Treaty Series No. 15 (1946)

Exchange of Notes

between His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom and the Government of the United States of America regarding the Constitution of a Joint Anglo-American Committee of Enquiry into the Problems of European Jewry and Palestine

Washington, 10th December, 1945

Presented by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to Parliament by Command of His Majesty

LONDON
HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
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Cmd. 6822
EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA REGARDING THE CONSTITUTION OF A JOINT ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF ENQUIRY INTO THE PROBLEMS OF EUROPEAN JEWRY AND PALESTINE.

Washington, 16th December, 1945.

No. 1.

Mr. James F. Byrnes to the Earl of Halifax.

Department of State,

Excellency,

Washington, 16th December, 1945.

I have the honor to inform your Excellency, with reference to our conversations on the subject, that the Government of the United States agree to constitute, in co-operation with the Government of the United Kingdom, a joint Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry with the following terms of reference:

1. To examine political, economic and social conditions in Palestine as they bear upon the problem of Jewish immigration and settlement therein and the well-being of the peoples now living therein;

2. To examine the position of the Jews in those countries in Europe where they have been the victims of Nazi and Fascist persecution, and the practical measures taken or contemplated to be taken in those countries to enable them to live free from discrimination and oppression and to make estimates of those who wish or will be impelled by their conditions to migrate to Palestine or other countries outside Europe;

3. To hear the views of competent witnesses and to consult representatives of other peoples and to consult representatives of the Jews in these countries about such problems as are affected by conditions subject to examination under paragraphs 1 and 2 above and by other relevant facts and circumstances, and to make recommendations to the Governments of the United States and of the United Kingdom for ad interim handling of these problems as well as for their permanent solution; and

4. To make such other recommendations to the Governments of the United States and of the United Kingdom as may be necessary to meet the immediate needs arising from conditions subject to examination under paragraph 2 above, by remedial action in the European countries in question or by the provision of facilities for emigration to and settlement in countries outside Europe.

The Committee shall be composed of six nationals of the United States, appointed by the Government of the United States, and six nationals of the United Kingdom, appointed by the Government of the United Kingdom, and shall operate under a rotating chairmanship.

The Governments of the United States and of the United Kingdom shall urge on the Committee the need for the utmost expedition in dealing with the subjects committed to it for investigation and shall request that they may be furnished with its report within 120 days of the inception of the inquiry.

(Signed) JAMES F. BYRNES.

No. 2.

The Earl of Halifax to Mr. James F. Byrnes.

British Embassy,

Washington, D.C., 16th December, 1945.

Dear Mr. Secretary,

I have the honor, under instructions from His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to inform your Excellency that His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom are in agreement with the terms of your note of the 16th December about the joint Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry to report on the position of the Jews in certain countries of Europe and in Palestine.

(Signed) HALIFAX.

LONDON

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