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British connections with Arab Legion, 1948.

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL
342 Madison Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.

148

BRITAIN'S AID TO ARAB STATES: THE FACTS

Under the title "Britain's Aid to Arab States: The Facts," the British Information Services, an official agency of the British Government located at 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York City, has issued a release purporting to give "the answers to questions concerning Britain's position in the present fighting in the Holy Land."

It is only fair that some of the more glaring misstatements, evasions, and significant omissions contained in that release be brought to your attention.

1. On page 2, the release admits that "some 37 British officers are at present serving with the Transjordan Legion." The truth of the matter is that British military personnel serving with the Legion numbered, as of May 14th last, about 225. Of this number 37 are officers while the rest consists of NCO's. Most of these officers and NCO's are members of the regular British forces seconded to the Legion.
2. On the same page, the release, while asserting that 13 British officers serving with the Legion are "private individuals," adds that they "have been engaged directly by the Transjordan Government, but not with the approval of the British Government, just as a number of Britons have been engaged by the Haganah forces of the Jews." This is a grossly misleading statement. The "Haganah forces" are neither financed by the British Treasury nor equipped by the British army, but the Transjordan Legion is so financed and equipped. In the circumstances, the analogy between the Haganah and the Legion will hardly hold. As for individual Britons joining the Transjordan Legion allegedly without the approval of the British Government, we attach herewith a copy of a British army circular, issued on February 26, 1948 by the Headquarters of the First British Division in Sarafend, Palestine. This circular shows that the British army is

serving as a recruiting agency for British military personnel who wish to volunteer for the Transjordan Arab Legion -- a procedure which goes far beyond mere "approval."

It is said that General Glubb and other British military personnel serving with the Legion go through the formality of resignation from the British Army or from British Government service. Whether this is so or not, is irrelevant. The transparent device of a formal resignation by collusion of the parties concerned, so as to enable military personnel to take part in aggressive campaigns, is a well-known procedure and will no longer deceive anybody.

3. On the same page, the British release makes the following three assertions:

- "(a) There are no British officers in Jerusalem;
- "(b) British officers have not been involved in fighting at all except for two persons who were involved in the new part of the City of Jerusalem but have since been withdrawn.
- "(c) No British officers have been or are employed in directing the artillery which is bombarding Jerusalem."

How statements (a) and (c) can be reconciled with (b), must be left to the ingenuity of the authors of the release. How these statements can be reconciled with well-authenticated reports of American correspondents regarding the participation of Brigadier General Glubb and other British officers in the Jerusalem operations of the Arab Legion is also difficult to see.

4. On page 3 of the British release, its authors state that since the British subsidy to Transjordan is paid in pounds, not in dollars, and since the ERP is supervised by an American Administrator, America's economic aid to Britain is not helping the British to arm the Arabs. The British Information Services should really credit American newspaper editors, to whom their releases are sent, with sufficient knowledge of elementary economics to see through so flimsy an argument. American editors know that while pounds are not always convertible into dollars, dollars are easily convertible into pounds. Nor has the fact escaped their notice that if new funds are placed at the disposal of a government for whatever purpose, this frees other funds of the same government for different purposes.

In this connection it is worth noting that the British spent one hundred million pounds (\$400,000,000) or about 12 per cent of the last American loan to fight Jewish immigration into Palestine during 1946-1947 by military and other means. These figures were released on May 28 by David Horowitz, Undersecretary of the Treasury of Israel. Together with arms supplies to the Arab States the figure may be brought up to about 20 per cent of the American loan.

5. In discussing the subsidy to Transjordan, the release artfully avoids any mention of the fact that the Government of Transjordan receives from the British Government not one but two subsidies: one is paid in respect of the general government of Transjordan; the other -- a much larger sum -- is paid to provide for practically all the expenditures of the Transjordan Legion. It will be readily seen that, wholly apart from the participation of British personnel in the Legion, the British Government cannot be acquitted of ultimate responsibility for the operations of a military unit which is maintained almost entirely out of that Government's treasury.

6. Another significant omission in the release concerns the fact that the entire military equipment of the Transjordan Legion is provided by the British Army and Air Force. As late as the middle of May 1948, when the King of Transjordan publicly proclaimed his intention to use the Legion for an attack on Israel, new stocks of weapons and ammunition were rushed from British army stocks to Transjordan. A copy of the Message of British military headquarters in the Middle East to the Transjordan Arab Legion relating to this shipment is attached herewith.

7. Since the release seeks to convey the impression that the military operations of the Arab Legion outside of Transjordan are the sole concern of the Government of Transjordan, and can in no way be imputed to the British Government, Article 1 of the Treaty between Great Britain and Transjordan, of March 15, 1948, is quoted herewith:

" . . . Each of the High Contracting Parties undertakes not to adopt in regard to foreign countries an attitude, which is inconsistent with the Alliance or might create difficulties for the other party thereto."

8. On page 4, the release tries to create a better impression of Britain's role in Palestine by its portrayal of Britain's record in the Middle East. According to the release "Britain has during the last thirty years contributed much to the stability of the Middle East" and has assisted Arab States "not only with the means of self-defense, but also with loans for roads, public health, irrigation and so on." Even if true, this observation would have been irrelevant. Good deeds in the past do not justify despicable conduct in the present. However, this self-laudatory summary of Britain's record in the Middle East bears very slight resemblance to the truth. The notorious part played by British agents in repeatedly inciting revolts in Syria, Jebel Druze and Palestine can hardly be characterized as a contribution to stability. As for British loans to Arab States "for roads, public health, irrigation and so on," the "so on" part of it may be correct. We are not aware of any British Government loans to Arab States for roads, public health and irrigation.

9. Comment is superfluous on the passage on page 5 of the release, in which the British Information Services seek to create an utterly false impression of the attitude of the Arab States during World War II. The pro-German revolt of the Iraqi Government, the anti-Ally activities of the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, and the conspiracy of the Egyptian Government with the German and Italian forces are still fresh in our minds. It is almost inconceivable that, in the face of general knowledge of the facts, the authors of the release have thought it possible to give out a version so blatantly at variance with the truth.

10. Nor is it necessary to dwell on the paragraphs on pages 5 and 6 of the release, which stress Britain's "impartiality" as between Arabs and Jews in Palestine. We refer editors to their own newspaper files, beginning with the year 1939. The British Government's anti-Jewish record on Palestine is so thoroughly documented as to render ludicrous any British claim to "impartiality."

11. The British Information Services assert that their government is "trying to

get peace in Palestine," but they proceed to oppose United Nations action under Chapter 7 of the Charter -- action favored by both the United States and the Soviet Union which would have dealt with the realities of the situation: armed aggression by the Arab States. The release argues against a "hasty" decision along these lines.

The reason for this British desire to avoid "haste" and to block Security Council action under Chapter 7 is apparent from the following dispatch to the London Times from its Jerusalem correspondent, dated May 26: "The bombardment of the Convent of Notre Dame and neighboring buildings continues. A British major of the Arab Legion commands this operation and other British officers are with him."

The arguments against the vigorous UN action advocated by the United States and the Soviet Union, which are contained on the last page of the release, were also presented in the Security Council by Sir Alexander Cadogan while he was introducing his government's truce formula. The comments made on Sir Alexander's statement by Mr. Aubrey S. Eban, Representative of the Provisional Government of Israel, will be of interest to those who have read the British Information Services document.

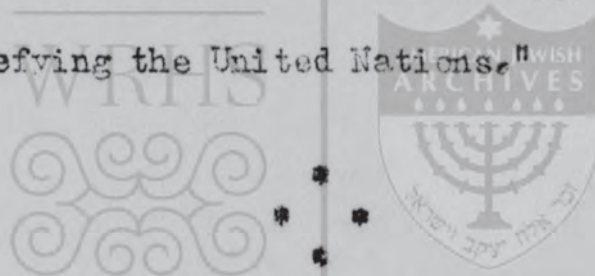
Mr. Eban said: "In the course of this debate, the representatives of the Arab States and of the United Kingdom have echoed in almost identical tones the excuses upon which the Arab States based their rejection of the cease-fire appeal. This rejection, and all the consequences which flow from it, were condoned by the United Kingdom Representative on the grounds that the Security Council had 'abandoned the political terms which the Arabs considered just and reasonable.' In this most illuminating phrase there is revealed the whole background of principle and expediency against which the (British) draft resolution can be accurately appraised. For an unconditional cease-fire and a cease-fire conditioned by the satisfaction of political terms are not different aspects of the same principle. They stand in the most complete antithesis. An uncon-

ditional cease-fire asserts the principle of peace. It upholds the fundamental doctrine of the Charter that all members of the United Nations should 'abstain from the use or threat of force in their international relations.' That doctrine is an absolute, an ideal which cannot be compromised or questioned or conditioned. On the other hand, the proposal for a conditioned cease-fire is an abasement of that high ideal of the Charter, for it upholds the doctrine of expedient violence; the efficacy of threats; the sovereignty of unilateral force. Therefore, the difference between the resolution calling for an unconditional cease-fire, and the (British) draft resolution now before us, is nothing less than the difference between the Charter and its tacit violation. For the Charter does not require member states to abstain from the threat or use of force only if the political terms which 'they consider just and reasonable are taken into account.' In acknowledging that the Arabs have no absolute duty to abstain from armed force against the State of Israel and Jerusalem unless they reap some of the fruits of victory -- a victory which exists only in their colorful imagining -- this draft resolution transports us into a world far remote from the principles and purposes of this organization. The Arabs are no longer called upon to adapt themselves to the will of the Security Council. The Security Council is called upon to adapt itself to the will of the Arab States. . .

"For the most part, Sir Alexander Cadogan's historical record is nothing but an uncritical repetition of the views previously submitted by Arab representatives. You can search its pages in vain for the faintest sign of neutrality in any single point. Thus the Security Council was again acquainted with the terms of a truce for Jerusalem negotiated exclusively between the High Commissioner for Palestine and the Arab League, and never communicated to any Jewish authority. The allegation that a truce agreement had been concluded in Jerusalem, and was broken by the Stern Group was arbitrarily presented without a single shred of evidence. This truce agreement and its alleged violation by the Jews are so mysterious and occult in their origins, that no reference to any

such agreement can be found in the communications of the Truce Commission which was resident and active in Jerusalem throughout that whole period. This allegation is totally unsupported by any source which could be described as even remotely neutral. And its rehearsal before the Council at this state can only serve to obscure the vital and essential feature of the Jerusalem situation, which is that in response to a question by the Security Council, the Provisional Government of Israel has agreed to negotiate an immediate and unconditional truce and that this offer, like the Jewish offers for a cease-fire, has gone by for several days without any response."

12. All the misstatements, evasions and omissions of the authors of the British Information Services statement cannot disguise the simple fact that what is now going on in Palestine is, in the words of Walter Lippmann, "the scandal of a British satellite army defying the United Nations."



SUBJECT:- Volunteers - Arab Legion.

CONFIDENTIAL
Headquarters R.E.M.E.
1st Infantry Division
Tel:- Sarafand Ext. 68

Lists "M" & "N"

40/ME
26 Feb 48

Herewith copy of HQ 1 Inf Div Signal 231730 B Ref No: AG116
for your action as necessary

(Sgd.).

Capt & Adjut,
for Lieut Colonel,
Comd R.E.M.E. 1st Inf Div,

C O P Y

From:- HQ 1 Inf Div.

To:- R.E.M.E.

231730 B

CONF(.). AG 116 (.). ONE THE FOLLOWING VACANCIES WILL EXIST FOR VOLUNTEERS
IN REME FOR SERVICE WITH ARAB LEGION WHEN REORG IS APPROVED (.). OFFERS MAJOR ONE
CAPT/SUB (1 CRPT GP) ONE CAPT/SUB ONE CAPT/SUB (ALA) ONE (.). OR INSTRUCTORS
TO ARAB PERSONNEL (.). ARMAMENT ARTS (VEHS) ARMAMENT ARTS (FIELD) ARMAMENT ARTS
(INSTRUCTORS LEGAL) ARMAMENTS ARTS (WIRELESS) ARMAMENT ARTS (ELECTRICAL) (.).
FOLLOWING REQUIRED TO BE SGTS OR RECOMMENDED FOR PROMOTION (.). ARMOURERS
MACHINISTS METAL VEH MECHS ELECTRICAL (V & P) INSTRUMENT MECHS (FIELD) INSTRUMENT
MECHS (TC) TELE MECHS (FIELD) (.). ALL ABOVE TO HAVE MINIMUM 12 MONTHS TO SERVE
(.) TWO (.). APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE WITHHELD AND WILL BE FORWARDED TO THIS
HQ (.). THREE (.). SELECTED PERSONNEL WILL BE POSTED NORMALLY ON THEIR GENERAL
SERVICE LIABILITIES (.). TERM AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE NOT YET PASSED (.). IT
IS POSSIBLE FAMILIES PERMITTED TO FOLLOW IN DUE COURSE

Message Form.

Immediate.

FROM: MIDEAST

TO: ARAB LEGION AMMAN

INFO: MOV LEVANT

SECRET: 74882Q(M)2. following are programmed shipments ex
SUEZ to AQABA.

ONE. Vessel TAISEER loading SUEZ approx 9th May ETA AQABA
approx 14th May. 18409 Jericans MT 70 Petrol 360 tons
DW 480 tons measure.

TWO. Vessel NAIEM loading SUEZ 9th May ETA AQABA approx 14th
May. 48 OERLIKON Guns 36 Tons DW 113 Tons MW ammunition
274 tons DW 266 Tons. Measure.

THREE. Further vessels programmed to commence loading SUEZ 10th
May ETA AQABA approx 15th May. Ammunition 255 Tons DW 167
Tons measure. name of vessel to follow.

FOUR. Escort NCO 1 ORs 3 of ARAB LEGION to accompany stores on
vessels paras two and three above.

FIVE. Request signal earliest when vessel have completed discharge
give details out turn.

.....

For Epstein
May 27, 1948

GR

BRITISH CONNECTIONS WITH TRANSJORDAN ARAB LEGION

1. History

The Arab Legion has been, since its inception, a purely British creation. It originated with a desert patrol of 100 men formed by British officers in 1920, before Transjordan came into existence as a separate entity. It has always been under British command. Its strength in 1939 was approximately 1600, and during the war years, it was rapidly expanded by the British until, by the end of 1947, it had reached its present strength of approximately 10,000. Even its Arab composition is not that of a purely Transjordanian national force. Large numbers of mercenaries from all over the Middle East have been recruited into it, including Bedouins from various tribes, Circassians, Palestine Arabs, Druses, Armenians, etc.

2. Treaty Relations

By a unilateral act of the Mandatory Power, Transjordan was declared independent in January 1946, and in March 1946 a treaty was signed, the military clauses of which virtually retained British control of the Arab Legion and British training, equipment and finance for the Legion. The new Treaty of Alliance signed between Britain and Transjordan on March 15, 1948 essentially retains this position. A military alliance is set out in the annex to the Treaty, which provides for mutual assistance in case of hostilities, British bases in Transjordan, an Anglo-Transjordan Joint Defense Board, the provision of British "arms, ammunition, equipment and aircraft and other war material," financial assistance, and the provision by the British government of "any British service personnel whose services are required to ensure the efficiency of the military units" of the Transjordan forces.

3. Financial Subsidy

The financial subsidy for the upkeep of the Arab Legion has been continued at the rate of approximately 2 1/2 million Pounds Sterling per annum. The provision

of certain auxiliary services, training, facilities and equipment, either "on loan" or at nominal cost, is a further form of indirect financial subsidy. The Kingdom of Transjordan is totally incapable of supporting a force such as the Arab Legion from its own resources. It has a population of some 400,000 - most of whom are nomads and semi-nomads - and the total annual budget is less than \$6,000,000. The Transjordan contribution to the defense budget in 1947-48 was estimated at L.P. 289,852.

4) British Personnel

Before the end of the mandate, British personnel serving with the Arab Legion numbered about 225. These consisted of about 40 officers in key positions of command, and the rest British NCO's mainly in the technical services, such as signals and repair. Most of these officers and NCO's are members of the regular British forces, seconded to the Arab Legion. Attached hereto is an army circular, dated , calling for further personnel in the British forces in Palestine to volunteer for service with the Arab Legion. Some of those presently serving may have been taken on as private individuals, and the legal position of certain others appears to be unclear.

The Commander-in-Chief, Brigadier Glubb Pasha, is a captain on the British army reserve list. In 1930, he was British Political Officer in the tribal areas of Iraw and was appointed as Deputy Commander-in-Chief to the then Commander-in-Chief, Peake Pasha, another British officer. In 1939, Glubb Pasha succeeded Peake Pasha as Commander-in-Chief. He remained listed, however, right till the end of the Mandate, on the staff list of the Palestine Government as Assistant Inspector General of Police, seconded to the Transjordan Government. What his official position is since May 15 is unclear. The second senior British officer of the Legion is Colonel R.J.C. Broadhurst, who was also listed in the staff list of the Palestine Government as Superintendent of Police. Broadhurst has the further title of Military Counsel to King Abdullah.

5. Military Equipment

The Arab Legion is organized as follows:

- a. A mechanized brigade consisting of 3 battalions.
- b. About 15 infantry garrison companies and 2 security companies.
- c. A training center near Amman, the recruits in which form about 20-25% of the total strength. (A dispatch from Eric Gibbs, Time & Life correspondent in Jerusalem, dated May 2, speaks of "additional reserves now called up and being trained at Amman by British officers recently arrived from the army in Palestine.")

The mechanized brigade is equipped with heavy staghound armored cars, bren carriers, 25-pounder and 6-pounder artillery, 3.7" pack howitzers, piat anti-tank guns, and 3" mortars. The whole of their equipment is standard British army equipment - Enfield rifles, machine guns and sub-machine guns, and 2" mortars.

During the last three months of the Mandate, special efforts were made by the British army to build up the arms, equipment and military supplies of the Arab Legion. During March, a quantity of mines, artillery stores, anti-tank rifles and mortars were specially brought over for them from the Canal Zone in Egypt, as sufficient quantities of these stores could not be spared by the British forces in Palestine. In a letter from the Jewish Agency to the Palestine Commission, dated April 14, the following supplies were listed as amongst those whose transfer from the British forces in Palestine to the Arab Legion had been approved:

✓ 60 armored cars
3500 mortar bombs (HE)
4500 mortar bombs (smoke)
100,000 rounds .300 ammunition
900,000 gallons of M.T. 70 petrol.

A general directive issued by GHQ Jerusalem ordered the building up of Arab Legion military supplies sufficient for a minimum period of 8 months.

Certain shipments of supplies for the Arab Legion were made on May 14/15 from Suez to Aqaba. These include: petrol, Cerlikon guns and ammunition. A

-4-

copy of the army signal concerning these shipments is attached hereto.

6. Operations in Palestine

The assurances given by both Mr. Bevin in the House of Commons and Sir Alexander Cadogan at Lake Success that the Arab Legion would be entirely withdrawn from Palestine before the end of the Mandate were not complied with. On the contrary, in the last few weeks of the mandate, it became obvious that the Arab Legion was carrying out certain preliminary moves, particularly in the Ramallah-Jericho-Jerusalem-Hebron area, as a prelude to more full-scale invasion. These moves were accompanied by visits paid by Glubb Pasha to the mayors and Arab notables of Hebron, Beer Sheba and Gaza, which were generally interpreted at the time as laying the ground for the establishment by the Arab Legion of a corridor to the Mediterranean through Hebron, Beer Sheba and Gaza.

Radio intercepts during the present destructive assault by the Arab Legion on Jerusalem indicate that British officers are playing a leading role in the operation. On May 19, a dispatch in the New York Herald Tribune reported the presence of Brigadier Glubb Pasha on the Jerusalem front.

7. Conclusion

The relationship of Great Britain with King Abdullah and with the Arab Legion is best summarized in a remark made by Mr. Beaumont, the British Consul in Jerusalem, to Richard Williams, the BBC correspondent in Jerusalem. (This remark is quoted from the verbal record of an intercepted telephone conversation on May 24.) Mr. Beaumont said "You know that Amman will not take any action unless they get orders from London. When they get word from the Secretary, it is quite hard to say No."

Message Form.

Immediate.

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Tons measure. name of vessel to follow.
- FOUR. Escort NCO 1 ORs 3 of ARAB LEGION to accompany stores on
vessels paras two and three above.
- FIVE. Request signal earliest when vessel have completed discharge
give details out turn.
-

omit
JEWISH PALESTINE RECRUIT FOR ARAB LEGION

SUBJECT:- Volunteers - Arab Legion.

CONFIDENTIAL
Headquarters R.E.M.E.
1st Infantry Division
Tel:-Sarafand Ext. 68

Lists "M" & "N"

40/ME
26 Feb 48

Herewith copy of HQ 1 Inf Div Signal 231730 B Ref No: AG116
for your action as necessary.

(Sgd.).

Capt & Adjut,
for Lieut Colonel,
Comd R.E.M.E. 1st Inf Div,

C O P Y

From:- HQ 1 Inf Div.

To:- R.E.M.E

231730 B

CONF(.) AG 116 (.) ONE THE FOLLOWING VACANCIES WILL EXIST FOR
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ARTS (WIRELESS) ARMAMENT ARTS (ELECTRICAL) (.) FOLLOWING REQUIRED TO
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VEH MECHS ELECTRICAL (V & P) INSTRUMENT MECHS (FIELD) INSTRUMENT MECHS
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NORMALLY ON THEIR GENERAL SERVICE LIABILITIES (.) TERM AND CONDITIONS
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FOLLOW IN DUE COURSE

This message may be sent
AS WRITTEN by any means

Incl Wireless

Degree of Priority.

IMMEDIATE.

omit

BRITISH INFORMATION SERVICES

AN AGENCY OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT

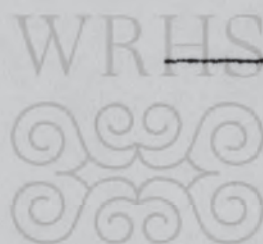
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BRITAIN'S AID TO ARAB STATES: THE FACTS

In response to many inquiries, here are the answers to questions concerning Britain's position in the present fighting in the Holy Land.



I. WHY IS BRITAIN SENDING ARMS TO SOME ARAB COUNTRIES?

For a great many years Britain has had treaties with certain of the Arab States -- Egypt, Iraq and Transjordan -- under which Britain undertook to supply them with arms, equipment and technical assistance, the object of which was to assist them in maintaining internal security. Those treaties were signed with Egypt in 1936, with Iraq in 1930 and with Transjordan in March 1946. A strict British embargo has been imposed on all other Arab countries who have no treaty ties with the British.

(more)

This material is filed with the Department of Justice, where the required registration statement of B. I. S. under 56 Stat. 248-258 as an agency of the British Government is available for inspection. Registration does not imply approval or disapproval of this material by the United States Government.

New York Offices, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20, N. Y., Telephone Circle 6-5100
Chicago 1, 360 North Michigan Ave.; Washington 5, D. C., 907 15th St., N. W.; San Francisco 4, 310 Sansome St.

Even in the case of the three Arab States to which Britain has treaty obligations, the British Government, from the time that the American Government imposed their arms embargo last December, have strictly limited their deliveries of arms to those in fulfillment of orders placed by the Arab Governments concerned before that date.

2. WHAT ABOUT THE BRITISH OFFICERS WHO ARE SERVING WITH ABDULLAH'S ARAB LEGION?

Some 37 British officers are at present serving with the Transjordan Legion. Of these 21 are seconded from the British Army in accordance with the British obligation under the Anglo-Transjordan Treaty. Glubb Pasha, who was one of the British officers prominently concerned with freeing the Arab countries with Lawrence of Arabia, and two other officers, were officials of the Government of Palestine detailed for service in Transjordan and appointed to their present posts by King Abdullah. The remaining 13 are private individuals who have been engaged directly by the Transjordan Government, but not with the approval of the British Government, just as a number of Britons have been engaged by the Haganah forces of the Jews.

See HPM for real numbers

part by whom?

In answer to a question in the House of Commons on May 26, Mr. Bevin stated that

insert

- (a) There are no British officers in Jerusalem;
- (b) British officers have not been involved in fighting at all except for two persons who were involved in the new part of the City of Jerusalem but have since been withdrawn.
- (c) No British officers have been or are employed in directing the artillery which is bombarding Jerusalem.

[Handwritten signatures and marks]

(more)

3. IS AMERICA'S ECONOMIC AID TO BRITAIN HELPING THE BRITISH
TO ARM THE ARABS?

No. The terms of the loan to Britain automatically excluded its use for supplying arms to Arab countries, or any other countries. Britain has not yet received any aid under the E.R.P. program. Any such aid will be clearly defined and supervised by the American Administrator of the E.R.P. Program. The idea that British fulfilment of her contracts with the Arabs has been financed out of the American tax-payers' pockets is absurd.

4. WHAT ABOUT THE TWO MILLION POUNDS A YEAR BRITAIN IS PAYING
TO TRANSJORDAN FOR ITS ARAB LEGION?

This is paid in pounds, not dollars. The payment is an integral part of the Anglo-Transjordan Treaty. The next instalment of the British subsidy to Transjordan, which dates back to well before the present fighting started, is not due to be paid for about two months.

Not water-
tight compar-
isons,

So what, hasn't four
futures - now
separately

(more)

5. WHAT ABOUT LEND-LEASE EQUIPMENT?

Under the final settlement between the United States Government and the British Government in respect of Lend-Lease and Reverse Lend-Lease supplies, made in December 1945, the two Governments agreed that disposals of Lend-Lease material for military use to forces other than the United Kingdom armed forces, could only be made with the consent of the United States Government, and any net proceeds were to be paid to the United States Government. Whether any Lend-Lease supplies have been sent in the past to Arab countries is being investigated, but it is clear from the above that if any supplies have been sent, it was with the approval of the U.S. Government.

6. WHY DID BRITAIN CHOOSE TO AID THE ARABS BY THESE TREATIES IN THE PAST?

Ever since the Middle East was freed from Turkish rule, by British armies under Lord Allenby in World War I, Britain has had understandably close ties with the Arab countries. Britain has during the last thirty years contributed much to the stability of the Middle East. She has helped some of the Arab countries to attain self-government, and in addition has assisted them not only with the means of self-defense, but also with loans for roads, public health, irrigation and so on.

*Syria?
Druze Revolt?
P.L. Hambley*

oh, yeah!

(more)

If Britain had not had these strong ties with the Arab countries, particularly Egypt and Iraq, the course of World War II might have been very different. These countries were specifically asked not to enter the war so that the area of conflict might be limited as far as possible, but Britain was able, as a direct result of those treaties, to have forces on guard to repel the strong German attacks which aimed at gaining control of the entire Middle East and its vast oil resources.

7. WHAT IS BRITAIN'S ATTITUDE TO THE JEWS?

For thirty-one years, ever since the famous declaration of the British statesman, Lord Balfour, Britain has helped the Jews to create in Palestine a national home for Jewry.

(A) 400,000 Jewish immigrants entered Palestine during the British Mandate, in spite of bitter Arab protests. Large sums of British money have gone into developing the roads, public services and so on. The Declaration by Lord Balfour said "Britain views with favor the establishment in Palestine of a National Home for the Jewish people, it being understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities." The British Government at the time also made it clear that they regarded any expectation of a wholly Jewish Palestine as impracticable. By a Jewish National Home was meant not the imposition of a Jewish nationality upon the inhabitants of Palestine as a whole, but the further development of the existing Jewish community.

(more)

(B) To quote the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine: "The present difficult circumstances should not distort the perspective of solid achievement arising from the joint efforts of the Jewish community and the Administration in laying ^{the} foundations of the National Jewish Home."

There are other quotes

A proof of the impartial attitude that Britain has adopted in carrying out this declaration is that she has been bitterly attacked by both Jews and Arabs for allegedly being partial to either side. For three years, just before the outbreak of World War II, Britain had to put down a bloody Arab rebellion in which 4,000 people were killed when the Arabs protested at the increasing flood of Jewish immigration, under British auspices, into the Holy Land. Many British lives have been lost at the hands of Jewish terrorists, in her increasingly arduous task of keeping peace between Jews and Arabs, from the end of the war to the surrender of the Mandate.

Instead of 'keep peace' by the sword you are supposed

8. HOW IS BRITAIN TRYING TO GET PEACE IN PALESTINE?

Britain has used her influence with all the Arab countries concerned to secure a cease-fire. Britain has a direct concern in securing a peaceful and stable Middle East, just as the United States has. The immediate problem is to secure an effective truce which will be just to both parties and therefore likely to be observed. Only by this means can a lasting settlement be achieved. Britain has taken a leading part in effecting truces, notably in Jaffa, Haifa and Jerusalem.

(more)

9. WHY DID BRITAIN OBJECT IN LAST WEEK'S MEETING OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO U.N. ACTION UNDER CHAPTER SEVEN OF THE U.N. CHARTER?

The British Government had grave doubts whether it was proper or just at that stage to use Chapter Seven of the United Nations' Charter, which foreshadows forcible action against an aggressor. In deciding who is an aggressor, the United Nations is required to take in effect a judicial decision, and must therefore be sure that it has ascertained all the facts before condemning one side or the other. Nothing could more permanently damage the moral standing of the United Nations than to take a hasty and ill-founded decision from which could possibly follow such drastic measures as those envisaged in Chapter Seven. It is important that the United Nations Organization should be effective, but it is equally important that it should act justly.

It would be unjust to single out Arab action alone. It should be remembered that the Jews entered Jaffa which was allotted to the Arabs under the partition recommendations; that the Jews occupied the Arab city of Acre; and that they started a major attack in Jerusalem which was to be an international city under the partition recommendations, and broke the cease-fire subsequently obtained there.

Some of the Arab forces have also entered or attacked territories allotted to the Jews under the partition recommendations, but it should be noted that the Transjordan Arab Legion has not entered any territory allotted to the Jews and only fought in Jerusalem after the breaking of the cease-fire by the Jewish Stern gang.

End

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be just
by making
unfounded
accusations

has done
since
then

SERIES II

MANSON FILE

Subseries A: Main Manson File

Folder:

Folder Title:

WRHS



Manson File/number: IV-72 **I** folder and contents lacking at
time of filming¹