British Partition Arab-Jew Unity

By Moses Miller

A cable from London in Friday's New York Times states that the Anglo-American Cabinet Committee has proposed a new partition scheme for Palestine.

It is quite evident that this maneuver is intended to strengthen British imperialist rule over Palestine. The proposed scheme would turn both the Jewish and the Arab sector into military reservations with both peoples playing attendant to its imperialist host.

It is equally obvious that American imperialism, far from being concerned with the fate of the Jewish people, is equally guilty for this infamous partition proposal. American imperialism seeks thereby to strengthen its position in Palestine as in the Middle East generally.

Plans for partition are of course nothing new. We have heard much of this scheme back in 1937, when the Royal Commission made its report to the British government. It was at that time that the proposal was made to divide Palestine into three separate parts—Jewish state, an Arab State and a British sector between the two.

'ONLY' SOLUTION

The Royal Commission presented this scheme as the only possible solution and described in glowing terms the immeasurable blessings that would be derived by both Jews and Arabs under such a scheme.

Summarizing its position, the Commission made quite clear what partition means:

"The problem cannot be solved by giving either the Arabs or the Jews all they want. The answer to the question which of them in the end will govern Palestine must be 'Neither.' "

This "Neither" is the crux of the issue and not all of the trimmings and pious phrases.

Imperialism is concerned with the continuation of its own power and with the strengthening of its own position. Insofar as the peoples of any colonial country are concerned, whether it be India or Burma or Palestine, the answer will always be "Neither." Freedom for no one. Self-rule for no one. Imperialism remains the master.

AMERY SPONSOR

It is interesting to note who it was that brought forward the partition scheme in the recent period. The man who put forward the plan was Lord Amery, an expert in the art of empire and a devoted servant of imperialism in India for many years.

Amery testified before the Anglo-American Commission that in his opinion Jews and Arabs could never reconcile their differences and that partition was the only solution.

Amery proposed that the country be divided into three zones; Arab, Jewish and British. According to his plan the Jewish state would contain "the coastal plain—excluding the district of Galilee, the Houleh Valley and the town of Tiberias, the Jordan Valley south of Kinnereth and the whole of the Negeb down to the Egyptian border."

While the Arab state proposed by Amery was larger than the Jewish, it is much less developed territory and is almost entirely hill country. Jerusalem, according to Amery's plan, would be international territory with a corridor to the sea. This would mean, for all practical purposes, a very convenient strategy for bringing up British reinforcements to any part of the country whenever desirable. All this being presented in pious phrases about safeguarding the Holy places.

Then of course, there is Haifa with its pipeline and its important naval base. This can, of course, under no conditions be allowed to remain unguarded. And the radar center on top of Mount Carmel. And the military garrisons spread through the country. In answer to all of these problems, Amery's reply is: "Britain will of course hold there (Palestine) certain bases as she does in Egypt and Iraq."

SEE HOLD TIGHTENED

With partiton an accomplished fact, Amery as well as British imperialists generally are quite certain of maintaining and strengthening their political, economic and military control of Palestine. In the first place, because this will necessarily increase and heighten antagonisms between Jews and Arabs. Secondly, because they know from long experience that "the more a country is divided and sown with British 'islands' the greater is the security of the imperial masters."

Meier Vilner, representing the Communist Party of Palestine, stated in his testimony before the Anglo-American Commission:

"We feel it our duty to warn against all intrigues aiming at the partition of this country. The partition of this country would spell disaster to Jewish and Arab citizen alike.

"First of all, because this would strangle any possible economic development.

"Secondly, this would strengthen the imperialist regime, since partition means the dependence of both 'states' upon the monopolistic British rulers.

"Thirdly, such an arrangement would widen the gulf between Jews and Arabs.

"The partition plan is an imperialistic program destined to find a new form for the continuation of the old British rule and for the increase of tension between Jews and Arabs."

Back in 1937, our own Communist Party saw the dangers inherent to both Jews and Arabs in this plan and issued a sharp warning against it. The Daily Worker is an editorial on July 10, 1937 pointed out that:

"The London Tories . . . have applied in its most crass form the old Roman dictate for ruling: 'Divide and Rule.' By slicing up

(Continued on page 9)

British Partition Arab-Jew Unity

(Continued from Page 7)

Palestine into two miniature states and separating the fragments in the center by a British-controlled strategic wedge, British imperialism hopes to retain permanently the Arab-Jewish antagonism. . . ."

The analysis of the Communist Party in 1937 with regard to the dangers of partition are equally true today. One very important factor however must be added—the entrance of American imperialism into the whole of the Middle East and into the Palestine question.

Its economic might enormously enhanced by the war, the United States is now trying to establish world domination. Out of this arises the sharpening of Anglo-American contradictions and rivalries.

It is as a result of this that we find American imperialism engaged in ever deeper penetration of the Middle East. Already American imperialism has forced Britain to make many concessions in markets, oil fields and bases. In Palestine itself, American oil companies have won very great concessions from the British.

BRITAIN NEEDS 'ALLY

Britain, while continuing its fight against American imperialism, nevertheless realizes that it can no longer keep the Empire together by itself. This explains why imperialism is so eager for an Anglo-Saxon alliance even though it might be necessary for it to take a junior partnership in the future. This explains a commission in which America is invited to participate.

American imperialism is quite ready to cooperate in a venture which will help to increase its power in an area which it has coveted for years.

British will no longer arrive at any "solutions" for Palestine without the agreement of American imperialism.

Whatever fine words might be uttered by Truman and the State Department may be good politics.

But they are belied and contradicted a million times over by the facts. And these facts show very clearly that America is participating in an imperialist solution to the problem of Palestine.

In Memoriam

IN MEMORY of HARRY BERLAND who died on July 29, 1944.
THE FAMILY.

JACKNOWITZ, SOL—In memory of my beloved husband, who died July 29, 1945—Dorothy.