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ARABIAN DEPARTMENT	<b>B</b> 103116 / 1
GENERAL	

FROM  
J.C.W. Bushell, Aden,  
to A.R. Walmesley  
**CONFIDENTIAL**

No. 102/22/62  
Dated Dec. 27  
Received Jan. 1

**SUBJECT:**

Challenges policy of non-retaliation to Nasser's attacks on Aden and Oman.

References

~~1~~

(Printing Instructions)

100065

(Outward Action)

MINUTES

I wonder if Mr Bushell is serious in making the point in para. 2 around which his letter is built. We can scarcely reply to propaganda by saying that we kill Arabs in a much more genteel manner than the Egyptians?

I suggest that this letter requires no answer.

B.P. Pridham 2/1

No doubt we shall hear more of para 4. We should have nothing for a reply to this when we have Ministerial reaction to your submission of today.

E.F. Given 2/1

I do not think Mr. Bushell means what Mr. Pridham suggests: we are not in fact bombarding Omanis at all.

2 - This is mistaken by the submission of yesterday, but you may like to see.

A.R. Walmesley 4/1

(Action completed)	(Main Indexed)
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Yes - but we can keep the horrible  
 propaganda use of these points in  
 mind. However difficult they may be to  
 make  
 VJL 4/1

W. EAD. D. 8/1

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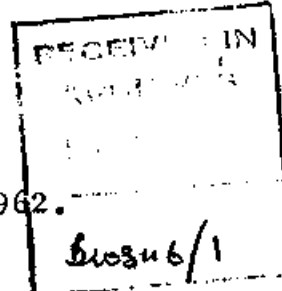


(102/22/62)

CONFIDENTIAL

POLITICAL OFFICE  
MIDDLE EAST COMMAND  
B.F.P.O. 69  
ADEN

December 27, 1962.



*My Dear Robert -*

Nasser's outburst against Aden in his big speech this week, including the comments about its forthcoming liberation from the British, made me look again at the reports from UKNIS New York on the debate on Colonialism.

2. I see that in Plenary No. 57 (UKNIS New York No. 251 of December 5) the U.A.R. Delegate, Riad, made some remarks about Oman where he alleged the people "had been bombarded by the British R.A.F. and the peaceful population was subjected to all sorts of terror". As in the case of Nasser's attack on us in Aden, I am not clear what our policy is as regards replying: as you know, we here have the impression that the Foreign Office is too ready to turn the other cheek and keep quiet. But also, as you know, we have produced evidence from here recently of the U.A.R. Air Force using napalm against Yemeni tribesmen. I should have thought that if we are accused of bombarding peaceful Omanis it would be reasonable to comment that we have never dropped napalm on defenceless villagers as the Egyptians do. The napalm story has also been authenticated by Colonel Maclean in his travels on the Royalist side.

3. Probably it is too late to hit back with napalm in the United Nations. But other occasions may arise.

4. There is also incidentally a story running round the Colony that the Egyptians have been dropping explosive cigarettes on the Royalist side of the line, and there is said to be a casualty in a local hospital here who tried to light one of these. But the evidence is not yet clear, though the B.B.C. correspondent is trying to track it down.

5. I am sending copies of this letter to Sir Patrick Dean in New York and Sir Harold Beeley in Cairo.

*Yours ever*  
*J.C.W.*  
(J.C.W. Bushell)

A.P. Walmsley, Esq., M.B.E.,  
Arabian Department,  
FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

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