Israel and that on two occasions leaks came out to Tel Aviv and the Egyptians dropped the whole business like a very hot brick.

No. 475

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

TOP SECRET  PRIORITY  Tel Aviv, August 27, 1952—6 p. m.

320. In view proclivity Israelis permit ill-advised leaks of kind referred to in Cairo’s 479, ² I propose speak to FonMin soon, expressing as my personal view that chance favorable outcome Israel initiative reported Embtel 304 ³ may have been prejudiced by publicity reported Embtel 310 ⁴ and any leaks re initiative actually taken wld be contemplated make favorable Egypt action impossible. ⁵

DAVIS

¹ Repeated to Cairo and London.
² Supra.
³ Document 472.
⁴ Document 473.
⁵ The Department responded on Aug. 28 as follows:

"Dept fully approves ur speaking to FonMin along lines Embtel 320. You may wish in great confidence inform FonMin we have recently taken occasion remind Egyptians US interest in achievement peace with Israel. However, it shld be emphasized that any proclivity towards ‘crowing’ by Israel wld be fatal to such small indications as now exist re favorable attitude Maher on this problem." (Telegram 214 to Tel Aviv, Aug. 28, 2:51 p. m.; 674.84A/8-2852)

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Editorial Note

The United States announced on August 27 the elevation of its Legations in Lebanon, Syria, and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the status of Embassies. (Department of State Bulletin, September 8, 1952, page 379)