



UNITED NATIONS CONCILIATION COMMISSION FOR PALESTINE
COMMITTEE ON JERUSALEM
SUMMARY RECORD OF A MEETING BETWEEN THE COMMITTEE ON JERUSALEM
AND THE DELEGATION OF EGYPT
(26th MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE)
held Lausanne on 3 May 1949 10:30 a.m.

Present:	Mr. Yenisey	(Turkey)	Chairman
	Mr. Benoist	(France)	
	Mr. Barco	(U.S.A.)	
	Dr. Serup		Secretary of the Committee
	Abdel Chafi el Labbane		Representatives of Egypt
	Mahmoud Ramzy		

The CHAIRMAN outlined briefly the task before the Committee, quoting paragraphs 7 and 8 of the [General Assembly's resolution](#), which laid down certain principles regarding Jerusalem and the Holy Places. The Jerusalem Committee, appointed by the Commission to carry out the instructions given in the [resolution](#), had worked for two months in Jerusalem and had made contact with all representative bodies and groups concerned. It had prepared some proposals for an international regime for Jerusalem but wanted now to ascertain the opinion of all interested parties. The Committee had therefore prepared two questionnaires, which had been circulated, one on the regime for Jerusalem, the other on the protection of the Holy Places outside Jerusalem to submit to the delegations present in Lausanne. These questionnaires were purely exploratory in character and did not commit the Jerusalem Committee in any way.

Mr. Abdel Chafi EL LABBANE said that he would prefer to give his delegation's replies to the questionnaires at a later moment after he had had an opportunity to study the documents. He recalled that the Arab delegations present at the Beirut meetings had accepted the principle of internationalisation of Jerusalem out of respect for the decisions of the General Assembly, on the condition that there would be guarantees of stability. He therefore felt that it was the responsibility of the Committee to suggest guarantees which it thought suitable; his delegation would be glad to cooperate with the Committee.

Concerning the Holy Places, he drew attention to the faithful stewardship exercised by the Arabs throughout many centuries.

As regards Jerusalem, he expressed the opinion that the international regime should cover the entire Jerusalem area, and that if possible there should be no division of the city into zones, since the New and Old Cities were interdependent. Non-division of the city was important in itself as the best guarantee of the permanence and stability of the international regime; the other guarantees were of a subordinate character. He would be ready to discuss the latter at another meeting early in the week.

The CHAIRMAN promised to provide the Egyptian delegation with the list of Holy Places which had been prepared by the Committee. The Committee would be glad to meet the delegation early the following week, and hoped that it would make its replies to the questions as full and detailed as possible.