

CONFIDENTIAL

(iii) Mr. Crowe should be briefed by telegram for his meeting with Mr. Heikal on November 28. It might help us to get through the last hoop - the transition from Chargé d'Affaires to Ambassador - if Mr. Crowe were authorised at this stage to speak along the following lines: H.M. Government propose that when the re-establishment of diplomatic relations at the level of Chargés d'Affaires is agreed Mr. Crowe himself will become the United Kingdom Chargé d'Affaires. He should add, however, that H.M. Government have in mind the appointment of a senior and experienced member of the Foreign Service as Ambassador in due course and they have earmarked such an officer who will be made available when the time is considered ripe. Mr. Crowe should be told that we have Mr. Beeley in mind but his name should not be passed to Mr. Heikal at this stage. With regard to procedure we could inform Mr. Crowe that we agree with that proposed in paragraph 2 and in the last sentence of paragraph 3 of his telegram No. 484, and that the identity of the Chargés d'Affaires should be disclosed in the communiqué if the Egyptians are ready to do this.

Flag B

*This minute is agreed in substance with the Chief Clerk.*

*W.B. Stevens.*  
November 23, 1959

*Copy to: Chief Clerk  
Herant Dept.*

*I agree.*

*H. H. ...*

*I should like to have a word with Sir K. W. ...  
W 23/11*

CONFIDENTIAL

23. 11

/The Private

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The Private Secretary confirmed to me that the Secretary of State did not wish to proceed with the minute to the Prime Minister which was originally attached to this submission. He will consider the question of who might be appointed as Ambassador to Cairo as a separate issue and is still thinking about this. I have cancelled and detached the minute and am keeping it in the department.

*Sir A. Stevens*

*to underlain*

(J.G.S. Beith)  
November 24, 1959.

*ll.*  
*25/11*

CONFIDENTIAL

**V**

LEVANT DEPARTMENT

**V** G 1051/110

UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC

FROM Mr P Hancock Tel Aviv  
to Mr S.G.S. Beith Levant Dept  
Confidential

SUBJECT:  
Mr Hancock would like to know what passed between the  
Prime Minister & President NASSER in New York.

No. 1059/60  
Dated Oct 4<sup>th</sup>  
Received Oct 9<sup>th</sup>

References

P1009

MINUTES

See within.

MM 10/10

(Printing Instructions)

150933 ~~151601~~

(Outward Action)

Tel No 711 to Tel Aviv on Oct 6<sup>th</sup>

(Action completed)

10.10.60

(Main Indexed)

21 8/61

Ref: FD 371/150933 80301

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*Minutes.*

Mr. Hancock's letter of October 4.

*Flag A*

Mr. Hancock has misread Guidance No. 329, the last paragraph of which promises the record by bag of the conversation on September 26 between the Secretary of State and the U.A.R. Foreign Minister, not between the Prime Minister and President Nasser. Record of the Foreign Ministers' talk was sent by bag to Tel Aviv on September 28.

*Flag B*

2. However, we are, ~~not~~ at fault in not having copied the fuller record of the Prime Minister's discussions in telegram No. 952 from New York, not repeated to Tel Aviv. *The original copy has been marked for a copy to be sent, but the paper is still in a file.*

3. I submit a short reply to Mr. Hancock and have asked for this telegram to be copied. *re telegrams to Tel Aviv. (P. V. O'Regan)*

*P. V. O'Regan*  
(P. V. O'Regan)  
October 6, 1960.

*Mr Beeth ac.*  
*WJ*  
*out 6*  
*may 7/6.*

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

CONFIDENTIAL



*Dep't*

BRITISH EMBASSY,  
TEL AVIV.  
October 4, 1960.

(1059/60)

*VG 1051/110*

*Dear John,*

*P1009*

Foreign Office telegram No. 329 Guidance of September 29 says that a record of what passed between the Prime Minister and President Nasser in New York is being sent by telegraph or by bag to the posts concerned.

*What is it?*

2. We have not got anything here yet, but no doubt something is on the way. I am quite sure to be asked about this next time I go to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. If, therefore, the Guidance which is probably on its way does not say what I can tell Yahil (or Mrs. Meir, if she is back), perhaps you would have this looked into.

3. There has been quite a lot of speculation about what the two great men talked about. I enclose, as an example, a summary of what one of the papers said on October 3.

*Yours an  
far.*

(P. F. Hancock.)

J. G. S. Beith, Esq., C.M.G.,  
Levant Department, -  
Foreign Office,  
London, S.W.1.

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COPY

Lamerhay London correspondent reports reliable circles as stating that Israel is the main stumbling bloc preventing the restoration of diplomatic ties between Britain and the United Arab Republic.

It seems that in his meeting with Mr. Macmillan, Nasser took great pains to induce Britain to suspend her aid to Israel. In reply to Nasser's complaint on the continuation of British aid to Israel, Mr. Macmillan - during whose term of office the Anglo-Egyptian relations were strengthened - replied by pointing at the arms recently sent by Britain to the Arab States.

This reply did not satisfy the Egyptian dictator and while a considerable progress is seen towards the possibility of creating a convenient climate for an Anglo-Egyptian rapprochement, it seems that Nasser would persevere in his pressure on Britain to weaken her ties with Israel before agreeing to any full Anglo-Egyptian settlement.

October 3, 1960.

Ref: FD 371/150933

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V

LEVANT DEPARTMENT

V G. 1051/III

FROM Record of conversation

Confidential

No.

Dated October 7.

Received October 11.

SUBJECT:

Record of a conversation at a luncheon given by DR. FAUZI for the Secretary of State on October 7.

References

MINUTES

1. Consulatio. Draft submission.
2. Ambassadors. 17 dft. rd. to Cairo has been submitted.
3. Five-Year plan. We know a great deal about it and have been discussing inter-departmentally in ACMET the best way to get British firms a fair share of the business.

(Printing Instructions)

(Outward Action)

Ref. no. 924 to Cairo Oct 12.  
Ref. no. 2225 to UNICEF New York Oct 13.

(Action completed)

(Main Indexed)

10.11.60

Handwritten initials and marks

EGD a.a.

Mr F. Mansour (for 3 +)

Handwritten signature: Minister  
D. W. Nejan  
G/T

Handwritten initials: R  
262x

Library  
-133

a) Mr. Wright, Cairo - 222 - October 13.

J152 55427-1c



CONFIDENTIAL

*Fawzi & Dep (encl)*  
in info

71 OCT 1980

VG1051/m.

*Mission have copies  
A--P.*

RECORD OF CONVERSATION AT LUNCH WITH THE FOREIGN  
MINISTER OF THE UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC

Dr. Fawzi invited the Secretary of State ~~in New York on Oct 7.~~ to lunch ~~today~~. Also present were the Minister of Guidance of the U.A.R., the Permanent Representative of the U.A.R. at the United Nations, Mr. ~~Ahmed~~ Talaat, Sir Patrick Dean, Mr. Beeley and Mr. Samuel.

2. After some social conversation, the Secretary of State asked Dr. Fawzi for his views on the subject of consulates. Mr. Talaat, invited by Dr. Fawzi to comment, said that they would like to have consulates in Kuwait, Nairobi, Dar es-Salaam, Liverpool, Singapore and Hongkong. He declined to put these in any order of priority, but the two to which he himself seemed to attach most importance were Kuwait and Liverpool. Dr. Fawzi suggested that agreement might be reached in principle on a list, while at the same time we might indicate to the Government of the U.A.R. that we would like to postpone the actual establishment of one or more of the posts for the time being. Mention was made in the same context of United Kingdom consular posts in Damascus / and Alexandria, but no direct connexion was established between this and Dr. Fawzi's suggestion.

*Carrio ✓*

*10.10 ✓*

*LPS ✓  
M/S ✓  
PUS ✓*

*Sir R. Stevens ✓  
Leeward Dep (encl)*

*Chief Clerk ✓  
Consular Dep ✓*

*LR Dep ✓*

*News ✓*

*Russ ✓*

*Volume ✓*

*Print ✓*

*Print ✓*

*Foot ✓*



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3. Dr. Fawzi then went on to discuss an exchange of Ambassadors. He said that it would be desirable for the names of the two Ambassadors-Designate to be submitted reciprocally at more or less the same time. He suggested that agreement might be reached now on a date for the submission of the two names, and suggested that it might be in one or two months. The Secretary of State said that he would consider both these questions on his return to London and would convey his conclusions to Dr. Fawzi in New York.

4. Conversation then turned to the possibilities of cooperation in the fields of trade and technical assistance. The Egyptians said that they would like to see an increase of direct trade between the two countries. They also believed that there were openings for British technical assistance and capital in connexion with the two Five-Year Plans of the U.A.R. Agreements had already been reached, within the framework of these plans, with West Germany, Italy and Denmark. They would welcome British assistance also, and Dr. Fawzi suggested that we should obtain copies of the two Five-Year Plans and should study them in order to see what proposals we were in a position to make for British participation. He seemed to be at least as interested in technical assistance

/as

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as in capital, and said that he thought the importance of the former was often underestimated. Finally he indicated in rather vague terms that he believed there was a field for U.A.R.-British cooperation outside the territory of the U.A.R. itself. In saying this he seemed to have two possibilities in mind: first, that British firms might find Cairo a useful centre from which to develop their trade in the Middle East and parts of Africa; and secondly, that there might be a field for business partners <sup>hips</sup> between British and Egyptian interests. The Secretary of State pointed out that our resources were already stretched by the technical and financial assistance we had ~~already~~ undertaken to give, primarily to Commonwealth countries. But he thought the possibilities outlined by Dr. Fawzi were worth exploring, and said that we would certainly be ready to look at the Five-Year Plans with this in view.

A--S  
7/10.

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FROM CAIRO TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Cypher/OTP

FOREIGN OFFICE AND  
WHITEHALL DISTRIBUTION

Mr Wright

No. 782

October 13, 1960

VG1051/111(A) D: 12.55 p.m. October 13, 1960  
R: 1.30 p.m. October 13, 1960

PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 782 of October 13.  
Repeated for information to: UKMia New York

and Saving to: Washington Baghdad  
Beirut AMMAN  
Paris

Your telegram No. 974: Exchange of Ambassadors.

Since action proposed arises out of a suggestion by Dr Fawzi, I think it would be best if the next step were taken in New York with him.

2. Nasser and his closest advisers however have now all returned to Cairo and I think there would be advantage if I were to follow up whatever is said in New York with Ismail, the new Under-Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. If you think it appropriate I could also speak to Heikal when I shall probably be seeing in the next few days.

Foreign Office pass Priority to New York as my telegram No. 60 and Saving to Washington, Paris, Baghdad and Amman as my telegrams Nos. 58, 22, 52 and 42 respectively.

[Repeated as requested]

SSSSS

CONFIDENTIAL

*h 14/10.*

CONFIDENTIAL



UNITED KINGDOM MISSION  
 to the UNITED NATIONS,  
 New York.  
 13 OCT 1960  
 JC 1051/11 B

The P.U.S. has not seen.

DH 107/10

Sir R. Stevens

✓ Mr. B. [unclear]  
 Oct 11 [unclear]

October 8, 1960.

Dear Daik,

.....

I enclose a copy of the record of conversation at Fawzi's lunch for the Secretary of State yesterday. The subject of Ambassadors was raised by Fawzi himself, and his suggestion that we should now agree on a date for the exchange of requests for agreements had every appearance of a formal proposal. I do not know whether he in fact had Nasser's approval to make it, and I suppose we must keep our fingers crossed. But the Minister of State thinks, and I agree, that we should take up Fawzi's offer as soon as possible and suggest a date about the middle of November. There was no attempt, in our conversation yesterday, to link the question of Ambassadors with any of the other subjects discussed.

2. You will no doubt talk this all over with the Secretary of State himself. The atmosphere at the lunch was exceedingly friendly.

Yours faithfully  
 P. Dean

(P. Dean)

Sir F. Hoyer Millar, G.C.M.G., C.V.O.,  
 Foreign Office, S.W.1.

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h 28/10

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FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO CAIRO

Cypher/OTF and  
By Bag

FOREIGN OFFICE AND WHITEHALL  
DISTRIBUTION

No. 974

October 12, 1960

D. 2.12 p.m. October 12, 1960

PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Cairo telegram No. 974 of October 12.

Repeated for information Saving to UKMis New York No. 2083

Washington No. 4641

Beirut No. 371

Paris No. 3390

Baghdad No. 132

Amman No. 159

During luncheon in New York on October 7, the U.A.R. Foreign Minister, Dr. Fawzi, and I discussed inter alia the exchange of Ambassadors (record by bag). He said that it would be desirable for the names of the two Ambassadors-designate to be submitted reciprocally at more or less the same time. He suggested that agreement might be reached now on a date for the submission of the two names, and that it might be in one or two months.

2. I want this followed up immediately either in New York or Cairo. We would say that, as the U.A.R. are aware, a United Kingdom Ambassador for Cairo was provisionally selected some time ago. An exchange of names could therefore, so far as we are concerned, be arranged at short notice. Should we aim at submitting names by the middle of November? This procedure would in effect be tantamount to seeking agreement on either side. Thereafter we could agree on dates for arrival, and on a formula for the necessary announcement. This would doubtless refer to the Ministerial exchanges at the United Nations which have just taken place.

3. Please advise where you think this action should be taken, bearing in mind local considerations.

ZZZZZ

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JGSB  
13/10

EMERGENCY  
IMMEDIATE  
PRIORITY  
ROUTINE  
with priority  
without priority  
DEFERRED

Date and time (S.M.T.) telegram should reach addressee(s) 13/10  
(Date) 14/10  
Despatched 7-55

Draft.

Telegram to: [Security classification] CONFIDENTIAL  
-if any

No. UKMIS N.Y. 2285 [Codeword-if any]

(Date) 13/10 Address to UKMIS NEW YORK

And to:- telegram No. 2285 (date) 13/10

repeated for information to Cairo (Routine) and Saving to Washington, Beirut, Paris, Baghdad and Amman.

✓ J.G. Osman (H)

Cairo telegram No. 782 [of October 13]

Exchange of Ambassadors.

Please now follow the matter up with Dr. Fawzi on the lines indicated in my telegram No. 974 to Cairo. When you have reported the result, H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Cairo should act as proposed with the U.A.R. Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

dl

13/10

Repeat to: Flag A  
Cairo 988

Saving to  
Washington 4674  
Beirut Paris  
Baghdad Amman

Flag B

En Clair.  
Code  
Cypher

Distribution:-

fo  
wh.

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

6:30  
13/10/60



UNITED KINGDOM MISSION  
to the UNITED NATIONS,  
NEW YORK.

RESTRICTED

October 17, 1960.

*VG 1051/III (c)*

Dear Department,

*VG 1051/III (b)*

Please refer to Sir Patrick Dean's letter of October 8 to Sir F. Hoyer Millar, enclosing a copy of the record of conversation at Dr. Fawzi's lunch for the Secretary of State. In line 5 of this letter, "we should not agree" should read "we should now agree".

Yours ever,

CHANCERY *h*

Levant Department,  
Foreign Office,  
London S.W.1.

*M 2/10.*

V

LEVANT DEPARTMENT

V

G 1051/112

FROM F.O. minute from  
 Sir Frederick Moya Miller  
 to Mr Samuel

SUBJECT:

Points which might be raised in the PRIME MINISTER'S talk  
with PRESIDENT NASSER

No.

Dated Oct 3rd

Received Oct 12th

References

VG 1691/42(A)

MINUTES

See record at VG 1051/109 . 12/10

(Printing Instructions)

(Outward Action)

(Action completed)

1940-60

(Main Indexed)

31 8/61



*Emet*

✓

NASSER

Mr. Samuel

I imagine that when President Nasser comes to see the Prime Minister this afternoon, most of the conversation will turn on current events in the U.N. - President Eisenhower's reply to the five neutrals, proposals reconstituting the Secretariat, disarmament, etc. On all these points, the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State may have the opportunity of expounding the British point of view to Nasser.

2. I hardly imagine that they will want to say much more about the U.A.R.-Jordan dispute though, if as is to be hoped, King Hussein makes a moderate and constructive speech this morning, they might perhaps call attention to this and urge that the Egyptians show a similar spirit and make a serious effort to get their relations with Jordan on to a more level keel.

3. As regards the particular question of relations between the U.K. and Egypt it was agreed at the last meeting that it might help if this matter were discussed further between the Secretary of State and Dr. Fawzi. In fact, there has not yet been any opportunity for such a meeting, so perhaps the Secretary of State could have a word on the subject with Dr. Fawzi at the end of this afternoon's conversation. I think all that the Secretary of State need say is that, as already agreed, he will look into the question of Consulates on his return to London and see whether some way cannot be found of meeting the desiderata of both Governments; that we will, in the meantime, do our best to stimulate contacts between the two countries in other fields - e.g. business visits - cultural activities, etc.; that we are glad that it has been possible to arrange for these meetings between Nasser and the Prime Minister and that we would like to be able to continue these contacts at a high level since we feel that this is one of the best ways of bringing about a real improvement in our relations. That being so, we feel that it would be to the advantage of both countries if Ambassadors could be exchanged before much longer; in the meantime, we would hope that it would, at all events, be possible for Mr. Crowe, on his return to Cairo, to have rather more frequent meetings with Egyptian Ministers and perhaps an occasional conversation with President Nasser himself.

4. Finally, the Secretary of State might say a word to Dr. Fawzi about the Zarb case on which I have already submitted a separate minute.

*Attache  
JG 169/14200*

*JHM*

October 3, 1960

Copy to:-

Mr. Bligh

*see memo  
Jaw  
4/10*

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**V**

**LEVANT DEPARTMENT**

**V** G.1051/113.

FROM *Mr. G. Minnie, Sir  
George Rendel.*

*Confidential.*

No.

Dated *October 10.*

Received *October 12.*

SUBJECT:

*U.K. - U.A.R. relations*

*Sir George Rendel's conversation with HEIKAL on  
October 7*

References

MINUTES

*Was Sir G Rendel's minute  
of 10/x ever copied to Cairo?*

*PARB.*

*23/11.*

*V. Sir say it was sent  
under cover of the letter  
within.*

*PARB.*

*24/11.*

(Printing Instructions)

(Outward Action)

*Off Mr. P. H. J. Wright, Cairo  
from Mr. J. J. S. Smith  
copied to Damascus at  
Beirut, Amman, and Tunis*

(Action completed)

*Key  
25.11.61*

(Main Indexed)

*31.  
F. 61*

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Sir George Rendel's conversation with  
Heikal on October 7.

V41051/113

I met Mohammed Heikal, the editor of the *Ahram* and a friend of President Nasser, at a small dinner given by Mr. Woodrow Wyatt, M.P. on October 7. The other guests were Mr. John Strachey, M.P., Mr. Michael Berry of *The Daily Telegraph* and Mr. George Malcolm Thompson of *The Daily Express*. There was a great deal of general discussion about Angle-Egyptian relations.

2. In reply to my questions Heikal, who had just come from New York, confirmed that the Prime Minister's talks with President Nasser had done a great deal to improve the atmosphere. But he referred several times to the deep-rooted suspicion of British policy entertained in Egypt and implied that this would take a long time to die out. I took the obvious line of pointing to present British policy in Africa and Asia as showing what nonsense it was to talk of British "imperialism" and "colonialism". I did not want to argue about the past. One could go back indefinitely to past mistakes on all sides and this would lead nowhere. What was needed now was to look forwards and not backwards, and to make a fresh start with a clean sheet. Our policy everywhere showed that we for our part were ready to do this.

3. Heikal having eventually agreed about this, I said that it seemed to me that what greatly added to the difficulties of the situation was the virulence and mendacity of the propaganda poured out against us by the Egyptian press and radio. Mr. Woodrow Wyatt and Mr. Strachey strongly supported me. This led to a rather futile argument as to whether the personal hostility of the *Daily Express* to President Nasser (which Mr. Thompson

/tried

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tried - very ineffectually - to defend) was not equally mischevous. I pointed out that the Egyptian propaganda was much more violent and untruthful than anything ever said in this country. Heikal's only defence was that he and his friends could never forget the days of the British occupation and the contempt with which the Egyptians had then been treated. He described his own anti-British activities with some very unpleasant details. But we eventually got him back to admitting that this was all old history and that a fresh start ought now to be made.

4. The question <sup>of his attitude</sup> of the Egyptians towards King Hussein of Jordan was then raised and Mr. Woodrow Wyatt made a strong and effective defence of King Hussein. The <sup>effect</sup> fact of this was somewhat marred by Mr. Strachey, who seemed ill-informed on the subject, saying that everyone knew that King Hussein was simply a "puppet of the British". Mr. Woodrow Wyatt and I strengly protested at this obvious falsehood, but I do not think that we were able to shake Heikal, who showed no sign of being open to conviction on this question. Heikal also, of course, took the orthodox Egyptian line about the Bagdad Pact which he tried as usual, but with little success, to represent as being anti-Arab rather than as a defence against Communist aggression.

5. On Communist and Russian policy generally, Heikal was at pains to emphasize that Nasser was strongly anti-Communist, <sup>and likely</sup> never to become a tool of Russian designs. He perhaps carried more conviction on the first point than on the second, particularly when he tried, rather half-heartedly, to defend Mr. Lumumba's activities in the Congo.

6. Mr. Strachey raised the question of Israel and we emphasized that whatever might have been the situation in the past, Israel was now a fact of life. Heikal took the line that the Arabs now accepted this, and had no intention of  
/trying

trying to drive Israel into the sea, but that they could not recognise Israel until effect had been given to the United Nations Resolutions. Mr. Woodrow Wyatt asked whether the Arabs would accept any new United Nations resolutions. Heikal said that this would be impossible.

7. Heikal gave me a long account of the social and agricultural reforms which President Nasser was trying to bring about in Egypt, particularly as regards the reduction of rents, the co-operative use of farming machinery, the development of desert areas etc., but this is probably all sufficiently well-known, and I need not therefore record what he said.

8. At one moment one of the guests asked what would happen if President Nasser were to die or disappear. I thought the question rather tactless, but it gave Heikal the opportunity of explaining that President Nasser was not so much a personality as a "symbol" and that, as such, his influence would certainly be permanent.

9. The conversation was occasionally embarrassing, particularly when Mr. Thompson took part in it, and a certain number of remarks were made which I thought rather inopportune; but Heikal seemed to take it in very good part; and when I left he was particularly cordial to me and said that he hoped that if ever I went back to Egypt <sup>I would let him know so that</sup> we might <sub>arrange to</sub> meet again.

*Copy to del.  
10. x. 60.*

*Para 4 (see esp. last sentence) is depressing, & just shows how unreliable Mr. H. is.*

*dl 10/12*

*Mr. B. P. ...  
Copy to Cairo ...  
out 11*

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VG 105/113 12/12/35 +3.

NOEXT BAA without fail. Some news of 2/11/10.

MB

CONFIDENTIAL

You may like to have a round up on

RA/NC 10/10

Draft letter to P.H.G. Wright, Cairo from J.G.S. Beith

copied to: Ambassador at. Beirut Amman 2nd div



NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

Also enclose copy of Sir G. Rendel's conversation below.

Hassanein Heikal's visit.

2. He arrived a day late and was met at the airport by Colin Crowe and a member of the Department. His first appointment was a talk with Roger Stevens on October 5, of which you will already have seen a record. The discussion was in fact a follow-up of the after-dinner conversation the night before at the Crowe's. Heikal talked pretty freely and it was useful that he undertook to put the idea of a propaganda truce with Jordan to President Nasser. I hope you will be able to follow this up. We are <sup>recommending that</sup> ~~asking~~ the Secretary of State <sup>should</sup> ~~to~~ ask King Hussein to co-operate, <sup>if</sup> ~~assuming that~~ the Egyptians prove willing.

3. Unfortunately, Heikal showed no disposition to take up our offer that he should confront officials of the B.B.C. Arabic Service with his complaints about their treatment of the <sup>middle</sup> ~~Eastern~~ Jews. Neither would he accept ~~the~~ a luncheon invitation from the Directors of the Shell Company, on the grounds that he did not know any of them.

4. We had hoped to arrange for him to meet the Secretary of State for the Colonies in order to hear at first hand something of our policy in Africa, but the idea did not commend itself to Mr. Macleod.

5. The Woodrow Wyatts gave a dinner on October 7, so that he could meet some political personalities on the Labour side. It was, however, a difficult time to get hold of Labour Members of Parliament - or indeed any Members of Parliament.

/6. ...

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6. The principal event on the programme was a luncheon given by the Lord Privy Seal at 1, Carlton Gardens on October 7. Sir Lionel Heald and John Foster were there; unfortunately Martin Lindsay, the Chairman of the Anglo-U.A.R. Parliamentary Group, could not come.

Colin Coote of the Daily Telegraph was there. Heikal was accompanied by the U.A.R. Chargé d'Affaires. You may be interested by the following short account of what passed.

7. Heikal seemed a little bit <sup>nge</sup>strained at first (he had previously said that he would know no one except me) and the Chargé d'Affaires was as usual very shy in general conversation. This was the order of the day for most of the meal, since there were only eight people at the round table at Carlton Gardens. However we drew Heikal into the conversation where we could. Towards the cheese, Sir Lionel Heald asked Heikal to tell us what people felt in Egypt about this country and he then had an opportunity to hold forth for about twenty minutes. This he did very eloquently and on much the same lines as during the meeting at the Foreign Office (see the record of October 5). He insisted that we must make allowances for Nasser's revolutionary rôle and should not expect him to act all the time as <sup>simply a UAR</sup> statesman. He seemed to look at things in the broadest and the most up-to-date terms - not perhaps altogether surprising in a journalist. As before he made a great point of the situation between the U.A.R. and /Jordan

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Secret.  
Confidential.  
Restricted.  
Open.

Draft.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

*The even asked what the Govt. wd do about the Labour party resolutions on the ME. at Scarborough*

Jordan and gave the impression that the sorest point of all for the U.A.R. was the suspicion that our influence in the Middle East still operated in opposition to Nasser's ambitions as leader of Arab nationalism. Our connexion with Jordan was one example. References to the Tripartite Declaration or anything connected with Suez were also, he ~~though~~ thought, about the most provocative things from the point of view of President Nasser. At one stage the Chargé d'Affaires tried to drag in a number of points of detail e.g. the free transit dispute, the position of the refugees in the light of the United Nations resolution, the question of consulates and so on. Heikal brushed this aside. He said that the Canal transit dispute did not matter. We took one position and the Egyptians took another: we could agree to differ. Even as regards Palestine and the refugees, he did not think that the problem was insoluble or necessarily damaging to Anglo/U.A.R. relations. The U.A.R. would like to find a solution but there must be a "law" to govern a settlement. He used this word "law" over and over again and I take it to mean some international resolution or settlement arrived at in the United Nations. When the Lord Privy Seal suggested it might be reasonable to get the parties together and negotiate a settlement Heikal was insistent that the U.A.R. could not accept this. They could only accept something laid down, say, by an international court or ~~an~~ international opinion.



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8. Coote raised the question of the 1951 officials without getting anywhere very much. I made some friendly remarks about the work which Heikal had done in arranging a resumption of diplomatic relations. Heikal himself spoke well and passionately and I think that he may have had some educative effect on the Members of Parliament. For himself, he should have been pleased at the trouble we took about him, but he is still farouche.

9 I am sending copies of  
JD this letter to  
Oct 11 } Bassit, Ramat  
Tel Aviv

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**V**

LEVANT DEPARTMENT

**V** G. 1051/114.

FROM Mr. S. H. J. Wright,  
 Cairo to Mr. G. J. S. Bell

Confidential.

No. 102700.

Dated October 11.

Received October 13.

SUBJECT:

Question of resumption of full diplomatic relations is very much the topic of the moment in Cairo.

References

MINUTES

12/14/10.

(Printing Instructions)

(Outward Action)

(Action completed)

(Main Indexed)

14.10.60

31.8.60

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*Li R Stevens V cum*  
*W*

CONFIDENTIAL

(1045/60)

BRITISH DIPLOMATIC MISSION,

CAIRO.

October 11, 1960.

*My dear Idus, K1051/114.*

I think you should know that the question of the resumption of full diplomatic relations and the exchange of Ambassadors between the United Kingdom and the UAR has been pretty well the No. 1 topic of conversation in Cairo ever since the reports of the Prime Minister's meetings with Nasser in New York started to appear. The press has been taking the line that Britain is now anxious to exchange Ambassadors and is making great diplomatic efforts to this end. The Prime Minister's talks with Nasser were represented primarily in that light and there have been reports on Reuters from New York about Anglo/UAR talks there following the high-level meetings. Colin Crowe has been reported as being about to return to Cairo urgently with special instructions.

2. The interest of our colleagues is very marked, and a flattering amount of attention has been paid to us at parties, clearly due to their belief that great things are afoot rather than to delight in our company. My call on Hafiz Ismail on Saturday was widely interpreted as being connected with an exchange of Ambassadors. It is generally assumed that Harold Beeley (whose designation is common knowledge here) is even now packing his bags and due to arrive before the end of the year.

3. As usual, all officials are pokerfaced, hiding behind the excuse that Nasser's party has only just got back and nobody knows anything. My guess is that they are probably thinking over carefully whether, and if so how, to react to the meetings with the Prime Minister. There has been virtually no editorial comment and perhaps one indication of the present uncertainty is that two journalists wellknown to Parsons told him that they were intending to publish last week articles about improved prospects of an exchange of Ambassadors and in Anglo/UAR relations generally, but that final publication of their articles would depend on the censor, and that this would give an indication of the present UAR view of Anglo-UAR relations. Neither article has so far been published.

4. I am sending a copy of this letter to Harold Beeley in New York.

*Yrs ever*  
*Paul*  
(P.H.G. Wright)

J.G.S. Beith, Esq., C.M.G.,  
Levant Department,  
Foreign Office.

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V

LEVANT DEPARTMENT

V G. 1051/115.

FROM Mr. P. St. J. Wright,  
bairn to Mr. J. J. Smith.

SUBJECT:

U.K. - U.A.A. relations  
MR. WRIGHT'S first call on GENERAL HAFIZ ISMAIL

*Confidential.*

No. 1014/60.  
Dated October 11.  
Received October 13.

References

MINUTES

*food.*

*Minister*  
*14/10.*

*FORD (M.A.E.) 17/10.*

*and a good summing up of last part*

*Policy*  
*14/10*

(Printing Instructions)

*W*  
*07/14*

(Outward Action)

(Action completed)

(Main Indexed)

*Ref*  
*17.10.60.*

*J*  
*8/10*  
*31.*

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*Su R. Stewart* ✓ *enker*

(1014/60)

BRITISH DIPLOMATIC MISSION,

CAIRO.

October 11, 1960.

*My dear John, Kiss/US.*

As you will have seen from the telegrams, I paid my first call on General Hafiz Ismail, the new Secretary-General of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, on the evening of Saturday October 8. This was to have been purely a courtesy call, fixed for October 8, but it had to be postponed owing to Nasser's arrival from New York. A certain amount of business had accumulated in the meantime and it turned out to be a rather crowded session, leaving us little time for general conversation.

2. General Ismail is in a way rather likeable; he is obviously extremely intelligent and capable, and seems to have taken to his new duties like a duck to water. He has a rather disconcerting habit of letting you do all the talking with the result that there are often pauses in the conversation which one feels impelled to fill in by some banality. It remains to be seen how effective he is; but first impressions in Cairo are that he will be at least as good as his predecessor, Murad Ghaleb. I think he is probably one of Nasser's pets and enjoys a considerable degree of access. I noticed with interest that when I asked him about Lord Alexander calling on Hakim Amer he said that he would talk it over with Amer himself; and he was with Nasser when the latter met Nehru at the airport last night on the way home from New York.

3. The only general conversation which we had was about Africa. Ismail adopted quite a civilised line, and implied that he was well aware of the difference between British colonial rule and that of other powers. At one point he came perilously near to congratulating me on the independence of Nigeria! But even here there was the usual anti-imperialist undercurrent. I tried to draw him on how they felt about Nasser's visit to New York and the United Nations, but he completely shut up and changed the subject rapidly.

4. To sum up, a fairly strong and silent man who, while being probably no less hostile and suspicious of us than most others, is civilised enough to conceal it and may turn out to be helpful if the general atmosphere improves.

*Yours ever  
Paul  
(P.H.G. Wright)*

J.G.S. Beith, Esq., C.M.G.,  
Levant Department,  
Foreign Office.

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C

V

LEVANT DEPARTMENT

VG 1051/116

FROM Mr Wright Cairo

~~Confidential~~  
Confidential

No. 783

Dated October 13<sup>th</sup>

Received October 14<sup>th</sup>

SUBJECT:

PRESIDENT NASSER hints at more cordial relations with the U.K. as a result of his meeting with the Prime Minister

References

MINUTES

Copies sent to Amman & Beirut.

12/10.

(Printing Instructions)

(Outward Action)

Replied to Beirut 14.10.60  
to Amman 14.10.60  
to O.A.S. 14.10.60

(Action completed)

(Main Indexed)

17.10.60

21. 8/61

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FROM CAIRO TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Cypher/OTP

FOREIGN OFFICE AND WHITEHALL

DISTRIBUTION

Mr. Wright

No. 783

October 13, 1960

VG 1051/116

D: 2.34 p.m. October 13, 1960

R: 2.56 p.m. October 13, 1960

PRIORITY

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My Canadian Colleague has just given me an account of part of a conversation at which he was present between President Nasser and Roland Michener, Speaker of the Canadian House of Commons, which took place on October 11. Nasser was explaining the importance which he now attaches to personal contact between Heads of Government. By way of illustration he referred to his discussions with the Prime Minister in New York in cordial terms. He said that he had found Mr. Macmillan a much warmer personality and much easier to get on with than he would have expected from his conventional preconceptions of a British Minister who had been in power in 1956. As a result he had been able to agree with the Prime Minister that the two countries could work together towards normal relations.

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**V**

LEVANT DEPARTMENT

**V** G.1051/120.

FROM 4.6. Minute, Sir Roger Skene.

*Confidential.*

No.

Dated November 23, 1959.

Received October 14, 1960.

SUBJECT:

*Establishment of diplomatic relations with the U.A.R.*

References

*VG1051/15/122 (59).*

MINUTES

*M. 2/10.*

(Printing Instructions)

(Outward Action)

(Action completed)

(Main Indexed)

*15.10.60*

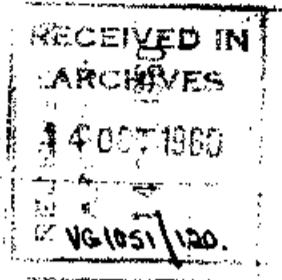
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ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS  
WITH THE UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC



Flags A & B  
VG 1051/120/120(24)

The conversation between Mr. Crowe and Mr. Heikal reported in Cairo telegrams Nos. 483 and 484 brings the resumption of diplomatic relations with Cairo a little nearer, though the possibility of a last-minute setback due to the activities of the anti-Heikal faction is still well on the cards. It is interesting that the Egyptians may be thinking of appointing to London as Chargé d'Affaires a senior diplomat who may subsequently become Ambassador. The time has come when we should perhaps set in motion our plans for the provisional selection of an eventual Ambassador after an initial period during which Mr. Crowe would become Chargé d'Affaires.

2. The Secretary of State has informally sanctioned for planning purposes the idea that Mr. Harold Beeley, Deputy Head of the United Kingdom Mission to the United Nations, should be our first Ambassador to the United Arab Republic. Sir P. Dixon is aware of this plan but Mr. Beeley has received no intimation of it at present.

3. In the circumstances I recommend the following courses of action:-

(i) The Secretary of State may wish to let the Prime Minister know what is in his mind. I submit a draft minute.

(ii) If it is approved, I suggest that the Chief Clerk should let Mr. Beeley know informally what we have in mind for him. It will be necessary at present to remain rather vague about dates. Mr. Beeley could be told that it was hoped he would be able to take up his post in Cairo in the spring.

/(iii) Mr. Crowe

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