

The representatives of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Departments of the Treasury and Defense proposed the following language for paragraph 7 of NSC 5820:

"Endeavor to work with Arab nationalism and other legitimate aspirations of the peoples of the area, but encourage only those aspirations which conform to U.S. objectives, recognizing that a policy of U.S. accommodation to radical pan-Arab nationalism as symbolized by Nasser would include many elements contrary to U.S. interests. Deal with Nasser as head of the UAR on specific problems and issues affecting the UAR's legitimate interests, but not as leader of the Arab world. Encourage Arab nationalism to resist the expansion of Soviet influence."

The rest of the Board recommended the following for paragraph 7:

"Endeavor to establish an effective working relationship with radical pan-Arab nationalism while at the same time seeking constructively to influence and stabilize the movement and to contain its outward thrust. Encourage its resistance to the expansion of Soviet influence in the area, and to that end seek understandings with Nasser and other radical pan-Arab leaders in areas of mutual interest, with out abandoning our position where differences are irreconcilable."

The representative of the Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization recommended the following for the first two sentences of paragraph 10:

"On the grounds that wide pro-Western orientation is unattainable in the near future, and that efforts toward that end would be counterproductive to our principal objectives in the area as a whole, encourage neutralist policies of states in the area, even though . . ."

The majority of the Board favored the following language:

"While seeking pro-Western orientation, accept neutralist policies of states in the area when necessary, even though such states maintain diplomatic, trade and cultural relations with the Soviet bloc (or receive military equipment), but endeavor to insure that these relations are reasonably balanced by relations with the West."

The Board was also split on language encouraging an Arab-Israeli settlement. In the first sentence of paragraph 24, the majority of the Board favored the following language: "Seek opportunities to take the initiative [*initiative*] through the UN or through third parties, toward an Arab-Israeli settlement within the context of the Secretary of State's speech of August 26, 1955."

The representatives of the Department of Defense, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization suggested deleting the phrase, "Seek opportunities to . . ."

There were also differences of opinion and language on paragraphs specifically relating to individual countries of the Near East.