

News Report From Washington

U. S. Defense Obligations—
Israel Faces Showdown—
Russia Caught Off-guard—
The Canal And Britain—

Washington—Israel's attack on Egypt was well-planned and carefully executed, a spur of the moment assault. Undoubtedly, the Suez Canal crisis and the Russian difficulty in East Europe were incentives to Israel in the launching of the attack against Egypt.

Before these crises, there was too much danger that any attack by Israel would be met by overwhelming opposition from all the major powers. At the time Israel struck, however, Britain and France urgently wanted an excuse to restore the Suez Canal situation to what it had been prior to Egypt's illegal seizure of the waterway.

Russia was heavily occupied in Poland and Hungary and apparently caught off guard by the assault. Britain and France acted immediately, in contrast to the lightning fast action of Egypt in seizing the canal and the slowness of the democracies in reacting a few months ago.

The United States, pledged to defend anyone attacked, was put squarely on the spot by the Israeli attack, and just before the presidential election when Mr. Eisenhower would have liked things to remain peaceful—at least for another week. There was strong Jewish sentiment, especially in New York, against helping Egypt, the attacked.

Meanwhile there was the inevitable speculation that British influences had not frowned on the Israeli attack, or plans for it, even though this would not include the government itself. Under Britain's evacuation agreement, it was stated plainly that British soldiers could re-enter the Canal Zone in the event of enemy action against it.

Clearly, the British could use Israel's assault as an excuse for re-entering the Canal Zone. The Israelis, of course, were not unaware of this when they opened the battle. Israel wants equal rights to use the canal, however, and it has long rankled the Israelis that they are not permitted the same rights as others by the Egyptians.

As far as the military strength of the Arabs and Israelis is concerned, Israel holds the edge over any Arab country and probably equal power with all the Arab States combined. As the German General Staff concluded in 1914, Israel faced the necessity of mobilizing first, striking at one enemy and then another, in order not to be pressed on all sides simultaneously.

And, Israelis knew that time was on the side of the Arabs. There are only 1,700,000 Israelis. The Arabs were arming as fast as they could—which wasn't too fast. But their eventual determination to drive Israel out of the East could not be disregarded.

Therefore, when the Egyptians angered Britain and weakened their traditional alliance with the West, and when Russia became heavily involved in satellite countries, the timing for Israel seemed right. Maybe they could get by with it, the Israelis concluded.

But it was a reckless gamble. No one could be sure what the British Government would do. No one could be sure what the United States—pledged to help an attacked state in the Middle East—would do. Or Russia—no one was sure what steps the Russians might take. The Reds have been shipping arms to the Arabs.

The attack, then, was a supreme gamble, and it is hard to see how the Israelis expect Washington and London to let them get by with such a brazen aggression even though it might solve Britain's Suez Canal problem. Washington and London face genuine problems in trying to work peace out of this confused and bitter situation.

The Arab States, moreover, are pledged to stand together in opposing Israel, though in the first days it was unclear whether they war must inevitably result in all of Israel's borders or that the Arabs faced the possibility that if Egypt were defeated, the strongest of their armies would have been lost.

It might be the turn of the next strongest, one by one, so to speak, if that were to happen. That was the incentive for joint Arab resistance to the Egyptian attack. Washington took a dark view of the situation as the war opened, advised Americans to get out of the entire area. Where the war would lead to, no one knew, but it appeared that the Arabs were going to get some of the blame.



VETERANS DAY IN FRANCE—Soldiers who never became veterans are remembered with reverence at the American Military Cemetery in Surannes, Honor Guard of the U.S. Army's Command Zone stands in formation before the rows of white crosses stretching along a hilltop that overlooks Paris and the Eiffel Tower.

PUBLIC SCHOOL PROPERTY IN STATE IS VALUED AT HALF BILLION DOLLARS

Property used for elementary and secondary schools in North Carolina has increased in value to approximately half a billion dollars today as compared with a 133 million dollars ten years ago. At the turn of the century only \$1,695,250 was invested in such property. Likewise, at the turn of the century there were 7,000 schoolhouses in use, a figure that increased to 8,409 in 1914-15, but which has continuously decreased until now (1954-55) there are 3,190.

This increasing trend in property value combined with the decreasing trend in the number of schoolhouses in use has resulted in higher average schoolhouse values. At the beginning of the century, with most schools conducted in log and small frame buildings, the average schoolhouse value was only \$237. The average value of the 3,190 schoolhouses in use in 1954-55 was \$150,486.

Average value of school property in relation to children enrolled and in accordance with the number of classrooms likewise has increased over the years. In 1899-100 the average sum of \$4.14 per child enrolled was invested in public school property. In 1954-55 this per pupil investment had increased to \$480.02, nearly 120 times greater. Classroom value on an average increased from \$3,033 in 1924-25 (not

available for prior years) to \$14,042 in 1954-55.

The number of schoolhouses used by white children has remained almost static during the past ten years, thus indicating that consolidation is almost or nearly complete and that new buildings erected now replace old buildings and care for increased school population.

In the case of schoolhouses for Negroes, it is noted that the trend is still definitely downward—there were 2,442 in 1919-20, which number has decreased over the years to 1,201 in 1954-55. These buildings and equipment were valued at \$98,963,164, an average of \$82,401.

The 1,989 schoolhouses used by white children were valued at \$381,088,651 in 1954-55, an average value of \$191,598. Average value per classrooms of these buildings was \$15,165 that year. Average value per classroom for Negro students the same year was \$10,925,

a figure larger than that for the white race in 1950-51.

According to a survey the Chowan County unit had two schoolhouses in 1954-55. The value was placed at \$344,823. The number of class rooms was 19, while the value per class room was \$18,149 and the value per pupil \$621.30.

Negro schools in the county unit at the same time was one, with a value of \$183,100. There were 12 class rooms, with a value of \$15,258 per class room and a value per pupil of \$458.90.

In the Edenton unit there were two school houses in 1954-55. The value was placed at \$742,000. There were 46 class rooms, with a class room value of \$16,130. The value per pupil was \$716.22.

There were three colored school houses, valued at \$440,750, with 34 class rooms. The value per class room was \$12,963 and the per pupil value \$402.14.

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WINFALL, N. C.

Advice Given To Put Best Foot Forward

"In order to have shoe hygiene, you must have foot hygiene," says Mary Em Lee, Extension clothing specialist at State College. A person's shoes are his most important accessory, but your health depends more on them for comfort, than as an accessory.

When you get ready to buy shoes, Miss Lee says to "put your best foot forward" and consider:

1. Your own feet first.
2. Your present wardrobe.
3. Latest fashions only when

they are kind to your feet.

4. The best in quality construction that you can afford.
5. The shoe that suits your age.
6. Wearing your most comfortable shoe for comparison when you shoe shop.
7. Having your feet measured everytime while standing—feet of growing children change quickly.
8. Never substituting a size—have both feet measured and fit the larger foot.
9. Asking for shoes with kid leather lining for longer wear and more comfort.
10. Not buying shoes that will be hard to match with other clothes.

There are three basic rules for

fitting, according to Miss Lee. Shoes should have low heels, no pressure on waist of foot, and plenty of toe room. Almost all present day manufacturers violate these three rules, explains Miss Lee, since most shoes have pointed toes and too many have high heels, thus crowding the toes and causing metatarsal bones to hurt, tiring feet and causing fallen arches.

High school girls, she says, should put off wearing high heels as long as possible, because low, flat heels today make stronger, healthier feet for tomorrow.

Time! the corrector when our judgments err. —Lord Byron.

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