

DATED 2/11/48 P.M. OR 8:45

85



STATEMENT

The British Foreign Office allegations that numerous immigrants on the Pan York and the Pan Crescent were Soviet and Communist agents and that Soviet agent documents and papers proving this were found in their possession are phantastical and without foundation. For the first time in the history of Cyprus immigrants search of belongings documents of the Pan refugees was undertaken in the presence of the immigrants. Since the original search more than one month ago no Army Security personnel has entered the camp and no screening has been carried out. Moreover if there were Soviet agents it is hardly likely that they would carry documents which would give them away. As to "Soviet papers" it is likely that many of the refugees were in possession of Russian language papers but they happened to be the normal journals on the news-stands of any Balkan town. What we find difficult to understand is why if agents were discovered they were not apprehended by the British authorities. We can only assume the the British Foreign Office statement is a piece of pure propaganda of the kind it is so quick to condemn in other design to inflame American opinion against the Jewish immigrants.

Cyprus, February 5th 1948.

INTER-CAMP COMMITTEE
XYLOTINBOU CAMPS

N-23-1

~~four years ago open secret file~~