

tion. We hope Dept and addressee Embassies can convey Ger position Arab reps.<sup>5</sup>

DONNELLY

<sup>5</sup> With respect to the agreement, Ambassador Davis reported on Sept. 18: "Yesterday FonMin Sharett requested me to convey his govt's deep appreciation of US support with respect to Ger reparations, which he said was of great value at certain critical stages of the negots." (Telegram 454 from Tel Aviv, Sept. 18; 262.84A41/9-1852)

No. 488

220/9-1752: Telegram

*The Ambassador in Israel (Davis) to the Department of State*<sup>1</sup>

SECRET PRIORITY TEL AVIV, September 17, 1952—7 p. m.

448.<sup>2</sup> Deptel 272<sup>3</sup> and Embtels 411<sup>4</sup> and 304.<sup>5</sup> FonMin Sharett informed me this afternoon that Israel's Chargé in Paris had recd what purported to be reply to IG's offer to meet reps of Egypt's new regime. A person claiming to bring msg directly from Naguib stated that he was authorized to say present regime has no aggressive designs against Israel, that any public pronouncements to contrary shld not be taken too seriously, that Naguib now deeply immersed in internal affairs making it impossible attack issues of fon policy at present, and that early opportunity wld be taken to estab contact to discuss certain matters which were not specified. Since this msg was delivered about 6 or 7 Sept, Sharett assumes that it did not come through Aly Maher. IG has no means of verifying authenticity of msg, but is disposed to take it as relation to earlier IG initiative. FonMin had opportunity discuss matter with Israel's Chargé in Paris and authorized latter to reply orally as fols:

- (1) Express gen appreciation of msg since it was "not unfriendly".
- (2) Say that Israel was following with sympathetic interest efforts improve situation in Egypt and

<sup>1</sup> Repeated to Cairo, Paris, and London.

<sup>2</sup> Telegram 448 was originally numbered 451.

<sup>3</sup> Telegram 272 to Tel Aviv, a repeat of telegram 569 to Cairo, Sept. 13, not printed, reported that the Egyptian Chargé in Washington had commented to the Department that Egypt could not at this juncture think of entering into discussions on the subject of *rapprochement* with Israel. At this time of internal revolution, he said, Egypt needed all the friends she had, and attempting to settle differences with Israel wld alienate Iraq, Syria, and other Arab states opposed to such a settlement. (320/9-1252)

<sup>4</sup> Document 483.

<sup>5</sup> Document 472.