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رسائل من إلياس كوسا، شباط ١٩٥٧

إلى القنصل رسالتان مطبوعتان باللغة الانجليزية من إلياس كوسا
، تتضمن ١٩٥٧ الأمريكي في القدس والأمين العام للأمم المتحدة سنة
المقالات وحذف عبارة رسالته إلى القنصل الأمريكي ملاحظات على ترجمة إحدى
لقرارات الأمم المتحدة"، وفي مصادرة الأراضي من قِبَل اسرائيل هو انتهاك "
اسرائيل للوفد رسالته للأمين العام للأمم المتحدة بناقش كوسا دعوة
الوفد. السوداني لزيارتها والموضوعات التي سيتم عرضها على

18th February, 1957.

Mr. Leonard R. Cowles,
American Consul,
Persian Street,
Haifa.

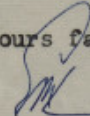
Dear Mr. Cowles,

While translating for publication in "Al-Rabita" review, the aide memoire on the Arabs of Israel delivered to Mr. Mark Bortman, I discovered that the following sentence was inadvertently omitted from the first paragraph under the item "Confiscation of Arab Agricultural Lands". It should be inserted immediately at the end of the paragraph at page 2 of the memorandum.

" This land confiscation flagrantly violated the international obligations imposed on Israel in virtue of the United Nations ^{Resolution} Resolution of 29th November, 1947, and in pursuance of the Transjordan-Israel Armistice Agreement of 1949."

I wonder whether it would be possible for you to ask Mr. Bortman to add this statement to his copy of the memorandum. It is simply an illustration of the spirit of disrespect and disregard which the Government of Israel shows to United Nation Resolutions and to international obligations.

Yours faithfully,


E.N. KOUSSA.

28th February, 1957.

The General Secretary,
United Nations Organization,
New York, U. S. A.

Dear Sir,

In its issue of the 18th instant, the Jerusalem Post reported that the Sudanese Delegate had stated before the Special Political Committee of the United Nations that Israel was maltreating the Arab inhabitants, and that, thereupon, the Israeli Delegate invited him to visit Israel "if he was interested in establishing facts" Mr. Comay further alleged that "the Arab minority enjoyed the same rights as all Israel citizens".

I despatched on the 19th instant, the following cable to the Sudanese Delegate which, I hope, has not been intercepted by the postal and censorship authorities of Israel :-

" Strongly urge accept invitation visit Israel provided free movement and contact guaranteed aaa then policy maltreating, humiliating, pauperizing and eventually liquidating Arabs ascertained aaa Comay's statement U.N.S.C.P. evasive and misleading".

Prime Minister Ben Gurion has suggested that a U.N. Commission should come to Israel to discuss the three problems of Gaza Strip, to wit, immunity from attack, the economic difficulties of the Arab population and the settlement of the refugees. I have nothing to say concerning the first problem for it is a debatable question whether the Arab States or Israel require such immunity. But I wish to say, as regards the remaining two problems, that it is neither just nor fair to entrust the Government of Israel with the welfare of the Arabs of the Gaza Strip. For the last 8 years, the Government of Israel has been pursuing a policy of maltreatment, oppression and pauperization against the 200 thousand Arabs at present living in Israel; and for the last 8 years the Government has been treating them as second class citizens and potential fifth columnists. Since the birth of the State, the Arabs of Israel have been the victims of systematic usurpation of their agricultural lands, of continuous oppression and humiliation by the military rule, of grave restriction of their freedom of movement, of many harsh practices and devices obstructing their peaceful livelihood, and of denial of their right to due representation in government and public departments and institutions, although they pay all taxes, direct and indirect, in the same manner and to the same extent as the Jewish inhabitants of the country. Indeed, the Government has not yet taken any sincere measure to resettle thousands of displaced Arabs who were forcibly driven out from their villages which were subsequently demolished, in some instances, in flagrant violation of the judgments of the highest tribunal of the State itself, which directed the return of the Arabs to their homes and lands. By the cruel act of the Government, thousands of Arabs have been rendered landless and jobless. Their plight presents a clear indication of the "spirit of earnestness and friendship" which, allegedly, animates the Prime Minister to deal with the problem of the Arab inhabitants of Gaza Strip. One has only to visit Al-Rameh and Al-Jish villages where the Christian Arabs of Iqrit and Kafr Bir'em villages live respectively, in order to appreciate the amount of trust one can repose in the statements and assurances made and given by the Prime Minister. I have mentioned the above two

villages by way of illustration only. There are many other villages the Arab inhabitants of which suffer the same misery. Let no one forget the poor Arab farmer, Mohamed Al-Naddaf of Jalameh in the Little Triangle, who had by strenuous work and persistent hard labour, turned his land measuring some 800 dunums of fertile and highly productive land into a flourishing orchard of fruit trees and vines and ~~an~~ orange grove, and also constructed decent houses for the habitation of his family. He was driven out from his property, the fruit and orange trees as well as the vines were uprooted, the houses demolished and the land granted to Jewish immigrants in utter disregard of the decision of the High Court of Justice that his expulsion from his properties was unlawful and that he was entitled to the restitution of his property. Neither the Prime Minister nor the Police made any endeavour to assist this helpless and defenceless Arab against the Jewish aggressors. Anticipating no justice or fairness from the Government of Israel, he felt constrained to send a telegram to the Prime Minister enquiring whether "he was living in a State or among a gang of robbers". It is also to be noted that the usurpation of Arab land by the Government of Israel under various pretences was in direct violation of the international obligations imposed upon the State of Israel in virtue of the United Nations Partition Resolution of the 29th November, 1947, and the Transjordan-Israel Armistice Agreement, 1949.

Such being the conduct, behaviour and attitude of the Government of Israel against the Arabs of Israel, one can easily imagine the unenviable fate in store for the Arabs of the Gaza Strip who allegedly provided the men for the Fedayeen Squads, and who stand, therefore, no chance for a benevolent and magnanimous treatment.

If the Prime Minister of Israel was anxious to have a United Nations Commission come to this country to discuss the aforesaid problems, it is only fair and just that this Commission should be given power to enquire into the conditions of the Arabs of Israel to enable it to decide whether it would be wise and prudent, just and equitable, to make the Arabs of the Gaza Strip share the distressing plight of their brethren who have been suffering for the last 8 years from the policy of oppression, humiliation and impoverishment since the birth of the State.

penultimately follows
I shall be grateful if you will be kind enough to bring the contents of this memorandum to the attention of the member States of the United Nations Organization.

Yours faithfully,


E. N. KOUSSA.

