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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 25X1A2g [redacted]



1. The Arab League's Political Committee meetings held at Aley, Lebanon, from 14-16 July and attended by Prime Ministers Tawfiq Abu-al-Huda of Transjordan, Musahim Pachachi of Iraq, Riyad Sulh of Lebanon, Jamil Mardam of Syria, Nuqrashi Pasha of Egypt, Yusuf Yasin of Saudi Arabia, and by Ali Mu'ayyid, Yemeni representative to the Arab League, were highlighted by the violence of the differences between the Transjordanian and Iraqi Prime Ministers over the question of the cease-fire order in Palestine.
2. During the first meeting of the Committee, Abu-al-Huda stated that King 'Abdallah's government would support the Security Council's decision to cease fire, because the Transjordanian Government was not in a position to antagonize the Security Council, and was not prepared to suffer the consequent economic and military sanctions. The Transjordanian Prime Minister was followed by Pachachi of Iraq, who criticized Abu-al-Huda's statement severely, stating that Iraq could not agree to the cease-fire, which it regarded as betrayal of Palestine in particular, and of the Arabs in general. The Iraqi Prime Minister was supported by Jamil Mardam of Syria, who attacked the Security Council, which he accused of partiality. Mardam demanded severance of relations of the Arab countries with England and the United States, and asked that the Arab countries withdraw their representatives from the United Nations. Mardam attacked both the Transjordanian Government, accusing it of delaying the advance of its army, and the British, for bringing pressure on the Arabs to accept the truce. The Transjordanian Minister was supported in his stand by the Egyptian Prime Minister and by Riyad Sulh, who supported the cease-fire order with vehemence, and at the same time stated that "the cease-fire does not mean acceptance of the Zionist state." The Saudi Arabian Prime Minister stated that he would follow the views of the majority.
3. After the first meeting was adjourned, Riyad Sulh and a number of leading delegates informed the Regent of Iraq, 'Abd-al-Ilah, of Prime Minister Pachachi's attitude toward the views of the majority. The Regent asked Pachachi to calm down and to accept the views of the majority, with any reservation that he deemed necessary.

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4. The first meeting of the Political Committee was followed by eight others, during which the disagreements between the two factions, and particularly between the Iraqi and Transjordanian members, grew even more violent, ending with the threatened walk-out on the part of the Transjordanian Prime Minister, and an attempted resignation on the part of the Iraqi Prime Minister. When the Regent of Iraq was informed of Pachachi's resignation, he wired to Aley that the resignation was not accepted and that, if Pachachi insisted on submitting it, he should return to Baghdad to do so; however, Pachachi remained in Aley. ~~Comment.~~ For a different version of the Iraqi Prime Minister's attempted resignation see ~~Comment.~~)

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5. Tempers were goaded even farther by the entrance on the scene of Hajj Amin Husayni, the Grand Mufti, who violently attacked King 'Abdallah as a "British stooge and slave" in a private interview with the Iraqi Prime Minister, and who encouraged Pachachi to continue resisting the cease-fire, adding that his strong stand might lead the Arab countries to stand alongside Iraq. When the cease-fire order finally had been accepted by the Arab representatives, the Grand Mufti broke into the council room, shouting abuses at the conferees, accusing them of treason and of conspiring against Palestine in tying the fate of the Arabs of Palestine to the Hashimite Kingdom of Transjordan.

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