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UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE
REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST

Report of the United Nations Conciliation Commission
for Palestine

Note by the Secretary-General

The twenty-seventh report of the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, covering the period from 30 September 1972 to 29 September 1973, the text of which is attached to the present note, was transmitted by the Chairman of the Commission for communication to the States Members of the United Nations in accordance with paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 512 (VI) of 26 January 1952, and paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 2963 A (XXVII) of 13 December 1972.

Report of the United Nations Conciliation
Commission for Palestine

1. In paragraph 3 of resolution 2963 A (XXVII) of 13 December 1972, the General Assembly noted with regret that the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine had been unable to find a means of achieving progress in the implementation of paragraph 11 of Assembly resolution 194 (III), and requested the Commission to exert continued efforts towards the implementation thereof and to report thereon to the Assembly as appropriate, but not later than 1 October 1973. The present report is submitted pursuant to that request.
2. In its twenty-fourth 1/ and twenty-fifth 2/ reports, covering the periods from 24 December 1965 to 30 September 1966 and from 1 October 1966 to 30 September 1967, the Commission responded to earlier requests by the General Assembly in its resolutions 2052 (XX) of 15 December 1965 and 2154 (XXI) of 17 November 1966 in connexion with the implementation of paragraph 11 of resolution 194 (III). In those reports the Commission noted that examination of various ways in which it might be possible to intensify its efforts with any prospect of advancing matters towards the implementation of paragraph 11 of resolution 194 (III) had compelled the conclusion that all the ways envisaged presupposed substantial changes in the situation. Far from there having been any evidence of such changes, the events which had occurred in 1967 had further complicated an already very complex problem.
3. In the course of the last year, in response to formal requests from interested parties, and after consultation with the Legal Counsel of the United Nations, the Commission decided that these interested parties could have access to certain documents 3/ of the Commission with the understanding that the recipient Governments will continue to treat valuation figures contained therein on a confidential basis. Copies of such documents will be furnished on the understanding that any expenses shall be borne by the delegation(s) concerned.

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Session, Annexes, agenda item 32, document A/6451.

2/ Ibid., Twenty-second Session, Annexes, agenda item 34, document A/6846.

3/ (a) Microfilms of land registers received from the Mandatory Government;
(b) RP-1 forms (identification of property parcels including individual valuation figures);
(c) Index of Owners' Names (which provides means of direct reference to the holdings recorded in the name of each owner).

4. Although various other developments have taken place since the submission of the Commission's last report, 4/ the situation described in that report remains essentially unchanged as regards the circumstances governing the possibilities open to the Commission. The Commission, while regretting that it has not been in a position to carry forward its work further, nevertheless remains determined to continue its endeavours as soon as this is possible.

4/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-seventh Session, Annexes, agenda item 40, document A/8830.