

In view importance Jordan Valley development to refugee resettlement and potential of UNRWA development funds, Dept believes UNRWA is agency to take initiative in obtaining necessary technical and legal info. US member ADCOM is accordingly requested urge UNRWA consider appt special rep with broad fact-finding responsibilities re Jordan Valley. Rep wld contract with individuals and firms to prepare necessary studies based on available data and wld assemble final report.

Ur comments and early indication reaction other members ADCOM wld be appreciated. It is fully appreciated here that this is an initial prerequisite to subsequent action, and that there will inevitably be delays in reaching polit agreement. However, impartial factfinding may well expedite polit settlement.

ACHESON

No. 426

974.5301/4-2452: Telegram

*The Deputy United States Representative at the United Nations
(Gross) to the Department of State*

CONFIDENTIAL

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736. Re Suez: Present at mtg yesterday requested by Eban were Eban, Lourie and Rafael for Israel; Jebb and Laskey for UK; Hoppenot and Ordonneau for France and myself, Ross and Maffitt for USUN.

Eban opened discussion saying Israeli Govt was weighing advisability of calling SC attention to Egyptian failure to implement its Sept 1 SC res but wished Eban first to discuss question with co-sponsors, more particularly the 3 most concerned with NE stability and Suez question. Eban stressed he did not consider such discussion premature in view of lack of result of res, length of time situation unfavorable to Israel has existed (3 years) and assurances from Austin and Shone (UK) in past that US and UK formally supported doctrine of maritime freedom. He pointed out no goods for Israel have passed Canal since res, situation in this respect ironically being worse than before res. This state of affairs primarily was due to silence of Egyptians on repeal of restrictive legislation, executive orders, etc, or Egyptian indication that free passage rights will be granted Israeli goods. Shipping companies reluctant accept Israeli orders under these circumstances.

This was first time any SC res "totally without effect". As time passed without show-down danger grew of Israel appearing to sanc-