

report,² just released by the United Nations, indicates that it has not been possible to fix the responsibility.

It may be of interest for you to know, and thereby see the extent of the problem, that at approximately the same time you were calling on Mr. Byroade, Jordan officials in Amman were protesting Israel's attacks and requesting that we (as a Tripartite Declaration signatory) use our influence to keep peace and order along the Jordan-Israel frontier.

I believe that my remarks to you of last February counseling your Government to refrain from retaliatory action by Israel forces against neighboring states, are still good. Further steps toward maintaining border peace could include restoration of the local commanders agreement, as suggested by General Riley and accepted by the Jordan Government, and by high level discussions on the whole border problem as advocated by General Riley and accepted by the Israel Government. I am confident your Government will cooperate fully in making a success of any discussions that may be arranged and that your Government will continue to make full use of, and cooperate with, United Nations organizations established to investigate violations of the armistice agreements.

Please convey my warm greetings to your Prime Minister.

Sincerely yours,

WALTER B. SMITH

² U.N. doc. S/3007.

No. 617

684A.95/5-2553 Telegram

*The Chargé in Israel (Russell) to the Department of State*¹

SECRET PRIORITY

TEL AVIV, May 25, 1953—3 p. m.

1787. Embassy has been requested by Foreign Ministry to transmit following personal message dated May 24 from Prime Minister Ben Gurion to Secretary Dulles in reply to Secretary's message (Embassy telegram 1766 and Embassy despatch 1193, March [May] 19):²

"I fully understand your anxiety about the security situation on the Jordan border.

"The problem is one of large-scale banditry and frequent murders on Israel soil by armed marauders from Jordan.

¹ Repeated to Jerusalem, Amman, and Tripoli (for Secretary Dulles).

² Neither printed, but see footnote 1, Document 613.