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and the second second second



You asked me for a note about the incident of which I spoke to you yesterday.

Briefly, what happened was this. . . General Manasergh, G.O.C.-in-C. at Hong Kong, was presently passing through Egypt on his way to this country. He take trained must courteously by the customs and passport officiels, but was meet with a most uncooperative, not to say hostile akhitude as the part of the Egyptian dotom who was dealing with the abalars cartificate. Although this was in order by international standards the dootor went so far as to suggest that the datas on it had been faked, and Gen. Memory was ablight to spand the sight in a coll. Next day he was able to continue his journey issue them net, himself, lay great streas on the veration which he may sense net, himself, lay great streas on the veration which he may sense the labels and I feel, however, as I an sure you will that this is not the sort of incident that should be allowed to require the sight well happen to any officer or other rank who alges the peind through Egypt on his way to this country on compassionade Taxes - and delay in such a case might be performed by unfortunate. For Manasergh's compassionate leave who had been similarly tracted by the Egyptian authorities.

Fould you consider this mathem and take what action seems beat ?

Tours aincorely.

The Hon. K. G. Younger, M.F., Minister of State, Poweign Office.

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FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO CAIRO

No. 759 lst June, 1950

D. 11.50 pin. 1st June, 1950

CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Cairo telegrem Mo. 759 of 1st June. Repeated for information to B.M.E.O. (Cairo).

The War Office have infermed us that on his way through Egypt on 19th May General Mansergh, G.O.C. at Hong Kong was detained by the Egyptian medical authorities and obliged to spend a night in a cell at the isolation camp at King Farouk airport on the grounds that his chelera cortificate was out of order.

2. In fact the certificate was entirely in order by international standards, but the Egyptian doctor concorned, whe appears to have acted with the intention of making himself as effensive as possible, went so far as to suggest that the dates on the certificate had been faked. General Manuergh spent the night in the cell with a British private seldior en compassionate leave whe had been similarly treated.

3. The Egyptian medical authorities in this case appear to have had no justification for not treating General Mansorgh with mormal courtemy, and I consider that this is a matter which should be taken up with the Egyptian Geverament without delay. Before you de se bowever you should discuss it with Field Marshal Slim who may care to mention it to King Farouk. If this is so your representations could be made in the light of King Fareuk's reactions.

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6th June, 197

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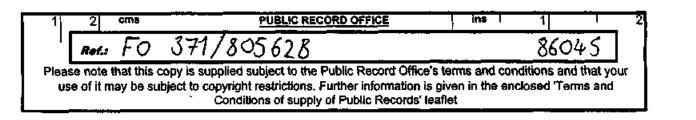
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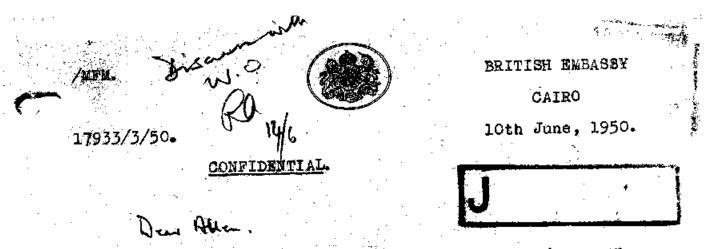
Henry thanks for your letter of the 26th May in which you gave me the dotails of the incident in Egypt in which General Manaergh was involved.

I guite agree that the stitude of the Egyptian medici sutherities on this second on the indefensible and His majerty's Charge d'Affaires in Cairo has been instructed to take the antitur up with the Egyptian Government. I have suggested, however, that before he does so, he should discuss the matter with Field Marabel Slin who may care to mention it when he sees King Farouk in the course of the sent few days. The Embasny's Pepresentations can then be made in the light of King Farouk's reactions. It has coursed to un that the latter, since he new holds the rank of General in the British Army, sight be a good deal interested in the treatment which his Service colleagues receive from the Egyptian Coverament.

(094) Kenneth younger

Michael Stevart, Seq., M.P., Far Office.





We were surprised and distressed to receive your telegram No. 759 of 2nd June about the detention of General Mansergh by the Egyptian authorities when he was in transit from Hong Kong.

I have taken no action since, after discussion with the C.I.G.S. and between ourselves in the Embassy, I decided to refer back to you for reconsideration.

Our Military Attaché, who met the General at the airport on arrival reported the incident to me in full, and, from what he has told me, the War Office report to you seems to me to be wide of the mark, both in tone and substance.

The facts as set out in paragraph 1 of your telegram are correct, but the use of the word "cell" in line 4 is definitely misleading. There is a considerable difference between an Wgyptian prison cell and the rooms in the quarantine hostel where the General stayed, which contain ordinary beds with matresses, clean sheets, pillows and pillow-cases, bedside tables and telephones.

With regard to paragraph 2, this is the first time we have heard it suggested that the cholers certificate was in order. No one here seems to have denied that it was incorrect in point of time. Møreover, the War Office omitted to inform you that the certificate could not have been connected with any individual as the heading of it was not completed. General Mansergh had to fill in his own name, number, rank, and other particulars himself at the airport.

The Military Attaché rejects as misleading, to say the least of it, the statement that the doctor acted with the intention of making himself as offensive as possible. He was certainly firm but, nevertheless, civil and certainly not offensive at any time or by any standard. With regard to his enggestion that the dates on the certificate had been fated, I am told by the Military Attaché that, in his opinion and in that of General Manaergh, this suggestion hed considerable weight of viewal suddance weight of visual evidence to support it.

Roger Allen, Bac., C.H.G., African Depantment, Poreign Office, LONDON, S.W.l.

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I agree that it was unfortunate that the General had to share his room with a private soldier. The Egyptians did promise to give the General a room to himself, and they slipped up by not so doing, but apart from this I cannot see where the Egyptian authorities behaved sufficiently badly to warrant the measures suggested in the telegram under reference.

For your private information, I think the War Office are making very heavy weather over this matter. The General himself, when he realised the position, accepted it with a good grace.

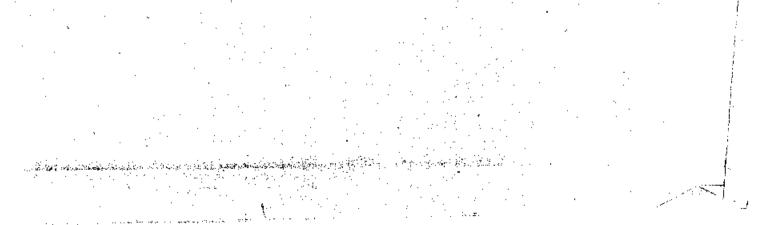
The C.I.G.S., when Military Attaché and I told him the facts, said that it was not the Egyptians but the officer responsible for furnishing General Mansergh with the faulty certificate in question that should take the blame. The C.I.G.S. said he would not in any case consider raising such a matter with King Farouk.

I sincerely hope that we shall hear no more about this.

Mann word, (fore E.H. Chapman . Hudson O.

P. S.

They are understandably very "cholera conscious" in Egypt and no Egyptian official dare Take a chance on that risk.



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MINISTER OF STATE

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I have talked to Mr. Michael Stewart's Private Secretary. He is rather surprised at the statement made in this letter, especially at the attempt to suggest that General Mansergh himself had accepted the situation.

2. In fact it was General Mansergh who raised the question with the War Office. The General was not so anxious to make a fuss on personal grounds as to have some kind of protest made to the Egyptians on the principle of the thing. General Mansergh is apparently not the type to be highly incensed on personal grounds, but he did feel that the Egyptians derived a certain amount of pleasure is kicking a senior British Officer around. From my knowledge of the Middle East I should say that this was highly probable and would be equally applicable to Iregis, Persians or any other people of the area, with the possible exception of the Jordaniaas.

3. However, if the Embassy have succeeded in squaring the C.I.G.S., the War Office feel there is nothing more they can do about it and I attach a draft which should close the matter.

leth June

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OUTFIL Registry No. Top Secret. Secret. Confidential. Since writing to you on the 6th Restricted. Орея. June about the incident involving General Draft. letter Mansergh, we have had the Embassy reaction to our proposal that the matter should be taken up with the Egyptian Government. R.M.M. Stewart, Bsc. M.P Apparently after discussion with Parly. Under-Sec. of State, the Military Attaché and the C.I.G.S. it War Office. was agreed that nothing should be done since there is, in fact, considerable doubt about the cholera certificate. In the opinion of the Military Attaché From: and (that of General Mansergh apparently, Minister of State BE WRITTEN there was considerable weight of visual evidence to support the contention that the dates on the certificate had been faked you will agree I hope/that as the Military Attaché ٩ and the C.I.C.S. seen to think that nothing NOTHING should be done we should let the matter rest there.

Gp.685

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