

1. Recent decisions of MAC, body in whose impartiality we have full confidence, do not support Sharett's charges against HKJ. We do not feel able to make approach to Jordan requested by Sharett when Israel refuses to participate in work of MAC, organization specifically constituted to cope with border problems and when recent activities of Israel's armed forces resemble to unfortunate extent those for which Israel censured by SC on November 24.

2. Treatment accorded UN observers investigating Wadi Fukin clash can only raise questions re Israel's intentions and responsibility for incident. We unable to perceive justification for what appears to be deliberate effort by Israel discredit UNTSO personnel and machinery. Stability and security on border depends primarily on this organization and SC resolution of November 24 specifically called on Israel and Jordan to "cooperate fully with chief of staff of TSO".

3. Measures listed in *aide-memoire* of June 20 [19] designed accomplish improvement in border situation which Sharett desires. We hope that steps indicated together with return of Israel to Israel-Jordan MAC and genuine effort to cooperate by all concerned will succeed in reversing present deplorable trend. ³

DULLES

³ Telegram 1335 from Tel Aviv, June 25, 8 p. m., reported that the substance of the Department's telegram 873 had been transmitted orally to the Foreign Ministry for Sharett, with the exception of the parallel between Qibya and recent incidents, a thesis the Embassy believed was debatable. (684A.85/6-2554)

No. 838

684A.85/6-2454: Telegram

The Charge in Israel (Russell) to the Department of State ¹

CONFIDENTIAL

TEL AVIV, June 24, 1954—6 p. m.

1330. Ambassador Johnston and party arrived via Mandelbaum Gate afternoon June 18. Johnston and I made courtesy call on Prime Minister his office Jerusalem. Full meetings held afternoons June 20 and 21. Smaller meetings Johnston and myself with Prime Minister, Finance Minister and one or two advisers held on June 22 and 23. Johnston, Gardiner, Ludlow, and Jones departed this morning for Cairo. Barnes, Trozeg, and Colburn remaining here for couple of days for further discussions technical problems.

¹ Repeated to Cairo and Jerusalem.