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and Sir Carl Berendsen presented a second alternate.

The resolution presented by Sir Carl was amended and approved by the Steering Committee and is now before the Commission for consideration. I might remark that that embodied largely the suggestions of the United States Representative. The Committee acted on the paper and it is now before you for your consideration. That would be 026/2.

I would like to make a little statement in a sort of preamble there, embodying the fact that the statement on food supply for Japan, which has been adopted by the Steering Committee and forwarded to the Commission for its action, just as stated--this was the third to be considered by the Steering Committee, the first being one growing out of the discussions in the Economic Committee 2, and the second being presented by the United States Government. The paper before you represents a proposed revision of the Economic Committee's draft prepared by the Representative of New Zealand. After study of this draft the United States Member on the Steering Committee proposed minor amendments, which were unanimously accepted by the other members. The United States Government wishes to support the statement before you but wishes to have



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it understood and recorded in the minutes of this meeting that the statement of principle involved in paragraph one is fully in accord with the principles upon which the United States Government in the past has acted.

Is there any statement or explanation on the part of the Representative of the Steering Committee? Sir Carl is not here this morning. Neither of the Chairmen are here this morning. Are you prepared to make any remarks, Mr. Ambassador?

DR. LOUDON: I am sorry I was not present at the Steering Committee last week.

CHAIRMAN: Is there anyone who was present who cares to make any remarks or further my statement?

GENERAL LAVARACK: Mr. Chairman, I was present and I seconded Sir Carl's amendment. I do not know whether there is very much to be added to the obvious meaning that appears in the amendment. Sir Carl based his arguments in favor of this on the moral and logical grounds, and it was agreed by the Steering Committee that those grounds were strong, and also that the Commission has jurisdiction in the matter, for various reasons including the fact that it has some control of imports into Japan. I do not know that there is anything else to be added to it. I think the amendment



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speaks for itself--is self-explanatory.

CHAIRMAN:: Are there any other comments on the report of the Steering Committee? In that case, I will assume, there being no further comment or objection, that the report is acceptable, and the proper action will be taken by the Secretary General to bring this paper to the attention of the United States Government for action.

Item No. 3, Jurisdiction of Far Eastern Commission with Respect to Looted Property. You remember, I think, that that was discussed at the last meeting, and I think I have the statement of what occurred. The Chairman of the Committee on Reparations queried the Steering Committee as to the competence of the Far Eastern Commission to consider the eligibility of Korea, Siam, and Portugal to submit claims for restitution of property looted by the Japanese. The text of FEC-011/4 was presented by the United States Member of the Steering Committee at the ninth meeting of that Committee as a reply to the query raised by the Committee on Reparations. The Steering Committee approved the United States proposal. At the ninth FEC meeting the French Delegate requested that consideration of that paper be deferred pending receipt by him of instructions from his Government.



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A British proposal just received is being referred to the Reparations Committee. Now that leaves the paper, for the present, before us, subject to the delay up to this meeting. Would you care to comment?

MR. NAGGIAR: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I may say that I have received instruction on this matter, and I am prepared if the Commission so wishes to explain the case or to have it referred to the Committee, if you say the Commission so desires.

On a matter of clarification, more of a technical matter than one of substance, there is a point in paragraph 2 of the paper before us, at the end of the paragraph, the words, "Including claims by Siam, Korea, and Portugal", which have been put in this paragraph seem to be in contradiction with paragraph 3. I question therefore whether the Far Eastern Commission is competent to pass on the eligibility of Siam, Korea, and Portugal to present claims. I wish either to suppress the words "including claims by Siam, Korea, and Portugal" or to say, maintain "including claims by" and to add "subject to priority rights of those nations that participated in the war against the Japanese aggression." The French Government considers that there is, of course, a Supreme Commander, who may consider a legitimate claim,



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but even in considering those legitimate claims the priority rights of those who participated in the war against the Japanese aggression are to be taken out. That does not exclude the claims by any of those, either Portugal or Siam or Korea, but those that participated in the war against the Japanese aggression are to have their priority rights considered by the Supreme Commander.

If the Commission so decides we may discuss, at least, the question now or refer it to the proper Committee. I am willing to do what the Commission desires.

CHAIRMAN: Well, my natural feeling is, if we can reach a conclusion on it here without embarrassment in the sense of particularity of terms in any paper that involves claims possibly it might better go back to the Steering Committee, but I would like to discuss it a moment. How does the United Kingdom Colleague feel in view of the fact that he has also submitted a paper that might have a bearing on this particular paper? Have you been able to satisfy yourself on that?

MR. GRAVES: On this paper, there is no specific relationship to the question of the eligibility of the



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Commission to consider claims by Siam, Korea and Portugal in regard to looted property. This is a statement of general principles, which was not ready when we started to discuss the question of restitution in the Committee. It has only now reached us and I have lodged it in the hope that it can be put before the Committee for general discussion. I do not think it has any particular bearing on the subject discussed by Mr. Naggiar.

CHAIRMAN: Would you feel confident enough in the particular paper on the table before us to make an amendment that might--

MR. NAGGIAR: I am prepared, if the Commission is willing to accept my amendment, I have no objection at all that it be discussed here, or if some clarification seems necessary the matter may be sent back to the proper committee.

CHAIRMAN: Which seems easier to you? I like to be advised by you.

MR. NAGGIAR: It seems to me that in spite of the fact that the proposal of the British Delegate has a different aspect, perhaps the whole matter could be sent back to the Committee for discussion.

MR. NOVIKOV: Which Committee?



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MR. NAGGIAR: The same Committee that discussed this proposal, No. 2, Reparations--or no, it is No. 1, if you have no objection.

CHAIRMAN: The Soviet Delegate might give his opinion or expression or his advice as to how he thinks it best handled.

MR. NOVIKOV: I am in favor of sending this document back to Committee No. 1, because as you know it is now discussing the general document dealing with the principles of restitution, and a new document in connection with the problem of restitution might be discussed at the same time. It might be incorporated in the same document.

CHAIRMAN: If there is no objection, then we will refer this paper and also the paper that you, as representing the United Kingdom, have submitted, to that Committee for consideration.

Item No. 4 has to deal with the same recurring question of press relations. I recall that at the last meeting the Chairman raised the question for reconsideration at the request of the Representative of the Associated Press. Following discussion, the matter was referred to the Steering Committee. That Committee in its last meeting has prepared a report



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now before you, 005/3, that the Chairman of the Commission should be authorized to hold press conferences after each Commission meeting, at which time he might supplement the information contained in the regular press release for that meeting. This paper should be properly considered an addition rather than an amendment to previous policy on press relations.

At the time we were discussing that in the last meeting I tried to shift the responsibility from myself, in a way, by hoping that we could continue the earlier arrangement by which Mr. Blake sat in with us and took the responsibility for talking to the newspapers, but we found that was no longer practicable because our Mr. Blake has left us and has resigned and gone into civil life. The overworked section down in the Department said that so many of their people are absent at these other conferences that they just could not furnish us a man to do as Mr. Blake had done. So it devolves upon me in a sense to carry out your wishes and try to placate the newspapermen, to a certain degree.

I am perfectly willing always to be advised, and I think that probably the action of the Steering



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Committee follows consistently. I am able to take on these ubiquitous friends of the press. I hope you will not feel too hardly for me when I take the responsibility of trying to speak for you. At any rate, if you do take exception I won't be at all upset, except that I would like to have you help me at any time and make any suggestions, hoping that I will truly represent your wishes and opinions.

At any rate we all seem to be agreed in that we not be oppressed or suppressed in our freedom of talk by having them sit with us. I think there seems to be general agreement on that.

If it is your wish I will assume that this action of the Steering Committee meets your wishes. Are there any other suggestions or comments on that action of the Steering Committee? There seem to be none. We will consider it the policy for the near future. I have no doubt we will have it up again when I get my foot off.

I have a paper that I submit as the United States Representative on the important subject of reparations. I am very hopeful that we can continue to try to reach agreement on that burning subject, and I feel that this paper may be helpful to get one phase of it before you.



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I am not pressing this as the United States paper excepting in this way, that I would like to submit it to you as a paper carefully considered by my Government, and to lay it before you here for your cognizance and with the request that it be referred to the proper Committee, the Reparations Committee, Committee No. 1, for study and due consideration.

MR. NAGGIAR: Mr. Chairman, may I ask some information? The proposed establishment of an Inter-Allied Reparations Committee--must we understand that this new agency will replace Committee No. 1 of the Commission or will it be working at the same time as Committee No. 1?

CHAIRMAN: At the same time.

MR. NAGGIAR: It will be a separate body?

CHAIRMAN: Yes.

MR. NAGGIAR: It is an entirely new body?

CHAIRMAN: I am advised that it will be as I stated--not explicitly as I stated to you but that the whole subject be considered by the Committee, including that point.

MR. NAGGIAR: The question is open.

CHAIRMAN: Yes, including that point you raised.

MR. NAGGIAR: The question is open, yes.



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CHAIRMAN: Do you care to make any remarks about that paper of yours, Mr. Graves?

MR. GRAVES: About the paper?

CHAIRMAN: Comment on it rather than submit it?

MR. GRAVES: No, with your permission I would like to submit it and refer it to Committee No. 1.

CHAIRMAN: That is a paper which has just been distributed to you. It is a paper of the United Kingdom which will by your agreement be referred to the Reparations Committee.

MR. GRAVES: No. 1.

CHAIRMAN: Reparations Committee No. 1, for their consideration as presenting the views of the United Kingdom.

That is all the formal business I have to present to the Commission this morning.

MR. NAGGIAR: Mr. Chairman, excuse me. I hear that you refer to a British paper, but among the papers that were distributed to us this morning I do not find any British document.

CHAIRMAN: I will check on that.

MR. NAGGIAR: It was not distributed today.

CHAIRMAN: I guess I made a mistake.

(Papers were distributed to members.)



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MR. NAGGIAR: It is just coming.

(The document referred to was FEC-011/5)

DR. LOUDON: But this is the United States paper. We have just sent back, I think, 004, which is for the jurisdiction of the Far Eastern Commission with respect to looted property.

MR. NAGGIAR: There are two papers sent back.

DR. LOUDON: Now I see in the United States paper the following sentence. "You will invite the presentation of the reparations claims by countries which participated in the war against Japan or which suffered from the effects of Japanese aggression." It occurs to me, and I would like to ask, if the projection is correct, that the country who suffered from Japanese aggression might be considered, or might not be considered to be Siam or Korea or Portugal. In that case I would suggest, if I would be allowed to do so, to give the United States paper priority of consideration in the Reparations Committee before 004 be discussed. If this is interpreted in this sense, the principle that you are going to invite Siam, Korea, and Portugal because they belong to the countries which eventually may be declared to have suffered from the effects of Japanese aggression, in that case this should have the priority over 004.



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CHAIRMAN: Your point is well taken, I think.

MR. NAGGIAR: That will be for the Committee to decide.

CHAIRMAN: There is a possibility of sending it direct.

MR. NAGGIAR: The Committee will be able to decide which of those papers will take priority and consider it. It is a question for the Committee.

DR. LOUDON: Partly for the Committee, but also the Commission, I think, has the full right to decide which answer should be given first, as soon as possible, on one paper or another. The Commission can give its instruction to any Committee. They are not so far autonomous.

CHAIRMAN: That is the reason I hoped we might consider that paper this morning with your amendment.

DR. LOUDON: I have not seen the British paper yet.

CHAIRMAN: One is the case of restitution and the other a case of reparation, but they both go to the same Committee.

DR. LOUDON: Yes.

CHAIRMAN: Well, that is a point well taken. I am open to any suggestion or comments.

MR. GRAVES: We should not wish to ask for any



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particular proceeding on that paper. The Ambassador has said that the United States paper should be considered first.

(Mr. Johnson left the meeting at this point, and was replaced by Mr. Farley acting as Secretary General.)

DR. LOUDON: No, not yours. I was only concerned with 004.

CHAIRMAN: Is there any reason why the Commission should not express its wish that the Committee take up the restitution paper first before they go to the general situation as regards reparations?

DR. LOUDON: If you put here the principle that Siam and Korea and Portugal are going to be invited eventually for reparations, you have prejudiced, I think, the restitution. I may be wrong, but I think the reparation field is a wider one than the restitution field. You may prejudice one by giving an opinion which binds more or less on the other point.

CHAIRMAN: Major Plimsoll, have you any remarks on the subject, as Chairman of that Committee?

MAJOR PLIMSOLL: Mr. Chairman, the Committee is meeting this afternoon, and on our agenda we had restitution. We begin today with the French paper, if the Commission refers it, and we hope by the next



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Commission meeting to present a full paper to the Committee on restitution. We have reached an agreement, and we propose to have a look at our agreement in light of these discussions. I hope to have a paper before the Commission next Thursday on restitution, including the French point.

CHAIRMAN: Does that satisfy you?

MR. NAGGIAR: Yes.

CHAIRMAN: That being the case, we will refer the papers in order to the Reparations Committee.

Are there any other points that anybody wishes to bring up?

MR. SAKSENY: Mr. Chairman, there is one point I would like to bring up. I would like to invite your attention to a matter which Sir Girja has drawn to the attention of the Commission, namely, in connection with the work of Committees No. 1 and No. 2. These two Committees, Mr. Chairman, are working on economic problems and problems of reparations in a somewhat preliminary matter, sifting material and arriving at decisions, which is likely to be a very long process. But meanwhile, Mr. Chairman, there are many questions of immediate importance to member countries which are to be decided, and it is a possibility that the interests of individual members may be adversely affected for want of a decision by the Committee.



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I would recommend your attention to only one matter in which we are very intimately concerned, namely, participation of India in exportation of raw cotton to Japan.

We consider we are fully entitled to participate in this trade, but hitherto shipments have been made on a unilateral basis and we are still without any assurance that we shall have consideration to which we are entitled. I suggest, therefore, Mr. Chairman, that in dealing with questions of this kind, the Committee on Finance and Economics, Committee No. 2, may take ad hoc decisions in regard to these important questions that may be brought up before it. I place this matter before you for your consideration.

CHAIRMAN: Who is Chairman of Committee No. 2?

MR. FARLEY: Sir George Sansom.

MR. GRAVES: Mr. Galbraith is, in his absence.

MR. FARLEY: And in his absence, Mr. Barnett.

CHAIRMAN: Do you wish to comment on that point?

MR. BARNETT: Mr. Chairman, as I understand it, Committee No. 2 has a proposal pending for the establishment of an Inter-Allied Trade Board, to which the Committee itself has agreed but for which Governmental approval is being awaited. That Governmental approval



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should be forthcoming very soon, at which time the Board will be in a position to consider and take appropriate action on the point which has been put before the Commission by the Representative of India.

MR. SAKSENA: My own difficulty, Mr. Chairman, is that there is a possibility of considerable time elapsing before this Trade Board is constituted and that meanwhile shipments are going forward to Japan. We are not being allowed to participate in this trade. What I was suggesting was a short-cut to enable the Committee to arrive at a quick decision in this matter, which may be immediately effected.

CHAIRMAN: Is that question not, diplomatically speaking, between the Delegates and their Governments?

MR. SAKSENA: No, sir. We have had conversations but nothing very definite has resulted so far, and I think the idea is that eventually the policy decision should be made here.

CHAIRMAN: I am quite ignorant of the background, excepting that I take it it is largely between your Government and mine. I would like to have your statement to take up and get myself informed from the point of view of the United States Representative. Would that be satisfactory to you? And then bring it up at the next meeting?



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MR. SAKSENA: Quite satisfactory, sir.

CHAIRMAN: May I have your statement so that I will not be dependent on my memory?

MR. SAKSENA: I did not have it prepared.

CHAIRMAN: Did you get that (to reporter)?

(It was agreed that the statement of Mr. Saksena would be typed and submitted to the Chairman immediately after the meeting.)

CHAIRMAN: The subject of press relations is up, in the sense of a hand-out. Would you read that to the Commission to see if that is satisfactory?

MR. FARLEY: Yes, Mr. Chairman. It would be proposed that the Commission approve the following official press release for this meeting. As Item No. 1, this statement:

(Mr. Farley read paragraph 1, and subparagraphs 1 and 2 of the press release.)

Then to say nothing of the discussion with respect to the subject of looted property, in view of the fact that the whole question is left wide open and has been referred back to the appropriate Committee.

And as a second item, "The United States Representative presented a proposal for the establishment of an Inter-Allied Reparations Committee. The proposal was referred to the Committee on Reparations".



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As a third and last item, on the subject of press releases and press relations, we will state:

(Mr. Farley read paragraph 3 of the release.)

It will be clear to the members of the press as to what the over-all policy is now, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN: That was satisfactory in substance as the press release for today?

If there is no other business we will consider the meeting adjourned.

(The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.)