

OPEN THURSDAY TIL 9

U.S. and Russia Try to Agree on Palestine Plan

Meet Behind Closed Doors, Make 'Certain Progress'; Security Council at Issue

By John G. Rogers
LAKE SUCCESS, L. I., Nov. 4.—The United States and Russia took their differences on how to effect Palestine partition behind closed doors today in an effort to seek the agreement that would give tremendous impetus to the United Nations' partition project.

With Guatemala and Canada the other two members of a special four-country working group, the Russian and American delegates met in secret for two hours late today and reported at the conclusion that they had made "certain progress."

The principal point of difference between the Russian and American plans is that the Russians want the Security Council in complete charge of effecting a Palestine partition, while the Americans have eliminated the Council entirely from any pre-arranged role in a prospective political change in the Holy Land.

Russians Ultra-Cautious

In agreeing to participation in the four-country working group, Russian delegate Semen K. Tsarapkin insisted that the discussions would not necessarily involve commitments. It was merely one of extreme caution and did not reflect any Russian advance refusal to compromise.

Today's initial meeting of the four-country group was largely devoted to preliminary statement of views and it was not possible to determine whether either the Russian or American positions were frozen on the few but important details of differences between them.

During today's two earlier open meetings of the nine-country U. N. subcommittee on partition, the delegates approved certain items in the proposed economic union between the proposed Jewish and Arab states, and also heard an important statement from Canada which may possibly prove to be the basis of bringing the Russians and the Americans together.

The U. N. Yesterday

Tuesday, Nov. 4, 1947
Tax Immunity Is Sought for U. N. Staff; U. S. and Russia Strive for Accord on Palestine

BUDGET—In a long session, which left delegates frankly acknowledging that they didn't know what they were doing, the Administrative and Budgetary Committee called on the United States and forty-two other member nations to grant income-tax immunity to their citizens who are members of the U. N. administrative staff. The United States Senate has refused to take the action. The committee also asked the Secretary-General to study a plan under which the more than three thousand staff members would pay a direct contribution to the world organization in lieu of national taxes. It authorized reimbursement out of the U. N.'s pocket for taxes paid through 1948, but no farther.

PALESTINE—Russia and the United States, as members of a special four-country working group, went into closed conference in an effort to reconcile their differences on how a Palestine partition should be brought into effect. Story on this page.

In Damascus the Syrian Minister for National Defense, Ahmad Sharabati, said in an interview that Syria will keep 2,500 troops on the Palestinian border for possible action in event of Jewish-Arab fighting. He said, "If the Jews now or in the future attempt to set up a Jewish state, there will be fighting." Story on this page.

KOREA—The Russian bloc in the General Assembly's political and Security Committee charged the United States with treating Korea more cruelly than did Japan. John Foster Dulles, of the United States, protested that American intentions in Korea are completely above-board. Story on page 5.

REFUGEES—The Stratton bill for admission of 400,000 refugees into the United States set off a sharp debate between Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt and Soviet Delegate Valerian A. Zorin in the Assembly's Social Committee. The Russian called the measure a "cynical" attempt to find cheap man power for American employers—a criticism that Mrs. Roosevelt said was "absolutely untrue" and "ridiculous." Story on this page.

LITTLE ASSEMBLY—E. M. J. A. Sassen, of the Netherlands, replied to criticism that the projected year's test Little Assembly had been whittled far below the original American proposal, as a subcommittee gave final approval to a report for the Assembly Political Committee. The project was still an experiment, and could be widened if found advisable, Mr. Sassen said, but for the time being, he called it "unwise to try to walk faster than our legs are long."

LITHUANIA—Pavlas Zadekis, exiled Lithuanian minister to Washington, handed the Human Rights Division a report charging the Soviet Union with "genocidal" methods against his country since its incorporation Aug. 3, 1940.

WIND-UP—The Assembly's joint Economic and Social Committee finished its work by giving final approval to its report to the full Assembly on such matters as agreements with the U. N. specialized agencies and Argentina's proposal to enlarge the economic and social council. Of the nine assembly committees, only two others—the economic and trusteeship groups—have completed their jobs so far.

WINANT—The United Nations paid tribute to John Gilbert Winant, former American representative on the U. N. Economic and Social Council, following the announcement of his death by Hernan Santa Cruz, of Chile, before a joint meeting of two fifty-seven-country general assembly committees. Story on page 20.

United Nations Events Scheduled for Today

At Lake Success, L. I.

11 a. m.—Political and Security Committee of General Assembly; joint meeting of Assembly Economic and Financial, Social, Humanitarian and Cultural and Administrative and Budgetary Committees; informal World Health Organization discussion on cholera epidemic in Egypt; subcommittee I of Assembly Legal Committee (all open).

Assembly Palestine Committee subcommittee on Arab proposals for independent Palestinian Arab state (closed).

3 p. m.—Political and Security Committee (open); Palestine Committee's subcommittee on Arab proposals for independent Arab state (closed); joint Economic-Social-Budget Committees (open).

While the General Assembly is in session all reservations for public seating, whether for its committee meetings at Lake Success or for its plenary sessions at Flushing Meadow Park Queens, should be obtained through the Assembly Admissions Office, telephone Flushing 8-2000, Extension 92, after 8:30 a. m.

WNYC Broadcasts

Radio Station WNYC will begin at 11:30 a. m. to broadcast today's meetings of Assembly Political and Security Committee on 830 kilocycles and over the WNYC FM channel (93.9 megacycles).

FORESTRY—A European forestry office has been established in Geneva by the U. N. food and agriculture organization to help increase Europe's drastically short supply of timber, the E. A. O. announced. D. Roy Cameron, former Dominion forester of Canada, will head the new office.

AVIATION—Columbia became the forty-fourth member of the International Civil Aviation Organization, one of the U. N. specialized agencies. The Colombian ratification of the I. C. A. O. convention was deposited in Washington on Tuesday and will come into effect on Nov. 30. Twelve other Latin American states belong to the organization.

British Palestine Chief Tells Arabs of Peace Aim

By Wireless to the Herald Tribune

JERUSALEM, Nov. 4.—Britain wants to go out of Palestine leaving peace and security behind her, Sir Alan Cunningham, High Commissioner for Palestine, told residents of the Arab village of Burqa today during a visit to the district of Samaria.

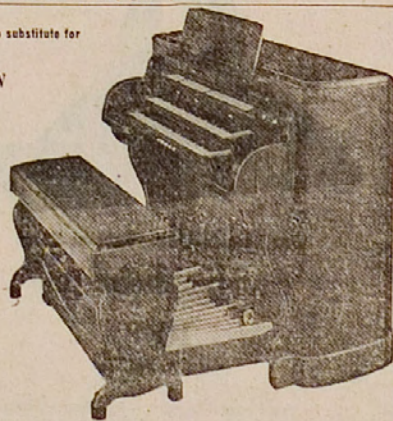
If the people of Palestine want peace, Sir Alan said, they themselves should work to that end.

At another Arab village, Baqa El Gharbiya, Sir Alan said first that he was the only High Commissioner to have paid a visit there in the course of the British mandate over Palestine, and second, that he undoubtedly would be the last.

The British, he declared, had encouraged local government in Palestine, and when they withdrew would leave behind "the seed which will give the basis for future development."

KINGSTON ELECTS LABOR MAYOR—KINGSTON, Jamaica, Nov. 4 (UP)—William Alexander Bustamante, influential labor leader, was elected today as Mayor of Kingston by the Corporation (City) Council.

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Syrian Troops Await Palestine Partition Strife

2,500 to Stay on Border, but Won't Necessarily Cross It, Damascus Says

By Fitzhugh Turner

DAMASCUS, Syria, Nov. 4.—Syria's Minister for National Defense, Ahmad Sharabati, said today that the Syrian Republic would maintain 2,500 troops indefinitely on the eighty-mile Palestine frontier for action in the event of Jewish-Arab fighting in Palestine. Five thousand troops—a third of the Syrian Army—have been on maneuvers in the border area for the last week, but the supposition had been that most of them would be withdrawn when the maneuvers end on Nov. 16. Mr. Sharabati, however, said half will remain there "as a precautionary measure."

"Trouble is certainly coming one way or another," Mr. Sharabati said. "Our intention is by no means to slaughter Jews." And he added that it was not necessarily a probability that regular forces would be employed within Palestine.

The Defense Minister, a graduate of Massachusetts Institute of Technology and an engineer as well as a politician, saw the situation this way:

1. If the United Nations should approve partition of Palestine, it would touch off guerrilla fighting within the country, but the armies of the Arab nations would not join in the conflict—at least, he implied, as organized units. "Palestine Arabs," he said, "can handle the job alone."

2. However, if the U. N. should fail to reach a decision, and the British should follow their announced intention to withdraw from Palestine, then Arab armies might move in to preserve order and to safeguard Palestine's "independence."

"In any event," he declared, "if the Jews now or in the future attempt to set up a Jewish state, there will be fighting."

The Syrian army which, despite the maneuvers on the border, is much in evidence in the ancient capital of Damascus is French-trained. But it uses uniforms purchased from American surplus stores, and soldiers walking in the wide boulevards of the old city create a scene reminiscent of G. I. leave-towns during the war.

The Army has French 75-mm. guns and small arms, and recently it acquired twenty American training planes mounting three machine guns and capable of carrying 500 pounds of bombs. These planes, Mr. Sharabati said, are ideal for fighting in the rough country here.

Mrs. Roosevelt Rebukes Reds' Refugee Charge

Attack on Stratton Bill at U. N. Committee Session Is Called 'Ridiculous'

From the Herald Tribune Bureau

LAKE SUCCESS, L. I., Nov. 4.—The refugee question, a perennial headache for the United Nations, set off another Soviet-American argument today when Russia complained that the Stratton bill for admission of 400,000 refugees to the United States is an attempt to import cheap man power for American employers.

The Soviet charge drew an immediate and heated reply from Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, who told the General Assembly's Social Committee that it was "absolutely untrue" and added an implied condemnation of the Russians for offering violent criticisms of the treatment of refugees and refusing at the same time to co-operate in solving the problem.

The argument started when Soviet Delegate Valerian A. Zorin gave the committee a long speech supporting a Russian demand for sweeping changes in the administration of displaced persons camps—a demand almost identical with one turned down last month by the Assembly's Legal Committee.

Mr. Zorin charged that several western European countries have discussed publicly the importation of displaced persons as supplementary man power, and then he turned to the Stratton bill, introduced in Congress last spring by Representative William G. Stratton, Republican of Illinois.

He quoted a statement made by Representative Stratton before a House committee defending the admission of refugees as a measure that would alleviate the American man-power shortage and stimulate the growth of the country. This, Mr. Zorin said, was a "cynical" move to place national interests ahead of the welfare of the refugees.

"How can one tolerate such cynicism in a country which talks so much of freedom?" Mr. Zorin asked the committee.

After attacking the Soviet resolution as an attempt to force unwilling refugees to return to their Russian-dominated homelands, Mrs. Roosevelt replied to Mr. Zorin's remarks about the Stratton bill.

"It was introduced at the request of a group of which she was a member, she said, and its purpose was simply to win support for revision of the American immigration laws as a move to help to solve the refugee problem.

"We are simply trying to do our part," she said. "To call this cynical is ridiculous."

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