

The Jordanian opposition parties, including the ANM, found in the "Voice of the Arabs", a special radio program monitored from Cairo, a useful instrument in their political agitation against the government of Hazza' al-Majali which was drawing Jordan into the Baghdad Pact. Without the "Voice of the Arabs" they could hardly have reached their potential supporters in Amman, Jerusalem, Jericha, Bethlehem, Hebron, etc. in those fateful days of December 1955, when thousands of demonstrators took the streets of the above cities, protesting the visit of General Sir Gerald Templer, the Chief of the British Imperial General Staff, who was presenting proposals involving the strengthening of Middle Eastern defense by Jordan's accession to the Baghdad Pact. The ANM and the other parties which took part in those mass demonstrations demanded the immediate resignation of Hazza' al-Majali and the formation of a national unity government. The King conceded to the first demand but wavered on the second. Later, the Jordanian Free Officers "advised" the King to accept the demands of the opposition parties as formulated in a popular conference held in December 1955. The King followed the advice of "his" officers. Early on March 2, 1956, the King issued a decree ordering the immediate dismissal on pension of Lieut. General John Bagot Glubb, the British Commander of the Jordanian Army. This was followed by the formation of a caretaker government to arrange for a new general election.