

Middle East conflict - correspondence with participating countries: Middle ...

HS L 179:107



National Library
of Sweden

Dag Hammarskjöld's saml.

Middle East

Aug-Sept. 57

Moore, A. R. (U.K. Delegation to the U.N.)

- 1 letter to A. G. Katzin, Colonel, U.N. HQ

U.K. Delegation to the United Nations

September 5, 1957

Confidential
1422/344/57

We have now had a reply from the Foreign Office to the suggestion which you made to me on August 21st that the United Nations should cancel their claim for \$43,352 and 85 cents against Her Majesty's Government for supplies and services rendered to British ships used in the United Nations operations in the Suez Canal, and that Her Majesty's Government should, on their side, cancel their claim for £9,724,12.0 for supplies made available to the United Nations salvage operation.

2. It would, for administrative reasons, be difficult for Her Majesty's Government if the amounts due on either side were treated as part of the general clearance costs instead of being dealt with separately as was originally agreed. Her Majesty's Government would be prepared, without going into the details of the amounts involved, to regard the sums due to them from the United Nations, and from them to the United Nations as exactly balancing. The total claim of Her Majesty's Government in respect of services provided to the United Nations salvage operation after December 21, 1956, would remain unaffected by the claims referred to in paragraph 1 above.

3. I should be glad to know whether this arrangement is acceptable to the United Nations.

(A.R. Moore)

Colonel A.G. Katzin,
United Nations Headquarters.

Following the conversation between the Secretary-General, Monsieur Georges-Picot and Mr. Crosthwaite on August 14, the competent authorities in the United Kingdom have re-examined the claim in respect of the services provided after December 21 to the United Nations clearance operation in the Suez Canal, of which details were given in the enclosures in Mr. Moore's letter of June 7 to Colonel Katzin.

Revised figures in respect of this claim have been prepared, which, in regard to "overhead costs", are based on the principle that the total of these costs will be divided between the United Kingdom and the United Nations in proportion to the number of days for which vessels were engaged in clearing operations before and after December 21, 1956. Re-assessment on this basis reduces the United claim from £487,350 to ⁴⁰¹£401,640, that is to say, by £76,690.

No reduction has been made in the figures for the daily cost of the vessels employed. These are accurate figures of actual expenditure.

/It has not

United Kingdom Delegation
to the United Nations,
New York.

August 30, 1957.

It has not been possible to compare these figures with the "unit costs" of comparable commercial vessels chartered by the United Nations since information in regard to the latter is not available in London.

On this basis a revised Summary of Claims and revised Appendices I and II have been
..... prepared, of which copies are attached.