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UNITED NATIONS CONCILIATION COMMISSION FOR PALESTINE

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE THREE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SEVENTH MEETING (CLOSED)

Held at Headquarters, New York,  
on 27 May 1959, at 12 a.m.

CONTENTS

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Organization of evaluation programme
3. Release of Arab Refugee accounts blocked in banks other than Barclay's and the Ottoman Bank
4. Letter dated 11 March 1958 addressed to the Chairman of the Commission from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon
5. Other business

PRESENT:

<u>Chairman:</u>	Mr. MENEMENCIUGLU	Turkey
<u>Members:</u>	Mr. DAUGE	France
	Mr. PEDERSEN (Acting)	United States of America
<u>Secretariat:</u>	Mr. CHAI	Acting Principal Secretary
	Mrs. JELSTRUP	

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted.

2. LETTER DATED 11 MARCH 1958 ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF LEBANON.

Mr. CHAI (Acting Principal Secretary) circulated a draft text of a reply to this letter, which had been drafted in the light of the Commission's discussion of the matter at its 336th meeting on 26 March 1959.

Mr. DAUGE (France), recalling that he had declared at his last meeting that he would consult further on the matter with his Government if it were found possible to draft the letter in such a way as to avoid any implication that the substance of the claim put forward by the Lebanese Government had been considered by the Commission, stated that he was able to agree with the text of the reply as set out in the draft circulated by Mr. Chai.

Mr. PEDERSEN (United States of America) stated that it was the understanding of his delegation that the text of the letter as drafted in no sense implied that the Commission had considered the substance of the claim. In his view, this was the appropriate manner in which to handle the matter.

The CHAIRMAN, speaking as representative of Turkey, agreed that the drafting was satisfactory and correctly interpreted the Commission's wishes in dealing with the question raised in the letter from the representative of Lebanon.

The Commission decided that the Chairman should address a letter to the permanent representative of Lebanon in the following terms:

"I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 11 March 1958 from the then permanent representative of Lebanon to the Chairman of the Conciliation Commission for Palestine, in which he stated that, upon instructions from his Government, he wished to register officially with the Conciliation Commission, as one of the matters outstanding relating to the question of Palestine, a claim on behalf of an incorporated Lebanese firm under the name of 'Sabbag and Abilama' relating to all the installations and immovable assets of Azzib Camp.

"The Commission wishes to inform you that it has taken note of that communication."

3. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. CHAI (Acting Principal Secretary) informed the members of the Commission that Mr. Berncastle had agreed to serve on a part-time basis as the Commission's consultant on the evaluation programme for the Arab refugee property holdings in Israel.

The members of the Commission then discussed informally once again some of the problems connected with the identification and evaluation programmes. It was agreed that, after some further study, they would like to have consultations with Mr. Berncastle on some aspects of the identification problem and on the principles on which the evaluation programme could be carried out.

The meeting rose at 12.30 p.m.