

RESTRICTED

SR/5

27 January 1949

ENGLISH

Original: FRENCH

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FIFTH MEETING

Held at Government House, Jerusalem,
on Thursday, 27 January 1949.

Present:

Mr. YALCIN (Turkey)

Chairman

Mr. de BOISANGER (France)

Mr. WILKINS (United States of America)*

Mr. de AZCARATE

Principal Secretary

* Alternate

Decisions adopted

1. Communication from Dr. Bunche (Telegram of 25 January 1949 - Annex I).

The Commission decided to reply to Dr. Bunche in the terms of the telegram annexed (Annex II). After being approved by the members of the Commission, the telegram was despatched on the evening of 27 January 1949:

2. Installation of the Commission at Government House

After a preliminary exchange of views the Commission decided to postpone its decision for a few days, during which time an effort would be made to complete arrangements at Government House for the installation of the Commission. At the same time conversations would be continued with... the manager of the King David Hotel concerning the terms on which the Hotel might continue to be used by the staff of the Commission.

3. Repair work on the road linking Government House with the Arab zone.

The Commission considered the opening of this road vital to the effective neutrality of Government House as the headquarters of the Conciliation Commission and, possibly, the future headquarters of any international bodies which might be required to function in Palestine. However, before taking a definite decision the Commission considered it essential to have a rough estimate prepared of the cost of the work.

On the proposal of the United States delegation it was decided to set up a delegation of the Conciliation Commission at the American School in the Arab zone, where the Commission might hold one meeting weekly.

4. Appointment of the United States representative

Mr. WILKINS informed the Commission of the appointment of Mr. Ethridge, who proposed to arrive at Jerusalem within about ten days. The Commission decided to send Mr. Ethridge a telegram requesting him to indicate the date of his arrival and earnestly hoping that it would be as early as possible.

5. Preliminary exchange of views regarding the programme of visits to interested Governments

The Commission decided to visit first the Arab countries (Cairo, Amman, Bagdad, Damascus and Beirut) and lastly Tel Aviv. The question of visiting Saudi Arabia and Yemen as well was left open.

It was also decided that a preliminary contact should be made, before the beginning of the tour, with representatives of the Governments of Israel and Transjordan.

Nevertheless, this contact was not to be arranged until it was certain that it would not hamper negotiations at Rhodes.

6. Meeting with the Truce Commission

The Principal Secretary was instructed to get in touch with the Chairman of the Truce Commission in order to arrange a joint meeting.

7. Neutralisation of the King David Hotel and YMCA zone

The Principal Secretary was instructed to take advantage of the first opportunity to make a preliminary approach on this matter.

C O P Y

25 JAN 1949

To : UNATIONS HAIFA
JERUSALEM

From : Dr. BUNCHE, RHODES

RELAY TO CHAIRMAN CONCILIATION COMMISSION JERUSALEM FROM BUNCHE STOP
EYE REGRET EXCEEDINGLY THAT FIRM AGREEMENT HERE BETWEEN EGYPTIAN AND
ISRAELI DELEGATIONS THAT NO REPORTS OR RELEASES ON SUBSTANCE OF
PROGRESS OF NEGOTIATIONS CAN BE ISSUED UNTIL ARMISTICE IS SIGNED PREVENTS
ME FROM REPORTING TO SECURITY COUNCIL AND ALSO KEEPING YOU INFORMED STOP
IN SEPARATE MESSAGE EYE AM SENDING FOR YOUR INFORMATION COPY OF REPORT
SUBMITTED BY ME TODAY TO SECURITY COUNCIL STOP PARA EYE WOULD BE
DELIGHTED SHOULD IT PROVE POSSIBLE FOR THE COMMISSION TO VISIT RHODES
WHILE THE CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS ARE STILL IN PROGRESS STOP IN MY VIEW
OPPORTUNITY FOR CONSULTATION WITH YOU HERE WOULD BE USEFUL TO ME AND TO
THE NEGOTIATIONS STOP THE MEETINGS HAVE BEEN ADJOURNED UNTIL THURSDAY
MORNING TWENTYSEVENTH IN ORDER TO PERMIT DELEGATIONS OPPORTUNITY FOR
CONSULTATION WITH THEIR GOVERNMENTS STOP

BUNCHE

C O P Y

27 JAN 1949

To : Dr. BUNCHE, RHODES

From : SUNMO JERUSALEM

CONCILIATION COMMISSION THIS AFTERNOON EXAMINED YOUR SUGGESTION REGARDING VISIT TO RHODES DURING CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS STOP COMMISSION UNABLE TAKE AFFIRMATIVE DECISION UNTIL INFORMED WHETHER NEGOTIATIONS WERE RESUMED TODAY AND IF SO ON WHAT BASIS STOP HOWEVER IF YOU DEEM ADVISABLE COMMISSION IS PREPARED SEND RHODES ONE OF ITS STAFF TO MAKE PERSONAL CONTACT WITH YOU AND COLLECT INFORMATION CONCERNING BASIS ON WHICH NEGOTIATIONS PROCEEDING STOP

HUSSEIN C. YALCIN

CHAIRMAN CONCILIATION COMMISSION