

**Middle East - Suez story No
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Dag Hammarskjöld's samml.

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30 Jan. 56

Statement by D.M. at Karachi, Pakistan

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1) On the conclusion of my recent visit to the Middle East, I wish to express my thanks to the host governments who extended their courtesy and hospitality to me, as well as my gratification as Secretary-General of the United Nations at the opportunity it afforded me to study the problems of the area concerned at close range. It is my regret that owing to circumstances which I have explained in previous statements, my visits to the various countries were brief and did not extend to all the countries, but even so they have been of great value to me. They enabled me to meet ~~the~~ leading personalities in their own national settings, to give my undivided attention to their observations and comments on the various facets of the situation and to have profitable exchanges of views based on the common desire for peace and tranquility. I have also been able to gain first hand knowledge of the important humanitarian work of UNRWA.

~~2) From the point of view of my international interest, I have benefitted from ~~the~~ personal talks ^{with many leading personalities} that I have had with the leaders of all these countries which are more directly concerned with the Palestinian problems. These talks were full and frank and manifested the constructive and responsible attitude of the leaders. They covered the current problems with a sense of the international perspective against which these should be seen in order that their full significance should be realised.~~ permitted D,

~~3) As a result of this exchange of views, I feel authorised to say that all concerned have reaffirmed not only their faith in the principles and purposes of the United Nations, but also their determination, in accordance with their obligations under the Charter and ~~under~~ the General Armistice Agreement, to abstain from any acts of hostility, to respect each other's territorial integrity and above all to settle conflicts, when they may arise, by peaceful means.~~ ^{and of} ^{In the course of such contacts as time have felt encour-}

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4) I am sure that this would prove heartening to all those who realize the importance of tranquility in this region. For my part, I am convinced that this attitude is essential for an immediate lessening of tension and the creation of that calm in which alone



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STATEMENT ISSUED AT KARACHI BY
THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS
MR. DAG HAMMARSKJOLD.

1) On the conclusion of my recent visit to the Middle East, I wish to express my thanks to the host governments who extended their courtesy and hospitality to me, as well as my gratification as Secretary-General of the United Nations at the opportunity it afforded me to study the problems of the area concerned at close range. It is my regret that owing to circumstances which I have explained in previous statements, my visits to most countries were brief, and that in Jordan time did not permit substantive discussions. Nor could my itinerary be extended to all the countries. Even so the visits have been of great value to me. They have enabled me to meet the leading personalities in their own national settings, to give my undivided attention to their observations and comments on the various facets of the situation and to have profitable exchanges of views based on the desire for peace and tranquillity, which we fully share. I have also been able to gain first hand knowledge of the important humanitarian work of UNRWA, and after seeing the plight of the refugees to realize the urgent challenge that has still to be met.

2) From the point of view of my international interest, I have benefitted from the personal talks that I have had with the leaders of the countries which are more directly concerned with the Palestine problems. These talks were full and frank and manifested the constructive and responsible attitude of the leaders. They covered the current problems with a sense of the international perspective against which these should be seen in order that their full significance should be realised.

3) As a result of this exchange of views, I have, I believe, acquired a deeper understanding of the many and great difficulties with which the situation is fraught. These were not minimised. However, after my discussions, I feel I can say that all concerned recognised the importance of a settlement being reached and have reaffirmed not only their faith in the principles and purposes of the United Nations, but also their determination, in accordance with their obligations under the Charter and under the General Armistice Agreement, to abstain from any acts of hostility or aggression and above all to settle conflicts, when they may arise, by peaceful means.

4) I am sure that this would prove heartening to all those who realize the importance of tranquillity in this region. For my part, I am convinced that this attitude is essential for an immediate lessening of tension and the creation of that calm in which alone will it be possible to make a constructive approach towards the solution of outstanding problems.