

The First Committee then resumed its sittings, and the Chairman reported that he had advised the Arab Higher Committee of the decision of the General Assembly, and suggested that that Committee might desire to reconsider the withdrawal of its request to be heard. The representatives appointed by the Jewish Agency—Mr David Ben Gurion, Dr Abba Hillel Silver, Mr Moshe Shertok, Dr Hayim Greenberg, Mrs Rose Halprin, Dr Nahum Goldman, Dr Emanuel Neumann—were reported as ready to attend the Committee, and, after some discussion as to the procedure to be adopted, it was agreed that representatives of the Jewish Agency could come to the table to make a statement or statements, that they should then withdraw from the table, and that the delegates could ask either oral or written questions which the spokesmen for the Jewish Agency would answer either immediately or later, as they chose. Dr Abba Hillel Silver then took a seat at the Committee table, and made his statement on behalf of the Jewish Agency. This statement, together with supplementary statements made on behalf of the Jewish Agency, appears as Annex A to this report.

Questions (which are also contained in Annex A) were asked by the delegates of India, Poland, Colombia, and South Africa, and all complimented Dr Silver on the very moderate and precise address which he had made to the Committee. It was arranged that questions would be answered at a later period.

The Committee then resumed its general discussion on the constituting and instructing of the Committee of Inquiry on which it had before it three resolutions—one by the United States, one by Argentine, and a third by El Salvador, in the following forms :—

“ DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES : DRAFT RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMISSION OF INQUIRY ON PALESTINE (Document A/C.1/150)

“ Whereas the General Assembly of the United Nations has been called into Special Session for the purpose of constituting and instructing a Special Committee to prepare for the consideration at the next Regular Session of the Assembly of the future Government of Palestine.

“ THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLVES :

“ To establish a Commission of Inquiry on Palestine consisting of one representative of each of the following Governments : Canada, Czechoslovakia, Iran, Netherlands, Peru, Sweden, Uruguay ;

“ To instruct the Commission

“ To assemble, analyse, and collate all pertinent data on the question ; to receive testimony from interested Governments and from such non-governmental organizations and individuals as the Commission in its discretion may deem appropriate ; to study the various issues which are involved and to submit to the next Regular Session of the General Assembly such proposals for the solution of the problem of Palestine as it may determine to be useful for the effective consideration of the problem by the General Assembly.