

attack of October 29 there had been no fedayeen raids from Egypt. The only incident was one in which an Israeli truck was blown up by a land mine in a demilitarized zone, therefore an area unauthorized to the Israeli military.)

5. He then brought up the question of reinforcements for Canadian troops and fully admitted that he had doubts even fears of Canadian intentions following PM's references to "use of force". I gather that Egyptian Embassy in Ottawa does not keep him too well informed by telegram of important debates. Replying to my query he said that all important reference in our debates he had studied through the various news agencies reports.

6. A propos of his complaints concerning the foreign press I spoke with some sympathy saying that we had likewise been the target of very malicious press campaign. I showed him copy I had with me of Egyptian press summary prepared in the office, giving recent (March 12) press comments on Canada and Canadian contingent. I pointed out the editorial in *Al Gomhouriya*, which made wild attacks on alleged Canadian "imperialist" designs, constructed on the hypothesis that our troops had taken over Gaza presumably as a first step towards "internationalizing" it, and had been responsible for the shooting. I said that while I was aware that he could not be held responsible for everything that appeared in the press, nevertheless he must agree that such wild and irresponsible remarks, which it was my duty to report to Ottawa, could not be expected to help in a sympathetic attitude on the part of Canadians towards Egypt. I said what was even more important, our troops here must be increasingly annoyed by this campaign and hence it could have an unfavourable effect on their morale. He agreed whole-heartedly with these last remarks.

7. I then thought it proper to ask whether he would not agree some time to giving a statement which would help to correct some of these impressions and whether he would confirm publicly the excellent performance of our troops here. I mentioned [Jack] Brayley, the Canadian Press repre-