

T. ... now engaged in an active press campaign to convince the US public that the Arab states are embarked on an organized campaign of aggression against Israel. His contentions are not borne out by the facts. While the serious problem posed for Israel by Arab infiltration should not be minimized, we have no information from our representatives or the UN indicating that these activities are instigated by the Arab governments. On the contrary, Jordan has taken energetic measures to curb infiltration. In contrast, the Israel Government has deliberately directed—as a matter of policy—attacks by military units against the Arabs.

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*The Ambassador in Iraq (Berry) to the Department of State*<sup>1</sup>

CONFIDENTIAL

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605. Prime Minister Jamali, when I called on him today at his request, said he wished to voice his serious concern over developments regarding Palestine. Recent attacks by Israel on Jordan, the latest of which had been the April 6 attack on the Jordan border, had convinced the Arab states that Israel was determined to provoke trouble. Lebanon, on behalf of Jordan, had, therefore, placed the April 6 attack before the SC. He had heard that Israel had also taken the bus attack to SC. He had a report from Iraq Embassy Washington that it was the intention of the Western powers to deal with the whole Palestine situation as one package, but he wished to tell me it could not be dealt with in this manner. Each incident had to be dealt with on its own merits—Qibya, the bus attack, Nahhalin, and now the recent border attacks. He wanted me to know that should the Western powers attempt to deal at UN with the present situation as a package the Arab states were determined to walk out. This action had been approved at Cairo AL meeting by the Arab states, which had also agreed to urge US, in light of recent events, to withhold aid from Israel (Embtel 581 [586], April 2);<sup>2</sup> had reviewed their arms potential in view of possible arms embargo; and had voiced, at Egyptian instigation, opposition to any Arab state unilaterally joining Turkish-Pakistan pact.

Prime Minister said he also wanted me to know that Jordan had asked for military assistance. He thought, however, that Brigadier

<sup>1</sup> Repeated to Beirut, Cairo, Damascus, Jerusalem, Jidda, Tel Aviv, Tripoli, and London; passed to New York.

<sup>2</sup> Not printed.