

case that last one "bears every mark of a carefully planned military action, an act of war in effect".

Sharett made quite a point of zone where attacks in question took place, which he described as Israel's "jugular vein" through which extend main highway and railway line connecting northern and southern parts of country.

He concluded with statement that unless Jordan authorities show themselves ready and able to control situation, Israel Government "would consider itself entitled, and in duty bound, to use all measures in exercise of legitimate self-defense to put end to attacks, protect life and property and ensure security of traffic".

My British colleague had appointment with Foreign Minister immediately following mine and presumably received statement along above lines. <sup>9</sup>

DAVIS

<sup>9</sup> The Department replied on Feb. 6 as follows:

"Dept finds alarming and somewhat irresponsible statement quoted penultimate paragraph reftel. Dept has no evidence of 'mounting tide of violence emanating from Jordan' or basis for attitude IG re recent border relations. Dept would like Embassy's comments and analysis re Cabinet decision and Sharett's remarks." (Telegram 753 to Tel Aviv, Feb. 6, 6:36 p. m.; 684A.85/2-553)

### No. 558

684A.86/2-653: Telegram

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

SECRET

AMMAN, February 6, 1953—6 p. m.

643. In the four years which have elapsed since the cessation of hostilities in Palestine we have made no headway toward achieving a permanent settlement between Israel and the Arab States. The Palestine conciliation commission has worked hard and conscientiously in its search for a solution and a minority group of powers in the UN General Assembly has recommended immediate direct negotiations. But like the numerous investigative commissions to pre-war Palestine all measures have failed. If during the four year search for a settlement there have been signs of progress they have been illusory for they have been built upon quicksand. The fact is negotiations based on a recognition of the present *status quo* will never materialize apparently on conciliatory attitudes by an Abdullah, a Naguib, or a Shishikli notwithstanding.

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