

No. 522

320.2 AA/11-1852: Telegram

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

SECRET

WASHINGTON, November 18, 1952—7:14 p. m.

517. For purpose reviewing problems relating Palestine polit items to be considered by *Ad Hoc* Polit Comite, reps NEA and UNA met with USUN at NY Nov 15. Agenda items listed hereunder in numbered paras followed by main points discussed and conclusions reached. Emb Tel Aviv and USUN shld fol instrs included paras numbered one and two.

1. How can US most effectively estab gen recognition that repatriation refugees to Israel no longer feasible?

If other dels bring up for discussion fact refugees cannot return to former homes, either by introduction of a res or otherwise, we shld do our part make known we consider any large scale return impossible. If matter not raised by others, we shld not raise it. Rather in this event we shld leave question as principle which UN has already estab.

We consider only possible solution resettlement in Arab states for most, if not all, refugees. Progress cannot be made so long as certain Arab leaders use refugees as polit weapon and continue keep issue inflamed. It wld perhaps be too much at this time for us tell refugees they cannot go back—that there is no home for them—but might be possible slow down Arab leaders who keep issue in foreground.

It was agreed Israel might find some econ benefit by permitting certain number refugees return particularly farmers.

Israel Govt shld be asked by Emb Tel Aviv and by USUN for info re Israel's intentions for repatriation Arab refugees to Israel. We believe action by Israel for limited repatriation wld advance prospect for other peace measures and Israel shld be asked indicate whether it wld work out constructive plan to admit given nr.

2. Compensation:

(a) How far shld USUN go in supporting principle of compensation and practical measures for giving it effect?

We shld support the principle. "Practical measures for giving it effect" shld be worked out by experts after problem has been defined. Berncastle POC land specialist is supervising examination of records which shld show extent of problems i.e., by ascertaining

¹ Sent also to New York as telegram Gadel 61; repeated to London, Paris, Ankara, Amman, Beirut, Baghdad, Cairo, Damascus, and Jidda.