letter from Dr. Silver to Dr. Wise which is referred to in the press release reads as follows:

March 26, 1945

Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Chairman
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N. Y.

My dear Dr. Wise:

Permit me to thank you for your letter of March 21st. I appreciate the invitation which you convey to me to attend a meeting in the near future of the Executive Committee of the Emergency Council. I shall try to attend such a meeting although at the present moment I do not know when I will be in New York again. I only returned this morning from a week's stay in New York.

I would be lacking in frankness if I were to leave you with the impression that my remaining a member of the Council in any way implies that I accept the present set-up of the Council as either a satisfactory or permanent arrangement. Since my enforced resignation, the Council, to my best knowledge, has heard from numerous Zionist groups and leaders throughout the country calling for its re-organization. This has also been echoed with remarkable unanimity by the Jewish press.

On February 21, Dr. Weizmann cabled both to you and to me "an urgent message to do everything humanly possible to resolve the differences and to remove the difficulties thus enabling all Zionists to combine for the urgent task which lies before us." Mr. Lipsky wrote to me on February 26 that he, as a member of the Jewish Agency, had been urged by Dr. Weizmann to make an earnest effort to reconcile the differences that had arisen. On March 2, I wrote to Mr. Lipsky that "if Dr. Wise is now of the opinion that the re-organization of the Emergency Council which he precipitated by his resignation was ill-advised, and that the situation now calls for my return under conditions which will enable me to carry on the active political leadership of the Council, I shall be very pleased to meet with him at a time and place mutually agreeable."

I have not heard from you as to your intentions. This, as I see it,

and I believe you will agree with me, is the real crux of the matter and not whether I attend one or another meeting of the Executive Council.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

(signed) Abba Hillel Silver

"How this letter can be interpreted as a demand for Dr. Wise's resignation is truly astounding.

"As for the charge (also included in the press release) that the American Zionist Policy Committee is carrying on independent political action -- neither Dr. Silver nor any person connected with the Committee has attempted to carry on such action either in Washington or elsewhere. The Committee has communicated and will continue to communicate with fellow-Zionists in order to foster an alert public opinion among our people and to encourage the free expression of views and judgments regarding the problems confronting the Zionist Movement. This is not only our democratic right, but also our duty under the circumstances which prevail.

"We would prefer to believe that the action taken at the meeting of the Z.O.A. Executive Committee is a sincere gesture towards the restoration of unity in our ranks. It is to be deeply regretted that the office of the Zionist Organization of America has, through the issuance of its garbled account to the press, raised many doubts as to the genuineness of the move. However, all of us are awaiting the naming of the exploratory committee by the President of the Zionist Organization of America. Its makeup will reflect the intentions of the present Z.O.A. leadership."

Press Release:

American Zionist Policy Committee

55 WEST 42nd STREET • NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMERICAN ZIONIST POLICY COMMITTEE REPUDIATES COMMITTEE NAMED BY Z.O.A. PRESIDENT

- - -

EXPRESSES NO CONFIDENCE IN "PEACE COMMITTEE" BECAUSE OF ITS MAKEUP

- - -

New York -- The American Zionist Policy Committee today issued the following statement on the makeup of the committee named by the President of the Zionist Organization of America to "explore the possibilities of bringing about a solution of the controversy in relation to the American Zionist Emergency Council":

"The resolution which was adopted by the Executive Committee of the Zionist Organization of America on Sunday evening, April 1st, appeared to be a genuine effort on the part of that body to meet the universal demand of American Zionists for unity in the ranks, which was disrupted by the forced resignation of Dr. Silver from the Chairmanship of the Executive of the American Zionist Emergency Council and from the Co-Chairmanship of the Council itself.

"When this resolution was given to the press by the Z.O.A. administration, it was accompanied by interpretations which distorted the clear intent of the resolution and which created the suspicion that the whole move was a disingenuous maneuver. The makeup of the committee to explore the possibilities of unity, which has just been made public, unfortunately confirms this suspicion. The committee is headed by a chairman who is among the most bitter and notorious opponents of Dr. Silver. All the members of the committee, with the exception of Mr. Louis Lipsky, voted at the meeting of the Z.O.A. Administrative Council to sustain the representatives of the Zionist Organization of America on the American Zionist Emergency Council who forced Dr. Silver's resignation. Three of the five members of the committee have, within recent weeks, made unscrupulous attacks on Dr. Silver from the public platform. Not a single member of the committee represents the forces in American Zionism which have publicly demanded the recall of Dr. Silver. The American Zionist Policy Committee repudiates this committee and expresses no confidence in it."

The committee, named on April 5th by the President of the Zionist Organization of America, consists of Judge Louis E. Levinthal of Philadelphia, chairman, Daniel Frisch of Indianapolis, Louis Lipsky of New York, Ezra Shapiro of Cleveland, and Dewey Stone of Brockton, Mass.

#15B
AMERICAN ZIONIST POLICY COMMITTEE
55 WEST 42nd STREET
NEW YORK 18, NEW YORK
TELEPHONE: LACKAWANNA 4-7319

Translation of a special dispatch by S. Dingol in The Jewish Day,
April 8, 1945. (Similar dispatches have appeared in the Jewish
Morning Journal and the Jewish Daily Forward)

PEACE IN ZIONIST RANKS COULD BE ACHIEVED WITHIN TEN MINUTES, SAYS DR. SILVER

- - -

ZIONIST LEADER ASSERTS THAT THE DISPUTE WITHIN ZIONIST LEADERSHIP
COULD BE SOLVED EASILY WITH GOOD WILL ON BOTH SIDES. - DOUBTS
WHETHER THE COMMITTEE NAMED BY DR. GOLDSTEIN WILL ACHIEVE THIS

- - -

The furor which has arisen in American Zionist circles over Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver's forced resignation from the leadership of the American Zionist Emergency Council, and the protests and demands for his return to leadership which have come from all parts of the country, have finally brought about a decision by the Executive Committee of the Zionist Organization of America to name a committee which will explore the possibilities of restoring peace in the Zionist movement.

Dr. Israel Goldstein, President of the Zionist Organization of America, named a committee of five, with Judge Louis E. Levinthal as chairman, for that purpose. The four other members of the committee are: Daniel Frisch, Louis Lipsky, Ezra Shapiro, and Dewey Stone.

When the membership of the group was made public, the American Zionist Policy Committee, which supports Dr. Silver's policies, issued a statement expressing no confidence in the committee because, with one exception, it is made up of Dr. Silver's opponents, and "not a single member of the committee represents the forces in American Zionism which have publicly demanded the recall of Dr. Silver."

Dr. Silver was in New York on Friday afternoon and we made use of the occasion to meet with him and get his opinion on the possibility for peace in the Zionist leadership, and on the committee which was named by Dr. Goldstein.

Dr. Silver asserted that peace in the Zionist leadership can be achieved very easily.

"Peace in American Zionism can be brought about within ten minutes!" Dr. Silver declared. "If Dr. Wise and I were to discuss the matter and if it were made clear that the question of prestige is not involved, but that this concerns the best interests of Zionism, then I don't think we would have much difficulty in understanding each other, provided that outside influences will not be involved."

"And what is your opinion on the peace committee?" I asked Rabbi Silver.

"The American Zionist Policy Committee, with which I am in complete harmony, has already made a statement about that," Dr. Silver answered. "We are not opposed to a peace committee that really wants peace. But when such a committee is named, it should be made up of neutrals who are not involved in the controversy, or it should be a mixed group, representing both sides, who would arrive at an understanding among themselves. Unfortunately the makeup of this committee is such as would tend to prolong the dispute, rather than achieve early peace. One member of the committee, speaking from a Zionist platform, could find no better word than "Fascist" to describe me. Another member of the committee has travelled throughout the country to speak against me at Zionist meetings. Such a 'peace committee' can have only one interest--to keep the present ZOA leadership in control and to keep me as far as possible from the Emergency Council."

"Do you believe that the ZOA Executive was insincere in making this peace attempt?" I asked Dr. Silver.

"No, I would not say that. I believe that many members of the Executive were sincere in requesting that peace be brought about. But because the makeup of the committee was left in the hands of outspoken opponents of mine, what emerged was not a peace committee, but a group which will try to bury every possibility for achieving peace."

4/10/45

Press Release:

American Zionist Policy Committee

55 WEST 42nd STREET • NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

Lackawanna 4-7319

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WESTCHESTER ZIONIST REGION DEMANDS UNITY THROUGH THE RECALL OF DR. SILVER

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CALLS ON ZOA ADMINISTRATION TO SEEK PERMISSION FOR NATIONAL CONVENTION

- - -

New York -- The Annual Conference of the Westchester Zionist Region, comprising over 2,000 members of the Zionist Organization of America, adopted by a vote of 41 to 18 a resolution calling upon the Administration of the Z.O.A. to "restore unity to our ranks immediately through the recall of Dr. Abba Hillel Silver to the active leadership of the American Zionist Emergency Council and to establish that cooperation with Dr. Silver which will make possible the carrying on of Zionist political work with the greatest effectiveness." This was announced today by Joseph W. Greenleaf, chairman of the Conference Committee.

The Conference also adopted a resolution calling upon the President of the Z. O. A. and the Zionist Executive "to bend every effort towards the securing of permission from the Office of Defense Transportation to hold a National Convention at the usual time." Copies of both resolutions will be sent to the members of the Executive and Administrative Committees of the Z.O.A., to the members of the American Zionist Emergency Council and to the Presidents of all Zionist Districts and Regions in the United States.

The resolution demanding unity in Zionist ranks through the recall of Dr. Silver was vigorously opposed by Robert Szold and Herman Weisman, both leading spokesmen for the present Z. O. A. Administration. They were answered by Mr. Greenleaf, by

Charles Ress, co-chairman of the Resolutions Committee, and by other spokesmen of the Region, including Rabbi Louis Simsovitz of Portchester, Wolf Feldman of Yonkers, Louis Brown, Jacob Zuckerman and Rabbi Milton Elefant of New Rochelle. Jacob Lukashok, president of the Westchester Region, was chairman of the meeting.

The text of the resolutions follows:

"WHEREAS, the Westchester Zionist Region, comprising over 2,000 members of the Zionist Organization of America, deeply conscious of the tragic plight of our people and of the historic responsibilities now confronting American Jewry, is resolved to bend every effort towards the achievement of Zionist aims in this final hour of decision, and

"WHEREAS, the critical position of Zionism following the Conferences at Yalta, Egypt and San Francisco, makes it imperative that American Zionists unite immediately behind a program of vigorous political action which will utilize the best talents and most effective spokesmen in our movement, and

"WHEREAS, in the face of our overwhelming responsibilities and our people's tragedy, the effectiveness of American Zionism today is impaired by disunity and the expulsion from supreme command of some of our most capable leaders, and

"WHEREAS, we are greatly concerned by the failure of the present administration of the Zionist Organization of America to give heed to the demands of individuals, Districts and Regions throughout the United States to restore unity to our movement through the recall of Dr. Abba Hillel Silver to active political leadership;

"THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Westchester Zionist Region, in convention assembled on this 27th day of May 1945, calls upon the President, National Officers, Executive Committee and the Chairman of the National Administrative Council of the Zionist Organization of America to restore unity to our ranks immediately through the recall of Dr. Silver to the active leadership of the American Zionist Emergency Council and to establish that cooperation with Dr. Silver which will make possible the carrying on of Zionist political work with the greatest effectiveness, and

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be sent to the members of the Executive and Administrative Committees of the Zionist Organization of America, to the members of the American Zionist Emergency Council, and to the Presidents of all Zionist Districts and Regions in the United States."

- - -

"WHEREAS, decisions affecting the future of Palestine and of the Zionist movement are being taken by leaders of the United Nations in their various conferences; and

"WHEREAS, problems affecting the future of our movement require the concerted efforts and careful deliberation of our entire organization; and

"WHEREAS, the highest deliberative body of our organization is the Annual Convention of the Zionist Organization of America;

"THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Westchester Zionist Region calls upon the President of the Zionist Organization of America and the Zionist Executive to bend every effort towards the securing of permission from the Office of Defense Transportation to hold a National Convention at the usual time;

"AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we call upon the President of the Zionist Organization of America to call such a Convention at the usual time, so far as is consistent with government regulations;

"AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be sent to the members of the Executive and Administrative Committees of the Zionist Organization of America and to the Presidents of all Zionist Districts and Regions in the United States."