

GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY

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A/AC.13/NC/29  
23 June 1947

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PALESTINE

COMMUNICATION FROM THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE  
ON THE GENERAL BACKGROUND SURVEY

The following letter has been received from the Jewish Agency on the General Background Survey.

NOTE: Copies of the analysis mentioned in the letter have been circulated to the members of the Committee.

The Jewish Agency for Palestine  
June 9, 1947

Dr. Victor Chi-Tsai Hoo  
Special Committee on Palestine  
United Nations  
Lake Success  
New York

Dear Sir:

The Executive of the Jewish Agency for Palestine has now had an opportunity to examine the General Background Survey (A/AC.13/3, 20 May, 1947) which was prepared by the Secretariat as part of the working documentation for the Special Committee on Palestine and copies of which it received from the Secretary-General. It is noted that Volume 3 of this Survey is based largely on excerpts from "A Survey of Palestine" prepared in December 1945 and January 1946 by the Government of Palestine for the information of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry. The Executive of the Jewish Agency received a copy of the Government Survey at a late stage of the hearings of the Anglo-American Committee in Palestine last March. A brief analysis of the section entitled Historical Summary was thereupon prepared by the Jewish Agency, dated March 28th, 1946, and submitted to the members of the Anglo-American Committee for their information. As that analysis indicates, the Historical Summary cannot be accepted as a fair and unbiased account and contains definite misstatements as well as numerous omissions of important facts and circumstances.

In view of the reliance apparently placed on the Government Survey by the Secretariat it is obviously of interest to the Committee that it should be made aware of these facts, and I have the honor to enclose 30 copies of the analysis submitted by the Jewish Agency to the Anglo-American Committee which we would request you kindly to circulate amongst the members of the Committee.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur Lourie  
Director  
American Section