

The United Nations and Palestine

By Meyer Vilner

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(Second of a series on the Anglo-American Committee Report.)

Ever since the San Francisco conference, where it was decided to set up a trusteeship for mandated territories, two tendencies have been apparent.

The first, the progressive tendency supported by the Soviet Union, sees the trusteeship as an intermediate stage intended to support the speedy achievement of independence through encouraging the democratic forces in national reconstruction.

The second is the reactionary tendency, championed by Ernest Bevin, Britain's foreign secretary, which is intended to maintain the old colonial oppression but to call it a "trusteeship" instead of a mandate.

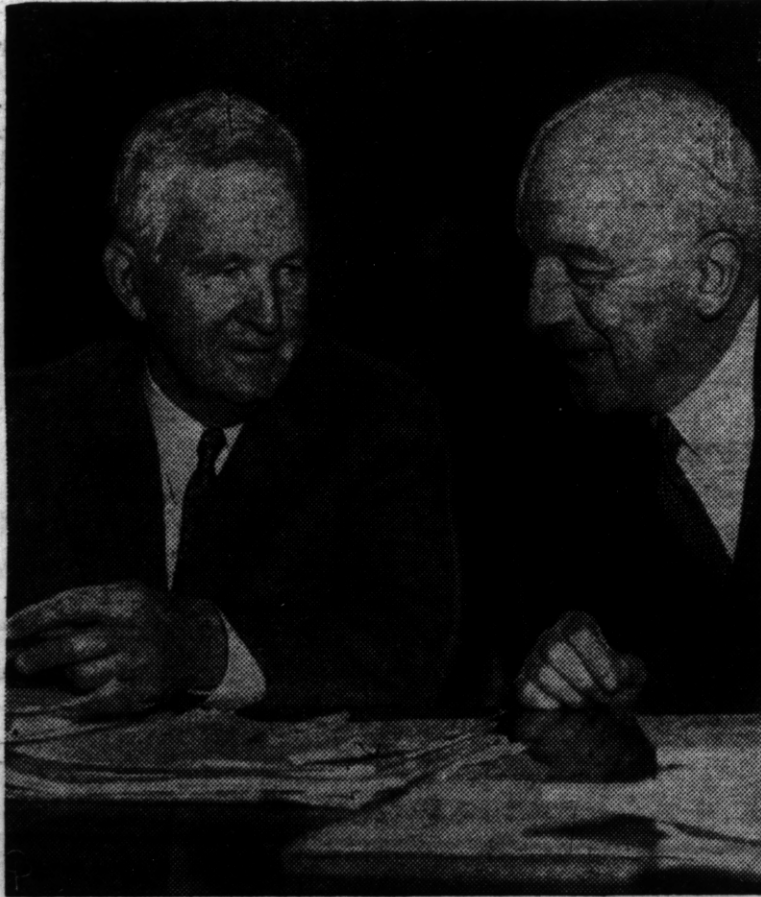
The Inquiry Committee hints at a joint Anglo-American trusteeship. Reuter's correspondent at Washington, William Hardcastle, writes that in Bevin's memorandum to the American Secretary of State, James F. Byrnes concerning the committee's report, there was in addition to the two demands voiced by Attlee (American military and financial aid)—a third point:

"Opening of negotiations with the aim to set up a joint Anglo-American trusteeship for Palestine, thereby providing the legal basis for the participation of America in implementing the new scheme." (Retranslated from Hebrew.)

CP WARNING

The same suggestion has been voiced, as is widely known, by Winston Churchill in his American speeches.

The Communist Party in its



The Farce Opens: Pictured at the opening session of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine in Washington, were Judge Joseph C. Hutcheson (left) of Houston, Tex., chairman of the U.S. delegation, and Sir John E. Singleton, head of the British group. They wound up by favoring a continuation of British rule, tossing in a conditional invitation to 100,000 European Jews.

evidence before the Inquiry Committee, warned the public of this danger of twofold imperialist rule in Palestine.

We said:

"Instead of abolishing the British Mandate and furthering the independence of this country, it is proposed to institute a British-American rule called 'Anglo

American Trusteeship.' This is in complete contradiction to the San Francisco Charter and the vital interests of Jews and Arabs in Palestine. The meaning of such a settlement would only be increase of the colonial oppression."

This is the most concrete danger which confronts the Jewish

and Arab masses in Palestine: the danger of being crushed between the millstones of imperialist intrigues and rivalries.

MAIN BASES

British troops have been forced to leave Syria and Lebanon. The masses in Egypt demand the evacuation of the British army. Under these circumstances imperialism has chosen "independent" Transjordan and Palestine as its main military bases in the Middle East.

These bases have a two-fold purpose: A threat against the Soviet Union and a center of oppression against the national liberation movements in the British Empire.

The Jewish Yishuv can expect no favorable results whatever from the turning of Palestine into a military barracks. On the contrary, this state of affairs is dangerous to the Yishuv's security.

Therefore it is imperative to bring without delay the problem of Palestine before the United Nations Organization.

It is obvious that an international settlement is impossible without the active participation of the Soviet Union which is fighting for peace between the peoples and is defending consistently the interests of all peoples, great and small.

Any international "trusteeship" without Soviet participation will be nothing but a camouflage for colonial oppression.

Tendencies of "Anglo-American trusteeship" in the Middle East like the "Western Bloc" tendencies in Europe are diabolic schemes of warmongers a la Churchill who endanger peace in Palestine.

(To Be Continued.)