

it never got out of the planning stage, with American, British and Turkish Officers working to plan it, but there was never any alliance on paper that ever came out of it- all these foundered on the rock of Egyptian nationalist opposition to any kind of military alliance or tie-up which would associate them with the British and with the West in general.

Mr. Dulles in 1953 and '54 somewhat changed the emphasis and attempted to build what became the Northern Tier Alliance, or the Baghdad Pact, which included three non-Arab countries - Pakistan, Turkey and Iran - and one Arab country - Iraq. In this effort we were trying to at least show that we could get the cooperation of a certain number of Middle Eastern states; those who were willing to go along with us in an alliance really directed to protect the whole Middle Eastern area against the Soviet Union and get that amount of cooperation with them.

We can see now, looking back on it, that there was a great deal of undue optimism; that we miscalculated, perhaps, the balance of forces in Iraq; we miscalculated the strength of Arab nationalism which would be against this particular line-up; but at the time it looked to be quite a logical move to make.

The Baghdad Pact contributed, of course, to the Suez Crisis of 1956 and to the movement the year before, in 1955, when the Russians really came into the area in a big way for the first time by making the arms deal with Egypt.

The Suez Crisis of '56, which we won't discuss here in any detail, in which we stumbled, it seems to me, parting company with our British