

way to solution. Other Maritime Powers could subsequently take note individually of Egyptian declaration.

We will forward soonest for Embassy comments text possible declaration by Egypt. Request your comments on tentative Department position as indicated above. ⁵

DULLES

⁵ Ambassador Caffery replied on July 26 as follows: "I cordially concur with Department's position as outlined Deptel 108 July 25 without change." (Telegram 129 from Cairo, July 26; 974.5301/7-2653)

No. 644

984A.00 TA/7-2653 Telegram

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

SECRET

TEL AVIV, July 26, 1953—1 p. m.

118. Joint Embassy-TCA. In response to request for appointment Hakirya, Tel Aviv, with Foreign Minister Sharett and Minister Finance Eshkol pursuant Department telegram 41, ¹ was informed Foreign Minister would see me at his home (Tel Aviv) yesterday but Eshkol unable be present. McDaniel and I called on Foreign Minister yesterday morning and after reviewing Eshkol's remarks (Embassy telegram 1965) ² made point paragraphs 1 to 4 Department telegram 41.

Stating he was giving "interim off hand reactions," Foreign Minister Sharett replied along following lines:

While Eshkol probably gave voice to "legitimate faith in Israel's future as support for request for United States assistance," Foreign Minister confident there was no intent change policy expressed paragraph 5A, Israel Embassy note August 11, 1952. He stated he would confirm this impression with Minister of Finance. Argued with reference statement paragraph 2 Department telegram 41 (negotiations who would take place Tel Aviv), that it would present Israel with "great difficulty" and be using its "dire need to force it into undignified position of upsetting time-honored routine of meetings with Ministry of Finance in Jerusalem." Suggested further conference to make clear present Israel Government policies re paragraph 5A of August 11, 1952 note and that "to circumvent any difficulty presented by Embassy's instructions re Jerusalem," conference take place at Ministers of Finance in Jerusalem rather

¹ Document 639.

² Document 631.