

U.S., Russia Back Partition Plan

Palestine Independence Remains Central Need as UN Imperialists Pursue Their Own Aims

By AL FINDLEY

As a result of declarations by the United States and Russia in favor of partition of Palestine, Zionist officialdom in Jerusalem believes that the Jewish community in Palestine is on the eve of statehood.

The U. S. declared itself in favor of the unanimous recommendations of the UNSCOP and the principles of the majority report on partition and immigration. Nothing was said

about that section of the report that urges all countries to admit the DPs. The doors of the U. S. remain closed to the displaced persons of Europe. The U. S. proposed modification in the borders of the two states, i.e., Jaffa to be given to the Arab state. The exact boundaries would be drawn by a subcommittee which would report back to the Ad Hoc committee of the UN, which would then report to the General Assembly and which

would be able by a two-thirds vote to make a . . . recommendation.

As to implementation of the recommendation, the U. S. had two suggestions. One was for an international constabulary force of volunteers. The second was an order-in-council to the British to stay in Palestine.

CRACKING THE WHIP

LABOR ACTION recently reported that the State Department be-

lieves the strategic needs of the Anglo-American bloc require the presence of British troops in Palestine. The present demand of the U. S. confirms this report. The British statement about "evacuating" Palestine was intended primarily as pressure on the U. S. to make Washington support the Morrison-Grady plan. The statement was supposed to place the Truman administration in the dilemma of either taking over control in Palestine—a solution it is not ready for—or backing the British. However, the senior partner of the Anglo-American bloc decided "to eat its cake and have it too."

Truman bids for Jewish votes by favoring partition—just like his Republican rivals—and at the same time keeps his skirts "clean" on American military intervention by the simple method of forcing the British to remain. That is the meaning of Herschel Johnson's statement that the responsibility for governing Palestine remains with the mandatory power.

The British lion has submitted a little. Sir Arthur Creech Jones again addressed the committee in the name

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Let's Make Our Protest Heard:

Balk Landlord Strategy!

By IRVING HOWE

A highly dangerous leak in the already shaky dikes of rent control developed week before last when Housing Expediter Frank Creedon granted a request of the Louisville real estate agencies for an over-all and mandatory five per cent increase in rent. Immediately speculation arose in all

dented profit rate. And he was acting not as an individual; he was acting as a responsible official of the Truman administration, that is, of the American capitalist government.

LANDLORD STRATEGY

The strategy of the real estate lobbies has been during the past several months to fight on two

appointed to the "local advisory boards" that were to advise Creedon on local rent setups. And Louisville represented their first but important victory.

WAVE OF PROTEST

Now the situation stacks up this way: Unless there is an immediate wave of nation-wide protest from labor tenant and consumer groups

Partition Plan - -

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of the British Empire and in a poor imitation of defiance repeated his statement about evacuating Palestine, adding that while England would not do anything alone, or in a major role, it would participate in a minor role in enforcing any decision. A few more cracks of Uncle Sam's whip and the lion's tail will wag in the direction that Wall Street wants it to wag.

RUSSIA'S OBJECTIVES

Once the U. S. declared itself in favor of partition, the Russian delegate made a similar statement. He too accepted the principle of partition with boundary revisions. The drawing of concrete boundaries is to be left to the UNSCOP for future study. All that this session should do, according to the Russians, is to decide the principle of partition, with no final action taken, thus leaving the situation fluid so that Stalinist imperialism can fish in muddied waters.

Russia is interested in getting the British out of Palestine and, if possible, in sticking its finger into the Near East oil pie. The Russian diplomats have decided that partition is the quickest way to achieve their goal. The Russians also were not overlooking the fact that their support of a Jewish state would make it easier for the Communist Party to agitate against the Mashall Plan among the Jewish workers. The Russian delegate made no mention of the question of "implementation."

These almost identical statements by the world's two great imperialist powers seemed to guarantee the ac-

ceptance of the partition plan and many Zionists are talking as if a Jewish state is guaranteed. These optimists will not find the road an easy one. While there is no doubt that the Ad Hoc committee will by majority vote favor the partition plan, there seems to be little chance for a two-thirds vote in the General Assembly, according to the PRES-ENT line-up.

Many countries like France and some Latin American states are abstaining. This fact is beginning to alarm some Zionist leaders and they, together with the liberals of The Nation and PM, are now using the U. S. to force the smaller countries into line. The U. S. has often done this when it feels that its imperialist aims will be served. What it will do in this case remains to be seen.

However, the problem of votes is not the main obstacle. The main stumbling block is who is to occupy Palestine in the next immediate period. None of the imperial states is in favor of immediate independence. The U. S. wants to maintain the present Anglo-American military position in Palestine. Russia is sure to object. Stalin wants to get some sort of foothold on the Mediterranean even if in a subordinate role. There is little prospect—to say the least—that the U. S. will allow that to happen.

Despite the momentary appearance of agreement in principle, the Palestine question will not serve as a means of bringing the two imperialists together, but like all other issues will become a bone of contention between the two—with both the Jews and Arabs as the victims.