

MENZIES MEETS NASSER

20 The Egyptian Presidency staged the Menzies-Nasser meeting,
on which the fate of the world depends. The Australian
Prime Minister arrived with his colleagues representing
America, Sweden, Persia and Ethiopia to introduce them to
Colonel Nasser. Foreign Minister Fawzi and Wing Commander
Sabri were present ~~whenever~~ as the introductions took place.
40 In a 35-minute meeting it was agreed that discussions
should be held in private and be completed as soon as
possible. The Australian Premier's massive calm will
not be ruffled by news ~~that more alleged~~ spies have been
arrested or that Russian volunteer/pilots are on the way.
60 That evening the parties met for 75-minutes, when Mr. Menzies
outlined the Suez Conference plan, which is backed by
eighteen powers. ~~The hopes of peace loving people centred~~
on Cairo.

SCU

From reports in Cairo, do you think there has been any change of heart on the part of Colonel Nasser?

I have no idea. I have no reports from Cairo on that matter at all. The point to be emphasised on in this matter is that although we are determined to conduct so as to protect the affairs of the Canal in the interests of the people who use it we do not really believe that there is any conflict between that protection and the Sovereign Rights of Egypt as a Territorial power.

* What will be the next move if you fail to reach agreement in the talks with Colonel Nasser?

Well, I am a great believer in taking one step at a time/as long as it is plainly understood that the world is in quite a dangerous position over the Suez Canal issue. We are not playing some sort of a game. This is a tremendously serious matter and we will concentrate our mind on the task that we have been given to do and will allow other people to speculate what will happen if we fail.

therefore

There was a slight break in speech at this point

*Are you can start at
we are not playing etc*