

UNITED NATIONS CONCILIATION COMMISSION FOR PALESTINE

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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-EIGHTH MEETING

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on
Friday, 28 April 1950, at 11 a.m.

Present:

Mr. PALMER (United States of America)

Chairman

Mr. de BOISANGER (France)

Mr. ERALP * (Turkey)

Mr. de AZCARATE

Principal Secretary

* Alternate

Draft progress report to the Secretary-General

The CHAIRMAN reminded the Commission that it had before it the draft progress report submitted by the Secretariat. He proposed, without prejudice to such additions as the Commission would have to make when the time came, to entrust the General Committee with the task of making certain detailed amendments.

It was so agreed.

Mr. de BOISANGER (France) thought that in the passage of the draft report relating to the reply given by the Egyptian Minister for Foreign Affairs, the words "stating that he was" should be inserted before the phrase "speaking on behalf of all the Arab States."

Communication concerning the annexation of the Arab part of Palestine to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

The PRINCIPAL SECRETARY reported that he had received, for purposes of information, from the Headquarters Secretariat of the United Nations, the full text of the resolution of the Jordan Parliament as approved by the King providing for the annexation of the Arab part of Palestine. The text which was defective in places, was the English translation of an Arab original.

The Commission, since it was in direct relation with the States of the Near East, after noting Jordan's decision, might think it opportune to write to the Jordan Government requesting official communication of the text in question.

The CHAIRMAN thought it would have been natural for the Jordan authorities to have sent the text in question to the Commission without having to be asked for it. In his view the text sent to the Secretary-General was intended for the Members of the United Nations. In those circumstances the Principal Secretary should be instructed to ask for the text of the Jordan Parliament's resolution, in order to emphasize the direct relations existing between the Commission and the Governments interested in the Palestine question.

It was so agreed.

Mr. de BOISANGER (France) recalled the announcement in the press of a statement made to Parliament by the United Kingdom Government, defining the attitude adopted in London towards Israel and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan following the decision taken by the Parliament of the latter country to annex the territory of Arab Palestine to the Hashemite Kingdom. He thought that although the full text of the statement by the United Kingdom Government's spokesman was not yet to hand, the change in question would seem likely to encourage the other Arab States to negotiate with Israel.

Reply of the State of Israel to the Commission's proposals

The CHAIRMAN stated that he and Mr. de Boisanger had learnt that the approaches made to the Israeli Government at Tel Aviv by the diplomatic representatives of the United States and France had been well received. He thought that those approaches which had been made at the most propitious moment, might have a favourable outcome and induce the Israeli Government to frame a more satisfactory reply.

Mr. de BOISANGER (France) considered that the Turkish representative on the Commission might, if he thought fit, inform the authorities in Ankara that approaches had been made at Tel Aviv by France and the United States and that it would be well if the Turkish Government instructed its representative to make an identical approach in order to emphasize the unanimity of the members of the Commission. Replying to a question from the Chairman, he expressed the belief that the Israeli Government's reply might be forthcoming very soon.

The meeting rose at 11.45 a.m.