

flicts in non-Communist world which could weaken free world in face Communist threat, and would like to see breaches healed. Urging confidence in friendly attitude United States and reaffirming United States sympathy for Israel, Secretary indicated that "if United States efforts to be of assistance in area are considered unfriendly to Israel, if they are misunderstood by United States Jews, if they lead to internal difficulties in United States," then United States "would have to permit events in area to take their course". Prime Minister closed by saying that if Secretary accomplished his mission with Arabs, he (Prime Minister) would see what he could do about problem raised by Secretary.

In conversation with Sharett at dinner previous evening, Secretary expressed hope Foreign Ministry would not be moved while Secretary on trip designed improve climate in area. Sharett said it would not. Secretary added he would, of course, have to reserve United States' position on Jerusalem for some time subsequent.

No. 14

Conference files, lot 59 D 95, CF 156: Telegram

The Consul General in Jerusalem (Tyler) to the Department of State

RESTRICTED

JERUSALEM, May 15, 1953--4 p. m.

157. As far as Consulate General knows administratively all went well visit Secretary and party in Israel-Jerusalem (Tel Aviv has details). Party left on schedule under heavy police escort and those persons along route Consulate General to Mandelbaum Gate clapped as Secretary drove past. Israel security escort stopped Israel side Mandelbaum Gate and party proceeded without stopping past UN observers in no-mans-land to Jordan side. Met there by Undersecretary Foreign Affairs, Governor Jordan-Jerusalem, protocol officer and Chief of Police, AL Arab Legion escort. Proceeded to Consulate General Arab side where party met about 45 notables including heads of Greek Orthodox, Armenian and Roman Catholic Patriarchates and Anglican Bishop, to whom Secretary expressed his pleasure at being in Jerusalem for first time and stated that he had always thought of Jerusalem in a religious and not political sense. Then Aref-El Aref, former Mayor of Jerusalem, fired for making a tactless remark against King Talal, addressed Secretary summarizing usual complaints (Jordan press full of editorials and open letters past few days repeating these), requesting return of refugees and enforcement of 1947 partition and blaming US for continued support Israel, especially policies of President Truman.