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American Zionist Emergency Council, minutes, 1946.

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

January 14, 1946

A special meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council was held Monday afternoon, January 14, at 3:00 o'clock, at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver (presiding), Gedalia Bublick, Pinchas Cruse, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Mrs. Rosa Halprin, Rabbi Max Kirshblum, Louis Lipsky, Judge Morris Rothenberg, Mrs. Herman Shulman, David Worthheim, Dr. Stephen S. Wise.

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein, Rabbi Leon Fouer, Professor Milton Handler, I.L. Kenen, Dr. Sidney Marks, Rabbi Irving Miller.

Dr. I.B. Berkson, Elisha Ben-Horin, A.K. Isroeli, Harold P. Manson, Harry L. Shapiro.

STAFF

The status of Mr. Elisha Ben-Horin as a permanent member of the staff was formally confirmed.

ESCO FOUNDATION

The following phases of the Esco Foundation study were discussed:

1. Ownership: The draft letter prepared by Judge Lovinthal for transmission to Mrs. Frank Cohen, regarding the ownership of the Esco Foundation study, was read and the chairman was authorized to send this letter.
2. Letter of Indemnification: A discussion ensued on the desirability of sending the letter of indemnification drawn up by Judge Lovinthal, in accordance with the request of Mrs. Frank Cohen. It was the consensus of opinion that because of the implications which may be involved, the letter should not be sent.
3. Distribution of the Bound Copies of the study: The chairman read a letter from Mrs. Frank Cohen regarding the distribution of the bound copies of the Esco Foundation study. As a result of the discussion which followed, during which Dr. Berkson presented the facts of the case, it was the sense of the meeting that this matter be tabled for the time being.

ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY AND LABOR

Mr. Worthheim reported he had just received word from Washington that surprise was expressed that the labor people in the United States had not appeared before, or submitted a memorandum to, the Committee of Inquiry. He asked whether anything had been done to contact the C.I.O. and A.F.L. Mr. Shapiro stated that Mr. Frank had tried to arrange for these organizations to appear before the Committee but he had been unable to obtain permission for

them to do so.

It was reported that a British member of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry was planning to come to New York the following day to meet with labor leaders in order to dissuade them from their views on Palestine. The Jewish labor group, it was pointed out, was not included in this invitation. It was indicated that we were contacting our labor friends who would endeavor to arrange for the presence of pro-Zionist labor spokesmen at the meeting with the British member of the Inquiry Committee. In reply to the suggestion that this matter should be made public, the chairman stated that since we did not have it on authority that this Committee member would utilize the meeting with labor leaders as a means of spreading anti-Zionist propaganda, we could do nothing about the matter for the time being.

Mr. Manson stated, in answer to a question posed, that Mr. Alastair Stewart had filed a memorandum with the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on behalf of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation of Canada.

It was recommended that Peale Zion should follow up the labor issue in connection with the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry.

BUDGET

Explaining that the delay in the submission of the estimated budget for this year was due to the unusually large volume of emergency activities in which we had been engaged, Mr. Shapiro presented for consideration and approval the Council budget for the year October 15, 1945 - October 15, 1946. (A mimeographed copy of the budget was submitted to the members present). He pointed out that he had consulted with the Funds with regard to it. It was the recommendation of the heads of the Keren Hayesod that the Council should ask for the same budget as the preceding year but, because of the emergency, and therefore unpredictable, nature of our activities and expenditures therefor, the budget should be operated on a quarterly basis. Thus, we would approach the Funds at quarterly intervals and present to them the expenses we had incurred for the preceding quarter. This quarterly basis of computation of the expenses would in this manner lead to an equalized distribution of the annual budget over the year - from the \$514,000 asked for to the \$623,000 maximum which may be required.

Judge Rothenberg made the observation that in view of the fact that the work of the Council encompassed all the Zionist organizations, as well as the Funds, the constituent bodies of the Council should also be required to participate in the budget. Dr. Silver explained that this suggestion had come up each year but it was always voted down due to the fact that the organizations feel that their budgets are expended in full and they have no surpluses.

After a discussion in which various points were raised and elucidated, it was moved and carried that the budget of \$623,000 be adopted in principle, subject to the approval and control by a Finance Committee to be appointed.

DR. I. B. BERKSON

Mr. Shapiro read a letter submitted by Dr. Berkson in which he tendered his resignation as Director of the Research Department of the Council, to take effect as of February 1, 1946, in order to engage in the teaching profession on a full-time basis. He indicated his willingness to be of service on a voluntary basis.

The chairman stated that under the circumstances, Dr. Berkson left the Executive Committee no other choice but to accept his resignation with regret. He pointed out that Dr. Berkson has rendered a great and significant service and that the Research Department, under his leadership, has been of inestimable value to us in many ways, including submission of documentary evidence when required, etc.

Dr. Silver stated that we were deeply grateful to Dr. Berkson for the time he has spent with us and for the fine contribution he has made to our work and in accepting his resignation we do so with the most profound regret. We hope we may avail ourselves of his offer to serve in a lay capacity.

It was decided to accept the recommendation to have Dr. Shwadran serve as Acting Director of the Research Department. A committee consisting of Dr. Berkson, Mr. Lipsky and Judge Rothenberg was designated to consider the appointment of a permanent successor to Dr. Berkson and to bring their recommendations to the Executive Committee.

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF DR. HERZL'S "JUDENSTAAT"

Dr. Silver read a cable and letter from Dr. Lauterbach informing us that February 14th had been set aside for the celebration of the 50th anniversary of Theodore Herzl's JUDENSTAAT and pointing out that this would be a significant occasion for distributing and publicizing the book.

In response to the question raised by the chairman as to whether the Council itself, or its constituent organizations should undertake this task, it was the sense of the meeting that the Council would be in a better position to execute this effectively in view of the short time at our disposal.

In the discussion which ensued regarding concrete means of celebrating this anniversary, the following suggestions, among others, were offered: (1) A pageant to describe the development of the Jewish State in Palestine; (2) Radio script to be written by someone like Norman Corwin to depict the life of Dr. Herzl - perhaps a national hook-up on the life of Dr. Herzl and the Jewish State; (3) Official Zionist publications issued on or about February 14th should be devoted to the contents of JUDENSTAAT.

It was moved and carried that we reprint JUDENSTAAT in an inexpensive edition to include a short biography of Dr. Herzl as well as an introduction by a prominent American Zionist. 100,000 copies of this reprint are to be ordered and distributed by the Parties and other organizations. In addition, celebrations are to be planned throughout the country during the entire month of February.

HERBERT HOOVER

Mr. Ben-Horin reported on an interview with Mr. Hoover which evoked a lengthy and detailed discussion.

JEWISH CHAPLAINS

Rabbi Bernstein reported that Jewish chaplains are being mobilized for our cause along various lines. A Chaplains' Committee on Unity for Palestine has been organized which will serve as the spearhead for activities along that line. A statement has been prepared to be issued to chaplains all over the world.

ARTHUR LOURIE

The chairman submitted for consideration a request from the Jewish Agency that Mr. Lourie go to London, and perhaps proceed from there to Palestine, in connection with the hearings of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry, thus establishing the desired line of continuity.

The meeting unanimously approved the grant of the necessary leave to Mr. Lourie for this purpose.

UNO

In reply to Mr. Bublick's query as to whether anyone is working on the presentation of our case to the UNO, Dr. Silver replied that Dr. Nahum Goldmann is at present in London, on the authorization of the World Zionist Executive, studying the situation.

REPRINT OF HEARINGS BEFORE THE ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY IN WASHINGTON

The question of reprinting in a suitable volume, for distribution, the hearings before the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry in Washington, was raised by Mrs. Pool. The point was made that a complete account of the hearings, including the documents submitted, would involve a book of approximately 600 pages. In view of the fact that we were not ready to act on this proposal at present, it was decided to table the matter for the time being.

DR. WILLIAM J. STINESPRING

Mrs. Epstein reported on information she had received from a Hadasah member to the effect that announcement had been made in the Durham, North Carolina press of the appointment of Dr. Wm. J. Stinespring to the technical staff of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry. Her informant had stressed the fact that Dr. Stinespring was a bitter anti-Zionist.

Dr. Silver felt that we could take action in the matter only if we had definite evidence on which to base our claim. He asked Mrs. Epstein to secure any printed matter which Dr. Stinespring may have written, injurious to our cause, which may prove his preconceived antagonistic attitude to Zionism.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 P.M.

For A.L.

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CORRECTION TO MINUTES OF EMERGENCY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD JANUARY 14, 1946 (No. 29)

Page 2, paragraph 4:

Mr. Lourie's report..... Mrs. Epstein, commenting on the Committee hearings, felt that thus far the Zionists had failed to present arguments which would convince the Committee that we need a decision now in favor of the establishment of a Jewish Commonwealth. In the meantime, the Jewish Agency should be granted certain governmental powers in regard to immigration, the granting of visas, the creation of absorptive capacity, etc.



16th January, 1946

The Chief Secretary
Government Offices
J e r u s a l e m

Sir,

I have the honour to address you on the subject of the economic boycott proclaimed against the Palestine-Jewish community by the Arab League, comprising the Governments of the neighbouring Arab States and the Government of the Mandated Territory of Transjordan, as well as by the Arab Higher Committee in Palestine.

2. I beg to attach a copy of a letter on the subject addressed by the Jewish Agency for Palestine to the Chairman of the General Assembly of the United Nations Organization and would ask for the favour of its transmission to His Majesty's Government. The Jewish Agency would respectfully request that its submissions may be endorsed and supported by the representatives of His Majesty's Government in the appropriate organs of the United Nations Organization. A similar request is being addressed by the Jewish Agency to the Governments of the United States, U.S.S.R. and France.

3. Quite apart from His Majesty's Government's status as a leading member of the United Nations Organization, its locus standi in the matter derives from its position as the Mandatory for Palestine. The Jewish Agency was gratified to see in an official communique issued by the Government of Palestine a full recognition of the fact that the boycott "is a measure of immediate concern to the Mandatory Power which is responsible, under the provisions of the Mandate, for the well being of all peoples in Palestine."

4. From the beginning of the boycott agitation the Jewish Agency has been anxious to refrain from doing or urging anything that might be calculated to precipitate the issue. In the hope that the decisions taken by the Arab Governments might remain on paper, the Jewish Agency has urged upon the economic circles directly concerned the necessity of showing the maximum measure of forbearance and abstaining from premature retaliation. Experience has unfortunately proved these hopes to have been unwarranted.

5. The legislative and administrative boycott measures adopted by the Governments concerned, to which reference was made in the attached communication, have been followed by practical steps carrying the above formal decisions into effect. Cases have already been reported of consignments of Palestinian goods having been stopped or confiscated at frontier posts. Palestinian firms trading with the neighbouring countries have received notices of cancellation of orders and of severance of commercial relations. Import licences for Palestinian goods are in the process of being cancelled. The officially directed propaganda for the complete enforcement of the boycott is in full swing.

6. In Palestine itself an extreme reluctance appears to prevail in wide sections of the Arab business community and general public to engage in the boycott, as the Arab and Jewish economic systems have never been so closely integrated and interdependent as they are today. But the action taken by the neighbouring countries is exerting pressure on the Arabs of Palestine and strengthening the agitation for a complete economic rupture between the two communities.

7. In these circumstances, urgent and determined action on the part of His Majesty's Government and the Palestine Administration appears to be called for, if the mounting tide of racial incitement and economic destructiveness is to be stemmed in time. It may well be that, if left to itself, the boycott policy will eventually produce boomerang effects which may bring its authors back to reason. Even so, a large volume of preventable harm will have been created and direct retaliation by those immediately affected -- unavoidable in the absence of governmental action -- will have caused lasting bitterness. Modern experience, however, has proved how unwarranted is reliance on the automatic working of economic logic where racial prejudice dictates policy and national prestige bars retreat.

8. The first consideration as regards the British Government's reaction to the boycott arises from the fact that it was proclaimed and is being implemented under the auspices of the Arab League. This organization has come into being with the full blessing of His Majesty's Government. In fact, a declaration of His Majesty's Government's sympathy with the idea of the Arab League preceded, and can therefore be rightly held to have prompted, its birth. This being so, it would appear to be desirable that His Majesty's Government should publicly register their condemnation of the racial boycott policy and pledge their opposition to it, lest their silence on the subject be misconstrued as tacit approval or, at least, toleration.

9. As, however, mere censure and admonition can hardly prove an effective remedy, it is submitted that a series of practical steps should be taken to bring home to the Governments concerned the extent to which their own economic interests depend upon normal trade relations with Palestine, of whose economy the Jews form such a significant sector, and the harm which they are liable to suffer as a result of these relations being disturbed by aggressive action on their part.

10. There appear to be three main channels through which benefits accrue to the neighbouring countries from trade relations with Palestine. In the first place, they all export considerable quantities of food and other commodities to Palestine of which a large proportion is consumed by Jews. These imports include cotton from Egypt, wheat from Syria and Transjordan and cattle from Iraq, all of which are obtainable from other sources. In 1944 (the last year for which official figures are available) the expenditure of Palestine on imports from the countries of the Arab League was nearly £4,000,000 for barley and £130,000 for wheat, most of the latter cereal having gone to the urban population of which Jews form the majority. For Syrian wheat the Palestinian consumer is paying more than twice the price of Canadian wheat and for Transjordanian more than twice the price of the Australian. The ratio of the Syrian price to the Canadian is more than 3:1. In the second place, most of the neighbouring countries obtain part of their imports by transit through Palestine. This is particularly the case of Transjordan, but Egypt, too, imports livestock from Iraq and Transjordan via Palestine, while Iraq enjoys the facility of a free zone in the Haifa harbour. In the third place, the dollar deficiencies of those countries are covered wholly or in part by the dollar surpluses of Palestine deriving from Jewish sources (proceeds of the sale of diamonds and remittances of Zionist funds).

11. It is submitted that a very serious warning should be addressed without delay to the Governments pursuing the boycott policy that, unless that policy is immediately discontinued, the Government of Palestine will proceed to the

curtailment or complete withdrawal of all these benefits, i.e., the diversion of Palestine's import trade to other countries, the drastic restriction of the grant of import licences to nationals of the boycotting States, the denial of transit facilities and the reduction of the allocations of currency from the dollar pool. It should be realised that if the boycott continues and no retaliatory measures are taken under the first and last counts, the Jews of Palestine will find themselves in the grotesque position of actually financing a boycott directed against themselves.

12. In the particular case of the Government of Transjordan the powers wielded by His Majesty's Government as the Mandatory should, it would seem, be sufficient to put an end to the boycott policy even without resorting to any sanctions.

13. In the case of Syria and the Lebanon, the obligations assumed by those States under the Trade Agreement with Palestine of the 30th November, 1939, should be invoked. Paragraph 9 of this Agreement reads as follows:

9. "Trade between the territories of the Contracting Parties shall as far as possible not be impeded by any import or export prohibitions or restrictions.

In so far as prohibitions and restrictions may be enforced on the importation or exportation of any goods, articles produced or manufactured in the territory of one Contracting Party and imported into or exported to the territory of the other Contracting Party shall receive treatment in all respects as favourable as that accorded to the like articles produced or manufactured in any foreign country. The foregoing provision shall in particular apply in respect of any import or export licences which may be required, and in respect of the conditions under which such licences are issued."

The boycott now instituted is a flagrant breach of the Agreement calling for its immediate abrogation by the Palestine Government.

14. The boycott further involves a breach of existing trade agreements between all the boycotting States and the United Kingdom. Under all these agreements Palestine is entitled to enjoy the benefits of the "most favoured nation" clause. There can be little doubt that the present boycott is, in relation to Palestine, a direct violation of the obligations incumbent upon the Arab States in question by virtue of that clause.

15. The question of the administrative and other measures called for by the boycott agitation in Palestine calls for special treatment and may form the subject of further submissions. In the present context it is only desired to draw attention to the detrimental effect which this boycott is liable to have on Jewish-Arab relations and the country's internal security, and to point out that the internal boycott agitation will automatically collapse if the external boycott is checked and liquidated.

16. The Jewish Agency would be grateful for the earliest possible consideration

of these submissions and for an intimation of the steps taken by the Government, to which reference was made in your letter C.S. 742/4 of the 5th January, 1946, as well as of the further measures which the Government intends to adopt.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

M. Shertok
EXECUTIVE OF THE JEWISH AGENCY



AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

February 11, 1946

Mr. Manson

A special meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council was held on Monday, February 11, at 3:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver (presiding), Dr. Israel Goldstein, Mrs. Samuel W. Halprin, Rabbi Max Kirshblum, Emanuel Neumann, Professor Alexander Pekelis, Judge Morris Rothenberg, Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt, Mrs. Herman Shulman, David Wertheim, Dr. Stephen S. Wise.

Dr. I. B. Berkson, Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Professor Milton Handler, Rabbi Irving Miller, Meyer W. Weisgal.

Dr. Benjamin Akzin, Jacob M. Alkow, Elishu Ben-Horin, Arnold K. Isreeli, Harold P. Manson, Dr. Benjamin Shwadran,

Elihu D. Stone.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

The Minute of the meetings circulated to date were approved.

JUDENSTAAT

In his brief report on the preparations for the Fiftieth Anniversary celebration of "Judenstaat," Mr. Alkow remarked on the fine cooperation of all organizations and groups contacted and announced that it has been decided to extend the time for this observance to cover a six-week period, from February 14th to the end of March, in order to comply with the request of those groups who required more time for arrangements.

WASHINGTON BUREAU

In reporting on the work of the Washington office, Dr. Akzin described in detail the efforts which are being made to concentrate on a more intensive plan of activity in connection with the cultivation of Washington officialdom:- (1) To approach as many government officials as possible, not confining ourselves only to those in the State Department; (2) To extend our relationship with the State Department to include other divisions which affect our work, in addition to the Near Eastern Division, hitherto our sole contact; (3) To reach in a more systematic manner members of Congress who in the past were approached sporadically and asked under pressure to help us; (4) To enlist the cooperation of local Zionist leaders in making contacts.

Dr. Akzin pointed out that with the Arabs, the Bergson group, and the Council for Judaism so active and always on the alert for new contacts in government circles, we could not afford to relax our efforts in gaining as many new friends for our cause as possible.

He stated that Elishu Epstein, of the Jewish Agency office, and he exchange reports and cooperate as much as possible under existing physical conditions.

ACPC CONFERENCE IN HOUSTON

Dr. Silver called attention to the extensive preparations being made for the regional conference of the American Christian Palestine Committee, to take place in Houston on February 13th and 14th. He remarked on the fine work which the ACPC is doing in general and particularly in connection with the regional conferences which are being planned throughout the country.

ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY

Reports from Mr. Lourie: Dr. Silver reported the receipt of several communications from Mr. Lourie and called upon Mr. Manson to read the latest one, a memorandum which had arrived that morning.

In this memorandum, dated February 3rd, Mr. Lourie presented an over-all picture of the situation as he found it at the conclusion of the London Hearings and described the reactions of the Committee members. Although he did not deal with the details of the evidence submitted, he indicated the deep impression made on the Committee by Amery's advocacy of partition.

Mr. Lourie referred to the one or two occasions when Judge Hutcheson had gone out of his way to emphasize that so far as "election platforms, Congressional resolutions 'and all that kind of stuff'" were concerned, he felt himself a free agent and was approaching the issue in that spirit.

He concluded his report with the following suggestions which he hoped would be followed up: (1) A reaction, particularly in Congress, to the statement made by Judge Hutcheson. (2) Continued pressure through the press and at the White House. (3) Call for an immediate interim recommendation. (4) Of lesser importance but nevertheless desirable - the Mowrer story on the Mufti should be kept alive and should be read into the record of the Senate.

American Staff of Experts: Mr. Neumann stated that the experts who were to be appointed to assist the American members of the Committee had not been named to date, so far as he knew. He felt that this matter which had not been adequately handled by us should now be followed through in view of its importance and the fact that so little time remained.

Mr. Neumann mentioned also that a member of the Committee had emphasized to him the importance of keeping up our pressure.

JUDGE HUTCHESON'S STATEMENT

Several opinions were expressed on the question of the action to be taken on the statement made by Judge Hutcheson in London, as transmitted to us by Mr. Lourie. It was stated that the full text of the statement had been requested from the London office of the Jewish Agency but had not been received as yet.

As a result of the discussion, it was decided that as soon as we received from London the full text of Judge Hutcheson's statement - wherein he mentioned "election platforms, Congressional resolutions 'and all that kind of stuff'" - we would request our friends in Congress and Senate to raise this question, as well as any other related matters which may be helpful to us in this connection.

Mr. Manson reported that in the transatlantic conversation he had just had with Mr. Linton of the Jewish Agency office in London, he was informed that a cable setting forth the full text of Judge Hutcheson's statement was on its way to us.

MOBILIZATION OF OFFICIAL AND PUBLIC OPINION

With regard to the mobilization of public pressure, recommended by Mr. Lourie, Dr. Silver asked for suggestions as to what should be done at this time.

It was Professor Handler's opinion that there are no novel ways of applying pressure; that we must use the orthodox methods, but use them as quickly and as effectively as possible. He felt that there should be action on the part of Congress and suggested that a round-robin on the floor of Congress expressing disapproval of Judge Hutcheson's statement would be a very effective means of pressure. He added that the vehicle of advertising could be utilized to advantage in this connection.

Mr. Neumann stated that as far as the press was concerned in relation to the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry, by this time there was sufficient behind-the-scenes information as well as publicly revealed material upon which we could draw for articles, columns, radio comments, etc. He felt that we should now organize wide discussion of the Committee and the manner in which it has been conducting its work in order to make the public aware that this is not the fair, impartial committee it was depicted to be.

Dr. Silver stated that before launching on any pressure campaign which would necessarily involve discrediting the Committee of Inquiry on the basis of developments to date, it is essential to reach a decision on the fundamental issue, i.e., whether we are prepared to go on record as saying we have lost confidence in the Committee, are unwilling to cooperate further through the continued presentation of our case, and will refuse to accept the Committee's findings. If, however, it is still the feeling of the Executive that it is important to continue to cooperate with the Committee and complete our presentation, he felt it would be inconsistent to bring pressure to bear at this time, for we would obviously have to await publication of the final report if we choose to continue to cooperate with the Committee.

Dr. Wise remarked on the bad effect announcement of a policy of non-cooperation would have at this time, when the Jewish Agency has already decided to appear before the Committee in Palestine with our leaders, Dr. Weizmann and Mr. Ben-Gurion, scheduled to present our case.

It was Dr. Goldmann's belief that all the suggestions advanced in the course of the discussions bearing on proposed activity to discredit the Committee were unsound. He felt strongly that once a movement has decided on a policy it was essential to adhere to it. While it is advisable to solicit intercession of individual Congressmen, we must not deviate from the line we have followed to date. We must first await the Committee's findings and if they are unfavorable, we can then decide upon a plan of attack.

Appointment with Secretary of State Byrnes: It was Mrs. Halprin's opinion, in connection with the mobilization of public opinion in the press and in Congress, that the time has come to seek an interview with the Secretary of State in order to discuss with him the various problems before us such as the Mufti, Transjordan, infringement of civil liberties in Palestine, etc.

Dr. Silver explained that while it had been felt until now that we should not dissipate the effectiveness of our contact with the State Department by separate approaches on individual items, if the Executive so desired it, we could now endeavor to obtain an appointment with the Secretary of State and discuss with him the various matters before us.

It was agreed that an effort should be made to meet with Mr. Byrnes and discuss with him the following: Transjordan, the Mufti, infringement of civil liberties in Palestine and Jamal el-Husseini.

Judge Hutcheson: Analyzing the situation with which we are confronted as regards the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry, Mr. Neumann stated that we must do what we can now in order to prevent the unfavorable results which seem inevitable from present indications. A survey of conditions as he saw them led him to the conclusion that our only hope lies in the possibility that the American members, now divided, will not agree with the British on a definite anti-Zionist policy or solution. Toward that end he felt that it was important to concentrate on the American chairman. This might be accomplished by approaching the proper persons at this, the logical moment, before the Committee's report has become a fait accompli.

After discussion it was decided to follow this suggestion.

LONDON - PUBLIC RELATIONS WORK

A lengthy discussion ensued on the subject of public relations work in England, as it affects the tide of public opinion there, in the course of which varying opinions were expressed.

It was decided to refer to the Committee of Eight the matter of making concrete proposals to the London office regarding the sending of public relations personnel from America.

MUFTI

Referring to Mr. Lourie's suggestion about the Mufti, Professor Fekelis inquired whether the Jewish Agency is now prepared to ask officially for the indictment of the Mufti as a war criminal. Dr. Goldmann replied that the Yugoslav Legation in Washington, with whom the matter was discussed, had sent another letter to Belgrade apprising them of the amazement of the American public at the fact that they had not yet dealt with the Mufti's status. It was Dr. Goldmann's feeling that the Committee of Eight should at this time communicate officially with the War Crimes Commission and inform them that we are shocked that the Mufti has not been placed on the list of war criminals, explain our general Jewish interest, and ask for an official reply.

In this connection Dr. Aksin stated that he had been told by the Yugoslav chargé d'affaires that the latter had received a wire from the Yugoslav Government informing him that on September 15th of last year Yugoslavia had withdrawn the name of the Mufti from the list of war criminals submitted to the War Crimes Commission.

Mr. Manson reported that Mr. Linton had informed him during the telephone conversation referred to before, that everyone in London was quite agitated about the Mufti matter and that arrangements were being made to pose the question in the House. The Board of Deputies, in cooperation with the Zionist Organization, was

also planning to approach the Foreign Office in this connection. Mr. Linton thought it would be a good idea if we in America were to organize a similar joint action vis-a-vis the State Department. He felt that it would be more effective if American Jewry as such - rather than the Jewish Agency - made a formal presentation to the State Department calling for action, primarily on the basis of the Nuremberg evidence.

It was decided to ask the American Jewish Conference, at its Third Session in Cleveland - February 17th-19th - to pass a resolution on the Mufti, such resolution to be sent to the President or to the State Department.

TRANSJORDAN

Professor Pekelis raised the point as to whether the question of Trans-jordan had been taken up with what remains of the League of Nations as well as with the Trusteeship Council of the UNO. In his opinion the unilateral disposal of mandated territory constituted a violation of international law and the issue could be dramatized more effectively than by merely submitting a memorandum on the subject to the State Department.

Dr. Goldmann advised that as far as he knew, the Jewish Agency Executive in London had sent a letter to Mr. Bevin which had been followed up and that a legal document on the subject was in the process of preparation.

LETTER FROM MR. SEGALL

Dr. Silver read a letter he had received from Mr. Segall, in which he suggested, among other things, that an invitation to Winston Churchill to appear in Palestine before the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry, would be of real publicity and dramatic value.

As a result of the discussion which followed, it was decided to refer Mr. Segall's recommendation to the Jewish Agency for consideration. It was felt, also, that we should make an effort to obtain an interview with Mr. Churchill during his visit in this country.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 P.M.

For A. L.
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AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

March 19, 1946

A special meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council was held on Tuesday, March 19, at 3:00 P. M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver (presiding), Gedalia Publick, Pinchas Gruso, Mrs. Samuel W. Halprin, Rabbi Max Kirshblum, Judge Louis E. Levinthal, Professor Alexander Pekelis, Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt, Dr. Stephen S. Wise.

Dr. I. B. Berkson, Rabbi Leon I. Feuer, Professor Milton Handler, I. L. Kenen, Dr. Sidney Marks, Rabbi Irving Miller, Captain Abraham Tulin, Meyer W. Weisgal.

Dr. Benjamin Aksin, Jacob M. Alkow, Elishu Ben-Horin, Arnold K. Isreeli, Harold P. Manson, Harry L. Shapiro, Dr. Benjamin Shwadran, Abraham Tuvim.

Richard Gilbert, Mrs. Benjamin Gottesman, Leo Sack, Dr. Morris Zucker and members of his committee.

ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY

Dr. Silver referred to the deletion of that portion of the testimony of Jamal el-Husseini and Auni Bey Abdul Hadi which dealt with the war-time association of the ex-Mufti with the Axis from the official stenographic transcript of the Palestine proceedings of the Committee, as reported in the press. The statements of the two Arab spokesmen which, in addition to admitting the war-time collaboration of the ex-Mufti with Hitler and Mussolini, reflected the general attitude of indifference of the Arabs to the cause of the Allies, were reported to have been deliberately omitted from the record and were held to be "irrelevant to the Inquiry" by certain British members of the Committee.

Dr. Silver submitted for consideration the draft of a cable to the co-chairmen of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry protesting this "doctoring" of evidence.

The ensuing discussion resulted in a decision to send the cable to Judge Hutcheson and Sir John Singleton, with copies to be forwarded to Secretary of State Byrnes and the British Ambassador, Lord Halifax, for transmission to the British Government in London.

NEW ENGLAND EMERGENCY COUNCIL

Mr. Shapiro read a letter from the New England Emergency Council in which permission to have an observer attend meetings of the Council was requested.

As a result of the discussion which followed, it was decided to advise the New England Emergency Council that in view of the fact that the American Zionist Emergency Council is constituted on the basis of party representation only, we could not permit it to have an observer sit on the Council. It was decided to point out that the granting of the New England group's request would establish a precedent which similar groups throughout the country might wish to follow.

ESCO FOUNDATION STUDY

Mr. Shapiro presented a letter from Mrs. Frank Cohen, dated March 13th, addressed to the attention of the Executive Committee, on the subject of the Esco Foundation Study, as well as his reply thereto of March 15th (letters on file).

PROVISIONAL JEWISH STATE

Dr. Morris Zucker was invited by the chairman to present his plan for a Provisional Jewish State. Following Dr. Zucker's presentation, the question was raised as to whether the proposal should be considered at the meeting or referred to a sub-committee. After a discussion, in which members of Dr. Zucker's committee also participated, it was moved and carried that the chairman be authorized to appoint a committee, comprised of representatives of the constituent parties of the Council, to consider the proposal and to bring back a report to the Executive Committee at the earliest possible time. Mrs. Halprin offered an amendment, which was carried, to the effect that the sub-committee in its deliberations should meet with Dr. Zucker.

PROPOSAL OF MR. RICHARD GILBERT

Mr. Richard Gilbert outlined a public relations program with regard to the JVA.

Following lengthy discussion, a motion was made and carried that a committee be appointed to meet with Mr. Gilbert and his associates in order to study in detail the plan submitted.

INDEPENDENT JEWISH PRESS SERVICE

Mr. Weisgal outlined briefly the facts in the situation concerning the Independent Jewish Press Service and Palcor which made it imperative to take immediate action on the question of whether this Service is to continue to function. In order to enable it to operate, the sum of \$60,000.00 per year must be underwritten. Of this, the Jewish Agency is prepared to assume responsibility for \$15,000.00 a year to defray the share of the budget covering Palcor; and the balance of \$45,000.00 for Independent Jewish Press Service would have to come from the Zionist organizations under whose aegis this responsibility rightly belongs, according to Mr. Weisgal. Because of the urgency of the matter, Mr. Weisgal stated, it was essential that the Executive Committee decide immediately whether it wishes to underwrite the required \$45,000.00; otherwise the news agency would have to be liquidated forthwith.

Following discussion, it was moved and carried, with Professor Pekalis dissenting, that we have regretfully reached the decision that we can no longer continue the financial support of the Independent Jewish Press Service.

MEETINGS

Remarking on the long interval which had elapsed since the last meeting of the Executive Committee, Mr. Cruse stated that he was authorized to voice formal protest against the failure to convene a meeting earlier.

The chairman pointed out that in instances such as this, when neither co-chairman is in a position to attend meetings, there are prescribed methods whereby members of the Executive Committee can convoke meetings, even if the chairman does not do so.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 P. M.

For A. L.

lk



AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

April 1, 1946

A special meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council was held on Monday, April 1, at 4:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver (presiding), Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Dr. Israel Goldstein, Mrs. Samuel W. Halprin, Rabbi Max Kirchblum, Louis Lipsky, Professor Alexander Pekelis, Mrs. David de Sola Pool, Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt, Judge Morris Rothenberg, Louis Segal, Mrs. Herman Shulman, David Wertheim, Dr. Stephen S. Wise.

Dr. I. B. Berkson, Elishu Epstein, Professor Milton Handler, Dr. Sidney Marks, Rabbi Irving Miller, Abraham Tulin, Meyer W. Weisgal.

Arnold K. Isreeli, Harold P. Manson, Harry L. Shapiro, Dr. Benjamin Shwadran, Abraham Tuvim.

Judge Simon H. Rifkind, Dr. Josef Cohn, Elihu D. Stone.

MINUTES

Professor Pekelis drew attention to the fact that the Minutes of March 19th did not record Mrs. Halprin's query as to whether anything had been done about obtaining an interview with Winston Churchill before he left America and the chairman's reply that we were doing what we could.

With this correction noted, the Minutes were approved.

Mrs. Halprin asked Dr. Silver, why, when she posed this question, and he was then leaving for the appointment with Mr. Churchill, he had not so indicated. Dr. Silver stated that the matter was being placed on the agenda for discussion later - in accordance with Professor Pekelis's request - and asked that we proceed with the pressing matters before us.

TRANSJORDAN

1. Legal Case: Judge Rosenblatt pointed out the possibility of establishing a legal case in the matter of Great Britain's grant of independence to Transjordan on the basis of the arrangements in 1922 when, according to his recollection, Mr. Churchill offered to the Zionist Executive the principle of economic absorptive capacity for western Palestine as a condition for the suspension of the application of the provisions of the Mandate relating to the Jewish National Home in Transjordan.

Since our consent to this agreement was requested at that time, he felt, it must necessarily follow that our consent should also be obtained before granting independence to Transjordan.

As to the procedure to be followed in dealing with this aspect of the situation, he submitted for consideration the following possibilities: (1) Appealing to the U.N.; (2) approaching the American Government as a partner to the Convention of 1924; (3) engaging legal counsel to look into the entire matter; (4) appealing to some of the smaller nations to bring this question up to the members of the old League of Nations on the ground that this act may lead to disturbance of the peace in the entire Middle East.

Professor Pekelis agreed with Judge Rosenblatt and drew attention to the fact that at the meeting of February 11th, he had suggested that the matter of Transjordan be taken up with what remains of the League of Nations. In his opinion this was the proper jurisdiction from a legal viewpoint. He asked that we ascertain the status of the legal document which Dr. Goldmann had informed us was in the process of preparation in London, whereupon Mr. Weisgal reported that the document setting forth the legal points has already been presented to the Colonial Office.

Mr. Tulin was of the opinion that our only hope in the matter lies with the American Government, and not with the defunct League of Nations; that we must concentrate on bringing whatever pressure we can to bear on our Government in order to influence it to assert its right under the Convention of 1924, wherein Great Britain undertook not to make any changes in the Mandate without the consent of the United States.

With regard to the reference to the Convention of 1924, using it as a basis for U.S. intervention, Mr. Stone explained that there is a formal State Department ruling that the Convention refers only to cases where the interests of American nationals are obviously affected by any changes which the British Government might make; that ruling is official and limits us to that extent.

Mr. Epstein felt that in view of the fact that the question of Transjordan will not be coming up until the next session of the U.N. Assembly meeting in September, we should press the issue in America from all angles. It should be presented to the old League of Nations and, through the proper channels, later on to the U.N. He reported that from conversations he had had with government officials it appeared that the American Government was at first taken by surprise when the announcement of Transjordan's independence was made. Their first reaction was negative, but this may have changed by now. From a legal point of view Mr. Epstein thought that we had a good case which would require concentration on many phases and that if we were successful in our approach to the American angle, it would assist the Jewish Agency immeasurably.

Professor Pekelis urged the appointment of a legal sub-committee to study the complex legal questions involved so that we could have advice of legal counsel with a view to initiating appropriate action by the Jewish Agency before the proper international bodies, and submitted a motion to that effect. He pointed out the problems involved, such as "estoppel", interpretation, etc., referred specifically to Article 25 of the Mandate which indicates that Transjordan is an integral part of Palestine, and mentioned Articles 5, 26 and 27 of the Mandate as examples of the legal possibilities.

Professor Handler expressed the opinion that the appointment of a committee would be highly desirable in order to explore whether any legal procedures are available to the Jewish Agency to question and challenge the action of the British Government; if such legal procedures are not available or desirable, this may at least give us some opportunity for a public relations campaign in which the issues can be effectively presented.

Further discussion of the motion elicited additional points as well as a number of amendments to Professor Pekelis's motion. As a result, it was decided to appoint a legal committee to advise us in presenting our case to the State Department, with the understanding that this committee should first inquire from the Jewish Agency as to what it has done in this matter and to inform it of contemplated action on our part.

2. Telegram to Secretary of State Byrnes: Dr. Silver presented for consideration draft of a telegram to the Secretary of State (1) protesting against Great Britain's action in unilaterally recognizing Transjordan as an independent state and in separating that territory from Palestine; (2) requesting that the United States Government withhold recognition of Transjordan's independence until we have been given a chance to present the facts in the situation.

As a result of the ensuing discussion, during which various comments and revisions were noted for incorporation in the telegram to Mr. Byrnes, a motion was adopted to dispatch the telegram to the Secretary of State.

Mr. Tulia suggested inclusion of a statement to the effect that the right of the sovereignty of the U.S. in Transjordan was violated by the British proclamation of the independence of Transjordan. Dr. Goldstein wondered whether we should not include in the telegram reference to the interpretation which Professor Dulles gave in San Francisco of the phrase "parties principally concerned" as meaning the Allied and Associated Powers of the last war -- according to which America has as much concern with the disposition of the Mandate as any other country involved.

RABBI PHILIP S. BERNSTEIN

The following excerpt from a cable which Mr. Bakstansky, of London, sent to the UPA office here, was read: "BERNSTEIN SUGGESTS YOU ASK EMERGENCY COUNCIL WIRE EMBASSY HERE TO INVITE HIM AND ALSO HELP HIM IN SEEING CABINET MINISTERS."

Remarking that he assumed that Rabbi Bernstein, who is now in London, was keeping in close touch with the Jewish Agency, Dr. Silver asked for an expression of opinion on the request made. Mr. Weisgal suggested that it is not proper procedure for us to send cables directly to the American Embassy. Following a brief discussion, the chairman stated that if there were no objections, the action requested would be taken.

U.N.

In connection with cultivating the key members of UN delegates to the Zionist point of view, Dr. Silver submitted for consideration the question whether we should leave it to the Jewish Agency to handle this matter in all its aspects or whether the Emergency Council should cooperate with it on one or more phases of the problem. If the Emergency Council is to participate in this activity, detailed plans would have to be formulated, he felt.

Mr. Weisgal pointed out that at the meeting of the Executive in Jerusalem it was decided that the Jewish Agency should deal with the matter of the U.N. delegations and he called attention to the fact that at the last meeting of the Committee of Eight action on this matter had been postponed for a short while. To this Dr. Silver countered that while it was true that the Executive authorized the Jewish Agency to set up an office to carry on its official contacts with the U.N. delegations, our discussion concerned itself with the question of whether all phases should be covered by the Jewish Agency office in New York, or whether the Emergency Council should cooperate in the social aspect of this work.

In the ensuing discussion many opinions were expressed. Dr. Wise offered a motion, which he later amended, in order to incorporate Rabbi Miller's suggestion about the American Jewish Conference, to the effect that the chairman appoint a committee and that the Jewish Agency be asked to appoint a committee of the same number who, together with representatives the American Jewish Conference will be asked to designate, shall meet and discuss this entire question and bring its report to this body.

Mr. Lipsky was of the opinion that we were complicating matters by appointing additional committees and drew attention to the fact that in the arrangements with the Emergency Council the Jewish Agency has reserved for itself certain rights to represent the Zionist movement in international situations. The matter under consideration should therefore come under the aegis of the Jewish Agency. He felt that a suggestion might be made to the Jewish Agency to invite the cooperation of the bodies enumerated.

As a result of the discussion, it was decided to ask the Jewish Agency at the earliest opportunity to call into conference representatives of the American Zionist Emergency Council (and other bodies, if so desired) to discuss the best ways of cultivating, for our purpose, the visiting U.N. delegations in America.

JUDGE SIMON H. RIFKIND

In presenting Judge Rifkind, who just returned from a five months' stay in Europe, where he had served as Special Advisor on Jewish Affairs to General McNarney, European Theater Commander, Dr. Silver mentioned the significant service he had rendered our country and our people by his fine achievements there and stated how grateful he was to him for having accepted the invitation to come and share his impressions with us.

Judge Rifkind gave a graphic survey of the situation in the DP centers in Europe and emphasized the importance of immediate mass migration to Palestine as the only solution for the Jews in Europe. He described his visit to Palestine as "the only ten days of joy" which he had experienced throughout his stay abroad. His stirring talk was followed by many questions which he answered.

At the conclusion of Judge Rifkind's talk, Dr. Wise and Dr. Silver expressed their deep gratitude to him and commended him on the historic service he has rendered to the Jewish people in this very critical hour - a service which will long be remembered.

Mr. Segal remarked on the high esteem in which Judge Rifkind was held by all who came in contact with him in his work in Europe and the admiration and praise for his work which was expressed by everyone whom Mr. Segal met in his tour of the DP camps.

Because of the lateness of the hour, Dr. Silver explained that we would have to postpone until the next meeting the opportunity of listening to Mr. Louis Segal's report of his experiences abroad. For the same reason, it was also agreed to wait until the next meeting to discuss the question of Winston Churchill.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 P.M.



For A.L.
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MINUTES

SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE
AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

Thursday, April 4, 1946

PRESENT: Abraham Goodman, Charles Ress,
Judge Morris Rothenberg, Harry L. Shapiro.

In accordance with the motion passed by the Executive Committee on January 14, "After a discussion in which various points were raised and elucidated, it was moved and carried that the budget of \$623,000 be adopted in principle, subject to the approval and control by a Finance Committee to be appointed."

The meeting concerned itself with the discussion of the budget for the fiscal year October 15, 1945 - October 14, 1946.

Following the discussion it was the decision of the meeting that it approved the budget as submitted in the amount of \$623,000 on condition that a Finance Committee be appointed by the Chairman of the Executive Committee which would serve as a continuing body to examine and supervise the financial activities of the Council.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 P.M.

H.L.S.

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

April 9, 1946

A special meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council was held on Tuesday, April 9, at 1:30 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT

Dr. Stephen S. Wise (presiding), Gedaliah Bublick, Mrs. Samuel W. Halprin, Rabbi Max Kirshblum, Judge Louis E. Levinthal, Louis Lipsky, Professor Alexander Pekelis, Mrs. David de Sola Pool, Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt, Judge Morris Rothenberg, Louis Segal, David Wertheim.

Dr. I. B. Berkson, I. L. Kenen, Dr. Sidney Marks, Jacob Dostrovsky, Meyer W. Wesigal.

Elishu Ben-Horin, Arnold K. Isreeli, Harold P. Manson, Harry L. Shapiro, Dr. Benjamin Shwadran, Abraham Tuvim.

Tuviah Arazi.

MUFTI

Dr. Wise invited Mr. Tuviah Arazi, of the Jewish Agency, to report on the latest developments in the Mufti matter.

Mr. Arazi read a cable which he had just received from France dealing with the release of the ex-Mufti. The information contained therein was confirmed and elaborated upon in a Reuter's dispatch appearing in DEE TAG of April 9th, which stated:

"France is ready to let the pro-Nazi Jerusalem ex-Mufti go, if any Arab State is willing to let him enter its country, today declared an official of the French Foreign Ministry, whereby he pointed out that the Mufti, who collaborated with Hitler, is now in France not under arrest, but under "police protection for his own security" and that he can go wherever he wants.

"The official of the French Foreign Ministry denied that any note was received about the Mufti from the Arab League.

"The announcement that the Mufti is "free" evoked great astonishment in Paris, for on previous inquiries about him the replies were that he was under "house confinement". Now the government officials claim that no such statement was issued from official circles....."

Mr. Arazi reported that the Jewish Agency had prepared an indictment of the Mufti with substantiating documents proving his incontestable guilt in his

pro-Nazi activities. While this is now ready for publication and it is only a question of the time required for printing, etc., before it is released, he felt that in view of today's developments we could not wait for the publication of the book. Immediate action was imperative in order to prevent the escape of the Mufti to Saudi Arabia which, according to the telegram, was imminent -- perhaps within a day or two.

He explained that in reply to Mrs. Barbara Gould's (Labor M.P.) inquiry in the House of Commons on April 4th with regard to the Mufti, Mr. Bevin had replied that the French Government so far had failed to comply with the British request for the extradition of the Mufti but that the British Government was pressing the matter and had the request constantly before the French Government. As for the reasons the French had given for not agreeing to surrender the Mufti, Mr. Bevin had stated that the French presented no official answer but that it is understood that there are certain difficulties involved.

Under the circumstances, therefore, Mr. Arazzi felt that time was of the essence and he recommended that the following action be taken immediately: (1) That we initiate at once a press campaign attacking France's action in the matter. (2) We should make public one of the documents in our possession -- an affidavit signed by Wisliceny, an official of the Gestapo, which attests to the accuracy of the statement that the Mufti was one of the instigators of the extermination of European Jewry by the Germans and substantiates the evidence of Mr. Kastner, made public a while ago. This immediate action should be taken in addition to the eventual publication of the book referred to.

In the lengthy and detailed discussion which ensued many suggestions were offered with regard to the action to be taken:

1. Mrs. Barbara Gould: In view of the interest which Mrs. Gould had evinced in the House of Commons on the question of the Mufti, it was decided to communicate with the Jewish Agency by telephone and ask them to apprise her of the present developments in the situation.

Note: Mr. Weisgal agreed to transmit this information to the Jewish Agency during his telephone conversation with London.

2. Leon Blum: It was decided to ask Professor Pekelis to telephone immediately to Leon Blum (who, it was reported, had previously indicated that he did not even know that the Mufti was in France) and to place the entire issue clearly and bluntly before him, stressing the loan angle.

3. An Exclusive Release to the New York Times or the Herald Tribune.

4. Further Mobilization of Public Opinion: A discussion on the channels through which public opinion could be aroused evoked the following suggestions on which it was decided to act: (a) to influence Senators and Congressmen to speak on the subject of the Mufti on the floor of both Houses, as they did on the question of Transjordan; (b) to disseminate Reuter's dispatch to the newspapers; (c) to enlist immediately the cooperation of a number of radio commentators in apprising the public of the present status of the Mufti matter.

5. Lord Halifax: In view of England's involvement in the Mufti development, as conveyed by Mr. Arazzi, it was agreed that Dr. Wise should get in touch with Lord Halifax to convey to him our feelings in the matter and to urge him to communicate them to his Government.

6. Appointment with Secretary of State Byrnes: Considerable thought was given to the advisability of seeking an interview with Mr. Byrnes in the matter of the Mufti. In the detailed discussion which followed, it was pointed out -- among other pertinent observations made -- that (a) we have Mr. Byrnes' reply to the effect that the United States cannot indict the Mufti because indictment by the United States Government can be made only against those war criminals who committed crimes against American nationals; (b) that the attack on the Mufti should be based on the fact that he was a Nazi collaborator rather than on the basis of the harm done by him to the Jews; (c) indictment of the Mufti for his crime against humanity does not coincide with the position taken by Mr. Byrnes.

It was the consensus of opinion that it was important to communicate with Secretary of State Byrnes, present the facts to him, and arrange for an appointment, and a motion to that effect was carried.

7. Cable to Monsieur Bidault: It was decided to recommend to the American Jewish Conference that they send a cable to Monsieur Bidault.

Professor Pekelis subsequently reported his telephone conversation with Leon Blum which, he felt, was very satisfactory. Monsieur Blum understood the situation and promised to telephone to Paris immediately.

JEWISH REFUGEES IN LA SPEZIA

In connection with the reported plight of the 1,100 Jews detained on board the FEDE in La Spezia, northern Italy, in order to prevent their departure for Palestine, the following cable was read:

"THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM REFUGEE SHIP FEDE DETAINED
IN LA SPEZIA QUOTE WE 1100 JEWISH REFUGEES DETAINED ON BOARD SHIP
FEDE IN LASPEZIA ITALY WHILE TRYING TO LEAVE FOR PALESTINE THE LAND
OF OUR LAST AND ONLY HOPE DECLARE THAT WE SHALL NOT LEAVE THIS SHIP
AND WE DEMAND PERMISSION TO CONTINUE OUR VOYAGE STOP WE SHALL SINK
THE SHIP AND DROWN WITH IT BECAUSE WE REACHED THE LAST STAGE OF
DESPAIR STOP APPROACH BRITISH PRIME MINISTER AND USA PRESIDENT VIEW
OBTAINING PERMISSION FOR OUR ENTRY PALESTINE THIS BEING THE ONLY
SALVATION IN OUR DESPERATE SITUATION UNQUOTE WIRE IMMEDIATELY YOUR
ACTION

(SGD) GARFUNKEL BRIK BERNSTEIN --- ON BEHALF OF CENTRAL REFUGEE
COMMITTEE ITALY

Reference was also made to the item which appeared in the NEW YORK TIMES of April 8th which reported an authoritative source as charging that the British authorities had used diplomatic pressure to seal the doors of Eastern European borders against escaping Jews in order to halt illegal immigration to Palestine.

As a result of the ensuing discussion, during which many suggestions were entertained on the action to be taken, it was decided: (1) To request the American

Jewish Conference to send a telegram to President Truman embodying the cable received and requesting the President to intervene in such ways as he deems advisable in order to enable the 1,100 refugees to proceed to their hopeful destination. (2) To intercede with our friends in the Italian-American group here and ask them to intervene with influential people in Italy. Toward this end, Dr. Wise volunteered to contact Messrs. Pecora and Antonini, and Mrs. Pool promised to communicate with Mrs. Ferreira.

Mrs. Halprin made the suggestion that we mobilize both Christian and Jewish public opinion in this country and stimulate the sending of telegrams to the President.

ST. LOUIS OIL CONFERENCE

Mr. Ben-Horin presented a brief report on the oil conference which took place in St. Louis on April 8th, strictly in camera, and was attended by 9 oil men -- all Zionists (Messrs. F. Julius Fohs, Julius Livingston, Sidney Herold, Eugene M. Solow, Herman P. Taubman, Bernhard H. Lasky, Herbert Gussman, Louis Franklin and William Elson) as well as by Dr. Silver, Dr. Akzin, Mr. Tavin and Mr. Ben-Horin. Mr. Elishu Epstein was invited to attend but could not be present. Two reports had been prepared for this conference, which was called for the purpose of discussing the effects of Middle Eastern oil on the Zionist position -- one by Mr. Ben-Horin, on the political aspects of the situation, and the other by Mr. Fohs, on the technical phases.

The conference, which was considered most helpful and useful by those present, adopted as the basis for the policy to be pursued the conclusions and suggestions recommended in Mr. Ben-Horin's memorandum (on file). A committee, consisting of Mr. Herold, chairman, Mr. Fohs and Mr. Taubman, with Mr. Ben-Horin as liaison, was appointed to follow through the decisions taken.

POLICY

Mrs. Halprin suggested for inclusion in a future agenda the subject matter dealt with in a memorandum from Mr. Leo Sack, copy of which she had seen. Mr. Shapiro explained that this memorandum, addressed to Dr. Silver, was to have been considered at the last meeting of the Executive, but because of the crowded agenda then, would be discussed at the meeting on April 18th. Since she would not be able to attend the April 18th meeting, Mrs. Halprin asked that the matter be taken up at the meeting following that.

JUDGE RIFKIND

Judge Rothenberg made a motion -- which was unanimously carried -- that we place on record our deep sense of satisfaction with the splendid report which Judge Rifkind rendered to the Executive Committee at its meeting of April 1st; that this be spread on the Minutes and that Judge Rifkind be informed to that effect.

MR. WEISGAL'S REPORT

Mr. Weisgal reported on the trans-Atlantic telephone conversation he had just completed with London during which the various matters taken up at this meeting were discussed:

1. La Spezia: Contact had been made with the Colonial Office in this matter, but the results are not yet known. Mr. Weisgal was asked to convey the

message that all instruments in America should be used in order to avert a catastrophe for these Jews who are deeply in earnest about their intentions.

2. Mufti: The various points raised in our discussion today were brought up in the conversation, with this additional interesting development: The British have made a "demarche" to the French Government, asking them not to release the Mufti. The French Government asked the British Government whether it regarded the Mufti as a war criminal whereupon the answer was "we regard him as a quisling." As a "quisling," the French said, they could not turn him over to the British Government.

3. Mrs. Barbara Gould: Our decision to apprise Mrs. Gould of the present developments in the Mufti matter was conveyed and will be acted on.

4. Transjordan: London asked that the Council make public on the following day the legal document on Transjordan which the Jewish Agency sent to the Colonial Office on March 14th.

ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY

1. Our Ad re: the Mufti: Mr. Shapiro read a cable from the American members of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry, addressed to Dr. Wise and Dr. Silver, and our reply thereto (attached).

2. Our Future Attitude toward the Committee: In connection with Mr. Weisgal's statement that a number of requests had come to him from various authoritative sources asking that nothing be said or done which might tend to irritate the members of the Committee at this time, while they are writing their report, it was moved and carried that no representative of the Executive Committee nor of the Council as a whole -- no member or group, collectively or individually -- shall do anything in the way of attacking the members of the Anglo-American Committee unless such action is decided upon at a meeting.

Mr. Tuvim suggested that this restriction be not limited to attack only; that nothing favorable nor unfavorable about the Committee be said until we reach a decision.

3. Long-Range Recommendation by the Committee: Mrs. Halprin raised the point whether, if it were in our power to influence the Committee to make proposals for ultimate solution, favorable and acceptable to us, it would not be wise to press for the issuance of a long-range recommendation simultaneously with the interim report which the Committee is expected to submit. Under the circumstances, she suggested that we meet on the following day in order to discuss what might be acceptable to us.

It was therefore decided to call a meeting for April 10th at which time this matter could be discussed in detail.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

For A.L.
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CABLEGRAM
RECEIVED APRIL 8, 1946

LAUSANNE

NLT AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL
342 MADISON AVENUE
NYC 17 NEW YORK
FOR THE ATTENTION OF RABBI STEPHEN WISE

WE HAVE JUST SEEN THE ADVERTISEMENT INSERTED BY YOU IN THE NEWYORK TIMES OF
MARCH 21ST THE STATEMENT THAT THE RECORD WAS FALSIFIED TO SHIELD THE MUFTI OF
JERUSALEM IS ENTIRELY UNTRUE AS IS THE INSINUATION THAT CERTAIN BRITISH MEMBERS
WISHED TO KEEP EVIDENCE CONCERNING THE MUFTI OFF THE RECORD ON THE CONTRARY THE
BRITISH CHAIRMAN SIR JOHN SINGLETON WHO WAS THE FIRST TO DETECT THAT THIS PART
OF THE RECORD WAS NOT COMPLETE IMMEDIATELY GAVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING IN
THE OMISSION AND ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ENDORSED HIS ACTION INCIDENTALLY
AND CONTRARY TO WHAT IS STATED IN THE ADVERTISEMENT JAMAL EL HUSSEINIS TESTIMONY
WAS ALREADY FULLY REPORTED THE AMERICAN MEMBERS ARE SURPRISED THAT YOU SHOULD
WITHOUT PROPER INVESTIGATIONS HAVE GIVEN SUCH PUBLICITY TO AN UNFOUNDED ATTACK
ON THE INTEGRITY OF THE COMMITTEE WE PARTICULARLY PEESENT SUCH UNWARRANTED
INSINUATIONS

JOSEPH C. HUTCHISON, JR.
F. W. BUXTON
FRANK AYDELOTTE
JAMES G. McDONALD
WILLIAM PHILLIPS
BARTLEY C. CRUM
AMERICAN MEMBERS ANGLO AMERICAN COMMITTEE

C
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C A B L E

APRIL 9, 1946

MESSRS JOSEPH C. HUTCHESON FRANK AYDELOTTE FRANK W. BUXTON
BARTLEY C. CRUM JAMES G. McDONALD WILLIAM PHILLIPS
AMERICAN MEMBERS ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY ON PALESTINE
LAUSANNE SWITZERLAND

INFORMATION IN OUR ADVERTISEMENT OF MARCH 21ST OBTAINED ENTIRELY FROM RELIABLE
PRESS DISPATCHES REPORTING PROCEEDINGS OF INQUIRY COMMITTEE STOP FOR EXAMPLE
CLIFTON DANIEL IN NEWYORK TIMES OF MARCH 16TH REPORTS QUOTE TESTIMONY BEFORE
ANGLOAMERICAN COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY REGARDING WARTIME ACTIVITIES OF MUFTI OF
JERUSALEM IN GERMANY WASNT INCLUDED IN TRANSCRIPT OF LAST TUESDAYS PROCEEDINGS
AND SOME MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE ARE NOW ASKING FOR EXPLANATION STOP HEATED
DISCUSSION OVER PROPRIETY OF RAISING QUESTION TOOK PLACE IN PRIVATE MEETING OF
COMMITTEE AFTER TUESDAYS SESSION STOP TWO OF BRITISH MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE
CONTENDED MUFTIS ACTIVITIES WERE IRRELEVANT TO INQUIRY STOP IT WAS THIRD
BRITISH MEMBER RICHARD CROSSMAN WHO MOST PERSISTENTLY QUESTIONED ARAB WITNESSES
ABOUT MUFTIS FLIGHT TO GERMANY AND HIS ASSOCIATION WITH NAZIS AND WHO PRODUCED
COPY OF PHOTOGRAPH OF MUFTI WITH REGIMENT OF SS TROOPS STOP CROSSMANS LINE OF
QUESTIONING DEFENDED BY SOME OF HIS AMERICAN COLLEAGUES STOP LATER WHEN
TRANSCRIPT OF TESTIMONY OF AUNIBEY ABDULHADI WAS ISSUED TO PRESS FOLLOWING
NOTE APPEARED AT POINT WHERE HIS TESTIMONY ON MUFTI WOULD HAVE BEEN SUBQUOTE
AT THIS POINT WITNESS DISPENSED WITH SERVICES OF INTERPRETER AND UNFORTUNATELY
REPORTER COULDN'T TAKE CONTINUOUS RECORD UNSUBQUOTE MEMBERS OF AUDIENCE SEEMED TO
HAVE NO DIFFICULTY IN UNDERSTANDING WITNESS AND AT END OF HIS TESTIMONY BRITISH
CHAIRMAN SIRJOHN SINGLETON COMPLIMENTED HIM ON HIS ENGLISH STOP EARLIER CROSS-
EXAMINATION OF JAMAL ELHUSSEINI ON MUFTIS ACTIVITIES ALSO DIDN'T APPEAR IN
TRANSCRIPT STOP THERE WAS NO EXPLANATION FOR ITS ABSENCE AS HIS TESTIMONY WAS
REPORTED FULLY ON OTHER POINTS STOP JAMAL ELHUSSEINI WAS FIRST TO BRING MUFTIS
NAME INTO PROCEEDINGS WHEN HE REFERRED TO HIM AS STILL LEADER OF PALESTINE ARABS
STOP REASONS FOR OMITTING CROSSEXAMINATION FROM TRANSCRIPT ARE EXPECTED BE

DEBATED IN PRIVATE SESSION OF COMMITTEE UNQUOTE INASMUCH AS ABOVE REPORT HASNT
BEEN DENIED IN ALL THESE WEEKS WE ARE HAPPY TO LEARN FROM YOU THAT STORY WHICH
APPEARED IN NEW YORK TIMES AND OTHER PAPERS IS INCORRECT AND WE WILL PROMPTLY
MAKE PUBLIC CORRECTION

ABBA HILLEL SILVER STEPHEN S. WISE

JOINT CHAIRMEN AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL



AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

April 10, 1946

A special meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council was held on Wednesday, April 10, at 12:00 Noon, at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT

Dr. Stephen S. Wise (presiding), Leon Gellman, Mrs. Samuel W. Halprin, Professor Alexander Pekelis, Mrs. David de Sola Pool, Mrs. Herman Shulman, David Wertheim,

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein, Jacob Destrovsky, Dr. Sidney Marks, Meyer Weisgal.

Elishu Ben-Horin, Arnold K. Israeli, Harold P. Manson, Harry L. Shapiro, Dr. Benjamin Shvadran, Abraham Tuvim.

Tuvia Arazi, Dr. Josef Cohn, Mrs. A. P. Schoolman.

REFUGEES ABOARD VESSEL FEDE

In connection with the detention of 1200 Jewish refugees on board the vessel FEDE, in Italy, which was bound for Palestine, Dr. Wise read the following telegram which is being sent today by Mr. Charles Poletti to the Italian Government:

"American people deeply shocked over action of Italian police probably under British orders in detaining 1200 Jewish refugees ready to sail on ship FEDE to Palestine. Strongly urge that everything be done to release these refugees who threaten to commit suicide and permit them to go to Palestine."

Dr. Wise had also been in touch with Mr. Antonini who will communicate with influential circles in Italy in order to obtain their assistance.

EX-MUFTI

Mr. Manson reported in detail on the press and radio activities of this office with regard to the contemplated release of the ex-Mufti by the French Government. It is hoped that the news will be spread around until it evokes comment on its own.

Mr. Arazi reported that a visit had been paid to the French Embassy which advised the visiting representatives that three telegrams were being sent to the French Government, informing them of the dangerous situation here. Mr. Arazi also brought to the attention of those present the fact that certain documents he possessed requesting the return of the ex-Mufti had the signatures affixed thereto of the leaders of the Lebanon, the majority of which were those of Christian Lebanese.

Dr. Wise reported that a meeting had been arranged with Monsieur Bonnet for five-thirty this afternoon at the Hotel Pierre. Mr. Arazi, Mr. Jaffee and Professor Pekelis are to accompany Dr. Wise.

LETTER FROM DR. SILVER

Mr. Shapiro read a letter from Dr. Silver, dated April 9, 1946, in which Dr. Silver stated he felt that in anticipation of the report which is to be issued by the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry, the Council should send a letter to the officers of the various national Zionist bodies, requesting them not to issue any public statements when the report is published until the Emergency Council has had a chance to orient itself and to establish a "line" in harmony with that of the Jewish Agency; a letter should also be sent to all the Local Committees of the Emergency Council all over the country to await direction from the Council.

A general discussion ensued and it was decided to send two separate letters, one to the national organizations and one to the Local Emergency Committees.

ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY

In accordance with the latest information as to the progress of the Committee there was a full discussion (on file) as to further steps to be taken to: (1) urge the Committee, in accordance with its Terms of Reference, to make recommendations for the ultimate political disposition of Palestine, or (2) to urge the Committee to deal with immediate necessities and to by-pass the full political problems.

Following the discussion it was agreed that our representatives in Switzerland should not be advised of the substance of the debate.

A motion was made that the Emergency Council should immediately extend an invitation to Mr. Eshertok to come to this country following the issuance of the Committee report. The motion was seconded and carried, Mr. Gellman dissenting.

RABBI PHILIP S. BERNSTEIN

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein just returned from London, reported on his visit to England.

Rabbi Bernstein pointed out that Jews need some status in the world today. He illustrated his point by describing the opening session of the United Nations Refugee Commission in London, where there were twenty odd nations represented, and the Jews not having status could not participate in the discussions.

There is growing weakness of our movement in England. We have very few friends, even among the people on whom we thought we could depend in years gone by. There is developing a growing feeling of resentment against the Jews, as Creech-Jones puts it, in relation to the loss of British lives in Palestine, and in relation to the problems that are being created for them. This apparently is a genuine thing. We have no friends among the Christians. The Church of England follows the government line in matters of this kind and there is no real support from the Church there. The same is true of the press, which is not publishing Zionist letters and Zionist speeches. In response to Dr. Wise's question as to whether there were any suggestions that we curtail our bitterness against England, Rabbi Bernstein replied that there were no such suggestions.

Rabbi Bernstein stated that his visit to Germany last week confirmed his belief that nothing is worse than reality. The despair of people standing around in camps with nothing to do and no place to go is heartbreaking to witness. There is no other stand than to be firm Zionists. We should disregard the fact that we may be more unpopular and go ahead with our program.

The London office requests that we be in touch with the State Department, requesting that they advise the British not to act on Transjordan until the Palestine problem is settled. The State Department should not ratify Transjordan's independence.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 P.M.

H.L.S.

NF



AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

April 15, 1946

A special meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council was held on Monday, April 15, at 3:30 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT

Dr. Stephen S. Wise (presiding), Mrs. Samuel W. Halprin, Professor Alexander Pekelis, Louis Segal, Mrs. Herman Shulman, David Wertheim.

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein, Jacob Dostrovsky, Dr. Sidney Marks, Abraham Tulin.

Arnold K. Isreeli, Harold P. Manson, Harry L. Shapiro, Dr. Benjamin Shwadrin, Abraham Tuvim.

Dr. Josef Cohn.

JEWISH REFUGEES ABOARD VESSEL FEDE

A full discussion ensued with respect to the type of support which Zionists in America should give to the leaders in Palestine carrying on the hunger strike, to the Yishuv and to those aboard the FEDE. The proposal of a supporting hunger strike by leaders in America was argued pro and con and in the midst of it, Mr. Wertheim delivered the message that he had just spoken with his office and they had advised him that the High Commissioner had already been seen and had given his assurance that those aboard the FEDE would be given certificates within a day or two. Following this announcement, it was the decision of the meeting not to take steps relative to the hunger strike until Thursday, April 18. The decision of the Council then will be based on the action of the Palestine Administration.

It was agreed that the following cable, containing necessary revisions, be sent to the Yishuv:

"ON BEHALF OF ZIONISTS OF AMERICA WE SEND YOU THIS EXPRESSION OF SOLIDARITY IN YOUR MAGNIFICENT STRUGGLE AGAINST LATEST ACT OF BRUTALITY PERPETRATED AGAINST JEWISH SURVIVORS EUROPE STOP YOUR COURAGEOUS HUNGER STRIKE IN SUPPORT HOMELESS REFUGEES ABOARD FEDE AT LA SPECIA HAS AWAKENED ADMIRATION OF US ALL AND HAS HEIGHTENED OUR RESOLVE FIGHT AT YOUR SIDE UNCEASINGLY UNTIL SUCH TRAGIC INCIDENTS ARE THING OF PAST STOP IT IS BITTERLY IRONIC SUCH MUST BE MESSAGE OF JEWS TO THEIR BRETHREN IN ERETZ ISRAEL ON THIS PASSOVER EVE STOP BUT IN GREAT TRADITION OUR FESTIVAL OF FREEDOM WE WILL CONTINUE OUR STRUGGLE AGAINST TYRANNY AND OPPRESSION UNTIL FINAL COMPLETE LIBERATION"

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 P.M.

SBR

H.L.S.

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

April 18, 1946

A special meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council was held on Thursday, April 18th, at 3:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver (presiding), Gedalia Bublick, Dr. Israel Goldstein, Rabbi Max Kirshblum, Judge Louis E. Levinthal, Louis Lipsky, Professor Alexander Pekelis, Mrs. David de Sola Pool, Louis Segal, Mrs. Herman Shulman, Dr. Stephen S. Wise.

Dr. I. B. Berkson, Jacob Dostrovsky, Eliahu Epstein, Professor Milton Handler, I. L. Kenen, Dr. Sidney Marks, Rabbi Irving Miller, Abraham Tulin.

Eliahu Ben-Horin, Arnold K. Isreeli, Harold P. Manson, Harry L. Shapiro, Dr. Benjamin Shwadran.

Tuvia Arazi, Col. Bernard Bernstein, Dr. Josef Cohn, Dvora Rothbard, Leo Sack.

HADASSAH

Dr. Wise expressed regret at the fact that his request for a change in the hour of this meeting from 4:00 to 3:00 P.M. was responsible for the inability of Hadassah's representatives to be present at the full proceedings of this meeting. He wished it to be recorded that he had made this request without knowledge of the fact that it would conflict with Hadassah's scheduled National Board meeting.

HARVARD CONFERENCE ON MIDDLE EASTERN AFFAIRS

Mr. Ben-Horin presented a brief report on the Harvard Conference on Middle Eastern Affairs which took place on April 13th. Approximately 45 people, of whom 11 were Jews, participated in this conference, the call for which was issued by Professor Carl Friedrich. Professor Rappard, Vice-Chairman of the Palestine Mandates Commission, was the principal guest of the conference, and gave a fine, pro-Zionist address at a special session on Mandates with relationship to the Trusteeship Council of the United Nations. In all, there were about five sessions devoted to such topics as (a) Great Power Conflicts in the Middle East, (b) League Experiences with the Mandates, (c) Question of the future of Turkey, Iran, Dardanelles and Russia, (d) Oil and economic interests in the Middle East, (e) Trade and Foreign Policy in the Middle East -- with an address by Leon Landis.

Mr. Ben-Horin stated that this conference, as a whole, was friendly to the Zionist cause.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Shapiro read the Minutes of the meeting of the special Finance Committee which took place on April 4th (attached).

In keeping with the recommendation of this special committee to have a committee appointed to serve as a continuing body to examine and supervise the financial activities of the Council, Dr. Silver announced the appointment of the following people to constitute such a committee: Daniel Frisch - chairman, Louis Segal, Rabbi I. M. Kowalsky, and Mrs. A. P. Schoolman.

The action taken by the special committee was approved.

GILBERT PROPOSAL

The chairman invited Col. Bernstein to present the developments in the Gilbert plan since the Executive Committee meeting of March 19th, when Mr. Gilbert had submitted his proposal on this project connected with the JVA.

Following Col. Bernstein's presentation, there ensued a lengthy discussion on the merits of this proposal (on file).

As a result, it was moved and carried that the committee which was appointed to study this proposal, following the March 19th meeting (consisting of Professor Handler, Professor Pekelis, Mrs. Halprin and Rabbi Kirshblum) plus Mr. Tulin and Mr. Epstein, shall be authorized to carry on negotiations with those interested and that the Jewish Agency shall be apprised of developments and its opinion solicited in this matter.

"PALESTINE - PROBLEM AND PROMISE"

Dr. Wise reported that he had been approached by Mr. Blinks of the American Palestine Institute with the request that the Council contribute toward the deficit of approximately \$21,000 which the Institute had incurred as a result of the publication of "Palestine - Problem and Promise" by Robert Nathan, Oscar Gass and Daniel Creamer.

It was pointed out that at the meeting of January 30th action had been taken by the Executive Committee to the effect that the American Zionist Emergency Council purchase 200 copies of this book and should so coordinate its distribution as to avoid any duplication with other Zionist bodies.

While it was the feeling that this book was of inestimable value, it was the consensus of opinion that the Council was not in a position to allocate the large sum of money requested. Following suggestions for promoting the sale of this book, it was finally moved and carried that the Finance Committee be asked to work out a plan in order to promote the distribution of the book among the constituent Zionist bodies.

ACTIVITIES IN WASHINGTON - REPORT

Dr. Silver called upon Mr. Leo Sack to present his report on contacts and approaches he had made in Washington circles.

At the conclusion of this report, which was well received, Dr. Silver expressed his thanks to Mr. Sack for a job well done and a report well rendered.

AMERICAN PALESTINE CHRISTIAN COMMITTEE

Dr. Silver presented for approval the statement of principles of the American Christian Palestine Committee, which is to serve as the constitutional basis for the Committee's activity.

The statement was approved, as read, and ordered to be recorded in the Minutes. (Attached).

BEN HECHT - AMERICAN LEAGUE FOR A FREE PALESTINE

Dr. Silver submitted for consideration the request made by representatives of the Jewish Agency that the Council issue a statement to the press denying the allegations made by the Repatriation Supervisory Board of the American League for a Free Palestine (comprised of Ben Hecht, Will Rogers, Jr. and Louis Bromfield) that it was responsible for the emigration of thousands of Jews from Europe to Palestine.

Mr. Epstein referred to the "ad" in the NEW YORK TIMES of April 17th as well as to the other statements in the press and stated that they were designed to create the impression that this group had been instrumental in evacuating Jews from Europe to Palestine in order that it might facilitate the collection of funds as well as establish prestige for the Bergson Group. Because of these, as well as other reasons he enumerated, Mr. Epstein felt it was essential to take the necessary action to repudiate the misrepresentations.

A detailed discussion ensued during which the advisability of issuing a statement to the press to denounce the contentions of the Ben Hecht group, was carefully considered.

A motion made and seconded -- that the Council issue a statement in effect repudiating these people who are collecting money under false pretenses, was defeated, 4 to 5.

LA SPEZIA

Dr. Silver stated that he had contacted people in Washington in regard to this matter and that a message had reached him that certificates had been granted to the refugees.

Dr. Silver paid tribute to the hunger strikers in Palestine who have given us an amazing example of Jewish spirit and Jewish loyalty. Their act was an exemplary one in many ways and sets us a high mark for evidence of the kind of strength which we have in the Yishuv and in the Jewish leaders who took part in the hunger strike.

It was decided to convene a special luncheon meeting the following day in order to deal with the important unfinished matters on the agenda.

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 P.M.

For A. L.
lk

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

April 19, 1946

A special luncheon meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council was held on Friday, April 19, at 11:30 A.M. at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver (presiding), Gedalia Bublick, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein-Leon Cellman, Dr. Israel Goldstein, Mrs. Samuel W. Halprin, Louis Lipsky, Professor Alexander Pekelis, Mrs. David de Sola Pool, Mrs. Herman Shulman, Dr. Stephen S. Wise.

Dr. I. B. Berkson, Daniel Frisch, Professor Milton Handler, Dr. Sidney Marks, Rabbi Irving Miller, Abraham Tulin.

Eliahu Ben-Horin, Arnold K. Isreeli, Harold P. Manson, Harry L. Shapiro, Dr. Benjamin Shwadran.

Col. Bernard Bernstein, Dr. Josef Cohn, Richard Gilbert, Leo Sack, Max Swirin.

Dr. Silver expressed to Mrs. Pool the gratitude of the members of the Executive Committee for the lovely Passover repast which she had provided.

GILBERT PROPOSAL

Following Professor Handler's presentation of the report of the sub-committee appointed to study this project, a lengthy discussion ensued (on file) on the various aspects of the proposal, in which Mr. Gilbert and Mr. Swirin participated.

As a result of the discussion, it was moved and carried that this body take no action on this proposal until it learns the contents of the report of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry and that in the meantime our friends be advised to continue exploring the problem without commitments of any kind.

TRANSJORDAN

Professor Handler, chairman of the legal committee, appointed in accordance with the action taken at the meeting of April 1st, submitted his report.

He stated that the committee, after having examined all the pertinent documents on the subject as well as the documents already submitted to the State Department and the British Colonial Office, was of the opinion that all major legal points have been taken into consideration. This committee will, in due course, present for the approval of the Executive Committee a supplementary memorandum which it believes should be submitted to the State Department.

DR. ZUCKER'S PLAN FOR A PROVISIONAL JEWISH STATE

Mr. Tulin reported on behalf of the sub-committee which was appointed to study Dr. Zucker's plan for a Provisional Jewish State.

Dr. Zucker and three of his associates had been invited to the second meeting of the sub-committee in order that they might explain the proposal more fully. As a result of a friendly and frank discussion of the plan, Dr. Zucker agreed: 1. That he would not proceed further with this project; 2. that he would refrain from further advertising; 3. that in view of the forthcoming World Zionist Congress, this is a matter which may be considered at that time.

U. N. CONTACTS

Dr. Silver called attention to the fact that to date the Jewish Agency had not met with our representatives to discuss the best ways of cultivating the visiting U. N. delegates in America, in accordance with the decision taken at our meeting of April 1st.

At the suggestion of Dr. Wise and Mr. Lipsky, it was agreed that Dr. Silver, Dr. Wise and Mr. Lipsky convene a meeting of the Jewish Agency to discuss this matter with the view to submitting a report at the next meeting, if possible.

ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY - REACTION TO REPORT

In order to have a unified statement of reaction by Zionist leaders to the forthcoming report of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry, it was decided to ask the members of the Jewish Agency Executive in America to send a cable to the Jewish Agency Executive in London and in Palestine asking them not to issue any public statement of reaction to the report of the Committee before communicating with the American members of the Jewish Agency.

For A.L.
lk

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

April 25, 1946

A special meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council was held Thursday, April 25th, at 2:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver (presiding), Gedalia Bublick, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Leon Gellman, Dr. Israel Goldstein, Mrs. Samuel W. Halprin, Rabbi Max Kirshblum, Louis Lipsky, Emanuel Neumann, Prof. Alexander Pekelis, Judge Morris Rothenberg, Louis Segal, Mrs. Herman Shulman, Dr. Stephen S. Wise.

Jacob Dostrovsky, Daniel Frisch, Isaiah L. Kenen, Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein, Abraham Tulin.

Dr. Benjamin Akzin, Dr. I. B. Berkson, Elishu Ben-Horin, Arnold K. Israeli, Harold P. Manson, Harry L. Shapiro, Dr. Benjamin Shwadran.

Dr. Josef Cohn, Yale Goldberg, Rabbi Irving Miller, Miss Dvora Rothbard.

Dr. Silver opened the meeting, stating that the session was called under the assumption that by this time we might have more authoritative news on the contents of the Anglo-American Report. He regretted that as of the moment further information was not available. It was hoped, he stated, that the American members of the Committee would have returned by this time, but as yet none had arrived, except Judge Hutcheson who keeps himself incommunicado.

Dr. Silver had word from Paris that Mr. Ben-Gurion had requested that he (Dr. Silver) telephone him there. Because of communication disturbances, Dr. Silver had been unable to complete the call. As soon as the call is completed, Dr. Silver will communicate any pertinent information to the members of the Executive Committee.

CABLE FROM MR. SHERTOK

Dr. Silver stated that at the last meeting of this body it had been decided that a cable should be sent by the American members of the Jewish Agency to members of the Jewish Agency Executive in London and in Palestine, requesting that comment be withheld by the Executive of the Jewish Agency on the Report when it is issued until we should have an opportunity to be consulted with regard to its contents. The following cable was received from Mr. Shertok in reply:

"PUBLIC COMMENT BY EXECUTIVE OR INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS ANYWHERE IS
INCONCEIVABLE BEFORE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION WHICH MAY TAKE TIME STOP
MEANWHILE WITHIN WEEK ARTHUR WILL REPORT ENABLING YOU CABLE LONDON
YOUR REACTION WHICH THEY WILL RELAY JERUSALEM STOP YOUR DIRECT
CABLING JERUSALEM INADVISABLE STOP ONCE REPORT PUBLISHED EXECUTIVE
JERUSALEM MUST REACT IMMEDIATELY STOP PAST EXPERIENCE PROVES PRIOR
CONSULTATION SUCH OCCASIONS IMPRACTICABLE AS AUTHORITATIVE COMMENT
CANNOT BE DELAYED STOP SHALL CONSULT BENGURION PARIS TUESDAY CABLE
AGAIN

SECRETOK"

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK

Dr. Silver informed the meeting that the members of the committee appointed to investigate the question of a loan from the Export-Import Bank are exploring the situation further and are in the process of drafting sample legislation which may apply to this matter. This is in line with the decision and the discussion on this subject at the last meeting.

Mrs. Halprin stated that, from newspaper reports, it seemed that the Jewish Agency was in the process of considering future large-scale development schemes. Such being the case, she felt it would be advisable to proceed with the loan proposal.

Mr. Tulin pointed out that during the discussion of the committee dealing with the plan that he had expressed the views that it might be inadvisable for them to proceed prior to the issuance of the Anglo-American Report, as the recommendations of the Report might make it necessary for us to seek other terms.

Dr. Silver stated that Mr. Tulin's point of view was in agreement with the committee's resolution on the subject and that the Council would take no action on the matter until after the Report is received.

TRANSJORDAN

Professor Pekelis called attention to the letter of Secretary of State Byrnes to Senator Myers on the matter of Transjordan, with which a sub-committee is dealing. The significance of the letter lies, not in what it says regarding the position of the United States with respect to Transjordan, but in the general interpretation of America's position with regard to Palestine and to all mandated territories. We must make representation to the State Department in order not to permit the theory to prevail that the United States has no jurisdiction with reference to Palestine because it was not a member of the League of Nations. If the point of view as expressed in the letter to Senator Myers prevails, it will create a situation which would be injurious to our movement. The position of Secretary Byrnes is untenable and can be contradicted with official State Department documents. The League of Nations has officially taken cognizance of the

stipulation between the United States and Great Britain, to wit the following agreement between Great Britain and the United States which was published in the official journal of the League of Nations in 1932:

"The principle remains established that the approval of the United States is essential to the validity of any determination which may be reached regarding mandated territory."

This agreement between Great Britain and the United States is now being repudiated by Secretary Byrnes.

In response to a statement that this particular position had not been invented by Secretary Byrnes, Professor Pekelis agreed that that was true. However, Secretary Byrnes has been particularly explicit about that position, and it makes no difference as to who first adopted the position. No Secretary of State has the right to waive the rights and privileges which belong to the Government and to the people of the United States. The waiver could not be made by a letter of Secretary Byrnes, but by another international agreement. What is actually being done is the waiving of technical sovereignty.

Mr. Tulin interjected the remark that the statement Professor Pekelis had reference to was the one made with regard to the termination of the Iraqi Mandate.

Professor Pekelis felt it referred to all mandated territory. With respect to Transjordan the agreement is even more explicit and it applies "to the East as well as the West of the River Jordan." The issue is not so much the right of the Secretary of State to waive the sovereignty of the United States. That point could be raised in Congress which has real power with reference to violation of relations of the United States. This body should be aware of the necessity to file a protest and perhaps initiate congressional action.

Dr. Silver stated that we have a committee appointed on this subject, to which committee the letter of Secretary Byrnes had been referred this morning. As soon as the committee's report is received, we will be ready to take action. Action should be taken and not be too long delayed.

MR. EMANUEL NEUMANN

Mr. Neumann, who had been requested to go to Palestine (where he had spent five weeks) to be of assistance to our people there in connection with the hearings of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry in Palestine and also to represent us in various activities in which he might be helpful, reported in detail on his visit there (report on file).

ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMITTEE REPORT

Dr. Silver stated that should the Committee report be published today or tomorrow morning, a meeting of the Executive Committee would be held at noon tomorrow; otherwise, a special meeting will be called for the early part of next week.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 P. M.

H.L.S.

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD MAY 9, 1946

A meeting of the American Zionist Emergency Council was held Thursday, May 9, at 9:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT

Dr. Abba Hillel (presiding), Miss Juliet M. Benjamin, Gedalia Dublick, Mrs. Chava Cohen, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Jacob Fishman, Mrs. Benjamin Gottesman, Mrs. Samuel W. Halprin, Isaiah L. Kenen, Dr. Judith Lieberman, Louis Lipsky, Dr. Sidney Marks, Emanuel Neumann, Mrs. David de Sola Pool, Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt, Miss Dvora Rothbard, Judge Morris Rothenberg, Mrs. A. P. Schoolman, Robert Szold, Numa Torczyner, Abraham Tulin, David Wertheim, Rabbi Sidney Zambrowsky.

Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Meyer W. Weisgal.

Dr. Benjamin Aksin, Elishu Ben-Horin, Gerold Frank, Arnold K. Israeli, William Kaufman, Arthur Lourie, Harold P. Manson, Harry L. Shapiro, Dr. Benjamin Shwadran, Harry Steinberg, Abraham Tuvim.

E. Barbarash, Dr. S. Bernstein, Simon Federbush, Mendel Fisher, Edward Gelber, Paul Goldman, Samuel Kirshtein, Miss Jeannette Leibel, Dr. Ludwig Lewitschn, Dr. M. L. Perlzweig, Mrs. A. Raginsky, Leo Sack, William S. Spiegelman, Dr. Arich Tartakower, Zorach Warhaftig, Yona Yanai.

ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY

Mr. Arthur Lourie and Mr. Gerold Frank who had followed the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry throughout its proceedings in the various countries which it had visited, (the latter as correspondent for the Overseas News Agency), each gave detailed reports on their experiences. (Reports on file).

Dr. Silver expressed the gratitude of this body for the services which Mr. Lourie and Mr. Frank had rendered. He added that the news emanating from Palestine and Cairo since the publication of the Report had been heavily weighted on the Arab side and that it might be necessary soon to ask Mr. Frank to return to the Middle East.

Dr. Nahum Goldmann who had also been in Palestine and in Switzerland at the time of the meetings of the Committee of Inquiry commented on the character of the Report which he described as at best a very poor statement of non-Zionism. At the same time he emphasized the importance of the recommendation with regard to the immediate immigration of the 100,000. It was at this moment more important to follow up this recommendation than to devote our attention to the remainder of the Report, not only because we may have an opportunity to save these lives, but also because it would strengthen our position in Palestine. This will require tremendous pressure on the American Government and the President in particular. As regard the longer term objectives, we have to realize that we have practically no support for the establishment of Palestine today as a Jewish State and we shall be faced very soon with the question of a trusteeship over Palestine to succeed

the Mandate. Unquestionably if we insist on an undivided Palestine there can be no alternative to a trusteeship -- a trusteeship which will be a hundred times worse than the old mandate. The alternative is to be ready to make territorial concessions. Dr. Goldmann analyzed the situation of the Jews of Europe as it was developing today, and also referred to the position of Zionism within the Anglo-American orbit. Zionism would have to reach some decision, one way or another, in the very near future on these major issues. (Full text of Dr. Goldmann's statement on file).

Dr. Silver thanked Dr. Goldmann for his political analysis of the situation and stated that the time remaining should be used for a concrete discussion as to how to carry on our work from here. Action had to be taken by way of rallying American public opinion. We had to consider how to carry on our political activities in this country. There was also the possibility that our case may come before the UN very soon, and we should prepare ourselves accordingly.

In response to a question raised with regard to developments since the Report had been issued, Dr. Silver reported on the circumstances attending the issuance by the President of his statement supporting the recommendation of the Committee in regard to the 100,000, and on subsequent developments. The Emergency Council had sent word to all our people throughout the country asking that wires and letters be sent to the White House asking that speedy action be taken and that there be no delay. A national Conference of our Community Contacts Chairmen is to be held in Washington within two weeks, at which time we will be able to inform our people of what is going on. We have been informed that the State Department may be inviting representatives of Jewish organizations to meet with it before long to carry on the "consultations" which it had indicated would be undertaken at the time of the publication of the Roosevelt-Ibn-Saud correspondence.

Referring to the matter of the transportation of the 100,000, Dr. Silver expressed the view, which was shared by the other members of the Agency here, that it was to be hoped that this would be undertaken by the United States Army and UNRRA and that it would be unfortunate if individual organizations at this time thrust themselves forward with offers, for various publicity campaign purposes, to handle and finance the undertaking. Such offers could only serve to produce confusion in Washington on the subject. As far as some of the matters raised by Dr. Goldmann are concerned, we will have to wait until the Chairman of the Executive arrives here.

Mr. Neumann was of the opinion that the question of the trusteeship would not be settled very quickly, and felt that it would be a great mistake on our part to ignore at the present time the implications of the long-range recommendations. We must fight for the positive part of the Report, but we must also fight against the negative aspects. Our immediate task is to seek to have the American Government implement the 100,000 recommendation. A clear statement on the Report with regard both to its positive and its negative aspects should be issued, to serve as a guide in the future for our Zionists throughout the country.

Judge Rosenblatt urged the need for political action to implement the positive recommendations of the Committee without delay.

Mr. Sack felt that the National Conference in Washington of all Chairmen was a very important step.

Mr. Tulin agreed with Mr. Neumann that it is very important that we exert all the pressure possible to get the positive recommendations adopted, and that we should make a very clear record of our opposition to the negative aspects. At the same time he drew attention to the possibility that we may be faced eventually with the acceptance of the Report as a unit or not at all. Dr. Silver said that while he knew what his answer would be, this was a matter for the Agency to decide as and when the issue arose. Following comments by Mr. Szold, Mrs. Schoolman, Rabbi Zambrowsky, Judge Rothenberg and Mr. Neumann, Dr. Silver said that it will be necessary for us to get Christian sentiment to express itself in behalf of the early movement of the 100,000 and we are working toward that end. A Christian Conference is being held in Baltimore next week which will be very useful.

WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS

In response to a question as to whether the Zionist Congress will be held in Palestine, Dr. Silver stated that at the moment the Congress is scheduled to convene in Palestine. However, there had been considerable discussions regarding the postponement of the Congress, and the Canadian Zionists have passed a Resolution asking for its postponement. The Zionist Organization of America, some weeks ago, passed a Resolution asking for the Congress to meet in the United States. There may be further discussion when Mr. Ben-Gurion arrives here.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 P. M.



A. L.

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

May 13, 1946

A special meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council was held on Monday, May 13, at 3:00 P. M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver (presiding), Gedalia Bublick, Leon Gellman, Mrs. Samuel W. Halprin, Judge Louis E. Levinthal, Louis Lipsky, Rabbi Irving Miller, Professor Alexander Pekelis, Mrs. David de Sola Pool, Judge Morris Rothenberg, Louis Segal, Mrs. A. P. Schoelman, David Wertheim, Dr. Stephen S. Wise.

David Ben-Gurion, Rabbi Leon I. Feuer, Daniel Frisch, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Professor Milton Handler, Siegfried Koefien, Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt, Abraham Tulin.

Elishu Ben-Horin, Jacob Dostrovsky, Elishu Epstein, Mendel Fisher, Gerold Frank, Arnold K. Isreeli, Isaiah L. Kenen, Arthur Lourie, Marvin Lowenthal, Harold P. Manson, Sidney Marks, Mrs. Mina Rogers, Leo Sack, Harry L. Shapiro, Dr. Benjamin Shwadran, Meyer W. Weisgal.

Rabbi Jesse Schwartz, S. J. Zacks.

EGYPTIAN TRANSIT VISAS

Mr. Shapiro reported that we are working in conjunction with the American Jewish Conference. All the necessary material has been assembled and will be made public at a Press Conference being held on Wednesday, May 15, at which Dr. Israel Goldstein will preside. A press release is being prepared at this time.

Mr. Weisgal presented an additional report on the latest developments. The State Department again took up the question of visas with the Egyptians, and the Egyptian Legation in Washington finally agreed to issue these visas provided the people would have return passage to New York. Some of them did not actually have return passage, and only those who did were permitted to obtain visas. But that did not solve the problem at all and Mr. Henderson was so informed. He was advised that the only way to effectuate this matter for the present trip was the issuance of an order directing that the ship go to Haifa instead of to Alexandria, rather than not permitting these people aboard the ship. The ship was supposed to leave on Saturday, at two o'clock, D.S.T., and after a conference between the War Department and the War Shipping Board on Saturday an order was issued that the ship should dock in Haifa -- go directly from Naples to Haifa -- and then make its call in Alexandria. While this took care of the people who already had visas, it did not help in the case of the Chalutzim as time was required to get into contact with them and the ship was due to sail. The ship was in fact detained for a number of hours. The Captain and the Army people

aboard were very cooperative and efforts were made to contact the Chalutzim and the others in the hope that they would be able to board the ship in time. When the American Export Line was informed of this decision, they took a very unfriendly and unhelpful attitude and actually sent away the immigration authorities without whose assistance the people could not get on board. So these poor people, after being informed that everything was in order, had to return to their homes, with the exception of one who had arrived there early. A very strong telegram was sent to Mr. Hendersen, thanking him for his intervention, and informing him of the attitude of the American Export Line. He was also requested to permit us to submit a full report in regard to the action taken by the American Export Line in view of the fact that the Line is running this ship under Government direction.

Mr. Weisgal felt that whatever else we do from this point on, the important thing to bear in mind is that a precedent has been set with regard to the ship going directly to Haifa. There are also planes that are going to the Near East and they too can stop in Haifa. There is no reason why Jews should be subjected to such indignities as they encounter in the Port of Alexandria. As a matter of fact, the Captain of the ship had shown Mr. Weisgal a letter in which he had protested to the American Government with regard to the outrageous treatment the Jews were subjected to there.

Mrs. Halprin felt that the fact that the ship is permitted to go to Haifa directly does not meet the crux of the situation. The Egyptians should be compelled to issue visas to us as American citizens.

Dr. Silver stated that official representations will be made to the State Department, and that all the facts submitted by Mr. Weisgal will be turned over to the Committee to be made public on Wednesday. The press will be glad to obtain all the available data. The State Department, War Department and the War Shipping Board were to be commended for their action.

MR. DAVID BEN-GURION

Dr. Silver introduced Mr. Ben-Gurion, the Chairman of the Executive of the Jewish Agency, who arrived in this country on Friday for a brief visit. Mr. Ben-Gurion analyzed the Report of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry (on file). It is necessary that we do everything in our power quickly to see that the recommendation for the 100,000 immigration is immediately implemented. If this recommendation is not carried out at once then it will be lost. At the same time, we must not forget that we will have to fight the negative part of the Report. When we were faced with this Report, we consulted our colleagues as far as we could, we spoke to Dr. Silver and others, and we came to the conclusion that for the time being, before there is a decision by the Government, we should refrain from either condemning or approving the Report as a whole and this is what we did. At the same time the statement of the Jewish Agency pointed out the positive side of the Report and also the main negative aspects and emphasized that there is only one solution. It is wise that we follow this line until a decision is made. But when the decision will be made or we are asked "do you subscribe to the entire Report?" then we will have to give a very clear answer. As regards the implementation of the recommendation with regard to the 100,000, a great deal depends on America. We are also counting on the support of some people in England, but everything possible must now be done here.

Dr. Silver expressed the thanks of the body to Mr. Ben-Gurion for his report. There are certain steps which have already been taken. We have called

a National Conference of all the leaders throughout the country in Washington, on Thursday, May 23, and we expect to have a great number of people from coast to coast in attendance. Telegrams were sent to the White House from all over the United States in the last week. We have asked our Chairmen and the hundreds of communities in America to get leading men to wire and to write to the President urging him not to delay action in the implementation of the 100,000 immigration. There will be a Regional Christian Conference in Baltimore tomorrow, at which time Mr. Sumner Welles will submit a very important statement on this matter. The question is whether the time has now arrived for large-scale public action of a demonstrative character. We have been planning a series of impressive advertisements in the public press — shall we start pushing them now or shall we wait a little while until we know more definitely what our Government plans to do? If we do start a major attack, such activities ought simultaneously to be started in London and in the camps of the DP's, so that it is a world-wide action on behalf of the 100,000. Not enough is being done in England and if the Jews of America are to be asked to do their best, at the same time. England's Jews should get into motion far more effectively than in the past.

Mr. Ben-Gurion felt that the question of timing was very important. It will be necessary for us to issue a very strong criticism of the Report as a whole, but we must delay that until we have done everything possible for the recommendation in regard to the 100,000. The Jews in Europe will do what they can — they are on the march. The issue will depend on the State Department and the President.

In reply to a request by Mrs. Schoolman for clarification of the present Zionist line, Dr. Silver stated that our position had been clearly defined in the official statement of this body, over the signatures of the Joint Chairmen and with the authorization of the Council. The Report contains two elements which have different timing, an element which concerns the transference of the 100,000, if possible in 1946, and the element which concerns long-range political policies and which the President said require study and would be taken under advisement. We have said practically the same. While there are elements in the Report of which we cannot approve and which we can never accept, nevertheless there are positive elements of an immediate character which we can accept and we are therefore delaying future comment. That is a very clear line and until we have found reason to change that line, that is the one we will follow.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 P.M.

A.L.

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HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES FORCES IN AUSTRIA
Office of The Commanding General
A.P.O. No. 777, U. S. Army

Vienna, Austria
14 May 1948

Mr. Moshe Shertok
83, Avenue de la Grande Arme
Paris - XVI, France

Dear Mr. Shertok,

It was a real pleasure to receive your letter of April 27th, and I want you to know how much I appreciated the kind sentiments which you expressed for the assistance which we gave to the Jewish Brigade Group in Italy, and which we are continuing to give to the Jewish Displaced Persons and refugees in Austria.

I shall always recall the gallantry of the Jewish Brigade during our Italian campaigning. I share your pride in that unit, and your knowledge that its contribution to our final victory in the Mediterranean was hailed by all of the United Nations.

Here in Austria, we are doing all to improve the situation of the Jewish people, providing direct relief to those that suffered the most, and assisting the American Joint Distribution Committee and the Israelitische Kultusgemeinde in helping these Jews in the greatest need today. These persons, as you know, who were confined to concentration camps for six months or more, and those who received only one-half a food ration under the Nazi occupation, policy are receiving special consideration.

Furthermore, we are ever alert to see that laws which might discriminate against any group of persons are not tolerated by the Austrian Government.

Judge Simon H. Rifkind, Advisor to the Theatre Commander on Jewish Affairs, visited Austria several months ago and commented favourably on the situation of the Jewish persons here. We were pleased to have his observations and suggestions, and it was reassuring to know that he was gratified with our efforts and with the results which they have been producing.

I appreciate your kind invitation to visit Palestine, and I sincerely trust that the future will bring me an opportunity to make such a visit.

Please accept my best wishes for your continued health and success.

Sincerely,

(Signed) MARK W. CLARK
General, U.S.A.,
Commanding

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

June 7, 1946

A special meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council was held on Friday, June 7, at 2:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT

Dr. Stephen S. Wise (presiding), Gedalia Publick, Rabbi Max Kirshblum, Louis Lipsky, Emanuel Neumann, Alexander Pekelis, David Wertheim.

I. B. Berkson, Philip Cruso, Daniel Frisch, Nahum Goldmann, Moshe Shapiro, Abraham Tulin.

Benjamin Akzin, Elishu Ben-Horin, Gerold Frank, Isaac L. Kenen, Arthur Lourie, Harold P. Manson, Harry L. Shapiro, Benjamin Shwadran, Abraham Tavin.

LIAISON BETWEEN JEWISH AGENCY AND EMERGENCY COUNCIL, WASHINGTON

Dr. Goldmann made a statement with reference to the difficulties which, it had been suggested at the previous meeting, had arisen in connection with overlapping activities of the Jewish Agency and the Emergency Council in Washington (statement on file).

FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN REGARD TO THE 100,000 RECOMMENDATION

It was reported that the British Government had submitted a questionnaire to the State Department dealing with the recommendations of the Committee of Inquiry, and had requested that a delegation from the Department meet with officials of the British Government to discuss the matter. Apparently the American Government had indicated that it is not yet ready to discuss the entire Report, but feels that the implementation of the 100,000 recommendation should be effected at once. In this connection, the President had indicated yesterday at his Press Conference that the American Government is prepared to assume its part of the moral and financial responsibility for the transfer to and settlement in Palestine of the 100,000. From a telephone conversation with representatives of the Jewish Agency in London it appeared that the British have not completely dropped the matter of the disarming of the Haganah, but depending on the American attitude, there is still hope that it may not be made a condition precedent.

In response to a question, it was reported further that our information to date is that the British Government has not officially asked for American military aid. There is some hint of the fact that the British Government has prepared a draft document to replace the Mandate, but we were without knowledge of its contents.

JOINT TELEGRAM TO PRESIDENT TRUMAN

Mr. Kenen reported that Dr. Isadore Lubin had come to his office with the proposal that the American Jewish Conference, the American Zionist Emergency Council and the American Jewish Committee send a joint telegram to the President in connection with the request of the State Department for comment on the Report of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry. Dr. Lubin felt that it was important at the present time to have a joint statement from the three organizations in order to impress upon the President the unanimity of Jewish opinion with regard to this recommendation. After a discussion with Dr. Silver, it was decided that a meeting of the Emergency Council be called to take an official position on the matter.

A general discussion ensued, with the following members participating: Dr. Akzin, Mr. Bublick, Mr. Cruso, Mr. Frisch, Mr. Kenen, Mr. Lipsky, Mr. Lourie, Mr. Manson, Ir. Neumann, Dr. Pekelis, Mr. Tulin, Mr. Wertheim and Dr. Wise.

Emphasis was placed on the constitutional difficulties involved in placing on a par with the Conference an organization which had chosen to secede from that body. Also it was thought by a number of those participating that no effective purpose would be served by such a telegram. Others urged the importance of a public manifestation of Jewish unanimity on the issue of the 100,000. It was finally decided that separate telegrams -- to be differently worded, but of similar content -- be sent to the President from each of the three organizations (i.e. the American Zionist Emergency Council, the American Jewish Conference and the American Jewish Committee).

Meeting adjourned at 3:40 P.M.

A.L.

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A special meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council was held on Tuesday, June 11, at 4:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver (presiding), Gedalia Bublick, Philip Cruso, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Mrs. Benjamin Gottesman, Rabbi Max Kirshblum, Judge Louis E. Levinthal, Louis Lipsky, Emanuel Neumann, Alexander Pekelis, Mrs. David de Sola Pool, Judge Morris Rothenberg, Mrs. A. P. Schoolman, David Wertheim, Dr. Stephen S. Wise.

Jacob Robinson, Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt, Abraham Tulin.

Tuvia Arazi, Eliahu Ben-Horin, Gerold Frank, Arnold K. Isreeli, Arthur Lourie, Marvin Lowenthal, Harold P. Manson, Harry L. Shapiro, Benjamin Shwadran, Abraham Tuvia.

Dr. Silver stated that this meeting had been called since it was felt necessary to discuss a plan of action in connection with the recent developments regarding the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem and the Cabinet Committee on Palestine and Related Problems appointed by the President.

EX-MUFTI

Mr. Lourie reported that on March 22, 1946, we had been informed by the State Department that in reply to our memorandum to them of December 13, 1945, regarding the ex-Mufti, they had sent a copy of the memorandum to the United States Commissioner on the United Nations War Crimes Commission in London. They had been advised by the Commissioner that no charges had been filed by any government against the Mufti with the Commission; as the alleged crimes of the Mufti did not affect American nationals directly it would be contrary to the practice of the United States Government to take action in the matter. We are at present preparing another memorandum based on new evidence regarding the Mufti's co-responsibility with the Nazis for the extermination policy. Dr. Robinson has prepared a note on the legal position with regard to such an indictment, from which it appears that our Government is entitled to and should take action on the basis that the Mufti was a major war criminal and not a minor war criminal in the sense of the Moscow Declaration of October 30, 1943 and that his activities did not fall solely under the category of war crimes in a technical sense, but encompassed crimes against humanity. A Declaration should be submitted placing responsibility for the Mufti's "escape" on the British and French Governments, urging that the whole test and sincerity in the matter hinges upon the action taken with regard to the hundred thousand. New evidence with regard to the co-responsibility of the Mufti for the extermination policy had already been published in the press.

A telegram on the same subject, dated June 11, from Mr. Bartley C. Crum to the State Department regarding the Mufti was read (on file).

It was decided that, should our finances permit, the Crum telegram be printed as an advertisement in various newspapers.

(more)

Mr. Arasi also urged that a Declaration should be issued and felt it should be prepared along the following lines: (a) although Great Britain and France were well aware of the fact that the Mufti was one of those responsible for the Nazi extermination policy of European Jews, they chose to do nothing about the matter - by permitting the Mufti to return to the Near East the admission of the hundred thousand was prejudiced; (b) documents attesting to the Mufti's guilt, and which are now in the hands of the Allies, should be made public; (c) the United States Government should ask for the extradition of the Mufti in order that he may be put on trial.

It was decided that a committee of three lawyers, together with Mr. Arasi, Mr. Lourie and Dr. Robinson, prepare a new memorandum calling for the indictment of the Mufti, to be sent to the State Department; also that consideration be given to the proposal for a public statement.

CABINET COMMITTEE ON PALESTINE AND RELATED PROBLEMS.

Dr. Silver read the following statement issued by the President today:

"In view of the urgency of various problems relating to the displaced Jews in Europe and Palestine, I am appointing, under the Chairmanship of the Secretary of State, a Cabinet Committee on Palestine and Related Problems, composed of the Secretaries of State, War and Treasury. The Committee will be charged with assisting me in formulating and implementing such policy with regards to Palestine and related problems as may be adopted by this government. An executive order will be issued outlining the functions and authority of the Committee in further detail.

"The Committee will be authorized to negotiate with the British Government and with other foreign governments and to maintain contact with private organizations relating to the various matters arising out of the recommendations of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry.

"It is my honest hope that the Cabinet Committee will be able to undertake its earnest task at the earliest possible moment."

Following is the statement issued by the State Department today:

"With reference to the establishment by the President of a special Cabinet Committee on Palestine and Related Problems, I have appointed Mr. Henry F. Grady as my alternate on the Committee with the personal rank of Ambassador. Mr. Grady was recently head of the American Section of the Allied Mission to observe the elections in Greece and has previously served as Assistant Secretary of State and on economic missions to the Far East and to India."

Dr. Silver stated that it has been learnt that the technical Committee going to London will, in all probability, include Mr. Cramer, who is the Assistant to General Hildring for the State Department, Colonel Lewis for the War Department and Mr. Evan Wilson, of the Palestine desk in the Near East Division. It is understood that Mr. Grady will remain in this country and will act as co-ordinator in all these matters. Judging from the President's own statement there has now been created an important instrumentality of our Government to handle the entire problem. It is not known, however, whether the Committee will restrict its activities to the hundred thousand recommendation or whether it will consider the Anglo-American Committee Report as a whole.

(more)

It is too soon to know what the implications are for us, but we are facing a new situation. Since the next few weeks will be critical we must do everything possible to bring home to people the urgency of the issues at stake.

A motion was made and carried that if possible an American Zionist be sent to London to be on hand during the negotiations between the American and British representatives.

LEAGUE FOR PEACE WITH JUSTICE IN PALESTINE.

It was decided that the program of action put forth by Mr. Arazzi with regard to the League for Peace with Justice in Palestine be financed to the extent of \$3,000.

ADMISSION CHARGE TO MEETINGS SPONSORED BY THE EMERGENCY COUNCIL

The question arose regarding the advisability of charging for admission meetings and demonstrations sponsored by the Emergency Council. It was decided that the matter would be taken up in detail at another meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5:35 P.M.

A.L.



AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A special meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council was held on Friday, June 21, at 2:30 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver (presiding), Philip Cruse, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Leon Gellman, Israel Goldstein, Rabbi Max Hirschblum, Louis Lipsky, Emanuel Neumann, Judge Morris Rothenberg, David Wertheim, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Rabbi Sidney Zambrowsky.

Jacob Dostrovsky, Richard Gilbert, Milton Handler, Siegfried Hoeffler, Leo Kohn, Rabbi Irving Miller, Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt, Moshe Shapiro, Abraham Tulin.

Benjamin Akzin, Eliahu Ben-Horin, Gerold Frank, Arnold K. Isroeli, Arthur Lourie, Harold P. Manson, Harry L. Shapiro, Benjamin Shwadran, Abo Tuvim; Tuvia Arazi, Eliahu Epstein, Sidney Marks.

CABINET COMMITTEE ON PALESTINE AND RELATED PROBLEMS

Dr. Akzin reported that the technical advisers on the President's Cabinet Committee had been sent to London with instructions to discuss only the matter of the immigration of the hundred thousand. In the course of these negotiations the British indicated that they were ready to agree to the distribution of the immigration certificates being handled by the Jewish Agency but they wished for a strong measure of control over the Agency in this regard. Among other questions raised during these discussions was that a date be fixed subsequent to which Jews arriving in the American or British zones should not be eligible for emigration certificates; also the tempo of immigration. While the Americans felt that the immigrants could be transported at the rate of twenty thousand per month, the British were of the opinion that Palestine could not absorb more than two to four thousand per month. Dr. Akzin reported on certain suggestions for action. A proposal that a letter should be addressed to the President by a group of Senators urging once again that the hundred thousand recommendation be implemented immediately had been acted upon, and such a letter has already gone to the White House over the signatures of nine Senators.

ORGANIZATION OF PUBLIC OPINION

Mr. Tuvim reported that Mr. Zaritsky, on behalf of the Trade Union Committee for Palestine had cabled in strong terms to the British Trade Union Congress and the British Labor Party. Mr. Green had permitted us to send telegrams to every State Federation of Labor and central body in the country, calling on them to write, telegraph, or call the White House and the State Department, protesting the present situation and asking for the immediate entry of the hundred thousand. Excellent results have been obtained. At present, we are working on a march to Washington of veterans in uniform under the sponsorship of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States. They will also include other veterans' groups, both Jewish and non-Jewish. This will call for two hundred automobiles, containing four or five veterans each, to leave on Sunday, July 14, for Washington. An effort

will be made to have them received at the City Hall steps by the Mayor in order to obtain initial publicity on the project in New York. The cars are to go through New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, etc., picking up other lines of cars, and it is estimated that the march on Washington will include seven hundred to one thousand people. It is planned to have a veterans mass meeting in Washington on Sunday night, July 14, and to have delegations visit the White House, the State Department and Congress on Monday, July 15. Another part of this plan is to have veterans groups organized in every State of the Union for a visit to their respective Governors on Monday, July 15, to urge them to assist in the work that will be done in Washington that day by sending wires to the President and the State Department. We have also discussed with a number of labor people the necessity for a labor demonstration in this city, and the Trade Union Committee for Palestine is calling a special meeting to make arrangements to this end. It was suggested that the key-note of the demonstration be the implementation of the positive parts of the report and an attack on the policy of the British Labor Government.

Mr. Shapiro reported that action was being taken to make clear to the various news agencies and newspapers that the word "terrorist" when applied to the Jews of Palestine is incorrectly used. Many mass meetings and demonstrations are being held throughout the country. It has been learned that seven Ministers in Chicago have been picketing the British Consulate, and we will try to encourage this medium of protest throughout the country. Different types of advertisements are being inserted in papers in various communities. We are also trying to locate veterans with British decorations who would be willing to return these decorations to the British Embassy.

In response to a question as to why the veterans' march is being limited to the Eastern seaboard, Mr. Shapiro stated that that will be a matter of discussion with the Jewish War Veterans of the United States.

BUDGET

Mr. Shapiro stated that in view of the fact that many emergencies had arisen this year which were not anticipated when we had set up our budget, we are placed in a position where we are unable to make the necessary moves because of lack of funds. It seemed likely that there would be a deficit at the end of the financial year of \$120,000. At the same time an immediate grant of \$100,000 would probably enable us to get by. It was resolved that the request for an additional sum of \$100,000 to enable the Council to continue its work be approved subject to confirmation by the Finance Committee which was given power to act.

MADISON SQUARE GARDEN MEETING

Dr. Silver felt that the attendance at the Madison Square Garden meeting was a keen disappointment. A great deal of time, thought and money had gone into the meeting to make it a success, but the response was not gratifying. If such a negative attitude represents the mood of American Jewry, then a great deal of work still lies ahead.

LOAN TO BRITAIN

After a general discussion on the matter of the American loan to Britain, it was agreed that if through our friends it is possible to delay the passage of the legislation granting the loan to Britain that would be desirable pending the outcome of the Palestinian situation. At the same time the Council should not go on record publicly on the issue.

DR. LEO KOHN

Dr. Silver welcomed to the meeting Dr. Leo Kohn, Political Secretary of the Jewish Agency, Jerusalem, who is at present visiting in the United States. Dr. Kohn made a brief statement in which he emphasized the gravity of what was happening in Palestine and the need for a proper appreciation of and reaction to the situation here. There would be an immediate change if the American and British governments were to issue a joint announcement that the 100,000 would be admitted.

HAGANAH

After a general discussion on the matter, a motion was made and carried that a Committee of Three be appointed to draft a forceful statement associating American Zionism with the Haganah and assuring the Haganah of our wholehearted support, at the same time distinguishing between the Haganah and the Irgun Zvei Louni and the Stern group.

BOOK PROJECT

Mr. Neumann raised the question of an important book project which is being undertaken now and which will serve us in its field as effectively as did Dr. Lowdermilk's book. It is required that the necessary arrangements and financial provisions be made for the publishing of this book.

It was decided that the matter should be referred to the Finance Committee.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 P. M.

A. L.

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

June 29, 1946

A special meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council was held on Saturday, June 29, at 9:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT

Dr. Stephen S. Wise (presiding), Gedalia Bublick, Philip Cruso, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Leon Gellman, Mrs. Samuel W. Halprin, Louis Lipsky, Emanuel Neumann, Alexander Pekelis, Louis Segal, David Wertheim, Rabbi Sidney Zambrowsky.

Jacob Dostrovsky, Nahum Goldmann, Siegfried Hoefien, Leo Kohn, Jeannette Leibel, Mrs. Mina Rogers, Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt, Abraham Tulin, Mrs. Stephen S. Wise.

Gerold Frank, Arthur Lourie, Harold P. Manson, Harry L. Shapiro; Tuvia Arazi, Elishu Epstein, Gottlieb Hammer.

BRITISH RAID ON YISHUV AND ARREST OF JEWISH AGENCY EXECUTIVE LEADERS

Dr. Wise stated that this is the second of two meetings called for today, the first meeting this afternoon being that of the Committee of Eight. Dr. Silver was not able to attend since he was presiding at a meeting in Chicago.

Dr. Goldmann reported that in reply to the statement of the spokesman of the British Foreign Office that the American Government had been aware of Britain's contemplated action in raiding the Yishuv and arresting the Jewish Agency Executive leaders, the Department of State had today issued a formal denial that they had received advance information to this effect. However, they did receive a call from the Jewish Agency after the events had taken place. A cable, signed by Mr. Weizgal but presumably from Dr. Weizmann, was received today in which it was urged that all the American members of the Agency in the United States come to Palestine immediately to continue the Agency work. The Committee of Eight have discussed the matter, and it is assumed that should it be necessary that the American members go they will be ready to do so. It was decided at the meeting this afternoon to recommend to the Emergency Council to arrange for a large mass demonstration directed against British actions in Palestine to be held in New York on Monday. There was a proposal to arrange a demonstration in Washington on Tuesday morning when the four members of the Jewish Agency Executive are to see the President. However, it was felt that such a demonstration in Washington would not be advisable since we should direct ourselves now against the British and not against the White House. It was further decided that the four members of the Jewish Agency Executive in America should issue a statement in which they declare their solidarity with the arrested members in Jerusalem and assume full responsibility. It was also felt that the Emergency Council should issue a statement on the solidarity of American Zionism with the Jewish Agency.

After a general discussion in which Mr. Bublick, Mr. Cruse, Mrs. Epstein, Dr. Goldmann, Mrs. Halprin, Mr. Hoofien, Mr. Lipsky, Mr. Lourie, Mr. Marson, Dr. Pekelis, Mr. Segal, Mr. Shapiro, Mr. Tulin, Mr. Wertheim and Dr. Wise participated, it was decided that the following courses of action would be taken to voice the protest of American Jewry against British action in Palestine:

(1) The American members of the Jewish Agency Executive to issue a statement expressing their solidarity with the Yishuv and the arrested members of the Jewish Agency Executive in Palestine;

(2) The American Zionist Emergency Council to issue a statement expressing the solidarity of American Jewry with the Jewish Agency and the Haganah.

(3) Telegrams be sent to the Chairmen of the Local Emergency Committees urging that the members of their respective communities send telegrams to President Truman expressing their feeling of outrage at British arrest of Jewish Agency leaders and urging that the President take firm stand against this and insist upon Britain's fulfillment of 100,000 immigration recommendation.

(4) Mass demonstration to be held at Madison Square Park, Tuesday, July 2, at 5:30 P.M.

(5) From 2:00 P.M. until 5:00 P.M. on Monday, July 2, there is to be a steady stream of picketing of the British Consulate.

(6) Voters at the World Zionist Congress polls are to be instructed to wire the President expressing their indignation at what has today happened in Palestine; they should further be invited to attend the mass demonstration to be held at Madison Square Park.

LOAN TO BRITAIN

Following a discussion, Mr. Cruse moved that this session express its agreement with the resolutions adopted at the Executive Committee meeting of the Council on June 21. The Chairman stated that the decision of the Council on that occasion was a matter of record and that there was no need to reaffirm it.

Mr. Neumann then moved, as an amendment, that at the same time we get our friends throughout the country to send telegrams to their Members of Congress expressing indignation at what is taking place in Palestine and requesting them to use their influence to make audible in Congress public feeling on the matter.

In response to a statement by Mr. Lipsky, as Chairman, that Mr. Neumann's proposal had nothing to do with the loan, Mr. Neumann stated that in the light of the strong opposition at the meeting to public action on the loan, he was putting his amendment in the form that the telegrams from Local Emergency Committees need not necessarily express opposition to the loan, but that we should simply ask our people to get their Congressmen to voice the indignation of the American public and use their influence in whatever way they could make it felt.

The Chairman, in putting Mr. Neumann's substitute amendment to the vote, stated that while it did not intend any direct reference to the loan, undoubtedly the action proposed would have some effect upon the loan. Upon a vote, Mr. Neumann's amendment was adopted, with Professor Pekelis contra.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 P.M.

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

July 1, 1946

A special meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council was held on Monday, July 1, at 2:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver (presiding), Gedalia Bublick, Philip Cruse, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Leon Gellman, Mrs. Samuel W. Halprin, Rabbi Max Kirschblum, Louis Lipsky, Emanuel Neumann, Alexander Pekelis, Mrs. David de Sola Pool, Judge Morris Rothenberg, Louis Segal, Mrs. A. P. Schoolman, David Wertheim, Dr. Stephen S. Wise.

I. B. Berkson, Mrs. Chava Cohen, Daniel Frisch, Eliav Glanz, Leo Kohn, Rabbi Irving Miller, Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt, Moshe Shapiro, Abraham Tulin.

Elishu Ben-Horin, Gerold Frank, Arnold K. Isreeli, Arthur Lourie, Marvin Lowenthal, Harold P. Manson, Harry L. Shapiro, Abraham Tuvim.

REPORT ON ACTION TAKEN REGARDING ARRESTS IN PALESTINE

Mr. Shapiro reported that on Saturday night, June 29, telegrams were sent to the Zionist polling booths in which voters were urged to wire the President expressing their indignation at the British raid on the Yishuv, picket the British Consulate on Monday afternoon, July 1, and attend the mass meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 2, at 5:30 P.M., at Madison Square Park. On the following morning, June 30, telegrams were sent to all Local Emergency Committee Chairmen and read as follows:

"LATEST TREACHEROUS ACTION OF BRITAIN CALLS FOR IMMEDIATE AND UNPRECEDENTED REACTION AMERICA. MOVE YOUR COMMUNITY TO FOLLOWING ACTIONS QUICKLY: SEND TELEGRAMS TO PRESIDENT EXPRESSING OUTRAGE BRITISH ARREST OF JEWISH AGENCY LEADERS AS ACT OF WAR AGAINST JEWISH PEOPLE REQUESTING HE TAKE FIRM STAND AGAINST THIS TYRANNY AND INSIST BRITAIN FULFILL RECOMMENDATION FOR TRANSFER 100,000 FROM DP CAMPS TO PALESTINE. DISPATCH WIRES TO CONGRESSMEN EXPRESSING INDIGNATION AGAINST BRITAIN IN CONGRESS. IF THERE IS BRITISH CONSULATE IN YOUR COMMUNITY ORGANIZE MASS PICKETING OUTSIDE CONSULS OFFICE. IMPORTANT THAT PROMINENT LOCAL LEADERS, JEWISH AND NON-JEWISH, BE IN VANGUARD OF SUCH DEMONSTRATION IN ORDER SECURE ADEQUATE PUBLICITY FOR SAME. IF POSSIBLE ORGANIZE INDOOR AND OUTDOOR MASS DEMONSTRATIONS ON LARGEST POSSIBLE SCALE. STATEMENT IN PRESS RELEASE SENT YESTERDAY AS REPLY TO BRITISH ACTION SHOULD BE KEYNOTE FOR THESE MEETINGS. THE CRUCIAL MOMENT IS NOW: WE COUNT ON YOU TO CARRY OUT ABOVE ESSENTIAL ASSIGNMENTS."

Reports indicated that a large crowd had gathered before the British Consulate that afternoon. With regard to the mass meeting at Madison Square Park tomorrow, the afternoon papers will carry ads, as will tomorrow morning's papers.

AMERICAN MEMBERS OF JEWISH AGENCY EXECUTIVE

Dr. Wise brought to the attention of the body that at a meeting of the Committee of Eight on Saturday a proposal was made that the four American members of the Jewish Agency Executive should, in response to a cable suggestion from Palestine, proceed immediately to Palestine to indicate their solidarity with their fellow members of the Executive and to participate in its further work.

It was stated that the Committee of Eight had also considered the possibility of sending American representatives of Zionist organizations who are not members of the Executive if for any reason it should be deemed inadvisable that the Jewish Agency members go over.

Mr. Lourie reported that in the course of a call from Mr. Ben-Gurion from Paris, Mr. Ben-Gurion had advised against all four of the American members of the Jewish Agency leaving the United States at this time since their presence here might be important.

Mr. Tulin, too, felt that this was a time for the American leaders to remain in the United States and seek to take up our matters with the American Government on the top level. America has an absolute legal right to intervene in regard to the disposition of Palestine based on specific assertions and documents and that point has not been stressed.

Mr. Frisch was of the opinion that the American Zionist leaders must present the Zionist position in Washington. They alone could speak for the five million American Jews in this connection and under no circumstances should they leave the country at this time.

Dr. Lec Kohn stated that it was very obviously the desire of Britain to liquidate the Jewish Agency which represents the Jewish people in regard to Palestine. The Yishuv was now literally fighting for its existence. It would be very helpful in view of the fact that the leaders there have been arrested, that people of high standing from here should go to Jerusalem. It would also be very advisable for what lies ahead that one or two prominent non-Jewish American journalists should go to Palestine. The presence of these journalists would have an inhibitive effect on the Government. Similarly, if we could arrange an immediate visit by distinguished pro-British American Senators who might be able to influence the British Government.

Dr. Pekelis was of the opinion that something very different from our ordinary reaction of protests and mass meetings was required. It was necessary in some dramatic way to arouse and give expression to the emotions of the people. He made certain suggestions in this connection and urged further that we consider the idea of approaching the Commission on Human Rights of the United Nations.

Mr. Segal also felt that it was necessary to do things we had not done before. In addition to strengthening the leadership in Palestine by manpower from America, it would have a tremendous effect if some of the American Jewish youth should go to Palestine as soon as possible.

Mr. Ben-Horin was of the opinion that an impressive delegation comprised of people like Bartley Crum, Reinhold Niebuhr, Nelson Rockefeller and others should go to Palestine. Their presence and their reports would have a restraining effect on British action. Secondly, Dr. Silver and Dr. Wise should, on

behalf of the Emergency Council, send a properly worded wire to Stalin and officially ask for Russian intervention in Palestine.

Judge Rothenberg felt that it was not advisable for the American members of the Agency to go to Palestine. The main fight will be in America. Moreover, in Palestine censorship might greatly hamper their effectiveness there. On the other hand, it might be helpful if the President would send a personal emissary to Palestine. He favored action in opposition to the grant of the loan to Great Britain.

Mrs. Epstein stated that as many American Zionist leaders as possible should go to Palestine, although a necessary number of those in authority should naturally remain in the United States. She was very much against any direct appeal to Russia.

(Mr. Gellman and Mr. Moshe Shapiro spoke in Yiddish and the stenotypist failed to transcribe their remarks).

Mr. Neumann felt that we have one very immediate opportunity and that is the conference with the President. The President should be requested to take a firm stand and demand that the arrested people be released. A suggestion should be made that the American Government send its own mission to Palestine now or a Presidential mission to look into the situation and exercise what influence they can. Instead of being drawn into endless discussions, further, the American Government should be asked to indicate its impatience at the prolonged delay and insist on concrete action. Our Administration must realize that in the absence of effective and helpful action they will be held to that extent responsible for the situation as it is.

Mr. Lipsky also discussed the interview with the President. It is necessary to bring home to our Government the manner in which it is being used by the British Government for its own purposes. He did not think it was advisable for us to use the British loan as an instrument of action.

Mrs. Halprin stressed the need for carefully thinking out the matters to be taken up with the President at the interview the next day.

Judge Rosenblatt said it was clear that the British line was to seek the elimination of the Agency. He supported Mr. Tulin in drawing attention to the legal aspects of America's rights in the whole matter.

Dr. Wise felt that an appeal should be made to the President to exercise the influence of his office to put an end to the reign of terror in Palestine instituted by the British. The members of the Agency should be set free and the illegal raiding of Jewish settlements be stopped. The President should also be asked in very specific terms as to just when the 100,000 are going to be moved to Palestine and also whether the Cabinet Committee has been instructed to implement as quickly as possible the transference of the hundred thousand.

MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT

Dr. Silver stated that an appointment had been sought with the President nearly two months ago in the names of Dr. Wise and himself, and Mr. Monsky, representing the Emergency Council and the American Jewish Conference, respectively. It was only in the course of last week that they had at length been

informed that an appointment had been fixed and that the President wanted to see, in addition, Dr. Nahum Goldmann and Mr. Louis Lipsky as representing the Agency. Invitation to the Agency had arisen in consequence of a letter sent to the President, offering the services of the Agency in a technical way to assist in the moving of the hundred thousand Jews to Palestine and making certain financial and other suggestions.

Dr. Silver felt that the addition of representatives of the Agency to those participating in the interview was uncalled for and he expressed criticism of the manner in which it had been arranged. He added that an intolerable situation was developing internally and there would have to be a radical reorganization if he was to be able to do effective work.

DELEGATION TO PALESTINE

A motion was made and carried that a delegation of four or eight leading American Zionists, representing the four parties, should go to Palestine as soon as possible in connection with the present situation there.

BRITISH LOAN

A reference was made to the matter of our attitude to the proposed loan to Britain. It was pointed out that it had previously been decided that we should seek indirectly, and without going officially on the record, to obtain a postponement of action on the loan; that vote still held good.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

A.L.

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

July 3, 1946

A special meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council was held on Wednesday, July 3, at 4:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver (presiding), Gedalia Bublick, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Leon Gellman, Mrs. Samuel W. Halprin, Rabbi Max Kirshblum, Louis Lipsky, Emanuel Neumann, David Wertheim, Dr. Stephen S. Wise.

I. B. Berkson, Jacob Dostrovsky, Daniel Frisch, Milton Handler, Rabbi Irving Miller, Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt, Moshe Shapiro, Abraham Tulin.

Eliahu Ben-Horin, Gerold Frank, Arnold K. Isreeli, Arthur Lourie, Harold P. Manson, Harry L. Shapiro, Benjamin Shwadran, Abraham Tuvim.

MADISON SQUARE PARK DEMONSTRATION

Dr. Silver, in commenting on the Madison Square Park demonstration held yesterday afternoon, stated that it was an effective and dignified event. There was a fine turn-out of people, and perhaps the most significant part of it was the participation of the people themselves in the meeting. Dr. Silver expressed the deep appreciation of this body for the fine work done by the members of the staff of the Emergency Council and others who were instrumental in making the meeting the success that it was. Various communities throughout the country are having meetings of a similar nature and our office is being besieged with requests for speakers.

VETERANS MARCH ON WASHINGTON

Dr. Silver stated that there were advertisements in today's papers, inserted by the Jewish War Veterans of the United States, announcing the contemplated march on Washington on July 14, requesting Jewish servicemen to join the cavalcade and asking people to make their cars available for transportation. It will be an impressive and worthwhile demonstration.

MEETING WITH PRESIDENT

Dr. Silver reported on the meeting of the delegation with the President on July 2 (report on file). They had discussed with the President, who appeared friendly and anxious to be helpful, the raids and arrests in Palestine and also their possible effect on the implementation of the 100,000 immigration. The President was determined to press for the hundred thousand and not to permit the events which have occurred in the last few days to interfere.

In consultation with Mr. Miles, who had been present at the interview, a statement was prepared which was subsequently approved by the President and released to the press by the White House (attached).

CABINET COMMITTEE ON PALESTINE AND RELATED PROBLEMS

It was decided that an effort would be made to find out more precisely the scope and purposes of the visit of the Cabinet Committee to London -- whether it is to consummate the arrangements for the movement of the 100,000 Jews from Europe to Palestine, or whether it is to explore the recommendations of the Report as a whole and make decisions accordingly.

TELEGRAM TO DR. ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN

It was resolved to send a telegram to Dr. Israel Goldstein expressing the deep sympathy of the Executive Committee in the tragic loss sustained by Dr. Goldstein and his family by the death of his daughter-in-law in an automobile accident.

SOLIDARITY WITH YISHUV AND HAGANAH

Mr. Neumann made the suggestion that a sub-committee consisting of one representative of each of the organizations should meet to consider what, if anything, can now be done to give legal and constructive form to the tremendous public sentiment which has developed as a result of recent events in Palestine in behalf of the Jewish resistance in Palestine. People are anxious to express themselves concretely. It was agreed that a sub-committee be appointed to consider the matter and make recommendations. Dr. Silver pointed out that pending the report of the sub-committee, no action should be taken on its own by any one of our groups without having first consulted this body.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

A. L.

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

July 15, 1946

A special meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council was held on Monday, July 15, at 5:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver (presiding), Miss Juliet N. Benjamin, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Leon Gellman, Israel Goldstein, Mrs. Samuel Halprin, Rabbi Max Kirshblum, Louis Lipsky, Emanuel Neumann, Alexander Pekelis, Mrs. David de Solo Pool, Judge Morris Rothenberg, Louis Segal, David Wertheim.

Mrs. Chava Cohen, Daniel Frisch, Milton Handler, Leo Kohn, Moshe Shapiro, Abraham Tulin.

Benjamin Akzin, Elisha Ben-Horin, Arthur Lourie, Harry L. Shapirc, Benjamin Shwadran.

EX-MUFTI

Mr. Lourie stated that a new memorandum on the Mufti, together with supporting exhibits based on documentary material which had recently become available evidencing the co-responsibility of the Mufti with Himmler and others for the Nazi extermination policy of the Jews, is now completed. The authority of this body was requested for submission of the memorandum to the State Department.

It was decided that the memorandum should be sent to the State Department and that it be made public after it has been submitted.

VETERANS MARCH ON WASHINGTON

Mr. Shapiro reported that it had originally been planned to have a motorcade of approximately one hundred cars leave from New York and as it went along the line of travel to Washington it had been expected that cars from cities enroute would fall in the procession and go along. However, since it was necessary to obtain permits in every city in order to travel through the streets that plan was abandoned. Since, too, all the necessary cars were unobtainable gratis, it was decided that the Council budget on this project would have to be raised from \$5,000 to \$15,000 in order to have the required transportation. Yesterday morning the cars gathered in Union Square and their first stop was at the steps of City Hall where they were very well received by the Mayor; after which the cars traveled together to Washington, carrying banners and streamers. At Pennsylvania Railroad in New York there were assembled more men than for whom we had tickets and the Jewish War Veterans decided that they would have to expend \$4,000 or \$5,000 for additional tickets. After the veterans had arrived in Washington last night they held a mass meeting with an attendance of about 3,000. Today there was a parade of about 4,000 veterans, mostly in uniform, who marched in military formation and carried their colors and streamers. Our

people in Washington reported that it constituted an impressive spectacle. From a public relations standpoint, it will probably be the most effective thing we have done — it had been covered by the newsreels, the newspapers in Washington are full of it and the news services are sending wirephotos all over the country.

We had also arranged that Local Emergency Committees should get in touch with the Jewish War Veterans in their respective States and arrange for a delegation to visit the Governor and request him to send a wire to the President on the subject. Mr. Shapiro read a wire from the Governor of Louisiana to the President (on file), and stated that it is expected that the same procedure will be followed in at least forty States.

In Washington one delegation, headed by Fred S. Harris, of Meriden, Connecticut, called on the President. During the course of the meeting the President emphasized that the matter of the hundred thousand immigration is the primary interest. He also stated that he is trying to get a hundred thousand displaced persons into Africa and another hundred thousand into South America. The delegation then declared that they were confident that no American troops were needed in Palestine and that the British demand for such troops was a colossal bluff designed to frighten and mislead the American people. However, they felt that if the President was of the opinion that American troops were needed there, they would have no difficulty in recruiting a volunteer Jewish Division for service in Palestine. Each of the six members of the delegation to the President were asked to submit separate reports from which we will be able to obtain a fairly composite picture of the meeting.

No reports have yet been received as to the outcome of the visit of other delegations to the State Department and the British Ambassador. However, it is hoped that we will be able to present a full picture of what took place at our next meeting.

While this cavalcade has been a very successful event, Mr. Shapiro was of the opinion that further activity of this nature should not be attempted at this time.

TRANSJORDAN

Mr. Lourie brought up the matter of the application that is being made at the present time for the admission of Transjordan to the United Nations. We had submitted a very full memorandum on the subject of Transjordan to the Department of State on May 24, 1946, and it is obviously our duty to do whatever we can to place before the Security Council the facts which indicate that Transjordan is not a suitable member for admission to the United Nations. There was a brief discussion on the material to be incorporated in a memorandum for submission to the members of the Security Council and the suggestion was made that the representatives of the Agency cooperate in this matter with those members of the Emergency Council who had been interesting themselves in the Transjordan problem. Special reference was made to the contribution of Professor Hardler and Mr. Tulin in the drafting of the memorandum on Transjordan for submission to the State Department; and to that of Dr. Pekelis and Dr. Jacob Robinson in preparing the memorandum on the Mufti.

It was finally decided that the committee of lawyers which drafted the original memorandum on Transjordan be given authority to carry on whatever activity is necessary in connection with the matter.

LIAISON BETWEEN JEWISH AGENCY AND AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

A lengthy discussion took place on what was described as the "chaotic situation" which was arising as a result of the overlapping activities of the Emergency Council and the Jewish Agency. It was stated that there were no clear limitations of authority, and various instances of confusion or duplication were cited. Complaint was also made of the uncontrolled actions of individuals and in particular there was reference to an interview with an unnamed Zionist leader which had appeared in the New York Times and to the matter of the loan to Great Britain. The imperative need for integration or coordination of all Zionist political activities on the American scene was emphasized. It was reaffirmed that a committee of the Emergency Council should be appointed to meet with a committee of the Agency to work out a reorganization of political procedure including a) the relationship between the Emergency Council and the Agency and b) the control of public statements by Zionist spokesmen speaking on behalf of the movement.

The Chairman said that he would appoint the committee and ask it to meet within the week.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

A. L.



AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

July 25, 1946

A special meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council was held on Thursday, July 25, at 1:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT

Emanuel Neumann (presiding), Miss Juliet N. Benjamin, Mrs. Chava Cohen, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Israel Goldstein, Rabbi Max Kirschblum, Judge Morris Rothenberg, Mrs. A. P. Schoolman, Louis Segal, David Wertheim.

I. B. Berkson, Daniel Frisch, Simon Federbush, Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt.

Arnold K. Israeli, William Kaufman, Harold P. Manson, Harry L. Shapiro, Joseph P. Sternstein, Abraham Tuvim.

CABINET COMMITTEE ON PALESTINE

Mr. Neumann reported that it had been learnt that the British have submitted their proposals for a permanent solution, making the immigration of the 100,000 dependent upon the acceptance of a plan for a permanent solution on which consultation between Jews and Arabs is to take place after the plan will have received the approval of both the American and British Governments. The plan calls for a division of Palestine into Arab, Jewish and British provinces, with full control over the entire territory to be vested in the central British administration. It is reported that Dr. Goldmann has denounced these proposals and has urged that every effort be made on the American scene to discourage the American Government from accepting them; that is why Dr. Silver is at present in Washington.

BRITISH WHITE PAPER

With regard to the White Paper issued by the British Government, Mr. Neumann stated that according to information he had received, the Jewish Agency Executive had issued a statement challenging the evidence submitted by the British in this White Paper to indicate the responsibility of the Jewish Agency for the acts of terrorism committed in Palestine and calling on the British to permit an examination of this evidence or to indicate in more detail how, when and where the alleged messages and telegrams had been sent. So far as world opinion is concerned, there can be no doubt that these messages had the appearance of authenticity and tended to identify the Jewish Agency Executive with the activities of the Haganah and through that body to a minor degree, with the activities of the other two other groups. The White Paper is evidently designed to pave the way for drastic revision of the status quo in respect to the Jewish Agency and other vital matters.

KING DAVID HOTEL BOMBING

Dr. Goldstein stated that he felt that public opinion is of the mind that the Zionist leadership has not sufficiently indicated its sense of horror at and disapproval of the bombing. While the Emergency Council has indicated its condemnation of the act, separate and strong statements should be issued in the name of Dr. Silver and of the Zionist Organization of America, respectively. In this connection, Dr. Goldstein brought out the fact that Mr. Nathan D. Shapiro had sent out letters in which he stated that not enough has been done by Zionist leadership to disassociate itself from the bombing, and unless something is done about the matter he and many of his friends will be compelled to sever their connections with the Zionist movement in America. While Dr. Goldstein did not how how seriously this was to be taken, still he felt that it was a good indication of how some people felt about the matter.

After a general discussion, the motion was made and carried that the Emergency Council issue a statement of condemnation of the bombing of the King David Hotel, at the same time emphasizing the fact that the basic fault in the situation lies with the Mandatory power. After the motion had been carried it was decided to confer with the Jewish Agency before issuing the statement.

MOBILIZATION OF PUBLIC OPINION

It was decided that an effort would be made to organize a general counter-offensive against the British among our Christian friends, the American Christian Palestine Committee, newspapers, columnists and radio commentators.

ATTENDANCE AT PARIS MEETING OF DR. SILVER

Mr. Neumann stated that he would convey to Dr. Silver the feeling of many members of the Executive Committee that it was necessary that he should attend the Paris meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5:35 P.M.

A. L.

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

July 26, 1946

A special meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council was held Friday, July 26, at 1:00 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT

Emanuel Neumann (presiding), Miss Juliet N. Benjamin, Gedalia Eublick, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Israel Goldstein, Herman Hollander, Rabbi Max Mirshblum, Alexander Pekelis, Louis Segal, David Wertheim.

Daniel Frisch, Sidney Marks, Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt.

Arnold E. Isreeli, Marvin Lowenthal, Harold P. Manson, Harry L. Shapiro, Abraham Tuvim.

PROPOSALS OF CABINET COMMITTEE ON PALESTINE

Mr. Shapiro reported that in the course of a conversation he had had with Dr. Silver the previous evening, Dr. Silver had indicated that it was his opinion the President had accepted the proposals of the Grady Committee for the cantonization of Palestine. However, this morning, Dr. Silver had informed him that it was doubtful if the President had yet done so. Dr. Silver was doing a most important piece of work (report on file) in Washington in bringing pressure to bear on the circles concerned.

A tentative statement (on file) was read to the Committee to be published with reference to the Grady report; after various revisions had been made, it was decided that, pending further word, it was ready for issuance in its revised form.

In the course of the meeting, Mr. Shapiro reported further that Dr. Silver had made a telephonic request that the revised statement be phoned to him after the meeting — he will then, being on the scene, have more information and will therefore be in a position to make the necessary suggestions for any changes to be incorporated in the statement, which is to be issued today.

Judge Rosenblatt, Dr. Goldstein and Messrs. Neumann and Tuvim reported on various activities being undertaken in an attempt to persuade the American Government to disassociate itself from the Grady Committee report (on file).

MOBILIZATION OF AMERICAN PUBLIC OPINION

In response to a suggestion that another demonstration should be held, the opinion was expressed that it would be futile at the present time. While the various demonstrations that had been held at Madison Square Garden and at Madison Square Park and also the Veterans' March had been impressive, it would serve no useful purpose now to apply those methods.

A discussion followed on the nature and effectiveness of action on the American political scene. It was also urged that the bombardment of official Washington with letters and telegrams would be another means of conveying to the American Government the sense of indignation aroused by the Grady Committee proposals.

After a general discussion, it was decided that action be initiated in the press and by advertisements as well as by letters and telegrams to the White House demanding that the Government repudiate the Grady Committee plan.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 P.M.

N.F. for
A.L.



AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

July 30, 1946

A special meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council was held on Tuesday, July 30, at 5:30 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver (presiding), Miss Juliet N. Benjamin, Gedalia Bublick, Mrs. Hava Cohen, Israel Goldstein, Mrs. David B. Greenberg, Herman Hollander, Rabbi Max Kirshblum, Emanuel Neumann, Alexander Pekelis, Judge Morris Rothenberg, Mrs. A. P. Schoolman, Louis Segal.

M. Ben Tov, I. B. Berkson, Simon Federbush, Daniel Frisch, Siegfried Hoofien, Sidney Marks, Rabbi Irving Miller, Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt.

Arnold K. Isreeli, Arthur Lourie, Harold P. Manson, Moshe Perlman, Harry L. Shapiro, Joseph P. Sternstein, Abraham Tuvin.

DEVELOPMENTS REGARDING GRADY COMMITTEE PROPOSAL

Pending the arrival of Dr. Silver, whose plane had been delayed, Mr. Neumann took the Chair and stated that the meeting had been called in order to bring the Committee up-to-date on developments in Washington in regard to the report of the Grady Committee.

An interview had been arranged with the President the previous Friday for Senators Mead and Wagner and Mr. McDonald, but a hitch resulted in the President being seen by Senator Mead alone. On Dr. Silver's initiative, a further appointment was set for the following morning when it was understood that a very frank conversation in which Mr. McDonald was the principal spokesman took place (report on file).

Dr. Silver had also had a conversation with Mr. Benjamin V. Cohen. Others had been in touch with Mr. Snyder and Mr. Patterson. Both Senators Taft and Wagner had been in communication with Dr. Silver and had undertaken to make a speech in the Senate in criticism of the Grady report.

Requests are also being sent out throughout the country for messages to the White House and to others in Washington, and, undoubtedly, a great many of these had been coming in.

Dr. Silver had also had a long talk with David Niles.

A delegation of New York Congressmen, Jews and non-Jews, mostly non-Jews, had also seen the President that day, but the report had indicated that the conversation was not a satisfactory one.

Mr. Neumann also referred to a cable which Dr. Silver had received from Dr. Wise, indicating that Dr. Wise understood that Mr. Byrnes had agreed with

Mr. Attlee on the report of the Cabinet Committee and that a joint statement by the two Governments might be expected the following day. Mr. Neumann indicated that a meeting of the Cabinet in Washington would probably give the matter consideration before any statement was issued.

Dr. Silver arrived at this point and continued with the report. There had apparently been a good deal of surprise in the Government circles on the nature of the Grady report in view of the fact that it had been contemplated that the Grady Committee would go to London in order to try to implement the Report of the Anglo-American Committee. It was clear that the Grady report was a British product. Dr. Silver went on to refer to the meetings of McDonald and others with the President and with different members of the Cabinet Committee, and also reported further on the interview of the Congressmen with the President (a full report of Dr. Silver's statement on file).

Dr. Goldstein then reported on a conversation which he and Mr. Tuvim had had with Government Lehman in Nantucket. This was supplemented by a brief report by Judge Rosenblatt of certain political contacts which he had made.

In a further review of the political situation, Dr. Silver stressed the vital importance of unified action on the part of every member of the Council in connection with any political line that might be adopted in relation to the Administration.

In response to a request whether it would not be possible for him to attend the Paris meeting of the Agency Executive, even if only for a few days, Dr. Silver indicated that his mind was not made up, but that he would have to wait and see what develops in Washington. Dr. Silver also indicated that he would not go to Paris except with the clear backing of this group for the reorganization of the movement in the United States under a central authority. It was agreed that the representatives of the parties should consult their organizations and be ready to discuss the matter further the following day.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

A. I.

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

October 14, 1946

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council, was held on Monday, October 14, at 3:30 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver (presiding), Gedalia Bublick, Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, Leon Gellman, Israel Goldstein, Mrs. Samuel W. Halprin, Rabbi Max Kirshblum, Louis Lipsky, Emanuel Neumann, Alexander Pekelis, Mrs. David de Sola Pool, Judge Morris Rothenberg, Louis Segal, Mrs. Herman Shulman, David Wertheim, Dr. Stephen S. Wise.

Daniel Frisch, Milton Handler, Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt, Abraham Tulin.

Benjamin Akzin, Gerold Frank, Arnold K. Isreeli, Arthur Lourie, Harold P. Manson, Harry L. Shapiro, Benjamin Shwadran, Abraham Tulin.

(Please note: roll call incomplete).

MR. LEON GELLMAN

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Gellman on his return from Palestine. Mr. Gellman gave a brief report on his visit. He stressed the tremendous militarization of Palestine as compared with his visit a year ago and the disgraceful character of the searches in Yagur, Doroth, etc. It was an indisputable fact, nevertheless, that the difficulties confronting them had merely served to make the Jews of Palestine more united and more steadfast in their opposition to the policy of the administration. Mr. Gellman referred to the proposal for partition and gave it as his impression that the Yishuv was, for the most part, opposed to partition (complete report on file).

NEGOTIATIONS WITH BRITISH GOVERNMENT

A report from Jerusalem contained in the Jewish Telegraphic Agency bulletin, dated October 11, embodying an alleged nine-point proposal by the British for Jewish Agency participation in the London Conference was read to the meeting. It was agreed that consideration of these points be deferred until their authenticity was confirmed. Reference was again made to the lack of adequate information from the Executive in London and Paris regarding the details of the discussions which had taken place with the British Government. It was reported that a cable in this regard, signed by the Joint Chairmen, had been sent to the Executive, stressing the urgent need for regular and full information on what was going on.

SNEH VISA

Dr. Wise reported that he had been in communication with Washington in regard to the American visa for Dr. Sneh who had been refused permission to come to the States by the American Consul in Paris. It was pointed out that the

denial of a visa to a member of the Executive would constitute a very dangerous precedent and it was reported that the editors of the Yiddish newspapers had sent strong telegrams to Mr. Acheson, asking for his intervention (a telegram was subsequently received from the State Department, informing the Council that the visa had been granted).

ACTION IN SUPPORT OF JEWISH AGENCY PROPOSALS

Dr. Silver said that the question had arisen as to whether we had made clear to our Government that American Zionists stand behind the Jewish Agency in the proposal which it had advanced to the American Government, and concerning the wisdom of which some of us had had serious doubts.

The information that we did stand behind these proposals was conveyed to the Government in three or four different ways in the last two weeks. It was conveyed in a letter which reached the President; it was conveyed verbally through two or three different sources, and Dr. Silver had also taken occasion to request Senator Taft some two weeks ago to communicate with Senator Vandenberg in Paris and to request him to press upon Mr. Byrnes and Mr. Bevin the program on immigration and also the Agency proposals.

On Wednesday, October 9, Senator Taft received the following teletyped message from Senator Vandenberg, via the State Department:

"The Secretary (Byrnes) says that the President has assumed personal control of all negotiations to which you refer. Understand in such circumstances the Secretary could not intervene without the President's direction. The Secretary will return to Washington next week and talk it over."

Senator Taft had indicated in his cable that Dr. Silver was prepared, if necessary, to fly to Paris. There was no doubt but that the Administration knew that if it were prepared to move aggressively in the direction of the proposals made to it by the Jewish Agency, then it would have the backing of the Zionists of America. Dr. Silver doubted, however, whether the Administration was going to move aggressively along those lines and he was rather inclined to believe that the proposals for partition were pretty well dead. Under these circumstances, the more we talked about our fundamental rights under the Mandate, etc., the better it would probably be for the ultimate outcome.

VISIT OF MR. BEVIN

Mr. Segal urged that action be taken in connection with the visit of Mr. Bevin to the United Nations meeting in America. He suggested as possibilities 1) a demonstration outside the UN building; 2) the dramatizing of our case in the public press; and 3) attempting to obtain from a number of City Councils, such as those of New York, Chicago and Los Angeles, the passage of Resolutions in behalf of the Zionist case and criticizing the actions of the British Government.

It was urged, on the other hand, that this was a matter which should first be clarified by the lawyers of the Council. Thus, it was suggested that there was some international agreement which would preclude demonstrations of this kind; otherwise, various interested groups might stage successive demonstrations and destroy the possibility of offering hospitality to the United Nations in this

country. The view was also expressed that the most careful consideration must be given to the effect such a demonstration would have on public opinion generally in this country. Reference was made in this connection to the bad impression created by the advertisement in the press addressed to Mr. Churchill by the Revisionists at the time that he was here during the war.

It was agreed to refer the matter to a committee to think through forms of proper action to be taken in connection with Mr. Bevin's visit.

UNITED NATIONS

In answer to an inquiry, Mr. Lipsky reported briefly on the work of the Jewish Agency in relation to the United Nations.

Mr. Shapiro drew attention to the international conference which it had been contemplated would be held under the auspices of the World Committee for Palestine during the time of the United Nations meeting. Considerable preparation had been made to go forward with the meeting, but as a result of recent advices from Dr. Goldmann, the meeting had been called off.

Mr. Lipsky indicated that the meeting had been called off merely for the time being and that it was likely that it would be revived.

There was a reference also to the possible help of Mr. Sumner Welles with whom Dr. Akzin was in touch.

Mr. Tulin drew attention to the conditions under which the Palestine issue might come before the United Nations: 1) some Government might bring it up before the Security Council as something that tended to disturb the peace of the world. In that case a vote for a discussion to take place would require the support of seven members of the Council, including five members each of whom had the right of a veto. 2) Great Britain might herself bring it up by proposing a new Trusteeship agreement. On the other hand it was possible for Britain simply to ignore the United Nations so far as the Palestine Mandate was concerned and there was nothing that could be done about it. It was thus entirely in the hands of the British themselves whether they would raise the Trusteeship issue and he interpreted the postponement of the Conference in London to December 16 as a means of by-passing the United Nations.

The Chairman indicated that further discussion of this matter lay within the province of the Jewish Agency.

PROPOSAL OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOR LABOR ZIONIST ORGANIZATION

Dr. Pekelis said that he had been instructed by his Central Committee to suggest certain concrete demands which might be formulated by American Zionism to the United States Government. The Permanent Mandates Commission had declared unanimously that the White Paper of 1939 was inconsistent with policies previously accepted by the League; further, by a majority vote, that the 1939 White Paper was a violation of the Mandate. There was no similar declaration having similar legal significance and formality on the part of the United States Government. It was time that the United States Government should make up its mind that as a matter of international law the State Department should declare the White Paper of 1939 a violation of international law and of the Mandate.

A further step would be for the Department to indicate that the White Paper was also a violation of the Anglo-American Agreement of 1924 (this would be a

reversal of a position already taken by the Department).

A third point in the declaration which should be sought would consist of the statement that the White Paper of 1922 being an interpretation of the Mandate which, in turn, was embodied in the Anglo-American Treaty of 1924, is part and parcel of that Treaty and that, therefore, the principle of economic absorptive capacity is part and parcel also, not only of international law at large, but of the Anglo-American Treaty as well.

Finally, the unanimous finding of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry to the effect that the economic absorptive capacity of Palestine at present enables 100,000 Jews to be settled in Palestine, is a conclusive finding in international law as to the extent of that capacity and that the Government of the United States accepts it as such. From this it would follow that the restriction on the emigration of the 100,000 Jews to Palestine is a violation of the criterion of the economic absorptive capacity and of the White Paper of 1922, and so implicitly, also, of the Anglo-American Convention of 1924.

This should be incorporated in a note to the British Government -- the demand of the United States Government being based on the existence of the Treaty. The degree of concurrence between the Presidential statements and the State Department policies and the willingness of the latter to do something which is within its power to do could be tested by such a proceeding.

In the course of the brief discussion that followed, it was suggested that it would be most unfortunate if occasion were now given to our Government of entering into a legalistic discussion with respect to the present situation. Moreover, there was the danger that the British might thereby be afforded the opportunity to propose submission under the Charter of the whole issue to the International Court of Justice, which was not yet even organized. A decision might be a matter of years and, in the meantime, we will be precluded from pressing the issue.

It was agreed, in the circumstances, not to take further action on Dr. Pekelis' proposal.

POLITICAL ACTION IN AMERICA

Dr. Wise raised the question of the public campaign which had been initiated to bring pressure on the Administration in regard to the Palestine issue. It was his impression (an impression which on reference to the Minutes it was subsequently indicated that he was mistaken) that what had been agreed upon was a campaign of private and not of public pressure.

Dr. Wise referred to his interview with the President, details of which he had given to Dr. Silver, following which a statement which had also been shown to Dr. Silver and which had received his approval had been transmitted to the President. The President had thereupon acted; he had taken certain measures which were embodied in the declaration that he had made. It was a result obtained through private rather than public pressure, although Dr. Wise granted that the public pressure which had preceded it had produced an impact which might well have had a part in bringing about the statement. There might be differences of opinion as to the importance of the statement, but it represented a continuing action of the President.

Dr. Wise considered the continuing public campaign as an increasing violation of the spirit of the agreement. In this connection he referred to a postcard

issued by the President of the Manhattan Zionist Region and also to a newspaper description of a meeting of the Manhattan Zionist Region in which the heading read "Manhattan Zionist Region rebukes Administration -- Lacks Faith in the Campaign Promises of the Democratic Party."

To clarify what had already been decided at meetings of the Committee, Dr. Silver read from the previous Minutes. He went on to say that the statement of the President came as a political move on the part of the Administration to counteract the great political pressure which had begun to develop in this country as a result of the work which was being done by this body. At the same time, it was his opinion that the issuance of the statement by the President was harmful and not advantageous. What we were aiming at was not another statement of President Truman. We had had such statements before. What we were seeking was that finally, under pressure of the approaching election, the President would use the diplomatic channels to bring pressure on Prime Minister Attlee to get results -- publicly to announce those results instead of issuing another statement. His statement was not going to bring the Jews out of the concentration camps. What was necessary was to get the President and the State Department to follow through. It was not conceivable that the President of the United States had not the power to bring pressure to bear on the British Government to do what the British Government stands committed to do and to what our own Government stands committed through its own official pronouncements. It was important, of course, that the ads which are issued by the New York City Zionist Actions Committee should be in the spirit of what we wanted to do, and he believed that the advertisements that had been published had been in that spirit. On the other hand, we could not be held responsible if a District of the Z.O.A. went off and said things on its own which were not in order. At the same time, he would bring the matter to the attention of the Z.O.A. Executive and ask them to bring order into their Districts.

In the course of the discussion which followed, Mrs. Epstein urged that the material issued in connection with the public campaign be passed on by a representative group -- possibly the Board of Officers.

The Chairman suggested that this point might be met by the presence of a representative of Hadassah on the Zionist Actions Committee. To have a larger body charged with responsibility would be to stymie all action at a time when we have very few days left in which to operate.

Upon a vote taken that the ads which appear in the public press shall, after they have been approved by the Zionist Actions Committee but before publication be submitted to the Board of Officers of this body, five were in favor and six were opposed. The motion was accordingly lost.

It was agreed, in conclusion, that there be a meeting of the Full Council the following Monday and that pending that meeting the decision taken at the previous meeting of the Executive Committee urging members of the Executive Committee to refrain from political partisan activities until the following meeting would continue to hold good.

Meeting adjourned at 5:50 P.M.

A. L.

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

November 14, 1946

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Zionist Emergency Council was held on Thursday, November 14, at 4:30 P.M., at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

PRESENT

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver (presiding), Gedalia Bublick, Philip Cruse, Leon Gellman, Israel Goldstein, Rabbi Max Kirschblum, Louis Lipsky, Emanuel Neumann, Alexander Pekelis, Judge Morris Rothenberg, Louis Segal, David Wertheim, Dr. Stephen S. Wise.

I. B. Berkson, Simon Federbusch, Isaiah L. Kenen, Ignacy Schwarzbart, Abraham Tulin, Meyer W. Weisgal, Mrs. Stephen S. Wise.

Benjamin Akzin, Gerold Frank, Arthur Lourie, Harold P. Manson, Harry L. Shapiro, Joseph Sternstein, Abraham Tuvim.

TELEGRAM FROM HADASSAH

Dr. Silver reported that a telegram had been received from Mrs. Judith Epstein, stating that the Hadassah representatives would not be back from their Convention in time for the meeting of the Executive Committee of that afternoon and asking that the meeting be deferred to the following day or to the early part of next week.

Dr. Silver said that unfortunately it would not be possible for him to remain over in New York as he had to return to Cleveland that evening. In the circumstances, he had indicated to Mrs. Epstein that the meeting would take place, but that no decisions involving a vote would be taken.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH PRESIDENT OF PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Pursuant to a decision taken by the Council, a letter had been sent to the President of Princeton University with reference to the non-inclusion of a Zionist spokesman in the discussion on the Near East which was to take place as part of the centenary celebrations. Dr. Dodds had indicated that the subjects for discussion would have no relevance to the political problems of the area, but, in specifying those subjects, had omitted, presumably because of unawareness, the discussion which it had been learned was to take place on "The Arab Peoples in Their National and International Relationships."

An appropriate reply had been sent to Dr. Dodds, informing him of what was proposed.

PUBLICATION OF MUFTI'S PERSONAL FILES

It was reported that a letter had been sent to the Under Secretary of State, requesting the speedy release for publication of the files of the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, which had been captured by the American forces in Germany and Italy and which were now in the possession of the State Department.

REPORT BY MR. BERL LOCKER

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Berl Locker, member of the Executive of the Jewish Agency directing the work of the London Office, who had come to America on a brief visit.

Mr. Locker expressed his pleasure at meeting for the first time the members of the Emergency Council. In reporting on the situation in London, he stated that, while there had been a slight improvement in the atmosphere in relation to the Government, the change did not justify any far-reaching conclusions. The appointment of Mr. Creech-Jones as Colonial Secretary was undoubtedly a gain because he was both more sympathetic and better informed than his predecessor. The Foreign Office, however, was today playing the dominant role in the Palestine situation, though the general line was laid down by the Cabinet. Mr. Locker attributed to Mr. Creech-Jones the release of the Jewish Agency leaders, and emphasized that no price had been exacted in exchange for this act on the part of the Government.

He referred to the various conversations which had taken place between Jewish Agency and Government representatives and indicated that the former had spoken in very direct and forthright terms. Among the matters raised by the Government had been a demand for assistance in putting down the terror and also action to reduce illegal immigration. So far as the latter was concerned, we had indicated that we neither could nor would do anything. As concerns the terror, we had emphasized that the Agency condemned the terror but was not in a position to take direct action against the terrorists.

The Government was most anxious that we should participate in the Conference, but we had made it clear that we could not even discuss this until the Jewish Agency leaders had been released. As Mr. Locker put it, those who were free regarded themselves as morally in Latrun and to participate in a conference with the Government it was necessary that we should be on the same level with them.

Mr. Locker referred to conversations which he had had not only with Mr. Creech-Jones, but also with other Ministers. He referred, in particular, to one member of the Cabinet who believed in partition and was of the opinion that the proper procedure would be for the British Government to lay down the principle, leaving it to the Conference to work out details. He was very friendly to the Zionist cause but was, nevertheless, very irritated by the American attitude. In dealing with this, Mr. Locker had said to him that fortunately or unfortunately it was a fact that there were elections in America every two years and that it was inevitable in this connection that the Zionists should press their point of view. Regarding the charge that America stands on the sidelines and talks but does not want to help in any way, Mr. Locker had pointed out that the American Government had made various offers with regard to finance and transport and he asked the Cabinet Minister in question whether Britain really wanted American military help. The reply to this had been that if America would merely

say that she was ready to assist militarily, this would be a tremendous gain in dealing with any possibility of an Arab rising.

Mr. Locker stated that a further element in the slight change of atmosphere to which he had referred was the fact that the Government had discovered that the policy initiated on June 29 did not justify itself. They seem to have thought that if they would arrest the Jewish Agency leaders there would be an immediate outcry but that this would subside and they would then be in a position to deal with "moderates." The fact was, as he had pointed out, that the only party which had been helped were the Revisionists, while that group on which the British presumably hoped to rely had, as the votes for Congress indicated, been reduced by 50%.

The British Government was certainly very uneasy about the situation in Palestine. This was due primarily, however, not to the terror but to resistance of a united Yishuv. They had not succeeded in getting any quislings.

In referring to the attitude of Mr. Attlee, Mr. Locker said that, according to reports, he apparently regarded the Jews in Palestine as "pro-Russian," though steps have been taken to disabuse his mind of that impression.

Replying to a question about the recent statements by Mr. Churchill that Great Britain should hand the Mandate over to the United Nations if she was unable to fulfill it, Mr. Locker warned of the dangers involved should the whole issue in fact be transferred to the United Nations.

As regards the significance to be attached to the "revolt" of the sixty members of the Labor Party on issues of British foreign policy, Mr. Locker pointed out that this group included some who are by no means friendly and that it was not to be inferred that the dissidents would be helpful to the Zionist point of view.

In answer to a further question as to whether the Agency would enter the London Conference if the British Government agreed that the basis need not be the Morrison-Grady plan, but at the same time refused to commit itself to any other specific basis, Mr. Locker said that a formula for Jewish participation in the discussions had been reached in September. Since then, however, the situation had changed. The London Conference had been postponed and the Zionist Congress would now take place before the talks were resumed. It was his personal opinion that in view of the somewhat changed atmosphere we should, while rejecting any suggestion that we discuss the Morrison plan, not be too rigid in our conditions.

Replying to a question as to whether it was true that the British "Imperial Defense Committee" had taken a strong position against us, Mr. Locker said that he could not confirm that that was so, but undoubtedly the military were unfriendly.

VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES OF MR. BEVIN

Proposals were made that Mr. Bevin should be seen by a small group of Senators representing both Parties and also that such a delegation should see Mr. Byrnes. It was reported in this connection that Senator Brewster had met with Mr. Byrnes on Wednesday, November 13, and had been surprised to find that

Mr. Byrnes still apparently held the view which was his six months ago, favoring the return of the Jews of Europe to their original homes.

Certain action had already been taken to enlist the active support of Republican leaders and Dr. Silver had been in touch both with Senators Taft and Vandenberg in that connection. Senator Vandenberg expected to meet with Mr. Bevin at dinner during the week-end.

It was also reported that Mr. Acheson and Lord Iverchapel had come to New York to participate in discussions with Mr. Bevin and Mr. Byrnes.

In the circumstances, it would not be advisable to organize delegations to meet with Mr. Bevin and Mr. Byrnes but, at the same time, it would be valuable if we could obtain favorable expressions of editorial opinion at this time in the press.

BERGSON GROUP

Approval was expressed of the report in that morning's press of the condemnation broadcast by the "Voice of Israel" of the Bergson group; it was suggested that further action be taken to show, in the clearest way, that the Yishuv repudiates this body.

It was agreed that the matter be referred to the Jewish Agency.

PROPOSAL FOR STATEMENT ON WHITE PAPER BY STATE DEPARTMENT

Dr. Pekelis raised again the question of the possibility of obtaining a declaration from the State Department regarding the legality of the White Paper.

After a brief discussion, it was resolved that no action be taken upon this matter.

CONGRESS DELEGATES

Mr. Cruse referred to two checks which had been submitted to him for signature for members of the Staff to go to the Congress.

He pointed out that one of these was in respect of a member of the Staff who was going as a delegate for the Z.O.A. and, in those circumstances, he felt that the Z.O.A. should bear the expenses. He also raised the question of principle as to whether such expenditures in general should not be approved by the Committee.

The Chairman suggested that with regard to the first point, the matter should be settled between the Z.O.A. and the Finance Committee of the Emergency Council; the Chairman said, further, that he had felt it appropriate that certain members of the staff who were interested and could render a service should be invited to attend the Congress. It should be left to the Finance Committee to consider the question of the expenditures involved.

Meeting adjourned at 6:10 P.M.

A. L.