

disturbed than they are at present over recent Israeli tactics and what they consider to be US attitude thereto.

Egyptian officialdom, press and public profess to view plan for general SC review of Palestine case as western plot to force Arabs into peace treaty with Israel (reference Amman telegram 108, April 12).<sup>2</sup> They allege that such a development would confirm effectiveness of Israeli tactic of trying to force peace through terrorist measures.

CAFFERY

<sup>2</sup> Telegram 108 from Amman to Cairo, Apr. 12 (a repeat of telegram 420 from Amman to the Department, not printed) reported in part that the Jordanian Ambassador to Lebanon had arrived in Amman with the text of a report by Prime Minister Malek concerning a "conspiracy" of Western powers in the Security Council. The report supposedly stated that Israel was preparing for large-scale aggression on all Arab borders during the Security Council debate, for the purpose of enlarging the scope of the Council's deliberations. The Embassy doubted the authenticity of the report, but felt that Jordan was "seriously concerned." (330/4-1254)

### No. 796

684A.85/4-1 54: Telegram

#### *The Acting Secretary of State to the Embassy in Jordan*<sup>1</sup>

TOP SECRET PRIORITY WASHINGTON, April 15, 1954—9:01 a. m.

407. During discussion Arab-Israel problem Apr 12 Secretary and Eden agreed on seriousness present situation. Secretary stated feared Israel calculated matters cannot improve until they become worse and inference could be drawn from Israel acts that she prepared to re-open war in order create situation from which peace settlement rather than armistice would follow. Arabs fearful of new attack. New factor was support now given Arabs by USSR. Secretary questioned whether US by following balanced policy in area could so increase influence with Arab states as to promote stability and harmonious relations.

Eden concurred with above analysis. Felt only current course was to "nibble at edges of problem seeking first frontier control." Stated we should continue efforts get parties together under aegis UN. Failing this we should endeavor accomplish same objective outside UN.

British Embassy informed Department Apr 13 it hoped advance specific suggestions for discussions next week.

<sup>1</sup> Sent also to Baghdad as telegram 574, Beirut as 1160, Cairo as 1274, Damascus as 417, Jidda as 290, Tel Aviv as 717, and Jerusalem as 90, all priority; repeated to London and Paris by pouch.