

is much hurt by their vicious and personal attacks on him at last Sunday's mtg. He is sending his bad boy son, Khalil, out of the country for an extended trip about Sept 1 which shld have a good effect. Pres was touched by our encouragement at a time when he much needs it. I don't know whether he will carry through, but I am convinced this is the way to tackle the problem, i.e. to encourage legally constituted govts to carry out broad social and econ reforms, thus mtg legitimate desires of the masses of the people for better govt and for recognition of their basic rights. I sometimes worry for fear we are repeating the mistakes of history in supporting corrupt regimes and the *status quo*. This is always a risk but it can be overcome by letting it be known constantly and positively where we stand and for what we stand. It requires a capable tight-rope walker these days to maintain the proper balance, on the one hand of supporting legally-constituted govts, and on the other of not discouraging progressive forces.

Before speaking to Pres, I consulted my Brit colleague who showed me long despatch to FonOff which agrees very much with our own ideas. Brit Min has spoken to Pres and PriMin of need for early reform. I did not consult French colleague since, frankly I don't know quite where we stand with French. It is common rumor that they undercut us. It seems evident, too, that their objectives and ours are not the same. Also, there is evidence that the govt is annoyed with French actions here under the new Minister. Lest it be thought there is friction, I hasten to say that French-Amer surface relations here are excellent.

MINOR

No. 471

674.84A/8-2062: Telegram

*The Acting Secretary of State to the Embassy in Egypt*¹

SECRET

WASHINGTON, August 20, 1952—8:02 p. m.

368. Press Aug 19 reports conciliatory speech Knesset by Israel PriMin Aug 18 re Israel's desire reach understanding and coop with Egypt.² Speech appears in line with previously expressed

¹ Repeated to London and Tel Aviv.

² Tel Aviv reported on Ben-Gurion's speech of Aug. 18 in part as follows:

"PriMin Ben-Gurion stated in Knesset yesterday there are no grounds for quarrels between Egypt and Israel and no basis for territorial, polit or econ disputes between two countries. 'We have no enmity against Egypt for what was done to our ancestors in the time of Pharaoh and not even for what was done four years ago', he

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