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

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

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

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Synagogue Council of America, press releases, 1945.

PRESS RELEASE from

SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL OF AMERICA  
607 West ~~161~~ Street  
New York, N. Y. WAdsworth 3-0275

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL CALLS ON RABBIS TO PRAY FOR  
PRESIDENT'S HEALTH AND SUCCESS OF HIS CONFERENCE  
WITH CHURCHILL AND STALIN

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New York -- The Synagogue Council of America, through its president, Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein, has issued a call to the rabbis of the country to offer special prayers during the Sabbath service on Saturday, January 27th, for the health of President Roosevelt, for a wise administration in his new term of office and for the success of his forthcoming conference with Mr. Churchill and Mr. Stalin.

The Synagogue Council of America represents the orthodox, conservative and reform Jewish congregations and their rabbis. The call was addressed to the 2,000 rabbis and congregations affiliated with the Council, to observe Saturday, January 27th, as a day of prayer on behalf of the President and to give expression to the fervent hope that this conference will assure 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, Palestine.

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PRESS RELEASE from

SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL OF AMERICA  
607 West 161 Street  
New York, N. Y. WAdsworth 3-0275

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2,000 JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS TO OFFER SPECIAL PRAYERS

FOR PRESIDENT ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 27TH

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New York, N. Y., January 23rd -- In anticipation of President Roosevelt's forthcoming conference with Mr. Churchill and Mr. Stalin, the Synagogue Council of America, which represents almost 2,000 orthodox, conservative and reform synagogues and temples and their rabbis throughout the country, has issued a call designating Saturday, January 27th as a day of special prayers for the success of his mission.

Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein of New York, President of the Council, in commenting on the call for the special prayers, declared:

"Informed circles believe that the plight of European Jewry and the creation of Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth will come up for consideration at this meeting of the 'Big Three.' More than a half million Jews still remaining in Axis-occupied Europe are threatened with destruction at the hands of the Nazis. Hundreds of thousands of homeless Jewish survivors in liberated territory who have emerged from hiding are as yet without hope or prospects for the future. Experts who have studied the problem most carefully are convinced that in the difficult period ahead for the liberated areas, there will be no room economically for these Jews who have been stripped of their possessions and their jobs. In Bulgaria, for example, 45,000 Jews -- the entire number of survivors -- are starving, and despite the abolition of all discriminatory laws and regulations, these people have been given no means of earning a livelihood. In Rumania, the survivors -- 175,000 in number -- are in a similar plight. And in France, over

(more)



100,000 are at present subsisting on charity furnished by American Jews, while 40,000 Frenchmen who comprise the present owners of confiscated Jewish property have banded together to prevent the return of this property."

Rabbi Ahron Opher of New York, Director of the Council's Committee on Emergency Intercession, who joined Rabbi Goldstein in the call, stated:

"The sole sustaining hope and the only feasible and tangible prospect for these people is to rebuild their lives in Palestine -- a land which has the resources and the ability to absorb all those Jews who wish to or must go there.

"However, it should be recalled that under the terms of the White Paper, only about 6,000 more Jews may now enter the country. The day is rapidly approaching when Palestine, recognized by the League of Nations and the Government of the United States as the Jewish homeland, will close its doors to the Jewish people. The prayers to be recited on January 27th have, therefore, in the deepest sense, a direct, practical bearing. They will recall to the President his public statement of October 15th, in which he said: '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 re-elected I shall help to bring about its realization.'"

The Synagogue Council of America has been informed that the American Palestine Committee, which is headed by Senator Robert F. Wagner of New York, and the Christian Council on Palestine, which is led by Dr. Henry A. Atkinson, General Secretary of the Church Peace Union, have both submitted special petitions to the President within the past few days, urging him together with the other conferees to act favorably during their forthcoming deliberations with respect to international commitments previously made to the Jewish people concerning the reconstitution of Palestine as a Jewish Homeland.



PRESS RELEASE from

SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL OF AMERICA  
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New York, N.Y. WAdsworth 3-0275

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NATION-WIDE PRAYERS TO PROTEST REFUSAL OF BRITISH TO OPEN GATES OF PALESTINE

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4TH PROCLAIMED AS NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER AND INTERCESSION --  
MORE THAN 2,000 RABBIS TO CONDUCT SERVICES AT 8 PM  
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New York, Sept. 27 -- In solemn protest against Great Britain's refusal to open the doors of Palestine, the Synagogue Council of America today designated Thursday, October 4th, as a day of Prayer and Intercession, which will be marked by special religious services held at 8 P.M. in virtually every Jewish congregation throughout the United States.

In New York, a giant mass prayer service will be held at that hour in Central Park Mall, and all rabbis and their congregations are expected to attend, Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein, President of the Synagogue Council, and Rabbi Ahron Opher, Chairman of the Committee on Intercession, announced. The Synagogue Council represents Orthodox, Conservative and Reform Jewish congregations in America.

The day of Prayer and Intercession was proclaimed, "in order to arouse the religious conscience of America and the world to the tragic helplessness and to the threatened betrayal of our people," Dr. Goldstein declared.

"The United Nations and, in particular, Great Britain are face to face with the moral question: Shall the world be silent when Great Britain refuses to open the doors of Palestine to the displaced and desperate remnant of the Jewish people?

"The conscience of Christendom must be aroused to the Biblical injunction 'Thou shalt love the stranger.' Unless Christendom will indicate its love by coming to the help of homeless and stateless Jews and calling upon Great Britain to regard its mandate as a sacred trust, I dare say it will not only have failed itself, but also its mother religion from whose roots it has drawn its strength."

The call was issued to more than 2000 rabbis.