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American Zionist Emergency Council, communications to
chairmen of local emergency committees, 1948.

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

MEMORANDUM

To Members of American Zionist Emergency Council Date May 5, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

The enclosed memorandum with attachments was sent today to the
Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees.

HLS:LD
Encs.



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

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees

Date May 5, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the statement made by Mr. Moshe Shertok before Committee I of the General Assembly on April 27, 1948.

Also enclosed is a memorandum which the Jewish War Veterans have sent to their posts. I send it to you for your information with the hope that your local committee will cooperate in this project.

Regards.

HLS:RB
Encs.



MADE IN U.S.A.

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees

Date May 17, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

The 14th of May will be remembered as one of the great dates of history. On that day the State of Israel came into being once again; and the President of the United States announced that our great country has extended recognition to the new Jewish State.

This is indeed a moment of fulfillment. Last night a tremendous outpouring of humanity in and around Madison Square Garden, New York City, gave expression to the great joy of the Jewish people on this historic occasion, and also made it unmistakably clear that the Jews of America will not let up in their efforts until Israel is victorious.

The keynote of last night's tremendous demonstration was struck by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, who declared that President Truman's great act of statesmanship in recognizing Israel must be translated into effective, practical steps by our Government -- acts which will aid the Jewish State in its struggle against the Arab aggressors. All of the great personalities who spoke in Madison Square Garden last night joined Dr. Silver in calling for an immediate end to the unfair and discriminatory embargo on arms to the Jewish State and demanded that the valiant defenders of Israel receive both the moral and material aid they need in their fight for independence.

This just demand must now be projected by all American Zionists in the most effective way possible. All of us, working together, have achieved much. But the work is not over -- not until Israel has defeated and expelled the invaders.

For the present, please ensure that the following is done:

1. Urge that all letters of congratulations and gratitude which are being sent to the President for his magnificent act in recognizing Israel respectfully call upon him to modify the arms embargo immediately, so that the army of Israel may be enabled to defend the new State properly.
2. Express your thanks to your Senators, Representatives and other public officials who have aided the struggle. Such letters should point out that our country's recognition of Israel must be followed by the modification of the arms embargo. Also ask our friends in Congress to remain on guard against any new attempts to reverse American policy on Palestine.

Throughout these past critical years the Congress of the United States has stood by our side. We may have occasion to call upon the Legislative Branch of our Government for additional help. It is, therefore, of the utmost importance that you remain in close personal contact with your Senators and Representatives, acknowledge their efforts in our behalf and submit suggestions.

We are confident that Israel will win through to victory. But we must strengthen the hands of the brave citizens of the Jewish State, so that great sacrifices of precious lives will not be necessary. We believe that the Zionists of America, who have done so much to bring about this glorious moment in Jewish history, will remain at their posts until the war is won.

HLS:EB



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HLS:EB



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

MEMORANDUM

To Members of American Zionist Emergency Council *Date* May 26, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

The enclosed memorandum with attachment was sent today to the Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees.

HLS:LD
Encls.

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees

Date May 26, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

Israel's real enemy in its fight for independence and survival is Great Britain. The British Government is openly financing, supplying and directing the Arab assault against the Jewish State.

Fortunately, the American people have not been confused by the propaganda smoke-screen behind which Great Britain has sought to carry out its plan to destroy the State of Israel. The American press has reacted magnificently and has treated British perfidy with the contempt it deserves. However, the battle for public opinion is far from over. Shrewd British propagandists can be expected to flood this country with lies and to re-introduce the "Red bogey" -- the argument that the Arabs must be supported in order to stem the spread of communism in the Middle East.

There is, therefore, a great task before us. We must not only be prepared to meet every new British propaganda device, but should anticipate Britain's attempts to mislead American public opinion.

We must do even more. Mr. Bevin has a very thick skin and is quite deaf to pleas for justice. There is, however, one language which he and his associates understand well -- that of the American dollar. The economic weapon is the one that this country can use most effectively in this instance, and its use is clearly called for, in view of the fact that Great Britain is financing the Arab invasion of Israel with funds supplied by the American Treasury.

Senator Styles Bridges (R., N.H.), chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, has already raised this question on the floor of the Senate, and a number of outstanding members of both Houses of Congress have joined him in demanding an investigation of United States aid to Britain in order to determine whether such financial aid enables the British Government to arm the Arabs against Israel. Senator Bridges has called upon Paul G. Hoffman, ERP Administrator, to report to his Committee on this question. It is no secret that the British are greatly concerned over this latest development.

We must now mobilize all our strength behind the demand that the United States Government deny Britain the funds to supply Arab aggressors. This can be done in the following ways:

1. Organize the widest possible support for the efforts initiated by Senator Bridges to investigate the effects of United States aid to Britain on the war against Israel. Write to your Senators and Representatives and urge them to insist that further American financial aid to Britain be halted until the British Government ceases its monetary and military assistance to the Arabs.

2. Call upon all holders of public opinion in your community -- editors, radio commentators, clergymen, public officials -- to back you up in this just demand. Take steps to ensure that the citizens of your city are fully aware of the facts. This can be done through the publication of advertisements in your local newspapers. Attached to this memorandum you will find the text of an advertisement which the American Zionist Emergency Council placed in the New York and Washington press. We urge you to reproduce it in your own newspapers.
3. Continue to have letters of thanks sent to President Truman for his recognition of Israel, but also be sure that such letters respectfully call upon him to modify the embargo on arms to Israel and to withhold financial aid from Britain as long as that Government continues to supply, equip and lead Arab armies.

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As you know, the United States Government has intervened in the case of the 41 United States citizens removed from the American ship, "Marine Carp" while en route to Israel and interned in a concentration camp by the Lebanese Government. At the moment the situation is this: the State Department has disclosed that the Lebanese Government is willing to release the 41 Americans on condition that they return to this country. The United States Minister to Lebanon is questioning the interned Americans to determine their reaction to the Lebanese proposition.

A very important issue is at stake here, involving the freedom of international communications and American sovereignty. The United States Government must not permit any foreign power to take discriminatory measures against American citizens of Jewish faith travelling aboard American vessels. Nor can the seizure of the citizens of other countries while travelling aboard American ships be countenanced by our Government.

We urge you to make every effort to ensure that the full implications of the Lebanese Government's action are clearly understood by the citizens of your community. You should be able to obtain general agreement that our Government must obtain binding guarantees of no further interference with American vessels sailing between the United States and Israel.

If any of the interned "Marine Carp" passengers come from your city, we urge you to write and wire to your Senators and Representatives and ask them to intervene with the State Department, and to insist that their rights as American citizens are safeguarded -- and as American citizens they certainly are entitled to travel from this country to the friendly State of Israel without molestation or interference.

HLS:MSR
Enc.

TEXT OF ADVERTISEMENT

AMERICA: DON'T FINANCE BRITAIN'S WAR AGAINST ISRAEL

On April 16, Sir Alexander Cadogan, Great Britain's chief delegate to the United Nations, made an official statement reaffirming previous undertakings of the British Government to withdraw the Transjordan Arab Legion from Palestine before May 15, the date of the termination of the British Mandate. These official undertakings of His Majesty's Government have been unabashedly and cynically broken.

The Arab Legion has not only remained in Palestine, but has both before and after May 15 engaged in open aggression against Jewish settlements in the area of the Republic of Israel, as well as in the area of the Arab portion of partitioned Palestine. With British officers at its head, the Transjordan Arab Legion is at this very moment bringing death, destruction and desecration to Jerusalem and its holy places. In open defiance of the United Nations General Assembly's cease-fire resolution, which was designed to safeguard the Holy City and to which the Arabs had consented, British-led Arab Legionnaires are obliterating some of mankind's most sacred shrines in their murderous assault on civilization itself. The urgent appeals of Christendom's leaders have fallen on deaf ears.

The responsibility for these attacks--for the loss of life and property inflicted by the British-financed, British-trained, British-supplied and British-controlled Arab Legion--rests squarely on the Government of Great Britain. The use of a puppet's army may save the lives of British soldiers and may be exploited as a technical subterfuge, but it does not diminish Britain's culpability.

Having sought to create the impression in American public opinion that the Arab Legion is no longer under British command, and having failed in that attempt, the Foreign Office in London has now announced that it will not halt its monetary subsidy and supply of arms to Abdullah's Legion unless and until the United Nations decides that the Arabs are acting illegally. This shocking statement coincided with an official inspection of the Arab Legion's positions around Jerusalem by Brigadier Glubb, a British officer officially assigned by the War Office to command the Transjordan Legion. Furthermore, the British Foreign Office has announced that Great Britain will continue to supply arms, money and officers to the armies of other Arab states as well.

Great Britain has thus openly admitted its active participation in the war against Israel, a state created on the basis of a decision by the overwhelming majority of the United Nations General Assembly, and a state first recognized by the United States of America.

These facts should be known by all, and the inescapable conclusions therefrom acted upon. Great Britain today supports Arab aggression from Transjordan, Egypt and Iraq with money which comes from the American Treasury; with money supplied by the taxpayers of America.

If moral principles, human decency, justice in international relations and the expressed will of organized mankind have no effect upon the Government of Great Britain, the time has come for the United States to deny to Britain the funds to supply Arab aggressors. The United States Government cannot be expected to finance indirectly an organized onslaught on a friendly state. Nor can peace-loving American citizens--Jews and non-Jews--be expected to contribute to the British-led Arab war to annihilate Israel.

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

C
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PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL

Office of the
Acting Representative
To the United Nations

New York, N. Y.

June 1, 1948

Hon. Trygve Lie
Secretary General of the United Nations
United Nations
Lake Success, New York

Sir:

On Saturday, May 29, I transmitted to the Provisional Government of Israel the text of the resolution adopted by the Security Council with reference to a cease-fire in Palestine for a period of four weeks. I now have the honor to convey the following reply from Mr. M. Shertok, Foreign Minister in the Provisional Government of Israel:

"The Provisional Government of Israel has given full consideration to the resolution of the Security Council adopted on May 29, 1948 calling upon all governments and authorities to order the cessation of all acts of armed force for a period of four weeks.

"The Provisional Government of Israel has decided to respond to this call and to instruct the High Command of the Defence Army of Israel to issue a cease-fire order to Israeli forces on all fronts to be observed as from Wednesday, June 2, 3:00 AM Israeli time (corresponding to 7:00 PM New York Daylight time) if the other side acts likewise. The Provisional Government of Israel will also comply with all the injunctions and obligations imposed by the resolution, provided that a similar undertaking is entered into by the other governments and authorities concerned.

"The readiness of the Provisional Government of Israel to cooperate in the execution of the cease-fire as laid down in the Security Council's resolution is based on the following assumptions which, in the opinion of the Provisional Government, are clearly implied in the terms of the resolution:

"1. That the ban on the import of arms into the territory of the Arab states enumerated in the resolution should apply also to the deliveries of arms from stocks owned or controlled by foreign powers within those territories.

"2. That during the cease-fire, the armed forces of neither side will seek to advance beyond the areas controlled by them at the announcement of the cease-fire and that each side will be entitled to maintain the positions in its military occupation at that time.

June 1, 1948

- "3. That freedom of access to Jerusalem will be ensured for the supply of food and other essentials, as well as for normal civilian entry and exit.
- "4. That any attempt by the parties concerned to stop or impede the normal transport of goods assigned to Israel and other states concerned will be regarded as an act of armed force.
- "5. That while the Provisional Government of Israel is ready to comply with the injunction that persons of military age admitted during the cease-fire period should not be mobilized or submitted to military training, its freedom to admit immigrants, regardless of age, will not be impaired."

Although all these consequences seem to flow naturally from the text and spirit of the cease-fire resolution which the Provisional Government of Israel accepts without reservation, it seems important for the avoidance of misunderstanding that they should be placed on the record at this stage.

In addition to this letter, I have been instructed to seek an early occasion, at the discretion of the Security Council, for explaining the views of the Provisional Government of Israel in an oral submission. May I request that the contents of this letter be made available to members of the Security Council.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Aubrey S. Eban
Acting Representative
Provisional Government of Israel

COPY

16 East 66th Street
New York 21, N.Y.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 1, 1948

A military spokesman of the Israeli delegation today issued the following summary:

Communiques issued in Cairo and Amman continue to give a distorted impression of the military position in Palestine.

The facts after two weeks of attempted invasion by five Arab armies are as follows:

The territory of the State of Israel is entirely free of invaders, and Israeli forces in operations of active defense have seized military control of more than 400 square miles of territory outside the State of Israel. Israeli forces are in control of the whole of Galilee. Syrian and Lebanese invaders have been evicted entirely from Palestinian soil, and Israeli forces have been operating tactically on Syrian and Lebanese soil.

The coastal plain from the Lebanese border down to Isdud (the Arab border city under the partition plan) is under full Israeli control. All the seaports of Palestine (with the exception of Arab Gaza) - Acre, Haifa, Tel Aviv and Jaffa are in Jewish hands. Israeli forces have advanced within the last few days into the Arab triangle in the direction of Jenin, capturing Lajjun and Zirin.

In the south Egyptian attacks on Jewish villages have all been successfully repelled. Advanced bases of the Egyptian forces in Majdal have been successfully attacked. Egyptian forces are operating exclusively on Arab territory.

All territory assigned to Israel in the Jordan Valley has been cleared of the invader, and Beisan is the seat of a Jewish military command.

The heights overlooking the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem road, which is outside Israel's territory, are all in Israeli hands, with the exception of the Latrun monastery around which the battle is now raging.

Dispatches placing Arab forces a few miles from Tel Aviv are entirely misleading since the boundaries of Israel are at many points only a few miles east of Tel Aviv.

COPY

16 East 66th Street
New York 21, N.Y.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 1, 1948

A spokesman for the Israeli Government today issued the following statement:

The so-called Christian Union in Jerusalem, which has issued a manifesto regarding damage to religious buildings in the Holy City, is not a neutral body. It is a group of Arab clergymen or clergymen with predominantly Arab congregations, which has completely identified itself with the political aims of the Arab Higher Committee. None of the Protestant churches is associated with this group, nor is the Roman Catholic Church as such.

Over two months ago, on March 24, the Syrian delegate in the Security Council read out a political statement by this group which gave complete support to the Arab case. It demanded the revocation of the General Assembly's partition resolution and declared the solidarity of this group with their "Moslem brethren."

Since then this body has continued to be active in the field of Arab political propaganda.

Many of the benevolent institutions to which the manifesto refers served as British army quarters prior to the termination of the Mandate and were occupied by the Jewish forces upon their evacuation to prevent the Arab military forces from taking them. Others were originally occupied by Arab forces, used as military bases and taken by the Jews as a matter of absolute military necessity.

The new manifesto is a distortion intended to divert attention from the primary fact that it was a foreign Arab army - the British-led and armed Trans-Jordan Arab Legion, which bombed and shelled Jerusalem - not the Jewish defenders of that city. The fact is that Jewish religious institutions suffered the major brunt of the damage and all the synagogues in the Old City were destroyed. Jewish synagogues are also Holy Places.

It is regrettable that such attempts to stir up hostility against the Jewish cause should be made by a partisan political group sheltering behind the cloak of religious sentiment.

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

MEMORANDUM

To Members of American Zionist Emergency Council *Date* June 1, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

The enclosed memorandum with attachments was sent today to the
Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees.

HLS:LD
Encs.

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees Date June 1, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

Today the Provisional Government of Israel issued three important documents:

1. The text of Foreign Minister Shertok's reply to the Security Council's resolution with reference to a cease-fire.
2. A summary of the military position in Palestine by a military spokesman of the Israeli Government.
3. A statement on the manifesto issued by the so-called Christian Union in Jerusalem.

We are sending you copies of these three statements and urge you to use them in keeping your community informed about the most recent political and military developments regarding Palestine.

Regards.

HLS:MSR
Enc.

MEMORANDUM

Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees

June 8, 1948

To

Date

Harry L. Shapiro

From

We are again calling your attention to the anti-Zionist propaganda campaign which continues unabated in a number of national magazines. While the daily press has given overwhelming support to our cause during the past critical months, many important magazines have closed their columns to Zionist articles while opening them wide to pro-Arab writers. Life, Look, Reader's Digest, Collier's, Saturday Evening Post -- all have published viciously anti-Zionist pieces. Our efforts to bring about the publication of refutations have not yet succeeded with the notable exception of Collier's which printed an excellent article by Dr. Jorge Garcia Granados in its May 22nd issue. The publication of the Granados article was unquestionably the result of the many letters of protest which were sent after the Lessing Rosenwald piece appeared.

The June 12th issue of the Saturday Evening Post contains another article by the Arabs' chief propagandist, Kermit Roosevelt, which must not go unchallenged. A campaign of protest from all over the country must be directed at the editors of that magazine.

Here is the plan of action which I suggest to you:

1. Please remember not to write anything to the Saturday Evening Post until after the June 12th issue is on the stands or in the hands of subscribers.
2. After the issue appears, the largest possible number of letters by Jews and non-Jews should go forward to the magazine -- addressed either to Mr. Ben Hibbs, Editor, or to the publishers, or simply to The Editor -- expressing indignation at the publication of Kermit Roosevelt's article, the second in a row presenting a distorted picture of the Palestine problem.
3. These letters from readers and subscribers do not necessarily have to go into a detailed analysis of Mr. Roosevelt's article. However, for the benefit of those of your friends who may wish to write at greater length, we are enclosing a refutation of several points in Roosevelt's article. Please make certain that letter-writers use their own words.
4. Should some of the letters cancel subscriptions or announce that in the future the signatory will stop buying the Saturday Evening Post, this may prove very effective with the publishers of the magazine.

I shall appreciate a report of the action taken by you in this matter. Regards.

HLS:EB
Enc.

"THE PUZZLE OF JERUSALEM'S MUFTI"

By Kermit Roosevelt
(Saturday Evening Post, June 12, 1948)

A FEW POINTS OF CRITICISM

1. The overall purpose of Kermit Roosevelt's article is undoubtedly to whitewash the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem and to present a glorified picture of this notorious war criminal and active partner of Hitler. Granted that Mr. Roosevelt does it with a great deal of subtlety and here and there introduces negative views on the ex-Mufti, laudatory remarks are so preponderant in the article that there can be no doubt as to its real objective.
2. Roosevelt's article opens with a statement that the ex-Mufti "is one of the most revered men living." This actually sets the tone for the entire piece. Any objective reader would consider this a blatant falsehood. Even among the Arabs there are more people who fear Amin el Hussein than who revere him. World opinion on the ex-Mufti is exactly what he deserves in the light of his unsavory biography.
3. Mr. Roosevelt prominently displays the ex-Mufti's statements to him that he is not anti-Jewish but only anti-Zionist, and that he never collaborated with Hitler and Himmler in the planned extermination of European Jewry. This again is a falsehood. There are documents which prove beyond any doubt Amin el Hussein's complicity in the massacre of European Jewry by the Nazis. Some of these documents are available to everybody, including the editors of the Saturday Evening Post. We refer to "The Arab War Effort," a documented account published by the American Christian Palestine Committee. Others are in the form of affidavits presented at the Nuremberg trials showing that the ex-Mufti promoted the extermination of European Jewry. There are letters written by the ex-Mufti to various Nazi officials and puppet governments in Europe, which have been published, proving that on several occasions he supported and urged the massacre of Jews.
4. Mr. Roosevelt tries to present El Hussein as an Arab patriot, who was driven to become anti-Zionist and anti-British, but he carefully avoids any mention of the ex-Mufti's active anti-Americanism. In this connection, the following excerpts from a radio address by Amin el Hussein directed to Arabs in America, delivered on March 19, 1943 in Rome, may be illuminating. This is what Amin el Hussein said on that occasion:

"...The Arabs and Moslems will not be deceived by Britain once again because not only have they known its true intentions but they have also known those of Britain's allies -- America -- and 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 these Arab emigrants in America will refrain from helping Roosevelt or taking part in a war which he brought on to his country...."

5. Making himself the mouthpiece of the Amin el Hussein, Mr. Roosevelt repeats that war criminal's statement that "If Palestine were to be given independence immediately, as a united country with an Arab majority, the Jewish minority there would receive the same rights and privileges that minorities receive in all civilized countries."

To call the Arab lands "civilized countries" and to accept any assurances from the ex-Mufti at their face value -- as Mr. Roosevelt does -- reveals the author's purpose in writing articles of this kind. It is of course undisguised Arab propaganda.

The same purpose can be clearly seen in the concluding section of Roosevelt's article, where he speaks of the strength of the Arab opposition to the Jewish State and tries to build up the Mufti as the one great leader.

6. It is untrue that Amin el Hussein played any part at all in the Arab revolt under Colonel Lawrence.

7. It is untrue that Amin el Hussein was elected "Grand Mufti" of Jerusalem. There is no such post as Grand Mufti of Jerusalem; and he was appointed, not elected, to the post of Mufti of Jerusalem.

8. Mr. Roosevelt writes: "His gentle voice can give orders to kill." That voice has indeed given orders to kill. There is a list of many dozens of Arab politicians and leaders in Palestine who were killed by the Mufti's henchmen because they dared to oppose his dictates.

9. Another statement by Mr. Roosevelt can not stand up in the light of the facts. He writes that the Mufti "has become the leader of all Arabs in that cause." It is generally known that Amin el Hussein's leadership is unacceptable not only to large numbers of Palestinian Arabs, but also to some of the Arab rulers outside of Palestine. Thus, King Abdullah of Transjordan and the Mufti are mortal enemies. Nor does Iraq support the Mufti's leadership.

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

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees Date June 9, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

The British Information Services recently distributed to all leading American newspaper editors, radio commentators and columnists a memorandum purporting to give "the answers to questions concerning Britain's position in the present fighting in the Holy Land." Needless to say, this release presented a distorted picture of Britain's role in the war to destroy Israel.

We have prepared the attached refutation of the British memorandum, and have given it the widest possible distribution among editors, commentators, etc. However, we have no way of knowing whether all of those who received the British release are covered by our mailing lists. We urge you, therefore, to bring the attached memorandum to the attention of your local press. Additional copies for editors, etc. are available upon request.

Regards.

HLS:RB
Enc.

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 HRP 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-Allly 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 uncor-

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:-Sarajond Ext. 68

Lists "M" & "N"

40/WE
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 ROME FOR SERVICE WITH ARAB LEGION WHEN REORG IS APPROVED (.) OFFERS MAJOR ONE
CAPT/SUB (1 CEPT 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 (TO) 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 Jerricans 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 355 Tons DW 167
Tons measure. name of vessel to follow.

FOUR. Escort NCO 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.

.....

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees Date June 15, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

Following are two press statements issued this afternoon by the Israeli Delegation to the United Nations:

A spokesman for the Israeli mission made the following statement today: The proposal to have the member states of the United Nations establish a check on all immigration to the Middle East is an innovation never contemplated by the Security Council cease-fire resolution and not provided in the mediator's truce proposal. It is unwarranted in principle and in practice would lead to hardship and injustice. We have pledged full cooperation with the mediator and his staff but this plan for a hydra-headed inspection of the entire world is utterly incongruous and would be deeply resented by public opinion in Israel.

* * *

A spokesman for the Israeli mission today issued the following statement: Public opinion has been given the impression that British officers have been withdrawn from the Arab Legion and returned to Amman. We wonder how Mr. Bevin will explain the activities of Brigadier Norman J. Lash who is now revealed to be the Arab Legion Commander in Jerusalem. Brig. Lash's most recent contribution to peace and civilization in Jerusalem was to threaten to fire on food convoys reaching the 90,000 Jews of that city and yesterday he issued an order of the day commanding Arab soldiers and civilians to desist from any further relations with Jews and threatening offenders with court martial as spies. Arab legionnaires frankly told our soldiers yesterday that they did not want to fight the Jews but were forced to do so by their British officers. We find it difficult to believe that Mr. Bevin is unable to influence the activities of any British officers serving with the Arab Legion.

* * *

Regards.

HLS:LD

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

MEMORANDUM

To Members of American Zionist Emergency Council Date June 18, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

The attached memorandum was sent today to the Chairmen of Local
Emergency Committees.

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enc.

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees Date June 18, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

The following, gathered from the press and other authoritative advices, outlines the attitude of the Israel Government with regard to the impending negotiations instituted by Count Bernadotte.

1. The State of Israel must be treated as a sovereign nation. No Israel official will meet with Arab officials unless recognized as representing a state and not a minority group in Palestine.
2. There must be no restriction on immigration as to either volume or source. The State of Israel alone will decide how many immigrants it will receive and where they will come from.
3. Israel will not negotiate with the Arabs on any reduction of the territory allotted to it by the United Nations partition decision of November 29 last year. Since it at present holds territory outside the partition boundaries, it is willing to discuss minor territorial adjustments with Arab representatives.
4. Jerusalem must retain its UN status as an international city. If Arab attacks there are resumed after the present four-week truce expires, and if the world continues to view them with indifference, the Jews may demand inclusion within Israel of Jewish Jerusalem. Israel insists on maintaining its present hold on the unbroken territorial connection between Israel and Jerusalem as this is the only effective safeguard for the future of Jerusalem Jewry.
5. The Arabs must abide by the UN decision for creation of an independent Arab state in Palestine; otherwise, Israel will not be inclined to relinquish territory, such as western Galilee, which it has acquired by conquest.

The above should aid you as a guide in your local public relations activities.

Regards.

HLS:RM

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TELEGRAM

JUNE 22, 1948

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIVE CHRISTIAN DELEGATES, REPRESENTING SEVENTY-ONE CITIES IN TWENTY-SIX STATES, A GROUP COMPOSED OF FORTY-THREE CLERGYMEN, SIXTEEN EDUCATORS, JOURNALISTS, JURISTS, AND CIVIC LEADERS, HAVE MET UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE AMERICAN CHRISTIAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE AND WISH TO CONVEY TO YOUR GOVERNMENT OUR SENSE OF OUTRAGE OVER ITS OPEN MILITARY AND MORAL SUPPORT OF ARAB AGGRESSION. IT IS OUR RESOLVE IN OUR COMMUNITIES TO PUBLICIZE BRITAIN'S ALLIANCE WITH THE ARABS AND ITS FLOUTING OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND TO PRESS FOR SAFEGUARDS AGAINST THE USE OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION ADMINISTRATION FUNDS FOR WAR AGAINST THE STATE OF ISRAEL

AMERICAN CHRISTIAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE
41 EAST 42ND STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y.
BY KARL BAEHR, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

SENT TO THE FOLLOWING:

SIR ALEXANDER CADOGAN
UNITED KINGDOM DELEGATE TO THE UNITED NATIONS
LAKE SUCCESS, NEW YORK

SIR OLIVER FRANKS
BRITISH EMBASSY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

C
O
P
Y

TELEGRAM

JUNE 22, 1948

CHRISTIAN CENTURY
c/o DR. PAUL HUTCHINSON
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE 125 CHRISTIAN CLERGYMEN AND OTHER CIVIC LEADERS OF 71 COMMUNITIES IN 26 STATES, GATHERED AT FRENCH LICK, INDIANA IN THE NATIONAL SEMINAR OF THE AMERICAN CHRISTIAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE, WE HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO PROTEST THE UNJUST AND INACCURATE DESCRIPTION OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL IN YOUR RECENT EDITORIAL ENTITLED "ISRAEL HAS NO GOD." WE BELIEVE THAT THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE OF ISRAEL IS ROOTED IN THE DEEP RELIGIOUS PASSION FOR JUSTICE AND SPIRITUAL VALUES TAUGHT BY THE HEBREW PROPHETS AND NURTURED IN THE JUDAIC-CHRISTIAN TRADITION. WE RESPECTFULLY BRING TO YOUR ATTENTION THE FACT THAT THE LAST PARAGRAPH IN ISRAEL'S DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE READS AS FOLLOWS: "WITH TRUST IN ALMIGHTY GOD, WE SET OUR HANDS TO THIS DECLARATION AT THIS SESSION OF THE PROVISIONAL STATE COUNCIL IN THE CITY OF TEL AVIV THIS SABRATH EVE, THE FIFTH DAY OF IYAR, 5708, THE FOURTEENTH DAY OF MAY, 1948

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

EDGAR DE WITT JONES
JOHN PAUL JONES
JOHN EMERSON ZEITER
BEDROS BAHARIAN
S. RALPH HARLOW
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KARL BAEHR
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RICHARD J. PURCELL
HARRY H. PETERSON
J. SERVIS LARUE

C
O
P
Y

TELEGRAM

JUNE 22, 1948

SENATOR H. STYLES BRIDGES
SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE DELEGATES FROM 26 STATES, REPRESENTING THE CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP OF 71 COMMUNITIES, HEARTILY COMMEND YOUR ACTION IN DRAWING ATTENTION OF THE AMERICAN TAX PAYER TO THE FACT THAT ERP WAS BEING USED TO HELP THE ARAB LEAGUE IN ITS BRITISH INSPIRED WAR AGAINST THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED STATE OF ISRAEL. IN RECOMMENDING AN INVESTIGATION OF THE USE OF AMERICAN FUNDS FOR BRITISH IMPERIAL PURPOSES IN THE MIDDLE EAST YOU HAVE RENDERED AN OUTSTANDING SERVICE NOT ONLY TO THE UNITED STATES, BUT TO THE UNITED NATIONS.

AMERICAN CHRISTIAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE
41 EAST 42nd STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y.
BY KARL BAEHR, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

AMERICAN CHRISTIAN PALESTINE COMMITTEE

41 EAST 42nd STREET

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

• MURRAY HILL 2-4917 •

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Dr. Henry A. Atkinson

C O P Y

July 2, 1948

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Rev. Dr. Howard B. Warren
Prof. Henry N. Wieman

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Rev. Karl Bachr

We wish to express to you our appreciation for your presence at the French Lick Seminar, June 20-22. In both attendance and counsel you contributed greatly. We are sorry that time did not permit us to develop personal associations with each of you.

The French Lick Seminar has sharply outlined the following:

1. The State of Israel is a fact and has been recognized as such by our Government and 15 other nations. However, many difficulties are still besetting this infant democracy, and it is imperative that we give it every support.
2. All of us must organize or strengthen our local chapters of the American Christian Palestine Committee, forming well-balanced groups with active programs.
3. We urge you to carry on a program of education, not only in your local community, but also in the entire region surrounding your home city. Mrs. Blanche J. Shepard, director of our lecture bureau, Club Program Service, is ready to help you with speakers in presenting the subject of Palestine before local organizations - service clubs, forums, college groups, etc. Mrs. Shepard would also be interested in hearing from you concerning lectures which you yourself may deliver on our subject.
4. Keep in touch with the New York office. When you need advice or assistance in your program, write to Rev. Karl Bachr, our executive secretary, who stands ready to help you at any time.

Those of you who have not yet signed a membership card will want to do so and return it to our office.

It was a grand experience to be with you in French Lick. May we meet often in the future. We send you our warm good wishes.

Sincerely,

Karl Bachr

Howard M. LeSourd

Carl Hermann Voss

P.S. Under separate cover you will receive material promised to you at the Seminar.

July 6, 1948

TEXT OF THE REPLY OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL

TODAY CONVEYED TO COUNT FOLKE BERNADOTTE, UN MEDIATOR

On behalf of the Provisional Government of Israel, I have the honor to offer the following observations on the suggestions presented by you under cover of your letter of June 27 as a possible basis for discussion in discharge of your task to "promote a peaceful adjustment of the future situation of Palestine."

1. The Provisional Government of Israel noted with surprise that your suggestions appear to ignore the Resolution of the General Assembly of November 29, 1947, which remains the only internationally valid adjudication on the question of the future government of Palestine.

The Provisional Government also regrets to find that in formulating your suggestions, you do not appear to have taken into account fully the outstanding facts of the situation in Palestine, namely, the effective establishment of the sovereignty of the State of Israel within the area assigned to it in the Assembly's resolution, and other territorial changes which resulted from the repulse of the attack launched against Israel by Palestinian Arabs and by the neighboring Arab States.

2. The Provisional Government of Israel begs to recall that the Jewish people accepted the settlement laid down in the General Assembly's resolution as a compromise entailing heavy sacrifices on its part, and the territory assigned to the Jewish State as an irreducible minimum. It is indeed the conviction of the Provisional Government of Israel that the territorial provisions affecting the Jewish State now stand in need of improvement, in view both of the perils revealed by Arab aggression to the safety and integrity of Israel and of the results achieved by Israel in repelling this aggression. In this connection, the Provisional Government of Israel desires to point out that the territorial settlement laid down in the Resolution was based on partition of Western Palestine between the Jewish people and the Arab population of Palestine. Inclusion of the Arab portion of Palestine in the territory of one of the neighboring Arab states would fundamentally change the context of the boundary problem.

3. The Provisional Government of Israel cannot agree to any encroachment upon or limitation of the free sovereignty of the people of Israel in its independent State. While it is the basic aim and policy of Israel to establish relations of peace and amity with her neighbors on the basis of closest possible collaboration in all fields, international arrangements which may be necessary to give effect to this policy cannot be imposed upon Israel, but can only be entered into as a result of an agreement negotiated between the interested parties as free and sovereign States.

4. The Provisional Government of Israel would be ready to accept the provisions concerning Economic Union as formulated in the Assembly's Resolution if all their basic premises were to materialize. This is not, however, the eventuality envisaged in your suggestions. The partner State whom the Israelis are invited to join in a Union is both in its political identity and in its

geographical dimensions wholly different from the Arab State provided for in the Resolution. Jewish consent to Economic Union in the context of the Resolution cannot therefore be binding in the new situation. It must now be left to the free and unfettered discretion of the Government of Israel in the exercise of its sovereign rights to determine what arrangements should govern Israel's relations with her neighbor or neighbors in the field of economic cooperation.

5. The Provisional Government of Israel must be particularly emphatic in its opposition to any infringement of Israel's independence and sovereignty as regards her immigration policy. Complete and unqualified freedom to determine the size and composition of Jewish immigration was the very essence of the Jewish claim to statehood. Recognition of the moral validity and the practical urgency of that claim in connection with the issue of immigration lay at the roots of its acceptance by the international world. There can be no question of any Israeli Government accepting the slightest derogation in favor of any joint or international body from Israel's sovereignty as regards control of her immigration policy.

6. The Provisional Government of Israel was deeply wounded by your suggestion concerning the future of the City of Jerusalem, which it regards as disastrous. The idea that the relegation of Jerusalem to Arab rule might form part of a peaceful settlement could be conceived only in utter disregard of history and of the fundamental facts of the problem, which are:

- a) the association of Judaism with the Holy City;
- b) the unique place occupied by Jerusalem in Jewish history and present-day Jewish life;
- c) Jewish inhabitants constituted a two-thirds majority in the City before the commencement of Arab aggression and this proportion has greatly increased since then as a result of Arab evacuation;
- d) the whole of Jerusalem with only a few minor exceptions is now in Jewish hands;
- e) and not least the fact that after an exhaustive study of the problem and as a result of the overwhelming consensus of Christian opinion in its midst, the General Assembly resolved that Jerusalem be placed under an international regime.

The Provisional Government of Israel must make it clear that the Jewish people in the State of Israel and the Jews of Jerusalem will never acquiesce in the imposition of Arab domination over Jerusalem, no matter what formal municipal autonomy and what right of access to Holy Places the Jews of Jerusalem might be allowed to enjoy. They will resist any such imposition with all the force at their command. The Provisional Government of Israel regrets having to say that your startling suggestion regarding Jerusalem, by encouraging false Arab hopes and wounding Jewish feelings, is likely to achieve the reverse of the pacifying effect which you undoubtedly had in mind.

7. The Provisional Government of Israel does not find it necessary at this stage to comment upon the other points raised in your suggestions as it hopes that examination of its present observations on the major aspects of the scheme for a settlement tentatively outlined by you may cause you to reconsider your whole approach to the problem.

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

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees *Date* July 7, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

WRHS

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

Attached is the text of the reply of the Provisional Government of Israel to the proposals of the UN mediator Count Folke Bernadotte. It was signed by Mr. Moshe Shertok, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

HLS:RE
Enc.

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

MEMORANDUM

To Members of American Zionist Emergency Council Date July 7, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

The attached memorandum with enclosure was sent today to the Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees.

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enc.

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION (41)

JOSEPH L. EGAN
PRESIDENT

1220

SYMBOLS

| |
|--------------------------|
| DL - Day Letter |
| NL - Night Letter |
| LC - Deferred Cable |
| NLT - Cable Night Letter |
| Ship Radiogram |

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination.

N126 PDE NEW YORK NY 9 1126A

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

DLR 41 EAST 42 ST

79148
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IN VIEW ISRAEL ACCEPTANCE AND ARAB REJECTION TRUCE
EXTENSION PROPOSAL WARFARE HAS RESUMED, DUE AGAIN TO ARAB
AGGRESSION. IMPORTANT THAT YOUR COMMUNITY, JEWS AND NON
JEWS, SEND LARGEST NUMBER OF TELEGRAMS POSSIBLE TO WHITE
HOUSE AND STATE DEPARTMENT URGING PRESIDENT TRUMAN AND
SECRETARY MARSHALL TO PRESS ACTION IN UN SECURITY COUNCIL
TO BRAND ARAB STATES AS AGGRESSORS AND APPLY SANCTIONS
ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER SEVEN OF UN CHARTER. URGE THE
PRESIDENT TO MODIFY ARMS EMBARGO SO THAT ISRAEL CAN DEFEND
ITSELF. PLEASE LAUNCH YOUR TELEGRAM CAMPAIGN IMMEDIATELY.
NEXT TWO DAYS VERY CRITICAL IF WE ARE TO SUCCEED. IT IS
IMPERATIVE TO BEGIN WORK AT ONCE. CANNOT OVERSTRESS
URGENCY ABOVE REQUEST. ISRAEL DEPENDS ON YOU, IN THIS,
ITS HOUR OF NEED. WE MUST NOT LET THEM DOWN. REGARDS

HARRY L SHAPIRO

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

MEMORANDUM

To Members of American Zionist Emergency Council Date July 12, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

The enclosed memoranda, one with attachment, were sent today to the Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees.

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encs.

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees Date July 12, 1948

From Mr. Harry L. Shapiro

Herewith is the text of a statement issued today by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of the American Section of the Jewish Agency for Palestine. I send it to you for your information and for local action. I sincerely hope that you will disseminate this information to your community. The statement is as follows:

"The American Section of the Jewish Agency for Palestine has previously declared that upon the establishment of the State of Israel and the creation of a single unified defense army, no organization is authorized by the Government of Israel to solicit contributions in the United States for independent military organizations such as the Irgun. Support of such separatist military units in Palestine is a distinct disservice to the State of Israel as it undermines the authority of the government and interferes with efficient military operations at a time when the new state is beset with gravest danger as a result of the renewed military operations against it by the neighboring Arab states.

"The Jewish Agency wishes to renew this request to Americans not to contribute to any campaigns under whatever name for the support of military organizations in Palestine. The Defense Army of Israel is not soliciting any funds in the United States.

"There has been in existence for some time an organization known as the Americans for Haganah, which has mobilized public opinion in the United States in support of the objectives of the Haganah, while not soliciting funds in its behalf. This organization has rendered excellent service in disseminating information about the work of the Haganah and in counteracting hostile criticism and misinformation spread by dissident groups. Now that Haganah, too, as it existed in the past, has been dissolved by the action of the State of Israel when it established one national defense army, the purposes of the Americans for Haganah have been fully served, and the organization accordingly will promptly suspend its activities.

"The task of disseminating information about the activities of Israel's Army of Defense will, in the future, be carried on by the Office of Information of the Israeli Government and by the various Zionist groups in the United States through their official publications and other channels of information."

HLS:SR

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

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees **Date** July 12, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

Included in an Associated Press dispatch of July 9 was the following:

"Mr. Marshall... ruled out, for the moment at least, any idea that the United States might lift its embargo on shipment of arms to the Middle East as a means of helping Israel.

"The ban, ordered last December 5, forbids shipment of American munitions to Palestine or neighboring Arab countries. Mr. Marshall told a news conference today that the United States is dealing with this issue and the whole Palestine problem through the UN Security Council."

The above statement plus other information which has appeared in the press would seem to give the impression that the United States embargo was a step taken by the United States in conjunction with its activities in the United Nations. The attached memorandum has been prepared in order to clarify the facts in the matter.

The United States took its original action on December 5, unilaterally, without consulting or without agreement with the United Nations Security Council. It can modify the embargo in the same manner.

It will be helpful from a public relations standpoint if the information in the attached memorandum is transmitted to your local newspaper editors.

Regards.

HLS:HH
Enc.

MEMORANDUM

July 12, 1948

Can the Government of the United States Unilaterally Lift its Embargo on the Export of Arms to Israel?

1. On December 5, 1947, the Department of State announced that the United States is "discontinuing for the present the licensing of shipment of arms to the Middle East." This was a sovereign, unilateral act of the United States, taken under no international compulsion.

2. The licensing of arms shipments to any of the territories in the Middle East can therefore be continued by a sovereign act of the United States, unless such continuance is ruled out by any valid international instrument.

3. The only reason in international law for the existence of the embargo at this moment is paragraph 4 of the Resolution on the Palestine Question adopted at the 310th meeting of the Security Council on 29 May 1948, which reads as follows:

"Calls upon all governments and authorities concerned to refrain from importing or exporting war materials into or to Palestine, Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Transjordan and Yemen during the cease-fire."

It is obvious then that as soon as the cease-fire no longer has effect, neither the United States nor any other government has any international obligation to refrain from exporting war material to any state which it deems worthy to receive such material for purposes of defense.

4. In the present circumstances, arising from the Arab refusal to prolong the truce and the consequent resumption of hostilities in and around Palestine, it is clear that the United States is not limited in the exercise of its sovereign right by any existing, valid decision of the Security Council.

5. The opinion has been expressed that the United States may be under the obligation to maintain the embargo by virtue of the Security Council's Resolution of April 17. That Resolution, however, has no existence at all. It was designed merely to affect the period between its adoption and the termination of the British Mandate for Palestine. This is made abundantly clear by the numerous references in the resolution itself to the responsibility of the United Kingdom for the maintenance of law and order. There is another reference which makes it clear that the validity of the Resolution was to be limited by the period which was to elapse "pending the further consideration" of the future government of Palestine by the General Assembly. It was anticipated that this period would coincide with the remaining duration of the Mandate. A study of the verbatim records of the meetings which led up to the adoption of this resolution reinforces this assumption. Several representatives expressed the unchallenged belief that the resolution before the Council was designed purely for the period remaining until the Mandate expired and was succeeded by a new regime.

6. The Security Council itself acknowledged that the April 17 Resolution had expired by beginning a discussion, on May 17, of the terms of a new cease-fire resolution. Such new resolutions were adopted, firstly, on May 22 (and rejected by the Arabs), and later, on May 29. The Resolution of May 29 superseded all its predecessors. The fact that the April 17 Resolution can have no effect in this matter is proved by the fact that the May 29 Resolution contains provisions on the export of arms and war material entirely different from those of April 17.

(1078)

7. The conclusion is that the United States is entirely free from any international obligation in exercising its discretion on the lifting of the embargo and that failure to lift that embargo cannot be said to rest on any grounds of international law.



MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees Date July 12, 1948

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7. The conclusion is that the United States is entirely free from any international obligation in exercising its discretion on the lifting of the embargo and that failure to lift that embargo cannot be said to rest on any grounds of international law.



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

MEMORANDUM

To Members of American Zionist Emergency Council *Date* July 13, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

The encloses memorandum with attachments was sent today
to the Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees.

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encl.

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees *Date* July 13, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

We are sending you herewith a program of the Fourth Annual Seminar of the American Christian Palestine Committee held at French Lick, Indiana June 20, 21, 22 together with covering letter. We also enclose copies of the resolutions adopted by the 125 Christian leaders who attended from various parts of the country.

From all indications the Seminar of the American Christian Palestine Committee was highly successful as to content and effect. The Christian leaders who attended made a careful study of the Palestine question under the leadership of authorities in various fields. If your community was among those which sent a representative we hope that you have, by this date, received a report of what transpired at the Seminar. You should receive great satisfaction from the results achieved and we hope that you will continue to keep in close contact with your delegate.

HLS:ISR
Encls.

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

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees *Date* July 16, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

Attached is a memorandum entitled "Desecration of Holy Places in Palestine." This factual presentation was prepared because there has appeared in the press a number of articles and dispatches from pro-Arab and Arab sources with reference to the holy places in Jerusalem.

Please make the details of this memorandum available to the press in your community in order that it may be used as a basis for editorials and for articles written locally.

Regards.

HLS:RW
Enc.

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

MEMORANDUM

To Members of American Zionist Emergency Council *Date* July 16, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

The enclosed memorandum with attachment was sent today to the Chairman of Local Emergency Committees.

ld
encs.

July 1948

MEMORANDUM

DESECRATION OF HOLY PLACES IN PALESTINE

In the light of the propaganda from Arab and pro-Arab sources on the question of the holy places in Jerusalem, which tends to present a distorted picture of the situation, the following dispatches and reports from Palestine may help to establish the facts with regard to the holy places and their ruination and desecration.

Who Is Responsible for the Destruction of the Holy Places?

What has actually happened during the Arab-Jewish War in Jerusalem and who is directly responsible for the subjection of the Holy City with its religious shrines to destruction and desecration is admirably stated by a British missionary in Jerusalem, Mr. W.L. Hull, in a letter to the Editor of the Manchester Guardian of June 1st. We quote the letter verbatim:

"Sir: A few months ago, when no danger existed, there was a great outcry by the Archbishop of York and some other Church leaders concerning the protection of the holy places in Jerusalem. Now that that danger actually exists they are strangely silent.

"Day after day shells are being poured into Jerusalem by Arab Legion troops. The arms, uniforms and wages of this force are paid for by British taxpayers, and no one acquainted with the situation in Palestine doubts that these troops are there by the tacit consent of the British Government. The shells from these British 25-pounder guns and mortars are devastating that city and bringing ruin to places both holy and unholy.

"Yet the Church is silent; no outcry is made either by the Archbishop of Canterbury or the Archbishop of York. No meetings of protest have been called by Church leaders; the Church is silent. Are we to judge from this that political expediency means more than veneration? Is the British public aware that the British guns, firing British shells, paid for by British taxpayers, are dug in on the Mount of Olives by the very spot from which our Lord ascended to Heaven? Is the British public aware that those shells fired from the Mount of Olives are passing directly over the spot where Jesus knelt in agony of prayer that fateful night before Calvary?"

Haganah Opens King David's Tomb to Christians

For 500 years the King David tomb on Mount Zion in Jerusalem was tightly closed by the Moslems to any Christian visitors. Not before the Israeli Army took over the place could any Christian enter the tomb. The first visit of a Christian dignitary to the tomb after 500 years is described by Julian Louis Meltzer in the New York Times of July 5:

"Jerusalem, July 4 -- Msgr. Gustavo Testa, Roman Catholic Apostolic Delegate, entered the Tomb of David on Mount Zion last week. He was the first Christian dignitary to go inside this Moslem-guarded chamber in 500 years.

"The Tomb of David was closed to non-Moslems by a decree of Caliph Ed-Daher but pilgrimages to the Room of the Last Supper on an upper floor were permitted. King David is regarded by Moslems as a saint.

"Msgr. Testa is papal administrator of the Latin Patriarchate pending the appointment of a new patriarch. He came to inspect the damage to religious edifices. If he had entered the tomb early in the Twentieth Century under the Ottoman regime in Palestine Moslem zealots might have attacked the Christian community, charging desecration of the tomb.

"... Haganah troops retained possession of this area after being ejected from the Old City by the Transjordan Arab Legion May 20. Churches, monasteries and convents were respected by the Haganah, which posted guards to keep intruders away.

"The first Christians to enter the tomb in 500 years were Benedictine and Franciscan priests, who went in last month. They found damage from shelling. Part of the tomb's covering was broken off.

"Msgr. Testa was accompanied by the Jewish Agency's Liaison Officer to Churches, Mr. A.J. Braver, an authority on ancient churches. Differing religious rituals were observed. The Christians went bareheaded into the building, while their Jewish companions donned headgear in deference to the holy spot."

What the Anglican Bishop in Jerusalem Has to Say

The Right Reverend Western Henry Stewart, the Anglican Bishop in Jerusalem, arriving in London early in July for the World Anglican Conference, made the following statement (as quoted from a dispatch by Bernard Minns for the New York Star, datelined London, July 6):

"... So far as I have seen, the holy places in the Old City have suffered little damage, with the exception of the two ancient synagogues, which were destroyed by the Arabs. One of them had been occupied by Haganah forces, and was shelled after the Arabs had sent them a 24-hour ultimatum to quit. The other was filled with unarmed people taking shelter from the fighting."

The Bishop said that while the Arabs had intentionally shelled and later destroyed synagogues, the Arab mosques were respected by the Jewish forces. The largest mosque, Dome on the Rock, remains untouched. "After Haganah had captured the northwest sector of the New City, I saw a mosque marked in Hebrew letters, 'This is a holy place.'"

The Bishop confirmed reports that British officers and men were still serving with Arab forces. He said deserters from the Palestine Police and the British Army have joined the Arab Legion.

He concluded: "Though I have for many years been opposed to partition in Palestine, it is now a fact and will have to be accepted."

Loot and Desecration by Arab Armies

During the first week of April 1948, armed Arabs broke into the Franciscan Abbey convent in Bethlehem and stole 2,087 pounds (\$8,348) in cash and a check for 4,000 pounds (\$16,000), all of which was earmarked for charity, the Arabic daily, Falastin, of Jaffa reported.

On April 26 monks were maltreated and valuable religious articles carried off as war spoils by the Iraqi "Liberation Army" in a surprise swoop on the Greek-Orthodox monastery Marsabah, near Jerusalem. In Safad on the same day a Protestant church was blown up by Arabs.

In a much-publicized anti-partition statement made in March by a newly organized Committee of the Christian Church Union of Palestine, Palestine's Christian community was said to be "in complete agreement both in principle and in deed with the Moslems." The statement was protested by the Anglican

Bishop of Jerusalem, who stated that the Anglican Church did not associate itself with it. He also said that the Arab Christian body affiliated to the Anglican Church signed the statement without consulting the head of the Church. The dissociation of the Anglican Church is not surprising in view of the fact that its own congregation, which had worshipped at Christ's Church inside the Walled City, was obliged to leave there at the outbreak of the disturbances because its worshippers were in danger. Its services are now being held in the Street of the Prophets, in the heart of the Jewish Quarter.

Heavy Destruction of Jerusalem's Synagogues

In a dispatch from Jerusalem dated June 7, the following report is given in the New York Times of the indiscriminate destruction of Jewish synagogues in the Old City of Jerusalem:

"Twenty-two of the 27 synagogues in the Jewish Quarter of Jerusalem's Old City were destroyed before the community surrendered to Arab forces May 28, Isaac H. Herzog, Chief Rabbi of Palestine, said today. The five others probably were demolished after the Jews' departure, he added.

"More than 500 Torahs (holy scrolls), many sacred vessels and books and manuscripts of historic value were burned and looted, the rabbi declared, and other Jewish property was burned after the Jews had left."

Arabs Fighting from Christian Churches

Christian churches and religious foundations in Palestine have been widely used by the Arab armies as military headquarters and as fortified positions from which fire was directed at the Jewish sections of Jerusalem.

Here are some facts:

On May 14 the Convent of Ste. Claire, belonging to the Sisters of the Clarine Order, was occupied by Arab troops and from it fire directed on the Jewish Talpieth Quarter and the German colony occupied by Jews.

On May 16 the Armenian Orthodox Cathedral of St. James in Jerusalem was occupied by Iraqi troops, who plundered the church and the Armenian

Quarter around it. A strong protest on the part of His Beatitude, the Armenian Patriarch, was of no avail.

On May 17 an Arab mortar position was established in the Syrian Orthodox Church, Deir Surian, in the Armenian Quarter. Mortars shelled the Jewish Yemin Moshe (Montefiore) Quarter.

On May 17 a similar mortar position was established in the Greek Orthodox Church of St. George in the Armenian Quarter.

On the night of May 17-18 an Arab machine-gun position was set up in the French Convent of Ste. Claire, from which fire was directed against Talploth.

On May 19 the Arab command in the Old City set up its headquarters in the above-mentioned Armenian Cathedral of St. James. It was here that the surrender terms were subsequently accepted by the defenders of the Jewish Quarter in the Old City.

On May 18 Arab troops broke into the Convent of Notre Dame de France and committed acts of plunder and desecration against which the abbe of Notre Dame, Pere Lordre de Sion, protested most strongly. He himself was killed on May 21 when, in view of the advance of Jewish forces, the Arabs blew up parts of the building.

On May 19 the Greek Orthodox Monastery of Mar Elias was occupied by the Arab Legion, which turned it into a base for attacking the settlement of Ramat Rahel.

In the latter part of May the Trappist Monastery of Latrun was occupied by Arabs and turned into a main stronghold and an artillery base, an operation against Jewish forces that were massed there in order to lift the siege of Jerusalem.

In addition to acts of destruction and vandalism incidental to the

occupation of churches and monasteries, the following instances have been recorded of damage caused to Christian establishments by Arab shelling:

On May 16 the Abyssinian Cathedral in Jerusalem was hit several times by mortar bombs. Serious damage was caused to the building, and the clergy had a narrow escape.

On May 18 the Anglican Cathedral of St. George was shelled by Arabs from their positions in Sheikh Jarrah. The British Consul is reported to have filed a strong protest.

On May 19 the Ratisbon Monastery was shelled by Arab forces. The father superior sent a letter of protest to the delegate of the Red Cross. Three mortar shells hit the French Monastery of the Order of the Assumption.

Arab shell fire wounded three nuns in the Convent and the School of St. Joseph de l'Apparition.

On May 22 the Terra Sancta College building suffered a direct hit during Arab Legion shelling. The college had formerly been placed under the protection of the International Red Cross as a refugee center.

On May 24 the Convent of the Soeurs Reparatrices was shelled and set on fire. Members of the Haganah saved five nuns from under the debris. An official letter of thanks was afterward received by the Jewish commander. The Convent of the Soeurs du Rosaire in the Old City was hit by Arab shell fire.

On May 26 an Orthodox church in the Russian compound was hit by shell fire.

Between May 16 and the end of the month eight shells hit the Abyssinian Cathedral and another twenty exploded in its courtyard.

* * *

UNHAPPY TRUCE

by T. O. Thackrey

There is a dangerous air of optimism over the truce which has momentarily halted fighting on several, though not all, fronts in Palestine, hardly justified by a sober review of the conditions:

1. Arab acceptance of the cease-fire order -- an acceptance not observed yesterday by Syrian and Iraqi forces -- is conditioned on embargo of immigration to Israel and loss of Israel's status as a nation.

2. The effect of the Security Council resolution, which was authored by the United States in behalf of American-British joint policy, is to substitute Count Folke Bernadotte as a one-man mandate in Palestine for the indefinite period of the truce. Under a strict interpretation Israel's full sovereignty could be withheld indefinitely, and immigration throttled.

3. Israel's acceptance of the cease-fire order is also conditioned -- and properly -- upon her right to exercise sovereignty over immigration and recognition as a lawful nation.

4. The mediator, Count Bernadotte, continues to press for all-Arab rule over Jerusalem and has thus become an advocate of British and Arabian partisan claims which run directly contrary to the United Nations proposal outlined in the November 29 General Assembly resolution for establishment of Jerusalem as a free city under U.N. control. Israel, which might well have claimed Jerusalem as a capital, in view of the preponderance of Jews in the population, agreed to the U.N. proposal -- but Count Bernadotte is pressing to make it an Arab capital, clearly disqualifying himself as an administrator or mediator.

It now appears most likely that whatever the fate of the cease-fire order, the United Nations mediator, relying on United States and British support in taking a pro-Arab position, will propose again to make Jerusalem an all-Arab city, restrict Israel immigration, reduce Israel's borders and suggest joint Transjordan-Israel sovereignty in Palestine on a pro-rata basis; meaning, of course, establishment of Jewish minority villages under Transjordan rule and the dismemberment of Israel's national sovereignty.

President Truman's administration is wholly responsible for the fact that such a state of affairs has been brought about despite the clear pledges of his party to all-out support for Israel.

The deputy representative of his State Department wrote and fought for adoption of the U.N. Security Council resolution now in effect.

Although his party pledged lifting the arms embargo, the President's representative at Lake Success instead brought about a world-wide arms embargo, more effective on Israel than her enemies since her borders are more readily patrolled.

Although his party pledged full sovereign recognition of Israel, and even pledged that the United States sponsor Israel's membership in the United Nations, President Truman's representative at Lake Success sponsored the resolution that restricts Israel's sovereignty both in the matter of immigration and self defense.

The resolution does not, happily, impose even by implication any restriction on the right of the United States to grant full lawful (de jure) recognition to Israel and conclude treaties of commerce, trade, and other diplomatic exchanges: but yet, President Truman has not acted to do so.

Until he does, he must be held guilty of flouting the pledges of his party, ignoring principle, and abandoning Middle East policy to the pro-Arab section of his State Department.

He has also succeeded in demonstrating thus far that the pledges of the United States, when made by his administration, are worth less than the paper they are written on; that the pledges work, rather, in reverse.

In today's world, this can hardly be said to be a constructive or sensible demonstration.

Unless his party's pledges are implemented by the time the special session of Congress, called by the President, opens next week, there will be an opportunity for the Republican Party to demonstrate, if it will, that its pledges on Israel are more meaningful.

The Congress, dominated by Republican members, easily has the power to memorialize the President to keep his pledges, recognize and support Israel, and return to the support of the partition policy of the United Nations.

Recognition of Israel at this time by the President would at least be a demonstration that he had read his party's platform.

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

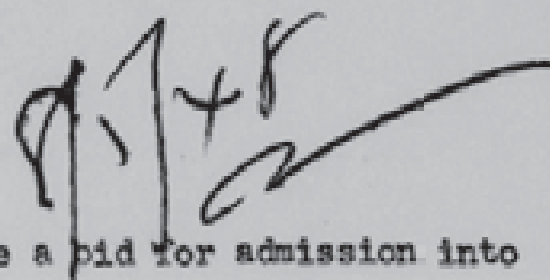
MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees

August 4, 1948

Date

From Harry L. Shapiro



During the coming weeks, Israel will make a bid for admission into the United Nations. The attainment of this objective would be facilitated if the American delegation to the UN would take the initiative in urging Israel's membership in the United Nations. It would be very helpful if newspapers would editorially advocate such a step.

Attached is a memorandum on the subject, "The Admission of the State of Israel to the United Nations". It is background material in connection with this aspiration of the State of Israel. Please convey its contents to your local editors and try to induce them to write a favorable editorial or feature article on this subject.

Regards.

HLS:RB
Enc.

MEMORANDUM

THE ADMISSION OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL TO THE UNITED NATIONS

The Resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted on November 29, 1947, provided:

"When the independence of either the Arab or the Jewish State as envisaged in this plan has become effective and the declaration and undertaking, as envisaged in this plan, have been signed by either of them, sympathetic consideration should be given to its application for admission to membership in the United Nations in accordance with Article 4 of the Charter of the United Nations."
(Paragraph 1-F)

The question now arises whether the State of Israel should be admitted to the United Nations at the forthcoming session of the General Assembly in Paris.

I. ISRAEL'S QUALIFICATIONS

1) The Origin of the State:

Israel is the first state in history to be created as a result of the investigations, deliberations and decisions of the General Assembly of the United Nations. Its credential for admission is thus a unique international birth certificate inscribed with a distinguished and honorable parentage. Thirty-three nations voted for the General Assembly's Resolution, and would therefore seem to have a moral commitment to favor Israel's early admission.

2) The Existence of the State:

Israel's existence is now a fact of international life of which the whole world is aware.

a) External Recognition:

Although admission to the United Nations and recognition are not synonymous - and many states which have sought admission have not had as many recognitions as the State of Israel - it is significant that the State of Israel was accorded recognition by fifteen powers in less than ten weeks time. These include:

| | | |
|----------------|--------------|------------|
| United States | Yugoslavia | Finland |
| Guatemala | Nicaragua | Romania |
| U.S.S.R. | Uruguay | Costa Rica |
| Poland | South Africa | Paraguay |
| Czechoslovakia | Hungary | Venezuela |

b) Internal Recognition:

Fundamental in the establishment of a state is the writ of authority it derives from its own people and its capacity to control its area

and carry on the functions of government. The record of performance since May 15 has demonstrated the representative character of the organs of government established in Israel, their loyal acceptance by the people, and their competence to create a smoothly operating apparatus of government serving all the needs of the people.

The United Nations Mediator attested to this achievement in Paragraph 34 of his report to the Security Council:

"The de facto situation in Palestine today is that a Jewish Provisional Government, recognized by an increasing number of states, exists in an area of Palestine, and is exercising, without restrictions of any kind on its authority or power, all the attributes of full sovereignty, including the waging of war." (In Paragraph 17, the Mediator described the war as a defensive one.)

Moreover, although Israel was attacked by six Arab States within a few hours of the proclamation of its independence, its people rose loyally to its defense and not only repelled all attacks but succeeded in carrying the war to the enemy's territory.

II. FIDELITY TO THE UNITED NATIONS

1) Israel's Orientation to the United Nations:

Israel has given ample evidence of its independence and its freedom from the domination of foreign powers. The very fact that its birth was attended by a union of great powers which have been divided on other issues has developed in Israel an international attitude oriented to the United Nations and to that body alone.

2) Israel's Relations with the United Nations:

Since its establishment, the State of Israel has fully and faithfully responded to every decision and appeal of the United Nations and its organs. More than half a dozen times the State of Israel willingly complied with calls made upon it by the Security Council, despite the fact that those calls equated aggressor and victim and imposed onerous obligations and conditions which should have been reserved for the aggressors against Israel. This scrupulous and undeviating fidelity to the commands of the United Nations has confirmed the promise that the United Nations would be the keystone of Israel's foreign policy.

3) The Experience and Attitude of Israel's People:

The people of Israel, long before the State was formed, fought for the cause and in the armies of the United Nations. It was against the Jewish people that Hitler first declared war, and six million Jews perished in the cause for which the United Nations arose. Their contribution to victory in World War II, both in Palestine and on every front, was far more impressive than that of a number of countries which gave little or nothing to that cause but which nevertheless have been admitted to the United Nations.

III. THE PRACTICAL CONSEQUENCES OF ISRAEL'S ADMISSION

1) Its Significance to the United Nations:

The admission of Israel to the United Nations would be an announcement to the world that the United Nations is prepared to honor its commitments. Delay would be an act of vacillation by the General Assembly which would undermine confidence in that body's disposition and capacity to give effect to its own recommendations. Recommendations of the General Assembly would have little force or meaning to the nations of the world if the Assembly itself were to set an example of indifference to or non-compliance with its own recommendations.

2) As a Contribution to Peace:

The most compelling reason for Israel's admission is that it will, more than any other act at this time, stabilize the situation in the Middle East. Arab aggression against Israel was encouraged by a delusion that Israel could be liquidated. When the Arab States are persuaded to realize that this is an objective impossible of achievement by arms or by diplomatic maneuver, there will be a powerful incentive to reach a peaceful settlement with Israel. But if Israel is denied admission at the forthcoming session, uncertainty will continue for another year, Arab intransigence will be emboldened and the prospects of negotiations leading to a final peace will be gravely prejudiced.

It should be noted that the language of the General Assembly's Resolution, quoted above, deliberately made the admission of the Jewish State independent of the establishment and admission of its neighbor.

It may be argued that Israel's admission should be deferred until an agreement is reached with the Arab States and until Israel has compromised its differences with the Arabs.

Clearly, the situation dictates the opposite course. Agreement with the Arab States is far more likely to be consummated if the international community removes all lingering doubts of Israel's status.

Experience in the Palestine controversy has shown that firm action by the United Nations and its organs facilitated progress towards a solution, and that equivocation and delay retarded a final and lasting settlement.

With the existence of Israel an immutable fact, the establishment of peaceful relations between Israel and its neighbors and the stabilization of the entire Middle East can best be achieved by formal and international confirmation of reality - Israel's acceptance into the family of nations.

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL
170 NASSAU AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

MEMORANDUM

To Members of American Zionist Emergency Council *Date* September 8, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

The enclosed memorandum with attachments was sent today to the Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees.

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encls.

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees

Date September 8, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

Attached is a statement issued today by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver. The latter part of it is an up-to-the-minute review of our present political situation and gives a clear indication of the line to be followed by our constituencies during the coming weeks.

A careful reading of the statement will show that we are dangerously close to the position we were in on March 19th last when the American Government reversed its policy and set in motion strenuous efforts to undo the partition decision of the General Assembly.

That we were able to bring our Government back to a realization of its responsibilities and a subsequent change in its attitude towards Israel is due in the largest measure to the loyal and effective work of the American Jewish community and its organized Zionist bodies.

A similar task lies before us now. Upon the outcome of this effort rests not only the UN decision of November 29th, but the future of the State of Israel itself. America still holds the key position and if we permit its actions to be dictated by British foreign policy and other special interests, the result for Israel may be catastrophic.

The following are the tasks we must set before us and carry out with every energy at our command:

1. Request every influential person and organization in your community -- Jewish and non-Jewish, civic, religious, labor -- to wire or write to the President setting forth in clear and unmistakable terms that they look to him to save the honor and the pledged word of our Government by fulfilling the promises contained in the Democratic Party platform.
2. Set up committees to visit newspaper editors, columnists and radio commentators to bring them up to date on the issues involved and to elicit public comment favorable to our cause. Orientation material to aid you in this task is enclosed on the questions of de jure recognition, economic aid and immigration. (Within a few days we will send you material on admission of the State of Israel into the United Nations for a follow up effort.) Please send us copies of the editorials which appear in your local newspapers resulting from this effort.
3. Set up committees and ask influential persons to visit the leaders of both political parties in your city, county and state.

Remind the heads of the Democratic Party of the plank in their platform which commits their Party to give political and economic aid to the infant State. Call their attention to the glaring fact that within recent months the President of our country and the head of their Party has been strangely silent while the State Department has continued its efforts to undermine the State of Israel. The loan of one hundred million dollars, which was promised, is now "postponed". Jews in the DP camps of Europe are restrained from exercising their right to go to Israel. American citizens who wish to visit Israel are denied passports and every action by the State Department is clearly designed to ape the pattern set up by Mr. Bevin's Foreign Office.

Remind the Republican leaders of their platform and their promises. Call their attention to the failure of any of their leading spokesmen to publicly mention the absence of positive and constructive Government action with regard to Israel. No Republican leader has as yet protested the failure of our Government to keep its pledged word. Ask them if this is a conspiracy of silence. If the foreign policy of our Government is a two-party policy then the Republicans must share equally with the Democrats the blame for the shameful behavior of our State Department towards Israel and towards the helpless refugees who are still penned up in concentration camps three years after the so-called peace.

Every indication points to another March 19th. We are told that the loan to Israel is to be held up pending inquiries into the stability of the State of Israel. Need we remind our politicians that they did not inquire into the stability of Greece and China before pouring hundreds of millions of dollars into these countries presumably in an effort to lay a foundation for stability. Need we remind our politicians that the United Nations Security Council specifically made provisions for the admission of men of military age into Israel, and that despite repeated assurances by Count Bernadotte that he never requested their exclusion, our State Department and our military authorities repeat in Germany and in Austria what Bevin is doing in Cyprus.

There is much to protest and now is the time to make that protest heard and felt. The task is yours and that of the men and women of your community. The coming eight weeks will be critical ones for Israel. We must devote ourselves to the tremendous job ahead. We must not fail! Please let me have a report from you on your activities as requested above.

Regards.

HLS:RB
Encs.

MEMORANDUM

DE JURE RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL

On the day of its proclamation, May 14, 1948, the Provisional Government of Israel was accorded de facto recognition by the Government of the United States. Though almost four months have elapsed since that date, full, so-called de jure, recognition is still being withheld by our Government from Israel.

It is often argued that the withholding of de jure recognition from Israel by the Government of the United States is due to technical reasons, notably to the "provisional" character of the present Government of Israel, to the absence of clearly defined frontiers and to generally unsettled conditions in that country. This argument is used to indicate that the withholding of de jure recognition does not denote any animosity on the part of the policy-making officials in the Department of State toward Israel.

The argument is totally incorrect. Full de jure recognition has often been accorded in the past by the United States to foreign governments which were provisional in character, and have ruled over an ill-defined territory amid disturbed conditions. These were the circumstances in which the provisional governments of Poland and Czechoslovakia were given full recognition after both World Wars. The Government of China and the Provisional Government of France were given de jure recognition in similar circumstances.

The withholding of full recognition from Israel after months of proven stability cannot therefore be justified by reference to precedent. It is, on the contrary, an indication that the Department of State, whose hostility to Israel is well known, has prevailed upon the President to withhold from Israel even that measure of cooperation which is normally extended to other countries.

The situation will appear even clearer if one considers that out of fifteen countries which have accorded diplomatic recognition to Israel, thirteen have granted full recognition. The only country beside the United States which has given to its recognition a limited de facto character is the Union of South Africa, a Dominion of the British Empire which, of course, is anxious to bow to the desires of the London government.

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9/8/48

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Amid conflicting reports and careful buck-passing between the White House, the Department of State and the Export-Import Bank, one fact has become clear: if the Administration can get away with it, Israel is not going to get any economic aid from the Government of the United States. The reasons used to justify this attitude shift: one day they are political, the next day technical, the third day they are due to "disturbed conditions" in Israel, the fourth day "the loan application is still under study." It is difficult to pin down the precise reason, just as it is difficult to pin down the party responsible for this denial of economic aid. But the fact remains.

It is perhaps unnecessary, at this late date, to take the reasons too seriously. Most people are aware by now that they are mere alibis. Still, let us keep some comparisons in mind.

Fierce civil wars rage in China and in Greece, and yet these countries receive economic aid. But Israel, where there reigns complete internal peace, is deemed too "disturbed" to be eligible for aid.

The Arab countries are still engaged in open aggression. Their armies are on the soil of Palestine, not a day passes without Jews or United Nations personnel dying from their bullets, they interfere with American and foreign shipping, and they keep their Jewish inhabitants in a state of abject terror. And yet these countries are considered eligible for American economic aid in different forms. But Israel is offered one postponement after another, one excuse after another.

Behind the scenes, the explanation is whispered that the United States and Great Britain wish to coordinate their policies on this issue: America should withhold assistance from Israel, while Britain would withhold aid from the Arabs. But this explanation too is untrue. Economic aid to Arabs is given both by America and by Britain. Military aid by Britain to Transjordan has been resumed. The truth is that Israel is being singled out for economic discrimination. Almost alone of all the countries outside the Soviet bloc it is denied American aid, despite the pledges to the contrary. The explanations vary, the denial remains.

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9/8/48

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THE AMERICAN ATTITUDE ON TRAVEL TO ISRAEL

Two measures of far-reaching importance have been taken by our Government toward Israel. On the one hand, the Department of State is withholding passports from American citizens desirous of visiting Israel, especially if the visitors are men between the ages of 18 and 45. On the other hand, the same Department has issued instructions to the authorities of the American zone of occupation in Europe to restrict the emigration of Jewish Displaced Persons between the ages of 18 and 45 to Palestine.

These two acts, better than any words, illustrate the real attitude of the Department of State toward Israel. There is nothing in the truce resolution of the United Nations that would justify individual countries in taking such a course. On the contrary, a proposal to restrict the admission to Israel of persons of military age was debated and rejected by the Council, and the resolution expressly provides for the conditions under which persons of military age entering Israel in the course of the truce should be prevented from obtaining military training or joining military forces.

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The action of the Department of State is calculated to interfere with the right of American citizens to visit freely a friendly country, to harm the legitimate interests of Israel, and -- above all -- to deny the hope of the Displaced Jews of Europe.

This latter aspect, coming as it does after years of insistence by President Truman that the humanitarian task of permitting the Jewish Displaced Persons to go to Palestine ought not to be postponed on account of political considerations, is particularly obnoxious. As the New York Herald-Tribune pointed out editorially on September 6th, this act of the United States Government is similar to British practice on Cyprus. As Great Britain has become the jailer of Jewish refugees on that island, so, but on a much larger scale, are the pro-British and pro-Arab officials of the State Department making President Truman the jailer of the multitudes of Jewish refugees in the American Zone of occupation.

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9/21/48

STATEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL
WITH REFERENCE TO THE BERNADOTTE PLAN,
ISSUED IN PARIS SEPTEMBER 22, 1948

The Israeli government is giving the most serious study to Count Bernadotte's important report to the General Assembly. The people of Israel are eager for peace with their Arab neighbors, and they will earnestly explore all proposals which are put forward as a basis for a final and lasting peace.

While it is welcome that the report expresses the central fact of Israel's independence and vitality as a state, it would nevertheless be premature at this stage to accept its conclusions in their entirety. Careful study and discussion are obviously essential.

Thus, one of the conclusions which calls for the most critical scrutiny is the suggestion that the Negeb be excised from the state of Israel. The United Nations special committee on Palestine, after an exhaustive study of the Palestine problem, recommended that the territory of the Negeb be included in the Jewish state. This recommendation was accepted by the General Assembly. To exclude the Negeb from the state of Israel would be to take away two-thirds of its area, to reduce it to a miniature state, to constrict its growth and to deny to the Jewish people the only available land reserve which offers the prospects of large-scale development.

In any discussion of the report, the future of Jerusalem will be the subject of special interest. Besieged by foreign Arab armies, the people of Jerusalem were cut off from food and water, suffering many casualties, and were finally rescued from starvation and death only because the State of Israel established a land bridge from the coast. Under the circumstances, the people of Israel and especially of Jerusalem will not look with equanimity on any plan which would jeopardize the fate of the 90,000 Jewish inhabitants of that city by cutting them off from direct contact with Israel.

The government of Israel will presumably have an opportunity of making its official comment on these and other important features of the report before the appropriate organs of the General Assembly.

9/29/48

(Text of Advertisement)

ANOTHER REVERSAL -- ANOTHER BETRAYAL

In a sudden burst of speed, the British Government and our Administration are seeking to bring about the earliest adoption of the last Bernadotte proposals on Palestine by the General Assembly of the United Nations. The Bernadotte report recommends that the Negev, consisting of two-thirds of the State of Israel as set up by the United Nations Resolution of November 29, 1947, should be torn away from Israel and handed over to the Arab invaders, preferably Transjordan. It also proposes that Jerusalem be placed under United Nations control, without any corridor connecting it with Israel.

These proposals were put forward by Count Bernadotte merely as a basis for discussion, as his report makes clear. However, both Foreign Secretary Bevin and Secretary of State Marshall have chosen to ignore that fact and have urged acceptance of the Bernadotte plan in toto. The reason for this blanket endorsement and for their haste in trying to achieve the immediate adoption of the plan is transparent. The British Foreign Office, whose longstanding hostility to the Jewish state has produced a lamentable record of deceit, is currently trying to make capital out of the assassination of Count Bernadotte -- and our State Department is collaborating. They are attempting to railroad Count Bernadotte's plan through the General Assembly -- as a monument to his memory -- while his tragic death is still fresh in the public mind.

Such cynical exploitation of a criminal act, committed by outlaws whom the State of Israel is trying to hunt down and root out, is what we have come to expect of Mr. Bevin's Foreign Office. But it is unworthy of our country and its traditions of justice. We do not think we are asking too much when we call upon the United States Government to deal with the Bernadotte proposals solely on their merits and quite apart from the tragedy of September 17.

An Unjust, Unworkable Plan

When viewed objectively and dispassionately, the Bernadotte plan is manifestly unjust and unworkable. By cutting away the Negev from Israel, the plan would reduce the Jewish state in size by no less than 3800 square miles, while a mere 420 square miles of rocky and hilly western Galilee would be added to it "in compensation". Thus, the entire State of Israel would consist of approximately 2400 square miles -- a tiny area incapable of absorbing and supporting the hundreds of thousands of Jewish refugees who are desperately seeking emigration to Israel.

Moreover, if it were removed from Israel the Negev would be doomed to remain a desert wasteland; for the Jews alone are prepared to make it habitable by costly and extensive irrigation projects -- something which is not to be expected from King Abdullah, whose 35,000 square miles are largely underpopulated and uncultivated.

Not to be overlooked also is the fact that cutting away the Negev would deprive Israel of the waters and minerals of the Dead Sea and thereby seal off an important avenue for economic development which the new state sorely needs. It would also deprive Israel of access to the Red Sea and render it extremely difficult for Israel to engage in commerce with the Far East and with Africa.

Perhaps one of the real reasons why it is now proposed to take the Negev from Israel and hand it over to Britain's puppet, Abdullah, is to be found in recent reports of oil deposits in that area. Surely the industry of Israel could use such a fuel reserve without remaining forever at the mercy of British-Arab production in Iraq.

Last year the British induced our State Department to argue in the United Nations that the Negev should be removed from the Jewish state area. After the Jewish Agency agreed to the transfer of sizable portions of the Negev to the Arab state, the State Department ceased its agitation. On November 22, 1947 Herschel V. Johnson, our delegate to the United Nations, declared: "We think that the Jewish Agency has made, from its point of view, an equitable and fair proposal, and whatever reservation the United States delegation maintains with respect to this area (the Negev) is withdrawn."

Has anything happened since November 22, 1947 to warrant a change of this clearly-expressed attitude on the question of the Negev? Why, then, should our Government be a party to the latest British attempt to cripple Israel?

The Jerusalem Proposal

The Bernadotte proposal regarding Jerusalem is ~~surely~~ the most unrealistic of statements when viewed against the background of ~~recent~~ events in the Holy City. After having repulsed the wanton attacks of the British-led, British-supplied Arab Legion and after having endured months of siege and privation, the Jews of Jerusalem will hardly consent to leave their city unprotected in the midst of hostile Arab surroundings, unconnected with the State of Israel, and with no greater security for life and property than would be forthcoming from the nominal "control" of the United Nations. The Jews of Jerusalem and of Israel know only too well what it means to be dependent on Arab respect for United Nations authority. The almost daily flaunting of that authority by the Arabs has not served to reassure them that a better attitude will be demonstrated in the future. The Jews know that it was their own strength -- their fight on the battlefields against overwhelming odds -- rather than United Nations "control" which saved New Jerusalem and its inhabitants from destruction. They are not prepared to expose themselves to such murderous attacks again.

Israel Cannot Submit

For all of these reasons -- and there are many more -- Count Bernadotte's proposals must be rejected. It should be added that the British and American officials who are now working for the adoption of this plan are incredibly naive if they expect Israel to submit to it. No self-respecting nation would passively accept its own dismemberment -- and Israel is a self-respecting nation. Having successfully defended their political independence, having spilled their blood in expelling the invaders from their territory, the citizens of Israel will surely not permit any part of their land to be presented to an Arab potentate. They had accepted the United Nations partition decision of November 29, 1947 -- at great sacrifice to their legitimate rights and aspirations -- because they believed that this was a final compromise solution. But they will not accept a third partition of Palestine.

The United Nations should consider well the full implications of the proposals which Mr. Bevin and Mr. Marshall have endorsed so heartily. What they are suggesting is that military aggressors receive in a gift package what they failed to win by force of arms, and that a nation which successfully defended its territory against international gangsterism be penalized for its efforts. That, in effect, is what Mr. Bevin and Mr. Marshall are advocating. We fervently hope that the United Nations will refuse to become a party to this immoral scheme.

The Bernadotte recommendations do not even possess the virtue of Arab agreement to commend them to the serious attention of the United Nations. The Arabs have already rejected the proposals. The Bernadotte report and Mr. Bevin's statement make it clear that the plan would have to be imposed. If a solution is to be imposed in Palestine, why not that solution which has the backing of world opinion -- the United Nations decision of November 29, 1947? Why does Mr. Marshall seemingly prefer to impose a new, unjust, unworkable plan rather than a just, workable compromise which has received the overwhelming approval of the nations of the world, including the United States?

The Latest Pledge and the Latest Performance

Mr. Marshall's unequivocal endorsement of the Bernadotte report can only be regarded as another unwarranted reversal of United States policy, such as took place on March 19, when the Administration suddenly attempted to scuttle the partition decision and proposed a trusteeship for Palestine.

President Truman is seeking re-election on a platform which declares: "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."

How does President Truman reconcile this plainly-stated pledge with the position taken by his Secretary of State?

The American people have a right to know.

9/29/48

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

MEMORANDUM

To Members of American Zionist Emergency Council **Date** October 7, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

The enclosed memorandum with attachment was sent today to the Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees.

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Attached is a memorandum prepared by the Israel Mission to the United Nations. It states in detail the importance of the Neger to Israel.

It would be helpful if the information which it contains could be transmitted to newspaper editors and radio commentators.

Regards.

HLS:RB
Enc.

- MEMORANDUM -

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE NEGEV TO THE STATE OF ISRAEL

1. The territorial changes proposed in the Mediator's report result in an entirely inequitable apportionment of land between Israel and the neighbouring Arab State. They would cut off about two-thirds of Israel's territory, deprive her of the only land reserves available for development, cripple existing and potential prospects for the scientific utilisation of natural resources, and stunt Israel's progress and growth for generations to come. The beneficiary of these changes, which, according to the plan is to be an enlarged state of Transjordan, emerges from the proposed arrangement with an area more than 19 times that of the State of Israel.

2. It is for these reasons, which are elaborated upon in this memorandum that the government of Israel will oppose any plan separating the Negev or any part of it from the territory of the State of Israel.

Area

3. The area of the Palestine Mandate was first partitioned in 1922, when more than three-fourths of the country - some 84,740 square miles - were excluded from the main provisions of the Mandate to form what is now known as Transjordan. The area of Palestine remaining for Jewish settlement was thus reduced to about 10,000 square miles. In the second partition of Palestine, approved by the General Assembly last November 29th, 1947, about 5,678 square miles were assigned to the Jewish State. However, of this area, more than 3,800 square miles are in the Negev, the undeveloped area of Southern Palestine.

4. The Mediator's report now proposes not an adjustment of the situation but an entirely new partition plan under which Israel would be granted Western Galilee (most of which she now occupies and controls), but would lose not only the entire Negev, but also a part of South Judea. The net result would be to reduce Israel's territory to an area of about 2,180 square miles. On the other hand, Transjordan would under the plan gain all the Arab areas of Palestine, as well as the Negev, and her total area would approximate 42,500 square miles.

Population

5. The incongruity of this territorial division becomes even more glaring when one takes into account that Transjordan's existing population is about 350,000 (to which would now be added the 600,000 or 700,000 Arabs of Arab Palestine) whereas the Jewish population of Israel is already close to the 800,000 mark, and constantly expanding by the immigration of Jews in need of a homeland.

Land Use

6. The foregoing quantitative considerations are themselves startling and compelling arguments against any such drastic revision of the United Nations partition plan, but of even greater significance is an examination of the uses to which the lands in question may be put. According to a statement by Justice Emil Sandstroem of Sweden, the Chairman of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine, the UNSCOP had considered that since the cost would be considerable,

it would not be possible for the Arabs to develop the Negev area, which had in consequence been assigned to the Jewish State. Transjordan is already the possessor of large tracts of barren land. Its annexation of the Negev would mean nothing more than the acquisition of another item in a collection of arid and uncultivated wastes. Humanity would gain nothing from the perpetuation of sterility. But for Israel, the Negev holds out the promise of agricultural, scientific, industrial and economic development, with important benefits to the Near East as a whole.

Agriculture and Industry

7. Israel has an urgent need for land upon which to settle the many hundreds of thousands of Jews who will immigrate in the next few decades. The soil of the Negev, neglected for many centuries, is itself arable. The factors for development of this area are water and the ingenuity to unite it with the soil. In 1943, the Jews successfully established three experimental settlements in the Negev. Another 15 were established toward the end of 1946. Today there are 27. Water is made available by pipeline, and by the capture and storage of winter rains in reservoirs. Thus, at Revivim, the southernmost Jewish settlement, the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine in 1947 inspected a large dam and reservoir and witnessed the fruits of this agricultural venture. Moreover, for several years, engineers have been at work on plans for large-scale irrigation projects which will open large tracts of land for new settlement. The hydro-electric development involved in these irrigation plans will bring low-cost power to the Negev, and furnish an economic base for industrial enterprise. To put these areas of Jewish settlement under the political domination of an Arab ruler would be sowing the seeds of fresh conflict. To sever the Negev from Israel is to separate it from those whose needs guarantee its maximum use.

8. In previous discussion of the Palestine problem it has been argued on the Arab side that the pressure of Jewish immigration would force the Jewish State to become expansionist, and to threaten the existing territory of the Arab States. If the land reserve of the Negev were taken away from the State of Israel, and this large area ceases to be available for Jewish settlement, Arab fears would be intensified, and the prospects of pacific co-operation between Israel and its neighbours would be prejudiced. It must be emphasised that the inclusion of the Negev in the State of Israel is the population safety-valve for any partition plan, and therefore a major factor making for peace and operating against population pressure.

Natural Resources

9. Much of the Negev is unknown and unexplored. As a result of Jewish effort and expenditure, some signs of mineral wealth have been noted. Whether the Negev has oil or mineral resources in any significant quantity is undetermined; but if such is the fact, it would be inequitable to deny the State of Israel a potential so essential for its development. The State of Israel has no coal or iron, nor any important mineral deposit. Its manufactures and industry are therefore dependent in considerable measure on the import of raw materials. The small size of the Jewish State limits its agricultural development. Accordingly, all industrial resources must be exploited to their utmost. The proper scientific utilisation of the Negev's resources would help balance the Israeli economy. In this connection, it is relevant to point out that the Arab States are already rich

in oil, and should not be permitted a monopoly on all potential oil sources.

Dead Sea

10. A major industry in Palestine has been the extraction of potassium and sodium salts from the Dead Sea by the Palestine Potash Company, which is a largely Jewish enterprise. The Company had plants at both ends of the Dead Sea. Under the partition plan approved by the General Assembly last fall, the northern plant was to be left in the Arab State (it has since been destroyed thanks to the initiative of the Transjordan Arab Legion). But the General Assembly deliberately revised the boundary lines between the two states to ensure that the southern plant would be in the State of Israel, and that a stretch of west coast of the Dead Sea would be in Israeli territory, to be available for the expansion of the potash plant. But if the Negev were to be taken from Israel, then all access to the Dead Sea would be denied, and Israel would lose one of its major industries and one of its most important exports.

Aqaba

11. Severance of the Negev from Israel would also cut off Aqaba, once King Solomon's seaport on the Red Sea. The waters here teem with fish, and there are possibilities for large-scale commercial exploitation of a natural resource now neglected. The vital importance of Aqaba to Israel's future is recognized by all who foresee the expansion of commerce and industry in Israel, and the building of rail and highway communications across the Negev. Under Israeli control, Aqaba is to be developed as a port and will be Israel's outlet to South Africa and the Indian Ocean - Israel's window to the Orient.

Conclusion

12. These are but a few of the considerations which played a part in the decision of UNSCOP and later of the General Assembly to award the Negev to Israel. They are considerations which cannot be brushed aside. The Negev is juridically an integral part of Israel's territory and cannot, within the terms of the Charter, be cut off without Israel's consent. Nothing has happened to weaken the legal or moral validity of the General Assembly's decision in this regard. The Arab States resorted to armed force to resist it, but they failed. Not a single Negev settlement within the boundaries of the State of Israel fell into Arab hands, nor are the Arabs in control of any part of the Negev contained within Israel. It would be a grotesque paradox if the General Assembly would now obligingly turn the defeat of Arab aggression into victory, and grant to the Arab States the very fruits they failed to wrest in a war fought against no less than the authority and judgment of the General Assembly itself.

October 22, 1948

Hon. Dean Alfange, Chairman
American Christian Palestine Committee
9 East 40 Street
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dean:

I have your letter of October 20 and I want to assure you that I, too, have been deeply disturbed by the events in Palestine. As you know, I have always felt the Jewish people are entitled to a homeland in Palestine which would be politically and economically stable. My views have been clearly expressed over the years and I did, indeed, approve the majority report of the United Nations Special Committee which recommended partition of Palestine.

In my acceptance speech at Philadelphia I pledged my whole-hearted support of the Republican platform and that certainly included the Palestine plank. My position today is the same.

The Jews have brought twentieth century civilization to Palestine. They have shown that the Holy Land can be industrious and abundant. Since the creation of Israel the Jewish people have made great sacrifices for their goal of independence and freedom.

Organizations such as the American Christian Palestine Committee of New York can give great moral support to the people of Israel in attaining their objectives -- peace and security in their hard-won homeland. Toward that end I wish them every success.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Dewey

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The New York Herald-Tribune of Saturday, October 23 reported Governor Dewey's action as follows:

DEWEY STANDS BY UN PLAN ON PALESTINE

By Murray Snyder

Governor Thomas E. Dewey in effect repudiated the Truman Administration's Palestine policy yesterday.

Without referring directly to the Administration's indorsement of the Bernadotte plan to take the Negeb region away from Israel, the Governor said his own position in support of the original United Nations partition plan was unchanged.

He reaffirmed his "wholehearted support" of the Republican platform pledge last June of "full recognition (to Israel) with its boundaries as sanctioned by the United Nations and aid in developing its economy".

He recalled that he previously had approved the UN partition recommendations, and ranking Republicans, who had sought a

reaffirmation of his position for its campaign value, said that in this statement of approval, issued September 11, 1947, he said: "It may be that certain adjustments will have to be made in the actual boundaries, but, on the face of it, the partition recommended seems a minimum for Jewish needs".

This major break between the Republican Presidential candidate and the Democrats on foreign policy was disclosed in an exchange of letters between Mr. Dewey and Dean Alfange, chairman of the American Christian Palestine Committee of New York. The letters were released at Dewey-Warren headquarters at the Hotel Roosevelt.

It was regarded as of particular significance because, if Mr. Dewey is elected on November 3, his policy is likely to supersede the present policy of the United States when the General Assembly begins its postponed discussion of the Palestine question...

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President Truman issued his statement on Sunday, October 24. The full text follows:

The Republican candidate for President has seen fit to release a statement with reference to Palestine. This statement is in the form of a letter dated October 22, 1948, ten days before the election.

I had hoped our foreign affairs could continue to be handled on a nonpartisan basis without being injected into the Presidential campaign. The Republican candidate's statement, however, makes it necessary for me to reiterate my own position with respect to Palestine.

I stand squarely on the provisions covering Israel in the Democratic platform.

I approved the provisions on Israel at the time they were written. I reaffirm that approval now.

So that everyone may be familiar with my position, I set out here the Democratic platform on Israel:

"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 deserve freedom and independence.

"We pledge full recognition to the State of Israel. We affirm our pride 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 claim of the State of Israel to the boundaries set forth in the United Nations' resolution of November 29 and consider that modifications 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 in Palestine."

I wish to amplify the three portions of the platform about which there has been considerable discussion.

On May 14, 1948, this country recognized the existence of the independent State of Israel. I was informed by the Honorable Elishu Epstein that a Provisional Government had been established in Israel. This country recognized the Provisional Government as the de facto authority of the new State of Israel. When a permanent Government is elected in Israel it will promptly be given de jure recognition.

The Democratic platform states that we approve the claims of Israel to the boundaries set forth in the United Nations resolution of November 29, 1947, and consider that modification thereof should be made only if fully acceptable to the State of Israel.

This has been and is now my position.

Proceedings are now taking place in the United Nations looking toward amicable settlement of the conflicting positions of the parties in Palestine. In the interests of peace this work must go forward.

A plan has been submitted which provides a basis for a renewed effort to bring about a peaceful adjustment of differences. It is hoped that by using this plan as a basis of negotiation, the conflicting claims of the parties can be settled.

With reference to the granting of a loan or loans to the State of Israel, I have directed the departments and agencies of the executive branch of our Government to work together in expediting the consideration of any applications for loans which may be submitted by the State of Israel.

It is my hope that such financial aid will soon be granted and that it will contribute substantially to the long-term development and stability of the Near East.

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The New York Times of October 25 reported the President's action in the following dispatch:

TRUMAN REAFFIRMS HIS ISRAEL STAND IN REPLY TO DEWEY

By Clayton Knowles

Washington, Oct. 24 -- President Truman declared tonight that he would approve no change in the United Nations partition of Palestine, effected last fall, that in turn was not acceptable to the State of Israel.

Apparently supplementing the position taken by Secretary of State Marshall last month before the United Nations, the President, referring to the Democratic platform plank on the Holy Land, declared:

"This has been and is now my position."

At Paris on September 21, Secretary Marshall called upon both sides in Palestine to accept "the Bernadotte plan in its entirety", asserting that it offered "a generally fair basis for settlement of the Palestine question". He stated that "no plan could be proposed which would be entirely satisfactory in all respects to every interested party".

In his statement tonight, issued just before he boarded his campaign train for his last big appeal to the voters, the President noted that the Palestine situation was again before the United Nations. He said that these proceedings looked toward "an amicable settlement of the conflicting positions of the parties in Palestine".

"In the interests of peace," he said, "this work must go forward. A plan has been submitted which provides a basis for a renewed effort to bring about a peaceful adjustment of differences. It is hoped that, by using this plan as a basis for negotiations, the conflicting claims of the parties can be settled".

While he thus took cognizance of what is transpiring at Paris, the whole tone of the President's statement was regarded as tentative, when compared to the strong stand taken by Secretary Marshall last month. At that time, the Secretary said:

"The United States considers that the conclusions contained in the final report of Count Bernadotte offer a generally fair basis for settlement of the Palestine question. My Government is of the opinion that the conclusions are sound, and strongly urges the parties and the General Assembly to accept them in their entirety as the best possible basis for bringing peace to a distracted land".

It was noted that, at no point, did the President place his endorsement upon the Bernadotte proposals as "sound" as had Secretary Marshall, contenting himself instead with saying that they offered "a basis of negotiation".

The President's statement came in answer to a statement by Governor Dewey on Friday in which he reaffirmed his endorsement of the Republican Party's platform plank on Israel. This statement, limited to two paragraphs, apparently made Mr. Truman angry, for he referred to it in his very first words...

The President's statement, while pegged on Governor Dewey's answer to a request by the American Christian Palestine Committee of New York, followed a series of newspaper advertisements by Zionist groups calling upon Mr. Truman to clarify his own position.

One such advertisement, running a full page, was paid for by the American Zionist Emergency Council of New York. Calling attention to the position taken by Secretary Marshall, this advertisement asked:

"Mr. Truman: where do you stand on this issue?"

This advertisement directly challenged Mr. Truman to repudiate his Secretary of State.

"Which is it, Mr. President?" the advertisement asked. "The policy which you have stated in the past, which determined our Government's stand in November, 1947, and which is also the declared policy of your party -- or the policy most recently expressed by Mr. Marshall, which is in violent contradiction to it?"

"We respectfully await your answer."

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MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees Date October 27, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

The enclosed press release issued today by the American Zionist Emergency Council expresses the gratitude of our movement to President Truman and Governor Dewey for their recent statements reaffirming the platforms of their parties with respect to Israel.

We are sending you herewith the full text of both declarations. Governor Dewey issued his statement on Friday, October 23 in the form of a letter to Dean Alfange, chairman of the American Christian Palestine Committee of New York.

The exchange of letters between Governor Dewey and Mr. Alfange follows:

Hon. Thomas E. Dewey
Governor of the State of New York
Albany, New York

October 30, 1948

Dear Governor:

As Chairman of the American Christian Palestine Committee of New York, I have been gravely concerned with the fast-moving events which concern the fate of the State of Israel and the stability of the peace of the Middle East.

I recall that in September, 1947 you approved the majority report of the United Nations Special Committee which recommended a partition of Palestine. This report was adopted by the resolution of the UN Assembly on November 29, 1947.

In June, 1948 the Republican Party, assembled in convention in Philadelphia, adopted the following platform: "We welcome Israel into the family of nations and take pride in the fact that the Republican Party was the first to call for the establishment of a free and independent Jewish commonwealth. The vacillation of the Democratic Party on this question has undermined the prestige of the United Nations. Subject to the letter and spirit of the UN Charter we pledge to Israel full recognition, with its boundaries as sanctioned by the UN and aid in developing its economy."

At this moment when the fate of Israel is at stake, the reaffirmation of your endorsement of the Republican Party's platform pledge in respect to Israel would be most reassuring.

Sincerely yours,

Dean Alfange, Chairman
American Christian Palestine Committee
of New York

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

MEMORANDUM

To Members of American Zionist Emergency Council *Date* October 27, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

The enclosed memorandum with release was sent today to the Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees.

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MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees

Date November 22, 1948

From Harry L. Shapiro

On Saturday, November 20 the United States Delegate to the United Nations made a statement of policy on Israel. We are now able to provide you with suggestions for the resolutions which should be adopted in connection with the November 29 anniversary of the United Nations decision. We also suggest that the points listed below be emphasized by speakers at meetings held in observance of the anniversary.

We urge that you incorporate the following ideas in your resolutions:

1. The United Nations decision of November 29, 1947 favoring the creation of a Jewish State in Palestine has been recorded as one of the great events in the long history of the Jewish people. We take pride in the fact that it was the leadership of our Government which made this event possible. In observing the anniversary of the United Nations decision we are deeply conscious of the fact that its objective -- the establishment of the Jewish State -- has been realized by the Government and people of Israel who single-handedly defended their political independence and territorial integrity against the military aggression of the Arab States.
2. During the first six months of its existence the State of Israel has already absorbed tens of thousands of Jewish immigrants and has carried forward a tremendous resettlement program under the fire of the enemy. We are hopeful that the remainder of the homeless and displaced Jews of Europe, as well as the persecuted Jews in Middle Eastern countries, will be enabled to emigrate to Israel speedily, thereby ending the Jewish refugee problem. We are profoundly aware of the great cost of this immigration and resettlement program and pledge our greatest efforts and fullest resources to secure the funds for the successful completion of this task.
3. We express our satisfaction over the reaffirmation by the Government of the United States of its support of the original United Nations decision of November 29, and its declaration that no alteration shall be made in the boundaries of the Jewish State without Israel's consent. We commend the President of the United States for stating this policy clearly and forthrightly, and we welcome the statement of the United Nations Delegate before the United Nations on Saturday, November 20 as an indication that the President's views begin to be reflected in American policy.
4. In conveying our gratitude to the President for standing firm on the question of Israel's territorial integrity, we

respectfully urge him to remain on the alert lest his policies be frustrated by officials of his own Administration who have, in the past, sought to nullify his positive acts concerning Israel.

5. Recognizing that the best hope for lasting peace in Palestine now lies in direct negotiations between the Government of Israel and the Arab states, we respectfully urge the President to use the full weight of his authority to advance such direct peace conferences between Arabs and Jews.

Please make certain that copies of all such resolutions adopted in your community are sent to the President at the White House in Washington. We would also like to have copies for our own records.

Regards.

HLS:MSR



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

MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees *Date* December 17, 1948

From Abe Tuvim

Attached is the text of a statement issued a few days ago by the Government of Israel listing British violations of Security Council orders and proving that Britain has supplied war equipment to the Arab countries during the period of the Palestine truce.

These facts, which have already been published in part by some of the nation's leading newspapers, should be called to the attention of your local newspaper editors and radio commentators. It is especially important that your Committee be prepared to make editors and commentators aware of these British truce violations when British propagandists next try to charge Israel with having disobeyed the orders of the Security Council. May we suggest, therefore, that you make copies of the attached statement for possible future use.

Regards.

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

MEMORANDUM

To Members of American Zionist Emergency Council **Date** December 17, 1948

From Abe Tuvim

The enclosed memorandum with attachment was sent today to the Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees.

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BRITAIN VIOLATES UN BAN ON ARMS SHIPMENTS TO PARTICIPANTS IN PALESTINE WAR

A Statement Released on December 14, 1948 at the UN Session
in Paris by the Israeli Information Service

Hector McNeill, British Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, stated in the House of Commons on December 13, 1948 that the British Government had "meticulously observed" the embargo on arms and war equipment to the countries of the Middle East. There is no doubt that this statement is fully in accordance with the facts as far as Israel is concerned. There is, as well, no doubt that Britain has supplied various kinds of war equipment to the Arab countries during the periods of the Palestine truce -- i.e. between June 11 and July 9, 1948, and from July 18 to date.

Reliable information reaching official Israeli quarters from various sources proves that Egypt, Iraq and Transjordan have received a considerable amount of British arms during the last six months. Some of the more striking examples of British violations of the orders of the Security Council of the United Nations are given herewith:

1. During the truce and prior to the middle of October, 20,000 rounds of six pounder ammunition, 5,000 rounds of twenty-five pounder ammunition, and approximately 2,000 to 3,000 rounds of larger than twenty-five pounder ammunition were supplied by Britain to the Egyptian army. Egypt is known to have requested an additional British supply of heavy and medium artillery ammunition which may have been supplied in the meantime.

2. During the month of August, British naval authorities in Egypt sold small arms ammunition to the Egyptian army.

3. After the Egyptian army requisitioned a large number of airplanes belonging to the Egyptian MISR Airlines, Britain sold eight Vikings to MISR Airlines. This was done after the Egyptian company found itself unable, owing to the embargo on the supply of arms to the Middle East, to secure from the United States replacements of airplanes easily useable for military purposes.

4. There is reason for strong suspicion that after Glubb Pasha's visit to London last August, certain types of equipment of a British medium artillery regiment which had been evacuated from Palestine to Misrata in Tripolitania, was transferred to Egypt for use in the Negev operations.

5. On June 6 and June 17, respectively, the SS Bardistan and SS Derryheen arrived in Basra, Iraq, from the United Kingdom and landed British war equipment.

6. At a secret meeting of the Iraqi Parliament on September 14, the Prime Minister informed the house that the British military authorities had delivered to the Iraqi army surplus U.S. war materials, which they controlled in sufficient quantities to equip an armored brigade.

7. On July 5, 20 British "Fury" fighter bombers equipped with special bombsights and 25 pound bombs landed at Rashid airfield in Iraq. They were piloted by Iraqis who had been specially trained in Britain to fly these planes.

8. In August a number of British "Fury" aircraft which had been held camouflaged on Mosul airdrome, reached Mafraq in Transjordan, for delivery to the Iraqi airforces.

9. When, late in August, the Iraqi airforces had to curtail their activities because of shortage of gasoline, the RAF in Iraq supplied them with fuel from their own stores on a lendlease basis.

10. British equipment unloaded at Basra, Iraq, during the month of August included thirty 25 pounder guns, 160 cases of rifles, 15 gun tractors and 30 mobile wireless stations with their spare parts.

11. During the truce the SS Corinthus and SS Laristan unloaded British small arms and small arms ammunition at Basra.

12. During the month of August, the No. 9 British base ordnance depot in the Suez Canal Zone supplied ammunition to the Arab Legion. This ammunition was secretly shipped to Aqaba and then airlifted to Amman, Transjordan.

13. Large quantities of arms from the United Kingdom, including 2,000 rifles, reached Amman during the month of October.

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

MEMORANDUM

To Members of American Zionist Emergency Council **Date** December 22, 1948

From Abe Tuvim

The enclosed memorandum was sent today to the Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees.

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MEMORANDUM

To Chairmen of Local Emergency Committees Date December 22, 1948

From Abe Tuvim

ACTION ON CYPRUS

Today's press includes the following dispatch from London: "The British Government has no intention of relaxing at present its practices governing the release of Jewish refugees interned on Cyprus . . ." (JTA).

Despite all personal appeals, the British Government is continuing its illegal and inhuman policy of holding more than 11,000 men, women and children on Cyprus — only a day's journey by sea from Israel, which is willing and anxious to receive them. This attitude is all the more outrageous when we consider that even those lame arguments which were advanced by the British Mandatory Government in "justification" of its Cyprus deportation policy no longer exist. The British Mandate for Palestine has been dead for a half year.

Furthermore, the 11,000 Jewish refugees on Cyprus are still treated as criminals. Their living conditions are intolerable. They are subjected to degradation, penned up and guarded by soldiers, denied the most elementary requirements for human dignity and self-respect. This is being done to people who merely wished to end their DP existence and to live as free men in their own homeland.

Great Britain's criminal policy must not be permitted to continue. We must now redouble our efforts to bring about the release of the Cyprus detainees and their resettlement in Israel. To that end we are suggesting the following program of action:

1. Ask leading non-Jewish citizens of your community to send wires and letters of protest to the British Ambassador at the British Embassy in Washington. After your public officials and other Christian leaders become aware of the facts concerning the refugees on Cyprus, many of them will be glad to register their protest with the British Government and to demand the release of the internees and their emigration to Israel.
2. Try to bring about the publication of editorials in your local newspapers on this subject. In addition to the facts contained in this memorandum, you will shortly receive other background material on this issue. Please make this material available to your editors, columnists, and radio commentators. If newspaper comment results from your efforts please make certain that copies of the editorials are sent to the British Ambassador in Washington.
3. Ask your Christian religious leaders to preach on the subject and supply them with the necessary background material.
4. Try to obtain local radio time, preferably for a non-Jewish leader. If you succeed in making such arrangements with your radio station and are in need of script material, please communicate with us and the draft of an address will be forwarded to you without delay.

Finally, we urge you to keep us informed concerning all of your activities regarding this most pressing question.

Regards,

ATJ