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UNITED NATIONS PALESTINE COMMISSION

Communication from the Delegation of Haiti to the United Nations in Correction of Certain References to the Government of Haiti in the Statement of 6 February sent to the Secretary-General by the Representative of the Arab Higher Committee.

The following communication has been received by the Secretary-General from the delegation of Haiti enclosing a statement in correction of certain references to the Government of Haiti appearing in the statement of 6 February communicated to the Secretary-General by the representative of the Arab Higher Committee.

PERMANENT DELEGATION OF HAITI

Hotel Sherman Square
Ownership Management

Broadway - 70th to 71st Streets
New York 23, NY

7 February 1948

To: Mr. Trygve Lie
United Nations

Dear Mr. Lie,

I have just read in this morning's "New York Times" the allegations of the Arab Higher Committee concerning my country. I have the honour to submit to the Secretariat the enclosed note in rectification and to request you to give it the same publicity as the Arab memorandum.

Thanking you in anticipation, I have the honour to be, etc.

(s) Ernest Chauvet
Member of the Permanent
delegation of Haiti to
the United Nations

"The Permanent delegation of Haiti to the United Nations read with some astonishment the Arab Higher Committee's letter to Mr. Trygve Lie concerning the Partition of Palestine; it desires first of all to express its keen surprise that Members of the United Nations should question a decision taken by the General Assembly, contrary to the obligations entered into at San Francisco and the general usages of international assemblies.

"The Arab Higher Committee thought fit to stress the attitude of the Republic of Haiti in the final voting on the Palestine question, and it did not hesitate to attribute the position taken up by our country to pressure on the part of the United States Government.

"Such allegations prove that their authors are hardly familiar with the policy pursued by the governments of Haiti since the proclamation of our independence. Because Haiti is a small country, forming a minority of race, language and culture in our continent, she has no other alternative than to pursue a dignified policy and to take her stand with her limited resources by the side of all those who are oppressed.

"To safeguard its liberties, our country did not hesitate to hoist the standard of revolt against the powerful armies of Napoleon; against Spain, it extended a helping hand to Simon Bolivar and thus contributed to the liberation of the South American countries; the volunteers from Haiti who shed their blood on the plains of Savannah bear witness to the generosity of our aid to the American colonists against the English. Vis-a-vis the Great Powers, all those who have followed the history of Haiti know of our national susceptibilities and of our struggles to remain worthy of the inheritance which we have received and which we have always defended at the cost of the greatest sacrifices.

"It was therefore perfectly natural that the Government of Haiti should not remain indifferent to the fate of the Israelite populations throughout the world, and that it should collaborate in the solution of a problem on which depends the future of a group that is the last surviving remnant of the massacre of six million people.

"The Government of Haiti has thought it necessary to recall in this way the main outlines of its policy and, while congratulating the

Arab Higher Committee on its skill in physiognomy and on the importance it attaches to the physical expression of opinions, which could not be other than personal, it maintains that it has remained consistent with itself and with the moral obligations of the present time, and also with the historical necessities of the past, in giving its approval and collaboration to a cause supported by the United Nations."
