

governments of countries visited has been receptive to general idea agreed with his own reports.

Foreign Minister referred to question of Jerusalem and said he had conducted private inquiry into present mood and thinking Vatican on subject. Result was that Vatican continues firmly opposed with no sign at present of wavering. He added he would, however, continue watch situation and see what opportunities might arise be helpful in direction Ambassador Johnston had suggested.

Foreign Minister repeated that France "in spite of foolish things sometimes said in United Nations" was not entirely without influence in Syria and Lebanon and this area generally, and that he would be glad examine in what way he might be able help things along.

General impression Foreign Minister sympathetic objectives Johnston mission, pleased to be in position help, and personally well-disposed.

DILLON

No. 725

684A.26/11-1053

*Memorandum by the Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern, South Asian, and African Affairs (Byroade) to the Secretary of State*¹

SECRET

[WASHINGTON,] November 10, 1953.

I hope you can find time to read the attached paper on "Trends in Israel Policy". I believe this staff paper represents an accurate analysis of the situation. It is interesting to note that the reporting from Israel itself is in balance with the reporting from the Arab states and that both lead to the conclusions in this paper.

I told you this morning there are reports that the Zionists in London were attempting to prevent a UK-Egyptian agreement. If this can be verified it would further support the conclusions of the attached paper.

¹ Sent through the Executive Secretariat; copies were sent also to Under Secretary Smith and to Acting Deputy Under Secretary Murphy. A marginal notation by O'Connor indicates that the memorandum was seen by Secretary Dulles.