

No. 441

320.2 AA/5-2852 Telegram

*The Minister in Lebanon (Minor) to the Department of State*¹

CONFIDENTIAL

BEIRUT, May 28, 1952—1 p. m.

1323. Blandford saw Ben-Gurion, Eytan, Comay Jerusalem 26th. Israelis apparently stated they now accept principle of taking full responsibility refugees. When pressed by Blandford for definite date they tentatively suggested Sept 1. Blandford pushed for July 1. Israelis promised consult the several Ministries concerned with problem and inform agency their position next ten days.

2. Ben-Gurion displayed surprising lack info refugee problem expressing such mistaken beliefs as (a) all refugees in first class camps and living well; (b) problem solving itself as refugees being absorbed into economies of countries of refuge. Blandford pointed out we have 100,000 more refugees than when we started, only one-third living in camps, and at least half million must be moved to other countries before resettlement.

MINOR

¹ Identified also as telegram Kapun 289. Repeated to Tel Aviv.

No. 442

262.84A41/6-352

The Secretary of State to the Israeli Foreign Minister (Sharett)

[WASHINGTON,] June 3, 1952.

DEAR MR. MINISTER: I have received through the Israel Minister in Paris your message of May 22 concerning the negotiations between Israel and the German Federal Republic on Israel and Jewish claims.

I have discussed this matter with Chancellor Adenauer and have reiterated the hope of the United States Government that a satisfactory settlement can be reached in the near future.

Chancellor Adenauer has informed me that the discussions have now been resumed in Paris and that according to his reports they are going well. It is also my understanding that the head of the German delegation has withdrawn his resignation.