

in one room up there on the 38th floor and Eban in another room. Dag Hammarskjöld would go running from one to the other. It was odd but, the Egyptians would not sit in the same room with the Israelis. That is the main trouble in the Middle East. The Arabs won't talk to the Israelis or discuss things with them. They always insist that there has to be a mediator or an intermediary. There has to be somebody else in between, a third party.

JK: In Hammarskjöld's talks with Lloyd and Pineau during that period before the crisis, did he conduct those meetings in the same way?

Epstein: No, he didn't need to put them in separate rooms. He could meet with them together or separately as it suited him. But Hammarskjöld was livid at them. The thing which I remembered most was the Canadian Ambassador at the time, R.A. Mackay. I was very friendly with him at the time. We were having a drink at the bar. They were meeting all night in those days, the Security Council and the General Assembly. When there were vetoes in the Security Council they would move over to the General Assembly. There were vetoes on two things. The Russians were vetoing the Hungarian fighting that was going on and the British and the French vetoing the Suez issues. I said to this Canadian, "I think the British have lost their marbles. They've gone mad." He said, "Absolutely, I just cannot understand them." Lloyd was the