

University of Montana

ScholarWorks at University of Montana

Mike Mansfield Speeches, Statements and Interviews

Mike Mansfield Papers

7-3-1958

Statement of Mike Mansfield - Brief on the Lebanese Situation

Mike Mansfield 1903-2001

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.umt.edu/mansfield_speeches

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Recommended Citation

Mansfield, Mike 1903-2001, "Statement of Mike Mansfield - Brief on the Lebanese Situation" (1958). *Mike Mansfield Speeches, Statements and Interviews*. 306.

https://scholarworks.umt.edu/mansfield_speeches/306

This Speech is brought to you for free and open access by the Mike Mansfield Papers at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in Mike Mansfield Speeches, Statements and Interviews by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.

Brief on the Lebanese Situation

COPY

File Copy
7/3/58

The answer to the Lebanese situation is not intervention by U.S.-U.K. or by the United States alone. The answer is an extension of the present U.N. police force now patrolling the Gaza Strip and the Gulf of Aqaba area to the borders of Lebanon. In my opinion, an additional force of 1500 men would be enough to take care of the situation and prevent the continued infiltration of Syrian personnel and arms and bring about a degree of stability to this most important to us of the Arab countries of the Middle East.

The international character of the dispute can be regarded as established through the dispatch of a number of U.N. observers and also through the activities of United Nations Secretary Dag Hammarskjöld. Unilateral military measures in the Lebanon would create more problems than it would solve. It would also bring about the creation of a situation with which we found fault almost two years ago at the time of the Israeli-French-British invasion of the Suez. The only kind of intervention which should take place - if intervention is the only answer - is intervention authorized by the United Nations, and, if so authorized, it had better come through an extension of the present U.N. police force and not from Britain and the United States or the United States alone.

The ~~main~~ task is now and has been for the past seven weeks to bring this matter to the United Nations and, through the United

Nations, to expand and extend the police force so that it could patrol the borders of Lebanon. This would be far cheaper, more statesmanlike, and more conducive in the long run to bringing stability to Lebanon and a degree of peace to the Far East. Any other kind of intervention would weaken the position of the roles of Iraq and Jordan and would pave the way, in my opinion, for ~~the~~^{their} overthrow, through the dissemination of mass propaganda from Cairo. Allied or United States intervention could well be the stroke which would bring all the Middle East under the control of Nasser and create a situation which would be beneficial only to the Soviet Union and extremely harmful to the best interests of the United States and the West.