

take sides. Our major efforts should rather be devoted to bringing about renewal of cooperation essential to maintaining peace. While we must necessarily be realistic about sharp conflict in views, we should refuse to regard situation as hopeless, and be firm in our support of UNTSO pressure on both sides to keep the peace.

While present tension already is diminishing, real solution of basic problem will have to be on a regional basis and directed at primary policy objectives of achieving political and economic stability and building up area defense potential. Because of importance of regional peace to these policy objectives, it is believed that another major effort to effect peace should be made after prior consultation on policy among parties to tripartite agreement. Believe approach should make no secret of fact that real peace is objective but hold forth worthwhile advantages. These could include uncertainty military as well as economic aid, and involve compensation to refugees on adequate scale. It might be helpful to find a person of proven ability and considerable prestige in region to undertake coordination of plan.

In present circumstances it may be difficult to get Israel's cooperation on plan involving regional arms build-up. This difficulty will be increased if Israeli Government feels that its interests and security are being neglected, or that this country is not being kept informed of area plans and developments. It will be recalled that Israeli Government originally had misgivings about MEC plan and expressed them in private, but later did not oppose invitation being extended to Egypt to be charter member of Command and kept press criticism at minimum. She was however kept informed of developments and was given assurance that her interests would not be disregarded.

DAVIS

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No. 563

Secretary's Letters, lot 56 D 459

*Memorandum of Conversation, by the Officer in Charge of  
Palestine-Israel-Jordan Affairs (Waller)*

CONFIDENTIAL

[WASHINGTON,] February 11, 1953.

Subject: American-Israel Relations

Participants: The Under Secretary<sup>1</sup>

Ambassador Abba Eban, Israel Embassy

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