

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERVIEW BETWEEN DR. WEIZMANN AND DR. D. SHIELS

Held in a private room of House of
Commons on 4th March, at 6.
1930.

Dr. Shiels then launched out into quite a different subject, by saying that some radical solution must be found, and he didn't see why one should not really make Palestine a National Home for the Jews and tell it frankly to the Arabs, pointing out to them that in Transjordan and Mesopotamia they had vast territories where they could develop their life and civilisation without let or hindrance, but that the Jews were entitled to work in Palestine unmolested, and that in the end it would be good for all parties concerned.

ref 1:128

Article in Week-End Review, London, 1 November 1930.

The Palestine White Paper

by Dr. Ch. Weizmann*

No statesmanlike view of the duty of the Mandatory Power in regard to both Jews and Arabs could ignore the fact that Transjordan is legally part of Palestine; that it has a cultivable area equal to that of Palestine; that it has a population of only 300,000; that in race, language and culture its people are indistinguishable from the Arabs of Western Palestine; that it is separated from Western Palestine only by a narrow stream; that it has been established as an Arab reserve, and that it would be just as easy for landless Arabs or cultivators from congested areas to migrate to Transjordan as to migrate from one part of Western Palestine to another.

ref 1:136

(THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT).

SECRET.

C.P.I. (30).
3rd Conference.

COPY NO. 19

CABINET.

POLICY IN PALESTINE.

MINUTES of the third Meeting held in the Secretary of State's Room at the Foreign Office, on Friday, December 5th, 1930, at 3.0 p.m. between Members of the Cabinet and Representatives of Jewish Organisations.

DR. WEIZMANN said he had one final and constructive proposal to make. He asked that consideration be given to the development of the Negeb, as well as the country east of the Jordan. Trans-Jordan was practically an empty country. It was perhaps slightly larger in cultivable area than the region west of the Jordan. Jews were excluded from Trans-Jordan. This was in his opinion illegal, and this position was inadmissible under the terms of the Mandate. Transjordan afforded a vast reserve for colonization, and for the trans-migration of Arabs from the congested area Cis-Jordan to vacant lands in Trans-Jordan. No real effort in this direction has yet been made.

ref 1:137

ועד לפרייבל של ישיבת הדיקטוריון של חתמ'ל, ירושלים, מיב אייר חרצ'א-29.4.31, מ.חוצא/3.

ע"פ החוזה מחויב מוכר-הקרקע למלא את כל חביעות מעבדי-הקרקע לחביעות-רצונת של הממילא. ביצעו חוצצו או להעביר את הערבים לקרקעות בעבר-הירדן, חסיבות למוכר, או להעמיד לרשותם שטח מאדמח-הממשלה באזור בית-שאן. אולם הנציב העליון מחנוד להעברה הערבים לעבר-הירדן. יש חליפת-הלגומח ערב בין החלטות הארץ-ישראל ובין מירד-הממשלה (לונדון) כענין זה. מצדנו צריכים להעשות כל המאמצים, למען תועמד לרשות של מעבדי-הקרקע - אדמח, מוכב בעבר-הירדן.

ref 1:139

Minutes. Directorate of J.N.F. 29 April 1931

הרצאת ח' ח' ארלוזורוב על המצב בארץ.

והנה הדבר קבול כיוון שהממשלה חושבת את עתידה כחילו היתה זאת ארץ של רעבה
להעברת הערבים המקרקעות סנקו מהם. עד כמה שידוע לי, חושבים גם שהיהודים
ישתקפו הסתמכות כספית ~~הם~~ במידה להחייבות הערבים ~~הם~~ בעבר-הירדן.
אני חושב שכיוון כזה עלול לאשר קו"כ את הסקין המרכזי של הדו"ח של ועדת
החקירה, כי בעבר-הירדן המערבי באמת אין קרקע. בטבילנו - מבהינה כוללית -
דומה הדבר לאיבוד לדעת. גם יחידיו יתחילו ע"י כך לחשוב שהיהודים לא יוכלו
להסתדר בארץ בלי אכסורט של הערבים.

ref 1:140

Lecture by Chaim Arlosoroff - May 1930

Pol/1575/32

26th December, 1932.

My dear Dr. Weizmann,

The lands in question are at present owned by Effendis most of whom are living in Syria and the Lebanon. There are about twenty-seven villages on these lands with a population of about 1200 families. If these lands pass into our hands it would be possible to transfer part of the people to other lands and to make arrangements with the remainder so as to re-distribute their allotments once the drainage of the concession area renders ordinary irrigation and intensive agriculture possible.

ref 1:141

Letter. Arlosoroff to Weizmann

ch.a.

SECRET.

Note of Interview given to Dr. Weizmann
by the High Commissioner on 20th March, 1931.

11. Dr. Weizmann then referred to the question of the development of Trans-Jordan. He believed that there was much to be done in that country and that the Amir Abdullah could be persuaded to agree to the Development Commission expending some of its funds on developing land in Trans-Jordan for the settlement of Palestinian Arabs. I told him that that was quite out of the question at the present time. The Trans-Jordanians were very narrow and provincial in their outlook. They regarded Palestinian Arabs as foreigners; and the feeling among them was at present so strong on the subject that any suggestion for the development of Trans-Jordan for the benefit of Palestinian settlers would be most inopportune.

ref 1:142

Was Dr. Weizmann Committed?

3. Transfer of the Arab population: I said that the whole success of the scheme depended upon whether the Government genuinely did or did not wish to carry out this recommendation. The transfer could be carried out only by the British Government, and not by the Jews. I explained the reasons why we considered this proposal of such importance. Mr. Ormsby-Gore said that he was proposing to set up a Committee for the twofold purpose (a) of finding land for the transferees (they hoped to find land in Trans-Jordan, and possibly also in the Negev), and (b) of arranging the actual terms of the transfer. He mentioned the name of Sir John Campbell, who had had much experience in connection with transfers of population between Greece and Turkey, and who knew all about the matter. He agreed that once Galilee was given to the Jews, and not the Negev, the position would be very difficult without transfer.

ref 1:145

Jewish Chronicle - 13 August 1937

4

Evening Standard, Tuesday, August 17, 1937

"The Admirals are After Me About Haifa"—What Ormsby-Gore is alleged to have told Weizmann

From a Special Correspondent

A REMARKABLE document, purporting to be a confidential report by Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Zionist Congress, of a conversation he had with Mr. Ormsby-Gore, Secretary of State for the Colonies, has been published in London.

The document quotes Mr. Ormsby-Gore as having promised important modifications in the scheme for partitioning Palestine recommended by the Royal Commission who issued their report last month.

It also attributes to Mr. Ormsby-Gore the statement that "the Admirals had been after him with regard to Haifa"—the port which, under the Commission's scheme, will remain for a period under British Mandatory administration, but will eventually be a part of the proposed new Jewish State.

Dr. Weizmann replied, the document says, that if the British Admiralty "tried to collar Haifa we should make things extremely unpleasant for them at Geneva."

Another remark attributed to Mr. Ormsby-Gore was that "his statement in the House of Commons would be vague, and he expected he would have a bad time."

The document is said to be signed "Ch. W." and to be dated July 19, 1937.

[The proposals of the Palestine Commissioners were issued on July 7, and Mr. Ormsby-Gore addressed the House of Commons on the proposals on July 21.]

THE document is published in London by the "Jewish Chronicle," which states that it was produced by Mr. Meir Grossman, leader of the Jewish State Party, at a secret session of the Zionist Congress in Zurich when he delivered a slashing attack on Dr. Weizmann.

ref 1:146

*In Reply
to Service*

*I am asked by
K. Weizmann to
state I can
assure the
accuracy of the
reproduction of
a conversation
between Sir L. Hor
Weizmann and I am
informed that this
report of the conversation
is being circulated
as a pamphlet
in Geneva.*

[Signature]

ref 1:147 Internal Colonial Office
note re Weizmann "leakage"

GS	POST OFFICE OVERSEAS TELEGRAM	21
Received at Zurich 1586	6584 ZUERICH 1290 40 18/8 1156	
ORMSBY GORE COLONIAL OFFICE LONDON =		
= DEEPLY REGRET ANY PERSONAL INCONVENIENCE CAUSED YOU BY PUBLICATION UNCORRECTED MINUTE OUR CONVERSATION OBTAINED BY ILLICIT MEANS AND USED BY INSIGNIFICANT UNSCRUPULOUS OPPOSITION GROUP STOP NAMIER PROCEEDED LONDON WILL ASK SEE YOU EXPLAIN MATTERS = WEIZMANN =		
<small>grams for all series in the and radio- grams for ships all seas are ac- ted in all Postal Graph Offices or be telephoned the Post Office.</small>		

ref 1:153 Telegram re Weizmann "leakage"

VILLA CORNE D'OR
CANNES (A-M)
Tél.: 8-87

Sept. 4th 07.

Dear Ormsby-Gore, I have received here your letter of Aug. 29th and am naturally
much distressed and disturbed by its contents. If as you say, "great harm and mischief"
has been done through what has occurred, I can only express my profoundest regret.
It grieves me infinitely that in your view your personal position in the Government
is likely to suffer, as well as the interests of the Jewish people. I trust that in
view of both the damage done may not be as great as you fear. I shall make
no attempt at the moment to give you the facts which led to the
surprising notes of our conversation of July 19th falling into unauthorized hands.
I have not been in London since I discovered that this has happened, and the
responsible authorities of my office staff have also been absent. Of course on my
return I shall immediately investigate the matter. It is the first time so
far as I know that any leakage has occurred from 17 Great Russell Street.
I am particularly sorry that you should assume that I was the author
of the notes in question. This is not the case; they are rough notes made by
the secretary on the basis of my report of our conversation to my colleagues,
and they have either been or corrected by me. I saw them for the first time
in British papers in some newspapers.

My letter to you of July 20th and my subsequent statements to you are the
only authorized records, so far as I am concerned.

In conclusion I can only repeat my deep regret that the annoyance caused
by this most unfortunate incident has fallen upon you so late in your career.

May I note that since you have thought it right to send a copy of your
letter to me of Aug. 29th to the Prime Minister, you will also kindly send
him a copy of this interim reply?

Yours sincerely
[Signature]

ref 1:156

Letter from Weizmann to Ormsby-Gore re "leakage"

SECRET.

SUMMARY NOTE OF INTERVIEW WITH MR. CRUSBY GORE, COLONIAL
OFFICE, WEDDAY, JULY 19th, 1937, at 10.45 a.m.

Present: The Right Hon. W. Ormsby-Gore,
The Right Hon. The Lord Dufferin,
Dr. Ch. Weizmann.

(3) Transfer of Arab population: I said that the whole success of the scheme depended on whether the Government genuinely did or did not wish to carry out this recommendation; the transfer could be carried out only by the British Government, and not by the Jews. I explained the reasons why we considered this proposal of such importance. Mr. Ormsby Gore said that he was proposing to set up a Committee for the twofold purpose (a) of finding land for the transferees (they hoped to find land in Transjordan, and possibly also in the Negev), and (b) of arranging the actual terms of the transfer. He mentioned the name of Sir John Campbell, who had had much experience in connection with transfers of population between Greece and Turkey, and who knew all about the matter. He agreed that once Galilee was given to the Jews, and not the Negev, the position would be very difficult without transfer.

Ch.7.

London,
29.7.37.

ref 1:158

Minutes - written by Weizmann

19.7.37

החלטת מועצת הפועלים ביום חמישי 19.7.37
אשר להעברת ארץ ישראל ליהודים

Ben-Gurion. Diary Entry. 19 July 1937

ref 1:159

Dr Weizmann came to see me + Lord Tufferin this morning. He made it clear that he is going to do his best to get the Zionist Congress to accept Partition. He made the following points

- (2) Transfer. The Jews can't take ^{active} part though they will help in getting Arabs out of Palestine into Trans-Jordan - e.g. places like the Zarka valley - but some transfer is vital to the success of the scheme

ref 1:162

Minutes - written by Ormsby-Gore.

65/19.7.

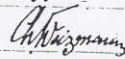
14th July, 1937.

Dear Ormsby-Gore,

Among these points I will here cite first the vital question of transfer. The proposed boundaries of the Jewish State are so narrow that the policy to be pursued as regards transfer will be one of the primary considerations determining the decision of the Jewish people. I would therefore ask what the intentions of H.M. Government are as regards paragraph 43 of Chapter XXII of the Report (page 391).

ref 1:174

Yours sincerely,



הסוכנות היהודית בשביל ארץ ישראל
THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE.

TELEPHONE: MUSEUM 3817 (4 LINES).
 TELEGRAMS: "ZIONIBURO. LONDON;"
 CODES: BENTLEY'S AND MOSSE'S.

7-7, GREAT RUSSELL STREET.
 LONDON, W.C.1.

In reply please address the Secretary:
 and quote the following Reference No.: PRIVATE.

20th July, 1937.

The Right Hon. W. Ormsby-Gore, P.C., M.P.,
 Colonial Office,
 Downing Street, S.W.1.

My dear Ormsby-Gore,

I have to thank you and Lord Dufferin for sparing me
 so much time for our conversation yesterday.

4. Transfer of Population.

~~You were good enough to go in some detail into the~~
 practical arrangements you are already contemplating for giving
 effect to this recommendation. I was reassured to find that
 you agree with me about the crucial importance of transfer for
 the success of a partition scheme.

Yours very sincerely
Ch. Weizmann

16. ADDISON CRESCENT, W. 14.

July 18th 37.

My dear Prof. Rappard: You see things have turned out substantially as I have reported to you in the winter soon after my return from Palestine; there are many disappointing features in the Report as compared with my prediction, but several things are somewhat better, the most important of them all is: Galilee and the question of transfer of population - a very difficult and delicate problem;

Ch. Weizmann

Letter. Weizmann to Professor William Rappard

22.3.39 1/3 PM

ימים הנסיון. אחריו יבא דניאל ויבין, ויבין אברהם
 ויחייא. ויבין אברהם ויחייא. ויבין אברהם ויחייא.
 ויבין אברהם ויחייא. ויבין אברהם ויחייא.
 ויבין אברהם ויחייא. ויבין אברהם ויחייא.

Moshe Shertok. Diary entry. 21 March 1939

MINUTES OF THE THIRTY THIRD MEETING OF THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR
PALESTINE, HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22nd, 1939, at 77 GREAT
RUSSELL STREET, LONDON, W.C. 1.

Dr. Weizmann said that he had just heard that Taufiq Suwayda was a little angry with Mr. Rutenberg because the latter had been too frank with certain suggestions. Suwayda desired to work for appeasement and so did Ali Maher. He (Dr. Weizmann) would see them in Egypt and in Paris. Suwayda was ready with his colleagues to create a movement by which Palestinian Arabs would go to Iraq, provided the Jews would help to develop that country. He (Dr. Weizmann) did not suggest that Mr. Rutenberg had done any harm by what he had said, - on the contrary, he thought that Suwayda was amenable to influence.

ref 1:181

Monday, April 10, 1939:

Mr. Metrani then left with the intention of bringing Tewfiq Suweidi to the Hotel to meet Dr. Weizmann. Dr. Weizmann reported to me briefly the substance of their conversation which related to Tewfiq Suweidi's readiness under certain conditions to assist in the promotion of a project for the settlement of Palestinian Arabs in Iraq.

Dr. Dov Joseph. Diary notes. 10 April 1939

SECRET

NOTE OF CONVERSATION WITH MAJOR ATTLEE AND MR. TOM WILLIAMS.
HOUSE OF COMMONS, S.W.1., NOVEMBER 30th, 1939, at 4.30 p.m.

Present: Major C. Attlee,
Mr. Tom Williams,
Dr. Weizmann,
Mr. Shertok,
Mr. Locker,
Mr. Bakstansky,

Dr. Weizmann then put the Zionist case quite briefly. Taking the Peel Report as his starting point, he mentioned the two main points which had emerged from it: the idea of a Jewish State, and the idea of a transfer of population. All that had happened since the Peel Report had only gone to strengthen these two arguments. As a result of the war the Jewish position was bound to become much worse; moreover, the idea of transfer of population was bound to become more acceptable to men's minds because the settlement eventually to be reached could not take the form of merely drawing new territorial frontiers. Clearly, populations would have to be shifted, and the world would become more accustomed to this idea. Palestine could take some three or four million people - not, of course, overnight, but within a measurable time. We must have some territorial basis there, and that would mean an improved Peel scheme, possibly Palestine west of the Jordan, with some transfer of a part at least of the Arab population. The whole thing should be linked up with some kind of Federation of the neighbouring Arab States.

Major Attlee nodded assent when transfer of population was mentioned.

ref 1:188

London,
1.12.39.

M.S.

SECRET

NOTE OF MEETING HELD AT NEW COURT, ST. SWITHIN'S LANE, E.C., ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER THE 9th, 1941, at 2.30 p.m.

DR. WEIZMANN said that they had not yet come to this problem. After all, the matter would have to be discussed with British and American statesmen. He had been asked the same question by Lord Moyne, and had replied that he personally would accept the Royal Commission's report without "the line". That meant that the boundary would be the Jordan. The question of boundaries also raised the question of transfer of population. Such transfer might, of course, be entirely voluntary. If, for instance, they could transfer those Arab tenants who owned no land of their own (he believed there were about 120,000 of them) they would be able to settle in their stead about half a million Jews. He thought that the question of boundaries should not be raised at this stage.

ref 1:195

SECRET

5701/43

SECRET MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 30th, 1941, at 77
GREAT RUSSELL STREET, LONDON, W.C.1.

Present: Dr. Weizmann, Mrs. Dugdale, Professor Wiener,
Mr. Locker, Mr. Linton.

M. Maisky asked whether it was Dr. Weizmann's opinion that the only solution lay in Palestine. On his replying in the affirmative, M. Maisky said there would have to be an exchange of populations. Dr. Weizmann said that if half a million Arabs could be transferred, two million Jews could be put in their place. That, of course, would be a first instalment; what might happen afterwards was a matter for history. M. Maisky's comment was that they in Russia had also had to deal with exchanges of population. Dr. Weizmann said that the distances they had to deal with in Palestine would be smaller: they would be transferring the Arabs only into Iraq or Transjordan. M. Maisky asked whether some difficulties might not arise in transferring a hill-country population to the plains, and Dr. Weizmann replied that a beginning might be made with the Arabs from the Jordan Valley; but anyhow conditions in Transjordan were not so very different from those of the Palestine hill-country.

ref 1:191 Weizmann's version of meeting with Maisky given at Jewish Agency Meeting in London

Meeting: L.M. Maiskii - Ch. Weizmann
(London, 3 February 1941)

DIARY: AVP RF, F017A, OP.1, P.2, D.8, LL.17-19

A few days ago I had an unexpected visitor: the well-known Zionist leader Dr. Weizmann. He is a tall, elderly, elegantly dressed gentleman with a pale yellow tinge to his skin and a large bald patch on his head. His face is very wrinkled and marked with some dark patches. His nose is aquiline and his speech calm and slow. He speaks excellent Russian, although he left Russia forty-five years ago.

And then, taking all these circumstances into account, Weizmann worriedly asked: 'What has a British victory to offer the Jews?' Having asked the question, he came to some uncomfortable conclusions. For the only 'plan' which Weizmann can think of to save central European Jewry (and in the first place Polish Jewry) is this: to move a million Arabs who are now in Palestine to Iraq, and to settle four or five million Jews from Poland and other countries on the land where these Arabs were. The British are hardly likely to agree to this. And if they don't agree, what happens next?

I expressed some surprise about how Weizmann hoped to settle five million Jews on territory occupied by one million Arabs.

'Oh, don't worry', Weizmann burst out laughing. 'The Arab is often called the son of the desert. It would be truer to call him the father of the desert. His laziness and primitivism turn a flourishing garden into a desert. Give me the land occupied by a million Arabs, and I will easily settle five times that number of Jews on it.'

Weizmann shook his head sadly and concluded: 'The only thing is, how do we obtain that land?'

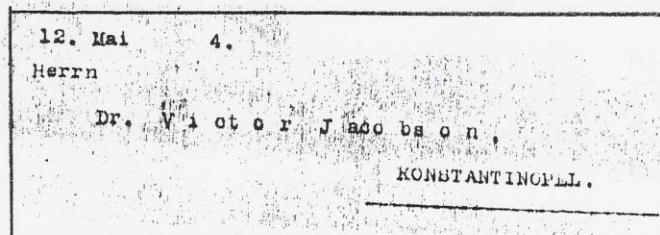
ref 1:192 Maisky's version of meeting with Weizmann - from Maisky's diary



dort, wo die Bevölkerung eine gemischte ist, soll eine friedliche Völkerwanderung und eine nationale Verteilung des Territoriums vorgenommen werden. Den Juden soll das sehr dünn bevölkerte Palästina, wo die Juden jetzt schon 10 Prozent der Bevölkerung ausmachen, abgetreten werden. Die Juden bilden eine Allianz mit den unterjochten Völkern der Türkei und streben die gerechte Zerteilung dieses Eroberungsreiches an.

Pamphlet by "Ben-Elieser" - pseud. for Nachman Syrkin

ref 1:208



Wir nehmen eine parallele arabische Kolonisation in Aussicht, d.h. wir beabsichtigen, in etwas weiter entlegenen Gegenden, wie in der Umgegend von Homs, Aleppo etc. Grundstücke zu kaufen, die unter günstigen Bedingungen an palästinensische Fellachen, die durch unsere häufige geschädigt werden, verkauft werden können.

ref 1:209 Letter. Arthur Ruppin to Victor Jacobson. 12 May 1914

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<h2 style="margin: 0;">ALLGEMEINE JUEDISCHE ZEITUNG</h2>		
Nummer 28	Berlin, den 12. Juli 1912 — 27. Tammus 5672	XVII. Jahrgang

Unsere Palästinalpolitik

Referat von L. Motzkin, gehalten auf dem
Delegiertenkongress der deutschen Zionisten.

Ueberhaupt unterliegt es keinem Zweifel, daß es eine der schwierigsten Aufgaben sein wird, die Araber an den Gedanken zu gewöhnen, daß Palästina ein jüdisches Land — Erez Israel ist, aber erleichtert wird die Aufgabe durch die Tatsache, daß ringsherum um Palästina unermessliche Ländereien vorhanden sind, nach denen die Araber mittels der von den Juden erlangten Summen mit Leichtigkeit und zum eigenen Vorteil weiterrücken können. Ziehen wir stets bei der Betrachtung dieser Dinge nicht allein Palästina, sondern Palästina und Syrien in Betracht, so läßt sich für unsere Kolonisierung Palästinas ein Prozeß denken, bei dem beide Parteien, Juden wie Araber, einander gewaltige Äquivalente — die einen historische, die anderen wirtschaftliche — zu gewähren vermögen.

ref 1:217

Lecture by Leo Motzkin. 12 July 1912

מחשבתנו או היתה, כי ההתישבות צריכה ללכת בשני כוונים: התישבות יהודית בארץ-ישראל ויישוב ערבי ארץ-ישראל על שטחים שמחוץ לא"י. אותה העברה של אוכלוסיה ניכרת, הנראית בתחילה תמוהה מאד מבחינה כלכלית, לא היתה דבר שאינו ניתן להתגשם. ארגון מסויים לא היה מצריך סכומים גדולים יותר מדי כדי ליישב יושבי כפר ערבי — שמכרו את אדמתם שבארץ-ישראל להתישבות למושבא יהודית — על כבדת-קרקע אחרת ולקשרם אל המקום החדש.

ref 1:218

Translation of Paper by Motzkin. Late 1918

ב כ ו ר

<p>פי עורר את שאלת-החילופין ביחס לארצנו. שאלת חילופי-אוכלוסים נתעוררה אצלנו רשמית על-ידי הוועדה המלכותית, שבראשה עמד לורד פיל. אלא מה? הוועדה כבלה בעצמה את ידיה, כשהציעה, לשם פתרון השאלה – לחפש מים בנגב ובעבר הירדן בשביל הערבים. הצעה זו לא היתה יכולה להתגשם, אף אילו היתה תכנית החלוקה מתגשמת כולה, כי לא הממשלה ולא איוה מוסד אחר, מלבד מוסד עברי, היה מביא את המאמצים הגדולים הדרושים בשביל גילוי מים להשקאה בנגב ובעבר הירדן. ועוד: אף אילו היו מגלים מים שם להשקאה בשפע, אף אילו היו מעבירים ערבים מארץ-ישראל המערבית לאזורים אחרים בארצנו ואף אילו היו מתגברים על כל המכשולים וההפרעות שהיו נוצרים בשעת מעשה מסובך שכזה, – הרי לפעולות מעין אלו היה יכול להיות רק ערך זמני ומועט מאד. בהכרח היו נאלצים לחפש פתרונות אחרים. אחד מהם כלול באפשרויות המצויות בעיראק.</p>
<p>לעומת זאת יש אפשרויות בלתי מוגבלות של עליית ערבים לעיראק, שם מומונים לערבים הנאים טבעיים טובים ונוחים, שם קיימת אותה הסביבה התרבותית ואותה רמת-החיים בערך, כמו בארצנו. אלא מה? יש צורך שהממשלה העיראקית תתייחס ברצינות לבעיה זו.</p>
<p>עיראק כמעט לא התפתחה מבחינה חקלאית. אין מי שיהיה מעונין יותר מהממשלה העיראקית בטידורים, אשר יהפכו את כוח הקליטה של מדינתה לכוח-משיכה בשביל מהגרים ערבים מבחוץ.</p>
<p>על כל פנים, שאלת חילופי-אוכלוסין וקרענות, לפי הקיום הכלליים שצוינו כאן, עתידה להיות בעיה רצינית, אשר בפתרונה החיובי בקנה-מידה גדול מעוניינים היהודים והערבים גם יחד.</p>

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Article by Akiva Ettinger

עם חקלאים עֲרָבִים בְּאַרְצֵנוּ

עקיבא אטינגר

העברת קרקעות ואוכלוסים

כ' אב תש"ה

שזחתי הרבה בעיניי ההעברה עם ב. כצנלסון. היינו תמימי-דעים כי במצבנו ובמצב הארץ משמעותה של העברה – העברת המוני יהודים לארץ-ישראל. וכמובן, ללא כל כננה של שימוש באמצעי כפייה. מי שזלך – זלך מרצונו הטוב. ולעומתם ילכו רבים משכנינו לארצות השכנות, העשירות מאד בקרקע פוריה ובמים והזקוקות מאד – וביחוד עיראק – לריבוי אוכלוסיהן. הוא לא נתבהל, כמובן, מפני המלה „טראנספאר“. הוא פירסם בשנת תש"א בקובץ „בכור“ את סקירתו והצעתי בשאלה זו. מישוה באמריקה התקיף אותי בדברי ביקורת. כשדיברנו על כך בינינו, אמר לי מתוך חיוב המקסים: „הלא ידענו מראש את היחס הבלתי-מחונם לדברים אלה מצד אנשי הדוגמה העזרת, אך לא איכפת: הענין ימשוך את לבותיהם של יחידים רבים ושל העמים המתקדמים דוקא“.

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Book by Akiva Ettinger