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5 August 1947

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PALESTINE

COMMUNICATION FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF PALESTINE RELATING TO  
NATURALIZATION

The following letter has been received from the Government  
of Palestine, relating to naturalization:

Government of Palestine  
Chief Secretary's Office,  
Jerusalem.

22nd July, 1947.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the question put by  
Sir Abdur Rahman to representatives of the Government of  
Palestine on the 16th June, on the subject of the reten-  
tion by immigrants into Palestine of the nationality of  
their country of origin (page 24 of the record of the  
Sixth Meeting).

The number of persons who were naturalized as  
Palestinian citizens between August 1925 and December  
1946 was 146,246; with the exception of about 1% these  
persons were Jews. The number of Jewish immigrants during  
the years 1926 to 1946 inclusive was 328,856 (which figure  
includes 29,026 illegal immigrants). It may therefore be  
said that 44 per cent of the total Jewish immigrants during  
the twenty-one year period 1926-1946, and less than 49 per  
cent of the legal Jewish immigrants of the same period,  
have become naturalized.

I am,  
Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

(signed) W.C. MacGillivray

for CHIEF SECRETARY

The Principal Secretary,  
United National Special Committee on Palestine,  
Y.M.C.A., Jerusalem.