

41319

J 3649  
17 OCT 1944

[CYPHER]

POLITICAL DISTRIBUTION

FROM CAIRO TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Lord Killearn. *Mr. Stone* D: 10.0 p.m. GMT 15th October, 1944  
No. 2059  
15th October, 1944 R: 12.0 a.m. BST 16th October, 1944

& & &

Weekly Appreciation.

On October 7th Hassanain Pasha sent his second string to ask Mahas Pasha for reinstatement of Ghazali. Mahas Pasha replied he was prepared to make an enquiry. Palace Envoy pointed out that three weeks had elapsed since the incident. It became clear hope of a compromised settlement between the Palace and the Government was practically extinct.

2. On October 8th Palace learned that Mahas Pasha had summoned a meeting of the Cabinet for 7 p.m. on that evening and it was reported after that meeting he would submit his resignation to King Farouk on the grounds of British interference in the Ghazali affair. King Farouk accordingly issued a rescript dismissing Mahas Pasha before the Cabinet meeting. The rescript was couched in very uncomplimentary terms. At the same time Ahmed Maher Pasha was appointed Prime Minister and he was able to reform his Cabinet the following evening. It consists of four Socialists, four Liberals, four Makranites and one Watanist. No independents were included.

3. It is generally thought Palace which has had little liking for Ahmed Maher [grp. undec.] [grp. undec. ? liberal] is supporting Makran who in view of his vindictiveness and knowledge of inside workings of Wafd would no doubt be a useful instrument for assaults on Mahas Pasha and Wafd. Palace support would tend to give Makranites party predominance in coalition.

4. Considerable possibilities of discord exist within the Cabinet. Mokrashi and Makranites have no love for each other. Ahmed Maher has been inclined in the past to be indolent and the more industrious Mokrashi and Makranites are likely to compete in pulling the reins which an energetic and industrious Prime Minister would keep in his own hands. This might lead to serious conflicts inside Cabinet unless Ahmed Maher proves able to control his team

5. Mokrashi at Ministry of Foreign Affairs may also be troublesome. This post when occupied by a Minister other than Prime Minister has hitherto been mainly of a decorative nature, the Prime Minister monopolising all the more important international work. Mokrashi will probably want to play a more effective part and in view of his obstructive tendencies he may make trouble for us in manifold current problems of Anglo-Egyptian relations arising in exceptional circumstances of war.

6. Prime Minister's public announcements indicated that last government's exceptional promotions etc. will be examined and that charges of corruption will also be made against profiteers in contact with members of Wafd government. In one statement of his it was even suggested that charges of black book might be examined and Makram has spoken of publishing book with a supplement at his own expense.

7. Change of government has been effected without any serious disturbances. No doubt Wafd have not yet organized their campaign but there seems little likelihood of any immediate disorder.

8. It is thought the Government would be well advised in their own interest to hold election as soon as possible while memory of Wafdist shortcoming is still fresh and before new Government have had time to blot their copy book.

9. As expected Wafd are very bitter against us and accuse us of throwing them over after having sucked them dry. Nahas Pasha particularly has taken a very indignant attitude.

10. Prime Minister has made entirely satisfactory statements regarding intentions of new Government to co-operate with us and give effect to treaty.

O.F.P.

41319

J 4845

[The text of this telegram must first be paraphrased if communicated to persons outside British or United States Government service or if retransmitted in a cypher system other than O.T.P.]

[CYPHER]

GENERAL DISTRIBUTION

FROM CAIRO TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Lord Killearn.  
NO. 2694.

D. 6.19 p.m. GMT 23rd December, 1944.

21st December, 1944.

R. 8.25 p.m. BST 23rd December, 1944.

V V V

Weekly appreciation.

The Electoral Campaign was inaugurated by the Egyptian Prime Minister in an address to the country in the course of which he reproved the Wafd for their decision to boycott the elections and claimed that the nation was confident of the Government's impartiality. He repeated that the Government wished the elections to be free and added that during the elections the nation would be unaware of the existence of état de siège. He hoped that this experience would constitute a step towards the abolition of état de siège.

2. In spite of the collective statement referred to in paragraph 1 of my telegram No. 2611 (of December 16th), relations between the Makramites and Saadists continue to be very strained and there seems to be little doubt that the Saadists are continuing to encourage opponents of Makramites in constituencies assigned by agreement to the latter. Makram is reported to be seeking royal intervention in his favour to counter these Saadist manoeuvres. Generally the situation within the Cabinet is very uneasy and the possibility of an open break between Saadists and Makramites is not ruled out by political Pundits.

3. Makram is worried by possibility that Yassin Ahmed Pasha, formerly a Wafdist but now an independent candidate may owing to his local influence win the Qena constituency in which Makram is standing. Yassin is supposed to have been put up by the Wafd who appear to be prepared to co-operate with the Saadists to down Makram.

4. Makram has officially claimed from Nahas and Serag Ed-Din the resituation of £140,000 subscribed for malaria victims in upper Egypt and withdrawn from the Misr Bank by Nahas last April. Makram claims that these funds are the property of the State and were collected under official auspices for the purpose of helping malarial victims and not for founding institutions for the welfare of children. In a published explanation Nahas claims that the subscriptions were organised by the Wafdist Party and that some of the funds have already been utilised for the founding of institutions.

5. Ahmed Al-Wakil brother of the. Nahas and his business partner Farzi Hanna have been arrested and according to the are to be brought to trial on charges of irregularities in connection with supplies.

/S. King

6. King Farouk has so far refused to grant an audience to Hashaat on his return from London. This unusual refusal to receive an Ambassador returning from London has considerably disgruntled Hashaat. Hashaat is reported by agent in touch with Palace and by P.M. (sic) Pasha to be intriguing with Ali Maher between whom, and Nahas, Showbagui, Minister of Justice in Ali Maher's Cabinet is said to be endeavouring to establish contact.

7. Unrest among students which started from grievances of a technical nature took a political turn on 21st December when considerable numbers of the students from the University and School of Applied Arts started demonstrations about the Sudan, Palestine and Arab union. Under Secretary of State for the Interior states that effective measures have been taken to suppress these demonstrations which he connects with the visit paid by student agitators to Nahas. According to the Director General of Public Security demonstrations were mastered successfully but may be resumed.

8. The Feminist Congress has come to a conclusion after discussions mainly centred on feminist problems. The Palestine question was only lightly touched upon until the final meeting when according to a press account Syrian, Lebanese, Palestinian and Iraqi delegates held forth emotionally on the Palestine question. Their speeches are described as being not only anti-Zionist but also anti-Jewish. This press account does not attribute any anti-British statements to the speakers. According to another press account the resolutions of the Congress included resolutions in support of Arab union, the release of all political internees in the Egypto-Arab world, the establishment of an independent state in Palestine, the total stoppage of Jewish immigration, the cessation of propaganda in favour of the Arabs in all Western countries and telegrams to President Roosevelt and the British Premier protesting against statements proposing the establishment of a national home for the Jews in Palestine. The Congress also decided to ask all Arab rulers to share in the purchase of lands in Palestine.

9. Discussion of the question of Sudanese nationality in the Advisory Council of the Sudan has aroused considerable interest and apprehension in Egyptian political circles which appear to have thought that a definite proposal was being made for the creation of Sudanese nationality.

10. Posters of Ali El Bireir (see paragraph 2 of my telegram 2041) suggesting that he was a Sudanese standing as a candidate of the Sudan in the Egyptian Parliament and appealing for help for the only Sudanese candidate appeared in various parts of Cairo and on representations by the Embassy to the Prime Minister were taken down by the police. The Prime Minister however appears to be afraid of tackling the fundamental issue of Bireir's ineligibility in view of the agitation referred to in paragraph 6 above.

11. According to Furi who is now here delegates of the Arab countries are now discussing with Egyptian Government proposals for establishment of Arab Propaganda Bureaux in Great Britain and the United States.

It is obvious that the P.M.'s undertakings about food and clothes for the people (Cairo telegram No. 2018, para: 2, Flag G ) cannot be fulfilled adequately unless Egypt gets more imports, and this is where difficulties may arise with us. It is too early yet to say whether we shall be confronted, before the end of the war, with Egyptian claims to realise her national aspirations (Cairo telegram No. 2016, para. 2, Flag C ), but the King assured Mr. Shone that he would do his best to see that we were not embarrassed by such claims during the war (Cairo telegram No. 2017, paras 2 and 3, Flag H ), though he clearly feels that the Treaty (if this is what he means by "arrangement" in para. 4 of No. 2017) should already have been revised. Mr. Shone has rubbed in the fact that we do not wish to be embarrassed (Cairo telegrams Nos 2017 and 2018, Flags H and G ) and that we expect a clear official statement about the Treaty, and he has also made it clear (para. 4 of No. 2018) that we shall not like it if the new Government are obstructive about such matters as the Almaza airport, supplies, etc., which are of great importance to us. Other Departments here will be most anxious to know what the new Egyptian Government intends in these respects.

I gather from para. 5 of No. 2018 that Ali Maher has in fact been released, as reported in the press here, but we have not yet had telegram No. 2010. Presumably both the P.M. and the Palace intend to ensure that Ali Maher shall not indulge in activities detrimental to the war effort or to us, but we shall see.

I think that, if you agree, we should tell Mr. Shone that we approve his language in his telegrams Nos. 2017 and 2018 (Flags H and G ). There seems to be nothing that we can usefully add.

In reply to Cairo tel: No. 2010, we might reply that we agree to action proposed in para: 3.

*Mr. Conroy Price*  
12th October 1944.

From the announcements given by the King and by Hassanani, and in a letter tel. (No. 2025) by the new P.M. it looks as if we may avoid trouble over the Treaty for the duration of both wars.

Mr Shone seems to have said all the necessary things in fairly bluntly and I agree that we should approve his language - as also the action proposed in para. 3 of No. 2010 below - I do not think we could usefully press for more. *MSB: 12/10/44*

*Copy was attached below this jacket.*

*D.P. sent. CP. 4/10.*

*see section on J3577.*

*I agree, though I don't know how much we can rely on these guarantees. (10.10.44)*

Date 14.10.44  
✓ Matched 7.30 p.m.

Registry No. J3561/31/46.

OUT FILE

Draft Telegram.

Your telegram No. 2017

H.M. Representative,

" " " 2018  
" " " 2025.  
And "

Cairo.

No. 1331 ✓  
Code. Oct. 14th.

I approve your language.

W.C. Dism.

CP.  
14/10.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

J

J 4079

17 NOV 1944

293

Lord Killearn's talk's with Ahmed Maher. Gives account of his two talks with Ahmed Maher.

Registry Number } 4079/31/16

TELEGRAM FROM Lord Killearn, Cairo

No. 2365

Dated 15th Nov. 1944.

Received in Registry } 17th Nov. 1944.

J: Egypt and Sudan

Last Paper.

J 4061

(Minutes.)

*R. ...*

17/11

References.

One of the dangers of tendering advice is that one may eventually be called into the arena to see what it is carried out.

*A.V. ...*

*MB*

Sir B. ...

18/xi

See within D.O letter of 18 Nov covering DO circular let 1694 of 17 Nov.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

*6.7. 12/10/45*

Next Paper.

J

J 4218

24 NOV 1944

Registry Number }

J 4218/31/16

TELEGRAM FROM

Lord Killearn, Cairo  
No. 245

Dated 22nd Nov. 1944.

Received in Registry }

24th Nov. 1944.

J: Egypt and Sudan

Amr Pasha's talk with King Farouk.

Refers to Cairo telegram 2445 (J 4214/31/16). Gives text of Amr Pasha's record of his talk with King Farouk when he spoke to His Majesty about Taher Pasha, Abbas Halim and Ali Maher. Amr Pasha will inform the Egyptian Prime Minister of King Farouk's reactions.

Last Paper.

J 4214

References.

(Minutes.)

A reply has been sent to Cairo, referring to ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> previous ltr. on the subject. See J 4205/31/16.

*R*  
24/11

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

S.M.

11/10/45

Next Paper.



122

J

97

J 4645  
24 DEC 1944

Registry Number J 4645/14/16.

TELEGRAM FROM Lord Killearn, Cairo.

No. 2694.

Dated 21st Dec; 1944.

Received 24th Dec; 1944. in Registry

J: Egypt and Sudan.

Weekly Political Summary.

Gives information regarding electoral campaign. Makram has claimed from Nahas Pasha and Serag Ed Din restitution of £140,000 subscribed for malaria victims and withdrawn by Nahas in April. Anwed Al-Wakil and Fawzi Hanna have been arrested on charges of irregularities in connexion with supplies. King Farouk has refused audience to Nashaat Pasha. There have been student demonstrations and Sudanese question has come to the fore. Gives information regarding discussions of Feminist Congress and states that possible establishment of Arab propaganda Bureaux in United Kingdom and United States has been considered.

Last Paper.

J 4610

References.

J 4565

(Minutes.)

B. 7.7 - page

27/12

Eastern Dept. SS 7, 8.

CP.

27/12

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

- 2; Mrs Oliver (MofS)
  - Mr Kellar (MofS)
  - with Egyptian Dept. of Comp.
  - Mr Stanford (Accra)
  - Mr Makens (Baserta)
  - Blancery Rabat 3c
  - " Tunis
  - " Algiers
  - " Paris
  - " Washington
- Dec 27<sup>6</sup>

(Action completed.)

9/1/45

(Index.)

Wx 9/6/45

Next Paper.

J 10718/16 1945

J

J 3514

19 OCT 1944

Registry Number } J 3514/14/10

TELEGRAM FROM  
M. El Alami, Cairo.  
No. 1894.

Dated 25th October, 1944

Received in Registry } 29th October,  
1944.

From Egypt and Sudan.

Weekly political summary. ✓

Describes recent developments in the Ghazali controversy which is becoming graver - official organ of the Ministry of Interior published article which was taken to be directed at the King. As soon as proceedings of preparatory committee on Arab congress are over, Palace will probably take strong action on the Ghazali issue. Details of proceedings not yet available but there are reports of trouble between Syrian and Lebanese delegations on frontier questions. Musa El Alami has been accepted as representative of Palestinian Arabs.

Last Paper.

J 3513

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

- 8) Mrs Oliver (m of J)
- Mr Keller (m of J)
- with 1/2 ptian Sept 1944
- Mr Stanford (Accra)
- Mr Martins (Caserta)
- Chancery Paris
- " Rabat (30)
- " Tunis
- " Algiers
- Oct 9<sup>e</sup>
- 8) B. G. ✓ Oct 12

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

Next Paper.

J 3514

(Minutes.)

The Ghazali question has now boiled over & ended in the dismissal of Nahas.

In view of last sentence copy also to CO.

✓ Paper with Mr Price.  
Eastern Dept 9/12/10

Mr Price

9/10 2ADW 5/10.

King Farouk would be better employed smoothing over matters in his own country. We have now had details about the conference.

CP.  
10/10.

J

J 3649

7 OCT 1944

Registry Number J 3649/14/16.

TELEGRAM FROM Mr. Shone, Cairo.

No. 2059

Dated 15th Oct., 1944

Received in Registry 17th Oct., 1944

J: Egypt & Sudan.

Weekly Political Summary. ✓

After three weeks palace envoy pointed out to Nahas that hope of compromise settlement was practically extinct on 8th October when it was learned that Nahas intended to resign King Farouk issued a rescript dismissing Nahas and appointing Ahmed Maher Prime Minister. Palace seem to be supporting Makram who wish Nokrashi may cause trouble unless Ahmed Maher is able to control his team. Wafat are better against His Majesty's Government while statements of intentions of new Government have been satisfactory.

Last Paper.

98

J 3577

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of)

S/mrs Alwer moff  
Mr Kellar m P.O.  
with Egyptian Dept's  
compro  
Northford (accray)  
Mr Makins (Basert)  
Blancery Paris  
Rabat 3c  
Lunis  
Algiers  
Act 17.

OVER

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

11/2/44

11/6/44

Next Paper.

(Minutes.)

As far as I know Lord Killern has not returned and these are Mr. Shone's comments. I am checking this and, if necessary, the tel. heading will be corrected in distribution. ✓ now checked.

This is not such a pretty picture. I think that, if we are to avoid reaction, we must (a) back the P.M. (b) avoid anything which might promote discord within the Cabinet, particularly in so far as the P.M.'s authority might be weakened.

H.V. Courtenay-Pruce

Copy to other office contacts in Dept. as in T 3581.

17/10.

Not much sign of winter inside or outside  
to. Munich 1944

2) Maj. Dewhurst H.C.  
Mrs. Oliver m. b. m. of S  
Mr. Gilbert (P of S)  
Mr. Lyal (P of S)  
Mr. Lawson (Treas)  
Mr. Jourdain (m. w. y)  
Mr. Perkins (m of supply)  
Mr. Collins (m. z. W)  
Miss Hopley (m of food)  
✓ Oct 17

J / 16 10

AMENDMENT

POLITICAL DISTRIBUTION

Cairo telegram No. 2059 should be  
as from Mr. Shone.

Communications Department.

17th October, 1944.