

United Nations

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22 June 1947
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PALESTINE

COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMITTEES OF THE XYLOTYMBOU CAMPS, CYPRUS

The following letter has been received from the Jewish Agency for Palestine, enclosing two letters, one from the Inter-Camp Committee, Xylotymbou Camps, Cyprus, and one from the Central Camp Committee, Caracolos Camps, Cyprus.

Jewish Agency
Jerusalem
22nd June, 1947

Dr. Hoo,
UNSCOP,
Jerusalem.

Dear Dr. Hoo,

The enclosed two letters have been received at this office from the chairman and secretaries of the Inter-Camp Committee, Xylotymbou Camps, Cyprus.

I should be glad if these communications could be brought to the notice of the chairman and members of the United Nations Special Committee.

Yours Sincerely,

(A.S. Eban)
Liaison Officer, Jewish Agency

INTER-CAMP COMMITTEE - XYLOTYMBOU CAMPS

c/o 65 Camp Staff (Special)

MELF 3. Cyprus.

13th June 1947.

To the
United Nations'
Fact-Finding Commission, (UNSCOP)

Gentlemen,

We, the undersigned, write to you on behalf of 11,000 Jewish exiles at present interned in camps at Xylotymbou, Cyprus.

Our intention to appeal to you on behalf of all Jewish exiles including those interned in the Karaolos area, Cyprus, has been frustrated on account of the rigid segregation of the two camp areas, as enforced by the responsible military authorities, who are thereby compelling us to address two separate appeals to you.

Eleven thousand Jews, survivors of the terrible catastrophe that befell our people in Europe were turned away from the shores of their homeland, deported to Cyprus, and are now being detained here. No charges whatsoever have been brought against us which would justify our continued detention in barbed-wire cages on alien soil.

We address to you an urgent appeal to come and visit us, to inquire, to investigate, to take evidence, and finally, we trust, to do justice.

Should you be prevented from coming here, we urge you to do all in your power to enable a deputation representing the detainees to proceed to Palestine, in order to appear and give evidence before you. We stress however, that your visit here would convey a more truthful picture, by far, than you could receive in Palestine, some 300 miles away.

We trust that you will see your way to accept our request and eagerly await your early reply.

Yours respectfully,

Inter-Camp Committee, Xylotymbou Camps
Cyprus.

(signed): B. Penner (Chairman)
(illegible) (Jt. Secretary)
Ernst Laske (Jt. Secretary)

/Central Camp

CENTRAL CAMP COMMITTEE,
CARAOLOS CAMPS,
M.E.L.F. 3.

June 16th, 1947

To the UNSCOP,
U.N.O. Fact-Finding and Inquiry
Commission on Palestine.

Gentlemen,

We have the honour to address ourselves
to you in the name of the 6000 deportees of the
Caraoles camps, M.E.L.F. 3, Cyprus.

We regret not being enabled to write you in
the name of all the deportation camps together, as the
military authorities did not allow the representatives
of the different camps to meet in order to produce a
joint invitation.

After the destruction of European Jewry,
only a few survived. We, as a part of them, have gone
through all the camps of Europe. With the last strength
of our souls we got to the coast of our Homeland, from
where the British army, instead of bring us into our
country, deported us to new concentration camps, where
we are living under worse circumstances than prisoners.
Quite unguilty, we are sentenced to stay in this prison
for an unlimited period. We have no other place in the
world than Palestine.

We, therefore, beg you to come to us, see
under what circumstances we are living and listen to
our demands.

Respectfully yours,

CENTRAL CAMP COMMITTEE, CARAOLOS

(Chairman) R. Schieber
(Secretary) Z. U. Schuller