



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  
ONE PENNY NET

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.

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*Washington, 10th December, 1945.*

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No. 1.

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

*Department of State,*

Excellency,

*Washington, 10th 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 agrees 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 representative Arabs and Jews on the problems of Palestine as such problems 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 should 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<sup>(1)</sup> within 120 days of the inception of the inquiry.

The procedure of the Committee shall be determined by the Committee itself and it will be open to it, if it thinks fit, to deal simultaneously through the medium of subcommittees, with any of the subjects entrusted to its consideration.

Each Government shall be responsible for compensating its own members of the Committee and other personnel selected by it and for paying such other expenses as are not susceptible of being jointly shared by the two Governments. All other expenses of the Committee shall be borne jointly by both Governments in equal proportions.

Accept, &c.  
(Signed) JAMES F. BYRNES.

No. 2.

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

*British Embassy,  
Washington, D.C.,*

Dear Mr. Secretary,

10th December, 1945.

I HAVE the honour, 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 10th December about the Joint Anglo-American Committee of Enquiry to report on the position of the Jews in certain countries of Europe and in Palestine.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) HALIFAX.

LONDON

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