



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

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

Series IV: Sermons, 1914-1963, undated.

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As war approaches Palestine, 1941.

1) Danger approaching P. Balkan disaster has given F.V. control over N. shores, M (sp-voice Fr.). Lybia defeat - control over large part of S. shores. Powerful F.V. force ready to strike thru E. to Iraq. Another force coming by way of D. isle or Turkey thru Syria may attack S by way of Pal - or seize Haifa, oil outlet - May wrestle a well drawn from E. Med. - leaving P. in hands, N.F. - N. agents to buy in Iraq - & Iraqi are paying a high price for air-base -

2) Invasion not yet accomplished, E. is not yet conquered. Fleet still undefeated - ^{a few months ago - Graziani} but - possibly then - envelope even by Churchill himself. E. may be driven from Med. - will not win. Still defeat of E. is end of war. - But surely will not stay there E. - & will bring tragic expenses to P. - Rebels + must face facts.

~~It will not be~~ ^{conquered} will not have pop. uninterested. Hatred of Jews is well known. Great vengeance on Supreme Achievement in world. Win over Arab world - by occupying J. interests to them.

P. may become battle ground as in last war. It is ^{as} ~~even~~ more important & valuable prize to day than in last war - thanks to what Jews have built there - If it is - Jews will fight, all fronts. - Haifa & Tel Aviv - doubtless - Jew may be saved! - Population will be

3/ Dime, anxious days are ahead. Make us think of many things - not all kindly towards E. Our destinies are linked - criticize ally - But even English we feel free, patriotic duty to criticize, then point when they think it has erred - 2 day debate in Parliament -

(a) That Nazis may invade P. cannot be charged up to E. - Nazis invaded 14 other countries.

(b) P. could have been better prepared. If authorities had carried out Mandate. We had 5000. Jews 1,500,000. - 2% - Freely population. Great reserves + ind. tax. to defend country.

(c) Apportionment - checked - thwarted - White Paper - converted into permanent minority. Liberal unimpaired freely existed.

(d) Arabs? Egypt - Lebanon - Syria - anti-British

{ By promising her friends + regarding her enemies
the best potential friends + increased her enemies.

(e) Policy still wants - War - Jewish Army -

136,000 Pol. Jews registered for National Service

in 1939. - Refused Jewish Army! 40,000

Discouraged enlistment of Jews in army.

Gen. Weir - 2 divisions - 30,000 men.

No more Jews > Arabs. In as much as Arabs ⁽³⁾ would
not admit - in spite - 8000 Jews - praised -
(b) will want army now! Untrained - Egypt -
Too late - Too little!

4) Blind Statesmanship - would take no risks -
U.S. and P.B. - Am. people willing to run the risk

- Has E. a cause more just & moral than Israel?
Is E. to risk nothing in carrying out def. assumed
obligation - but must others risk all for E.?

- The disastrous appeasement policy which played E. through
between the Wagner Israel in P.

- There has not been equal sacrifices - Am. willingness
to make maximum sacrifices & unfairly destruction has
not been matched.

- And now E. needing great support in P. - wishes it.

5) Perhaps it is yet not too late to rectify the wrong - to build
up of defenses - of organization - a J. army - for the war. in
the Med. has only just begun.

6) Why send Jews there? Why spend money?
6) Jews in P. are not greater danger than J. S. J. threat. were.

At least in P. - will have a chance to fight for their freedom
& survival. - will give just account of Eos. -
Always fought well in P. - Jubilee - Dand - Wacabien
& ag. Rome - shortest begins -