

No. 805

684A.86/4-2054: Telegram

The Ambassador in Saudi Arabia (Wadsworth) to the Department of State

TOP SECRET

JIDDA, April 20, 1954—1 p. m.

440. Deptel 290, April 15. ¹ From our listening post in this primitive still basically puritanical Wahabi community in which St. John Philby tells me Court thinking continues governed largely by old King's theme that SA is "firstly Moslem and only secondly Arab" we can best answer question in referenced telegram by saying we see no procedure for getting parties together for any purpose and question two by reporting that not even our generally well informed Embassy Arab consultant has ever heard of UNTSO or bothers even endeavor comprehend details border machinery.

WADSWORTH

¹ Printed as telegram 407 to Amman, Document 796.

No. 806

684A.86/4-2154

Memorandum of Conversation, by the Secretary of State

TOP SECRET

[WASHINGTON?,] April 21 1954.

MEMORANDUM OF CONFERENCE WITH PRESIDENT EISENHOWER,
AUGUSTA, GA., APRIL 19, 1954

We discussed the Arab-Israeli tension and the matter of military aid to Iraq. I gave the President our State Department estimate of the present situation, and the danger that the Israeli might be deliberately trying to break the armistice open on the theory that that was the only way to get a better arrangement. I also referred to the Arab fear of increased Jewish immigration and consequent inevitable expansion. The President agreed that we should continue our present policy of impartiality and should not be deterred by political pressures which might generate in connection with the forthcoming elections. He suggested I should make a speech on this subject when I returned, a speech which he would go over with me in advance. He felt it was all right to conclude the mutual security

¹ Addressed to Assistant Secretary Byroade; signed for the Secretary by John W. Hanes, Jr.