

Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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Madison Square Garden demonstration, 1948.

JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES
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New York 24, N. Y.
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ADDRESS OF DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER, CHAIRMAN

OF THE AMERICAN SECTION OF THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE AND OF THE AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL, AT THE MASS DEMONSTRATION AND MEMORIAL SERVICE IN MADISON SQUARE PARK FOLLOWING THE PARADE OF VETERANS FOR PALESTINE -- SUNDAY, APRIL 4, 1948

The President and the Secretary of State declare that they still favor partition as the correct solution for Palestine. Why, then, have they taken the initiative to have a Special Assembly of the UN convoked to revoke the action of the last Assembly which overwhelmingly endorsed partition? Is it because the Arabs have resisted it? Do the President and the Secretary of State believe that after a period of temporary trusteeship, such as they propose, the Arabs will come to accept partition? On what information do they base such a belief? If trusteeship is not a substitute for partition, as they have declared, and the permanent solution for Palestine will still have to be found in partition, which will have to be enforced whenever it takes place, what useful purpose is served by indefinitely postponing the permanent solution and thus prolonging the period of uncertainty and strife in the Holy Land?

If our Government has finally reached the conclusion that it is prepared to join an international police force to maintain law and order in Palestine in connection with the setting-up of a UN trusteeship, why is it unwilling to do so in connection with the carrying-out of the UN Plan for Partition?

If the American Government is still committed to the partition solution, as it repeatedly declares, and to the principle that the Jewish people of Palestine has a right to independence and sovereignty, how does its new proposal for

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trusteeship advance or ensure that objective? The American people have a right to receive an answer to this question. In fact, this answer should have been given before the U. S. Delegate to the Security Council introduced the new resolutions in the name of our Government.

Every American citizen is deeply concerned in the defense of his country.

Love of America and devotion to her traditions and institutions are deeply ingrained in the hearts of the Jews of America. You Jewish War Veterans, who have by the hundreds of thousands served American in two world wars, need not be told these elementary truths, nor do any politicians in Washington need to lecture you or the American Jews generally on patriotic duties and responsibilities. You need take no lessons in American patriotism from Loy Henderson, Robert Lovett or James Forrestal, or from the oil lobbyists, who have been responsible for the shocking reversal of the American position.

In these desperate times, the strength of our country lies first and foremost in the confidence that the free nations of the world have in the integrity
of our purposes and in our pledged word. Any suspicion of duplicity in our
foreign policy and in unreliability in our promises serves to strengthen the
diplomatic offensive against us all over the world. This can hardly be balanced
by the billions of dollars spent by us for aid in the various countries of Europe.

Those who truly love America and believe in the high moral role of leadership which destiny has assigned to her in this century, wish to see her integrity remain unimpeachable and her position unassailable by any suspicion of profitseeking or power politics. Time and again in the history of nations, yielding to a temporary expediency has resulted in incalculable damage to long-range and fundamental purposes and functions. Let any American inquire today among the members of the United Nations, and he will learn to his great humiliation how badly our position has slumped as the result of the amazing reversal of the United States on Palestine, which we sought to justify by so much legalistic

abracadabra and such fallacious arguments. It is not yet too late for our beloved country to undo the mischief for which certain officials in Washington are responsible. Neither the Congress of the United States nor the American people would approve of these machinations. Why should a little group of conspirators be permitted to lead our great country into a morass of duplicity, undermining our prestige in the world, shaking the very foundations of the United Nations, and doing grievous wrong to a people which has been struggling to regain freedom and independence in the ancient Land of Israel?

The Congress of the United States has twice endorsed the national aspirations of the Jewish people in Palestine. Both major political parties are on record in support of the establishment of the Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine. Every President of the United States since President Wilson has endorsed it. The United Nations four months ago, with the fullest support of our Government, has likewise approved of it. American Jewry continues to stand by the United Nations decision and will not be intimidated by the propaganda of the conspirators who wish to scuttle it.

It is not yet too late for our country to return from a lamentable detour to the highway of a clear purpose and a fine, consistent position at the United Nations. Our Government should re-affirm the position which it wisely took last November in favor of solving the Palestine problem through partition, a position which the President of the United States and the Secretary of State endorsed and still endorse.

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VETERANS!

Parade with us down Fifth Avenue to demand that the United Nations decision on Palestine be upheld and that the solemn pledges made to the Jewish people—and to the world—be redeemed.

The Time — Sunday, April 4th, at 9:00 A. M.

The Place — Fifth Avenue From 39th Street to Madison Square Park

THE POINTS OF ASSEMBLY ARE AS FOLLOWS:

New York County
39th Street WEST of Fifth Avenue
Queens County
39th Street EAST of Fifth Avenue
N. Y. State (except New York City),
Ohio, Va., Conn., Mass., R. I.
38th Street WEST of Fifth Avenue

Del., N. H., Me., Vt., N. J., Pa.,
Md., Washington

38th Street EAST of Fifth Avenue

Bronx County

37th Street WEST of Fifth Avenue

Kings County

37th Street EAST of Fifth Avenue

CITIZENS!

Show your solidarity with the embattled Jews of Palestine by turning out to watch the parade and by joining in the great

MASS DEMONSTRATION and MEMORIAL SERVICE beginning at 11:30 A. M. at MADISON SQUARE PARK

Speakers will include

U. S. Senator OWEN BREWSTER (R. Me.)

Dr. ABBA HILLEL SILVER

Brig. Gen. JULIUS KLEIN

Rep. CHET HOLIFIELD (D. Calif.)

Col. JOHN J. BENNETT

Memorial Service to Palestine's Heroic Dead led by

Rabbi JOSEPH H. LOOKSTEIN

AMERICA'S HONOR IS AT STAKE. LET'S PRESERVE IT!

JEWISH WAR VETERANS of the UNITED STATES
50 West 77th Street, New York, N. Y.

Archie H. Greenheit. D.N.C. CHAIRMAN. Abreham Kraditor. P.N.C., CRAND MADOUAL. Rrie. Ben. Julius Klein. NATIONAL COMMANDER