

DAILY REVIEW OF THE ARABIC PRESS

State Dept. review completed

For Distribution to U.S. Embassy Personnel only.**EMBASSY OF THE U.S.A., CAIRO-EGYPT.**MORNING PAPERS.THURSDAY August 5th, 1948.

Palestine.
 Britain's policy attacked by
 Al Mussawar.

Under the headline: "The Palestine drama", Fikry Abaza, the editor of Al Mussawar publishes an editorial in which he designates the Palestinian question as "drama with five chapters."

Chapter 1: England drew up her policy against the Arabs in 1917. Balfour issued his famous declaration in that year and England gave the Jews from then onwards every opportunity to gain a foothold in Palestine.

Chapter 2 : England promised the Arabs complete independence following their revolution against Turkey in the first world war. She promised them Palestine but she broke her promise and continued to afford every facility to the Jews to increase their influence in Palestine. She then induced the Arabs to form the Arab League in the hope that she would be able to use it for her own ends, but she forgot that she no longer had Arab "agents" in high offices who would be in a position to execute her policy. The League became a real Arab League with the result that Britain lost the friendship of both Arabs and Jews.

Chapter 3 : England noticed that her influence in Europe and the Mediterranean had been inherited by Russia and America, and that she had lost India, Australia, Canada, Burma, Palestine, and South Africa. She then turned once more to the Arabs seeking their friendship and gave them arms and ammunition in order to punish the Jews who deserted her and threw themselves into America's arms.

Chapter 4: The Arab armies attacked the Jews in Palestine without a word of protest from Britain. Yet she left Haifa to the Jews, stopped giving arms to the Arabs, then changed her mind and began to supply them with the arms they needed. Then again she stopped supplying them with arms in order to show America and Russia that she was the master of the situation, and in order to make the Egyptians give up the Sudan, make Iraq conclude a treaty, and make Transjordan stop trying to break away from Britain's sphere of influence.

Chapter 5: England's policy proved a success. The Jews made peace with her and became satisfied with the part given to them. The Arabs also made peace with her. America became more lenient with respect to the debt which Britain owes her.

- 2 -

THURSDAY August 5th, 1948.

Britain regained her influence in the Mediterranean. But her traditional enmity towards the Arabs induced her to help the State of Israel conquer the Arab countries with its money and fifth column.

"The curtain falls and the drama ends, but Britain goes on living for ever. Her policy of playing the Arabs against the Jews and the Jews against the Arabs, America against Russia and Russia against America, backing Turkey and Greece and withdrawing her support half way, and making Italy do what she wants and then leave her stranded, may prove successful for a time. This unscrupulous devil who would gladly ally herself with Russia if she thought that such an alliance would be beneficial to her, cannot be trusted."

"Developments in British policy".

Under the above heading, Al Mussawar says that Britain feeling that she has lost Arab friendship is now trying to make it up to the Arabs by defending the Arab refugees. The Arabs of course welcome any aid from Britain, but they could never trust her again for the following reasons:

- 1 - It was Britain which created the Palestinian question.
- 2 - She surrendered Haifa to the Jews before her forces evacuated Palestine.
- 3 - She did not respect the treaties she has with Egypt, Iraq, and Transjordan, which stipulate that she must come to the aid of these Arab countries when they are at war.
- 4 - Britain exercised pressure on the Arab countries to make them accept the truce.
- 5 - She voted in favour of the Security Council's order to cease fire.

England will support the Arabs.

Al Mussawar then goes on to say that the British representatives at the Arab countries told the Arab authorities that Britain supported the Arab conditions for the truce, and that she was sorry for the attitude she had adopted at the Security Council recently. They promised that Britain would give her whole-hearted support to the Arab League in future.

It is not a truce.... It is an armistice, says Al Mussawar.

"It is absurd to call the present Palestine armistice a truce or cease-fire", says Al Mussawar. "Seeing that the Arabs stopped fighting before their conditions were accepted and seeing that there is no time limit for the truce, therefore the so called truce is in actual fact an armistice".

THURSDAY August 5th, 1948.

Arab refugees.
Press comments.

Al Mussawar writes: "Days and weeks fly by while the Jews are entering Palestine and the Arabs quitting it. Every day that passes makes the Jews stronger. Count Bernadotte, the very noble and neutral mediator, says that he will not submit new proposals until September. This means that the number of Arab refugees may become half a million and that of Jewish refugees 10,000. The Jews are laying their hands on Arab property in Palestine. They are occupying the homes of the refugees, eating their food, and sleeping on their beds, while the poor Arab refugees are living in the open on little bread and water. How long will the West stand looking on at the Jewish atrocities without lifting a finger to stop them? Who is going to compensate the Arab refugees?"

Under the headline: "The Palestinian refugees". Al Misri writes: "The position of the Palestinian refugees is daily becoming more dangerous. This problem has become the most pressing problem which faces Lebanon and the Arab countries at present. To give shelter and feed half a million refugees is not easy. News reaching Beirut from certain countries where Arab refugees are living, indicates that the Arab authorities cannot even give the poor, miserable, refugees any bread to eat. These refugees are truly living in hell. The Arabs have seldom been confronted with such a serious problem in their long history.

"News also indicate that Bernadotte is trying to persuade the Jews to let the refugees return to their homes. What does this mean? Have the Arabs been reduced to the stage when they have to sit obediently and listen to conditions laid down by Zionist terrorists for their return to the homes of their ancestors? The Arab people will not remain patient much longer.

oil.

Al Mussawar writes: "Iraq used to press Saudi Arabia to cancel the American oil concessions, and claim that she, too, was ready to cancel the British oil concessions. Iraq has the opportunity now to show that she is sincere, by cutting off oil from Haifa. Will Iraq continue to let her oil reach Haifa or will she cut it off in readiness for the days when she and Saudi Arabia will cancel all the oil concessions? That is the question".

Irgun coup in Jerusalem?
Monahom Beigin addresses four thousand
Jews.

All the Arab papers give special prominence to the following story: Jerusalem August 4 (A.N.A) - The Jewish authorities in Jerusalem have issued a proclamation imposing military rule in all the Jewish occupied areas of the Holy City. At his first public appearance today in Jerusalem,

Monahem Beigin, Commander of the Irgun addressed a crowd of 4,000 people in Zion Square. Accompanied by a large body-guard, Beigin spoke for over an hour and told his listeners through loudspeakers that he rejected any solution for the Holy City other than a totally Jewish Jerusalem.

Before leaving for Alexandria, Count Bernadotte had a meeting with Bernard Joseph, it is learned.

A.N.A.s Special Correspondent in Alexandria reports, meanwhile, that in view of the possibility of an early Irgun Zvai Louni coup, Count Bernadotte tonight booked a telephonic call to Lake Success. This took place despite the assurance of the Swedish General Landstrom that Bernard Joseph had affirmed that the Irgun Zvai Louni was under control.

Al Siyassa comments on alleged Jewish violation of the truce.

Al Siyassa, mouthpiece of the Liberal Constitutional party, says that according to the system followed by Count Bernadotte, violation of the truce can be stopped only after thirteen steps are taken.

- 1 - The Chief observer, General Landstrom, must first make sure that a violation of the truce took place.
- 2 - Landstrom submits a report to the Mediator informing him of the incident.
- 3 - The Mediator satisfies himself that Landstrom has not made a mistake.
- 4 - The Count drafts a letter to Mr Trygvic Lie.
- 5 - Mr Lie refers the Count's report to the Security Council.
- 6 - The President of the Security Council calls a meeting to discuss the report.
- 7 - The Security Council discusses the report and after several meetings, takes a decision.
- 8 - Lie communicates the decision to Count Bernadotte.
- 9 - Bernadotte communicates it to General Landstrom.
- 10- Landstrom communicates it to the Observers.
- 11- The Observers communicate it to the offending party.
- 12- The Observers wait for a little while to see if the offending party obeys the decision of the Security Council.
- 13- If it does not obey, then the Observers evolve a plan to force it to obey.

Al Siyassa then goes on to remark that seeing that the Jews violate the truce daily, any decision which may be taken by the Security Council against the offending Jews is useless.

Al Kutla comments also.

Al Kutla comments on the same subject by saying that the Jews are treacherous, mean, lot. The Arabs must hit back everytime the Jews violate the truce. The Arabs also must insist that unless the Arab refugees are returned to their homes by a certain date, they will resume war.

Will Libya become independent under Sinoussi's rule?

Under the above heading, Al Ahram publishes a message received from its Tripoli correspondent in which he says: "The return of Al Sayed Bashir Al Saadawi to Libya after a 3-month absence has given rise to the rumour that Libya will become independent under the rule of Emir Adrees Al Sinoussi.

Approved For Release 2007/03/12 : CIA-RDP83-00415R001300100006-9