

however, that the British Foreign Office considered its warning to British subjects to leave Egypt amply justified by events. Documentation is in the Conference files, lot 59 D 95, CF 156. For further information on this topic, see Documents 947 ff.

No. 9

Conference files, lot 59 D 95, CF 156

*Memorandum of Conversation, Prepared in the Embassy in Israel*¹

SECRET

TEL AVIV, May 13, 1953--5 p. m.

ST D-2

Subject: Israel

Participants:

United States

Israel

Mr. John Foster Dulles

H. E. Moshe Sharett, Foreign

Mr. Harold E. Stassen

Minister

Mr. Francis H. Russell

At meeting May 13, between Secretary Dulles, Mr. Stassen and Foreign Minister Sharett, latter reviewed Israel attitude toward peace with Arabs. Stressed Israel interest in peace, criticized Arab fear of Israel aggression and outlined Israel position regarding territorial adjustments, Arab refugees, compensation, Jerusalem, border incidents, economic boycott and area defense.

After introductory remarks describing peace with the Arab states as cardinal aim Israel foreign policy and characterizing problem as primarily as psychological one of accustoming Arabs to fact of Israel's existence, made following points:

Arab Fear of Israel Aggression:

Sharett claimed Israel fear of eventual convergence Arab states on Israel in attempt destroy her more justified than "Arab pretense of mortal fear of inherently aggressive nature of Zionist enterprise". Argued that Arab position "illogical" in maintaining on one hand Israel must expand because it is too small to contain its population and on other that it must give up territory as condition of peace; that such Arab fears neglect "delicacy international position Israel" which because of lines with world Jewry and economic needs is necessarily more sensitive to international public opinion than Arab world; and that country's "moderate, stable, democratic government" not likely in face world opinion engage "in military

¹ This conversation took place in the office of the Foreign Minister, in Tel Aviv.