
DOC 2543

To : Sasson Memisrael Paris

From : Sharett Memisrael Tel Aviv

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ONE Utilising tremendous gain scored Rhodes securing our Egyptian flank for advance to Eilat we sent reconnaissance column explore approaches without crossing either Egypt or TJ frontiers which proved brilliant success

TWO Units limited size high striking capacity with air support thereupon sent March 6 occupy Bir Malhan 2949 north 3456 east as advance fort throwing feelers southwards to sea southwestwards to Egyptian frontier also intermediary points between main base Ainhusu 3048 north 3515 east and Bir

THREE Reconnaissance column met no Legion forces but was seen by local Beduin thereupon we intercepted Glubb orders to Legion occupy positions our territory view preventing our penetration cutting us off if penetrate

FOUR Bir which is natural stronghold occupied without incident but one of minor flank units further north brushed with Legion STOP Patrol advancing from Bir southwest saw Rasnaqb on Egyptian frontier ten kilometres from Rushrush firmly held by Legion we also knew they are at latter point which is Eilat

FIVE Units were given strictest orders no clash with British avoid clash with Legion if possible therefore patrol on observing Legion ^{part} stayed put

SIX March 8 King through Tel sent me message our forces 35 kms from Akaba liable clash with his any moment begs us refrain futher advance towards Aqaba pending settlement Rhodes STOP Replied March 9 do not

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understand Majestys concern STOP If assumes our forces crossed or intend crossing into TJ can assure him fears unfounded and if he orders Legion not cross into Israel no clash would occur STOP Expressed hope agreement based territorial integrity both parties

SEVEN March 9 Bunche transmitted Shiloah note from Jundi protesting fact our armour aircraft crossed quote their line unquote March 7 urging our withdrawal view delicacy situation STOP Message contained map references their line which constituted first official admission they in our territory southernmost Negev STOP We instructed Shiloah reply our forces operate nowhere in Negev outside borders Israel have not crossed nor intend crossing TJ STOP TJ note however indicates their forces crossed into Israel STOP Register strongest protest this invasion demand immediate withdrawal TJ forces their side frontier any delicacy situation that may arise due illegal action taken admitted by TJ

EIGHT Midnight ninth-tenth intercepted Glubb order Legion evacuate Naqb Rushrush withdraw TJ side STOP Withdrawal carried out morning tenth without incident and our forces occupied both points STOP This is magnificent victory won without single drop blood

SHARETT

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