

"(b) make, in default of this solution and at a suitable moment, a public declaration reaffirming these principles.

"(3) Examination of the measures which might be taken in the last resort by the interested Maritime Powers in order to safeguard, in circumstances to be defined, freedom of transit through the Canal.

"13. These preliminary conversations would take place in the greatest secrecy. In the light of their conclusions, the three Governments would be able to decide by what method to approach the other principal users of the Canal, i.e., the Norwegian, Netherlands, Italian, Danish and Swedish Governments and invite them to associate themselves eventually with the action proposed."

MATTHEWS

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No. 556

684A.85/2-553: Telegram

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

SECRET

AMMAN, February 5, 1953—3 p. m.

642. Prime Minister explained to me February 5, measures have been taken in recent weeks to curb infiltration into Israel. He believes that these measures are about as effective as they can be made.

It is probable that measures to prevent infiltration can be improved and the present effort of the Jordanian Government to improve them may reduce infiltration though in the nature of things it can not be expected that the government can entirely prevent it. In any case I am convinced that Government is acting in good faith and is neither encouraging or conniving at infiltration. My British colleague who has carefully studied the matter concurs with me in this opinion.

Prime Minister stated that he fears large-scale Israeli aggression. He said that he had deliberately refrained from invoking tripartite declaration as yet in the hope that US and UK pressure on Israel would be sufficient to oblige Israel to cease attacks such as have kept the borders in a ferment during these last weeks. He believes US influence paramount in Israel and he requested me to recommend that US make forceful representations to Israeli Government to put an end to present situation.

<sup>1</sup> Repeated to Beirut, Cairo, Damascus, Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Paris, London, Baghdad, and Jidda.