

No. 691

*The Acting United States Representative at the United Nations
(Wadsworth) to the President of the Security Council*¹

[NEW YORK, October 17, 1953.]

I have the honour on behalf of the Government of the United States, to request you to call an urgent meeting of the Security Council to consider, under "The Palestine question", the matter of the tension between Israel and the neighbouring Arab States with particular reference to recent acts of violence and to compliance with an enforcement of the General Armistice Agreements.

The United States Government believes that prompt consideration of this question by the Security Council is necessary to prevent a possible threat to the security of the area, and in this connexion considers that the Council would, in the first instance, be assisted by a report in person as soon as possible from the Chief of Staff of the Truce Supervision Organization.

JAMES J. WADSWORTH

¹ Reprinted from U.N. doc. S/3111. Identical letters to the President of the Security Council were sent on Oct. 17 by the Representatives of France (S/3109) and the United Kingdom (S/3110). The Qibya incident was discussed by the Security Council at its 629th to 643d meetings, from Oct. 19 to Nov. 25 (U.N. docs. S/PV. 629-643). The discussions included reports by Major General Bennike and statements by the representatives of Jordan and Israel. At the 640th meeting, France, the United Kingdom, and the United States submitted a joint draft resolution which in its final revision (S/3139/Rev. 2) was adopted on Nov. 24; for the text, see Document 738.

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68:A.85/10-1753: Telegram

*The Ambassador in Egypt (Caffery) to the Department of State*¹

SECRET

CAIRO, October 17, 1953—3 p. m.

466. Paris for Johnston. Minister Foreign Affairs assured me this morning re recent Israeli attacks on Jordan villages excitement is rising high in Arab world. Egypt is trying "to hold back" and "not stir up trouble" and even to avoid having these incidents brought before Security Council. In other words Egypt is trying to exert a calming influence. However, Egyptian Government is very much concerned about possibility that Israeli Government has "much bigger things in mind. Recent tendencies are not good", e. g., (1)

¹ Repeated to London, Paris, Jerusalem, Beirut, Damascus, Baghdad, Amman, Jidda, and Tel Aviv.