

## CANADIAN WEEKLY BULLETIN

## INFORMATION DIVISION DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OTTAWA - CANADA

Vol. 3 No. 20

March 25, 1948.

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## WEEK'S EVENTS IN REVIEW

GEN. McNAUGHTON ON PALESTINE: "The Canadian delegation is not at the present stage prepared to declare itself in favour of one course of action rather than another, until we have some evidence that there is a meeting of minds on the part of the countries most directly concerned on what the best course of action should be; "said General A.G.L. McNaughton of Canada in addressing the Security Council of the United Nations on the Palestine question Wednesday, March 24. Text of General McNaughton's statement follows:-

"The plan of partition with economic union recommended by the Special Committee on Palestine and adopted by the General Assembly on November 29, 1947, was based on a number of important assumptions. Events which have taken place since that date, and in particular the information which the Council received last week concerning consultations which had taken place amongst the Permanent Members of the Security Council, have made it clear that the expectations held in November have not been realized.

"In the first place, it was assumed that the two communities in Palestine would copperate in putting into effect a solution to the Palestine problem which was recommended by the General Assembly. The manner in which it was proposed to distribute territory between the two communities was based on the expectation that common economic policies and common fiscal services would be adopted in a high

degree of integration between Jewish and Arab States. Without this integration in economic union, neither state would be able to organize satisfactorily even such elementary matters as road and rail communications, telephone and telegraph lines, electric power and water supply. The responsibility for making the plan of partition with economic union work was to depend primarily on the people of Palestine themselves, and on their willingness to work together, particularly in economic matters. It has now become clear, however, that co-operation between the Jews and Arabs of Palestine to the extent assumed in the Plan of Partition is not realizable under present conditions.

"The second basic assumption made during the Malestine discussions at the General Assembly was that the Mandatory Power would be able to give assistance in bringing the recommendations of the General Assembly into effect. When the plan of partition was first prepared by the United Nations Special Commission on Palestine, it was provided that the Mandatory Power should supervise, over a period of two years, the transitional arrangements necessary for its realization. After the Assembly had met, however, the Mandatory Power indicated that it would not play a major role in implementing a plan against the wishes of either the Arabs or the Jews of Palestine. After the Assembly rose, the Mandatory Power confirmed the indications it had given during discussions in sub-committee that it could not permit the delimitation of boundaries and the re-