



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

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

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

Reel
105

Box
36

Folder
272

Shapiro, Harry, 1945-1946.

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date July 17, 1945

From Harry L. Shapiro

In accordance with our telephone conversation of yesterday evening, I am moving forward to scheduling the following:

1) a meeting with Mr. Natanyahu and his group at 4 p.m. on Thursday, July 19, at the Commodore Hotel.

2) the dinner of the Policy Committee at 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 19; (As yet we have not found a place to hold this affair because it is necessary to have a kosher meal. As you know, we will invite some of our Mizrahi friends. The time is set for 8:30 p.m. because Thursday is Tisha B'Ov and Mr. Gellman insists that we cannot have it prior to that time.) (P.S. - WE FINALLY ARRANGED THIS AT THE PARAMOUNT RESTAURANT)

3) a meeting of the Executive Staff of the Emergency Council at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, July 20.

4) a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Emergency Council at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, July 20.

I have before me a JTA dispatch from its issue of July 17, under the date-line "London, July 16". Here is a paragraph from the dispatch:

"Moshe Shertok, chief of the political department of the Jewish Agency, arrived here today to attend the world Zionist conference, which will open on July 31.

It is understood that the conference will last six days. The first three days' sessions will be open, while the last three will be devoted to a closed meeting of the Small Zionist Actions Committee. It is understood that some delegates plan to urge enlargement of the present Zionist executive by the inclusion of
|| Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and several others."

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday.

HLS

HLS:MH

No Copies for Record

August 17, 1945

To: Records Department

From: Harry L. Shapiro

Subject: Elmo Roper Poll on Palestine

Last week I asked Mr. Samuel Cherr to inquire as to the information surrounding the poll which Roper was making with regards to Palestine. Mr. Cherr has been in touch with Mr. Roper and he submits the following information:

The poll is being paid for by one person, whose name is held in confidence, who claims to be a neutral on Zionism. The questions which are used in the poll were submitted to a representative of pro-Zionist and anti-Zionist forces. The polling is limited to Jews only.

It is the understanding that the poll will not be published but Roper claims that if there is a decision to publish the poll, then it must be published in full.

In confidence, Mr. Roper told Mr. Cherr that in a pilot test which Roper took he found that Zionism is on the ascendency so far as Jews are concerned.

HLS:MH

MEMORANDUM

To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Date September 4, 1945

From Harry L. Shapiro

Attached is the memorandum of Mr. Ben-Horin which I mentioned in our telephone conversation of today. You will please note that he has some very good ideas which are in concert with our own thinking.

His suggestion with reference to the "J'Accuse" project is a very good one and if it could be done quickly it would be a good tie-in for the petition idea. Of course the time element is an important factor here and if we took his idea of having the petition follow the book it would delay our work. Therefore, from our point of view I don't believe that the whole plan is practicable but it is nevertheless a good idea to carry forward. When you come to New York on Monday I have an idea along these lines. The whole book could be written in this office in two or three weeks. Then we would only need an important personality to consent to be its author.

There are other good suggestions in his memorandum which we are trying to carry through.

Regards.



HLS:MH
Enc.

September 5, 1945

Mr. Harry Shapiro
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Shapiro:

Who is the Albert Goodman of the enclosed letter? If he is a trustworthy person I would give him permission to reprint my booklet on "Zionism -- What It Is -- What It Is Not."

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK
Enc.

September 5, 1945

Mr. Harry Shapiro
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York 17, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Shapiro:

Please convey to all the members of the Staff my sincere wishes for a very happy new year. May the coming year be one of well being and happiness for all of them. May it also usher in a year of great progress and achievement for our historic cause.

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

41 EAST FORTY-SECOND STREET

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

NOTED BY

REFER TO

DATE

SEP 18 1945

ANSWERED

MEMORANDUM

Dr. Silver
FROM *The President*

DATE: 9/12/45

TO: Mr. Shapiro

SUBJECT:

In reponse to my letter to Dr. Silver, he writes me as follows:

"I think it would be very helpful to the cause if you would have a talk with Anna Rosenberg, sound her out about her attitude to our cause, and whether she would be willing to help us out at this juncture. She might prove very valuable".

I shall be glad to speak to Anna Rosenberg, but I would ask you or someone in your office to arrange the appointment with her. It takes a good deal of time to get to these people and it would be helpful if it could be done through your office.

September 12, 1945

Mr. Harry Shapiro
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York 17, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Shapiro:

1) In connection with the Mass Declaration -- you may recall that it was suggested that quotas be set for communities. Mr. Abe Goodman mentioned the same at the ZOA Executive meeting last evening. I suppose that a ten percent population quota for cities over one hundred thousand and over, fifteen percent for those between fifty to a hundred thousand and twenty percent for all the others would be about right. Think it through.

2) Suggest to Ben Horin to see Major Fielding Eliot to interest him in exposing the Arab military myth and the need of a half million American soldiers to keep order in Palestine.

3) In view of the fact that the matter of closing our Washington office at the request of the Agency had found its way into the public press, it would be desirable for the information to be conveyed to the Yiddish press in some form or another that the Committee of Eight unanimously recommended to the Jewish Agency that the Washington Office of the Emergency Council shall continue as heretofore, and that the matter has thus been satisfactorily concluded.

4) The enclosed letter from Palestine, about Tourist Trade, I suppose should be turned over to the Palestine Department of the ZOA.

5) Follow through with the four or five speeches to be written for senators for a discussion of our cause on the floor of the Senate in the near future.

6) Speak to Mr. Neumann about Max Rhoades, attorney in Washington. He may be able to do some work for us. He is an old-time Zionist and in previous years was very active in the work.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

MEMORANDUM

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Confidential

To Harry L. Shapiro

Date

September 13, 1945

From Abe Tuvim

I had a long talk with Mrs. Anna Rosenberg. She confirmed the fact that she had taken important French officials to task for the prevalence of anti-Semitism in France and for the fact that much Jewish property which had been expropriated had not been returned. Her conversations were not held in connection with a loan by the USA, as reported by Dr. Goldstein, but rather dealt with general help which the French expect from us. Mrs. Rosenberg told me also, in confidence, that she had discussed the prevalence of anti-Semitism in certain sectors with high army officials, and had told them that she considered the practice dangerous, and that many soldiers who were opposed to anti-Semitism had begun to wonder what they are fighting for. I told her that this information was not for the record.

I discussed with her quite frankly the uneasiness among our people with regard to the attitude of the administration, and made her aware of our disappointment in the last administration's failure to live up to its promises. I made it clear that many of our people are demanding that we denounce the administration for its failure with regard to our problem.

Because she is leaving for a rest on doctor's orders, and will not return for 10 days, she is in no position to undertake personal action in connection with the above. She did promise, however, to talk to David Niles, who is expected to be in New York today or tomorrow (13th or 14th). If Niles comes in, she will arrange for some of our people to speak with him. I mentioned Neumann and Goldstein. If Niles doesn't come to New York she will call him in Washington and make him aware of what's going on, paving the way for future conversations with our people.

In response to questioning by me, Mrs. Rosenberg said that Niles, personally, was friendly to our cause and wants to do all he can to help. She feels that he has been placed in an unfortunate position because he is the person used by the administration (as he was with the last) to hold us off. She says, however, that she saw Niles in Wagner's office one day last week, and Niles urged Wagner to keep pressing for quick action. Niles told Wagner, according to Mrs. Rosenberg, that unfortunately he, Niles, could not do it, but that Wagner was a free man and could.

Mrs. Rosenberg promised to call me tomorrow and let me know whether she has been able to contact Niles. Incidentally Mrs. Rosenberg could not make an appointment to speak to Dr. Goldstein but said she would contact me when she returns in 10 to 12 days.

AT:MH

September 18, 1945

Mr. Harry Shapiro
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Shapiro:

Rabbi Silver asked me to send you
a few Clergy coupons. I am enclosing eight
herewith. They are valid only until the first
of the year when new ones are issued.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK
Enc. - 8

September 20, 1945

Mr. Harry Shapiro
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Shapiro:

Have you made any progress with the
organization of the Academic Committee on Petagorski?
It is very important.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK

September 21, 1945

Mr. Harry Shapiro
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York 17, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Shapiro:

The enclosed peititon may give you some
ideas.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK
Enc.

C O P Y

B R O W N'S
822-824 South Broadway
Los Angeles 14, Calif.

October 9, 1945

Mr. Harry L. Shapiro
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Harry:

I suppose you are tremendously busy at this time trying to take advantage of the interest which has been created for Palestine to create something which will be of real value to our movement.

My particular reason for writing at this time is that yesterday I saw a letter from a man very high in government circles in which he states that he presented to President Truman, a proposition that part of the reparation from Germany should be made available to stateless persons for resettlement. This would apply largely to Jews. The President was interested in this recommendation and gave him permission to submit a plan. He also read the plan, which if adopted would be of extreme value.

We must realize that the situation for relief and resettlement is such, that it is impossible to raise anywhere near adequate sums by private means to carry out even a minimum program. Therefore, we must look to governments for a solution.

Unquestionably, the same idea already has occurred to the Emergency Committee. However, in view of the President's interest in a plan of this type, this might be the time to press along this line.

There is a possibility that Mrs. Brown and I will come East the early part of next year and if we do, you can feel assured that we will contact you.

With kindest regards and hoping that you are enjoying good health,
I remain

Yours truly,

(signed)

Charles

October 11, 1945

Mr. Harry Shapiro
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Shapiro:

Enclosed herewith is Mr. I. Evans check
for \$25.00.

"ith best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

BJK

Secretary to Dr. Silver

October 12, 1945

Mr. Harry Shapiro
5 Prospect Place
New York 17, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Shapiro:

I looked over the copy of the Ad which was submitted by Mr. Cherr. I am not greatly impressed. What was effective about our first Ad was that it was more than a display Ad of slogans, etc. It was an effectively reasoned argument which appealed to the average intelligent reader. It had substance, information along with deep pathos. I believe that much more can be said about American Labor to British Labor. For example, it could be pointed out that Jewish Labor and Jewish pioneers are the very ones who are trying to establish in that part of the world the kind of society based on social justice, etc. which both American Labor and British Labor are striving to achieve, that their work, institutions and standard of living are stimulating the social development of the entire Near East, and that the hobbling of this great work by the stoppage of Jewish immigration etc. is a blow to the economic and political progress of the entire Near East.

The draft which you submitted is a definite improvement upon the first one. But it still lacks tone, character and freshness. I would suggest that Manson and Ben-Horin get to work on this draft, keeping in mind the suggestions of this letter. Then show the final draft to one or two of our friends of Labor and get their reactions. I would like to see the draft, if possible, when I am in New York on Monday.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

October 12, 1945

Mr. Harry Shapiro
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Shapiro:

Dr. Silver requested me to send you
the enclosed check of \$1000.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

BJK

Secretary to Dr. Silver

October 18, 1945

Mr. Harry Shapiro
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York 17, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Shapiro:

Dr. Silver requested me to send you
the enclosed copy of a letter which he received.

Dr. Silver will be in New York City on
Monday, October 22nd. Were you able to secure a
plane reservation for him back to Cleveland on
Tuesday, the 23rd, morning or afternoon? Dr. Silver
has to be back here for an evening meeting on the 23rd.

With best wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

BJK

Secretary to Dr. Silver

October 18, 1945

Judge Bernard Rosenblatt, President
Keren Hayesod
41 East 42d Street
New York, N.Y.

Dear Judge Rosenblatt:

The present crisis in Zionism which has created the need for the tremendous program of political and public relations activity, now being conducted by the American Zionist Emergency Council, has made it impossible for our staff to find the time to formulate the budget for the year which began October 16, 1945.

You will be interested to learn that I had discussed this matter with Dr. Stephen S. Wise and Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, and we had agreed on an approach which called for our formulating the budget, in consultation with the heads or representatives of the Keren Kayemeth and Keren Hayesod. It is our intention to do this as soon as the situation permits.

Our fiscal year ended October 15 last. As yet we have not received the final monthly payment of the Keren Hayesod which is to be applied to the period September 16, 1945 to October 15, 1945. With this income I believe that we shall have completed our year's activity within last year's budget as approved for the Emergency Council.

At the moment, we are carrying on a great amount of activity, and as a result our expenses are large and immediate. In view of this fact, Dr. Silver and Dr. Wise have authorized me to request, in the Council's behalf, that the Funds each advance the amount of \$50,000 on account for the budget of the year in which we are now operating. The new proposed budget will be submitted for your approval as soon as possible.

It is our hope that the Keren Hayesod will act promptly on this request in order to enable us to carry forward our work during the current crisis.

Respectfully yours,

HLS:Nf

Harry L. Shapiro
Executive Director

October 18, 1945

Judge Morris Rothenberg, President
The Jewish National Fund
41 East 42d Street
New York, N.Y.

Dear Judge Rothenberg:

The present crisis in Zionism which has created the need for the tremendous program of political and public relations activity, now being conducted by the American Zionist Emergency Council, has made it impossible for our staff to find the time to formulate the budget for the year which began October 16, 1945.

You will be interested to learn that I had discussed this matter with Dr. Stephen S. Wise and Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, and we had agreed on an approach which called for our formulating the budget, in consultation with the heads or representatives of the Keren Kayemeth and Keren Hayesod. It is our intention to do this as soon as the situation permits.

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It is our hope that the Keren Kayemeth will act promptly on this request in order to enable us to carry forward our work during the current crisis.

Respectfully yours,

HLS:NK

Harry L. Shapiro
Executive Director

Charge to the account of

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	ORDINARY
DAY LETTER	URGENT RATE
SERIAL	DEFERRED
OVERNIGHT TELEGRAM	NIGHT LETTER
SPECIAL SERVICE	SHIP RADIOGRAM

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise the message will be transmitted as a telegram or ordinary cablegram.

WESTERN UNION

1206-

CHECK

ACCOUNTING INFORMATION

TIME FILED

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

11-2-45

WANT A REPLY?

"Answer by WESTERN UNION"
or similar phrases may be
included without charge.

Harry Shapiro
Statler Hotel
Washington, D.C.

WRHS



LOCAL RADIO STATION INFORMS ME THAT BROADCAST IS LIMITED TO WASHINGTON
AND UNLESS THEY RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS FROM NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS THEY
DO NOT RUN THE PROGRAM.

SILVER

Charge to the account of _____

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	ORDINARY
DAY LETTER	URGENT RATE
SERIAL	DEFERRED
OVERNIGHT TELEGRAM	NIGHT LETTER
SPECIAL SERVICE	SHIP RADIOGRAM

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise the message will be transmitted as a telegram or ordinary cablegram.

WESTERN UNION

1206-

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CHECK
ACCOUNTING INFORMATION
TIME FILED

Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

16
10-31-45

WANT A REPLY?
"Answer by WESTERN UNION"
or similar phrases may be
included without charge.

Mr. Harry Shapiro

I HAVE BY NOW GOTTEN A FULL REPORT OF THE AMAZING DEMONSTRATION IN BEHALF OF OUR CAUSE LAST WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON. WILL YOU NOT EXPRESS TO ALL THE MEMBERS OF OUR STAFF WHO HAD A HAND IN BUILDING UP THAT MAGNIFICENT DEMONSTRATION MY PROFOUND GRATITUDE FOR A TRULY HISTORIC ACHIEVEMENT AND WILL YOU NOT YOURSELF TAKE A LARGE MEASURE OF THIS GRATITUDE FOR YOUR OWN PART IN IT. IT MAKES ONE VERY PROUD TO HAVE SUCH CO-WORKERS

A. H. SILVER

November 8, 1945

Mr. Harry L. Shapiro
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

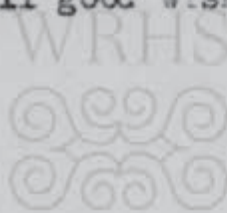
My dear Mr. Shapiro:

You will recall that I spoke to you yesterday about the monthly allowance for secretarial work which I should like to make to Miss Bessie Kline beginning as October 1. I believe that the amount was \$25 a month.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.

COPY OF TELEGRAM SENT TO CHAIRMEN OF LOCAL EMERGENCY COMMITTEES

NOVEMBER 6, 1945

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF EMERGENCY COUNCIL REQUESTS FOLLOWING ACTION IN CONNECTION WITH FORTHCOMING VISIT OF PRIME MINISTER ATTLEE TO WASHINGTON: REPRESENTATIVE CHRISTIANS AND JEWS OF YOUR CITY SHOULD SEND LETTERS TO ATTLEE AT BRITISH EMBASSY, WASHINGTON. THERE SHOULD BE NO LESS THAN FIFTY SUCH LETTERS FROM SMALL COMMUNITIES AND NO LESS THAN ONE HUNDRED FROM LARGER ONES. ALSO HAVE CHRISTIAN AND JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS, AND WHERE POSSIBLE, GOVERNORS AND MAYORS WRITE LETTERS EXPRESSING STRONGEST DISAPPROVAL OF CONTINUATION WHITE PAPER POLICY. LETTERS SHOULD EMPHASIZE THAT AMERICANS, WHO HAD BEEN HEARTENED BY LABOR PARTY'S PALESTINE PLEDGES AND HAD EXPECTED FULFILLMENT OF BRITAIN'S OBLIGATIONS UNDER MANDATE, REMOVAL OF WHITE PAPER RESTRICTIONS AND RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF JEWISH STATE, ARE NOW DISILLUSIONED. ONLY IMMEDIATE ACTION TO FULFILL PLEDGE WILL RESTORE AMERICAN FAITH IN BRITISH INTEGRITY. PLEASE SEE TO IT THAT THESE LETTERS ARE SENT IN A STEADY FLOW THROUGHOUT ATTLEE'S STAY IN AMERICA. TRUST THIS IMPORTANT ASSIGNMENT WILL BE CARRIED OUT CAREFULLY AND THOROUGHLY. REGARDS.

HARRY L. SHAPIRO

November 6, 1945

Mr. Harry Shapiro
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York 17, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Shapiro:

Dr. William F. Ogburn occupied my pulpit last Sunday while I was away addressing the New England Zionist Region. I would suggest that you write to Mr. Samuel Caploe, President of the New England Zionist Region. Perhaps the New England Zionist Region may be willing to pay the honorarium of Dr. Ogburn, otherwise we might have to charge it up to the Emergency Council.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

Re Ogburn bill

November 7, 1945

Mr. Harry L. Shapiro
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Shapiro:

In the Report which I am to give to the Zionist Convention in Atlantic City, I should like to include a number of paragraphs on the Public Relations work of the Emergency Council since October, 1944, the propaganda, the mass demonstrations throughout the country and the occasions for them, the conferences held, such as the one in Washington, the approach to Congress, the mail campaigns, etc.; also the literature published and the reflection of our work in the press of the country, our contacts with Labor groups, the work of the Lecture Bureau, etc. You need not include the work of the American Palestine Committee as I have requested Dean LeSourd to give me a paragraph or two on that organization.

I should like to have these paragraphs ready for inclusion in my report within the next few days as I should like to whip my Report into shape by the middle of this coming week.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

November 8, 1945

Mr. Harry L. Shapiro
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Shapiro:

Rabbi Samuel Thurman of the United Hebrew
Congregation, Skinker Road near Wydown, St. Louis,
Mo. incurred an expense of \$86.00 in connection with
his recent visit to Washington. Please send him a
check to cover this amount.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

Benjamin Akzin

November 8, 1945

Harry Shapiro

XXXXXXX

1. In the course of my efforts to broaden the scope of our contacts in the Department of State, I have had a long conversation yesterday with Mr. Green, Acting Chief of the Division of Dependent Areas, whom I had known before. He explained to me that his Division is interested in the Palestine problem mainly insofar as it might become subject of a United Nations Organization trusteeship. We went into the various aspects of the problem very thoroughly. He knew very little about it, and I was able to give him various pointers. Among other things, I was able to draw his attention to the fact that the Middle-Eastern Division people are intensely pro-Arab, in view of their own personal background. He said that the idea had not occurred to him but that he saw why this would be likely to be so.

He explained that his Division is busy preparing a model of a trusteeship agreement which will be more or less applicable to all territories, and asked me what our main interest is. I replied that we are mainly interested in obtaining a substantive solution of the Palestine problem in accordance with our program, and that we are less concerned about the procedural machinery that would be used for carrying out the substantive solution. We went into the various aspects of the situation, such as would be affected by a transfer of authority during a transitional period, from Great Britain to a United Nations trusteeship. Green said that according to his understanding of the charter, the trusteeship agreement would have to be drawn up and agreed to by the "states directly concerned", rather than by the United Nations. Assuming that Great Britain, France, and the United States, and possibly some other states, would be considered "states directly concerned", it would be up to them to arrive at a decision as to the character and purposes of the new regime to be instituted in Palestine, and the United Nations would be likely to accept a trusteeship under the terms of an agreement thus drawn up.

I am sending Green some literature on the subject and will continue to be in touch with him. The titular chief of the Division, Ralph Bunch, is now in London. He will return here in a few days, but it is not yet certain whether he will stay with the Division or return to London. Should he stay here for some time, I have the promise both of Green and of a person outside of the government who knows him well to get me to meet Bunch.

2. I had yesterday a very interesting second conversation with Sir Willmott Lewis, the Times correspondent in Washington. Among other things, he brought up the question of the "anti-British tone" of Zionist propaganda in the United States and explained that to the British, Palestine is part of the larger problem of Anglo-American relations. Only if and when this larger problem is settled, will the Palestine solution be settled as well. I replied that judging by the past, we may see the larger problem of Anglo-American relations settled but our problem remain unsolved, and that therefore we have no alternative but to press for its solution in a satisfactory sense and in the immediate present.

Memo to Harry Shapiro
From: Benjamin Akzin

November 8, 1945

Another matter on which he dwelled at length concerned the British desire for America to share the responsibility for Palestine. I then said: "When we hear Englishmen speaking in this sense, we don't know whether you really want the United States to share responsibility in Palestine in the sense of also sharing authority over the territory, or whether you want America to undertake certain burdens while leaving administrative control over the territory to Great Britain, or whether you use the argument of America offering advice without responsibility in the hope that America will stop offering even advice. It would be very helpful to us to know what the British really want. Assuming that the British government wants, or under certain conditions would like to back a Jewish Palestine, we would try very hard to help it to obtain such conditions. But we are uncertain as to both points, whether you want to back a Jewish Palestine under certain conditions or whether you merely offer one excuse after another in order not to have to back it, and to what extent you really want to share authority over Palestine, either with the United States or with the United Nations."

He made a long but very evasive speech on the question of sharing responsibility. As for British backing of a Jewish Palestine, he said that he believes that there are very strong forces in Great Britain that sincerely want to back a Jewish home (here I interrupted him to say that I didn't want any further misunderstandings about the word "home". What we want is a Jewish Palestine, which means a country to which every Jew who wants to go would be able to go and which would become a Jewish state; he said that he understands that), and that he and a great many people in England realize that there is no other way out of the European Jewish problem. I said that I was very happy to hear that, since he has a reputation of not being a friend of Zionism, and that I hoped that he would express this conviction of his to Americans and Englishmen alike.

The conversation ended on a rather cordial note, and he suggested that we meet again very soon.

3. In connection with yesterday's story in the Herald-Tribune, and at Lourie's request, I phoned the man on the staff of the Herald-Tribune who supplied the material for the story, Mr. Metcalfe, to ask him whether he has any other information besides the stuff which he wrote in the article. He said that Byrnes stated yesterday at the press conference that the Palestine negotiations are entirely in the hands of President Truman and he, the Secretary, is not a party to them. I asked him whether that was said in the sense of passing the buck or whether it sounded sincere. Metcalfe replied that there are rumors in Washington to the effect that the President and Mr. Byrnes don't get along well and that the Secretary of State resents the extent to which Mr. Truman is taking care personally of diplomatic questions.

I am meeting Metcalfe today and will try to induce him to write a story about some aspects of our problem.

BA:cw

COPY OF TELEGRAM SENT TO
CHAIRMEN OF LOCAL EMERGENCY COMMITTEES

NOVEMBER 20, 1945

AS YOU PROBABLY HAVE LEARNED BY THIS TIME FROM PRESS REPORTS AND FROM DELEGATES TO ZOA CONVENTION, STATE DEPARTMENT IS ACTIVELY OPPOSING ACTION ON WAGNER-TAFT RESOLUTION ON PALESTINE WHICH IS NOW BEING CONSIDERED BY SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE. IMPERATIVE YOU HAVE GREATEST POSSIBLE NUMBER OF LETTERS AND WIRES SENT IMMEDIATELY TO SECRETARY OF STATE BYRNES REMINDING HIM THAT PRESENT ADMINISTRATION IS COMMITTED TO PALESTINE POLICY AS STATED IN WAGNER-TAFT RESOLUTION AND SAYING THAT YOU CANNOT UNDERSTAND HOW STATE DEPARTMENT CAN NOW OPPOSE ACTION WHEN BOTH PRESIDENT TRUMAN AND SECRETARY BYRNES HAD GIVEN CLEARANCE TO RESOLUTION PRIOR TO ITS INTRODUCTION. IMPORTANT YOU REVIEW PALESTINE PLEDGES MADE REPEATEDLY BY THIS ADMINISTRATION AND INSIST ON ACTION WITHOUT DELAY. PLEASE ACT ON THIS IMMEDIATELY.

HARRY L. SHAPIRO
AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

November 26, 1945

Mr. Harry Shapiro
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Shapiro:

Enclosed herewith is the address which
Dr. Silver delivered at the Convention of the
ZOA. Dr. Silver spoke to you about it before
he left for Palestine.

With best wishes, I remain
Very sincerely yours,

BJK

Secretary to Dr. Silver

REPORTER: "Some people who have been interested in the Zionist movement said that you gave prior approval or acquiescence to the Wagner Resolution for a Jewish Commonwealth. Do you have any answer to that?"

The President said that he had some conversation and was not opposed to the Resolution when he was Vice-President.

REPORTER: "Do you still favor the Resolution?"

PRESIDENT: "No, I do not. I am opposed to it. Conditions have changed and if the Congress now passes the Resolution favoring unlimited immigration into Palestine, there is no reason for the appointment of a fact-finding Commission. As long as we are going to have a Commission of Inquiry, we should not formulate a Government policy until the Commission has done its work."

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

Parent Organizations

Women's Zionist Organization of America
Zionist Organization of America
American Zionist Organization of America
Zionist Organization of America

December 3, 1945

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
Jewish Agency for Palestine
Jerusalem, Palestine

Dear Dr. Silver:

Attached is your Atlantic City address.

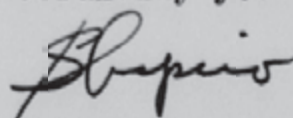
Prior to receiving this message you will have received the cable with respect to what is transpiring in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee today. It is my prediction that nothing will happen and that the resolution will be shelved because of the statement made by the President in his press conference last week.

Internal affairs in the Emergency Council are going along well. Dr. Wise has been on the ball and is following your line 100%. In fact, at a meeting held last Monday, the comment of Manson is descriptive of Wise's attitude. Manson said, "Wise outsilvered Silver". I am attaching the statement issued by Dr. Wise following the President's press conference.

The women have been maneuvering to get the Council to take some action with reference to cooperation or non-cooperation. It is obvious that they realize that the vote would be for non-cooperation but they want to put their position on the record. Wise thus far has skillfully evaded having the issue come before the Executive officially even though the women have pressed for the matter to be included on the agenda during the last three meetings.

Hope all is well with you. Kindest personal regards from the staff and myself.

Cordially yours,



Harry L. Shapiro

HLS:MH
Encs.

December 19, 1945

Mr. Harry Shapiro
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York 17, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Shapiro:

I understand that Dr. Leo Baeck of Germany addressed the United Jewish Appeal Conference in Atlantic City. How was his address? I would appreciate it if you would procure his present address for me as I should like to communicate with him.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:EK

December 20, 1945

Mr. Harry Shapiro
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Shapiro:

We received the enclosed bill from the National Concert and Artists Corporation for the services of Dr. William F. Ogburn who occupied The Temple pulpit on November 4, when Dr. Silver addressed the New England Zionist Region. If you will refer to his ^(see letter) letter of November 6th to you, you will note his suggestion to write to Mr. Samuel Caploe about assuming this obligation; otherwise it was to be charged to the Emergency Council. Will you kindly check into this matter?

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

BJK
Enc.

Secretary to Dr. Silver

December 21, 1945

Mr. Harry Shapiro
American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Shapiro:

To relieve pressure on The Temple telephones, Dr. Silver has had a private telephone installed under his name. The number will not be listed. In the future, when you make calls to Dr. Silver at The Temple, he would appreciate it if you would use this number -- RANDOLPH 0822. Will you also kindly advise those in the office who will be affected by this change.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

BJK

Secretary to Dr. Silver

Shapiro

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

Constituent Organizations

Hadassah, Women's Zionist Organization of America
Mizrachi Organization of America
Poale Zion-Zeire Zion of America
Zionist Organization of America

342 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.
MUrray Hill 2-1160

December 27, 1945

Miss Bessie Kline
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Miss Kline:

Mr. Shapiro has asked me to advise you that the bill from the National Concert and Artists Corporation addressed to Dr. Silver was paid on December 21. This was for the services of Dr. William F. Ogburn, who occupied Dr. Silver's pulpit on November 4.

Cordially yours,

Henrietta Herman
Henrietta Herman

HH:HK

January 15, 1946

Dr. Benjamin Akzin, Director
Washington Office
American Zionist Emergency Council
1720 16 Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Akzin:

This is with reference to your letter of yesterday. I tried to reach you by phone today, but only emergency calls were being accepted. Therefore this note.

I discussed the matter of the change of office space with Dr. Silver over the phone today. In our discussion I read your letter to him. He requests that you get in touch with Mr. Kaplan, and negotiate, if possible, the transfer of your office to the Agency.

I am leaving the office for approximately one month. Therefore, please communicate direct to Dr. Silver any further thought you may have in case Mr. Kaplan declines to do business. May I suggest that you take all other matters up with Dr. Silver during the period of my absence.

If it is possible, I believe that you ought to bring Mrs. Rosenthal in to see Dr. Silver when he is next in New York.

Kindest personal regards.

Cordially yours,

HLS:MH

Harry L. Shapiro
Executive Director

ACTS

January 16, 1946

Keren Hayesod
41 East 42 St.
New York, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

At the last meeting of the Executive Committee of the Zionist Emergency Council, held on Monday, January 14, I presented a budgetary guide for the fiscal year beginning October 15, 1945 in the amount of \$623,038.00. Before submitting this proposal, I had conferred with the leaders of the Keren Hayesod and the Keren Kayemeth. It had been suggested by one of the leaders of the Keren Hayesod that the following procedure be adopted:

In view of the difficulty of estimating emergency needs, the Executive of the Emergency Council should approve a budget in the same amount as that of the previous year, and that additional emergency funds should be requested from time to time, whenever necessary.

In presenting the proposal to the Executive of the Emergency Council, I suggested the following procedure: that the budget for this year be equal to that of the previous year and that we should have quarterly accountings which would be submitted to the two Funds to cover emergency expenditures.

On the motion of Judge Morris Rothenberg, a budget of \$623,038.00 was adopted in principle, subject to the approval and control of a Finance Committee which would be appointed by Dr. Silver. Dr. Silver had indicated to the Executive Committee that he had discussed the matter with Mr. Eliezar Kaplan prior to the meeting.

Within a few days the Finance Committee will be appointed by Dr. Silver. In view of the fact that I shall be absent from the office for approximately one month, there will be no opportunity for a full discussion of the budget with this Committee until my return. When I return, we shall go into the matter thoroughly and we shall advise both of the Funds as to the conclusions reached by the Finance Committee.

During the past few months we have found it necessary to make many large expenditures and our cash is uncomfortably low. Therefore, pending the action suggested by the Executive Committee of the Council, it would be extremely helpful if each of the Funds would advance the sum of \$50,000.00 to cover the

Keren Hayesod

- 2 -

Jan. 16, 1946

operational needs of the Emergency Council.

I would appreciate it if, during my absence, you were to refer any questions on this matter directly to Dr. Silver.

Sincerely yours,

HLS:MH

Harry L. Shapiro
Executive Director



MEMORANDUM

To Executive Staff

Date January 16, 1946

From Harry L. Shapiro

I shall be away from the office for about one month, beginning Thursday, January 17.

All matters of office procedure and finances should be taken up with Miss Beatrice Cohen. All matters of policy are to be taken up directly with Dr. Abba Hillel Silver in Cleveland.

May I urge that you do not contact Dr. Silver too frequently, either by phone, or when he is in the office.

HLS:CMH

WRHS

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES