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D. H. trips 1957 - Dec. 23

Petitions submitted to Sec. Gen. at Gaza
from the Palestine Arab Refugees

Ref. No.

الرقم

Gaza, 23rd. December, 1957 غزة في

From:- The Mayor of Gaza and in his capacity as Chairman of Congress of Municipal Councils of Gaza Strip.

To :- Mr. Dag Hammerskjold, the Secretary General of the United Nations.

We welcome you, Mr. Hammerskjold, to the remaining part of Holy Palestine called Gaza Strip after Palestine was maimed as a result of that historic tragedy, the most painful in history, where a whole people were evacuated from their homeland and where ^{the} destitutes became scattered all over the world; where all their towns and villages were usurped together with what it constituted of fields, industries, schools, mosques, churches, etc.... Indeed we welcome you from the bottom of our hearts and our pleasure with your visit is twofold:- One concerns you in person. We appreciate in you the noble honest man who does all he could to appease peoples assisting them in the realization of their rights and in the effort to effect their prosperity and well-being. This we hold as emanating from a clear conscience and an inmate love for the public good. The other is in your capacity as Secretary-General to the United Nations whose main objectives are the maintenance of international peace and security, the realization of self-determination and equal rights of peoples and the suppression of aggression against them together with the achievement of Human Rights.

I reiterate my welcome to you on your visit to us or to any Arab Country after the clouds of imperialism have faded away from the sky of the Arab World after the hideous tripartite aggression against Port-Said, Suez, Sinai and Gaza Strip. We have engraved in our hearts our gratitude to you and history has recorded for you your stand for Rights and Peace.

May I on behalf of the citizens of the Gaza Strip seize this golden opportunity of your being among us to put before you the following:-

You and others who are like you, who are endowed with living conscience must have realized the righteousness of the Palestine Arabs case and this this people have suffered pain, want and destitution as a result of the shameful imperialistic conspiracy against them beginning with the infamous Balfore Declaration and the establishment of this imperialistic bridge called Israel in the heart of the Arab World in 1948. The conspiracy is still going on trying to annihilate this people who struggle for their existence and the aspiration of return to their country.

It is evident that imperialism has not changed - it still treats the peoples whose rights have been usurped with the same methods, albeit with some readjustments, as of yore. It uses hypocrisy, slyness, procrastination, bargain and what not - it even sometimes uses iron and fire in a war of annihilation especially in the Arab World. This imperialism ignores the development, progress and enlightenment that have been undergoing in nations. It seems as if it is wearing black glasses to conceal from it the advancement and live consciousness in many a different part of the world. It neglects the demands of these peoples for the respect of human rights. We hear indeed much talk from the representatives of imperialistic nations fostering the rights of peoples but talk is something while action is something else. Apparently in their hearts these imperialists only harbour monopolization, exploitation and hate for humanity.

In short,/2

Ref. No.....

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Gaza,..... غزة في

Memorandum

- 2 -

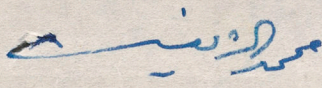
23/12/1957

In short, may I emphasise the following:-

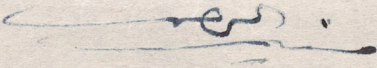
1. Our return to our Country is a legal sacred right. None but aggressive imperialists deny this right of ours. It is so evidently clear that its righteousness is axiomatic.
2. Our determination for return will never bend to any threat, aggression, destitution, want, etc. Nay, these things only strengthen our will to hold on.
3. We will resist with all our might and resourcefulness all conspiracies aiming at the liquidation of our case. We shall never budge.
4. Israel is a strange body in the Arab World - it can never live. If it could, for the present, make its existence because of imperialism and imperialistic nations the world will soon awaken to our rights.

In closing may I say we build great hopes on your support of our just demands in returning to our Country and the realization of all our rights that should not have place for bargaining. And you as a person, the world has known that you always stand for the right cause.

On this great occasion, the Birthday of Christ, the Prophet of love and peace, may we extend our greetings to you and to all mankind praying that God may spread peace and prosperity all over the world.


Mayor Of Khayma

Very truly yours,


Muneer Rayyes,
Mayor of Gaza, &
Chairman of Congress of
Municipal Councils of Gaza Strip.

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CATEGORY D

CR.13 (4-55) **ROUTING SLIP**

TO:

APPROVAL	MORE DETAILS
REPLY, PLEASE	YOUR INFORMATION
SEE ME, PLEASE	RETURNED AS REQUESTED
YOUR SIGNATURE	INVESTIGATE AND REPORT
NOTE AND FILE	FOR ACTION
NOTE AND RETURN	REPLY FOR MY SIGNATURE
YOUR COMMENTS	INITIAL AND FORWARD

COMMENTS FOR THE RECORD SHOULD NOT BE WRITTEN ON THIS SLIP. REFERRAL SHEET PT.108 SHOULD BE USED INSTEAD.

DATE:

FROM:

"Right is Over Might"

Peace in the Middle East
will never settle except by
Our Return to Our
Home Land Palestine.

The Arab Refugees

23 / 12 - 1957

MEMORANDUM.

To Mr. Hammerskjold,
The Secretary General of the
UNITED NATIONS.

The Executive Committee of the Congress of the Palestine Arab Refugees in this beloved part, the remnant of dear Palestine, extends to you its hearty welcome to Gaza Strip and so also do all the refugees offer you their best greetings and congratulate you on this glorious Christmas. They are reminded of your immortal human stand, so explicit, at the time of the tripartite hideous imperialistic aggression against benevolent Egypt and this peaceful strip. On Xmas of last year we were the most miserable people on this earth as the Israeli bands had desecrated our good earth. We were governed by a people deprived of all human attributes. They lived amongst us with their evils and atrocities. It is this nightmarish memory that urges us to seize this precious opportunity of your honouring us with your blessed visit on Holy Xmas to this Holy Land to put before you the following :

1. This is the tenth feast which the refugees have been forced to spend outside their beloved home and land suffering pain, hunger, and want, and inspite of this long period with all its deprivations the refugees insist on their return to their beloved native land. Nothing short of their country will they accept . They are determined either to be buried as martyrs here or return to their country free and honoured.

2. The United Nations whose very essence of existence and whose first aim is the promotion of world peace must realize that this peace is in danger of being molested in this part of

the world as the natural outcome of the imperialistic nations' persistent stand in support of aggressive Israel. They almost deluge it with the millions and millions of cursed dollars which in turn are used in inducing an influx of world Jews to migrate to it. Then they bestow on them all sorts of arms and ammunitions enabling them, thereby, to occupy our country and force a whole people out of their homeland to become destitute and refugees.

3. That the refugees should remain away from their native land, destitute, while absolute strangers occupy their country and enjoy all the benefits thereof is a mark of shame on the forehead of the United Nations and humanity at large as long as they remain robbed of their rights. These Zionists are mere tools of aggression brought over by the imperialists to constitute a center and a hold for imperialism in this part of the world.

4. What the Palestine Arab Refugee gets from UNRWA is a meagre proportion of the essentials of mere living. It can hardly help him to exist. Indeed it may sound strange that the refugees have been able to live for ten years in such alarmed conditions, but we do make out of our misery and deprivation material for patience, endurance, and persistence. We make out of this, for our children, useful lessons to learn the grievances against Western Imperialism which has created and has accepted this fate for us.

5. The Palestine Arab refugees believe in their country and in their sacred right of returning to it. They insist on the realization of their just demands. They wish, however, to share you the burden of their righteous cause and leave it as a trust with you that you may frustrate all attempts of imperialism and world Zionism of alienating us from our beloved country. We trust that you will announce our point

of view to the world and make of it an echoing cry enhanced by your struggle and clear conscience till our usurped country return to us. We hope that the imperialistic nations that control the majority in the United Nations Assembly will change their attitude and readjust their stand and that the conscience of its leaders be awakened to our just cause before the opportune time is gone.

6. All Arab refugees wherever they may be support from all their hearts their beloved hero and leader, the upholder of Arab renaissance, Jamal Abdul Naser, whom they love and trust.

God is great, victory be fore the Arabs, and the return to Palestine be effected.

Yours very truly,

A. Abu Sitta

Secretary of the Executive Committee
of the Congress of the Palestine
Arab Refugees.