

## No. 576

784A.02/2-2753: Circular telegram

*The Secretary of State to Certain Diplomatic and Consular Offices*<sup>1</sup>

CONFIDENTIAL WASHINGTON, February 27, 1953—6:20 p. m.

905. RefDeptel 7 July 3, 1952 Tel Aviv, 23 Cairo, 6 Jidda, 20 Baghdad, 8 Amman, 35 Beirut, 10 Damascus, 2 Jerusalem, 9 USUN also sent air London Paris Ankara Rome.

1. Tel Aviv telegram 1361 Feb 25<sup>2</sup> confirms intention IG to complete transfer FonMin to Jerusalem by May or June.

2. Dept believes IG FonMin should not be moved to Jerusalem until future status of Jerusalem has been more clearly determined (a) by UN or (b) by agreement with neighboring states as, for example, in a peace settlement, or (c) until some major development occurs which would change the status of Jerusalem and justify a change in USG policy. For planning purposes Dept anticipates a *status quo* of possibly two years but has in mind possibilities under (c) of this paragraph.

3. Dept's reasoning is that time must be allowed for further improvement in climate leading to peace and in meantime Israel, which has most to gain, should not pursue a course which would make it more difficult for us to be helpful in settlement of NE problems. Further, to move FonMin now would invite attack on Israel in current session of GA.

4. Representatives of UK, France, Italy, Belgium and Australia have informed Dept their governments oppose transfer and will keep missions in Tel Aviv. These governments have requested USG join in *démarche* to IG with view IG leaving FonMin Tel Aviv.

5. Ambassador Tel Aviv should coordinate with other Mission Chiefs named in paragraph 4 and, at earliest possible, request IG not to transfer its FonMin to Jerusalem and state that USG does not intend to move its mission from Tel Aviv. Dept hopes *démarche* can be made not later than March 4.

6. You should also inform IG that Dept does not plan to publicize representations unless press first informed by another source.

7. It is understood that UK and possibly other governments intend to address a note to IG on this subject. Your representations should be oral because of number of times USG has made representations to IG in recent weeks.

<sup>1</sup> Sent to Tel Aviv, Ankara, London, Paris, Rome, Brussels, Rio de Janeiro, Stockholm, and Bern; repeated for information to New York and for information by air pouch to Cairo, Jidda, Baghdad, Amman, Beirut, Damascus, and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup> Not printed.