

Speeches, statements and press conference by Dag Hammarskjöld concerning Mi...

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Middle East

19 March

Statement by D.H. on departure from
New York for the Middle East.

UNITED NATIONS
Department of Public Information
Press and Publications Division
United Nations, N. Y.

(For use of information media -- not an official record)

CAUTION -- ADVANCE TEXT
For Release on Delivery
Expected About 2:45 p.m.
At Idlewild Airport

Press Release SG/578
19 March 1957

STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
ON DEPARTURE FROM NEW YORK FOR THE MIDDLE EAST

Everyone is aware of the events in the Middle East which, during last October and onwards, confronted the United Nations with a series of serious problems. While the General Assembly was in session in New York, the Secretary-General was able to maintain the closest contact with representatives of the parties on these and related problems. Now, however, it would be useful to visit Cairo for further exploratory talks and for clarification on pending questions to the extent that is possible at this stage. Plans immediately after the Cairo visit have still not been settled, but if it is so indicated may include a visit to Jerusalem.

After the visit to the region I will pursue the contacts and consultations with other interested parties at Headquarters.

There is no set agenda for the forthcoming exploratory talks. Issues of immediate practical significances are the questions affecting UN responsibility for Canal clearance, etc., and continued UNEF activities in the region. However, the talks may cover other ground as indicated by the aims set out in the General Assembly resolutions on the Middle East crisis.

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Note No. 1557
19 March 1957

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS

Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjold will leave New York for Cairo at 3:00 o'clock this afternoon by Sabena Airlines Flight No. 548 from Idlewild airport. The Secretary-General is scheduled to arrive in Cairo at 12:40 a.m. on Thursday, 21 March.

He will be accompanied by George Ivan Smith and Shiv K. Shastri, personal assistants to the Secretary-General, and by Donald E. Thomas, personal aide.

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Press Release SG/572
15 March 1957

STATEMENT BY A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

When the announcement was made that the Secretary-General was planning to leave for Cairo on Saturday, it was pointed out that the plans were subject to revision. The Secretary-General is not planning to leave Saturday, and present plans are for him to leave perhaps early next week.

The decisive factor in the Secretary-General's plans must be where he feels his presence is more useful on this matter. For the next few days the Secretary-General feels it would be more useful for him to be at Headquarters.

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