

However, from his years in Moscow, the Under Secretary felt certain that the Soviet Union would never permit large-scale emigration from the Iron Curtain, this being contrary to very firmly established Soviet policy. Turning to Ambassador Zeineddine, whom he had known in Moscow, he inquired whether the latter agreed. Both Mr. Zeineddine and the Ambassador of Egypt responded that they did agree and that this was not what the Arabs mainly feared. What they feared most were public statements supporting Israel, resolutions by Congress and general diplomatic support which would "pour oil" on the smoldering fires of resentment against the U.S. which existed as the result of America's part in the creation of the State of Israel and its subsequent assistance to that country.

Note: Contrary to February 18 reports in the American press, the Arab representatives did not seek assurances from the Under Secretary that the United States would cease all aid to Israel; nor did they seek direct commitments on any subjects. The purpose of their visit was to give expression to their apprehensions and to their hope that this Government would not yield to Zionist pressures.

No. 571

674.84A/2-1753: Telegram

*The Ambassador in France (Dunn) to the Department of State*¹

TOP SECRET

PARIS, February 17, 1953.

4625. Shmuel Divon, Israeli Chargé, told Embassy officer February 16 very confidentially of new Israeli contacts within past two or three weeks with influential Egyptians close to Naguib, aimed at exploring peace possibilities (Tel Aviv 304 to Department August 22, repeated Paris 35, Cairo 31). Commented that while Israelis not sanguine that contacts will bear immediate fruit, they are somewhat encouraged by fact these Egyptians now appear to accept principle of resettlement of refugees in Arab States. Stated Egyptians had warned against any leak on these contacts, which they would deny if questioned.

Above may be of interest in light Cairo telegram to Department 1803, February 7, repeated Paris unnumbered.

DUNN

¹ Sent to Cairo as telegram 41; repeated to the Department, Tel Aviv, and London.