

people. The Jewish Agency had special status in the mandate to represent not just the Jews in Palestine but the Jews of the world. Hussini said, "We are lost, we are lost," when Gromyko came out with a speech favoring partition. He also said, "This will be nothing but a line of fire and death."

The Arabs tried everything to block this Resolution. Kamil Shamun, who was just killed in Lebanon, came up at the end when it came to a vote and he moved that it be postponed and that there be other efforts to resolve the problem, that there be continuing efforts by the Arabs, British, and the Jews to try to solve it. I remember the Jewish Agency people were very worried because this would have meant a postponement of what they had been waiting for 2000 years.

This would be very dangerous. The President of the General Assembly and the Special Session was Oswaldo Aranha of Brazil. He said, "This is not a Resolution for postponement which means this would have priority, it is a substantive Resolution. The other calls for postponing it and it calls for additional consultations and efforts at compromise. This is a substantive Resolution. So, we don't vote on the other one first." There may have been some countries that would have liked to postpone the whole question.

JK: This was the Special Session in the fall of 1947.

Epstein: Yes. In the ad hoc committee on the Palestinian question both Chaim Weizmann and Ben Gurion appeared. The