



The American Jewish Committee

386 FOURTH AVE., NEW YORK 16, N. Y.
TELEPHONE: MURRAY HILL 5-0181
Cable Address: "Wishcom, New York"

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February 28, 1945

Dear Nelson:

Your two letters to me dated January 20th and 28th, and your letter addressed to Judge Proskauer dated January 26th, have been received. By the time my letter reaches you, you probably will have received the acknowledgment from the Judge.

The two letters addressed to me have been distributed to our inner circle: Jacob Blaustein, Fred Lazarus, Jr., George Z. Medalie, David Sher and Alan M. Stroock. Everyone, including myself, found the contents extremely interesting, and the conversations that you have had with Weizmann, Ben Gurion and Shertok, illuminating. The procedure that you have been following is completely in accord with the position that the American Jewish Committee has taken, and I feel certain that much good will come out of the contacts that you have made.

In your letter to the Judge you express a wish to be present at some of the discussions between Weizmann and him. I do hope that this wish can become a reality, for your presence here during these conversations would contribute greatly to a successful outcome. Could this be arranged?

I have simply one observation to make with regard to your conversation with Ben Gurion and Shertok as related in your letter of January 28th. I quote, "I replied that I was not prepared nor authorized to enter into discussions of such details now, but that for my part I feel that the American Jewish Committee would certainly not be satisfied with a mere token representation on the Jewish Agency . . . "

It has been our view that parity should be achieved on the Jewish Agency between the non-Zionist and Zionist representations. The American Jewish Committee does not intend to either select persons to represent itself nor to do the selecting for others. It would make its facilities available for the purpose of bringing together the non-Zionist groups in the United States from whom, on the basis of a method to be agreed upon, representatives would be selected by themselves. I think it is important to make a distinction between the American Jewish Committee as such, and the non-Zionist contingent in the United States. The latter, of course, represents a far greater constituency than that of the Committee. It includes the Agudas Israel, perhaps the Jewish Labor Committee, and similar organizations.

I am quite certain that you know these facts and probably used the Committee as symbolic of the non-Zionist constituency. Most of us here have been very much concerned with making it clear that the American Jewish Committee as such does not represent the non-Zionist constituency in the United States. I am sure you agree with this point.

Nelson Glueck

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Please keep us further advised. We are very eager to obtain your observations and advice, as matters here are shaping up rather rapidly, particularly in relation to the forthcoming United Nations meeting at San Francisco in April.

For your information, Max Gottschalk is in London and his address is c/o Anglo Jewish Association, Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place, London, W.C.1.

With best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,


John Slawson

Dr. Nelson Glueck
c/o American School of Oriental Research
Jerusalem, Palestine

JS/ss

Via Air Mail and Sea Mail