

parties would know where they stood. They were particularly disturbed at omission from United States draft of intent underlying Paragraph Number Four of their draft. They argued that principles, including Paragraph Four, should be detailed in first approach to Egypt and that if Egyptian resistance encountered, general statement could be substituted.

United States delegate replied that, even if United Kingdom-French suggestion on tactics adopted, he would be unable to agree to inclusion Paragraph Four since Egyptian rejection certain.

2. Urgency of problem. Both delegates emphasized some reaffirmation of principle of freedom of transit essential before evacuation of British troops. United Kingdom delegate insisted this should be obtained before agreement on evacuation is signed.

Request Ambassador Caffery's views by telegram on following two points:

1. Would inclusion of detailed enumeration of principles governing freedom of transit in first approach to Egypt prejudice prospects Egyptian consent to issue unilateral declaration?

This approach would be adopted only on understanding that a general statement similar to one in United States draft would be substituted if Egypt objected.

2. Provided progress is made in Anglo-Egyptian negotiations on Suez Base and this problem approaches a solution, could the approach to the Egyptians be made before actual signature of agreement?

DULLES

No. 647

784A.02/8-153

*Memorandum of Conversation, by the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern, South Asian, and African Affairs (Jerne-gan)*¹

CONFIDENTIAL

[WASHINGTON,] August 4, 1953.

Subject: Arab Attitude Toward Transfer of Israeli Foreign Ministry to Jerusalem.

Participants: Sheikh Asad Al-Faqih, Ambassador of Saudi Arabia
 Dr. Charles Malik, Ambassador of Lebanon
 Dr. Ahmed Hussein, Ambassador of Egypt
 Dr. Farid Zeineddine, Ambassador of Syria
 Mr. Abdul Jalil Rawi, Chargé d'Affaires of Iraq

¹ This conversation was summarized in circular telegram 83, Aug. 7, 6:45 p. m., sent to the Arab capitals, Tel Aviv, and Jerusalem. (784A.02/8-753)