

reported. I surmise that Cairo meeting crystalized policy in an atmosphere in which no representative of any Arab state dared be reasonable lest he appear less patriotic and less anti-Israeli than the others. <sup>2</sup>

GREEN

<sup>2</sup> Green reported in telegram 968, May 15 (684A.86/5-1553), that after his conversation with the Foreign Minister, influence was brought to bear on the Prime Minister in the hope that he might moderate his views. Green noted that a reflection of this influence appeared in the conversation he and the Secretary had with the Prime Minister on May 15: Instead of insisting on "implementation" of all U.N. resolutions from 1947, he spoke of U.N. resolutions as the "basis for negotiation." (See the memorandum of conversation of May 15, Document 15.)

No. 613

110.11 DU/5-1953

*The Secretary of State to the Israeli Prime Minister (Ben-Gurion)* <sup>1</sup>

SECRET

[TEL AVIV, May 18, 1953.]

Subject: Paraphrase of Secretary Dulles' Personal Message to Prime Minister Ben-Gurion

For security reasons the Embassy was unable to deliver the Secretary's personal message to Prime Minister Ben-Gurion in the form in which it was received (Damascus reference telegram). An *aide-memoire* containing the following paraphrase of the message was left with Foreign Minister Sharett May 18:

During our conversations you expressed your concern over the deterioration of border conditions between Israel and Jordan. You will recall that I shared that concern.

I have found in my talks in Jordan that Jordan officials are also concerned over this situation which all agree is both irritating and politically dangerous.

It is my feeling that the government of Jordan, as a means of reducing the tension, might welcome the reinstatement of the local commanders agreements.

I believe also that, at this particular stage and in view of their local scene, Jordan would prefer to have any meetings at that level rather than at higher levels of government.

<sup>1</sup> The text of this personal message from the Secretary, as delivered on May 18 in an *aide-memoire* to Foreign Minister Sharett, was sent to the Department by Tel Aviv on May 19 in despatch 1193. (110.1 DU/5-1953) The fact that the message was delivered was reported in telegram 1766 from Tel Aviv, May 19. (110.11 DU/5-1953)