

Embassy comment: Despite negative response to tripartite border proposals (Embtel 107) ¹ and to Chargé's suggestions (Embtel 108), ² Embassy will, if Department approves, emphasize in discussions with Israel Government officials and friends of Israel:

(a) That present Israel Government policy is contraproductive of Israel's avowed long-term objectives;

(b) That there is an alternative cooperative relationship which could assure Israel's security and strengthen its role in free world;

(c) That Israel Government has regularly in past year or two tripped up US in its efforts to deal with area problems and lessen area tensions, notably on Jerusalem problem (by sudden move of Foreign Ministry), obtaining Jordanian cooperation in dealing with border problem (by Qibya), strengthening UN (by withdrawing from Israel-Jordan MAC), developing Jordan Valley plan (by flouting UN on Banat Yaacov), and strengthening area security through obtaining Arab cooperation (by policy of converting isolated border firings into major engagements). During next few months, following Suez agreement and as US program of aid to Egypt is getting underway, also following assumption of responsibilities by new Chief of Staff of UNTSO, we will have best opportunity of obtaining Egypt's cooperation in giving leadership to improvement of relations with Israel. We hope that Israel will consider most carefully whether its response to tripartite proposals, attitude re Banat Yaacov, position re area security, absence from Israel-Jordan MAC, statements of its leaders, its border policies, and other actions are most conducive to the success of our effort, and what courses of action will remain available if this effort fails. ³

RUSSELL

¹ Document 846.

² *Supra*.

³ On Aug. 9, the Department authorized the Embassy to develop the points contained in its telegram 125 in conversation with Israeli officials. (Telegram 77 to Tel Aviv, Aug. 9, 8:19 p. m.; 784A.5/8-954)

No. 849

641.74/B-454: Telegram

The Ambassador in Egypt (Caffery) to the Department of State ¹

SECRET PRIORITY

CAIRO, August 4, 1954--2 p. m.

162. Minister Foreign Affairs asked to see me today to make several observations:

¹ Repeated to London.