

against German reparations agreement, which diminished their hopes for *rapprochement* with Egypt under his leadership. Defeat of eight power resolution in GA and deterioration in relations with Jordan have served to intensify earlier disappointments.

In circumstances prospects for progress toward area stability have lessened and potential dangers of explosive situation such as that developing with Jordan have increased. One impression gained during and since my trip to neighboring countries in December is that Arab attitude toward Israel has hardened due in part at least to feeling that blockade has Israel in critical situation. Another impression gained from colleagues in Arab countries was that altho question of compensation of refugees important, Arabs unlikely to ease blockade to make compensation payments possible, since to do so would be inconsistent with Arab hopes to bring Israel to knees by means of economic measures and common policy of making no separate agreement with this country.

It is obvious that Russian influence can be counted on to do utmost to prevent local, national or area agreements that would improve Arab-Israel relations. Russian techniques already observable include creation of popular demand for imposition unattainable conditions as prerequisite for negotiations, stigmatizing as traitor any one disposed to settle difficulties, incitement of students, use of "anti-imperialism" propaganda, and exploitation of xenophobia in general.

Depairtel 586⁴ outlines constructive approach, believe new developments call for review of immediate policy objectives and methods. Recommendations follow.

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⁴ Not printed.

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*The Ambassador in Jordan (Green) to the Department of State*¹

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594. Deterioration in armistice relations between Israel and Jordan is causing great apprehension here. Jordanian Government convinced that recent incidents on armistice line are result of careful planning by Israel. They fear that they are merely precursor of

¹ Repeated to Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Beirut, Damascus, Baghdad, Cairo, Ankara, Paris, and London.