

Egypt, Iran Give Confiscated Lands To Peasants To Weaken Red Program

By The Associated Press

Land reform took the center of the Middle East stage Tuesday.

In Egypt, the new army-backed government studied a plan for redistribution of land among the landless peasants which probably will limit ownership by any individual to 200 acres.

In Iran the Shah handed ownership deeds to 11 formerly royal-owned villages to a delegation of peasants as part of his personal land reform program.

Land reform is one of the most important developments in modern Middle-Eastern politics: a means of raising living standards of the poorest class of peasants who are easy targets of Communism.

Land redistribution is at the top of Communist promises to the peasants of these countries, and the move by non-Communist leaders robs the Red program of much of its steam.

Rich Landlords Hit

Most of the arable land in Iran is owned by a small group of

wealthy landlords, and the same is true of about a third of the arable land of Egypt. Both are desert countries and tillable soil is at a premium.

The Iranian Shah, mindful of the Communist campaign to encourage squatters on unsettled lands, told the peasants that in distributing his privately owned land he wanted to raise their standard of living.

In September the peasants will get another lift when the Shah's Reconstruction Bank will begin helping them to buy more land and equipment.

Hospitals' Lack For Vets Called Public Hazard

PORTLAND (AP)—Lack of hospital space for psychotic war veterans is creating a growing hazard for the public, the Veterans of Foreign Wars rehabilitation director believes.

He is Col. George E. James, who arrived here Tuesday for a two-day inspection of veterans' facilities in the area.

James said that "many World War II veterans are just now showing up with mental disorders brought about by military service" and there aren't hospital facilities to take care of them.

"More and more we hear about crimes committed by mentally ill veterans who should have been in hospitals," he said.

He said too there was a shortage of beds for chronic cases requiring long hospitalization.

James commended the Veterans Administration outpatient clinic here as "the finest in the nation."

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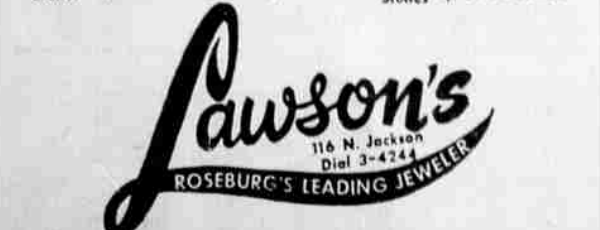
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