

# Middle East - Suez story No 35b-36: Middle East - Suez story No 35b-36 - 17

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Dag Hammarskjöld's saml.

Middle East / Suez story - 35

31 May 57

U.K. memorandum on situation  
in the Gaza Strip.

CONFIDENTIAL



M E M O R A N D U M

Her Majesty's Government have recently received reliable indication of disturbing aspects of Egyptian rule in the Gaza Strip. They have been informed:-

- (a) that Rushdi Shawa, a former mayor of Gaza, was arrested on May 12 by the Egyptian authorities;
- (b) that the general atmosphere among the wealthier members of the community has recently become one of fear;
- (c) that a hotel-owner in Gaza had recently been informed by the Egyptian Police that her means of livelihood would be taken away from her unless she agreed to inform upon any United Nations personnel staying at her hotel;
- (d) that the Egyptian authorities are placing difficulties in the way of those who seek to emigrate from the Gaza Strip. A deposit of £100 is required from any intending emigrant.
- (e) that the Egyptian authorities are again seeking to restrict the movements of the staff of UNRWA and to lay down conditions as to whom the Agency may employ in the Strip.

May 31, 1957.