Approved For Release 2006/11/13 : CIA-RDP83-00415R001300010013-1

FIGHTERS FOR FREEDOM OF ISRAEL

DAILY PRESS BULLETIN

No. 42

Tel-Aviv, 13th September, 1948

==========

SPEAK UP, JERUSALEM!

("Mivrak", 13.9.48.)

The flying agent praises himself, for nobody except himself is inclined to give him credit for anything.

During his last press conference in Tel-Aviv he gave himself and the truce full credit for the throngs strolling in the streets and thousands of bathers on the beach.

Strangely enough nobody brought to his notice the fact that long before his name was first mentioned in Tel-Aviv, its streets were congested with strollers and its beach overcrowed with bathers. Nobody told him that if there were no truce the crowds in Tel-Aviv would be perhaps somewhat thinner, but on the other hand there would be many Tel-Avivians walking in the streets of Nablus or may be Amman. There was nobody to tell the agent bluntly that we would rather do without aimless and fruitless strolling so long as we had to drag along the shackles of the truce.

Tel-Avivians are fond of strolling and bathing. They prefer to enjoy the fleeting moment without much thought of future and accept Bernadotte's clumsy lies without bothering to denounce him.

But in the streets of Jerusalem there are no more strollers. Its inhabitants are again crowding shelters and cellars, staying there day and night. In Jerusalem truce means shelling. A father is killed with his little boy, a mother - with three children. The city is under the merciless scourge of ceaseless fire. The Jerusalemites know by bitter experience the real meaning of Bernadotte's truce and are paying for it with their lives.

Approved For Release 2006/11/13 : CIA-RDP83-00415R001300010013-1

Approved For Release 2006/11/13 : CIA-RDP83-00415R001300010013-1

The Government of the Plain has closed the western exit of Jerusalem. This could be justified only if sumultaneously it ordered the troops to shatter the eastern boundary line, take enemy positions by storm, destroy his guns, release the City of David. But nothing of the kind is being done. The Government accepts meekly truce with shelling, restricting itself to an artillery duel. In the present conditions of aimless truce, who is primarily responsible for the daily toll of lives of men, women and children?

The truce offers Jerusalemites no opportunity for strolling or bathing. To them it only means the continuation of their suffering. It makes them rebellious, for they feel that they are made to suffer to no purpose whatsoever and there will be no reward for their sacrifices.

Will Jerusalem have to put up with its suffering for a long time? An order to attack would suffice to reveal immediately that human lives were sacrificed on the altar of the truce in vain, that the City of David would pass immediately into Jewish hands, that enemy guns would be brought again into action by Jewish gunners and that no more shells would fall on Jerusalem.

Only a few hours before the second truce came into effect, the order to capture the City of David was given. Is it true that the order was given merely to satisfy popular demand, in a belief that time would not suffice for the purpose? If, on the contrary, the order was meant seriously, why its execution is delayed? Why not, in view of the ceaseless barrage descending on the "occupied territory" of Jerusalem, renew it now?

The Jerusalem dilemma is not "either internationalization or partition (for annexation means partition)", as Dr. M. Sneh believes. The dilemma is - either an all-Jewish Jerusalem, capital of the Jewish country, or - Jerusalem denuded of its Jewish population and the very existence of the State of the Plain made precarious.

The solution does not lie in the hands of Bernadotte, nor will our fate be decided in Paris. It is up to us, up to our military power and our political decision. The battlefield is not the green table - it is in our country, especially in Jerusalem.

Our trouble is that the Government, so firm in internal matters, is soft and spineless in its relations with external powers. Therefore Jerusalem must suffer privation and bombardment, and we must lose precious, irretrievable chance.

Approved For Release 2006/11/13 : CIA-RDP83-00415R001300010013-1

Approved For Release 2006/11/13 : CIA-RDP83-00415R001300010013-1

Inhabitants of Tel-Aviv stroll and bathe. Only a faint echo of shells bursing in Jerusalem reaches their ears. But what about Jerusalemites themselves? Will they resign themselves to carrying on their useless and unnecessary burden and remain listless and passive?

The time has come for them to say to their brethren of the Plain and the ministers of Hakirya just one plain word:

Enough!

Approved For Release 2006/11/13 : CIA-RDP83-00415R001300010013-1