



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

Series V: Writings, 1909-1963, undated.

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Journal, England and other destinations, including meetings with
British government officials, 1942.

^{N.Y.}
Sat. Mar. 7 - left 9 A.M. - Va. + Montn.

Bermuda. 1 P.M. - Gov. aide -
leave towards eve. on Board
Col. E. M. Wilson - + Col. Barium

Sun. Mar. 8, at 7 A.M. - Horta
Breakfast at Hotel. - leave 9 A.M.
Fislon. 6 P.M. (Fislon).

Hotel Anize. Good crossing
Met Schwartz. J.D.C. at
Hotel. - Sleep in Salon.

Mon. Mar. 9. Leave airport
7 A.M.   Royce Dutch
Air. line. Land. Porto, 8 A.M.
Blunders on plane - A. 2.45 P.M.
Met by aide - Cons. at depot
Dr. Joffe + Rabi - Courtesy
everywhere -

- Arrive London 7 P.M.

Dr. Weitzman - Bayl Feller -
Bakstonsky - Miss Solow -
many others - Press - Photographs
at Station - Padchipter.

- Stop at Dorchester Hotel.

over

Dinner - with Simon Marks and
Batslawsky -

- after dinner - walk out into my
first black-out - weird - ghostly

- Visit underground - subway shelter -
people still sleep on 3 tier
iron cots - with passengers waiting
for trains - cautious





THE DORCHESTER HOTEL
LONDON

TELEPHONE MAYFAIR 8888

Wed. March 11, long talk with Locke
in morning.

See Mr. & Mr. Butler & Foreign Office at war.
long talk - Explain fully our position on
Sudan & Col. army. Is concerned abt.
Am. entrance, its effect.

at 3 meet in House, talk with Pol.
Parliament - Com. Lord Weymouth & friends.
Robert Lord Davies - Lord Stalbridge -
Miss Emma Rathbone W. - Lefevre,
Walter Elliott - Cassart - Silverman -
Weizmann etc. - addressed them. They
vote to send deputation to Lord Cromer
& debate in House -

at 4³⁰ have 2 hr. talk with Joint
Foreign Com. at Wolven House - abt
Post-war Jewish problems. before them
9 hypotheses bet. Jew. & non Jew.
etc.

Dinner at Mrs. Siff.

In House & Lord on Monday Lord Cromer
states Govt case on "Sudan".

In Committee to say H. Macmillan
understand CR. after, state case.

(3)

Tues. March 10.

Out early to see city - considerable
"Brietz" damage still in evidence.

Went small Exce. Com. in 77 St.
Russell St - Dogdole, Foster, Hammer,
Weizman. Readily - but standing.
Bapt as situation in U.S. Talk over
my contact, here.

Work with Hammer & Lady Korda.
Large Press Conf. in afternoon. Tell
my version

See Matthews, Am. Embassy at
4:15. Fine gentleman. He had 27th
with Harold Butler as my interview.
Later on Brown, Embassy telephone
that appointment set for Thursday
noon with Weizman.

Have dinner in Hotel with Simon
Math & Weizman.



THE DORCHESTER HOTEL
LONDON
TELEPHONE MAYFAIR 8888

Thurs. Mar. 12.

Newspaper interviews in morning
Call on Ambassador Malik; with Weyman
at 12. Spend one hr. with him. Is interest
in progress of Am. bonds war effort - war
production - attitude to Soviet - Jewish
attitude - Discuss Pol. - Army - Economy.

at 1 - address Campaign Luncheon in
Ball room, Waldorf Hotel. 200 people -
Send results - £7,000 raised -

Go white bag after Apr. 6. - Black Market new
penalties - "bootlegging" - 14 yrs. - send scribbles

at 4³⁰ visit Lord Cranborne, Colonial
Office. Very cordial - Tea - speak frankly
about "Huma" - "Warren" - J. Army. Ex-
plain reaction in America - Ask 2
for release of "Warren" interview.
Lord C. - would give it very serious
consideration - Future ships probably
taken to Mauritius - after war -
White Paper policy may be reconsidered.
Not now - Even W.C. would

and gave my charge at this time.
My friend Greenberg proposed the project for the year - I stated in
terms as to know that his friend
thanked me for speaking so frankly
to him - I asked for an act to
sweeten up situation. He did not
promise, but would consider -

Strongly indicated our opposition to
White Paper. Some arguments used not
to enforce it - as were used before war
to establish it - we are not asking
now for any formal revision but
within frame-work for administrative
direction to avert Jimmy Dugan's
& "Darwin" - Interview lasted 45
minutes

at 5:30 Had Tea with Lord Davies
at his quarters St. Johns House in
Smith Sq. - discussed his ideas
of post-war settlement - a confederation
of 5-6 big federations. Lord J. gave
me his books

At 8 - Public Reception - Conway Hall.
Address meeting. enthusiastic reception
(Bravery 7 Jews East End - during Blitz).



THE DORCHESTER HOTEL
LONDON

TELEPHONE: MAYFAIR 8888

Friday March 13

(Running Trains with drivers - Restrictions
on gas. to end pleasure motoring & to lock all
unnecessary cars off the road) which bound
to be disastrous. Restrictions on logging
leading to the 3/4th - common time & labor.
Peasants for working paper - a structure made
of paper -) - waste - no wrapping paper - Bus
tickets - Sanitary - no paper - water
wood - defunct - defunct - no paper - tools -
exp -

Cripps goes to India - Heat Searching
abt. Colonial Policy

People work hard - no uphitting short -

hard offshoot - Dankert a Blitz

Fighters all - soldiers, mechanics

"Times" calls for inspiration of a plan
to use the new society now

See newspaperman in morning.
at 4 have interview with Richard Law -
Under-Secy in Foreign office. He is very
cordial. In the main restate my
presentations to Lord C. in re "Stumbe"
"Davies", J. Army. Again ask for
release of D. witnesses. Law understands

voice, act at this time but wonders
whether Axis would not be exempted by
it to send out other refugees to enhance
Eng. - I told him that really were not
ships - a few baby tubs all that
could be found in lost E. M. - He
was impressed. L. & L. seemed
to raise no objections to J. Army, tho
he refused to pol. implications.

Promised to report faithfully what
I told him to Eden. Thanked me for
my moderation and sympathetic attitude
towards S. B. in war - Told him
only friends S. B. had in the East
were Jews. - Spoke of hard hostility &
non-cooperation - Sacrifice, defendable
friends in central US that to oppose
potential world war - Wrong Policy &
toward P. - one more great days
Prussian Thronate. - That entangled
themselves. - L. seemed to agree to
the fact of entanglement caused by false
policy. - Jew will never accept help
& is no solution - Where is the
now? We are Jew friends in Pal - in
America - that may come a time

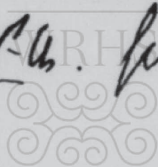


THE DORCHESTER HOTEL
LONDON

TELEPHONE: MAYFAIR 8888

Sat. March 14 - See reporter in
morning. Lunch with Mr. Mrs. Lorkin.
See City in afternoon - ruins - East
End - the City - the Docks - Whitehall -
across - churches - burnt out - levelled -
after 9 months - hardly a house. -
St. Paul -

Dinner with Ballsbridge.
Leave 9.20 P.M. for Glasgow - Good
Train.



March 13 (cont).

When Am. may see war weary - If
Jews, too, see European Jewry hounded
& Pal. Board - may see weary - A negotiable
peace may sweep nations -

5:30 go with Mr. & Mrs. Barnett Janner
to Synagogue - Hampstead Spa - and then
to their home for Dinner - Igloo-shaped
concrete shelter in their living room with
bees around it - Visit warden post in
the vicinity - Vickers watchmen day &
night - & full equipment for Blitz. Men
thrown day & night warden. In every
home for hours - faces, water - bags &
sand - gas - masks -

(Bad Times for Europe - American collapse
of Far Eastern & Pacific Strategy - Humiliation
for Malay - Iraq - Threat to Australia -
India. - Much reading & thought.)

(No holiday Travel on R. D.)



THE DORCHESTER HOTEL
LONDON

TELEPHONE MAYFAIR 8888

Sunday Mar. 15 (Gas (petrol) rationed, 5 gallons a month) - No children.

Arrive Glasgow - in morning. Stop at Central Station. Reception in home of F. Wether - @ 11.30 A.M. Address group of about 50. Good spirit. Lunch in home of A. Goldberg -

at 4 A.M. Public meeting - overflowed - forced to move into gymnasium. Have reception - Jewish Institute next door entertains soldiers - Jews run - Jews right along.

Sir Maurice Black - speaks at meeting & thanks us.

Soldiers & sailors everywhere -

Evening - Mr. Wether's friend spend eve. with us.

Monday Mar. 16 Leave early for Newcastle
met at station by delegation - Luncheon
at Old Assembly Rooms - good meeting
(Wood) English was anxious - "tied up" at
top! Java disaster announced this
morning.)

4 P.M. Tea at Lord Mayor. Officially
welcomed by him. He feels English are
not sufficiently aware of danger. He as
usual - hot-bath & drop races. Cannot
be invaded - This is general feeling.
[A brief alert air raid warning in London
just since Nov. 1 - sounded this morning]

[Announce in papers daily Black-out and
light-up e.g. 7.40 dark + 6.48 light - little
time for lighting Sabbath light]

6:30 overflow public meeting in Hotel
Ball room. Fine enthusiasm.

People need hope & inspiration. Seen
to have been denied it - & eagerly drink
in any word of confidence & faith -
Just orthodox - hunker - "No" &
"hunker" after meal - also Lord gusto
universal business - Jews - Lord gusto



THE DORCHESTER HOTEL
LONDON

TELEPHONE MAYFAIR 8885

Tues Mar. 17. Left her castle for South-
port. Arrive late in afternoon. Evening
meeting in Bath's Cafe well attended and
presided over by Mayor. This is a new side
vent not far from Liverpool.

(News of Gen. Woelther appointed as Supreme
Commander, Allied Forces in Amphibious
land-ops news in Eng - and greatly hearten-
ing to a depressed people. There is much
hope from it - & landing of Am. troops in
Antwerp - Eng. have very harshly
as U.S. & Russia - Demand her for still
greater giving up for Total War - (1) Russia
still further peace-time econ. structure & system
& econ. resources & i.e. State to take direct
respons. for the control of vital industries &
distribution of income (2) Russia pub. structure
i.e. national govt for coalition govt. sub-
ordination of party interests. (3) End to com-
promise & procrastination. - Sense of urgency
sacrifice & effort for service, party for state and
procrastination at home.

Monday Mar. 16 (cont). Lushko's man at
dinner: kept on all night. Believe in win-
ning them. Beautiful of govt. Hark had to
keep up morale, this govt - blue funk.
- Deserve better govt - kept ready for all
surprises - Ford reflected in many
but no actual want.



WED. Mar. 18. - arrived Liverpool 11.30 AM.
Lunched at Adelphi Hotel. Good meet-
ing. Excellent public meeting in Lyceum
Hall in evening. Good report from work
last year held members for K. H. Camp is
day after Blitz. - Great devastation -
10 miles - many evacuated from bombed
cities - esp. children.

[Supper triumph, then - in Southport-
Avon Hotel - Jewish supporters - who
heard me speak - gave me 2 packed
eggs for breakfast the next morning]
Many thanks - well attended. long
queues before Motion Pictures.]

On Thursday morning walk through City.
Areas destroyed. shelling, bomb & mortar
stand - supplementary water supply EWS.
(European water supply). 1500 planes. shot
in fields - dusk to dawn. Tens, thousands
& incandescence - along - land mines - thousands
slain - spirit high even during Blitz -
[newspapers valued in sight & circulation]



THE DORCHESTER HOTEL
LONDON

TELEPHONE MAYFAIR 8888

Thursday, March 19th. Arrive Manchester 11:30 A.M.

Met by large delegation. Some Zionist leaders would like office shifted to Washington - Freed of us (American) responsibility in war - time to oppose their point - afraid their position in Eng. - a small group - Jewish Anti Sem. - Shell market - Conflict of loyalties - Met & have thanks for first time - so-called sensational press, they say, is unprofitable. - Post of news -

[Black market very rared at time of devaluations in Far East, to divert industries & means away from East to Jews.]

1 P.M. address large & enthusiastic hearers.

4 P.M. - non-Jewish Pro. Pol. groups.

[Pro 'Zionist' press (secular). Not enough work among non-Jews.]

[Not interested in struggle bet. right and left - but bet. right and wrong]

6. Dinner - Home Rabbi Altman

7:30. Public Meeting - Maecanian Hall. Great oration. Every where I am thanked for "lifting their spirits" - "infusing hope, courage." Came at psychology, cal movement. Dr. J. J. de -

pressed. War. Defeat. Black Market.
Menon, Antsem - were psych. being
beaten down. My coming thru messag-
contact with great am. Jew. community -
in which they place highest ~~to~~ hopes -
re-invigorated them.

[Freedom in Eng. - great! 9 free press
& free culture, sent in press,
in Parliament, in public meetings. 2%
of us was ham'ed but severe restrictions on
actions & way of life - but not on freedom
(thought & speech.)]

[Thought: In East was - Jews on both sides.
as this fighting only on one side - the
United Nations]

[Attends dances large in Hotel & difficulties
& Black-out! large meetings very
in Eng. at night.]

[Need is felt for clear definition of war
aims if only for sake of effective pol. war-
fare. Prop. is not denuclearization - must be
positive - something to offer - What is
our new world order? Must be visible,
not there -

Wed, Mar. 25, 1942

Leave Bristol in the morning for Boston
Arrive Sat in afternoon. met by
SDC + took to Palmer Hotel, Boston.
When Dr. Thos. Weigman has been
waiting for plane since the Friday last.
Dr. Swartz + Rosen came out in eve.
Spent Thurs. Fri - Sat - Sunday
waiting for Chi. plane. Visit city
few times - SDC offices - SDC
don. very good work -



Mon, Mar. 30 - 1942

Finally informed Clippa will
leave afternoon. Lunch with the
Schwartz and Rosen. Leave towards
evening and travel all night
to Baloma, Portuguese Guinea on West
coast of Africa - 16 hrs. by air -
Spent abt 5 hrs in Baloma -
primitive African natives - and
leave evening for Natal. Slept ~~in~~ ^{going to} Baloma
~~floor of cloak room~~ ^{chain all night} ~~in~~ Natal. No benches
and from Baloma to Natal on floor
of cloak



Tues. Mar 31 - 1942

Arrive Natal, Brazil. after all night
cruising S. Atlantic from Bahama
Breakfast + go back to Plane. Sleep



Wed. Apr. 1-1942.

Arrive Belem around noon. Are
taken to Grand Hotel. Ask official gain-
line abt Jews in B. + prospect of Passover
worships. Towards evening he returns
with Sephardi G. R. and 1st and an officer
of 1st. - They invite me to service which
I attend - Later go to home of this 1st etc.
for Seder - Sephardi ritual - at abt 9 PM.
representative of Ashkenazi community
come to ^{persuade} me to their Seder -
at home of ^{man of} ~~H. H.~~ ^{H. H.} Kislavitz - Present
also is K. H. representative Rafael Rilov,
Hapaddah + food again - Wash, saying
of Pal. Hebrew + Yiddish songs -
abt 2000-3000 Jews in Belem - at
mouth of Amazon. Pop. 300,000.
Spend night in Belem.

Thursday Apr. 2 - 1942.

Leave Belen 7 A.M. Arrive Port of Spain, Trinidad 4 P.M. Stop at The Queen Park Hotel. About 400-500 Jews in Trinidad. I attend Sabbath services in small Synagogue - where a number of American rabbis are also present. Later go to Hotel for 2nd seder conducted for Am. troops by a Rabbi Bender, Boston. Abt. 75 men at seder. Fine spirit. Meet some Cleveland boys. Abt 200-300 Jews in army here.

Spend night in Port of Spain

Friday Apr. 3 - 1942

Leave 11 A.M. for Port of Spain. Gov. of Trinidad on Plane - Period, + welcome to see him off