

tration in general. If they so worried about it why did they break local commanders' agreements which helped curb it? (Contel 80, January 13.)⁶ Also Sharett's strongly worded protest to Ambassador Davis should have come before their attacks so that pressure could have been brought on Jordan to curb infiltration. As result such reasoning UN personnel, while still guessing infiltrators from Falama blew up railway, it fits in so well with Israel complaints, gives them such favorable publicity with so little damage done (it was repaired before investigated) that they are not free from thoughts expressed Amman's telegram 630, February 24.⁵

However, Israel in best position to judge damage caused her by infiltration and, unfortunately, she believes such attacks against Jordan villages best means of checking it. Comment follows.

TYLER

⁵ Not printed.

No. 562

784A.00/1-953: Telegram

*The Ambassador in Israel (Davis) to the Department of State*¹

CONFIDENTIAL NIACT TEL AVIV, February 9, 1953—7 p. m.

1265. Deptel 753.² In response request for comment and analysis Cabinet decision and Foreign Minister's statement reported Embtel 1247,³ Embassy regards latter as intemperate, but fairly accurate reflection present IG state of mind, induced in part by worsening relations with Jordan, but more by factors of much broader character. Present emergency is serious mainly because it may detonate larger explosions ME and it would be mistake, therefore, to attempt to deal with it as new or isolated problem. Israel is rapidly becoming convinced that her basic interests are in jeopardy and that unless she asserts herself in time policies may be adopted, which will threaten her continued existence.

Principal factors contributing to growing apprehension of IG and public were outlined in Embtels 1183⁴ and 1209.⁵ Always highly subjective, Israelis have not fully grasped harm which has been done their interests by their attitude in early cases of Huleh con-

¹ Sent in two sections; repeated to Amman and Jerusalem.

² Not printed, but see footnote 6, Document 557.

³ Document 557.

⁴ Document 547.

⁵ Document 551.