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American Christian Palestine Committee, press releases, 1947.

BULLETIN

AMERICAN CHRISTIAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE

41 EAST 42nd STREET

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

• MURRAY HILL 2-4917 •

DEAN HOWARD M. LE SOURD
Director

REV. DR. CARL HERMANN VOSS
Chairman, Executive Council

VASIL D. FURNAD
Extension Secretary

January 1947

"OUR WORKS MUST MULTIPLY"

The New Year opens against a background of suspicion and fear with a broken world all about us. More tragic than wrecked cities and blasted civilizations are the broken vows that delay world peace. Moral and spiritual recovery must precede lasting physical recovery, for moral and spiritual recovery is the foundation of an enduring peace.

It is a fundamental moral and spiritual task to which the American Christian Palestine Committee is dedicated. Until the pledge is kept and the breach healed; until Palestine is reopened to the Jew, the Christian must have an uneasy conscience. Until then he will cry, "Peace, peace," where there is no peace.

The only answer to fear is faith, but faith without works is dead. If this New Year is to be decisive for our cause, then our activities as a Committee must greatly increase. If our faith is justified, then our works must multiply.

The Children's Memorial Forest in Palestine is a unique project. Already it has captured the imagination of Christians, young and old. Elsewhere I have written: "The One whom we worship as Savior and Lord was a Jew who loved the hills and valleys, the streams and trees and all living things of his native land." Our Children's Memorial project will help restore the now barren wastes of Palestine, the native land of Jesus, to its ancient beauty and glory.

It will bless the people who live and toil where Jesus taught and ministered. But, even more important, it will enrich our own lives and give to us, and through us, in some measure at least, to a broken world, the peace of Him whom we worship and serve.

Daniel A. Foling

THE TWENTY-SECOND ZIONIST CONGRESS

Since 1897, when Theodor Herzl convened the first World Zionist Congress in Basle, Switzerland, every Zionist Congress has been an historic event in Jewish life and in the development of the Jewish

national movement. But the Twenty-second Congress, which has just come to a close in Basle, was by far the most tragic and decisive one in many years of Zionist history.

For its background, the Congress had the graves of six million Jews tortured to death by the Nazis; hundreds of thousands of suffering survivors held in the DP camps and denied by Britain the right to go to their national home; daily bloodshed in Palestine; and the constant deterioration of Jewish-British relations both on the level of daily life in Palestine and of politico-diplomatic negotiations regarding the solution of the Palestine problem.

Surprising as it may seem, the Twenty-second Zionist Congress, however, was not a gathering of despair or of helplessness. It gave expression to new hope, new life and new determination. The necessity for the realization of the Zionist ideal of Jewish nationhood was more evident than ever before and their resolutions and their newly-elected leadership were dictated by that all-consuming objective.

There were three elements represented at the Congress which warranted a hopeful outlook with regard to the future. The first were the Jews of Palestine -- strong, alert, keenly conscious of their responsibilities, deeply devoted to the cause of statehood. The accomplishments of Jewish colonization in Palestine, despite all the hindrances of the mandatory power, were an inexhaustible source of pride and strength.

The second element of strength and hope -- unbelievable as it may sound -- was provided by the DPs in Europe. They, through their delegates at the Congress and through telegrams and letters to the leaders of Zionism, insisted on an uncompromising stand with regard to the political issues in Zionism. They did not ask the Congress to sacrifice the historic aims of Zionism for the sake of their speedy salvation.

Last but not least was American Jewry, which for the first time in Zionist history assumed an important role in political guidance and leadership. The American delegation to the Congress proved to be a tower of strength, representing as they did the largest group of Zionists in the world today, and backed by an American Christian public opinion that insists on a just and early solution to this problem.

The members of the American Christian Palestine Committee can take new confidence that the ideals and principles for which we have stood will be realized.

NATIONAL LEADERS ENTHUSIASTICALLY ENDORSE
CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL FOREST PROJECT

The planting of a Children's Memorial Forest in Palestine, in the vicinity of Nazareth, announced in the November Bulletin as a project for all American Christian Palestine Committee chapters in the coming year, has already received the enthusiastic endorsement and support of many nationally-known religious and civic leaders.

Among the names on our very distinguished list are those of Bishop Sherrill, Presiding Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church; Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, former President of the Federal Council of the Churches

of Christ in America; Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt; Mr. Harold Stassen, President of the International Council of Religious Education; Dr. Ralph Sockman, Minister of Christ Methodist Church in New York City; Bishop Stevens of Los Angeles; Mr. Harold Ickes; Mr. Alfred Landon; Dean Raimundo de Ovies of Atlanta, Georgia; Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt; Dr. Daniel A. Poling; Dr. Walter Clay Lowdermilk, U. S. Department of Agriculture; Dr. Norman V. Peale of New York; and Dr. Edward Hughes Pruden of Washington, D. C.

In their statements each of them sees a different aspect of the value of this project:

Bishop Sherrill sees the Children's Memorial Forest as a symbol of "the fertility of the soil, the sacredness of childhood, the supreme value of human personality, and the brotherhood of man."

Mrs. Roosevelt calls it "a testimonial to our faith in a new world in which all children may henceforth live in freedom from fear and want."

Bishop Oxnham believes it "is not only an expression of sympathy, but a condemnation of anti-Semitism everywhere. . . , and stands as a testimony to Christian good will."

Harold Stassen states that "as Christian children participate in the Children's Memorial Forest, they will develop a new appreciation of the meaning of international cooperation and world brotherhood."

Dr. Lowdermilk confirms the intense practicality of this project by saying, "Reclamation and restoration by Jewish colonization of old damaged lands in Palestine is a miracle of modern times. A Children's Memorial Forest will increase the productivity of the Holy Land."

Since the original announcement of the project, plans have been laid for special events and coordinated activities to be implemented by our chapters throughout the country. A most impressive public announcement of the project is to take place toward the end of January, by which time local organization should be completed. All chapter and regional executives are urged to appoint their sub-committees if that has not yet been done. The brochure giving complete details of the project is on the presses and will be on its way to you shortly.

The responsibility for making the Children's Memorial Forest a reality must fall on our local chapters. You alone can build the forest.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD, 1947

A Few of the Reasons Why There Must Be a Jewish Homeland in Palestine

Maytin Meyer, German mayor of Oberammingen, participated in anti-Semitic riot shouting "Death to the Jews" and "Long live Hitler." Twelve Jews were killed and seven wounded when ambushed by anti-Semitic band near Polish-

Czechoslovak border. . .Anti-Jewish demonstrations by Italians in the town of Nardo. . .Hungarian President, Zoltan Tildy, alarmed by anti-Jewish outbreaks, urges country to crush anti-Semitism. . .Anti-Semitic terrorists set fire on Friday night to the orthodox synagogue at Mako, Hungary. . . Several Jews wounded during anti-Jewish outbreaks in the former German city of Stettin. . .Anti-Semitic propaganda disseminated in public schools in Bolivia. . .Attacks made against Jewish stores and offices in Bogota, Columbia. . .A Jewish cemetery at Hamburg was invaded by unknown vandals who broke and overturned tombstones. . .Two more synagogues have been desecrated by anti-Semitic vandals in Southern Transylvania. . .

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VISUAL AIDS IN OUR WORK

A Filmstrip on Palestine

A 35 mm. filmstrip composed of 56 pictures taken in Palestine recently, and accompanied with an appropriate script, is at the disposal of ACPC chapters and other interested organizations and groups. Reading time 30 minutes. There is no charge for limited use. Organizations wishing to own one should send \$1.00 with their order.

Four Films on Palestine

ACPC chapters, churches and interested organizations can obtain one of four different films on Palestine for showing on a specified date. Early ordering is essential. The films: Land of Promise; A Pass to Tomorrow; A Day in Daganian; Home are the Hunted. All of these require a 16 mm. projector wired for sound. Write for description of contents.

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PRESS RELEASE

AMERICAN CHRISTIAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE

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• MURRAY HILL 2-4917 •

This organization combines the American Palestine Committee and the Christian Council on Palestine, and continues the work of both organizations.

FOR RELEASE:
TUESDAY, JANUARY 21

DEAN ALFANGE MAKES DISCLOSURES OF ARAB PRO-AXIS

ACTIVITIES DURING WORLD WAR II

- - - - -

NOTED POLITICAL FIGURE CITES NEW BROCHURE: "THE ARAB WAR EFFORT"

WHICH CONTAINS SECRET BRITISH INTELLIGENCE

REPORTS TYING IN ARAB LEADERS WITH AXIS INTERESTS

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New York, Jan. 21 -- Dean Alfange, Chairman of the American Christian Palestine Committee of New York, announced today that the Committee has inaugurated a nation-wide campaign to create an "awareness on the part of the American people of the imminent dangers and anti-democratic implications of the British policy of appeasement toward the Arab world whose present leaders were among Hitler's most fanatic supporters during the war."

The campaign was launched with the release and publication today of a 48-page brochure entitled "The Arab War Effort," which is supplemented by documents selected from official British Intelligence reports as well as German, Italian and Arab documents.

The brochure exposes the pro-Nazi antecedents of the present leaders of the Arab League and of Arab States, now full-fledged members of the United Nations. Among them are Dr. Fadhil al Jamali, President of the Arab League, and Foreign Minister of Iraq who, Mr. Alfange said, "prepared the ground for the pro-Nazi Iraq revolt of 1941 which threatened to cut off communications

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and supplies in the Middle East in the most critical days of the war."

Prominently featured in "The Arab War Effort" were the wartime Axis activities of the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, Haj Amin al Husseini, who inspired the Iraq pro-Axis revolt of 1941, recruited an Arab division to fight the Russians in Yugoslavia, and made anti-Allied broadcasts from Rome and Berlin.

Mr. Alfange specifically cited a hitherto unknown radio speech directed by the ex-Mufti to Arabs in the United States. He quoted an extract from this broadcast as follows: "I want to draw the attention of the Arab emigrants in America to this fact, reminding them of their glorious past when they supported the National movement. I would also like to remind them that their efforts will be wasted, if God forbid, America and her Allies may be victorious in this War because at such a time the Arabs will never rise again. I therefore know that those Arab emigrants in America will refrain from helping Roosevelt or taking part in a war which he brought on to his country."

Mr. Alfange also pointed out that Azzam Pasha, present secretary of the Arab League, had been considered a "persona non grata" by British military authorities in Egypt in 1941, and was held in suspect for allowing pro-Axis intelligence to filter out of Egypt through the agency of the diplomatic mail-pouch.

The New York political leader quoted a British Intelligence Report in establishing the connections of Jamal al Husseini with the ex-Mufti and his role in the Iraq revolt of 1941. Mr. Alfange stated that Jamal al Husseini was presently in London where he is head of the Palestinian Arab delegation which will participate in the London Conference on Palestine.

Listed in the indictments of the 48-page brochure were: Shukri Kuwatli, now President of the Syrian Republic who supported the pro-Axis uprising in Syria during the war; King Farouk of Egypt who sent a telegram of congratulations to the leaders of the anti-British Iraq Rebellion and many other Arab leaders

(more)

who are now Ministers of State and high functionaries in Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

Mr. Alfange charged that "Great Britain is pursuing a policy of collaboration and appeasement toward those Moslem leaders whom she heretofore indicted as the enemies of freedom. Britain is implementing that policy by openly arming Moslem States such as Saudi Arabia as well as irresponsible Arab military organizations in Palestine whose aim is to decimate the Jewish population and destroy Zionism which is the only genuinely democratic movement in the Middle East. This policy is a callous repudiation of democratic ideals in the interest of old fashioned imperialism and is fraught with grave dangers to the peace of the world."

"We intend to place this revealing brochure in the hands of every member of Congress and every member of the United Nations Security Council and Assembly," Mr. Alfange declared. "The record it presents should make the Governments of the western democracies to reconsider very carefully their course of action in the Middle East. We cannot afford to follow the barren and perilous line of appeasement and reaction in this most critical nerve center in the world. The former friends of Hitler who now piously pose as friends of democracy must be placed on probation and our help extended to those who fought loyally on our side for the cause of freedom."

"I was amazed by the disclosure that students attending the American University of Beirut -- the pride and joy of our State Department -- were involved in active support of the Axis war effort. During the early years of the war, students at this American-financed university informed the Lebanese government of their desire to form a fighting unit for the Axis. Even as late as 1943 espionage on behalf of Germany was being carried on at the American University by Syrian, Lebanese and Palestinian-Arab students. Some of the students were subsequently executed by the British Military," he declared.

"The issue at hand," Mr. Alfange said, "bears directly on the total struggle for democratic survival. The loss of a battle for freedom anywhere may mean the loss of the war for freedom everywhere. We want the American public to know the facts of this ugly situation and all that they imply. The avowed aim of our campaign is to induce our Government openly to oppose the British policy of appeasement of Arab States and leaders and actively to support the Zionist movement for a free Jewish Palestine which offers the only hope of democracy in the Middle East."

#272 - 1/20/47



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March 1947

AMERICA IN THE MIDDLE EAST

We have received the following memorandum, which discusses America's new role in the Middle East and its relation to the Palestine issue. It is of such importance that we are passing it on to you in full:

M E M O R A N D U M

It would seem that the failure of the U. S. Government to make any progress on the Palestine issue stems largely from the habit of treating this issue as an isolated problem, wholly apart from the rest of the Anglo-American relations and of Near-Eastern problems. The British Government is naturally aware of this tendency and therefore proceeds on the assumption that British intransigence in the matter of Palestine will have no serious repercussions and will in no wise affect its position vis-a-vis the United States in any of the many issues in which they seek American assistance or support. This, more than anything else, explains British obstinacy.

It appears likely that American efforts in the matter of Palestine will remain ineffective and fruitless unless and until the Department of State decides to include this matter as one of its objectives in the give-and-take negotiations which it conducts with Britain and other countries. This is a natural and normal procedure in international relations.

Countless opportunities of this nature have been neglected in the past. To mention but three; important concessions might have been obtained from Arab States, quite amicably, on a quid pro quo basis at the time when these States were trying to get on the band-wagon of the Western Allies, in the last year of the war. Concessions from the British Government might have been obtained on a quid pro quo basis when Britain desired American acquiescence, in the United Nations and otherwise, in the "independence" of Trans-jordania. And British agreement to open Palestine for the immigration of the displaced Jews of Europe might again have been obtained at the time when Britain was anxious for an American loan to help her in her own rehabilitation. No advantage was taken of these opportunities, or of any similar opportunities in the past.

A new opportunity for such a give-and-take approach has arisen now in view of the effort of the British Government to get the United States to shoulder foreign commitments in the Near East, hitherto borne by the British Empire. These requests are based on the idea that such American action is necessary to assure international stability in the general as well as in the American interest. Assuming this to be the case, it is nevertheless true that the American action requested would in the first place serve to lighten Britain's burden while safeguarding Britain's interests. Furthermore, the

economic support to be granted by the United States to those countries would, through the trade and currency arrangements existing between those countries and Great Britain, become an important source of dollar exchange for Great Britain and thus directly contribute to the economic rehabilitation of Britain. The contemplated American subsidies (the term "loan" can hardly be seriously applied to these transactions) would, in effect, amount to a further indirect loan to Britain, which, for obvious reasons, the British Government is now reluctant to request directly.

In view of this, it seems entirely appropriate that the United States Government link the Palestine question with these current negotiations. This is the more appropriate since the commitments which America is asked to undertake relate to the Near East. As has been pointed out in the press, by Walter Lippman and others, the problems of the Near East are very intimately inter-related, and the American Government should not be content to deal with them piece-meal. It is not reasonable to ask our Government to take a decisive hand in stabilizing the situation in one part of that area while at the same time being compelled to tolerate in another part of the same area a state of affairs which it regards as deeply unsatisfactory.

If America is become active in the Near East, it should do so on its own terms and in accordance with its own policies and not merely as an adjunct of British policies. And if such a course is to involve the United States in Greece or Turkey, it certainly should include a satisfactory solution of the question of Palestine, a country in which the United States Government has an interest of long standing.

Viewed in this light, it is simply unthinkable that at a time when America is asked to contribute materially to international stabilization, Britain should continue to interpose obstacles to a just solution of the Palestine problem. It is remarkable, also, that in her appeal to America Britain should plead poverty and the burden involved in maintaining 10,000 troops in Greece, while spending \$160,000,000 annually to keep 100,000 men mobilized in Palestine for the purpose of enforcing a policy in defiance of international law. In view of the growing dependence of Great Britain on American financial aid, it is no exaggeration to say that America is helping to finance the vast military establishment in Palestine and the military repression of its population.

Should the United States Government raise the Palestine issue in this context -- and in view of the new commitments we are expected to make, -- it is reasonable to believe that the British Government will prove far more amenable than heretofore.

The recent British gesture in referring the Palestine question to the United Nations does not affect the validity of this argument. It is no more than a gesture for the moment. The British decision is so vague, unaccompanied by any concrete proposals, and so carefully avoids committing Britain to abide by any decisions of the United Nations, that it amounts hardly to more than another delaying maneuver -- a repetition of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on a wider international scale. In the circumstances, our Government refused to become party to any United Nations inquiry pending clarification of the British position. Essentially, the issue remains one which has to be cleared with Britain directly, and in doing this the approach suggested above may prove effective.

ENCOURAGING DEMOCRACY AROUND THE WORLD

A statement by Dr. Philip Weltner
President of Oglethorpe University

Speaking on March 13th before the Seminar of the Atlanta Christian Palestine Committee, of which he is Chairman, Dr. Weltner dwelt on the significance of the new policy urged by President Truman, pointing especially to its bearing upon the Palestine problem. Following are excerpts from Dr. Weltner's address:

"Perhaps the most portentous statement ever delivered in our time was President Truman's message yesterday before Congress and the world in regard to Turkey and Greece. As a people it brings us to another crossroad in our history. It may be too early to express anything like a conclusive judgment of our President's proposal but this much should be clear: Greece is the threshold and Turkey is actually a part of the Near East, of which Palestine is the heart.

"We will be unable to maintain democracy at home unless we are prepared to encourage democracy throughout the world. It should be all or nothing -- and if it is not all, it will be nothing. It seems to me that this is the issue.

"In this hour of Britain's travail it hardly seems becoming to throw stones. We Americans, on the contrary, have shown every disposition to help, but our help should be given on terms consistent with our purpose to aid democracy everywhere. So it does become pertinent to raise the question: If we ease the burden of Great Britain in Turkey and Greece, will she become more repressive in her attitude towards Jewish aspirations in Palestine? It is not out of order to call attention to the fact that her garrisons in Palestine are many times the number of soldiers she presently maintains in Greece.

"Time after time America has manifested its deep concern for the right of Jews to establish themselves in the land of their fathers. We associated ourselves with Great Britain in approving her Mandate, the cardinal obligation of which was that she encourage immigration of Jews into Palestine. Unfortunately she has turned her back on this promise. We are and ought to be concerned that help to Greece and Turkey will not result in further frustration to helpless thousands of homeless Jews in Europe, whose eyes look with longing to Palestine as their last and only hope."

REPORT ON PROGRESS

The Children's Memorial Forest project is taking root all over the country. Churches, Sunday Schools, Women's Clubs and other groups have pledged their cooperation and are now engaged in implementing the project in their communities.

Our Washington, Chicago and New England chapters of the American Christian Palestine Committee are doing a wonderful job of putting the "Washington Plan" in action. They have sent out letters on the project to every church, Sunday School, Women's Club and leading youth group in the community; they have secured local radio time and have presented Radio Script No. 1 on the Forest project; they have set quotas for groves in the name of their city and are working to fulfill them; they have in each case appointed two outstanding children under sixteen years of age as co-chairmen of the project in their city. What is your chapter doing to implement this project?

We will be glad to send you copies of sample letters for various groups in your community, and any other material you need. Just write and let us know what you are doing, what you require to implement the project in your city, and what you have collected to date!

A fifteen-minute recording of the Children's Memorial Forest luncheon at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington is now available for use on local radio stations. The recording includes addresses by the Hon. Clinton P. Anderson, Secretary of Agriculture, and Co-Chairmen 12-year old Joyce Van Patten and 14-year old Richard Tyler. It presents every aspect of the project with a rare combination of dignity and charm. We urge every Chairman to secure 15 minutes of radio time on a local station for the presentation of this transcription. All references to the local Washington campaign have been deleted and two minutes are free for introduction and local appeal. The number of copies of this recording is limited, so we urge you to let us know as soon as possible and well in advance when you would like to use the recording in your city, so that we may schedule the circulation of the records. The recording may also be used as program material for a local meeting. For this purpose, it will be necessary to hire a play-back machine...which can be done at nominal cost.

The Questions and Answers on the Children's Memorial Forest which follow, have been compiled as material supplementary to our brochure on the project. They are designed to cover more fully the practical aspects and importance of this work. Mimeographed copies are available on request.

Questions and Answers
on the
Children's Memorial Forest in Palestine

- 1 - Will the Children's Memorial Forest in Palestine do anything more than memorialize the untimely dead?

As a tree-planting project, the Children's Memorial Forest, in the very act of memorializing the dead, helps to provide for an urgent need of the living...the need for a home, for security, for a chance at a decent productive life.

- 2 - How does tree-planting in Palestine help to provide a home for the survivors?

Tree-planting in Palestine is a vital part of the program of land redemption. It is with the aid of trees that vast areas of Palestine's neglected arid soil have been reclaimed to productivity. Trees hold down the top soil and prevent soil erosion; they give and retain moisture for the soil. They make agricultural communities of areas that were malarial swamps. In very practical terms, this land redemption program has already provided a home and a livelihood for thousands of Jewish children rescued from concentration camps in Europe. It has set them on the path toward happy fruitful lives, far removed from the ghastly terrors of gas chambers and torture cells.

The whole program of land redemption was started several years ago by the Jewish pioneers in Palestine. It is a continuing process, which bears fruit every day. It constantly increases the absorptive capacity of the land, and it is "absorptive capacity" which is a determining factor in fixing immigration quotas. Vast areas of Palestine have already been reclaimed to make a home for many of Hitler's survivors, but much remains to be done. Every acre of land yet to be reclaimed requires trees to do the job.

- 3 - Why plant trees when people are starving and in need of clothing?

Two years after their so-called "liberation," thousands of people are still living like cattle in Displaced Persons Camps. There are many agencies now working to satisfy the needs of these desperate people for food and clothing. Their needs go further than food and clothing. We believe that their need for a home is urgent as well, and through this project we are looking to their need for a home, and security.

We feel that our project really fits into a well-integrated program for rescue and rehabilitation, which is being carried on by many different agencies. In our great concern for the needs of the moment, we must keep in sight the need for providing for the future of these survivors. Along with food and clothing, it is incumbent upon us to support the program of land redemption started years ago by the Jewish pioneers whose foresight and "long range planning" is now providing a home in Palestine for more and more of the rescued each day.

The Atlanta Seminar on March 13 set a new pattern for educational work in the cities of the country. Its success was demonstrated first by the interest and participation of those attending, and second by the fact that, of the non-members present, eighty joined the American Christian Palestine Committee.

The Seminar sessions, held at the Biltmore Hotel, opened at 11:30 A.M. with the motion picture Home Are the Hunted, which presents very effectively and realistically the almost unbelievable transformation that has taken place in Palestine as a result of Jewish initiative and hard work. There followed a talk by Mrs. Alisa Klausner Eskol, a native Palestinian, who also answered questions concerning the Jewish Homeland.

Luncheon was served by 12:30 P.M., after which there was an illuminating presentation of the current situation concerning Palestine by the Chairman, Dr. Philip Weltner, President of Oglethorpe University. The panel discussion that ensued was opened by Dr. Carl Hermann Voss, with Dean Raimund de Ovies, Mrs. Eskol and Dean Howard M. LeSourd participating. This session closed promptly at three o'clock.

Elsewhere in the Biltmore Hotel a Women's Meeting and Tea opened at 3:00 P.M., addressed by Dr. Carl Hermann Voss, Mrs. Howard M. LeSourd and Mrs. Eskol. Following these short talks the meeting was thrown open for general discussion.

There was a total attendance during the day of about 250 people who were thoroughly representative of the leadership of Atlanta.

Through Seminars similar to this one the American Christian Palestine Committee can render most effective service in the various communities of the country.

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PRESS RELEASE

3/13/47
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

U. S. AID TO GREECE AND TURKEY MUST NOT RESULT IN FURTHER
BRITISH REPRESSION OF JEWISH PALESTINE, WARNS DR. PHILIP WELTNER,
PRESIDENT OF OGLETHORPE UNIVERSITY

- - - - -

DECLARES AT CONFERENCE OF ATLANTA CHRISTIAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE
THAT U. S. HELP TO BRITAIN MUST BE ON TERMS CONSISTENT
WITH OUR PURPOSE TO AID DEMOCRACY EVERYWHERE

- - - - -

Atlanta, Ga., March 13 -- Dr. Philip Weltner, President of Oglethorpe University, declared today that United States help to Britain in regard to Greece and Turkey "should be given on terms consistent with our purpose to aid democracy everywhere," and that "we ought to be concerned that help to Greece and Turkey will not result in further frustration to helpless thousands of homeless Jews in Europe whose eyes look with longing to Palestine as their last and only hope."

Speaking in the Hotel Biltmore at the Conference of the Atlanta Christian Palestine Committee, of which he is chairman, Dr. Weltner said that it now becomes pertinent to raise the question: "If we ease the burden on Great Britain in Turkey and Greece, will she become more repressive in her attitude towards Jewish aspirations in Palestine? It is not out of order to call attention to the fact that her garrisons in Palestine are many times the number of soldiers she presently maintains in Greece."

Pointing out that "perhaps the most portentous statement ever delivered in our time was President Truman's message yesterday before Congress and the world

(more)

in regard to Turkey and Greece," Dr. Weltner said, "Greece is the threshold and Turkey is actually a part of the Near East, of which Palestine is the heart. We will be be unable to maintain democracy at home unless we are prepared to encourage democracy throughout the world. It should be all or nothing -- and if it is not all, it will be nothing. It seems to me that this is the issue."

Other speakers at the Atlanta Conference included Dean Raimundo de Ovies, Pastor of St. Philip's Cathedral of Atlanta; Dr. Carl Hermann Voss, Extension Secretary of the Church Peace Union and of the World Alliance for Friendship Through the Churches; Dr. Howard M. LeSourd, Dean of the Graduate School of Boston University; Mrs. Howard M. LeSourd, President of the Women's Professional Club of Boston; and Alisa Klausner Eskol, Palestinian educator.

Following are excerpts from Dr. Weltner's address:

"Perhaps the most portentous statement ever delivered in our time was President Truman's message yesterday before Congress and the world in regard to Turkey and Greece. As a people it brings us to another crossroad in our history. It may be too early to express anything like a conclusive judgment of our President's proposal but this much should be clear: Greece is the threshold and Turkey is actually a part of the Near East, of which Palestine is the heart.

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April 1947

IT FIRES THE IMAGINATION

For some years, our church has been taking a special interest in the need for improved Jewish-Christian relations. That means that we are not only preaching sermons on and making general references to Jewish affairs, such as Jewish holidays and special festivals, or distributing literature, exhibiting posters, etc., but that we are developing particular projects, both in the church at large and in the church school, that deal with the larger problem of Jewish-Christian understanding. The cause of Palestine has been very close to our hearts; and any opportunity to make clearer to us our great debt to Judaism, and the unique present occasion to redeem that debt, stirs us to new efforts in this direction.

We have found it easy, for instance, to make the cause of Zionism fascinating for certain groups in the church school as well as for our Youth group. There is about the whole idea of Zionism something that just naturally appeals to children and to youth, especially when this subject is presented by teachers that are at once well informed and enthusiastic, not to speak of the aid we find in adequate visual material, especially in good pictures and maps.

This year, we have three specific causes that will give us plenty to do: 1) The United Jewish Appeal, upon which so much of Jewish hope for security both inside and outside of Palestine depends. 2) "Children to Palestine," which needs little more than its own story and a few of its pathetic pictures to stimulate interest and the desire to help. 3) And finally, the Children's Memorial Forest project. The planting of trees has its own fascination for children, and our little ones and young folks are no exception. It will be our special task to bring this colorful enterprise to the attention of as many children and young folks as we can reach, and we hope that when the Children's Memorial Forest is a reality, the children of Brooklyn may have a proud share in its glory.

May I in closing urge my colleagues in the ministry to utilize especially the resources of their church schools and youth groups in furthering the aims of Zionism. I know of few causes that so easily fire the imagination and arouse youthful fervor and loyalty as does this one; and I know of no better place than the church school for the training of Christian Zionists that may someday -- and I pray this day may not be too far off -- vindicate Christianity not only in the eyes of its Jewish friends but in the eyes of history as well.

Karl M. Chworowsky, Minister
Fourth Unitarian Church
of Brooklyn, New York

A FORCE UNUSED

Christian friends of Zionism and pioneers of the cause of Palestine are keenly aware of the heavy obstacles against which Zionists have struggled for years, battling the will of an empire and the inertia of a self-absorbed world public opinion.

The prospect of another "investigation" of the Palestine issue, this time by the UN, and possibly another long period of waiting and indecision, adds a deep shadow to an overcast sky. It is with that feeling that Mrs. W. C. Lowdermilk, well known to Christian and Zionist audiences throughout the country, writes to us:

"The final crisis is at hand. Time is so short, the cause is so righteous and the enemies so numerous and so vocal that only God can give the victory. Most compelling to me is the conviction that nothing but prayer can bring victory in the United Nations Assembly. United Prayer and Faith is the most powerful instrument ever entrusted to man, and the one least used. Our combined prayers must support our best hopes. Let the word go to the faithful in Australia, New Zealand, South America, Mexico, Canada, The United States, Palestine as well as the inmates of the DP camps, to use their energy to combine in an overwhelming volume of prayer to God for whatever is necessary for victory in the United Nations Assembly, as was done in the Court of the Persian King in the time of Queen Esther. NOTHING LIMITS GOD BUT OUR OWN LIMITED FAITH."

REPORT ON CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL FOREST ACTIVITIES

Greater New York: There will be concentrated activity in churches throughout this area during the month of May, highlighting the "Memorial Season" between Mother's Day and Decoration Day. Sunday, May 18th, is being set aside in many churches for the Children's Memorial Forest.

The project has been endorsed by the Board of Religious Education of the Episcopal Diocese of New York and is being activated in all the parishes of the Diocese.

Chicago: The Church Federation of Greater Chicago has endorsed the project and is activating it in all its churches and religious schools.

Nevada: In Reno, the Ministerial Association, Church Schools, Y.W.C.A.'s and P.T.A.'s are introducing the project in connection with their observance of "Flower Day" on May 1st.

Washington, D. C.: Following mailings to all churches, Women's Clubs, schools and youth groups, activity is under way throughout the city in behalf of the project. The project has the backing of the Washington Federation of Churches. Two radio programs on the Forest have already been presented. Boy's Clubs of Washington have made the Forest one of their projects and are getting the participation of all members.

Boston and New England: Here, too, extensive mailings have been carried out, with the result that innumerable Church Schools, Youth Councils and other groups in communities throughout New England have announced their desire to participate in the project. In some small church communities, the participation has been 100%, as for instance in Peterborough, New Hampshire, where the Easter Sunday collection was devoted to the Children's Memorial Forest in Palestine, and every single child contributed toward the purchase of trees.

Dayton, Ohio: Many churches and church schools are participating in the project and buying goodly numbers of trees in the names of their schools.

Atlanta, Georgia: Has plans for a large post-Lent promotion of the project in action.

Space does not permit our telling of the activities of every Chapter, but these brief highlights are indicative of work being carried out in many communities throughout the country. Our success to date is due to the work of many of our leaders, who have been putting the Washington Plan in action. There are still some, however, who have not been heard from. If you are one of these, won't you write and let us know how we can help you implement the project in your community?

NEWS INDEED

Jerusalem, March 26. The Palestine Government announced today that it has prohibited the circulation in the country of a pamphlet entitled "The Arab War Effort," issued by the American Christian Palestine Committee in New York. The pamphlet described the aid given the Axis by several of the Arab states.

Subsequent information from Palestine explains that decision as dictated by the desire to avoid ill feelings. If our documented account is to prove the starting point for the promotion by the British authorities of good feelings between Jews and Arabs, all the labor that went into it is more than justified. It should be pointed out in this connection that the documents reproduced in our pamphlet are not the first ones to be suppressed in Palestine. There are two other very notable ones: The Balfour Declaration and the Mandate.

WE RECOMMEND HIGHLY

BEHIND THE SILKEN CURTAIN by Bartley C. Crum, Simon and Schuster, New York City. Price \$3.00

The scene that meets our eyes as the silken curtain is raised cannot be easily forgotten. Revealed here is secret diplomacy in all its ugliness and destructive power. Whispered statements are now magnified for all the world to hear. The story behind the story makes many a man of power squirm under the floodlights. Side by side with all of this, there is a wealth of first-hand information bearing on the Palestine question. We sit together with the members of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine, and hear a fascinating testimony. This book will take an honored place among the writings of men who serve the truth.

UNDERGROUND TO PALESTINE by reporter I. F. Stone, Boni and Gaer, New York City.
Price \$2.50

One returns to everyday life upon reading this book as if waking up from a nightmare, still hearing the words of the miserables aboard the Beria: "We can go no further. We have wandered enough." The book is a day by day account of a journey with groups of Jews from every country in Europe fleeing at night across dangerous frontiers and blockaded seas, dragging in a bundle a few remnants of a shattered past -- a faded photograph of dear ones perished in the gas chambers, little bits from a burnt home, and carrying upon their bodies the tattooed numbers of the death camps. Men and women living with but one hope -- "Eretz Israel" -- the only promise of a new life among people bound to them by love.

PROMISED LAND by Ellen Thorbecke, Harper, New York City.
Price \$3.50

This is a unique book, artistically unmatched by any other. The author, wife of Dr. W. J. R. Thorbecke, former Netherlands Minister to China, has written with love, understanding, a thorough knowledge of Palestine and a keen eye for beauty. Promised Land is equally suited to the layman who wishes to see as well as to read, and the student who is interested in comprehensive data and statistics. The book abounds with lovely pictures and valuable charts. It divides naturally into four sections: Ancient Palestine, New Palestine, Laboratory of the Future, Rebirth. A "must" for anyone interested in the land of the Patriarchs and the Chalutzim.

PALESTINE: REALITIES AND ILLUSIONS by Eliahu Ben-Horin, The Atlantic -- April 1947 -- an able reply to Professor Stace's article "The Zionist Illusion" which appeared in the February issue of the same magazine.

"It is true that against the background of Arab backwardness and neglect, present-day Jewish Palestine may seem like a mirage in the desert. This is about the only illusory feature one can detect in Jewish Palestine and in Zionism."

PRESS RELEASE

AMERICAN CHRISTIAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE

41 EAST 42nd STREET

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

• MURRAY HILL 2-4917 •

This organization combines the American Palestine Committee and the Christian Council on Palestine, and continues the work of both organizations.

W103
4/1/47
FOR RELEASE: TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 1947

DEAN ALFANGE ASSAILS BRITISH BAN OF AMERICAN PAMPHLET IN PALESTINE

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CHAIRMAN OF AMERICAN CHRISTIAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE OF GREATER NEW YORK

CHARGES BARRING OF "THE ARAB WAR EFFORT" IS FURTHER EXAMPLE

OF BRITISH APPEASEMENT POLICY

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New York, April 1—The recently-announced ban by Palestine British authorities of "The Arab War Effort," an expose of Arab pro-Axis activities during World War II, was assailed today as a further example of the "British policy of appeasing the most reactionary elements in the Middle East" by Dean Alfange, Chairman of the American Christian Palestine Committee of Greater New York.

Mr. Alfange also charged that "Britain was suppressing American opinion favorable to the Jewish cause and while permitting and encouraging the circulation of anti-Zionist propaganda."

"The Arab War Effort" was published in January of this year by the American Christian Palestine Committee and contains a preface by Mr. Alfange. The banned booklet reviews the activities of Arab leaders during the war, and points out that Azzam Pasha, now Secretary-General of the Arab League, had been considered "persona non grata" by British military officials in Egypt in 1941, and was suspected of having allowed pro-Axis intelligence to filter out of the country. Other prominent Arabs dealt with in the pamphlet include Shukri Kuwatli, now President of Syria who supported pro-Axis uprisings during the war; King Farouk

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of Egypt, who congratulated the leaders of the pro-Axis revolt in Iraq; Dr. Fadhil al Jamali, Foreign Minister of Iraq and leader of the Arab League, who prepared the ground-work for the Iraq revolt, and the ex-Mufti, Haj Amin al Husseini, close associate of Hitler in Berlin.

The full text of Mr. Alfange's statement follows:

"The British ban placed upon 'The Arab War Effort' -- a booklet which reveals the pro-Axis activities during World War II of Arab leaders, some of whom now head the Arab League -- is further evidence that Britain is bent on continuing her policy of appeasing the most reactionary elements in the Middle East.

"On January 21, 1947, the British Palestine Government suppressed an interview of mine with the American press on the occasion of the publication of 'The Arab War Effort.' At that time I charged that Britain was suppressing American opinion favorable to the Jewish cause, while permitting and encouraging the circulation of anti-Zionist propaganda. The ban now imposed on 'The Arab War Effort,' and on writings by other Americans, substantiates these charges.

"The Palestine issue has direct bearing upon the struggle for democratic survival everywhere. The loss of a battle for freedom in any part of the world may mean the loss of the fight for freedom everywhere. Thus the banning of 'The Arab War Effort' by the British in Palestine is a matter of vital concern for all who believe that the people of the world have a right to know the facts, and such censorship is a detestable example of an evil which we fought to destroy."

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE URGES PRESIDENT TRUMAN TO INSTRUCT

U. S. DELEGATES TO U.N. TO SUPPORT

"ESTABLISHED AMERICAN POLICY ON PALESTINE" AT SPECIAL SESSION

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MEMPHIS GROUP ALSO CALLS FOR INTERIM POLICY THAT WILL INSURE IMMEDIATE

LARGE-SCALE JEWISH IMMIGRATION INTO PALESTINE

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Memphis, Tenn., April 15 -- Christian leaders of this city today wired President Truman and Acting Secretary of State Acheson to direct U. S. Delegates to the April 28th Special Palestine Session of the U.N. General Assembly to act in accordance with "established American policy on Palestine."

The prominent spokesmen, meeting in a Seminar of the American Christian Palestine Committee, defined American policy on Palestine as that "expressed by Congressional Resolutions, in the Anglo-American Convention of 1924, by endorsements of all Presidents since Woodrow Wilson, in the platforms of both political parties and by American acceptance of the recommendations for immediate action of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry."

The Memphis leaders, headed by former U. S. Representative Walter Chandler and Rev. Marshall Wingfield, also urged that the American delegation to the U.N. "press for the implementation of an interim policy to insure the entry into Palestine of at least 100,000 unfortunate refugees, who are part of a much larger number now living in detention camps and displaced persons' centers in Europe and on Cyprus."

(more)

The Conference called the President's attention to the fact that the terms under which Great Britain referred the Palestine question to the United Nations gave "no assurance that the decisions of the United Nations will be accepted by the Mandatory power."

"Under these circumstances, it would appear that the displaced persons can look forward to nothing but indefinite delay in the response of the world to their plea and those basic human rights which have been so long denied them. It is, therefore, evident that our Government must uphold an interim policy of expanded immigration into Palestine," the Conference declared.

The full text of the telegram follows:

"A GROUP OF REPRESENTATIVE CHRISTIAN CITIZENS MEETING THIS 15th DAY OF APRIL IN THE CITY OF MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP OF THE MEMPHIS CHRISTIAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE RESPECTFULLY ASKS THAT THE AMERICAN DELEGATES ATTENDING THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS ASSEMBLY OPENING ON APRIL 28th BE INSTRUCTED TO SUPPORT THE ESTABLISHED AMERICAN POLICY ON PALESTINE, AS EXPRESSED BY CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTIONS, IN THE ANGLO-AMERICAN CONVENTION OF 1924, BY ENDORSEMENTS OF ALL PRESIDENTS SINCE WOODROW WILSON, IN THE PLATFORMS OF BOTH POLITICAL PARTIES AND BY AMERICAN ACCEPTANCE OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY.

"WE ASK FURTHER THAT THE AMERICAN DELEGATION AT THE UNITED NATIONS ASSEMBLY ON APRIL 28th PRESS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AN INTERIM POLICY TO INSURE THE ENTRY INTO PALESTINE OF AT LEAST 100,000 UNFORTUNATE REFUGEES WHO ARE PART OF A MUCH LARGER NUMBER NOW LIVING IN DETENTION CAMPS AND DISPLACED PERSONS' CENTERS IN EUROPE AND ON CYPRUS. BOTH YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, AND UNDERSECRETARY DEAN ACHESON HAVE USED YOUR GOOD OFFICES ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS TO BRING ABOUT THE MOVEMENT OF THESE UNFORTUNATE PEOPLE TO THE ONLY PLACE ON EARTH TO WHICH THEY DESIRE TO GO AND WHERE THEY MAY ESTABLISH FOR THEMSELVES A NEW LIFE. DESPITE THE EFFORTS OF THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND THE UNANIMOUS RECOMMENDATION OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN

(more)

COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY, THE DOORS TO PALESTINE REMAIN CLOSED TO THESE HELPLESS PEOPLE.

"NOW ANOTHER COMMITTEE IS ABOUT TO BE FORMED AND PRECIOUS TIME WILL BE LOST IN THE STUDY OF A SITUATION WHICH HAS BEEN STUDIED SO OFTEN BEFORE. MORE TIME WILL THEN ELAPSE WHILE THE UNITED NATIONS CONSIDERS THE REPORT OF THIS COMMITTEE. EVEN THEN THERE ARE NO ASSURANCES THAT THE DECISIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED BY THE MANDATORY POWER.

"UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THE DISPLACED PERSONS CAN LOOK FORWARD TO NOTHING BUT INDEFINITE DELAY IN THE RESPONSE OF THE WORLD TO THEIR PLEA AND THOSE BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS WHICH HAVE BEEN SO LONG DENIED THEM.

"IT IS THEREFORE EVIDENT THAT OUR GOVERNMENT MUST UPHOLD AN INTERIM POLICY OF EXPANDED IMMIGRATION INTO PALESTINE. RECOGNIZING THIS, WE AGAIN RESPECTFULLY URGE THAT OUR REPRESENTATIVES IN THE UNITED NATIONS DELEGATION RECEIVE FROM YOU DEFINITE DIRECTIVES TO FULFILL THE PLEDGES MADE BY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. WE TRUST THAT THE STATED AMERICAN POLICY ON PALESTINE WILL BE IMPLEMENTED THROUGH ITS SPOKESMEN AT THE UNITED NATIONS ASSEMBLY."

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W104 - 4/16/47

PRESS RELEASE

AMERICAN CHRISTIAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE

41 EAST 42nd STREET

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

• MURRAY HILL 2-4917 •

W106
5/15/47

This organization combines the American Palestine Committee and the Christian Council on Palestine, and continues the work of both organizations.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DEAN ALFANGE CALLS ON TRUMAN AND MARSHALL FOR "UNEQUIVOCAL"

STATEMENT OF PALESTINE POLICY

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U. S. SILENCE, AFTER SOVIET HAS SPOKEN IN CLEAR TERMS, IS

FORFEITING LEADERSHIP, CHRISTIAN LEADER DECLARES

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New York, May 15, 1947 -- Dean Alfange, chairman of the American Christian Palestine Committee of New York, today called upon the Government of the United States "to state unequivocally its position on the Palestine issue."

"By now remaining silent, after the Soviet Union has spoken in clear terms, the United States is forfeiting leadership on a grave issue of world-wide democratic concern and is at the same time neglecting its solemn commitments to the Jewish people," Mr. Alfange declared in telegrams to President Truman and Secretary of State Marshall.

Following is the text of Mr. Alfange's wire to the President and the Secretary of State:

"The American Christian Palestine Committee, constituted by leading clergymen, educators, high public officials, and business and civic leaders of the Christian faith, respectfully urges the Government of the United States to state unequivocally its position on the Palestine issue.

"By now remaining silent, after the Soviet Union has spoken in clear terms, the United States is forfeiting leadership on a grave issue of world-wide democratic concern and is at the same time neglecting its solemn commitments

(more)

to the Jewish people.

"The public policy of the United States with regard to Palestine has been fixed by two resolutions of Congress and by a long line of presidential declarations beginning with the administration of Woodrow Wilson. By the terms of these public pronouncements our Government stands irrevocably committed to the development of Palestine as a National Jewish Home and to the lifting of immigration restrictions upon the Jewish people. The United States should reiterate and reaffirm its policy at this crucial hour of Jewish destiny, the more so since the smaller states which have not developed a Palestine policy are looking to our Government for guidance and leadership.

"The American Christian Palestine Committee was organized in 1941 on the premise that the democratization of Palestine under Jewish control is a worldwide political issue which impinges directly on the whole problem of democratic self-determination and survival.

"By supporting the case of the Jewish people our Government could build a bastion of democracy in Palestine, which is the critical nerve center of the Middle East, without spending a single dollar of our tax payers' money.

"We therefore respectfully submit that the Government of the United States should reaffirm, immediately and forthrightly, its previously declared position on Palestine in fulfillment of our pledges to the Jewish people and in furtherance of our recently stated policy to strengthen democracy in the Middle East. Our continued silence on this imminent and momentous issue will be tantamount to an abandonment of our Palestine policy, a breach of our commitments to the Jewish people and, more serious still, a forfeiture of our leadership in world affairs."

PRESS RELEASE

AMERICAN CHRISTIAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE

41 EAST 42nd STREET

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

• MURRAY HILL 2-4917 •

W 108
8/11/47

This organization combines the American Palestine Committee and the Christian Council on Palestine, and continues the work of both organizations.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FORTY PROMINENT AMERICANS PRAISE FRENCH GOVERNMENT'S TREATMENT
OF 4500 JEWISH REFUGEES FROM "EXODUS 1947"

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LAGUARDIA, EINSTEIN, WELLES, CRUM, WOOLLEY AMONG SIGNATORIES OF
TELEGRAM TO FRENCH AMBASSADOR

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New York, Aug. 11 - Forty prominent Americans today transmitted to the French Government their "deep sense of gratification for the honorable and benevolent manner in which the Republic of France has dealt with 4,500 Jewish refugees aboard British ships in Port de Bouc," it was announced by Dr. Howard M. LeSourd, director of the American Christian Palestine Committee.

This praise for the French treatment of the "Exodus 1947" refugees was expressed in a telegram to M. Henri Bonnet, the French Ambassador to the United States. The wire declared that "it was in the richest traditions of the nation that gave to the world the democratic ideals of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity that homeless and dispirited wanderers were given such fair and noble treatment. As protagonists of the democratic way of life we recognize that in the humane attitude of France was conveyed a message of inspiration to all freedom-loving persons."

An alphabetical list of those who signed the telegram follows: Prof. James Luther Adams, Dean Alfange, Wendy Barrie, George Biddle, J. M. Blalock, Prof. Henry M. Busch, Hon. Stanley W. Church, Bartley C. Crum, Dr. Clark

Walker Cummings, Stanley Dixon, Hon. James W. Donoghue, Prof. Albert Einstein, Dorothy Canfield Fisher, Father George B. Ford, Prof. Carl J. Friedrich, Dr. Leslie Pinckney Hill, Dr. John Haynes Holmes, Rev. David R. Hunter, Mrs. Hamilton Polk Jones, Rev. Thomas J. Jones, Rockwell Kent, Walter Krobs, Fiorella H. LaGuardia, Prof. Charles A. Lee, Dr. Walter Clay Lowdermilk, Hon. George W. Maxey, Edgar Ansel Mowrer, Lewis Mumford, Rev. Wendell Phillips, Willy Pogany, Dean Evelyn Sellers, Dr. J. M. Smith, Vilhjalmur Stefanson, Dr. Donald H. Stewart, Dr. Paul Tillich, Dr. Charles J. Turck, Hon. John A. Weeks, Sumner Welles, Dr. Philip Weltner, and Mary E. Woolley.

The text of the wire to the French Ambassador follows:

"MAY WE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT YOU TRANSMIT TO YOUR GOVERNMENT OUR DEEP SENSE OF GRATIFICATION FOR THE HONORABLE AND BENEVOLENT MANNER IN WHICH THE REPUBLIC OF FRANCE HAS DEALT WITH 4500 JEWISH REFUGEES ABOARD BRITISH SHIPS IN PORT DE BOUC. IT WAS IN THE RICHEST TRADITIONS OF THE NATION THAT GAVE TO THE WORLD THE DEMOCRATIC IDEALS OF LIBERTY, EQUALITY AND FRATERNITY THAT HOMELESS AND DISPIRITED WANDERERS WERE GIVEN SUCH FAIR AND NOBLE TREATMENT. AS PROTAGONISTS OF THE DEMOCRATIC WAY OF LIFE WE RECOGNIZE THAT IN THE HUMANE ATTITUDE OF FRANCE WAS CONVEYED A MESSAGE OF INSPIRATION TO ALL FREEDOM-LOVING PERSONS".

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR RELEASE: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1947

ALFANGE CALLS UPON TRUMAN AND MARSHALL
TO LEAD IN FIGHT FOR ADOPTION
OF UNSCOP MAJORITY REPORT BY UN

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VOICES CONCERN OVER U.S. GOVERNMENT'S
REPORTED "EQUIVOCATION" ON PALESTINE

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New York, Sept. 29 -- Declaring that "it is disturbing to contemplate that our Government equivocates upon a great issue to which it has solemnly committed itself," Dean Alfange, Liberal Party leader and chairman of the American Christian Palestine Committee of New York State, today called upon President Truman and Secretary of State Marshall "to take active and militant leadership in the fight for the adoption of the majority report of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine."

In a telegram to President Truman, Mr. Alfange asserted that "only a clear-cut declaration on your part, Mr. President, could fulfill the pledges made by our Government to the Jewish people, and dispel the current belief entertained by large and articulate segments of our population that our Government's pronouncements on Palestine have been insincere."

Emphasizing that "America's historic policy of support for the Jewish National Home, rather than outside threats and unwarranted economic pressure, should determine our country's stand," Mr. Alfange called upon the President and Secretary of State to instruct the United States delegation to the General Assembly of the United Nations "not only to endorse fully the majority recommendations, but take

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the leadership to prevent attempts to whittle down their provisions."

"Failure to do less than that would be a mockery of the solemn pledges made to the Jewish people by our Government," Mr. Alfange said, pointing out that such a failure would produce serious repercussions in the United States.

The text of Mr. Alfange's telegram to President Truman follows:

"As Chairman of the American Christian Palestine Committee, and as one who has publicly supported the Truman Doctrine, I respectfully call upon you to ask our delegation at Lake Success to take active and militant leadership in the fight for the adoption of the majority report of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine.

"The small nations which have not yet committed themselves upon this issue would follow American leadership and thus assure unmodified adoption of the majority report. Otherwise, there is serious danger that its provisions may be whittled down in the interest of appeasement.

"Only a clear-cut declaration on your part, Mr. President, could fulfill the pledges made by our Government to the Jewish people, and dispel the current belief entertained by large and articulate segments of our population that our Government's pronouncements on Palestine have been insincere.

"Moreover, it is the belief of our Committee that support of the majority report would serve directly the best interests of our country. A free Jewish state in Palestine would be a bastion of democracy in the Middle East. If it be the aim of the Truman Doctrine to protect our western way of life from the encroachments of totalitarianism, the creation of a Jewish state in Palestine would be a perfect implementation of that Doctrine.

"I voice the sentiments of my Committee, Mr. President, in urging you to clarify our Government's position. It is disturbing to contemplate that our Government equivocates upon a great issue to which it has solemnly committed itself, and the solution of which would provide a measure of restitution for the crimes that have been committed against the defenseless Jewish people. America's historic policy of support for the Jewish National Home, rather than outside threats and unwarranted economic pressure, should determine our country's stand."

The text of Mr. Alfange's telegram to Secretary of State Marshall follows:

"As Chairman on behalf of the American Christian Palestine Committee of New York State, which is composed of leading Christian men and women from all walks of life who are actively engaged in efforts to bring about a just solution of the Palestine problem, I respectfully urge you, Mr. Secretary, to lend the great weight of American prestige in behalf of a speedy adoption of the majority report of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine. The fairmindedness and forthrightness with which you have dealt with other pressing international issues lead me to question the accuracy of current press reports indicating that the State Department is unwilling to take a clear stand based on our country's pledges and obligations to the Jewish people. On the other hand, I have great hopes that as a result of

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your stand and that of our delegation to the UN General Assembly, those who maintain that our Government's pronouncements on Palestine have been insincere will be effectively silenced.

"The majority recommendations of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine do not by any means fulfill the international commitments made to the Jewish people with respect to Palestine; nor do they represent the full realization of our own country's pronouncements. The majority report is a compromise solution -- but I share the prevailing view that it is an equitable compromise and a step in the right direction. I also believe that a decision providing for less than the majority report would be in cynical disregard of Jewish rights and Jewish needs. I hope, therefore, that the U. S. delegation will not only fully endorse the majority recommendations, but will take the leadership to prevent attempts to whittle down their provisions.

"Failure to do less than that would be a mockery of the solemn pledges made to the Jewish people by the Government of the United States as evidenced by a long line of presidential declarations and Congressional resolutions. This historic policy, rather than outside threats and unwarranted economic pressure, should determine our country's stand.

"The civilized world now has a great opportunity to provide a measure of restitution for the crimes that have been committed against a defenseless people. I have great confidence, Mr. Secretary, that the United States will not permit this opportunity to pass."

PRESS RELEASE

AMERICAN CHRISTIAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE

41 EAST 42nd STREET

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

• MURRAY HILL 2-4917 •

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TWENTY-FIVE CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS LEADERS URGE MARSHALL
TO GIVE FULL U.S. SUPPORT TO UNSCOP MAJORITY REPORT

- - - -

ASK U.S. TO TAKE LEAD IN BRINGING ABOUT
ITS ACCEPTANCE AND IMPLEMENTATION

- - - -

New York, Sept. 29 - Twenty-five prominent Christian religious leaders today called upon Secretary of State George C. Marshall "to give the full support of our Government to the majority report of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine," it was announced by the American Christian Palestine Committee.

Pointing out that the majority report "represents an equitable compromise solution of a problem which is a matter of deep concern to the American people," the Christian leaders expressed the hope that the United States Delegation to the United Nations "will now take the lead in bringing about the acceptance and implementation of the majority recommendations."

Emphasizing that "this is a Christian responsibility," the religious leaders communicated their views to Secretary of State Marshall in a joint telegram. An alphabetical list of those who signed this appeal follows: Dr. Henry A. Atkinson, Head of the Church Peace Union; Dr. Ferdinand Q. Blanchard, Pastor, Euclid Ave. Congregational Church; Rev. John W. Bradbury, Editor, Watchman-Examiner; Rev. Arthur J. Brown, Secretary Emeritus Board of Foreign Missions; Dr. Emory Bucke, Editor, Zions Herald; Dr. Hugh

Chamberlain Burr, General Secretary, Rochester Council of Churches;
Dr. Clark Walker Cummings, Executive Secretary, Metropolitan Church
Federation of St. Louis; Dean Raimondo De Ovies, of the Cathedral of
St. Phillip, Atlanta; Rev. Samuel A. Eliot, Pastor Emeritus of Arlington
Street Church of Boston; Rev. George B. Ford, Rector of Corpus Christi
Church of New York; Rt. Rev. Charles W. Gilbert, Bishop of Episcopal
Diocese, New York; Dr. Howard M. LeSourd, Dean, School of Public Relations,
Boston University; Dean Sidney Lovett, of Yale University; Prof. Halford
Luscock, of Yale Divinity School; Dr. Daniel L. Marsh, President of
Boston University; Bishop Francis J. McConnell, Interim Bishop, Oregon
Conferences; Rev. Dr. William P. Merrill, Pastor Emeritus, Brick Pres-
byterian Church of New York; Rev. Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr, of the Union
Theological Seminary; Rev. Roger T. Nooe, Vine Street Christian Church
of Nashville; Rev. Daniel A. Poling, Editor of the Christian Herald;
Dr. Edwin McNeill Poteat, Colgate Rochester Divinity School; Dr. Guy
Emery Shippler, Editor of the Churchman; Rev. Ralph W. Sockman, Minister,
Christ Church of New York; Dean Claude Sprouse, Grace and Holy Trinity
Cathedral, Kansas City; Dr. Carl Hermann Voss, Extension Secretary,
Church Peace Union.

The text of the wire follows:

"We, the undersigned, respectfully urge you, Mr. Secretary, and the
other members of the United States Delegation to the General Assembly of
the United Nations, to give the full support of our Government to the
majority report of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine. This
report represents an equitable compromise solution of a problem which is a
matter of deep concern to the American people. In view of our Government's
past pronouncements and pledges, may we not hope that the United States Dele-
gation will now take the lead in bringing about the acceptance and implementa-
tion of the majority recommendations? We believe this is a Christian
responsibility."