No. 457

683.84A/7-2052: Telegram

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

CONFIDENTIAL   PRIORITY   TEL AVIV July 20, 1952—5 p. m.

100. Embtel 95, July 18. [2] Last night took opportunity in conversation with Sharett to express hope there wld be no acts of reprisal as result murder Israeli watchmen at copper mine. He replied he had long been on record as opposed to reprisals on both moral and policy grounds. We discussed evidences of reprisal mindedness mil and public, who are inclined feel reprisals only means hold down Arab attacks.

While above undoubtedly represents FonMin's personal views, it is evident he has found it difficult restrain above elements in mil in past and it remains to be seen whether he can have greater success in future.

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ington), a Department press officer that day read the text of the *aide-mémoire* to correspondents for background. The Embassy in Israel was instructed to inform the Israeli Foreign Office that the Department regretted this publicity and the fact that Israel had found it necessary to issue a release on the subject. The Missions in the Arab countries were authorized to confirm to the governments to which they were accredited that the U.S. representation had been made to Israel on July 9. (784A.02/7-2152)

In circular telegram 70, July 22, 5:38 p. m., the Department authorized the release of the text of the *aide-mémoire* contained in telegram 7 to Tel Aviv, July 8. (784A.02/7-2252) The text was released in Washington in the Department's press release 576, July 22. (S/PRS files, lot 77 D 9) See also Department of State *Bulletin,* Aug. 4, 1952, p. 181.

[1] Repeated to Jerusalem, London, Paris, Ankara, Baghdad, Cairo, Amman, Damascus, and Beirut; sent by pouch to Jidda.

[2] Telegram 95 from Tel Aviv, July 18, 4 p. m., stated that the killing early that week of five Israeli watchmen guarding copper mines in the Negev about 17 kilometers north of Elath was the latest in a series of recent developments agitating official circles in Tel Aviv. (683.84A/7-1852)