



## Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

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

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

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Pearson, Drew, 1947.

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

By Drew Pearson

Washington, June 15 -- Sec. Marshall and aides held significant secret meetings with representatives of private organizations that mold public opinion, to sell the "Truman Doctrine" and offset Henry Wallace's blasts.

State Dept. officials were bitterly anti-Truman -- except Marshall and U.N. delegate Warren Austin. Others, including Undersec. Dean Acheson and Near East Director Loy Henderson, pleaded for a "get-tough policy," talked to the DAR, Baptist Public Affairs Committee, National Conference of Christians and Jews and the League of Women Voters.

Marshall started a meeting with a friendly talk, whimsically describing his own difficulties in studying foreign affairs, saying:

"Every time I think I've learned the story, something new develops and I feel lost again. There's so much to learn, so little time to learn it in, that Acheson had to brief me on what had happened today while I was getting my hair cut. Now the barber knows as much as any of us."

Acheson declared America's enemy is "Communism, with a capital C." The U. S., he said, is not worried about an ideology, but about Communism as used by Russia for expansionism while deliberately delaying peace. It is a police state and requires continued expansion to maintain power.

Acheson denied our foreign policy is hodgepodge, called it "a seamless garment", all flowing in one direction.

He hinted the department may compromise on the Palestine situation. Issues like that, he said, can't be met solely on merits or a basis of right and wrong. Palestine must be handled as part of an over-all policy with long-range objectives. Some interpreted this to mean that the Palestine decision would be based on our relations with Russia -- it might be unwise to antagonize the Arabs.

Director Henderson, of Near Eastern Affairs, resented Wallace's and Bartley Crum's attacks on the department's policy in Greece, Turkey and Palestine, accused Crum of lying in his book, "Behind The Silken Curtain." Crum prints verbatim talks with Henderson, who declares:

"I never talked to Crum personally or privately about Palestine."

Henderson charges Crum violated security regulations by making public secret documents. He denies any differences, ever, between the White House and the State Dept. on Palestine, explains cables by Roosevelt and Cordell Hull to Arab leaders were designed to assure that no change would take place in U. S. policy toward Palestine without consulting Arabs and Jews.

"He had to repeat assurances to the Arabs every time an official made what appeared to be a policy statement on Palestine," Henderson explained.

Representatives of Negro organizations asked Henderson what the U. S. was doing for their race.

"Isn't it true," asked a representative of the National Council of Negro Women, "that Russia is friendlier to the darker races than the United States?"

Henderson answered testily: "The Russians never did anything constructive in any nation for any people. They tear down and destroy!"

He denied oil entered into the Near East picture, claimed loss of oil rights would be disadvantageous to us, but not decisive. He didn't think the Russian objective there was oil, either, since Russia has enormous untapped oil resources around the Caspian Sea, with no reason for reaching abroad.

Austin seemed nervous before the "opinion mobilizers", pleaded that his remarks be secret. He said Soviet tactics at the U. N. were not as inconsistent as appeared, that the more violent speeches by Gromyko and his aides were propaganda, with little light on Russian position. In voting, he held, Russia is closer to other nations than in oratory.

He thinks Russia wants the U. N. to succeed, but keeps one foot in the door in case it doesn't give Russia protection. Best hope for good relations, he found, is that Russia used the veto 10 times last year, only once this year.

Note: Best crack of the conference came from Marshall: "We not only have to get the facts about the truth, but the truth about the facts."