EGYPTIANS WOOED BY RUSSIAN PRESS
Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.
New York Times (1857-Current file); Jan 26, 1952; ProQuest Historical Newspapers The New York Times (1851 - 2003)
pg. 4

EGYPTIANS WOOED BY RUSSIAN PRESS

Pravda Voices Sympathy With Their Fight for 'Freedom'— Denies Kremlin Is Threat

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

MOSCOW, Jan. 25—Pravda declared today that the Soviet Union honestly and disinterestedly sympathized with Egypt's struggle for "freedom and independence," and sharply denied that Russia in any manner constituted a threat either to Egypt or the other Middle Eastern countries.

The newspaper said it was only natural that the Egyptian people, having "fallen into misfortune under foreign occupation," should turn their thoughts "to the Soviet Union, to Moscow, to Stalin."

Pravda asserted that Britain and the United States were seeking to employ false accusations of some "threat" emanating from Russia as a cloak to cover their intervention in the internal affairs of Middle Eastern nations. The Communist party paper characterized talk of such threats as "lies," asserting that the people of Egypt had not been deceived by this propaganda.

"That is precisely why the residents of Cairo applaud the Red flag on the car of the Soviet mission," Pravda said. "That is precisely why on the quay at Port Said, when Soviet fishing vessels passed through despite a pouring rain, a crowd of many thousands carrying a portrait of J. V. Stalin appeared to welcome the Soviet sailors."

Pravda's views on Egypt were presented in a special commentary from Cairo written by G. Rassadin, formerly the paper's staff correspondent in New York. The dispatch termed Prime Minister Churchill's call to the United States Congress for participation by the United States and the other Western powers in the occupation of the Suez Canal zone as an effort to erect a "screen of international occupation to cover up the aggression of English imperialism against the Egyptian people."

Mr. Churchill was held to have used "characteristic cynicism" in explaining the Egyptian situation as one in which the "mob got out of control."

It was the first time since Mr. Churchill's accession to the Prime Ministership that critical comment on him had appeared in the Soviet press.

Pravda sarcastically reported on Western tourists in Egypt, saying that the Pyramids were surrounded by almost equally imposing mounds of United States chewing gum. It added that if the Pyramids themselves were not so heavy, they would have long since been carted away by the British or Americans to their museums.

The lengthy discussion of Egypt was the latest manifestation in the Russian press of the intense interest in developments in that country.

In recent weeks the press repeatedly has carried informative articles concerning Egyptian history and the background of recent international events, leaving no doubt that in the Soviet view the Egyptian situation is one of the most serious in the world today.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.