

TELEPHONE
ALGON 4-3600

CABLE ADDRESS
ZIONISTS
BENTLEY'S CODE

ההתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



111 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

OFFICE OF
MUNICIPAL
AFFAIRS
SEP 12 1938
ack: 9/13/38
DEPARTMENT OF STR.

SOLOMON GOLDMAN
President

HARRY FRIEDENWALD
LOUIS LIPSKY
JULIAN W. MACK
MORRIS ROTHENBERG
ROBERT SZOLD
STEPHEN S. WISE
Vice-Presidents

WILLIAM M. LEWIS
Chairman, Admin. Comm.

LUDWIG LEWISOHN
Honorary Secretary

MORRIS MARGULIES
Secretary

MORRIS WEINBERG
Treasurer

EXECUTIVE

DAVID BERENSTEIN
BARNETT R. BRICKNER
CHARLES A. COWEN
HENRY ELLENBOGEN
HARRY M. FISHER
HARRY FRIEDBERG
A. H. FRIEDLAND
ABRAHAM GOLDBERG
ABRAHAM GOLDSTEIN
ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN
JAMES G. HELLER
EDWARD L. ISRAEL
HARRIS J. LEVINE
ISRAEL H. LEVINTHAL
MEYER LEVY
IRVING MILLER
CHARLES RESS
LOUIS P. ROCKER
A. H. ROSENBERG
CARL SHERMAN
SIMON SHETZER
WILLIAM I. SIEGEL
ABBA HILLEL SILVER
ELIHU D. STONE

Associate Members

LAWRENCE COHEN
MRS. MOSES P. EPSTEIN
ELEAZAR LIPSKY

FINANCE COMMITTEE

LOUIS P. ROCKER
Chairman
SAMUEL BERSON
SOL COHEN
A. K. EPSTEIN
HARRY P. FIREST
DANIEL FRISCH
GUSTAVE KLAUSNER
HYMAN KOHN
ABRAHAM KRUMBEIN
A. LIEBOVITZ
BORIS MARGOLIN
ELDAR MARKSON
CHARLES RESS
LOUIS RIMSKY
JACOB SINCOFF
SIGMUND THAU
A. I. USLANDER
MORRIS WEINBERG

ISRAEL MALTIN
Auditor

RECEIVED
SEP 16 1938
DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

September 9, 1938

September 15 1938.

Hon. Joseph C. Green
Chief, Office of Arms and Munitions Control
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Green:

Acknowledgment is made of the receipt of your letter of September 6th, together with enclosures, consisting of a copy of the Rules and Regulations Governing the Registration of Agents of Foreign Principals under the Act of Congress approved June 8th, 1938, together with a copy of a Registration Statement.

In the opinion of our counsel, the Zionist Organization of America is not an organization whose registration is contemplated by the Act. However, we are desirous of complying with any law that does affect our organization and, in compliance with your suggestion, we are pleased to submit a "detailed statement of the facts".

The Zionist Organization of America, a membership corporation, is composed of American Jews who recognize the necessity and desirability for the establishment in Palestine of a Jewish National Home for those Jews throughout the world who, for any of a number of reasons (political disabilities, economic status, religious sentiment, cultural need, etc) are in need of such a Home.

The establishment of the Jewish National Home in Palestine has been recognized as a part of public policy by an Act of Congress. We refer to the Joint Resolution, favoring the establishment of a National Home for the Jewish people, passed by both Houses of the 67th Congress of the United States of America and signed by the President of the United States on September 21st, 1922. Copy of said Resolution is attached. The purposes of the Zionist Organization of America have also been embodied in the text of the Anglo-American Convention of December 3, 1924, pertaining to the administration of Palestine.

The work of the Zionist Organization of America has a two-fold purpose. The first aims at explaining the principal thought and practical application of Zionism to American Jews so that their support may become available and also at winning the

800.01 B 11-REGIS. ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

Hon. Joseph C. Green
Washington, D. C.
September 9, 1938

- 2 -

friendly cooperation and assistance of public opinion generally.

The second is being done in collaboration with and as a part of two fund-raising instrumentalities, the Keren Hayesod (Palestine Foundation Fund) and the Keren Kayemeth (Jewish National Fund of America, Inc.). The amounts raised by these affiliates are applied for the purchase of land, colonization and development of Palestine as the Jewish National Home. In a sense, this activity has its parallel in the work of organizations like the Boards of Foreign Missions of the various religious denominations.

It should be added that these monetary contributions for the upbuilding of Palestine are paralleled by similar contributions on the part of Zionist groups and organizations in most of the countries of the world. All of these groups are represented by a World Zionist Congress which meets bi-annually and is composed of delegates from the various Zionist groups.

The World Zionist Congress is the supreme moral body of the Zionist movement in the sense that its decisions as to policies and fund-raising are to guide the various groups participating in the work of the Zionist movement. It should be made clear, however, that neither the Zionist Organization of America nor any of its affiliates receive any funds from the World Zionist Congress or may, in any form, be viewed as an "agent" who is "subsidized directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, by a foreign principal". On the contrary, every member of the Zionist Organization of America pays an annual due of 50¢ (known as the Shekel) for the privilege of participating in the election of delegates to the Zionist World Congress.

In addition to the World Zionist Congress there exist the Jewish Agency for Palestine which is a body composed of representative Zionists and Jewish non-Zionists and which is recognized in the Mandate of the League of Nations and by the Mandatory Government as a "public body for the purpose of advising and cooperating with the Administration of Palestine in such economic, social and other matters as may affect the establishment of the Jewish National Home" (Article 4 of the Palestine Mandate).

Again, the Zionist Organization of America receives no funds from the Agency. On the contrary, it assists, through the Palestine Foundation Fund in the collection of monies needed by the Agency for its program of developing Palestine as the Jewish National Home.

I believe this statement of the structure, purposes and affiliations of the Zionist Organization of America will show the non-applicability of the Act to it. If, however, there is any further information which you still desire, I shall be pleased to supply it.

Hon. Jos C. Green
Washington, D. C.
September 9, 1938

- 3 -

May we have the favor of your opinion.

Very truly yours,

M. Margulies
Morris Margulies
Secretary

MM:AC
Enc.

JOINT RESOLUTION

favoring the establishment of a national home for the Jewish people. SIXTY-SEVENTH Congress of the United States of America; at the Second Session, begun and held at the City of Washington on Monday, the fifth of December, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-one.

RESOLVED

By the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that the United States of America favors the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of Christian and all other non-Jewish communities in Palestine, and that the holy places and religious buildings and sites in Palestine shall be adequately protected.

Signed: T. H. Gillette
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Albert B. Cummins
President of the Senate Pro Tempore

Approved:

September 21, 1933

Signed: Warren G. Harding