

SECRET

M. 110

UNITED NATIONS WAR CRIMES COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MEETING

HELD ON

July 31st, 1946.

Chairman:	Lord WRIGHT	Australia
Also present:	Sir Robert CRAIGIE	United Kingdom
	Lieut. KINTNER	U.S.A.
	Mr. BRIDGLAND	Australia
	M. de BAER	Belgium
	Mr. HORNE	Canada
	Major FANDERLIK	Czechoslovakia
	accompanied by	
	Dr. MAYR-HARTING	
	Dr. SCHRAM-NIELSEN	Denmark
	M. P. MAILLARD	France
	Sir Torick AMEER ALI	India
	Commander MOUTON	Netherlands
	Dr. SUND	Norway
	Dr. SZERER	Poland
	Dr. MARKOVIC	Yugoslavia
	accompanied by	
	Dr. MEZULIC	
	Lt. Col. BARRATT	Office of the Judge Advocate General.

MINUTES OF THE 108TH MEETING

Minutes of the 108th Meeting were approved and signed

MINUTES OF THE 109TH MEETING

Draft minutes of the 109th Meeting had been circulated and amendments received from Sir Robert Craigie, Monsieur de Baer, Dr. Schram-Nielsen, Lieut. Kintner and Dr. Mayr-Harting would be incorporated.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. Dutt, Mr. Burdekin and Mr. Dao.

LORD WRIGHT'S VISIT TO NUREMBERG & TOKYO

Lord Wright gave a brief account of his visits to Nuremberg and Tokyo. He had been able to make only a very short visit to Nuremberg, where he heard the speech of the Attorney-General, Sir Hartley Shawcross. He was unable to hear Mr. Justice Jackson, as he did not get there in time, and had to leave before the other speeches, French and Russian, were delivered.



From his seat at the British prosecuting table, Lord Wright was able to observe the criminals at close quarters. What struck him most of all was the extraordinary change that had taken place in them. Formerly, they were jaunty, cheerful and somewhat insolent, but none of these qualities seemed to be obvious in their expressions or their manner now. They listened intently to the catalogue of their crimes and shortcomings. Whether they were merely annoyed, conscience-stricken or suffering from the effects of about ten months in the prison precincts, he did not know, but he would not be readily disposed to think they were conscience-stricken. Ribbentrop seemed to be very much overcome. Lord Wright said that proceedings were now taking place against the Nazi Organisations and when they are concluded, possibly in three weeks' time, there would be a conclusion of the hearing and an interval of perhaps two or three weeks, to enable the court to reach their final decision, when the judgment will be pronounced and the sentences, if any, promulgated. Everything in the courtroom went smoothly and with dignity and the presiding judge seemed to have the whole of the court well under his hand and prepared to abide by the rulings. As a matter of fact, there was no question of ruling, so that did not arise. The whole atmosphere made one feel that everything was proceeding in the most business-like and dignified manner.

Turning to his visit to Tokyo, Lord WRIGHT said that it would be a long story to relate his adventures or lack of adventures on the journey. He stopped at Washington on his way out and had the privilege of giving a short address to the members of General Green's staff and the privilege of giving a short address to the Far Eastern Commission. Lord Wright had not a shorthand note of his first address, but Mr. Bridgland had promised a copy of the second, which, as yet, had not come to hand. When it did arrive, and if it was thought worthwhile, it would be circulated to members.

Lord WRIGHT informed members that he had also written a supplement to the article he wrote for the Law Quarterly Review, and the publishers had promised to publish it in October.

In Tokyo itself, Lord Wright found things proceeding rather well. The Indictment had been read and the defendants pleaded not guilty and then there was a considerable interval. Naturally they wanted some time to study the Indictment and then later, the American Government felt that they ought to make provision for the defence of these defendants, that is, for those of them who were able to plead. There was one somewhat sprightly individual who slapped one of his fellow prisoners on the head. This defendant however had now retired from the scene and it had been certified that he was not capable of following the proceedings. The one who struck him as a really strong person was Tojo.

The courtroom, which he thought was slightly bigger than Nuremberg, was modelled on the same arrangements. There were eleven judges, but as one of them had retired, they had now appointed another, a General Kraemer, who was head of the J.A.G. Branch and who seemed to be a very able and judicial person. There was some objection raised against his appointment but this was overruled by a majority. Lord Wright expressed the opinion that it was a pity the court could not have been of accord on this point.

There had been some difficulties owing to the Court House not being sufficiently air-conditioned. This difficulty had now been surmounted and he had received a letter since his return from the presiding judge, Sir William Webb,



ish prosecuting table, Lord  
inals at close quarters.  
extraordinary change that  
they were jaunty, cheerful  
these qualities seemed to be  
r manner now. They listened  
rimes and shortcomings.  
nscience-stricken or suffer-  
nths in the prison precincts,  
readily disposed to think  
ontrop seemed to be very  
t proceedings were now  
sations and when they are  
time, there would be a  
erval of perhaps two or  
reach their final decision,  
and the sentences, if any,  
room went smoothly and  
seemed to have the whole of  
pared to abide by the  
was no question of ruling,  
osphere made one feel  
most business-like and

kyo, Lord WRIGHT said that  
s adventures or lack of  
d at Washington on his way  
short address to the members  
llege of giving a short  
Lord Wright had not a  
ut Mr. Bridgland had  
as yet, had not come to  
as thought worthwhile, it  
ers that he had also  
wrote for the Law  
ad promised to publish it

ight found things  
had been read and the  
there was a considerable  
time to study the Indict-  
ment felt that they  
of these defendants, that  
plead. There was one  
ed one of his fellow  
however had now retired  
d that he was not  
The one who struck him

ought was slightly  
he same arrangements.  
them had retired, they  
emer, who was head of  
very able and judicial  
against his appointment  
ord Wright expressed  
could not have been

alties owing to the  
conditioned. This  
had received a letter  
Sir William Webb,

in which he spoke very cheerfully of everything. He said the prosecution was being well conducted by the counsel which the American Government had sent out, twenty six qualified, and in some cases distinguished, lawyers. Sir William Webb expressed the opinion that the trial would not end until the end of the year, but a lot depended on the extent to which the particular defendants would wish to give evidence. Mr. Comyns Carr was a tower of strength, and the American counsel were working very hard. General MacArthur was taking a great personal interest in everything that was going on and Lord Wright had found him extremely able and sympathetic.

Lord Wright said he ought to mention that at Nuremberg, he was pleased to see his old friend Dr. Eger, who told him how very pleased he was with the speech of the British Attorney-General, in which he recognised several principles of the Commission. Generally, he seemed extremely cheerful and said he hoped to be coming over to London soon.

#### ATTENDANCE AT NUREMBERG

Dr. SZERER asked if it would be possible to make arrangements for Members of the Commission to go to Nuremberg as a body, on the final day or days of the Trial, to hear the judgment pronounced.

Lord WRIGHT thought that for this purpose the Secretary-General should get in touch with the appropriate authorities and explore the possibilities.

While each Member Government had a seat allotted to it in Court, Lord WRIGHT thought there would be difficulties over transport and accommodation. However, everything that could be done would be done.

#### CRIMES PERPETRATED BY THE GERMAN MEDICAL PROFESSION

Dr. SCHRAM-NIELSEN said there was a general feeling amongst scientists in Denmark that it would serve a very useful purpose to have a survey made of the crimes perpetrated by the German Medical profession. The so-called scientific results which were achieved by the Germans during the Nazi régime were methods of extermination. In the opinion of the Danish Medical profession, these crimes should be made known throughout the world. The CINFO Report No:5, which had been circulated as Documents Series No:44, was not full enough for the Danish Medical profession. In the first place, it is a confidential report; secondly it is a preliminary report; and thirdly, information from all possible sources was not included in the survey. Dr. Schram-Nielsen therefore moved, that the Commission ask the Secretariat to take the necessary steps with a view to compiling a survey of the crimes committed by the German Medical profession during and just prior to the war, in the concentration camps and elsewhere, especially in regard to medical experiments carried out on human beings.

The CHAIRMAN said that he felt sure the Commission was very grateful to Dr. Schram-Nielsen for raising this very important question. The matter had been examined by Lieut. Colonel Wade, Dr. Schwelb and Dr. Litawski and a memorandum had been prepared. He thought perhaps it would be best if the Commission appointed a Committee consisting of Lieut. Colonel Wade, Dr. Schwelb and Dr. Litawski and any other members the Commission thought fit, with Colonel Ledingham acting as Secretary. The task of this Committee would be to assemble all the documentary reports and material, partly from trials and partly from scientific



documents which would explain exactly what had been done. Even if limited to documentary material, it would be a tremendous task, and although the Chairman had great faith in the gentlemen mentioned above, it would not be fair to overload them. It was very important to look after the business of Committee I, with General de Basr always stoking the flames, ably assisted by Dr. Mayr-Harting. Then there was the question of the publication of the Law Reports.

A Report might be prepared by the Committee referred to, purely as an experiment, or perhaps the Commission would prefer to transfer the duty to them straight away, of entering into the subject with the assistance of some members of the Commission and producing a final report. It was not a thing which could be done in a hurry, but if it could be done with the present resources of the Commission it would be of great value indeed.

Lieut. Colonel WADE said that from a survey which he had made for himself, he had noticed how very technical the material was, but he did not believe the report called for would serve any useful purpose unless it were undertaken by a medical expert. He thought the material was far too technical for a layman to handle.

The CHAIRMAN agreed with Lieut. Colonel Wade, and thought the first thing to be done was to get hold of a medical expert.

Colonel LEDINGHAM then read Lieut. Colonel Wade's memorandum to the Commission.

Dr. SCHRAM-NIELSEN said he was sure that the Danish Medical profession would appreciate that the compiling of a report would take a certain time, but he thought it could be done little by little, so long as it was certain that the Commission would undertake to have it compiled and printed.

The CHAIRMAN agreed that the report ought to be started as soon as possible, but he did not like to use the word undertake. He thought that we had enough reserves in hand, but a medical expert would, no doubt, involve some expense. The only thing was to put the matter in the very able hands of Lieut. Colonel Wade, Dr. Schwelb and Dr. Litawski, and ask them to make a practical report of method of procedure and ask them to investigate the possibilities of obtaining the services of a medical expert.

As Chairman of the Finance Committee, Sir Robert CRAIGIE suggested that in any enquires which would be made, it should be ascertained what the fees of the medical expert were likely to be as well as the cost likely to be involved in the publication. He hoped that whoever gave the technical advice might also be able to help with the compilation of the survey, as he felt that the work of law reporting should not be held up.

Lieut. Colonel WADE suggested that a suitable expert might be Major Leo Alexander, the author of the intelligence report on the "Treatment of Shock from Prolonged Exposure to Cold", which was a very technical piece of work.

The matter was left in the hands of Lieut. Colonel Wade, Dr. Schwelb and Dr. Litawski to investigate and report.



PRESENT STATE OF LAW REPORTING SCHEMES (DOC. C 216)

exactly what had been done. material, it would be a tremendous task. The Chairman had great faith in it would not be fair to be important to look after the General de Baer always stoking Dr. Mayr-Harting. Then there was the question of the Law Reports.

prepared by the Committee experiment, or perhaps the Commission the duty to them straight object with the assistance of and producing a final report. be done in a hurry, but if present resources of the Commission were used.

said that from a survey which he had noticed how very technical it was to believe the report called for unless it were undertaken with the material was far too large.

with Lieut. Colonel Wade, and it was to get hold of a medical officer.

then read Lieut. Colonel Wade's

said he was sure that the Danish Committee that the compiling of the report would take a long time, but he thought it could be done as it was certain that the material would be compiled and printed.

said that the report ought to be done but he did not like to use the fact that we had enough reserves in the matter, no doubt, involve some of the matter in the very early stages, Dr. Schwelb and Dr. Litawski, the report of method of procedure and possibilities of obtaining the material.

the Finance Committee, Sir Robert suggests which would be made, the fees of the medical expert would be cost likely to be involved in that whoever gave the technical help with the compilation of the work of law reporting should be done.

suggested that a suitable officer, the author of the document of 'Shook from' which was a very technical

it in the hands of Lieut. Litawski to investigate and

Dr. MAYR-HARTING said he was glad to be able to report that the preparations for the publication of the first volume of law reports were now far advanced. The first volume would comprise nine reports, five British, three American and one French. The French Report had been discussed and the re-draft will come before Committee III in the near future. The final drafts had been approved in six cases altogether, and the two remaining cases had been discussed and will be approved in the near future.

The first volume would also contain a glossary on the National Laws concerned. The glossary on the British Law had been approved. That on American and French Laws will come before the Committee in the near future. These glossaries were being included because it was felt that it would be useful to the reader to have some knowledge of the National Laws.

Regarding the question of the fuller reports the Committee proposes that the Commission approves that a letter, on the lines contained in document C 216, should be sent to the publishing firm Messrs. Hodge & Co. The Committee also approve the suggestion that a lawyer conversant with such matters should be consulted before the letter is sent. Dr. Mayr-Harting asked the Commission to approve this letter.

The CHAIRMAN agreed that great care had to be taken over a matter of this kind.

Sir Robert CRAIGIE said that copies of this letter had been sent to Mr. Lambert, Assistant Under-Secretary of State; Mr. Plumbly, H.M. Stationery Office; Mr. Reed, Attorney-General's Department; and Mr. Scott-Fox, Foreign Office for their observations, and, if the Commission agreed, when replies had been received from these gentlemen, and if there were no amendments, the letter should be sent to Messrs. Hodge & Co.

This was agreed.

LETTER FROM ACTING SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, UNITED NATIONS WAR CRIMES COMMISSION (DOC. A 10).

The CHAIRMAN felt sure that everyone would agree we ought to establish the closest possible relations with the United Nations. It was therefore necessary, in answering this letter from the United Nations, to give them full access to all the information and material in our possession, which we consider would be of interest to them.

That attitude had been given effect to in a draft reply which Colonel Ledingham had prepared and he asked the Secretary General to summarise the main points.

Colonel LEDINGHAM said that he proposed to inform the Acting Secretary-General of the United Nations what the Commission had been doing in respect of the collection of information concerning human rights arising from the trials of war criminals; also, in general terms, the class of material which this Commission had collected, the type of research work on which it had been engaged and the examination of charges it had been engaged on since its formation. He also proposed to mention that the Commission proposed to publish Law Reports of Trials of War Criminals and that the



first volume of this series would appear shortly. The letter would conclude:-

"I am instructed to inform you that the United Nations War Crimes Commission is prepared to give the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations every assistance in implementing the Resolution of the 21st June, 1946, mentioned in your letter of 22nd July, 1946, and to make available all the material and documents at its disposal. It would however be advisable to make arrangements regarding the most fitting and convenient procedure to be adopted for the examination of the great amount of material which is available.

" It is suggested, that if a representative of the Commission on Human Rights could come to London, the whole matter could then be fully discussed and the material and documents referred to examined."

Sir Robert CRAIGIE said that he was not quite clear as to what was meant by a "Commission on Human Rights",

Monsieur de BAER said that he thought it was "human rights in the future".

Dr. SZERER agreed with Monsieur de Baer.

The CHAIRMAN said that the letter from the United Nations stated "The collection and publication of information concerning human rights arising from trials of war criminals, quislings and traitors and in particular from the Nuremberg & Tokyo trials". The British authorities were publishing a report, volume by volume, on the Nuremberg trial and he thought the same was to be done on the Tokyo trial. He thought that all the United Nations were asking for was to place at their disposal, all the material we had in this connection. The letter which Colonel Ledingham had drafted had indicated our willingness to do this and if we sent this letter it would open the discussion.

Sir Robert CRAIGIE said he believed that the Secretary-General of the United Nations was <sup>now</sup> in Europe, and that if a meeting between him and Lord Wright could be arranged in London before his return to the United States, it would be possible to discuss this and other matters of common interest.

The Secretary-General was instructed to add a paragraph to this effect to the letter already drafted and which was now approved.

#### JURISDICTION OF COMMISSION OVER WAR CRIMES (Doc. C 217)

Dr. MAYR-HARTING presented to the Commission the opinion of Committee III on the question of the jurisdiction of UNWCC over war crimes committed in Ethiopia during the Italo-Abyssinian war (Doc. C 217). It was suggested that the question should be divided into two parts:-

- 1) whether the Commission should restrict itself to crimes committed during the late war.
- 2) whether the Italo-Abyssinian war should be regarded as a part of the late war, or as a separate war.



ld appear shortly. The

inform you that the  
Commission is prepared  
Social Council of the  
assistance in implementing  
1st June, 1946, mentioned  
July, 1946, and to make  
al and documents at its  
ever be advisable to make  
the most fitting and con-  
adopted for the examin-  
at of material which is

at if a representative of  
Rights could come to  
could then be fully  
al and documents referred

that he was not quite clear as  
on on Human Rights",

at he thought it was "human

asieur de Baer.

he letter from the United  
and publication of information  
from trials of war criminals,  
rticular from the Nuremberg &  
rities were publishing a  
Nuremberg trial and he  
in the Tokyo trial. He thought  
asking for was to place at  
we had in this connection.  
a had drafted had indicated  
we sent this letter it would

he believed that the Secretary-  
OW Europe, and that if a  
at could be arranged in London  
ates, it would be possible  
of common interest.

instructed to add a para-  
already drafted and which

R CRIMES(Doc. C 217)

to the Commission the  
estion of the jurisdiction  
in Ethiopia during the  
It was suggested that  
two parts:-

on should restrict itself  
ing the late war.

ssinian war should be  
e late war, or as a

Committee III had reached the conclusion that  
there was no evidence to show that it was the wish of member  
Governments that the Commission should deal with war crimes  
committed in any other war, and that it was the opinion of  
Governments that no direct connection existed between the  
Italo-Abyssinian war and the late war.

Dr. MAYR-HARTING requested the Commission's approval  
of this opinion.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that this was a difficult  
problem and it would be useful if the Abyssinian Government  
would submit some cases.

Sir Robert CRAIGIE considered that a resolution on  
this point would be useful to the British Foreign Office, in  
the event of the question being raised again in Parliament.  
His views on the matter had been sought, when the matter was  
raised previously, but, in the absence of any authority from  
the Commission, he had merely indicated what he thought might  
be their views. He considered that it would be unwise to  
encourage the Ethiopian Government to submit cases arising out  
of the 1935 war, only to be told that nothing could be done  
by this Commission.

The CHAIRMAN said that he would like to see at  
least one case, for instance the use of gas, though he did not  
think the Commission could make that a pre-requisite to stating  
their position. He had always gone on the assumption that the  
Abyssinian war was outside the scope of the Commission's  
mandate. In the Far East, of course, the indictment went  
back as far as 1928 and included the Manchurian war, the  
Nanking episode and the war which followed it; and reaching  
more modern times - the Chinese war which started in 1937.

Although the Abyssinian war was an outrage  
against humanity, it was a separate chapter and a chapter call-  
ing for separate discussion. He assumed this to be the view  
of Committee III. He did not deny that there had been crimes  
against humanity, or war crimes, or that it was a criminal  
war, but simply considered it outside the Commission's assign-  
ment. He asked the Commission to adopt the very lucid report  
submitted by Committee III. The report was unanimously adopted.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

##### Committee I.

General de BAER submitted a proposal in connec-  
tion with the compilation of the Commission's lists. In a  
recent meeting with Committee I, it was pointed out that  
considerable difficulty was being experienced by the Military  
authorities on account of the way in which the Lists were  
presented. Colonel Halse asked whether, in order to obviate  
going through each of the 40 lists published, when trying to  
trace an individual who was in custody, it might be possible  
to modify the Lists, by putting them in alphabetical order  
only, instead of dividing them into sections according to  
countries submitting charges. At first it was thought that  
this would mean an entire re-casting of the Lists, but Dr.  
Litawski had arrived at the conclusion that it would be possi-  
ble to make a general alphabetical index of all the names  
at present on the Lists, and arrange the Lists in future as  
suggested above. The interests of National offices would  
still be preserved because, in the introductory section to  
each new list, the total of persons charged by each National  
office would be clearly indicated. To give an idea of the  
importance of the work, General de Baer said that the general  
index of names comprising the 40 lists already issued would



include about a thousand pages and these would have to be sub-divided into four or five volumes which would then be circulated to the various authorities charged with apprehending war criminals and also to the National offices concerned.

THE CHAIRMAN said that the plan which had been so lucidly outlined by General de Baer seemed to afford no grounds for objection and that unless the Commission had any observations to make, they would delay General de Baer no longer, as he was going abroad for a few weeks and was anxious to get away.

General de Baer then left the meeting.

CROWCASS

Sir Robert CRAIGIE wished to discuss one particular aspect of the temporary closing down of CROWCASS. It was now two and a half months since CROWCASS had been closed down owing to their move to Berlin. He understood that owing to complications connected with the move, it was likely to be six months before they would be operating smoothly and certainly that before they could catch up with arrears. This meant that detention reports would not be dealt with during that period. It seemed to him important that, as soon as a man was detained, notification should be sent to the National offices, otherwise there would be considerable delay and the machinery would be thrown out of gear. He wondered whether it might be possible for the Commission to make some temporary arrangement with CROWCASS in regard to detention reports. It might be possible to ask the various authorities - British, American and French, - whether they would send the Commission lists or copies of reports which had been sent to CROWCASS since they had closed down in Paris.

The CHAIRMAN said that the detention reports included a very large number of security suspects.

Sir Robert CRAIGIE agreed that a large percentage of security suspects who were not war criminals was included, but he stressed the importance of bridging the gap. There had already been a very regrettable delay and no one wished it to last another six months.

The CHAIRMAN asked Dr. Litawski whether he had any idea of the proportion of security suspects to war criminals.

Dr. LITAWSKI replied that up to 90% of security suspects were included.

Sir Robert CRAIGIE said that what the Commission were concerned with was the detention of names appearing on their lists and added that so far as the British authorities were concerned they were already taking the necessary steps. His intention was to enquire whether the U.S.A. and French representatives would be prepared to take similar action as regards their part in their authorities.

M. MAILLARD agreed to give all assistance possible.

Lieut. KINTNER agreed to do all that was necessary to facilitate the working of the plan.

The CHAIRMAN considered it a purely practical question and thought that when Lieut. Colonel Luck came over, it might be possible to discuss this point and arrive at some practical solution.



Sir Robert CRAIGIE said, that the matter was being discussed with the British authorities, as to whether the Commission could obtain copies of detention reports from the time CROWCASS had closed down in Paris, until it was in operation in Berlin. He expressed the hope that the U.S.A. and French representatives would ascertain whether their authorities would be ready to assist in this, bearing in mind that the lists should be restricted to war criminals.

OZECHOSLOVAKIAN GOVERNMENT'S REQUEST FOR EXTRADITION CERTIFICATE  
(NANDOR BATISFALVY)

It was agreed that the extradition certificate for Nandor Batisfalvy be given to the Czechoslovakian Government.

Dr. MARKOVIC requested that he might be given ordinary certificates for handing over of three German War criminals listed that morning by Committee L. This was agreed in view of urgency.

LETTER REGARDING TRACING & SURRENDER OF ALLEGED WAR CRIMINALS  
(DOO.A.11)

The CHAIRMAN then requested Commander Mouton to read his letter of 30th July.

After he had done so the Chairman enquired whether the Netherlands had investigation teams and liaison officers.

Commander MOUTON replied that they had, but that they were rather small.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that all the investigation teams were small and that it was almost impossible to increase them. It was to be hoped that countries would assist each other in this difficulty. He agreed that the teams might be insufficient in number, but so far as his experience went, they were wonderfully efficient and energetic. He was very satisfied with the results obtained and did not think that any admonition would be justified, but of course the more the teams could be increased the better. It was a matter for each Government to seek the co-operation of the Military Authorities in the various Zones and he understood that this had already been agreed.

Dr. SCHRAM-NIELSEN remarked that Denmark had a Liaison Officer but no investigating teams and was very much in the same position as the Netherlands.

The CHAIRMAN said that the Moscow Declaration was well-known, but it had not been very active. However, if the Commission thought that any good could be done by a resolution criticising the present situation, that was a matter for the Commission. He, however, was not prepared to support any such thing.

Commander MOUTON wished to explain what he had actually in mind. The Commission had in the past discussed plans for a special body for the searching of war criminals in Germany, but these never materialised and he thought the Commission were satisfied that the allied authorities, in co-operation with the investigating teams, were doing their job.

Mr. HORNE left the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that what Commander Mouton wanted was that the member governments should increase their investigating teams.



Commander MOUTON considered that his country was not in a position to cope with the number of criminals on its lists. Their pre-war number of experienced police was diminished by a certain number of traitors. The police have to cope with a crime wave - a normal feature after a war, with the number of traitor cases that they have in hand, the collecting of evidence for the Commission, and they are therefore not in a position send out a large number of experienced officers with a knowledge of German and English to search in the occupied zones of Germany. Though they appreciated the assistance given by other investigating teams, he wondered if it would be possible to ask existing investigating teams concentrating on crimes committed against their own subjects to include in their work the search for war criminals listed by other countries.

The CHAIRMAN sympathised with Commander Mouton's request but suggested that his complaint should be inspected more closely, in order to see whether it was justified. He said it was unfortunate that the term "liaison team" had been used, when "investigating team" was really meant. The whole difficulty now was, and he had checked this with the American and British JAG and to some extent with the French, the extreme difficulty in getting really qualified people to carry out investigation. There were a certain number - and the quality was very high indeed - but they were limited, and, very naturally, the Military authorities feel that what have first claim on their services are the atrocities committed on their own people, and they have their hands full with these. He thought it most unfortunate that a country like Holland was unable to produce a sufficient number of teams to cope with the work to be done. He thought that each team would do its best to help any other team, but he did not shrink from saying that a team's first duty was to their own people. He said that the problem stated by Commander Mouton was not peculiar to the Dutch. The Norwegians had been working very hard, as also had the French and the Czechs.

Commander MOUTON stated that it was his hope that, in the future, if the allied occupying authorities were ready with their own cases they would proceed to assist the Dutch in their troubles.

The CHAIRMAN thought that, from conversations he had had, they would not be ready for some considerable time. He thought that the Commission should write and thank Commander Mouton for his letter, the object of which was understood and with which the Commission were in sympathy. The Commission were fully possessed of the great desirability of searching out and apprehending war criminals. It is acknowledged that the number of teams is too small, but it should be pointed out that the Allied Governments at a time like this, were doing their best to provide a sufficient number of equipped investigators and though undoubtedly their first duty would be towards their fellow nationals, they would always do their best to help any other country which had found it difficult to equip itself with trained investigators.

Lieut. KINTNER stated that he found himself in sympathy with the problem of Commander Mouton and, on behalf of the American Government, promised to do everything possible to give additional assistance to the Dutch in the American zone.

Sir Robert CRAIGIE said that it occurred to him that if Commander Mouton gave him a letter explaining the particular difficulty which Holland had in putting teams into the field, then he would put in an appeal for such assistance as was possible to be given to the Dutch authorities in the tracking down of their criminals. He asked Commander Mouton to realise however that the work of the British in their zone was becoming increasingly difficult, but said that they would at least have the facts of Holland's difficulties before them.

The CHAIRMAN said that when he was in Washington, he had several talks with General Green and the JAG authorities there.



General Green had pointed out that the chief difficulty was to increase the numbers of their teams with men with sufficient knowledge and experience. The man shortage in England is very serious - it is serious even in America.

At this point Dr. SCHRAM-NIELSEN left the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN informed the Commission that this was the last time they would have present with them the Public Relations Officer, Mr. Gibson. He had done excellent work, but the time had come when the pressure of other interests had made it apparent that the Public Relations Officer was not so essential a part of the staff as he had been at the time of his appointment. He was sure that the Commission would all agree in thanking Mr. Gibson for the zealous and able work he had done.

This was carried unanimously.

Mr. GIBSON thanked the Chairman for his kind words and said that he had been aware that his appointment would eventually have to come to an end. He thanked the members of the Commission for their kindness to him during his term of office.

*Wright*