



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 V: Writings, 1909-1963, undated.

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An enduring peace, 1944.

1) Armistice will not usher in Millennium.
Never in history has such a Volume of Hate been accumulated
as will be released on Arm. Day
Europe will not quickly cover up its blood.
No Gouts - Opposing groups - Ruined economies - unemployment - Refugees - Heartbreak House -

2) Tasks of Reconstruction & Peace greater & more difficult.
Under way - Relief of immediate distress - UNRRA - Inter. R/L
America - profound role of God, Provisional Benefactor.
Our own burdens will be heavy - a crushing load of debt
We have not strength of Atlas -
Cannot undertake an indefinite & universal lend. lease.
Our share - Facilitate trade by removal trade barriers - in sum
access to raw material - Stabilize currency - technical
skill - create an atmosphere of order
Intergov. loans - to create buying power - best valuable
most subject to abuse.

3) What to do with defeated Germany (Japan)
2 Schools - meaningless - In relation to what?
In punishing criminals we no longer - prohibit reform.
Modern criminology - Penury - Vindictiveness - Killers, rapists
burglars, forgers - But primarily - prohibit - reform
After disarmed, confined, time to reflect - strict penitence
every assistance - to rehabilitate - Incomparable -

4) To assume that a defeated German - immediately upon Armistice
penitent - confute - gross brutal crimes -
No thing - on eve of defeat - brethren - presumes / can
Understand - Killing civilians - Change of Heart - Silly

Thinking not of Penitence - Revenge - Next has -
youth - World Conquest - Heeren - First that pattern
Contempt & Hate for Jewish. - A lost generation

To say to such a firm - Too bad - Wreck - Gestapo - All
over now - fight and fight - It's true we did it all
High-minded - rebuild your cities - fortresses - Hug the
illusion again that "kindly treatment will make you
less militant, less avid of revenge"

5/ Nazis + Germans separate & apart - get rid - amiable people
Everyone wishes that it were so - Facts.

Ger. people refused - overwhelmingly for Hitler - 12 M. before H.
became Chancellor - In 1933 - 17 M. - 13 1/2 M. voted for
H. against Hindenburg.

A very substantial section - for German Nat - Kaiser
and Conquest

Of course - other sections - Unfortunately cannot - do not know
how many ideas count. Could not do it under Hitler
Kaiser - Mussolini. Helpless & ineffective
Pol. docility & blind obedience - lead by nose.

6/ What to do?

① Evidence of defeat inside their own borders.

Invincible Wehrmacht - myth

Fruitful Soil - bloody battle fields - One Iron Corp
War does not pay - War criminals punished - ~~at~~ Court-
Martial

② Must never again be capable of warring.
Control of its indus. potential - unable wage modern war
not de-industrialization
Industries devotedly related

Aviation production even for commercial purposes - Dr. Grant (3)
Manufacture permanent - Forbidden to sell
If assistance - rebuild industries - renewed - bring
about a redistribution ; Europ. industry

7). During occupation - deant + deinst. elements should be
rebuild - re-educated - ways ; inter. cooperation
should not be dismembered - European will
challenging to basic nat. interests - Unity is an ideal - Goal
No punitive indemnities - No chains riveted - Penalized

8). In course, time - may give us a Ger. capable -
But whether it does + not - we mean -
Strongest assurance - International Security Org. -
Implemented - Dumbarton Oaks ^{5/19/45} Influence
Not dependent on 3-4 major powers - Veto Power - Equality
Rights, Man - Minorities

9). Both pol. parties - End of Isolations - Kill it by
amendments - Amer. Refus. -
Take certain risks for Peace - War -

10). Retain sense of Urgency for Peace - Relax -
Develop Strong Power - a perspective -
Let all well come out as we want it - A task for generations
No alternative - Either cooperate in world Peace or further violence
in world wars