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STAT

MORNING PAPERS

TUESDAY September 21st, 1948.

Bernadotte's report to the United Nations on Palestine is top story of the day. Press reaction.

Bernadotte's report to the United Nations on Palestine is treated by the Arabic press as top story of the day. Although the Arabic newspapers have had no time to comment on the report, it may be said, judging from the headlines and Al Misri's editorial, that their reaction is unfavorable.

Al Ikhwan Al Muslimun's headline reads: "The Arab countries reject Bernadotte's proposals". Al Assas' headline reads: "Bernadotte asks the United Nations to impose the Jewish state on the Arabs".

Al Misri's editorial says: "Bernadotte's proposals are based on partition and must therefore be rejected outright. This report is perhaps worse than his previous report which was submitted during the first truce, seeing that he abandoned the idea of establishing a federal union and proposed partition instead in its complete form. He also gave an untrue picture of Jewish strength. Unfortunately he was deceived by Jewish propaganda and boasting which made him think that the Jews could survive the Arab campaign in Palestine.

"The Mediator was wrong in thinking this, for had the Security Council not hastened to impose a truce on the Arabs, the Arab forces would have destroyed the Jewish gangs. It is indeed a bad thing that Bernadotte's life ended with this report which contains many fallacies and which will have the same ending as his previous proposals."

Azzam Pasha's statement to Al Misri

Azzam Pasha, Secretary General of the Arab League, was asked by Al Misri what he thought of Bernadotte's proposals. His reply was: "The contents of Count Bernadotte's proposals are not surprising. I expected this of him after he made his aims clear in his first report. Our attitude has not changed. We reject his proposals lock, stock, and barrel. The Arab countries are unanimous in their rejection of these proposals and in the steps which will be taken to frustrate any attempt to harm Arab Palestine."

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The provisional Arab government of
Palestine

Al Misri remarks that the provisional Arab government of Palestine should have been proclaimed, as it was originally intended, before the U.N. assembly meeting. The reason for the delay, explains the daily, is that the head of the provisional government cannot invite the National assembly to meet, nor can the proposed Arab cabinet function until the National assembly meets and passes a vote of confidence in the new cabinet. It is therefore decided that Ahmed Hilmy Pasha should go to Gaza today in his capacity as head of the Executive body appointed by the Arab League sometime ago, to invite the would-be members of the National assembly to hold a meeting in the immediate future to decide whether the proposed Arab government is worthy of their confidence or not. The proposed National assembly will be composed, for the time being, of heads of the municipalities, and mayors of Arab towns and villages, and heads of the chambers of commerce in Palestine. "These gentlemen are supposed to be representatives of Arab Palestine so long as it is difficult to hold elections under the present circumstances", concludes Al Misri.

Al Assas alleges that the proposed members of the provisional government of Palestine are expected to hold their first meeting in Cairo almost at once and then proclaim the establishment of their provisional government. The seat of the new government will be Gaza, says the paper.

The Jews planned to murder
Bernadotte in Alexandria

Al Assas, official mouthpiece of Mokrashi Pasha, reports that the Egyptian Public Security Department has an important document which proves that the Jews outside Palestine knew that Bernadotte was going to be murdered, and that his murder would either take place in Alexandria or in Palestine. The security measures taken by the Egyptian authorities, however, made it impossible for the Jewish killers to assassinate the Count in Alexandria, and so they killed him in Palestine instead.

"Will Bernadotte's murder affect the
future of the alleged state? The
representatives of America, England,
Russia, and France reply."

Under the above heading, Al Nida' (Wafdist weekly) writes: "Count Bernadotte's murder by the Zionists has caused a severe tremor in all the diplomatic circles. Our correspondents asked some of the senior members of the diplomatic corps about the effects which they expect to take place as the result of this mean and criminal outrage.

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Following are the replies of these diplomats:

America speaks

"It was a surprise meeting which was not preceded by the customary preliminaries or an appointment. The Ambassador's eyes and movements could not hide what his lips did not utter. He excused himself saying he had an engagement and entered his room after he referred our correspondent to Mr. Stephen Evans, head of the U.S.I.S.

"Mr. Franco (the weekly obviously means Mr. Evans) was no less confused than the Ambassador while he (Mr. Evans) was explaining the duties of the American Ambassador especially in these circumstances. It seems that Bernadotte's murder had, from the American point of view, a deeper meaning than most of the people thought, and that some foreign elements are behind the murderers. (The weekly uses the expression: "There are international ghosts hidden behind the murderers.")

"Mr. Franco designated my question as 'a question which concerns a very strong case'. He said that he would repeat what Mr. Marshall had said concerning America's conviction that the world would demand that the work which Bernadotte was determined to accomplish should not be interrupted."

Al Nida' then goes on to say that its correspondent called on the Russian Legation where he was met by a frowning gentleman who told him that the crime was to be deplored but it should not stand in the way of finding a solution to the Palestine problem.

Alleged meeting between the
Ambassador and Glubb Pasha

Rose El Yussuf, the pro-Government weekly, writes:
"Brigadier Glubb Pasha who passed through Cairo on his way to Amman, stayed at Alnaza airport for two hours.

"Mr. Stanton Griffis, America's Ambassador in Egypt had a talk with him at the airport's buffet for more than an hour. When asked about the object of the meeting, the Ambassador said: 'I spoke to Glubb Pasha about the refugees problem.' He also added 'I met Glubb Pasha by chance.'" (The weekly prints two exclamation marks at the end of the story.)

Al Nida' (Wafdist weekly) also publishes the same story.

Mr. Ambassador's meeting with the
Prime Minister given wide publicity
in the Arabic press

The Arabic press gives wide publicity to the meeting between His Excellency Mr. Griffis and His Excellency Nokrashi Pasha yesterday September 20th. Al Misri and

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Al Assas quote Mr. Ambassador as saying to the press that his talk with the Premier concerned the Palestinian refugees, the Palestine question, the dollar question, and the question of Egyptian cotton in American markets.

His Excellency Mr. Griffis is also quoted as saying that he felt that Nokrashi Pasha was sincerely desirous of consolidating United States - Egyptian relations.

Al Assas concludes the story with the following words:
"The Ambassador designated the refugees question "Problem A-1" and the Palestinian question "Problem A-2."

Rose El Yussuf comments on
Bernadotte's murder

Rose El Yussuf, the pro-Government weekly, publishes an article by its editor-in-chief, Ihsan Abdul Koudous, under the headline: "No Mediator after today", in which he says: "Bernadotte is murdered. Had his killers been Arabs, the American fleet in the Mediterranean would have taken action, and the world nations would have ordered the Arab armies to withdraw from Palestine. The Arab governments would also have had to pay indemnities to the family of the deceased and to the United Nations. The whole of Palestine would have constituted the territory of Israel. But the killers were Jews. The world, therefore, will do no more than express its grief for the loss, and proceed to reward the Jews for their heinous crime.

"The Jews murdered Lord Moyne, but the British did not avenge his death as they avenged the murder of Sir Lee Stack. On the contrary, Britain supported the Jewish Agency wholeheartedly after Moyne was murdered. The Jews also killed and whipped British army officers and Britain did nothing. They even slapped and kicked U.N. Observers in Palestine and were rewarded by Bernadotte for doing so by sending a report to the Security Council supporting the establishment of Israel.

"Will the Count's murder result in the appointment of another Mediator? Mediation can only take place if both parties agree to it. The Arabs agreed to Bernadotte's mediation even though he was prejudiced in favor of the Jews, but the Jews disapproved of him and killed him. His murder, therefore, is tantamount to the murder of the truce and of the principle of mediation.

"We must not therefore accept the appointment of another Mediator, not because we are stubborn and love to fight, but simply because the new Mediator will not succeed seeing that the Jews will not accept his mediation any more than they accepted Bernadotte's mediation. The Security Council will be unable to find a Mediator more prejudiced in favor of the Jews as Count Bernadotte was. Any Mediator who may be sent by the United Nations to Palestine will not be accepted by the Jews even if he were Weizmann himself.

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"If the Security Council finds itself incapable of breaking the back of Zionism and avenging the death of the Mediator, the least it should do is let the Arabs avenge his death."

The Mufti says: "I am not responsible for the fall of Jaffa".

Rose El Yussuf put the following question to Haj Amin Al Hussein, the Mufti of Palestine: "It is said that the Arab Higher Committee is responsible for the fall of Jaffa because it did not give arms to the Arab defenders of that city on the excuse that they were not supporters of the Arab Higher Committee. Is this true?"

Haj Amin Al Hussein replied: "This is Zionist propaganda. I am not responsible for the fall of Jaffa. The Arab Higher Committee supplied the Arab defenders of Jaffa with arms and money, thereby making it possible for them to resist strong and repeated Jewish attacks for five months. The Arab Higher Committee gave the defenders of Jaffa no less than £ 50,000, but the arms and money which the defenders had at their disposal were of no avail in the face of the determined Jewish onslaught. I ~~may~~ also add that it is untrue that the inhabitants of Jaffa are against the Arab Higher Committee. We could wish for no more loyal supporters."

"The Marshall Plan and a thousand exclamation marks".

Under the above headline, Rose El Yussuf publishes an article by a certain Dr. Rashid Al Barawy, a teacher at the College of Commerce, in which he says that he did not think the application of the Marshall Plan in the Middle East would be a bad idea provided: 1. "America supplies machinery for local industries instead of flooding the Middle East markets with American goods. 2. America does not insist on free trade as the M.E. countries must protect their young industries. 3. There should be ^{no} political conditions attached to the American aid.

The writer then goes on to say that he suspects America of an ulterior motive for wanting to aid the M.E. countries financially. If the U.S.A. was really as good as she professes to be, then why did she support England against Egypt at the Security Council last year, and why is she supporting the Jews against the Arabs?, argues the writer.

Two Egyptian Legations to
be raised to Embassies

Al Ahran reports that the Egyptian government has decided to raise the Egyptian Legations in Turkey and China to Embassies. Turkey and China will also raise their Legations in Cairo to Embassies.
