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REPORT GF MEETIMj WITH PRESIDENT TRUMAN f

WEDHESDAY, APRIL 4, 1951 1^,0 ן/ / d

PRESENT: PRESIDENT TRUMAN /

ABRAHAM FEINBEHO «

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At this meeting which took place shortly after noon, the President stated, Immediately on my entrance, that he was most happy that I had came, that he had been thinking of me only the day before, and that he had some- thing most important which he wanted to discuss# X realized from his appearance and attitude that he was qiite disturbed, aid only madqfeane small talk for less than a minute , at which time he launched Into the problem which was on hh$ mind#

Be expressed the deepest concern an the war situation, and quoted some disturbing Intelligence reports, to the effect that Russia was amass- ing at least 100,000 Chinese troops each week in Manchuria; that they were building up their air force and very rapidly, and that they had 75 sub- marines in Kamchatka# Be said. ״I shudder to think of what will happen if they use all these forces against us, for we will be in World War III•" I have never seen him so distraught, and his attitude was a complete contrast to his usual buoyancy and optimism#

With this preface concerning the International war situation, he then told me that he had something to ask me, end that I was the only man in the I country who could help him# The crux of the discussion which followed was I to the effect that he knew Israel lad just put in a bill for #150,000,000 . Grant-Inaid, and that he "had to be allowed to drag Us feet for awhile" on this problem• He stressed the fact that the English had muffed the sit- [ uation in Iran and thus were endangering the American position in Saudi a Arabia# This fact, coupled with the failure of the English to effect a settlement of the Suez probelm, made the whole situation very delicate\*

He requested, therefore, that nothing should be done at the moment which ! might aggravate the problem# At this point I referred to our conference of 1 [ last suianer, prior to the Jerusalem meeting, and he agreed that he had told me that he was "for" governmental aid to Israel, and specified that he needed Congressional approval# I then told him that in line with this sug- geation I had, in collaboration with other interested American Jews,

^ organized Congress 80 that there was a very favorable chance of the bill ['\*\*Ming\* He then stated that he had not changed his mind one bit, and said that \*It was his life's mb it ion to see that the Republic of Israel was •firmly and saTely established•" The Immediate problem, however, required | that no pressure be used on him, end that the "political Jews be kept quiet for the time being•" He assured me that we would "get what we wanted", but - that I would have to help him for the time being# He further stated that he wanted me to see Dean Aches on at my convenience, and that he would call him before the meeting#

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I assured him that he would have complete cooperation from ipe, and that he would in no wey be embarrassed# I also told him that I would see the Secretary of State immediately. He then had Matt Connelly call the Secretary, who made an appointment far 9s 00 Thursday morning, the report of which meeting follows separately#



Abraham Feiriberg\*