

The American Freedom Association **BULLETIN**



PUBLISHED AS THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN FREEDOM ASSOCIATION, INC.

VOL. VI, No. 1

141 EAST CORRIHER AVENUE, SALISBURY, N. C.

JANUARY, 1957

The United Nations And The Middle East

SAMUEL R. LEVERING

We rejoice that the United Nations has been given an emergency police force. This can be the beginning of a real United Nations police, not to fight wars, but to prevent them.

This United Nations police was a desperate emergency measure. When Israel, Britain and France attacked Egypt, events were completely out of the control of the United States. Russia was threatening to send "volunteers", which raised a grave threat of World War III. The Western world would have fought to prevent Russia from taking over the Middle East, with its great strategic importance and vital oil reserves. Sending American troops would have made the entry of Russian troops certain, and World War III very likely. So in desperation a United Nations force, made up of contingents from small nations, was sent to restore order and prevent further bloodshed. President Eisenhower's decision to throw the full weight of the United States behind the United Nations effort to stop the fighting, and to require the attackers to withdraw their troops, was both right and wise.

THE FRUITS OF ANARCHY

Violence and war in the Middle East was almost certain, because the United Nations was weak. If the United Nations had had a single division of troops to post along the original division line in Palestine, the Arabs would not have dared to attack, and there would not have been any first Palestine War, with its resulting tragedy of 800,000 Arab refugees. Egypt and Colonel Nasser would not have been humiliated in defeat, and therefore filled with desire for revenge.

The United Nations also was impotent to prevent arms from being sent to both sides, under the uneasy cease-fire, including the massave shipment of arms from Russia to Egypt in 1956.

The United Nations was powerless to provide any real security for Israel. Egypt and the other Arab states, forty million strong, could prepare, and then annihilate Israel. Is it any wonder that the leaders of Israel, a country of less than two million, preferred to fight while they had a chance to survive?

THE SUEZ CANAL

British control of Suez could not last, and the United States joined in forcing Britain to withdraw in 1954. Egyptian control over the lifeline for the oil absolutely

vital to Western Europe, was also intolerable. The only just and tolerable solution was United Nations control.

Because United Nations control was not established after World War II, or when Britain withdrew in 1954, what could be expected other than war, when Colonel Nasser began to tighten the noose on the life of Britain and France?

STRENGTHEN THE UNITED NATIONS

With these lessons so freshly in mind, and the danger of World War III still present in the Middle East, now is the time to really strengthen the United Nations. The United Nations police should be made a permanent force. It should police not only the border between Egypt and Israel, but also the other borders between Israel and Arab states. It should police the Suez Canal. It should prevent arms from being sent into the Middle East.

If a United Nations police had been established earlier, it would have been available to send to Hungary when the Hungarians radio appealed for United Nations assistance against Russia's murderous attack. If the United Nations had been strengthened and used, there would have been no war in the Middle East. If the United Nations is now strengthened, World War III may be averted when the Eastern Germans rise against their communist oppressors, as they almost certainly will do.

CAUSE FOR REJOICING

We rejoice that in this time of crisis the United Nations has been used, and apparently will be strengthened by use. It could have been ignored, and died through disuse, as did the League of Nations. We should be thankful that President Eisenhower and the United States has contributed greatly to this use and strengthening. We rejoice that our President so clearly sees the need for world law, as stated in his great speech of October 31st., quotations from which appear in this issue.* Now is the time to apply these great principles more fully. We must move forward to world law and justice.

(* See: "Letter to the President")

★ ★ ★

Liberty means responsibility. That is why most men dread it.

—GEORGE BERNARD SHAW