



## Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

Featuring collections from the Western Reserve Historical Society and  
The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

### **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.

---

Reel  
108

Box  
37

Folder  
408

American Zionist Emergency Council, press releases, 1947-1948.

315  
3/31/48

**PRESS RELEASE from AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations*

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi Organization of America • Labor Zionist Organization of America-Poale Zion  
United Zionists-Revisionists of America • Hashomer Hatzair • Achdut Havodah-Poale Zion (United Labor Zionist Party)

342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

U.S. ZIONISTS "NOT DELUDED" BY PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S

STATEMENT OF POLICY ON PALESTINE

- - - - -

U.S. TRUSTEESHIP PROPOSAL ASSAILED

- - - - -

New York, March 25 -- The American Zionist Emergency Council today issued the following comment on President Truman's statement at his press conference concerning U. S. policy on Palestine:

We are not deluded by the attempt made by President Truman at his press conference today to make the United States proposal of a trusteeship over Palestine more palatable to public opinion. The President's conception of the Palestine issue was most unrealistic and leaves unanswered all of the questions which were raised in the Security Council

by Delegates who indicated unwillingness to be led up a blind alley by an improvised plan, which on the one hand scuttles the decision of the United Nations, and on the other hand offers no sounder solution.

(more)



Who is to enforce the trusteeship which Mr. Truman proposes? If he is thinking of an international force, why the reluctance to think in those terms in connection with the implementation of the United Nations partition decision? Mr. Truman's efforts to justify the sudden reversal of U. S. policy as having been designed to "keep the peace" in Palestine is most unconvincing when viewed against the generally acknowledged fact that far more force would be required to maintain a trusteeship than would be necessary to carry out the United Nations decision of November 29, 1947.

Mr. Truman seemingly believes that a permanent solution of the Palestine question can yet be achieved by agreement between Jews and Arabs. If so, we propose that he read the proceedings of the United Nations General Assembly's Special Session on Palestine, at which the United States Delegate, Mr. Herschel Johnson, declared:

"I think there is no delegation here which does not know that no plan has ever been presented, either to this Assembly or to the Mandatory Government during its long years of tenure, or in any other place, which would meet with the acceptance of both the Arabs and the Jews. No such plan has ever been presented, and I do not believe that any such plan will ever be presented. If we are to effect through the United Nations a solution of this problem, it cannot be done without the use of the knife."

We wonder whether Mr. Truman is fully cognizant of the facts concerning the conflict in the Holy Land when he calls for a "truce" between Arabs and Jews. We respectfully call his attention to the comment of the Jewish Agency for Palestine on this question made in a letter to Secretary-General Trygve Lie on March 17, 1948. At that time the Agency declared:

"It must be emphasized that insofar as the term "truce" implies a conflict

(more)



between two belligerents it does not accurately fit the facts of the present situation in which, on the one hand, an attempt is being made by the Arab States and the Arabs of Palestine to alter by force a settlement approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations, while the Jewish Community has been defending itself and the decision of the United Nations which it has loyally accepted. . .

"The moment that Arab aggression ceases Jewish armed reaction will also terminate. There must of course be a clear understanding that the cessation of Arab aggression will also include the stoppage of preparations for future aggression, the evacuation of foreign forces and the prevention of further incursion of armed bands into Palestine."

*Paragraph 5th*  
*Attempt are now being made*  
*The Administration is now seeking to create the impression*  
We also beg to differ with President Truman's assertion that our Government ~~vigorous~~ supported the partition decision of the General Assembly. Exactly the opposite was the case. Long before the Security Council began its deliberations on Palestine it became clear that our State Department was determined to sabotage the United Nations' decision. From the very beginning of the Security Council's meetings it was also clear that the ~~U.S. Administration~~ *U.S. Delegation* was employing legalistic devices and all manner of delaying tactics in order to evade our Government's clear obligation to support the implementation of the United Nations' decision. *Mr. Austin's "legalistic" approach and his*

*cleverly half-hearted support of the attitude towards*  
We deeply regret to state that not only has Mr. Truman failed to convince us that his proposal has merit, but his statement has only served to confirm our original contention that the U. S. trusteeship plan will exacerbate the situation in Palestine, bring about the shedding of further innocent blood and endanger a just political settlement.

*3/5/48*  
*#315 - 3/25/48*  
*who*  
*had the right*  
*Spokesman would move vigorously in support of the partition*  
*produced a sense of defeatism among the other UN delegates*  
*to expect that the U.S.*



position on the Partition of Palestine: that it is shocking in its capriciousness; unconscionable in its abandonment, under the threat of force, of a course carefully weighed and deliberately adopted as the right; brutal in its desertion of the D.P.'s rotting in their internment camps and of Jewish Palestine fighting for its existence, wanton in the damage it has inflicted on the U.N.; humiliating in its besmirching of American honor and prestige; a bad political bargain in that it has won for our country only the undependable, mercenary friendship of the Arabs, a friendship always available to us so long as the weather remains fair and we have money to spend; and, finally, stupid, being that kind of political move of which Talleyrand once said mordantly: 'It is worse than a crime, it is a blunder.'

"But the one proposition which most requires to be pronounced and acted upon is that this misstep -- whether it be sin, blunder or both -- can and must be retrieved.

"It must be retrieved, in the first instance, for the sake of those tens of thousands of Jewish homeless to whom Palestine is the sole hope of a home, whose plight President Truman recognized over two years ago but has forgotten since; and, in the second instance, for the sake of those Jews who trusting the nations of the world, America among them, have devoted their lives to laying the foundations of a progressive, democratic Jewish state in Palestine.

"Most of all, it must be retrieved for the sake of the United Nations, that its decisions may not be put to mock and mankind's hope of peaceful adjudication of international disputes frustrated.

"The misstep, finally, must be retrieved for America's sake, that our country's pledged work shall not be set for sale in return for oil concessions, that its determination may not be shown so weak as to be swayed by the threats of anyone, that its good repute and moral integrity may be vindicated before all the world.



"Than our democracy there is, as Lincoln taught us, no better hope for all the world -- provided America remains true to its best self in all things, in this crucial matter of Palestine not least of all."

Rabbi Irving Miller Says U.S. Government's "New" Palestine Policy is Threat to Democracy.

Rabbi Irving Miller, Chairman of the Administrative Council of the Zionist Organization of America, speaking at the Congregation Sons of Israel, Woodmere, Long Island said: "On this day of Mobilization and Prayer, we should concern ourselves with the moral and ethical, rather than with the political or strategic, aspects of the Palestinian situation. What concerns us is the moral climate of our country. And it is precisely in that respect that we are forced to give utterance to our sense of shock and dismay at our country's 'new' policy on Palestine. For this 'new' policy must be viewed against a background of thirty years of implicit and explicit support of the Jewish National Home. Beginning with November 2, 1917, when President Wilson approved the text of the Balfour Declaration, and ending on November 29, 1947, when America cast its affirmative vote for Partition, the record is replete with congressional resolutions, party pledges, and presidential pronouncements. Why then this reversal of a record of three decades? Must all this give way to oil and profits? Is there a price at which America's plighted word and honor can be bought? Is this the moral climate in which democracy and fair play are to become the heritage of future generations?

"There is yet one more aspect that must give serious concern to all American citizens who believe in the American way of life. In this struggle, as in all other struggles, there are two sides. On the one hand, is the Yishuv which over several decades has built up in the Middle East an outpost of civilization and democracy with benefits to Arab and Jew alike. The Yishuv's adversaries in this struggle are not the Arab people, but a band of feudal



kings, effendis, and chieftains, led by former Nazi collaborators similar to those who were condemned to death by our country among others at Nuremberg as war criminals. On whose side is our country? By placing an embargo on arms to Palestine, by warning Jewish G. I.'s in Palestine that they will forfeit their passports if they defend themselves against Arab attacks, by creating the impression in the American call for a truce that Jews and Arabs are equally the aggressors, and now by abandoning Partition and proposing a trusteeship which would make the neighboring Arab States parties to the agreement, our country - the world's greatest spokesman for democracy - is giving clear evidence that it has turned its back on the democratic Yishuv and is collaborating with the Mufti and his ilk. Can democracy thrive in such a climate?"

Rabbi Levinthal Says America's Last Word on Jewish Palestine Has Not Yet Been Spoken.

Rabbi I. H. Levinthal, of the Brooklyn Jewish Center, said: "We pray for the people of Israel that they may be sustained in their faith and in their courage to establish the Jewish State in Palestine in these dark days when they are forsaken by those who were their allies in their hopes. Verily, as the prophet Jeremiah bewails, 'I called to my friends, but they have betrayed me.'

"But we pray, too, for our beloved America, that she may regain her true soul, that she may remain faithful to her ideals, that she may not sell her birthright of national honor for a mess of pottage or oil.

"America, as an exemplar of world morality, could indeed have made the United Nations the instrument for world peace. By her reversal on the Palestine solution and by yielding to threats of force, she struck a mortal blow to the United Nations, which has rendered it impotent as a serious influence for the solution of world problems.

"We believe, however, that the last word of America on Jewish Palestine has not yet been spoken, and that the conscience of America will yet force those in authority to do justice to that people that was denied world justice through so many ages."



AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL  
342 Madison Avenue  
New York 17, N. Y.

BRITAIN'S AID TO ARAB STATES: THE FACTS

Under the title "Britain's Aid to Arab States: The Facts," the British Information Services, an official agency of the British Government located at 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York City, has issued a release purporting to give "the answers to questions concerning Britain's position in the present fighting in the Holy Land."

It is only fair that some of the more glaring misstatements, evasions, and significant omissions contained in that release be brought to your attention.

1. On page 2, the release admits that "some 37 British officers are at present serving with the Transjordan Legion." The truth of the matter is that British military personnel serving with the Legion numbered, as of May 14th last, about 225. Of this number 37 are officers while the rest consists of NCO's. Most of these officers and NCO's are members of the regular British forces seconded to the Legion.

2. On the same page, the release, while asserting that 13 British officers serving with the Legion are "private individuals," adds that they "have been engaged directly by the Transjordan Government, but not with the approval of the British Government, just as a number of Britons have been engaged by the Haganah forces of the Jews." This is a grossly misleading statement. The "Haganah forces" are neither financed by the British Treasury nor equipped by the British army, but the Transjordan Legion is so financed and equipped. In the circumstances, the analogy between the Haganah and the Legion will hardly hold. As for individual Britons joining the Transjordan Legion allegedly without the approval of the British Government, we attach herewith a copy of a British army circular, issued on February 26, 1948 by the Headquarters of the First British Division in Sarafend, Palestine. This circular shows that the British army is



serving as a recruiting agency for British military personnel who wish to volunteer for the Transjordan Arab Legion -- a procedure which goes far beyond mere "approval."

It is said that General Glubb and other British military personnel serving with the Legion go through the formality of resignation from the British Army or from British Government service. Whether this is so or not, is irrelevant. The transparent device of a formal resignation by collusion of the parties concerned, so as to enable military personnel to take part in aggressive campaigns, is a well-known procedure and will no longer deceive anybody.

3. On the same page, the British release makes the following three assertions:

- "(a) There are no British officers in Jerusalem;
- "(b) British officers have not been involved in fighting at all except for two persons who were involved in the new part of the City of Jerusalem but have since been withdrawn.
- "(c) No British officers have been or are employed in directing the artillery which is bombarding Jerusalem."

How statements (a) and (c) can be reconciled with (b), must be left to the ingenuity of the authors of the release. How these statements can be reconciled with well-authenticated reports of American correspondents regarding the participation of Brigadier General Glubb and other British officers in the Jerusalem operations of the Arab Legion is also difficult to see.

4. On page 3 of the British release, its authors state that since the British subsidy to Transjordan is paid in pounds, not in dollars, and since the ERF is supervised by an American Administrator, America's economic aid to Britain is not helping the British to arm the Arabs. The British Information Services should really credit American newspaper editors, to whom their releases are sent, with sufficient knowledge of elementary economics to see through so flimsy an argument. American editors know that while pounds are not always convertible into dollars, dollars are easily convertible into pounds. Nor has the fact escaped their notice that if new funds are placed at the disposal of a government for whatever purpose, this frees other funds of the same government for different purposes.



In this connection it is worth noting that the British spent one hundred million pounds (\$400,000,000) or about 12 per cent of the last American loan to fight Jewish immigration into Palestine during 1946-1947 by military and other means. These figures were released on May 28 by David Horowitz, Under-secretary of the Treasury of Israel. Together with arms supplies to the Arab States the figure may be brought up to about 20 per cent of the American loan.

5. In discussing the subsidy to Transjordan, the release artfully avoids any mention of the fact that the Government of Transjordan receives from the British Government not one but two subsidies: one is paid in respect of the general government of Transjordan; the other -- a much larger sum -- is paid to provide for practically all the expenditures of the Transjordan Legion. It will be readily seen that, wholly apart from the participation of British personnel in the Legion, the British Government cannot be acquitted of ultimate responsibility for the operations of a military unit which is maintained almost entirely out of that Government's treasury.

6. Another significant omission in the release concerns the fact that the entire military equipment of the Transjordan Legion is provided by the British Army and Air Force. As late as the middle of May 1948, when the King of Transjordan publicly proclaimed his intention to use the Legion for an attack on Israel, new stocks of weapons and ammunition were rushed from British army stocks to Transjordan. A copy of the Message of British military headquarters in the Middle East to the Transjordan Arab Legion relating to this shipment is attached herewith.

7. Since the release seeks to convey the impression that the military operations of the Arab Legion outside of Transjordan are the sole concern of the Government of Transjordan, and can in no way be imputed to the British Government, Article 1 of the Treaty between Great Britain and Transjordan, of March 15, 1948, is quoted herewith:

" . . . Each of the High Contracting Parties undertakes not to adopt in regard to foreign countries an attitude, which is inconsistent with the Alliance or might create difficulties for the other party thereto."



8. On page 4, the release tries to create a better impression of Britain's role in Palestine by its portrayal of Britain's record in the Middle East. According to the release "Britain has during the last thirty years contributed much to the stability of the Middle East" and has assisted Arab States "not only with the means of self-defense, but also with loans for roads, public health, irrigation and so on." Even if true, this observation would have been irrelevant. Good deeds in the past do not justify despicable conduct in the present. However, this self-laudatory summary of Britain's record in the Middle East bears very slight resemblance to the truth. The notorious part played by British agents in repeatedly inciting revolts in Syria, Jebel Druze and Palestine can hardly be characterized as a contribution to stability. As for British loans to Arab States "for roads, public health, irrigation and so on," the "so on" part of it may be correct. We are not aware of any British Government loans to Arab States for roads, public health and irrigation.

9. Comment is superfluous on the passage on page 5 of the release, in which the British Information Services seek to create an utterly false impression of the attitude of the Arab States during World War II. The pro-German revolt of the Iraqi Government, the anti-Ally activities of the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, and the conspiracy of the Egyptian Government with the German and Italian forces are still fresh in our minds. It is almost inconceivable that, in the face of general knowledge of the facts, the authors of the release have thought it possible to give out a version so blatantly at variance with the truth.

10. Nor is it necessary to dwell on the paragraphs on pages 5 and 6 of the release, which stress Britain's "impartiality" as between Arabs and Jews in Palestine. We refer editors to their own newspaper files, beginning with the year 1939. The British Government's anti-Jewish record on Palestine is so thoroughly documented as to render ludicrous any British claim to "impartiality."

11. The British Information Services assert that their government is "trying to



get peace in Palestine," but they proceed to oppose United Nations action under Chapter 7 of the Charter -- action favored by both the United States and the Soviet Union which would have dealt with the realities of the situation: armed aggression by the Arab States. The release argues against a "hasty" decision along these lines.

The reason for this British desire to avoid "haste" and to block Security Council action under Chapter 7 is apparent from the following dispatch to the London Times from its Jerusalem correspondent, dated May 26: "The bombardment of the Convent of Notre Dame and neighboring buildings continues. A British major of the Arab Legion commands this operation and other British officers are with him."

The arguments against the vigorous UN action advocated by the United States and the Soviet Union, which are contained on the last page of the release, were also presented in the Security Council by Sir Alexander Cadogan while he was introducing his government's truce formula. The comments made on Sir Alexander's statement by Mr. Aubrey S. Eban, Representative of the Provisional Government of Israel, will be of interest to those who have read the British Information Services document.

Mr. Eban said: "In the course of this debate, the representatives of the Arab States and of the United Kingdom have echoed in almost identical tones the excuses upon which the Arab States based their rejection of the cease-fire appeal. This rejection, and all the consequences which flow from it, were condoned by the United Kingdom Representative on the grounds that the Security Council had 'abandoned the political terms which the Arabs considered just and reasonable.' In this most illuminating phrase there is revealed the whole background of principle and expediency against which the (British) draft resolution can be accurately appraised. For an unconditional cease-fire and a cease-fire conditioned by the satisfaction of political terms are not different aspects of the same principle. They stand in the most complete antithesis. An uncon-



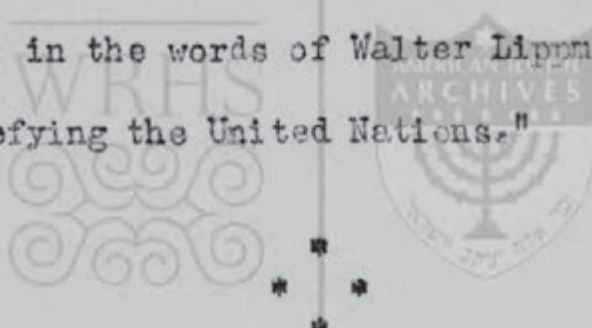
ditional cease-fire asserts the principle of peace. It upholds the fundamental doctrine of the Charter that all members of the United Nations should 'abstain from the use or threat of force in their international relations.' That doctrine is an absolute, an ideal which cannot be compromised or questioned or conditioned. On the other hand, the proposal for a conditioned cease-fire is an abasement of that high ideal of the Charter, for it upholds the doctrine of expedient violence; the efficacy of threats; the sovereignty of unilateral force. Therefore, the difference between the resolution calling for an unconditional cease-fire, and the (British) draft resolution now before us, is nothing less than the difference between the Charter and its tacit violation. For the Charter does not require member states to abstain from the threat or use of force only if the political terms which 'they consider just and reasonable are taken into account.' In acknowledging that the Arabs have no absolute duty to abstain from armed force against the State of Israel and Jerusalem unless they reap some of the fruits of victory -- a victory which exists only in their colorful imagining -- this draft resolution transports us into a world far remote from the principles and purposes of this organization. The Arabs are no longer called upon to adapt themselves to the will of the Security Council. The Security Council is called upon to adapt itself to the will of the Arab States. . .

"For the most part, Sir Alexander Cadogan's historical record is nothing but an uncritical repetition of the views previously submitted by Arab representatives. You can search its pages in vain for the faintest sign of neutrality in any single point. Thus the Security Council was again acquainted with the terms of a truce for Jerusalem negotiated exclusively between the High Commissioner for Palestine and the Arab League, and never communicated to any Jewish authority. The allegation that a truce agreement had been concluded in Jerusalem, and was broken by the Stern Group was arbitrarily presented without a single shred of evidence. This truce agreement and its alleged violation by the Jews are so mysterious and occult in their origins, that no reference to any



such agreement can be found in the communications of the Truce Commission which was resident and active in Jerusalem throughout that whole period. This allegation is totally unsupported by any source which could be described as even remotely neutral. And its rehearsal before the Council at this state can only serve to obscure the vital and essential feature of the Jerusalem situation, which is that in response to a question by the Security Council, the Provisional Government of Israel has agreed to negotiate an immediate and unconditional truce and that this offer, like the Jewish offers for a cease-fire, has gone by for several days without any response."

12. All the misstatements, evasions and omissions of the authors of the British Information Services statement cannot disguise the simple fact that what is now going on in Palestine is, in the words of Walter Lippmann, "the scandal of a British satellite army defying the United Nations."



\*  
\*  
\*



SUBJECT:- Volunteers - Arab Legion.

CONFIDENTIAL  
Headquarters R.E.M.E.  
1st Infantry Division  
Tel:- Sarafand Ent. 68

Lists "M" & "N"

40/ME  
26 Feb 48

Herewith copy of HQ 1 Inf Div Signal 231730 B Ref No: AG116  
for your action as necessary

(Sgd.).

Capt & Adjut,  
for Lieut Colonel,  
Comd R.E.M.E. 1st Inf Div,

-----  
C O P Y

From:- HQ 1 Inf Div.

To:- R.E.M.E.

231730 B

CONF(.) AG 116 (.) ONE THE FOLLOWING VACANCIES WILL EXIST FOR VOLUNTEERS  
IN REME FOR SERVICE WITH ARAB LEGION WHEN REORG IS APPROVED (.) OFFERS MAJOR ONE  
CAPT/SUB (1 CRPT GP) ONE CAPT/SUB ONE CAPT/SUB (ALA) ONE (.) OR INSTRUCTORS  
TO ARAB PERSONNEL (.) ARMAMENT ARTS (VEHS) ARMAMENT ARTS (FIELD) ARMAMENT ARTS  
(INSTRUCTORS LEGAL) ARMAMENTS ARTS (WIRELESS) ARMAMENT ARTS (ELECTRICAL) (.)  
FOLLOWING REQUIRED TO BE SGTS OR RECOMMENDED FOR PROMOTION (.) ARMOURERS  
MACHINISTS METAL VEH MECHS ELECTRICAL (V & P) INSTRUMENT MECHS (FIELD) INSTRUMENT  
MECHS (TC) TELE MECHS (FIELD) (.) ALL ABOVE TO HAVE MINIMUM 12 MONTHS TO SERVE  
(.) TWO (.) APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE WITHHELD AND WILL BE FORWARDED TO THIS  
HQ (.) THREE (.) SELECTED PERSONNEL WILL BE POSTED NORMALLY ON THEIR GENERAL  
SERVICE LIABILITIES (.) TERM AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE NOT YET PASSED (.) IT  
IS POSSIBLE FAMILIES PERMITTED TO FOLLOW IN DUE COURSE



Message Form.

Immediate.

FROM: MIDEAST

TO: ARAB LEGION AMMAN

INFO: MOV LEVANT

SECRET: 74882Q(M)2. following are programmed shipments ex  
SUEZ to AQABA.

ONE. Vessel TAISEER loading SUEZ approx 9th May ETA AQABA  
approx 14th May. 18409 Jerriicans MT 70 Petrol 360 tons  
DW 480 tons measure.

TWO. Vessel NAIEM loading SUEZ 9th May ETA AQABA approx 14th  
May. 48 OERLIKON Guns 36 Tons DW 113 Tons MW ammunition  
274 tons DW 266 Tons. Measure.

THREE. Further vessels programmed to commence loading SUEZ 10th  
May ETA AQABA approx 15th May. Ammunition 255 Tons DW 167  
Tons measure. name of vessel to follow.

FOUR. Escort NCC 1 ORs 3 of ARAB LEGION to accompany stores on  
vessels paras two and three above.

FIVE. Request signal earliest when vessel have completed discharge  
give details out turn.

.....



320

**PRESS RELEASE from AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations*

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi Organization of America • Labor Zionist Organization of America-Poale Zion  
United Zionists-Revisionists of America • Hashomer Hatzair • Achdut Havodah-Poale Zion (United Labor Zionist Party)

342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL LABELS CANCELLATION

BY U.S. MARITIME COMMISSION OF HAIFA AS PORT OF CALL

AN "UNWARRANTED PENALIZATION OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL"

- - - - -

ACTION DECRIED AS "APPEASEMENT"

- - - - -

New York, June 7 -- The American Zionist Emergency Council, representing all official Zionist parties in the United States, disclosed today the text of a telegram sent to Secretary of State George C. Marshall, protesting the action of the United States Maritime Commission in halting future stops by an American vessel -- the SS "Marine Carp" -- at the Israeli port of Haifa.

"This action . . . represents the practical acceptance of the unlawful Arab blockade of Israel, appeasement of those whom our Government has branded as aggressors, and unwarranted penalization of the State of Israel," the Council charged. It was further asserted in the wire of protest that this action was carried out on the advices of the U. S. Department of State.

(The United States Maritime Commission announced on June 4th that the SS "Marine Carp," which normally includes Haifa as a port of call in its Middle East itinerary, would heretofore omit the Israeli port in all future schedules. It will be recalled that the SS "Marine Carp," a government-owned, converted troopship was boarded at Beirut, Lebanon on May 19th by a strong force of armed Lebanese who seized 41 American citizens -- all Jews. Two notes were subsequently dispatched by the State Department to Lebanese Government officials protesting this action. The 41 American citizens are still being held in a concentration camp near Beirut.)

(more) 6/7/48



The full text of the Emergency Council's wire to Secretary Marshall follows:

"ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL, I WISH TO REGISTER OUR SHOCK AND INDIGNATION AT THE REPORT IN TODAY'S PRESS REGARDING THE CANCELLATION BY THE MARITIME COMMISSION, ON THE ADVICE OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT, OF THE PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED CALL OF THE SS MARINE CARP AT HAIFA. THIS ACT, ALL PROFESSIONS TO THE CONTRARY NOTWITHSTANDING, REPRESENTS THE PRACTICAL ACCEPTANCE OF THE UNLAWFUL ARAB BLOCKADE OF ISRAEL, APPEASEMENT OF THOSE WHOM OUR GOVERNMENT HAS BRANDED AS AGGRESSORS, AND UNWARRANTED PENALIZATION OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL. INSTEAD OF INSISTING ON FREEDOM OF AMERICAN SHIPPING, OUR GOVERNMENT BOWS TO THE WHIMS OF ARAB VIOLATORS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW. WE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST YOU TO GIVE THIS MATTER YOUR IMMEDIATE AND PERSONAL ATTENTION, TO CANCEL THE REPORTED INSTRUCTION, AND TO INSURE THAT IN THE FUTURE AMERICAN SHIPPING MAY CARRY ON ITS LAWFUL COMMERCE WITHOUT INTERFERENCE."

--30--

#320 - 6/7/48



# **PRESS RELEASE from AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations*

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi Organization of America • Labor Zionist Organization of America-Poale Zion  
United Zionists-Revisionists of America • Hashomer Hatzair • Achdut Havodah-Poale Zion (United Labor Zionist Party)

342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL LABELS CANCELLATION BY U.S. MARITIME COMMISSION OF HAIFA AS PORT OF CALL AN "UNWARRANTED PENALIZATION OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL"

- - - - -

ACTION DECRIED AS "APPEASEMENT"

- - - - -

New York, June 7 -- The American Zionist Emergency Council, representing all official Zionist parties in the United States, disclosed today the text of a telegram sent to Secretary of State George C. Marshall, protesting the action of the United States Maritime Commission in halting future stops by an American vessel -- the SS "Marine Carp" -- at the Israeli port of Haifa.

"This action . . . represents the practical acceptance of the unlawful Arab blockade of Israel, appeasement of those whom our Government has branded as aggressors, and unwarranted penalization of the State of Israel," the Council charged. It was further asserted in the wire of protest that this action was carried out on the advices of the U. S. Department of State.

(The United States Maritime Commission announced on June 4th that the SS "Marine Carp," which normally includes Haifa as a port of call in its Middle East itinerary, would heretofore omit the Israeli port in all future schedules. It will be recalled that the SS "Marine Carp," a government-owned, converted troopship was boarded at Beirut, Lebanon on May 19th by a strong force of armed Lebanese who seized 41 American citizens -- all Jews. Two notes were subsequently dispatched by the State Department to Lebanese Government officials protesting this action. The 41 American citizens are still being held in a concentration camp near Beirut.)

(more)



The full text of the Emergency Council's wire to Secretary Marshall follows:

"ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL, I WISH TO REGISTER OUR SHOCK AND INDIGNATION AT THE REPORT IN TODAY'S PRESS REGARDING THE CANCELLATION BY THE MARITIME COMMISSION, ON THE ADVICE OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT, OF THE PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED CALL OF THE SS MARINE CAMP AT HAIFA. THIS ACT, ALL PROFESSIONS TO THE CONTRARY NOTWITHSTANDING, REPRESENTS THE PRACTICAL ACCEPTANCE OF THE UNLAWFUL ARAB BLOCKADE OF ISRAEL, APPEASEMENT OF THOSE WHOM OUR GOVERNMENT HAS BRANDED AS AGGRESSORS, AND UNWARRANTED PENALIZATION OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL. INSTEAD OF INSISTING ON FREEDOM OF AMERICAN SHIPPING, OUR GOVERNMENT BOWS TO THE WHIMS OF ARAB VIOLATORS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW. WE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST YOU TO GIVE THIS MATTER YOUR IMMEDIATE AND PERSONAL ATTENTION, TO CANCEL THE REPORTED INSTRUCTION, AND TO INSURE THAT IN THE FUTURE AMERICAN SHIPPING MAY CARRY ON ITS LAWFUL COMMERCE WITHOUT INTERFERENCE."

---30---

#320 - 6/7/48



321 6/21/48  
PRESS RELEASE from:

FRANK W. BUXTON, BARTLEY C. CRUM  
and JAMES G. McDONALD  
New York, N. Y.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THREE FORMER MEMBERS OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY  
DEPLORE ANNOUNCEMENT THAT AMBASSADOR PHILLIPS HAS ACCEPTED  
THE VICE-CHAIRMANSHIP OF "COMMITTEE FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE IN THE HOLY LAND"

- - - - -

FRANK W. BUXTON, BARTLEY C. CRUM AND JAMES G. McDONALD ALSO  
TAKE SHARP ISSUE WITH RECENT STATEMENT ON PALESTINE ISSUED BY  
JEAN GILDERSLEEVE - KERMIT ROOSEVELT COMMITTEE

- - - - -

New York -- Three former members of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine -- Frank W. Buxton, Bartley C. Crum and James G. McDonald -- today attacked the "Committee for Justice and Peace in the Holy Land," charging that this pro-Arab group "has backed and encouraged Arab aggression in Palestine and has taken an active part in the attempt to sabotage the United Nations decision on Palestine."

The three onetime members of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine simultaneously greeted "with sorrow and bewilderment" the appointment of William Phillips, their former colleague on the Anglo-American investigation group, to the vice-chairmanship of the "Committee for Peace and Justice in the Holy Land."

"It is difficult for us to comprehend how a man of Mr. Phillips' integrity can join a group which, its record proves, has backed and encouraged Arab aggression in Palestine and has taken an active part in the attempt to sabotage the United Nations decision on Palestine," the former members of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry stated.

Lashing out at the "Committee for Justice and Peace in the Holy Land" --

(more)



which is headed by Dean Gildersleeve and Kermit Roosevelt -- the three former members charged that this pro-Arab group was seeking a "frank alliance... with the Arab League against the State of Israel and the Jewish people." In their joint statement, Messrs. Buxton, Crum and McDonald assailed "the blind partisanship of the Gildersleeve Committee," and commented that "'Justice and Peace in the Holy Land' cannot possibly be attained by flouting the United Nations which is the one authoritative expression of mankind's quest for justice and peace."

The full text of their statement follows:

The news that our much respected colleague on the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine, Ambassador William Phillips has joined the self styled "Committee for Justice and Peace in the Holy Land" has caused us both sorrow and bewilderment. It is difficult for us to comprehend how a man of Mr. Phillips' integrity can join a group, which, its record proves, has backed and encouraged Arab aggression in Palestine and has taken an active part in the attempt to sabotage the United Nations decision on Palestine.

The announcement of Mr. Phillips' descent into the Gildersleeve-Kermit Roosevelt Committee was accompanied by a statement of that Committee's views on the current Palestine situation.

The first three of the four recommendations advocated by the Gildersleeve statement are so full of sweetness and light that when we read them our first reaction was to check the authorship of the statement. Each one of us would gladly support Count Bernadotte's peace efforts, encourage the pacification of the Middle East and urge economic development of that area in the interests of all the people inhabiting it.

The blind partisanship of the Gildersleeve Committee becomes apparent when one reaches the fourth and last recommendation. Here, there are no more honeyed generalities, but a frank alliance of the Committee with the Arab League against the State of Israel and the Jewish people. Here, Miss Gildersleeve (and Ambassador Phillips?) raise their voice against "extreme Zionist pressure here,

(more)



with the insistence on separate Jewish nationalism, etc." One looks in vain for the Committee's protest against open Arab defiance of the United Nations and brutal Arab aggression against Israel.

In conclusion, let us state our deep conviction that "Justice and Peace in the Holy Land" cannot possibly be attained by flouting the United Nations which is the one authoritative expression of mankind's quest for justice and peace. Nor can justice and peace be attained by Arab shelling and destroying of the holy shrines of Jerusalem, the capital and eternal symbol of the Holy Land.

Frank W. Buxton

Bartley C. Crum

James G. McDonald

6/21/48





AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL  
342 MADISON AVENUE  
NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

321  
a

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STATEMENT OF THE AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL PRESENTED TO  
THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS OF THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION  
BY HAROLD P. MANSON, DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL

Friday, June 18, 1948

- - -

On behalf of the American Zionist Emergency Council, which speaks for all Zionist organizations in the United States and which I have the honor to represent today, I wish to thank you for affording us the opportunity to submit this brief statement.

Today it is clear that not only the fate of the Jewish people, but the honor and integrity of our country and its pledges, as well as the future of the United Nations itself are at stake in our dealings with the Palestine issue.

Four years ago the Republican Party included in its platform a now-historic plank on Palestine. The Republican Party may well be proud of having taken the initiative in 1944 to secure justice for the Jewish people by calling for the establishment of a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth. The same sentiment was later expressed in the Resolution on Palestine which was overwhelmingly adopted by both Houses of Congress. Such action made it unmistakably clear that the American people favored the re-constitution of the Jewish state.

Today that state is a living reality. The Republic of Israel has been established by the Jewish people on the basis of the United Nations decision. The Provisional Government of that Republic has been recognized by the United States. During the past few months Israel has proved that it is able to defend itself; but it is still struggling to maintain its territorial and political sovereignty. Having defeated and stopped the armies of the various Arab aggressors, Israel is now confronted by new political maneuvers aimed at its dismemberment.

Those who have favored the establishment of the Jewish Commonwealth should now support Israel's political independence within the boundaries established by the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Nothing would be more in keeping with our country's traditions and our country's national interests than the establishment of a strong bond of friendship between the United States -- the greatest -- and Israel -- the newest -- of modern democracies. We are encouraged in our belief that this will be done by the fact that in recent weeks all of the leaders of the

Republican Party have without exception welcomed Israel into the family



of nations and have supported the infant republic's struggle to maintain its independence.

In view of these unequivocal declarations by the Republican Party's leaders, we today express the confident hope that this Convention will greet the new state of Israel with a pledge of friendship, of full recognition, of assistance in rebuilding its economy, and that this Convention will support Israel's political and territorial integrity within the boundaries defined by the United Nations.





# **PRESS RELEASE from AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations*

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi Organization of America • Labor Zionist Organization of America-Poale Zion  
United Zionists-Revisionists of America • Hashomer Hatzair • Achdut Havodah-Poale Zion (United Labor Zionist Party)

342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

---

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DR. SILVER LABELS BRITISH CONCERN FOR ARAB REFUGEES

AS "SYNTHETIC HUMANITARIANISM"

- - - - -

CHARGES THAT PROBLEM OF ARAB REFUGEES "IS IN EVERY SENSE

A PRODUCT OF THE CHAOS AND ANARCHY PRODUCED BY THE MANDATORY REGIME"

- - - - -

New York -- Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of the American Section of the Jewish Agency for Palestine and of the American Zionist Emergency Council, charged that the Arabs of Palestine "need never have left their homes if the Government of Bevin had not so arranged things that upon its withdrawal from Palestine the country would be turned over to chaos and to war."

Pointing out that the Jews of Israel "were entirely agreeable to live in peace and harmony with their Arab neighbors within the State," the noted Zionist leader laid the blame for the present Arab refugee problem squarely upon the British Government.

"The sabotage by the British Government of the settlement proposed by the United Nations, the encouragement which it gave to the intransigence of the Arab League and the military aid which it supplied to the invading armies spearheaded by the British-led and British-financed Arab Legion, forced the Israelis to defend their State and in the ensuing war tens of thousands of Arabs fled.

"It should not be forgotten that the overwhelming majority of these Arab refugees left Palestine before the State of Israel came into existence at a time when the British Government was responsible for law and order and for the welfare

(more)



and security of the population. The Arab population of Haifa, for example, was actually evacuated by the British army transport early in May. This problem is therefore in every sense a product of the chaos and anarchy produced by the Mandatory Regime," he declared.

Dr. Silver issued his statement immediately prior to his departure for Israel. The full text of his statement follows:

"The concern of the British Government with the relief of the Arabs, who left their homes when their fellow Arabs inside and outside of Palestine declared war on the State of Israel, is very touching indeed. These Arabs need never have left their homes if the Government of Bevin had not so arranged things that upon its withdrawal from Palestine the country would be turned over to chaos and to war. The Jews of the State of Israel were entirely agreeable to live in peace and harmony with their Arab neighbors within the State. Every provision had been made for their full equality as citizens and for the protection of all their minority rights. The sabotage by the British Government of the settlement proposed by the United Nations, the encouragement which it gave to the intransigence of the Arab League and the military aid which it supplied to the invading armies spearheaded by the British-led and British-financed Arab Legion, forced the Israelis to defend their State and in the ensuing war tens of thousands of Arabs fled.

"It should not be forgotten that the overwhelming majority of these Arab refugees left Palestine before the State of Israel came into existence at a time when the British Government was responsible for law and order and for the welfare and security of the population. The Arab population of Haifa, for example, was actually evacuated by the British army transport early in May. This problem is therefore in every sense a product of the chaos and anarchy produced by the Mandatory Regime.

"The quickest way to insure the return of the Arabs to their homes is to conclude at the earliest possible moment a final peace settlement. But Bevin will not consent to such a settlement unless his terms are first met -- the further reduction of the boundaries of the State of Israel, already twice partitioned, and the making of Abdullah King of Jerusalem.

"As long as Israel is besieged by invading Arab armies it is senseless to talk about returning tens of thousands of Arabs to the State of Israel to serve there perhaps as a fifth column and most certainly to increase the crushing problems of a State which the Arab invaders are even now poised to destroy.

"One fails to be impressed by the synthetic humanitarianism of the British Government and its sudden concern for Arab refugees when one remembers that eleven thousand Jewish refugees are still being forcibly and lawlessly held behind barbed wires by the British Government on Cyprus and are denied the right to go to Palestine -- a country over which Great Britain has no right to exercise any authority whatsoever following the termination of its Mandate on May 15. Nor has the British Government been requested either by the United Nations or its mediator to detain these refugees.

"One cannot fail also to recall the story of the 'Exodus' and of the numerous other ships crowded with desperate refugees who were turned away from the shores of

(more)



the Jewish National Home and sent back to the Hells of Europe to certain death by this very Government which is now shedding tears over the plight of the Arab refugees while it is still demanding that Jewish refugees should be excluded from the Jewish State.

"Great Britain has offered financial aid to the Arab refugees, but this same Government announced last week the resumption of its quarterly payment of \$2,000,000 to King Abdullah for the maintenance of his Legion which has illegally invaded Palestine and has helped to create the refugee problem, not to speak of the destruction with the aid of British guns and British officers of the entire Jewish quarter of the sacred Old City of Jerusalem and of its many places of worship.

"The problem of the Arab refugees is, as everyone knows, a sad by-product of the political disturbances in Palestine. A proper political solution, such as was recommended by the United Nations last November, would quickly solve the relief problem as well, but it is this very solution which the British Government through all sorts of scheming and plotting is still stubbornly resisting.

"The Arabs who have remained in the State of Israel throughout the disturbances have had no reason to complain of the treatment which they have received. Contrast this, if you please, with the pogroms which are now going on in Cairo and in other parts of the Arab world.

"The State of Israel will scrupulously honor every commitment which it has assumed under the settlement adopted by the United Nations last November. However, the failure on the part of the member bodies of the United Nations to implement that settlement or the attempts by the Mediator of the United Nations radically to revise that settlement to the disadvantage of the State of Israel will of necessity compel the new State to reconsider its commitments.

"The repeated failure of the United Nations to go through with the internationalization of Jerusalem which was so ardently demanded by its members last November, followed as it was by Count Bernadotte's amazing proposal that this City, which is sacred to the three religions and the majority of whose population is Jewish, shall become the Arab capital of Abdullah's Kingdom, has already forced Israel to reconsider its position with reference to Jerusalem.

"The settlement of November 29, itself the result of wide-going concessions, cannot again become the starting point for further concessions to be wrested from Israel.

"As of the moment, the only people who have faithfully carried out the United Nations resolution and have defended it have been the Jews of the State of Israel and they have done so with their own lives."



# **PRESS RELEASE from AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations*

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi Organization of America • Labor Zionist Organization of America-Poale Zion  
United Zionists-Revisionists of America • Hashomer Hatzair • Achdut Havodah-Poale Zion (United Labor Zionist Party)

342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DEATH SENTENCE AND HEAVY FINE IMPOSED UPON JEW BY IRAQI  
GOVERNMENT FOR ALLEGED PRO-ZIONIST ACTIVITIES PROTESTED

-----  
DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER, IN TELEGRAM TO  
SECRETARY OF STATE MARSHALL, CALLS SENTENCE  
A "SHOCKING SUPPRESSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS"  
-----

New York, Sept. 16 -- The American Zionist Emergency Council, representing all official Zionist bodies in the United States, today disclosed the text of a wire sent by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, its chairman, to Secretary of State George C. Marshall, inviting the attention of the United States Government to the death sentence and \$20,000,000 fine imposed by the Iraqi Government on Shafiq Ades, a Jewish citizen of Iraq, "allegedly for his pro-Zionist activities."

( Shafiq Ades, a prominent Jewish merchant in Baghdad, was sentenced to death by an Iraqi military court on September 13th and was fined 5,000,000 dinars on charges of aiding the Jews in the Palestine war and organizing Zionism in Iraq. According to an AP dispatch from Baghdad dated September 13, the fine will be collected immediately. The death sentence is subject to approval of King Feisal II. Mr. Ades is known as one of the wealthiest merchants in Iraq.)

In his telegram of protest Dr. Silver stated: "I am certain that the United States Government would not wish to remain indifferent in the face of such shocking suppression of human rights and the danger of quasi-legal assassination. If unchallenged, this will set an extremely dangerous precedent,

(more)



opening the way for wholesale persecution and oppression of national and religious minorities in the Arab lands."

The American Zionist Emergency Council also disclosed the text of a telegram sent to President Harry S. Truman by the editors of three Jewish daily newspapers in New York City. Signatories to this communication included: S. Dingol, editor of "The Day"; D. L. Mekler, editor of "The Jewish Journal"; and H. Rogoff, managing editor of "The Jewish Daily Forward."

The full texts of both wires follow:

SEPTEMBER 15, 1948

"SECRETARY OF STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

DEEPLY SHOCKED BY ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH FROM BAGHDAD OF SEPTEMBER 13 REPORTING DEATH SENTENCE AND 20 MILLION DOLLAR FINE IMPOSED BY IRAQI GOVERNMENT ON SHAFIQ ADES, DISTINGUISHED JEWISH CITIZEN OF IRAQ, ALLEGEDLY FOR HIS PRO-ZIONIST ACTIVITIES. AM CERTAIN THAT UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT WISH TO REMAIN INDIFFERENT IN FACE OF SUCH SHOCKING SUPPRESSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE DANGER OF QUASI-LEGAL ASSASSINATION. IF UNCHALLENGED THIS WILL SET EXTREMELY DANGEROUS PRECEDENT OPENING THE WAY FOR WHOLESale PERSECUTION AND OPPRESSION OF NATIONAL AND RELIGIOUS MINORITIES IN THE ARAB LANDS. I WOULD THEREFORE GREATLY APPRECIATE IT IF YOU WOULD FIND IT POSSIBLE TO USE YOUR GOOD OFFICES IN ORDER TO ASCERTAIN THE EXACT FACTS OF THE SITUATION. FEEL CERTAIN YOU WILL APPRECIATE THAT ANY DELAY MAY COST A HUMAN LIFE AND CAUSE IRREPARABLE CONSEQUENCES. RESPECTFULLY.

ABBA HILLEL SILVER  
CHAIRMAN, AMERICAN ZIONIST  
EMERGENCY COUNCIL"

(more)



SEPTEMBER 16, 1948

"THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE UNDERSIGNED EDITORS OF THREE MAJOR JEWISH DAILY NEWSPAPERS IN AMERICA  
RESPECTFULLY DRAW YOUR ATTENTION TO ASSOCIATED PRESS STORY OF SEPTEMBER 13  
ANNOUNCING IMPOSITION BY IRAQ GOVERNMENT OF DEATH SENTENCE AND TWENTY MILLION  
DOLLAR FINE FOR ZIONIST ACTIVITIES ON SHAFIK ADES PROMINENT JEWISH RESIDENT  
OF IRAQ. YOU WILL READILY APPRECIATE MR. PRESIDENT THAT THIS SENTENCE IF  
PERMITTED TO STAND WILL SET A PRECEDENT FOR WHOLESALE QUASI-JUDICIAL KILLING  
AND PROPERTY CONFISCATION OF SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND JEWS IN ARAB LANDS.

IN FACE OF SUCH DANGER WE ARE CERTAIN THAT YOU WILL INSTRUCT STATE DEPARTMENT  
TO USE ITS FULL INFLUENCE WITH IRAQ FOR STAYING OF SENTENCE. TO STAND BY IN  
SILENCE WHILE THE CONTEMPLATED BARBARITY IS PERPETRATED WOULD MAKE A MOCKERY  
OF PRESENT INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND WOULD DISTRESS  
BEYOND WORDS ALL BELIEVERS IN AMERICAS MORAL INFLUENCE IN THE WORLD. WE  
RESPECTFULLY URGE YOUR URGENT INTERVENTION AND BEG TO POINT OUT THAT UNLESS  
ACTION IS TAKEN IMMEDIATELY IT MIGHT COME TOO LATE. WOULD APPRECIATE  
RECEIVING YOUR REASSURING REPLY TO OUR REQUEST.

S. DINGOL  
D. L. MEKLER  
H. ROGOFF"



**PRESS RELEASE from AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

322

*Associated Organizations*

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi Organization of America • Labor Zionist Organization of America-Poale Zion  
United Zionists-Revisionists of America • Hashomer Hatzair • Achdut Havodah-Poale Zion (United Labor Zionist Party)

342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CALLS FOR REVISION OF ARMS EMBARGO

TO ACCORD ISRAEL RIGHT OF SELF-DEFENSE;

FAVORS FULL RECOGNITION AND SUPPORTS ISRAEL'S BOUNDARIES

AS SET FORTH BY UNITED NATIONS

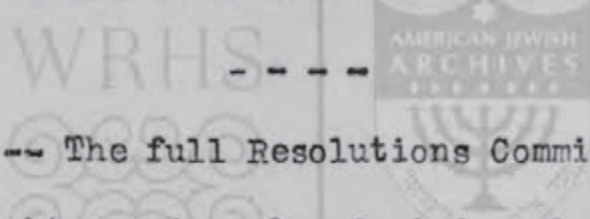
- - - -

ALSO SUPPORTS INTERNATIONALIZATION OF JERUSALEM

AND PLEDGES AID IN DEVELOPING ISRAEL'S ECONOMY

- - - -

STATE DEPARTMENT DEFEATED



Philadelphia, July 14 -- The full Resolutions Committee of the Democratic National Convention last night unanimously adopted a plank on Israel favoring "revision of the arms embargo to accord to the State of Israel the right of self-defense" and "full recognition of the State of Israel."

The final draft of the Israel plank as approved last night was agreed upon by the 18-member Preliminary Drafting Committee in the early hours of yesterday morning after lengthy deliberation and debate, during which the State Department made strenuous efforts to induce the Committee to produce ambiguous declarations with regard to the arms embargo and the recognition of Israel. A draft sponsored by the State Department had included strong qualifications on both of these major issues. On recognition, the State Department's draft said: "We look forward to extending full and prompt recognition to the permanent Government of Israel as soon as it is established." On the arms embargo, it asserted: "We recognize the right of the State of Israel to secure in the United States and elsewhere the arms and equipment

(more)



necessary to defend itself, subject only to the decision of the United Nations. Subject thereto, we favor the lifting of the arms embargo to accord to the State of Israel the right to defend itself."

This wording was vigorously opposed within the Preliminary Drafting Committee, which was overwhelmingly in favor of an Israel plank without "weasel-words". The chairman of the Resolutions Committee, Senator Francis J. Myers of Pennsylvania, consistently favored a forthright declaration. The fight to revise the State Department's wording was led by Representative Emanuel Celler of Brooklyn, N. Y. Other members of the Drafting Committee who are known to have fought for a strong plank include Mrs. Esther Murray of California, Senator Scott Lucas of Illinois, former Governor Maurice Tobin of Massachusetts, Mayor Hubert H. Humphrey, Jr. of Minnesota, Representative Mike Mansfield of Montana, William Ritchie of Nebraska, Representative Michael J. Kirwan of Ohio, Senator Theodore F. Green of Rhode Island and former Senator Hugh B. Mitchell of Washington. The omission of other committee members from this list does not indicate that they were opposed to a clear-cut pronouncement on Israel. It merely signifies that, in most cases, their attitudes were not made known outside the Committee.

The vigorous campaign for a strong Israel plank carried on by New York's Mayor William O'Dwyer also proved to be one of the chief influences for forthright action by the Resolutions Committee.

The plank which was finally adopted today is generally regarded here as a strong rebuke of the State Department and a major defeat for the anti-Zionist forces in the Administration.

The efforts to bring about the adoption of a strong Israel plank were directed by the American Zionist Emergency Council. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of the Council and of the American Section of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, invited Judge Louis E. Levinthal of Philadelphia, former president of the Zionist Organization of America, to present the case for the plank before the Resolutions Committee.

(more)



On Friday, July 9, Judge Levinthal appeared before the drafting group and his statement was warmly commended. The Council's activities were once again carried forward by Harold P. Manson, Director of Information, and Hyman A. Schulson, Counsel to the Washington Bureau.

The 1948 Democratic plank on Israel is the fourth declaration of support obtained under Dr. Silver's leadership from the major U. S. political parties.

The full text of the plank follows:

"President Truman, by granting immediate recognition to Israel, led the world in extending friendship and welcome to a people who have long sought and justly deserved freedom and independence. We favor full recognition of the State of Israel."

"We affirm our pride, too, that the United States, under the leadership of President Truman, played a leading role in the adoption of the Resolution of November 29, 1947 by the United Nations General Assembly for the creation of a Jewish State."

"We approve the claims of the State of Israel to the boundaries set forth in the United Nations Resolution of November 29 and consider that modification thereof should be made only if fully acceptable to the State of Israel."

"We look forward to the admission of the State of Israel to the United Nations and its full participation in the international community of nations."

"We pledge appropriate aid to the State of Israel in developing its economy and resources."

"We favor the revision of the arms embargo to accord to the State of Israel the right of self-defense. We pledge ourselves to work for the modification of any Resolution of the United Nations to the extent that it may prevent any such revision."

"We continue to support within the framework of the United Nations the internationalization of Jerusalem and the protection of the holy places of Palestine."



328  
**PRESS RELEASE from AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations*

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi Organization of America • Labor Zionist Organization of America-Poale Zion  
United Zionists-Revisionists of America • Hashomer Hatzair • Achdut Havodah-Poale Zion (United Labor Zionist Party)

342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

11/8/48  
OR  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMERICAN ZIONISTS CALL UPON PRESIDENT TRUMAN

TO UNDO "GREAT INJUSTICE" PERPETRATED BY U.S. DELEGATION IN PARIS

-- -- --

STATE DEPARTMENT'S ACTIONS ASSAILED

AS UNDERMINING DECLARED AMERICAN POLICY

-- -- --

New York, Nov. 5 -- The American Zionist Emergency Council, speaking for all Zionist organizations in the United States, today called upon President Truman to undo the "great injustice" perpetrated by the American delegation to the United Nations which brought about passage by the Security Council of a British-conceived resolution aimed at the imposition of sanctions against Israel. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver is chairman of the Council.

"Today it is clear to the American people that our delegation in Paris is carrying forward a British-engineered program on Israel which is designed to undermine the declared American policy," the Council asserted, adding that President Truman "now has a great opportunity to establish once and for all that his declarations on Israel were sincerely meant and carefully considered. We hope he will seize that opportunity."

The text of the statement follows:

"Under pressure from the United States delegation, the Security Council has taken the astounding action of adopting a British-conceived resolution aimed at the imposition of sanctions against Israel in case Israel refuses to withdraw its troops in the Negev."

"State Department propagandists have sought to create the impression

(more)



that the American amendment to the original British-Chinese resolution was in Israel's interest inasmuch as specific reference to the possibility of sanctions against either side had been removed. This is an entirely false interpretation by which the sponsors of this move hope to sugarcoat their sinister designs against Israel. Actually, the U.S.-amended resolution broadens the field of sanctions which the British have been seeking to impose on Israel.

"During the first weeks of October the Arab forces repeatedly violated the truce by attacking the Israeli line of communications which supplied the necessities of life to Jewish settlements in the Negev. Some of these attacks were carried out in the presence of United Nations observers. The fighting which then took place, and which resulted in a decisive Israeli victory, was caused by Arab attempts to secure military and political advantages by violations of the truce. The Arabs were encouraged to launch their attacks by the open secret that the British and our State Department proposed to award them the greater part of the territory of Israel. The Government of Israel had every right, under the terms of the truce, to resist the Arab attempt to cut off communications of the Negev. Nevertheless, today the Security Council -- the world guardian of peace and the integrity of nations -- is being called upon to penalize Israel for defending the territory assigned to it by the United Nations and, indeed, for upholding the will of the nations as expressed in the General Assembly's decision of November 29, 1947.

"The action of the American delegation in Paris is particularly shocking in view of the fact that it follows by a few days the declaration of policy on Israel made by the President of the United States -- and is in violent contradiction to it. In a sudden burst of speed, the American delegation has sought to confront the American people with a fait accompli. It rushed the British resolution through the Security Council immediately after the U.S.

(more)



elections, without affording other delegations an opportunity for proper study or debate. Furthermore, the State Department evidently intends that yesterday's action shall serve merely as a prelude to an all-out anti-Israel offensive, both in the Security Council and in the General Assembly. It is apparently joining in the British attempt to apply the Security Council resolution not only to the Negov but to Galilee as well.

"How does one reconcile these actions with the policy statements of President Truman? Only yesterday the President declared: 'I'm going to do the very best I can to carry out the Democratic platform as I promised all over the country.' The plank on Israel is an important part of that platform.

"Today it is clear to the American people that our delegation in Paris is carrying forward a British-engineered program on Israel which is designed to undermine the declared American policy.

"We now look to President Truman not only to undo a great injustice, but to preserve our country's integrity, which cannot forever survive the repeated assaults upon it perpetrated by cynical international manipulators. The President now has a great opportunity to establish once and for all that his declarations on Israel were sincerely meant and carefully considered. We hope he will seize that opportunity."



**PRESS RELEASE from AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations*

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi Organization of America • Labor Zionist Organization of America-Poale Zion  
United Zionists-Revisionists of America • Hashomer Hatzair • Achdut Havodah-Poale Zion (United Labor Zionist Party)

342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

FOR RELEASE: MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1948

DR. SILVER PAYS TRIBUTE TO COURAGE AND SACRIFICES OF ISRAEL

AND JEWISH PEOPLE IN STATEMENT MARKING

FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF U.N. PARTITION RESOLUTION

- - - - -

CALLS FOR "WORK, SKILL AND UNFAILING SUPPORT"

OF NEW STATE BY JEWS OF THE WORLD

- - - - -

New York, November 28 -- In a statement marking the first anniversary of the United Nations' partition resolution, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of the American Zionist Emergency Council, today asserted that the Jewish people must "remain mobilized and alerted" in support of the new State of Israel.

Declaring that it was certain that as a result of the courage and sacrifices on the part of the State of Israel and the Jewish people, "what has been established has been firmly established and what has been achieved is irrevocable," Dr. Silver expressed the hope that the coming year would see the admission of Israel into the United Nations and the establishment of peace and prosperity in the Holy Land.

The full statement, issued on behalf of all official Zionist bodies in the United States, represented in the American Zionist Emergency Council, follows:

"The year which has elapsed since November 29th has been one of the most momentous in Jewish history. Three unprecedented events give it its tremendous importance: the recognition by the United Nations of the right of the Jewish people to establish their state in Palestine, the proclamation of the State of

(more)

11/20/48



Israel by the Yishuv, and the remarkable and successful military defense of this State by the people of Israel.

"This year was characterized by vacillation and indecision on the part of governments and of the United Nations itself but also by unshaken steadfastness and resolution on the part of the State of Israel and the Jewish people. It is certain that as a result of the courage and sacrifices, what has been established has been firmly established and what has been achieved is irrevocable. The great political hurdles have been manipulated. The organization of the State has been consolidated. Many serious problems still remain but none that cannot be solved by work, skill and unfailing support on the part of the Jews of the world. We must remain mobilized and alerted. One of the deepest satisfactions of this year has been the unprecedented flow of Jewish immigration into Israel. With increasing financial support from us the State of Israel will be able at the present rate quickly to empty the DP camps of Europe and offer a haven to many other endangered Jews in other parts of the world.

"This has been a year of struggle, achievement and victory. We must now tense ourselves for the long pull ahead. I trust that the coming year will see the admission of the State of Israel into the United Nations and the establishment of peace and prosperity in the Holy Land."



**PRESS RELEASE from**

**AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations:*

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi • Poale-Zion

342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

287  
6  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMERICAN ZIONISTS "SHOCKED" BY MARSHALL LETTER ON PALESTINE

- - - -

DECLARE IT IS "FURTHER STEP BACKWARD BY ADMINISTRATION"

- - - -

New York, May 7th -- The American Zionist Emergency Council speaking for the entire Zionist movement in the United States, today issued the following comment on the letter of Secretary of State Marshall to 30 members of Congress with regard to United States policy on Palestine:

"The letter of Secretary of State Marshall to 30 members of Congress, made public today, in which the Secretary of State declares that 'it would be premature for this Government to develop its policy with regard to the substance of this (Palestine) question,' is shocking. Coming as it does from the Secretary of State of the Government which is already committed in precise terms to support and advance a long-standing policy on Palestine, this statement can only be viewed as a further step backward by our Administration, which has apparently been induced to cooperate with the British Government's present program of scuttling the historic pledges and obligations to the Jewish people.

"Along with millions of other Americans, we have been under the impression that our Government has a policy on Palestine -- one which could not be more clearly stated. We have assumed that the pronouncements of our country's Chief Executive constitute American policy -- especially when such pronouncements take the form of a communication with another chief of state, as was the case in President Truman's letter to King Ibn Saud of October 28, 1946. In view of the

(more)



*John S. Sand*

State Department's latest assertion, it would not be out of place to quote a significant portion of that letter. The President said:

"The Government and people of the United States have given support to the concept of a Jewish national home in Palestine ever since the termination of the first World War, which resulted in the freeing of a large area of the Near East, including Palestine, and the establishment of a number of independent states which are now members of the United Nations. The United States, which contributed its blood and resources to the winning of that war, could not divest itself of a certain responsibility for the manner in which the freed territories were disposed of, or for the fate of the peoples liberated at that time. It took the position, to which it still adheres, that these peoples should be prepared for self-government and also that a national home for the Jewish people should be established in Palestine. I am happy to note that most of the liberated peoples are now citizens of independent countries. The Jewish national home, however, has not as yet been fully developed.

"It is only natural, therefore, that this Government should favor at this time the entry into Palestine of considerable numbers of displaced Jews in Europe, not only that they may find shelter there but also that they may contribute their talents and energies to the upbuilding of the Jewish national home."

"What was President Truman's letter, then, if not a declaration of American policy?

"In addition to declarations by every President of the United States since Woodrow Wilson, there have been two resolutions of Congress, adopted for the express purpose of setting down American policy on Palestine. The most recent Congressional resolution, adopted in December, 1945, reads:

"Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the interest shown by the President in the solution of this problem is hereby

(more)



commended and that the United States shall use its good offices with the mandatory power to the end that Palestine shall be opened for free entry of Jews into that country to the maximum of its agricultural and economic potentialities, and that there shall be full opportunity for colonization and development, so that they may freely proceed with the upbuilding of Palestine as the Jewish national home and, in association with all elements of the population, establish Palestine as a democratic commonwealth in which all men, regardless of race or creed, shall have equal rights.'

"What was that resolution, then, if not a statement of the will of the American people, which shall be reflected in our Government's Palestine policy?

"We are not impressed by the Secretary of State's contention that a clear stand by the United States now would 'limit the full utilization of that (United Nations inquiry) committee's recommendations and its report.' We submit that the facts of the Palestine situation are very well known to our Government. They were clear enough to President Truman two years ago when he requested the immediate admission of 100,000 homeless Jews into Palestine -- a request which the British Government countered by devising several new 'inquiries' and 'investigations' of the Palestine problem. Nor would there be much point to a stand by the United States Government after the United Nations committee of inquiry has completed its investigation and submitted its report. We had every reason to believe that our Government would wish to put forward America's views on the question during its discussion and would look forward to the adoption of these views by other nations -- as has been American practice with regard to other international problems that have come before the United Nations. Surely, the British Government and the Arab States -- which are seeking the liquidation of the Jewish National Home -- are showing no reticence about speaking their minds.

"We wonder whether the Secretary of State has fully weighed the implications

(more)



of the present United States attitude at a time when the nations of the world are looking to our Government for a lead in international affairs. Surely our Administration cannot persist in disregarding its own commitments on Palestine without confounding the American people and without evoking a strong public reaction. We continue to look forward to the positive action by our Government which we are entitled to expect on the basis of its repeated declarations of policy in support of the Jewish National Home."

--30--

#287 - 5/7/47





298  
**PRESS RELEASE from AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL**

*Associated Organizations*

Zionist Organization of America • Hadassah • Mizrahi Organization of America • Labor Zionist Organization of America-Poale Zion  
United Zionists-Revisionists of America • Hashomer Hatzair • Achdut Havodah-Poale Zion (United Labor Zionist Party)

342 Madison Avenue • New York 17, N. Y. • MU 2-1160

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMERICAN ZIONIST MOVEMENT WELCOMES U.S. GOVERNMENT'S  
STATEMENT ON PALESTINE BEFORE UN

- - - -

EMERGENCY COUNCIL WARNS AGAINST MODIFICATIONS WHICH WILL  
WHITTLE DOWN JEWISH STATE AREA

- - - -

New York, Oct. 11 -- The United States Government's statement on Palestine before the United Nations, supporting the majority report of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine, was welcomed today by the American Zionist Emergency Council, which speaks for the entire organized Zionist movement in the United States.

Expressing the hope that the United States' declaration "will hasten an early and just decision," the Council at the same time declared: "The American people and freedom-loving nations will, we are confident, be on the alert to prevent such modifications and whittling down of the area designated as the Jewish state as to render that state utterly unviable. Acceptance of the recommendations of the majority report represents an enormous sacrifice on the part of the Jewish people. It cannot and must not be asked to sacrifice further."

The text of the Council's statement follows:

"The American Zionist Emergency Council, speaking on behalf of the entire organized Zionist movement in the United States, welcomes the statement of the Government of the United States on Palestine before the

Begin.



United Nations. We are pleased to note that the United States supports the majority report of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine, that it has called for a solution at this session of the General Assembly, and has expressed willingness to participate in the implementation of the solution. The United States' reaffirmation of our country's historic connection with the upbuilding of the Jewish National Home and its warning against the threat or use of force against the implementation of the UN decision are most gratifying.

"We are hopeful that the United States' declaration will hasten an early and just decision. The American people and freedom-loving nations will, we are confident, be on the alert to prevent such modifications and whittling down of the area designated as the Jewish state as to render that state utterly unviable. Acceptance of the recommendations of the majority report represents an enormous sacrifice on the part of the Jewish people. It cannot and must not be asked to sacrifice further."