

UNSCOP Plans Will Not Aid Jews

Majority and Minority Plans Are Based on Interests of Big Imperialist Powers.

By ED FINDLEY

The majority report of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine (UNSCOP) seems to have evoked messianic moods and intoxicating visions of Jewish sovereignty in Palestine among masses of Jews throughout the world.

To them, the majority report of the UNSCOP is the herald of an independent Jewish state in Palestine in the offing.

That such shabby compromise "solutions," as advanced by both the majority and minority reports of the UNSCOP, could arouse as much hope as they do, bespeaks the tragedy and

weakness of the Jewish position in the world and the deep yearning of the Jewish masses for self-determination and independence.

The majority report carves up tiny Palestine into three states: an Arab state, a Jewish state and an international, demilitarized, free state of Jerusalem. In addition, there would be a fourth governmental structure, an over-all economic union of the states.

During the transition period Britain is to rule the country "under such conditions as the United Kingdom and the United Nations may agree upon."

The plan envisages the admission of 150,000 Jewish displaced persons into the proposed Jewish state. If (!) the transitional period continues for more than two years, Jewish immigration of 60,000 per year is to be allowed.

MINORITY PLAN

The minority report, which was formulated by Yugoslavia, a well integrated satellite of the Russian bloc, recommends the establishment of a unified federal Palestinian state with some local self-rule reserved for the Jewish and Arab provinces.

The proposed structure of the federal government, which is to be

vested with full authority over immigration, national defense and foreign relations, is endowed with several bi-national features. For instance, the federal legislature is to be composed of two chambers. Election to one chamber is to be on the basis of proportional representation and to the other on the basis of parity or equal representation of Jews and Arabs.

Final authority, however, is vested in a body in which the UN representative possesses the deciding vote.

The minority report, though speaking of an independent federal state,

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Neither UNSCOP Plan --

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thus, in effect, creates a state under permanent UN rule.

The majority plan would make a "Trieste" only of Jerusalem and its environs, while the minority plan would transform all Palestine into a "Trieste-like" football of the UN.

In regard to immigration during the three-year transition period, the minority report is mealy-mouthed and employs the old British formula that restricted Jewish immigration into Palestine "in such numbers as not to exceed its absorptive capacity."

Who is to determine what that is? Here again the ultimate decision lies with the UN representative. Immigration thus becomes a function of the dirty power politics of the Big Three.

These are the gifts Stalinist Yugoslavia brings Palestine!

ZIONIST, ARAB RESPONSE

The boundaries of the Arab and Jewish areas, under both plans, resemble jigsaw puzzles. It is hard to see how, with such boundaries, Palestine can escape the bloody massacres that swept partitioned India.

This consideration partly motivates the opposition to the partition plan on the part of the left-socialist-Zionist Hashomer Hatzair and the Ach-

dut Avodah parties of Palestine, which constitute approximately 40 per cent of the trade union population of that country.

The partition plan is also opposed by the right wing Zionists, the Revisionists and their allied military formations, the Irgun and the FFI (Stern group), who consider partition a "national disaster" because it limits the area of the proposed Jewish state.

The Zionist movement as a whole, led by the Mapai (the Jewish Labor Party of Palestine), leans toward acceptance of the UNSCOP majority plan with modifications, such as the exchange of the Arab port city of Jaffa for western Galilee and the Jewish sections of Jerusalem.

The Arab nationalist movement, on the other hand, bitterly opposes partition. It is, however, not excluded that Emir Abdullah of Transjordan, who would like to incorporate the Arab part of Palestine into his state, could, together with the moderate Arab nationalist anti-Mufti, Allalami group of Palestine, rally substantial support among Palestinian Arabs for a partition plan.

The fate of the UNSCOP plans, however, will not be decided by the peoples of Palestine.

The UN is not a court that dispenses justice.

Its decision will reflect, above all, the strategic needs of the Big Three in their preparations for World War III.

Despite British press reaction, which seemed to favor the withdrawal of Empire troops from Palestine, there are several indications that this is not a probable variant.

POWERS WILL DECIDE

First, the Colonial Office is going ahead with plans for a round table conference of Jews, Arabs and British spokesmen. Second, a majority of the military commanders recently polled by the British cabinet are reported to oppose evacuation of Palestine and still consider Palestine a fulcrum of the British position in the Middle East.

Finally, the British Foreign Office is hopeful that the U. S. State Department's silence bespeaks a reluctance to withdraw its British ally from the "key to the back door of Russia." Substance is given to this British speculation by the secret visit of an American military mission to Palestine to study the Anglo-American military position in the Middle East. (This visit was disclosed by the Palestinian correspondent, S. Jitshaki, in a special cable to the New York Jewish Morning Journal, September 7.)

It is almost banal and trite to point out the obvious truth that the real decision on the UNSCOP reports will be made by the imperialist titan, the U. S., which recently successfully integrated 21 nations of the Western Hemisphere (50 per cent of the UN assembly) into its sphere of influence.

What course will imperialist Russia take?

The lineup in the UNSCOP provides no definitive answer. Czechoslovakia, a peripheral member of the Eastern bloc, voted for the majority partition plan (even approving British administration of Palestine during the transition period) while the 100 per cent Stalinist Yugoslavia championed the minority federation plan.

Gromyko's declaration at the special UN session on Palestine indicated Russian preference for a unified Arab-Jewish Palestine, but did not rule out support for a partition plan.

Either plan can be used to weaken British control over Palestine and to get the Russian finger into the Palestinian pie.

This is the objective that will guide Russian diplomacy at the forthcoming General Assembly session.

One thing seems certain. None of the Big Three will take its stand on the basis of the real needs and aspirations of the Jewish and Arab peoples.

NOW OUT!

