

Israel and Her Neighbors

PART III

BY LOUIS GREENSPAN

THE SINAI INVASION

The war between the Arabs and Israelites in 1948 ended with the defeat of the Arab armies. The defeat of an army, however, does not imply the defeat of a nation, so that the invading countries were able to maintain a state of war against Israel. It was originally intended that the truce and armistice agreements of 1949 were a temporary measure leading to a permanent peace settlement, but the Arab world and its leaders began almost immediately to speak of a "second round." That is they declared their intention of driving the Jews into the sea. This could not be achieved by armed forces. The weapons employed were an economic blockade and guerilla action.

The economic blockade included the exclusion of Israeli shipping through the Suez Canal and the Gulf of Aquaba, Israel's gateway to the sea. Gradually the Arab states set up a committee investigating all industrial firms which did business with Israel refusing them the right to do business with the Arab world. As a result Israel lost many customers. Nevertheless the blockade was not a success, for instead of being strangled the Jewish state moved towards economic self-sufficiency.

The guerilla warfare arose out of the situation of the Arab refugees. After the war of 1948 some 600,000 Arabs fled Jewish occupied territories and settled on the borders of Israel in Jordan and Gaza. At first their raids into Israel's territory were disorganized and only for the purpose of stealing food, pipelines and such like. In 1953 the governments of Jordan and Egypt organized and trained refugees who were sent into the country specifically to murder, pillage and cause terror. These governments were able to disclaim any responsibilities for their actions so that they could not be called to account. The only course left for the Israeli government was to initiate a series of reprisals, wiping out the bases in which the commandos, or "fedayeen" as they called themselves, were being trained. Thus for several years the atmosphere in the mid-east was explosive.

It worsened when Nasser made his arms deal with the Soviet Union. Through this Egypt gained so effective an arm superiority over Israel that it was feared that the Arab state would be in a position to carry out their threat to destroy it. In October 1956 a mutual defence pact was signed between Syria, Jordan and Egypt with all three countries declaring the determination to extend the activities of the fedayeen. When the Soviet Union, the Arab world's newest ally, was busy in Hungary; the Americans were concerned over the presidential election; and the British and French were openly hostile to Nasser, the Israelies seized their opportunity. On October 29th infantry and paratroopers of the Israeli army invaded the Sinai Desert.

This invasion had four objectives, the humiliation of Nasser, the destruction of his army and fedayeen bases in the Sinai, the capture of the Gaza strip, and the opening of the Gulf of Acaba. After a one-week offensive three of these were accomplished but the U.N. led by the U.S. and the Bandung powers forced an Israeli withdrawal.

The Israeli's fear a return to the status quo anti when Nasser could wage limited liability warfare. The basis of law, namely the armistice agreements have been thoroughly discredited. The U.N. has proven itself impotent to deal with the fundamental issues so that the U.S. will have to be the prime mover in worming out a permanent peace. In view of the present atmosphere in that area such a move is very hazardous, but at least it is now known that further conflict in the mid-east is more dangerous than previously supposed.

Connolly Shield

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unrelenting tension of the type of modern tragedy in which the conclusion is not death, but life to the bitter end.

The screams and contortions that opened the final production came from the grave of Giuseppe Verdi. Gyrating Joe they call him now, but he could not match the acrobatics and histrionics of the three witches from Delta Gamma who began with a travesty of an impossibly sentimental and melodramatic episode from the infancy of the composer. These were enlivened by prophetic and more-or-less synchronized excerpts from HI — but not FI—recordings of his works, and carried suggestions of the Canadian Players' Ophelia in dementia and the ladders of Peer Gynt. The "play" (which it never was in the original) was announced as a parody, and ended as a farce which the beholders enjoyed as much as the participants. The Prologue responded to miscued records and faulty props with alternate double-take and dead-pan; the composer's mother made all on either side of the footlights as hysterical as herself; and the ingenue, when she managed to restrain her mirth, was as incongruously cute as Debbie Reynolds might be at the climax of "King Lear." Only the infant, banded about like a basketball, contrived to remain calm. This burlesque of hasty improvisation took the sting out of inadequate support and careless staff-work and set up the merits of the two serious presentations that were able to survive.

The awards:

From the one cast with male players, the best — acting three times his age and seldom pushing it too hard—was equal to the best in recent year: Bob Fowler in "The Browning Version" by King's. From several good female parts, Valerie Colgan of King's, in a demanding role, though not her best, tied with Helen Horne of Delta Gamma who delighted her audience with a little intelligent insanity. The Connolly Shield, for direction and team-work that brought out the best in a sympathetic but inexperienced cast: Alpha Gamma Delta for "Helen of Troy," directed by Pat Fownes. C.L.B.

Down, Joan



Whatta Kick!



"Alpha-Omega"—"beginning and end." Perhaps by now the meaning of the Greek words has been understood by all, the idea being that to all things there is a beginning and an end. Now that this is the last column of this nature, the "omega" of it all, one is permitted to digress to explain why such a name as Alpha-Omega, especially in a college paper.

The ephemeral activities that make up college days are best discussed under a title that in itself suggests the evanescent life of a college student. In later years when college experiences are but a memory, so many of the things that seemed so important — the football victory, the tremendous variety show, the big weekend, la grande passion — will be as colorful glimmers on a kaleidoscope of college reminiscences. In this column an attempt to chronicle a little of what occurred between the "beginning and the end." But the exams approach the beginning of the end for many, for others the end — with the beginning of life before them.

Two such who face a new life in a new clime are Dave Fraser and Piper Nunn of the Dalhousie Law School. Both top students next year following their graduation this spring they move into colleges in the United States each winning a scholarship of special significance. Dave is the first Canadian to win a scholarship of this nature to the University of Pennsylvania while Piper has won one of the first scholarships of the Ford monies to Harvard Law School. Two firsts to two first-rate Dalhousie graduates. Congratulations!

Let us hope that the results of the recent survey by Phillip E. Jacoby, Professor of Political Science at the University of Pennsylvania who found that "there is not much difference "between a college and a non-college man has little bearing on the Dalhousie campus. A graduate should be distinguishable from the non-college man in his sincere approach to better his fellow man, those less fortunate mentally, and financially than he, himself. He should not attempt to be one of the group lost in the present trend on this continent to achieve conformity. It is up to the graduate to show the way that others may follow. The present attitude of all achieving a blend of mediocrity has been summed up succinctly in the statement that in today's society "the bland are leading the bland."

Two of tomorrow's leaders were recognized at the recent Munro Day activities when Dave Bryson and Dave Janigan were selected for the Malcolm Honor Society. The two certainly will enhance the society for during their many years on the Dalhousie campus, "Jan" most recently on the Forrest campus, they have both played an active, helpful part in all phases of student activity as well as both being good students. Both appeared in Glee Club productions in lead roles, both played football with the Purdy Cup champs of 1951 and later, and both have been on the Gazette staff, and Jan edited the Dalhousie Med school Journal, both played Junior Varsity basketball, and held seats on the Students' Council, and both have held good scholastic records. Dave, a lawyer and Jan, a doctor, go from Dalhousie with all the best wishes of the Dalhousie students. They deserved the honor they achieved.

It is perhaps interesting to note that last year's Malcolm Honor Society's sole member, Sally Roper, was from the Dalhousie Law School, but more interestingly attended the exact same classes through the three years of high school in Halifax as did Dave Bryson. Both Dave and Sally were Queen Elizabeth High grads, and but for Dave changing from Science to Arts might have graduated in the same year. Strange thing coincidence.

Our Campus Queen this year, Nancy Lane, following in the crowning glory of her sister Queen Elise of 1955 also has some coincidental facts attaching to her queenship. Back in 1951 when Queen Sally Newman was crowned she represented Pine Hill, if memory serves us rightly, and Pine Hill that year won her first Inter-faculty Basketball championship. This year the Dents paced by Bunty Ford and Carl Connor won the Interfac Championship for the first time in at least a decade. The recognition of the Dent Queen was the crowning touch of a good Dent day at Dalhousie.

Ed Harris and Dennis Madden won the Bennett Debating Shield Munro Day Eve Day in a winning debate advocating that "there should be a nudist colony established in Nova Scotia," over the MacDonald Oratorical Prize winner Richard Vogel and his partner. For the lawyers participating, three of whom were stand-out Inter-Collegiate debaters, it was interesting to see Ed Harris, "Mr. Accounting of Canada," win the shield again as he did in 1955 in his first year law. This is the first time such has occurred. What happens when Ed who is now in second year Law, reaches third year Law? A third term, or will Sodales like Congress prohibit that. Congratulations Ed and Denny!

For those students in Labor Law the recent column "Business Tides" in Newsweek should prove interesting. It is entitled "Are Unions Necessary?" and discusses the government's duty (American government) to protect the individual worker against compulsory association in labor unions. Quite an interesting article.

A movie to see is the coming "Silent World" which is the filmed production of Captain J. Y. Costeau's fascinating work of the same name. It is the next feature at the Hyland and would be well worth the break in the studies.

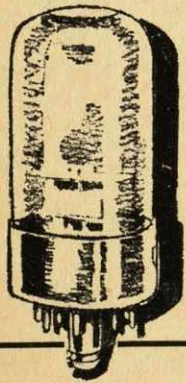
Men always make passes at girls who quaff glasses.

The athletics at Dalhousie ended Mundo Day with the basketball team losing the final game of the City League to Studley Grads who were led by Dal Law student "Dixie" Walker who chucked in 27 points, his best night in a good many years. It seems odd that in the year the Dominion Intermediate Championships come east that Dalhousie does not mould a team around the tremendous potential that is latent on the campus. Back in the "one physical director" era the basketball team was composed of the best on the Dalhousie campus. Now the team is selected from the best that turn out to play which is pretty good, but with the new MIAU ruling, could be so much better.

Perhaps the fault lies in the Physical Director's Office where two men with the combined salary of over \$6000 run athletics. In the old days back, five years, the department was run on half the salary, but twice the student enthusiasm. Perhaps the fault lies in the students, but waste of tremendous potential is a sad sight to see.

A none too brilliant witness was on the stand testifying to the character of a woman whose reputation was not all that it should have been. The prosecuting attorney said: "How about the veracity of this witness?" The man on the stand scratched his head and answered: "W-e-ll, some sez she does and some sez she don't."

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