

No. 773

974.5301/2-2554: Telegram

*The Secretary of State to the Embassy in Egypt*¹

CONFIDENTIAL WASHINGTON, February 25, 1954—4:28 p. m.

987. Largely in response our suggestion New Zealand has drafted and is presently preparing table in Security Council resolution on Suez transit. First draft quoted below for your information only. We hope secure agreement with UK, France and New Zealand on alternate language for paras 3 and 4 before resolution introduced.

Our objective is make resolution more moderate and avoid implication Security Council must take additional action if Egypt fails comply.

*Verbatim text.**The Security Council*

1. *Having considered* the complaint of Israel against Egypt concerning:

(A) Enforcement by Egypt of restrictions on the passage of ships trading with Israel through the Suez Canal;

(B) Interference by Egypt with shipping proceeding to the Israeli port of Elath on the Gulf of Aqaba; (S/3168)

2. *Recalling* its resolution of 1 September 1951 (S/2298/Rev.1) in which it called upon Egypt to terminate the restrictions on the passage of international commercial shipping and goods through the Suez Canal wherever bound, and to cease all interference with such shipping beyond that essential to the safety of shipping in the Canal itself and to the observance of the international conventions in force;

3. *Expresses* its grave concern that Egypt has not complied with the resolution of 1 September 1951;

4. *Calls upon* Egypt promptly and fully so to comply;

5. *Considers* that the question raised by Israel in paragraph (B) of its complaint should properly be dealt with in the first instance by the MAC established under the GAA between Egypt and Israel.
*End verbatim text.*²

DULLES

¹ Sent also to Tel Aviv and to New York by pouch.

² The New Zealand draft resolution as submitted to the Security Council on March 23 reads as follows:

"The Security Council,

"1. *Having considered* the complaint of Israel against Egypt concerning:

"(a) Enforcement by Egypt of restrictions on the passage of ships trading with Israel through the Suez Canal;

"(b) Interference by Egypt with shipping proceeding to the Israel port of Elath on the Gulf of Aqaba (S/3168);

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