

that the United States intended to increase hostility in the Near East by such a measure. "We believe", he said, "in the good will of the donor but question the good will of the recipient."

The Secretary replied that Iraq had received no arms as yet and that he was watching this situation very carefully.

Note: As Ambassador Eban, Minister Shiloah and Mr. Hart were approaching the Reception Room after leaving the Secretary's Office, the Ambassador noted a few newsmen waiting for him. Turning to Mr. Hart, he said: "These fellows always create a problem for me; do you think it would in order if I were to state that it would be wrong to assume that there had been any diminution in friendship between Israel and the United States?" Mr. Hart replied that such a statement on its own was certainly true and would be quite proper to give out; it was possible, of course, that the reporters might seek to draw inferences of a more specific nature. The Ambassador rejoined that he would not elaborate on such a statement nor go into details.

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TOP SECRET

ISTANBUL, May 14, 1954.

CONFERENCE CONCLUSIONS ON THE DANGER OF ARAB-ISRAELI TENSIONS AND RECOMMENDED LINE OF US ACTION

1. The Conference received with concern reports from the chiefs of mission in the Arab states and Israel regarding increasing tension on the Arab-Israel frontiers and the danger that the Soviet Union might be able to turn this situation to its advantage. Generally speaking it was agreed that, although the Soviet Union has been stepping up its activity in the Near East and making noticeable progress, the United States has been keeping pace except in Jordan and Syria by following a vigorous policy of its own. However, this situation could be changed radically and suddenly if a point were reached where the Soviet Union should seek to profit by a deterioration in the Arab-Israel difficulty by coming out openly as the champion of the Arabs. Means should therefore be found to al-

¹ Regarding the Conference of the U.S. Chiefs of Mission in the Near East area held at Istanbul, May 11-14, 1954, see Documents 210-212. This paper appeared as Annex B to the summary record of the conference.