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HS L 179:189



Dag Hammarskjöld's saml.

Saudi Arabia

14 Dec. 59

text of D.H.'s memorandum sent to
Azam Pasha (Saudi Arabia) and Bedley (U.K.)

This is the first
basic document.

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The aim of the talks would be to find solutions for substantive problems, but if it seemed desirable to have recourse to other peaceful methods in addition to negotiation ~~these would not be excluded~~ talks should aim at agreement on such methods.

DRAFT

14 December 1959

After my return from Laos late in November I have had the privilege of several talks with Azzam Pasha and, together with him, with Mr. Harold Beeley. These talks have served to clarify the circumstances under which an informal contact might be taken up between Saudi Arabia and the United Kingdom with a view to the solution of outstanding problems between the two countries. As my aim has been solely to clarify the attitudes so as to see what first approach might seem indicated, the proposals which I shall set out in this letter represent nothing but my personal conclusions in the light of the ~~informal~~ ^{private} exchanges that have taken place and do not ~~in any way~~ commit the other participants ~~in those talks~~ ^{THE} to what I suggest. ~~to what I suggest.~~ ^{that have taken place.}

I have felt that ^{the} a most essential thing ^{now} is to get ^a the development in the right direction ^{started} going which ~~step by step~~ may yield results ^{on other} and certainly the greater number of points and most important ~~ones~~ ^{ones} would provide for the development of the machinery which might ^{for the handling} take care of the problems ^{ing} to be involved and thus only in a constructive way bring matters under control and ^{on the road} towards a satisfactory conclusion. ^{exploration that has taken}

In my view, the first stage, ^{for informal talks} after the preliminary talks that take place, would be that representatives of the two parties meet ^{at my invitation} on the basis of the following understandings:

~~already~~ in the initial stage may yield substantive results on some points but which in other cases - probably more numerous and ~~important~~ -

(2) It is recognized that no steps will be taken which would further complicate matters by changing the territorial or military situation now prevailing, otherwise than by agreement or equivalent peaceful and agreed methods. It is understood that the acceptance of this principle is not an endorsement of the status quo; this is obvious from the fact that by taking up talks both parties recognize that the present state of affairs is open for discussion and in various respects may require revision through peaceful and agreed means. The mutual intention, thus stated as a basis for the informal talks, implies that the parties would not interfere with the free wish of refugees to return or with other peaceful, unsolicited moves of the population within the framework of their traditional rights.

(3) Although there would be no formal commitment on either side to that effect, it is understood that when the talks envisaged are initiated on the basis proposed in this letter, in points (1) and (2) above, the following two steps would be taken without delay:

- a) evacuation of Khor-el-Udaid;
- b) establishment of diplomatic relations.

(4) ~~Apart from the solution of such substantive problems as may be taken up directly in the talks, they would aim at the creation of the proper machinery for the solution of other questions in such forms as may be considered appropriate.~~
Just as the talks would be combined with the re-establishment of diplomatic relations at an early stage, they would leave open agreed recourse at later stages to mediation, arbitration or plebiscite or equivalent arrangements for such specific questions for which the use of such other methods is indicated as more appropriate than the informal talks or contacts through normal diplomatic

channels. Thus, it is recognized that a machinery through which the intentions set out in point (1) above are implemented will as a matter of course include normal diplomatic relations but may further comprise ~~the~~ other ~~three~~ agreed methods for peaceful settlement such as those which have just been mentioned.

5. The Secretary-General will take part in the informal talks to all the extent that any of the parties would wish him to do so.

In the light of the exploratory contacts which I have recently had, I have reason to hope that both parties would find it possible to go ahead with the informal talks suggested on the basis outlined above. I would appreciate having the reaction of your government to my proposals before the end of January when I would return to UN Headquarters from a visit to Africa. Were my proposals to be agreeable to both parties, I would wish to invite them to assign representatives for informal talks which could begin at their convenience in February. Personally I would be available for such talks through most of the Spring.

(1) Both parties are determined to solve all outstanding problems between the countries in the spirit of their traditional friendship and with recognition of the shared interests in peace and stability in the area. In the public statement regarding the talks, ^{when} ~~if~~ they are taken up, which is likely to become necessary, this basic understanding should be given clear expression.

(2) It is recognized that no steps will be taken which would further complicate matters by changing the territorial or military situation now prevailing, otherwise than by agreement, ^{or equivalent peaceful and agreed methods}. It is understood that the acceptance of this principle is not an endorsement of the status quo, ^{this} which is obvious from the fact that by taking up talks both parties recognize that the present state of affairs is open for discussion and in various respects may require ^{peaceful and agreed means.} ~~revision~~ through agreement or methods established, ^{by agreement} such as ~~mediation, arbitration or plebiscite~~. The mutual intention, thus stated as a basis for the informal talks, implies ~~also~~ that the parties would not interfere with the free wish of refugees to return or with other peaceful, unsolicited moves of the population within the framework of their traditional rights.

(3) Although there would be no formal commitment on either side to that effect, it is understood that when the talks envisaged are initiated on the basis proposed in this letter, in points (1) and (2) above, the following two steps would be taken without delay:

- a) ^{of} ~~evacuation~~ / Khar-el-Udaid;
- b) Establishment of diplomatic relations.

^{It went from the} (4) ~~After~~ solution of such substantive problems as may be ~~involved~~ ^{taken up directly} through them, ~~but especially in the creation of the proper machinery for the solution of~~ ^{in the talks, they would aim at}

~~other questions in such forms as may be considered appropriate, it is~~
~~recognized that the talks, just (as at an early stage) they would be combined~~
with the re-establishment of diplomatic relations, ~~leave open recourse to~~
mediation, arbitration or plebiscite/ ~~for such specific questions for which~~
the use of such other methods is indicated as more appropriate than
~~continued informal talks for contacts through normal diplomatic channels;~~
It is thus recognized that the talks may lead to solutions in substance
of some questions but for the rest will result in a machinery through which
the intentions set out in point (1) above are implemented which will as
a matter of course include normal diplomatic relations but may further comprise
the other three agreed methods for peaceful uses of the ~~which have~~
been mentioned.

5. The Secretary-General will take part in the informal talks to all the extent that any of the parties would wish him to do so.

In the light of ^{the} exploratory contacts which I have recently had, I have reason to hope that (on the basis outlined above) both parties would find it possible to go ahead with ~~the~~ informal talks suggested. I would appreciate having the reaction of your government to my proposal ^{s/} before the end of January when I would return to UN Headquarters from a visit to Africa. Were my proposals to be agreeable to both parties, I would ~~then~~ wish to invite them to ~~send~~ ^{assign} representatives for talks which could begin at their convenience in February. Personally I would be available for such talks through most of the ~~spring~~ ^{spring}.

Sent to Mr. Beeley
of USIA and
Assam Pasha of Saudi
Arabia on 14 Dec '59

DRAFT

14 December 1959

After my return from Laos late in November I have had the privilege of several talks with Assam Pasha and, together with him, with Mr. Harold Beeley. These talks have served to clarify the circumstances under which an informal contact might be taken up between Saudi Arabia and the United Kingdom with a view to the solution of outstanding problems between the two countries. As my aim has been solely to clarify the attitudes so as to see what first approach might seem indicated, the proposals which I shall set out in this letter represent nothing but my personal conclusions in the light of the private exchanges that have taken place and do not commit the other participants in the talks that have taken place.

I have felt that the most essential thing now is to get a development in the right direction started which in the initial stage may yield substantive results on some points but which in other cases - probably more numerous and important - could provide for the establishment of an appropriate machinery for the handling of the problems involved, thus bringing matters under control and on the road towards a satisfactory conclusion.

In my view, the first stage, after the preliminary exploration that has taken place, would be that representatives of the two parties meet for informal talks at my invitation on the basis of the following understandings:

(1) Both parties are determined to solve all outstanding problems between the countries in the spirit of their traditional friendship and with recognition of the shared interests in peace and stability in the area. In the public statement regarding the talks, which is likely to become necessary when they are taken up, this basic understanding should be given clear expression.

(2) It is recognized that no steps will be taken which would further complicate matters by changing the territorial or military situation now prevailing, otherwise than by agreement or equivalent peaceful and agreed methods. It is understood that the acceptance of this principle is not an endorsement of the status quo; this is obvious from the fact that by taking up talks both parties recognize that the present state of affairs is open for discussion and in various respects may require revision through peaceful and agreed means. The mutual intention, thus stated as a basis for the informal talks, implies that the parties would not interfere with the free wish of refugees to return or with other peaceful, unsolicited moves of the population within the framework of their traditional rights.

(3) Although there would be no formal commitment on either side to that effect, it is understood that when the talks envisaged are initiated on the basis proposed in this letter, in points (1) and (2) above, the following two steps would be taken without delay:

- a) evacuation of Khor-el-Udaid;
- b) establishment of diplomatic relations.

(4) The aim of the talks would be to find solutions for substantive problems, but if it seemed desirable to have recourse to other peaceful methods in addition to negotiation the talks should aim at agreement on such methods. Just as the talks would be combined with the re-establishment of diplomatic relations at an early stage, they would leave open agreed recourse at later stages to mediation, arbitration or plebiscite or equivalent arrangements for such specific questions for which the use of such other methods is indicated as more appropriate than the informal talks or contacts through normal diplomatic

channels. Thus, it is recognized that a machinery through which the intentions set out in point (1) above are implemented will as a matter of course include normal diplomatic relations but may further comprise other agreed methods for peaceful settlement such as those which have just been mentioned.

5. The Secretary-General will take part in the informal talks to all the extent that any of the parties would wish him to do so.

In the light of the exploratory contacts which I have recently had, I have reason to hope that both parties would find it possible to go ahead with the informal talks suggested on the basis outlined above. I would appreciate having the reaction of your government to my proposals before the end of January when I would return to UN Headquarters from a visit to Africa. Were my proposals to be agreeable to both parties, I would wish to invite them to assign representatives for informal talks which could begin at their convenience in February. Personally I would be available for such talks through most of the Spring.

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After my return from Laos late in November I have had the privilege of several talks with ²²Assam Pasha and, together with him, with Mr. Harold Beeley. These talks have served to clarify the circumstances under which ^a~~an informal~~ contact might ~~be taken up~~ ^{be developed} between Saudi Arabia and the United Kingdom with a view to the solution of outstanding problems between the two countries. As my aim has been solely to clarify the attitudes so as to see what ~~best~~ approach might seem indicated, the proposals which I shall set out in this letter represent ~~nothing but~~ my personal conclusions ~~in the light of the private exchanges that have taken place~~ and do not commit the other participants in the talks that have taken place.

I have felt that the most essential thing now is to get a development in the right direction started which in the ^{next}~~initial~~ stage may yield substantive results on some points but which in other cases - probably more numerous and important - could provide for the establishment of an appropriate machinery for the handling of the problems involved, thus bringing matters under control and on the road towards a satisfactory conclusion.

In my view, the first stage, after the preliminary exploration that has taken place, would be that representatives of the two parties meet for informal talks at my invitation on the basis of the following understandings:

(1) Both parties are determined to solve all outstanding problems between the countries in the spirit of their traditional friendship and with recognition of the shared interests in peace and stability in the area. In the public statement regarding the talks, which is likely to become necessary when they are taken up, this basic understanding should be given clear expression.

(2) It is recognized that no steps will be taken which would further complicate matters ~~by changing the territorial or military situation now prevailing, otherwise than by agreement or equivalent peaceful and agreed methods.~~ *W. W. W. W. W.*
It is understood that the acceptance of this principle is not an endorsement of the status quo; this is obvious from the fact that *by* taking up talks both parties recognize that the present state of affairs is open for discussion and in various respects may require revision through peaceful and agreed means. The mutual intention, thus stated as a basis for the informal talks, implies that the parties would not interfere with the free wish of refugees to return *to their homes and properties,* or with other peaceful, unsolicited moves of the population within the framework of their traditional rights.

(3) Although there would be no formal commitment on either side to that effect, it is understood that when the talks envisaged are initiated on the basis proposed in this letter, in points (1) and (2) above, the following two steps would be taken without delay:

- a) evacuation of ^{the} Khor-el-Udaid;
- b) establishment of diplomatic relations.

(4) The aim of the talks would be to find solutions for ~~substantive~~ *outstanding* ~~problems~~, but if it ~~seemed~~ *is* desirable to have recourse to other peaceful methods in addition to negotiation the talks should aim at agreement on such methods. Just as the talks would be combined with the re-establishment of diplomatic relations at an early stage, they would ~~leave open~~ *permit* agreed recourse ~~at later stages~~ to mediation, arbitration or plebiscite ~~or equivalent arrangements~~ for ~~such~~ specific questions for which the use of such other methods is indicated as more appropriate than the informal talks or contacts through normal diplomatic

channels. Thus, it is recognized that a machinery through which the intentions set out in point (1) above are implemented will as a matter of course include normal diplomatic relations but may further comprise other agreed methods for peaceful settlement such as those which have just been mentioned.

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In the light of the exploratory contacts which I have recently had, I have reason to hope that both parties would find it possible to go ahead with the ~~talks~~ talks suggested on the basis outlined above. I would appreciate having the reaction of your government to my proposals before the end of January when I ~~would~~^{will} return to UN Headquarters from a visit to Africa. Were my proposals to be agreeable to both parties, I would wish to invite them to assign representatives for ~~talks~~ talks which could begin at their convenience in February. Personally I would be available for such talks through most of the Spring.