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

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

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Buxton, Frank W., 1946.

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

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

342 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.
M U r r a y H i l l 2 - 1 1 6 0

Buxton

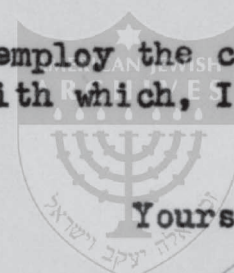

August 12, 1946

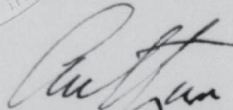
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
Mayflower Hotel
Plymouth, Mass.

Dear Dr. Silver:

I prepared a note of my conversation with Buxton,
which I enclose herewith.

I thought it better to employ the code names which
I had used when abroad and with which, I believe you are
familiar.


Yours sincerely,


Arthur Lourie

AL:Nf
Encl.

NOTE OF CONVERSATION WITH HARVEY, THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 1946, 5:30 P.M., WASHINGTON

In the course of a long talk with Harvey, he told me that following the meeting that morning Dolly had seen the Chief who had expressed his thanks for helping him to get out of a difficult situation. He stated that he was determined to have the whole Report implemented and to get moving at once with the hundred thousand. Dolly had expressed his opinion in strong terms of the spinelessness of the Grady group who, he said, had come as suppliants whereas from the very beginning the British on the Anglo-American Committee had been on the defensive vis-a-vis the American members. (In connection with the need for a sceptical approach to any problem Judge illustrated his point with a story of a conversation he had once had with Justice Holmes.)

They had been led up the garden path by the British and had given in without resistance. The President had indicated that he was becoming increasingly impatient with the British attitude and his line would be that the Report of the Anglo-American Committee must be fulfilled or else the American Government would wash its hands of the whole matter and leave it to the British to deal with on their own. The Chief had added that he was not proposing to send any more committees over to England. Next time it was for the British to send their representatives here. Harvey also stated that the President had indicated impatience with what he called the "more extreme Zionists," and had stated that unless there is some readiness on their part to agree to a reasonable solution, he will just have to give up. There was also a reference to Dr. Silver who, the Chief stated, was "playing along" with Taft.

Harvey said that Phil, very much to his surprise, for the first time had come out strongly and in very vigorous terms supported the Report of the Anglo-American Committee and protested the manner in which it was being brushed aside. Prince, also to the surprise of his fellow members, had spoken with great warmth in behalf of action on the hundred thousand and Judge had, of course, fought like a lion in behalf of his Report. Acheson, who presided with great ability, gave no indication whatever of what he had in mind. There was a reference at the conclusion of the proceedings to the issuance of a statement and Harvey had warned him that if the State Department did issue a statement which, in an effort to save the face of the Grady Committee, sought to reconcile that report in any way with that of the Anglo-American group, there would be a strong reaction on the part of all of them. Acheson was asked by Judge what his attitude should be to the many requests that were made to him to speak and write on the subject, at which point Harvey intervened and said that he would like if he might to answer first and that his advice would be to follow the words of President Coolidge and "let your conscience be your guide." Harvey indicated that Grady had been relatively subdued and that much the most vocal of the other group was Dorr, who was inclined to be legalistic and to generalize too much but for whom, nevertheless, he apparently felt some regard.

Among individual matters mentioned to me was that at the time of the announcement of the Grady plan in the press Harvey had wired Byrnes protesting the ghettoization of Palestine and he had subsequently received a reply from Acheson in which the latter had expressed the view that the criticism was not warranted and apparently seeking to support the Grady report. There was a reference to the death of Mrs. Wadsworth, and I was told that while at one

stage of their travels Judge had written to the Department expressing appreciation of Wadsworth's help, he later on found his anti-Semitism more than he could stomach and when he returned to Washington he made a point of informing the Department that in his view W was not a suitable representative of American interests to the Arabs.

Four of the members of the Committee had dinner with Proskauer on Wednesday night (Hutcheson, Buxton, McDonald and Crum). Proskauer had brought along with him a draft statement which he said he thought to issue and which proposed certain amendments for the Grady plan and sought to reconcile it with that of the Anglo-American Committee. Buxton had told him that he thought that the issuance of any such statement would be most unfortunate and McDonald had proceeded to analyze and attack the Grady proposals in a most able and eloquent fashion - so much so that the Judge had asked McDonald to repeat what he had said at the meeting the following day of the Committee, which McDonald, in fact, did. The net result was that Proskauer abandoned the idea of issuing any statement at all.

