EXIT OF AMERICANS IN MID-EAST SHAPED
By C.L. SULZBERGERSpecial to THE NEW YORK TIMES.
New York Times (1857-Current file); Jul 11, 1948; ProQuest Historical Newspapers The New York Times (1851 - 2002)
pg. 10

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Cyprus Maps Air Evacuation From Arab Lands as Wrath Against U. S. Increases

By C. L. SULZBERGER
Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

NICOSIA, Cyprus, July 10—Tentative preparations are now being made in Cyprus for the possible emergency evacuation of United States citizens from the Arab states of the Middle East, should development of the newest phase of the Palestine war inflame opinion in those countries further against the United States.

State Department representatives in certain Middle East lands have been in touch with one another on this problem and preliminary arrangements have been made to expedite an evacuation operation if and when deemed necessary.

Before the Palestine truce became effective a force of twenty-one C-47 and converted B-17 transport planes had been flown to Nicosia from Germany for a similar purpose and was based here until the cease-fire, arranged under the United Nations, took effect.

It is now understood that this air contingent is sufficiently on the alert so that it could be returned to Cyprus on ten hours' notice. At the same time surveys have been made on the island to provide for the emergency housing of between 400 and 600 Americans at a time, if their sudden evacuation is deemed necessary.

It is feared by Middle Eastern diplomats that a stiffening of United States policy on Palestine is inevitable and that this may easily provoke trouble and possibly mob action against United States citizens—especially in Iraq, Syria and Egypt.

This, it is believed, may be immediately incited—possibly with the official sanction of the governments of those countries—if the United States seeks to invoke Article 39 of the United Nations Charter or if the ban on the shipment of arms to Israel is lifted.

It is believed that the situation of United States citizens in the Arab states might possibly be graver at such a juncture than during the period when the first evacuation was prepared in Cyprus in May. The original plan was to fly to Cyprus any Americans desiring to evacuate and then shift them to other American planes and fly them to Italy.

Now the operation is conceived on the scale of a greater emergency and should it be put into action it is believed that all available planes would be employed solely to evacuate Americans from the Arab states, leaving them to be housed temporarily in Cyprus until they could eventually be removed by ship.

Already there appear to be nasty signs of anti-Americanism growing in the Middle East. United States travelers—even diplomatic couriers—are reporting increasing inconveniences and deliberate nastiness on the part of Arab officialdom. So far this appears to have been directed specifically at Americans and not, for example, at Britons.

It is estimated roughly that there are about 10,000 Americans, including diplomats, business men, missionaries, oilmen and correspondents, in the Arab states. Of these it is computed that about 70 per cent is in Saudi Arabia, where it is considered unlikely that any organized anti-Americanism would be tolerated.

Several hundred other American passport holders are of Middle Eastern origin and would probably choose to remain where they are.

It is evident that Cyprus is now becoming the main Anglo-American base for possible emergency action in connection with the Palestine war.

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