

No. 434

684A.96231/5-1552: Circular telegram

*The Secretary of State to Certain Diplomatic and Consular Offices*¹

CONFIDENTIAL PRIORITY WASHINGTON, May 15, 1952—6:08 p. m.

949. Eban advises Israeli Govt prepared release blocked accts Arab refugees and ready negot mechanics release with UN, pursuant request made by Amb Palmer on behalf PCC May 5. He stated amt involved equivalent approx \$14 million and Israel Govt prepared pay into some UN acct \$2.8 million with balance as needed. Amb said his govt hopes US will use its good offices obtain release block Jewish bank accts in Iraq but Israel release not conditioned on such action.

If approached re above, statement shld be made this is voluntary Israel Govt action, fol recent conversations between PCC and Israel Govt.

ACHESON

¹ Sent to Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Amman, Beirut, Damascus, Paris, Ankara, Baghdad, Cairo, Jidda, New York, London, and Tripoli.

No. 435

682.84A/5-1552: Telegram

*The Ambassador in Israel (Davis) to the Department of State*¹

SECRET

TEL AVIV, May 15, 1952—4 p. m.

1196. Re Embtel 1164, May 7. FonOff made arrangements for me to visit Chuleh regions last Sunday May 11 to see development project and visit other points of interest in neighborhood. Shmiel Bendor, director-US division FonOff and Major Arie Friedlander, senior Israel delegate Ismac were present. Latter knew of my conversations with FonMin and apparently had been instructed to discuss project and related matters freely.

Apropos of Syrian desire to prevent damage to canals and crops at Bouteiha farm as result closing checking gates, Friedlander expressed view that Israel Govt wld be willing adopt schedule that wld obviate such damage but said he was "not optimistic" that this wld satisfy Syrians. He mentioned possibility of gate closure 5 hours each afternoon which wld permit work on project to continue

¹ Repeated to London, Paris, Ankara, Moscow, Rome, Tripoli, Amman, Baghdad, Beirut, Cairo, Damascus, Jidda, and Jerusalem (for Riley).