

Middle East - Suez story No 35b-36: Middle East - Suez story No 35b-36 - 20

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Dag Hammarskjöld's samml.

Middle East / Suez story - 35

20 June 57

- Kidron, M. R. (Perm. Mission of Israel to the U.N.)

- 1 letter from D.H.

- Statement by G. Meir, Israeli Foreign Minister,
in the Knesset (cable sent by Leary from Jerusalem
to Cordier, U.N. HQ)

*Shown to Kidron 21 June.
Vern sent as K. would take
the matter up himself.*

20 June 1957

Dear Mr. Kidron,

By letter of 1 April 1957 I addressed, with the full concurrence of the Advisory Committee, certain questions to the Government of Israel concerning their willingness to accept deployment of UNEF on the Israeli side of the Armistice Demarcation Line at Gaza, in accordance with the request of the General Assembly.

According to a report received, the Foreign Minister of Israel, Mrs. Golda Meir, in the Knesset yesterday, in reply to a question, stated that "no UN force shall be stationed in any area of the State of Israel". This statement, if correctly rendered, seems to clarify the stand of the Government of Israel on the point raised in the letter of 1 April in implementation of the relevant resolution of the General Assembly.

If that assumption is correct, I would appreciate it if, in response to my letter of 1 April, to which so far I have not received any reply, you would confirm that the statement of the Foreign Minister may be considered as expressing the reaction of the Government of Israel to the demand of the General Assembly.

Sincerely yours,

Dag Hammarskjöld
Secretary-General

Mr. Mordecai R. Kidron,
Permanent Mission of Israel
to the United Nations,
15 East 70th Street,
New York 21, N.Y.

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P1/44

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CORDIER FROM LEARY STOP JERUSALEM POST 20 JUNE STOP ALFA
STOP JERUSALEM POST KNESSET REPORTER STOP QUOTE STOP REPLYING
TO QUESTIONS IN THE KNESSET YESTERDAY FOREIGN MINISTER GOLDA MEIR
TOLD MR YIGAL ALON (AHDUTHAAVODA) THAT IT WAS UNNECESSA-
RY

P2/50

TO ADD ANYTHING TO HER STATEMENT IN THE KNESSET ON APRIL 3
THAT SUBQUOTE NO UUU NNN FORCE SHALL BE STATIONED IN NITZANA
SEMICLN NO UUU NNN FORCE SHALL BE STATIONED IN ANY AREA OF
THE STATE OF ISRAEL STOP UNSUBQUOTE STOP PARA STOP BRAVO
STOP EDITORIAL POST 20 JUNE STOP

P3

ATTACK ON THE UNEF STOP QUOTE STOP EVERY SYMPATHY WILL BE
FELT IN THIS COUNTRY WITH THE FAMILY OF THE YUGOSLAV SOLDIER
OF THE UNEF ^HWHO LOST HIS LIFE IN A MINING INCIDENT ON THE GAZA
BORDER AND WITH THE FOUR OTHER MEN OF THE FORCE WHO WERE SERIOUSLY
INJURED

P4

STOP THE MEMBERS OF THE UNEF ARE PERFORMING A THANKLESS TASK
AND CARRYING OUT POLICIES FOR WHICH THEY ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE
STOP PARA STOP IT IS PERFECTLY WELLKNOWN THAT THE LAYING OF THE
MINES WHICH TOOK THIS TOLL WAS ONLY THE MOST RECENT OF A LONG
SERIES OF SUCH INFRACTIONS

P5

BY EGYPT WHICH HAVE OCCURRED REGULARLY SINCE THE UNEF TOOK UP
THEIR POSITIONS ON THE GAZA STRIP BORDER IN MARCH OF THIS YEAR
STOP HITHERTO THE INCIDENTS HAD KILLED OR MAIMED ONLY ISRAELIS
STOP PARA STOP CHARACTERISTICALLY THEY WERE PLAYED DOWN BY THE
UUUNNN AUTHORITIES STOP THUS WHEN CMA IN

P6

TWO LETTERS TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL CMA MR DAG HAMMARSKJOLDS
ATTENTION WAS DRAWN BY ISRAEL TO BORDER INCIDENTS IN THE GAZA
AREA CMA THE SEC GEN ON APRIL 25 INDULGED IN SOME OF HIS WELLKNOWN
SEMANTICS SAYING CLN SUBQUOTE EYE SUGGEST THAT WE LOOK
AT THE CHARACTER OF THESE INCURSIONS STOP

P7

WE CANNOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES USE THE WORD SUBSUBQUOTE RAIDS
UNSUBSUBQUOTE STOP UNQUOTE STOP IN A PRESS CONFERENCE ON JUNE 6
CMA MR HAMMARSKJOLD REPUDIATED IN STRONG TERMS ISRAELS CHARGES THAT

P6

TWO LETTERS TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL CMA MR DAG HAMMARSKJOLDS ATTENTION WAS DRAWN BY ISRAEL TO BORDER INCIDENTS IN THE GAZA AREA CMA THE SEGGEN ON APRIL 25 INDULGED IN SOME OF HIS WELLKNOWN SEMANTICS SAYING CLN SUBQUOTE EYE SUGGEST THAT WE LOOK AT THE CHARACTER OF THESE INCURSIONS STOP

P7

WE CANNOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES USE THE WORD SUBSUBQUOTE RAIDS UNSUBSUBQUOTE STOP UNQUOTE STOP IN A PRESS CONFERENCE ON JUNE 6 CMA MR HAMMARSKJOLD REPUDIATED IN STRONG TERMS ISRAELS CHARGES THAT THERE WAS EGYPTIAN BELLIGERENCY IN CONNECTION WITH BORDER RAIDS STOP PRESSED ON THE QUESTION OF MINELAYING INCIDENTS HE SAID

P8

THAT THE LINE WAS NOT QUOTE WATERTIGHT UNQUOTE STP AND QUOTE THERE HAD BEEN A BREAKTHROUGH UNQUOTE STOP HE ALSO SOUGHT TO CAST DOUBTS ON ISRAELS REPORTS OF FIFTY INCURSIONS SINCE THE WITHDRAWAL FROM THE GAZA STRIP STOP IN THIS POLICY OF MINIMIZING THE SITUATION HE WAS ONLY SECONDED BY

P9

HIS ASSISTANT CMA DR RALPH BUNCHE CMA WHO ADDED THAT ON MOST OF THE INCIDENTS QUOTE WE HAVE HAD NO REPORT AT ALL UNQUOTE AND THE THEFTS WHICH HAD TAKEN PLACE ARE QUOTE NORMAL THEFTS IN THE AREA UNQUOTE STOP PARA STOP THE REASON THAT THE CHIEFS OF THE UUUNNN

P10

TAKE SUCH A CALM VIEW OF THE SITUATION ALONG THE GAZA BORDER IS NOT SURPRISING STOP IT WAS ALWAYS BEEN THE POLICY OF THE UUUNNN AUTHORITIES IN THIS AREA TO PLAY DOWN THE INCURSIONS OF THE ARAB STATES AND LOOK FOR ANY OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE AN EQUATION BETWEEN ISRAEL AND

P11

THE ARABS STOP GENERAL BURNS IS AWARE OF THIS AS HEAD OF THE UUUNNN TRUCE SUPERVISION ORGANIZATION AND HAS APPARENTLY FOLLOWED THE SAME POLICY AS HEAD OF THE UNEF STOP IT MAY NOW BE NECESSARY FOR ALL THOSE IN AUTHORITY TO BEGIN TO DRAW MORE RELIESTIC CONCLUSIONS AS TO WHAT

P12

THE REAL INTENTIONS OF EGYPT ARE IN THE AREA STOP PARA STOP CAIRO HAS BEEN FOLLOWING A LINE OF TRYING BY CONSTANT INCURSIONS TO SHOW THAT THE UNEF IS A BODY WHICH CANNOT EFFECTIVELY OPERATE IN THE AREA STOP HENCE ALSO THE EGYPTIAN STIFLING OF THE SECRETARY

FOR ALL THOSE IN AUTHORITY TO BEGIN TO DRAW MORE RELIESTIC CONCLUSIONS AS
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P12

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THE AREA STOP HENCE ALSO THE EGYPTIAN STIFLING OF THE SECRETARY
GENERALS ATTEMPT TO SET

P13

UP A SECURITY ZONE ON THE BORDER DASH THOUGH WHY THE SECRETARY-
GENERAL SHOULD HAVE SO EASILY DROPPED THE MATTER FOLLOWING EGYPTS
RESISTANCE IS STILL TO BE EXPLAINED STOP NOW THAT THE PRESSURE BY
ATTACKS ON ISRAEL HAS FAILED TO PRODUCE RESULTS CMA THE EGYPTIANS
HAVE SOUGHT TO ATTACK THE UNEF

P14

DIRECTLY STOP THEY STILL HOPE TO FORCE THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE FORCE
SO THAT A VACUUM MIGHT BE CREATED IN WHICH IT MIGHT BE EASIER TO
TALK OF REVIEWING THE MORIBUND AND IMPOTENT MIXED ARMISTICE
COMMISSION STOP PARA STOP THE SECRETARY-GENERAL SEEMS
TO FAVOUR THE LATTER STEP

CMA BUT THE

P15/45

DIRECT ACTION AGAINST THE UNEF MIGHT NOW HELP HIM TO A REALIZATION
THAT EGYPTS ONLY INTENTION WOULD BE TO USE THE MMMAAACCC IN THE
SAME WAY AS IT DID IN THE PAST CMA AS A VEIL BEHIND WHICH TO CARRY
ON ITS AGGRESSION STOP UNQUOTE.

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