UNITED NATIONS CONCILIATION COMMISSION FOR PALESTINE

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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE SIXTY-SEVENTH MEETING

held in Lausanne on Friday,
3 June 1949, at 10 a.m.

Present: Mr. de Boisanger (France) - Chairman
Mr. Yalcin (Turkey)
Mr. Ethridge (U.S.A.)
Dr. Azcárate - Principal Secretary

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Request of the Arab delegations for withdrawal of the Commission's memorandum of 23 May (AR/12) from agenda of the General Committee

The CHAIRMAN recalled that he had replied to the request of the Arab delegations with a statement that the Commission would take its own decision on the matter. He personally had never intended that the document should be withdrawn. It had been clearly stated that the Commission did not concern itself with examination of the substance of the proposals made by either side, but only with transmittal of those proposals. In his opinion the Commission should maintain the principle that it would transmit any proposal, and in the form it deemed most appropriate; it should not recognize the right of the delegations to refuse to receive proposals so transmitted.

The Commission endorsed the Chairman's views.

Transmittal of Israeli proposals regarding Israel's eastern frontier.

Mr. de la TOUR DU PIN (Chairman, General Committee) observed that the Secretariat had drafted a memorandum to be handed to the Arab delegations, which summarized the Israeli proposals without specifically mentioning the canal. He personally approved the draft and desired the Commission's views.

The CHAIRMAN and Mr. EHTRIDGE thought the draft memorandum was too vague; they would prefer a fuller and more precise summary of the proposals. Mr. Ethridge pointed out that the canal and the Hayes plan constituted Israel's justification for the frontier it proposed; he thought that the proposals would be better understood by the Arab delegations if that point were explained.

In reply to a question by Mr. Yalcin concerning a possible map, the CHAIRMAN recalled that Mr. Lifshitz had said a map could

not be supplied at the present time. The Hayes map had been lent to the Commission unofficially and could not be transmitted to the Arab delegations.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the General Committee should study the matter and prepare a new draft which could be considered by the Commission at a meeting the next morning.

The Commission approved the Chairman's suggestion.

Letter from the Deputy Director, UNRPR, concerning employment for Arab refugees.

The CHAIRMAN thought that the letter in question lay within the competence of the Technical Committee on Refugees.

Mr. EHTRIDGE agreed with the Chairman, but suggested that the letter should also be handed to the Arab delegations and the committees representing the refugees, for their information.

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