

# Speedway-SA.com    Speedway in Egypt

## 2.0 Canal Zone 1946 – 1956

### 2.1 – Anon.

“1945: Many army tracks sprang up in the aftermath of the second world war, all over Europe and Egypt. This was not serious professional speedway. Only a few riders returned to England to take up the sport seriously and successfully. Most of the bikes on these army tracks were stripped down dispatch riders bikes... BSAs, Triumphs etc.”

### 2.2 - Jim Gregory, ex- Rayleigh, Wimbledon & Oxford.

(‘An Autobiography’, Speedwayresearcher ,Volume 13 No.4 March 2011.)

“After Maadi, the Army GHQ moved to the canal zone at Fayid in a large camp. We were at a loose end here so we looked around for something to do. Someone hit on the idea of sand track racing so we got the R.E.M.E. boys to carve out an oval track out of the desert at the back of the camp. The officers in charge were all for it as it gave us something to keep us occupied. We found some scrapped bikes, stripped them down and modified them to look like racing bikes. For some reason I was made captain of the Fayid Dicers. We rode against other like minded teams at Tel-El-Kabir and Suez. I remember the championship meeting at Tel-El-Kabir about 1946 when I was top scorer until I fell off in my last race. Happy days! “

### 2.3 - Speedway Rider's Trophies

(extract from “The Bradworthy Book, a recent history of Bradworthy”; Phil Mayall.)

Mr. Arthur Oke, jun., is to be congratulated on his brilliant achievements as a motorcyclist and speedway rider in the Middle East. During his two years in Egypt, with GHQ, Royal Corps of Signals, Arthur became a celebrated figure on the sand tracks of Cairo and Alexandria carrying off many coveted prizes. Now demobbed, (May 1947,) he has returned to Bradworthy with the tangible evidence of his many successes - silver cups and other trophies to the number of twenty.”

### 2.4 - Warzone Speedway

(Trevor Davies, TD Publ'ns 2008.)

Trevor Davies, the author of 'Wartime Speedway', unearthed the existence of 16 tracks in Egypt (plus 2 in Palestine, and one each in Lybia and Iraq,) all of which staged properly controlled and regulated speedway meetings during British Forces occupation of the Canal Zone, the land between the Nile and the Suez Canal.

The 220 page book contains scores of photographs, a comprehensive list of competitors and, as well as the Middle East, covers Forces racing in Italy, Germany, Ireland, Rhodesia and elsewhere.

