EGYPTIAN MILITARY DENIES NEGLIGENCE
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Army Contends It Performed Duty Well in Jan. 26 Riots —Wafd Paper Suspended

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

CAIRO, Feb. 11—Premier Ali Maher Pasha's office issued a statement tonight saying that the Army had denied charges made in the press by Fuad Serag el-Din Pasha, former Interior Minister, that it was responsible for the Cairo rioting two weeks ago.

The statement by the Premier's office said:

"The Al Misri newspaper published a statement in which Fuad Serag el-Din Pasha tried to put responsibility of the painful incidents of Saturday, Jan. 26 [the day of the Cairo rioting] on the Egyptian Army. The headquarters of the Egyptian Army reported to the Premier its reply to this statement, and said that it was not willing to publish this reply in the newspapers, as the outgoing Minister of Interior had done, wishing to avoid entering into journalistic disputes in this critical matter.

"The headquarters of the Army indicated in its statement that the Army had performed its duty well as soon as it was asked. The office of the Premier has referred this subject to the Prosecutor General, and will issue a statement with regard to this matter after conclusion of the investigation."

Al Misri was confiscated, but only after most of the edition had been sold, because certain parts of Serag el-Din Pasha's statement were considered a menace to public security. The censor's office announced tonight that Al Misri would not appear tomorrow.

This paper is the principal organ of the Wafd party, headed by Mustafa Nahas Pasha, who was dismissed as Premier immediately after the Jan. 26 incidents.

Premier Maher Pasha, speaking today on the occasion of King Farouk's birthday and referring to the riots, declared:

"The people lost their minds and went astray to such an extent that a real catastrophe was about to befall the country. It has been the blessing of Providence, finding expression in the King's wisdom, that order and tranquillity were restored.

The Premier expressed the hope that by the next anniversary of the King's birth, Egypt would have attained full liberty and unification of the Nile valley, and would be able "to actually participate in the establishment of international peace and the realization of genuine democracy."

He again replied to questions regarding the possibility that Amr Pasha, Egyptian Ambassador to London, who was withdrawn last December, might carry on talks during his visit to London with the royal Egyptian mission, which left tonight to attend the funeral of King George VI.

"If the British authorities would like to inform him [Amr Pasha] of their opinion, he will have no objection to listening," the Premier said. "We are willing to listen to anything that might come from Mr. Anthony Eden."

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