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By ANTHONY LEWIS Special to The New York Times
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Feel Further Victories May Stir More Arab Turmoil

By ANTHONY LEWIS
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LONDON, June 7—Britain sought urgently tonight to persuade the Israelis to halt their military sweep and order a cease-fire.

British diplomats argued that further Israeli victories might arouse more turmoil in the Arab world and lessen chances for the political settlement that Israel wants.

The immediate concern here was for King Hussein of Jordan. With his army shattered and much of his territory west of the Jordan River gone, including the Old City of Jerusalem, it was feared that he would be driven from power.

King Hussein, despite his solidarity with President Gamal Abdel Nasser of the United Arab Republic against Israel in the last few days, is regarded as a vital voice of moderation among Arab leaders.

If he were overthrown, it was argued, it would doubtless be by more xenophobic and pro-Nasser elements in Jordan. It has been difficult for him to hold those forces in check over the last decade.

"It would be very short-sighted by the Israelis to risk that kind of political change in Jordan for a few more miles of territory," one informed diplomatic source said today.

'No Moderates in Crowds'

The feeling of many experts on the Middle East was that the new reverses suffered by the Arab armies, 10 years after the Egyptians' Sinai defeat, would arouse mob passions against almost any Arab government.

"There are no moderates in those street crowds," one expert put it. He said popular pressure doubtless accounted for the anti-Western oil moves by Arab countries far from the Israeli conflict.

The Egyptian military setbacks could have repercussions in southern Arabia.

A 50,000-man Egyptian force had been supporting the republican regime in Yemen against the royalists. And pro-Egyptian elements have been carrying on a terrorist campaign against the British-backed federal regime of South Arabia in Aden.

The Egyptian President may now be calling home some of his troops from Yemen. Reports to that effect appeared here today, but could not be confirmed.

On the other hand, some experts here thought that President Nasser would try even harder for victory in Yemen to regain prestige lost in the war with Israel.

Questioned in Commons

In the House of Commons today, the Foreign Secretary, George Brown, was asked about rumors that President Nasser was no longer in full command in Egypt.

"I have seen no evidence to support those rumors," Mr. Brown said. "None at all."

Mr. Brown told the Commons that Britain had had "no positive response from the Russians" on a British proposal for a general embargo on arms shipments to the combatants in the Middle East. He said the United States was "not placing an embargo."

Yesterday, Prime Minister Wilson announced that Britain had temporarily stopped arms supplies. Today, Mr. Brown indicated that the suspension was continuing. But he said it would be "very difficult" for Britain to maintain it unilaterally.

The Foreign Secretary repeated in strong terms the denial of the Arab assertion that British planes had bombed Egyptian positions. He repeatedly called this charge a "lie."

Reason for Charge Offered

Mr. Brown suggested that the Egyptians were making the charge because "the United Arab Republic is trying to give itself an alibi for its own military failures and the extent to which its failures have let down its allies."

Informed quarters believe the Egyptian charge of British and American air activity, which was broadcast repeatedly again today, was also designed to increase chances for Soviet intervention.

The embarrassment to the Soviet Union from its failure to intervene on behalf of its Arab allies is seen in the British Government as another reason for Israel to stop her victory march now.

There can be no real gain for Israel, it was argued today, in further alienating the Soviet Union by increasing that embarrassment. In the Foreign Office, President Kennedy's decision to abjure victory claims after the Russian retreat in the Cuban missile crisis of 1962 was cited.

Mr. Brown offered reassurance on the question of oil supplies—of major domestic concern here because Britain has been so dependent on the Middle East for her oil.

"While there may well be temporary inconveniences for us, the Foreign Secretary said, "there should be no insuperable problem. Urgent steps are being taken to readjust the pattern of oil supplies to this country."

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