ARMY TO KEEP GRIP ON CAIRO CHAMBER
By ROBERT C. DOTYSpecial to THE NEW YORK TIMES.
New York Times (1857-Current file); Mar 10, 1954; ProQuest Historical Newspapers The New York Times (1851 - 2002)
pg. 4

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One-Fifth to One-Third May Be Named by Junta to Sit With Elected Members

By ROBERT C. DOTY
Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

CAIRO, March 9—One-fifth to one-third of Egypt's future constituent Assembly may be appointed by the ruling military junta instead of elected by popular vote.

Although official announcements of plans for the Assembly to exercise parliamentary powers, beginning in July, spoke only of popularly selected delegates, a responsible official source disclosed today that modification of the plan is under active consideration.

The establishment of a civilian parliamentary body, which was one of the terms of the settlement of the dispute that split the military regime in the last two weeks, is bound to cut deeply into the authority of the twelve-man Revolution Command Council, in the opinion of most observers.

For this reason the idea elicits only lukewarm support from some council members who would prefer to keep the reins in their hands for the full three-year "transitional" period defined at the time they seized power from King Farouk and the old Parliament on July 23, 1952.

Lieut. Col. Gamal Abdel Nasser, Deputy Premier and dominant figure of the junta, is now reported to feel that it would be desirable "to secure a sort of balance in the Assembly" by selecting 20 to 33 per cent of the membership to sit with the elected members on equal terms.

Wide Range Indicated

The plan under discussion calls for the Revolution Command Council to select these members from the ranks of former Premiers, Presidents of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies of the old Parliament, religious leaders and the elected heads of engineering, bar, medical and labor associations.

This represented a return to the spirit of the proposals under consideration by the Revolution Command Council before the recent split with Maj Gen. Mohammed Naguib that produced his "resignation" from the posts of President, Premier and head of the Revolution Command Council and his subsequent reinstatement. The plan called for an advisory council of appointed members.

General Naguib, on his reinstatement to the Presidency a week ago Sunday, forced the issue by publicly announcing that a constituent Assembly with parliamentary powers would be established.

An authoritative source disclosed today that there had been no agreement on this in the negotiations between the Nasser and Naguib partisans and that the premature announcement was obviously a bid by General Naguib for popularity.

Lack of enthusiasm for the idea of submitting the military regime to the unpredictable consequences of an electoral campaign was apparent in casual conversations of the members of the Revolution Command Council and their aides. One predicted gloomily that a quick return to parliamentary life would mean a return to the scene of the dissolved political parties and the corruption they fathered.

This attitude possibly foreshadowed a full-scale attempt to water down or kill the Parliament project altogether.

Leaders at Harmony Dinner

Meanwhile General Naguib, who last night got back the titles of Premier and Revolution Command Council head, and Colonel Nasser, who surrendered them but kept most of the real power, met at a harmony dinner at the Cairo Officers' Club.

Before an audience of 300 officers, civilian Cabinet ministers and their Revolution Command Council colleagues, both asserted that the crisis had been liquidated and unity restored.

This was the general theme of all of the nine other speeches, except that of Maj. Salah Salem, Minister of National Guidance and Sudan Affairs. Major Salem made the candid admission that "what happened in Egypt has greatly weakened us externally and internally."

He said Egypt had lost ground, particularly in the Sudan. General Naguib's arrival in Khartum March 1 coincided with bloody riots between pro-Egyptian and anti-Egyptian forces in the neighboring country which is being urged to choose union with Egypt when the present joint British-Egyptian rule ends.

Despite the British Governor General's warning against new visits by Egyptian leaders, Major Salem said, he and General Naguib would go to the Sudan "anytime we wish to do so."



Associated Press Radiophoto

NAGUIB RESTORED TO POWER: Maj. Gen. Mohammed Naguib, flanked by Lieut. Col. Gamal Abdel Nasser, left, and Zakaria Mohieddin, Interior Minister, leaving Revolution Command Council session on Monday. He was restored as Premier and military junta head.

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