

1. Heretofore, Jordanian delegates to local commanders meetings have in some instances been Arab Legion Officers and sometimes police officers. HKJ agrees, however, in principle that cooperating authorities should be police officers since task is essentially of police nature. It is hoped that fact Jordan police are under administrative control of Arab Legion will not give Israel occasion to reject procedure on basis of legalism.

2. Embassy not aware that Jordan local commanders have in past delayed effectiveness of local commanders agreements by necessity of referring to higher authority.

3. As far as HKJ is concerned, success of local commanders meetings entirely dependent upon Israeli cooperation.

4. Embassy agrees UNTSO should be in position to use its influence to stop foot-dragging.

5. Embassy agrees "local police meetings" might be better name and believes HKJ would go along.

MALLORY

No. 858

67484A/8-1051: Telegram

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

SECRET

TEL AVIV, August 10, 1954—5 p. m.

150. At Prime Minister's invitation, I paid visit at his home Jerusalem yesterday afternoon (Deptel 792, paragraph 3),² first of such informal exchanges of views since he moved his residence from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem (Embtel 82).³ He was in relaxed and cordial mood. He referred to Eban's meetings with Secretary and said Eban's cables had been encouraging. He expressed no views concerning specific items of Washington discussion, saying he was awaiting full report from Eban following his arrival here within next few days. He said he had reported on conversations to Cabinet. It was obvious Secretary's statements to Eban had had ameliorating effect on Sharett's-general view of Israel's situation.

Although I had not then received Deptel 77,⁴ I took advantage of what seemed especially favorable opportunity to develop points outlined last paragraph Embtel 125⁵ and last half last paragraph Embtel 131.⁶ I said that all our efforts during past few years to

¹ Repeated to Cairo, Amman, London, and Jerusalem.

² Document 825.

³ Not printed.

⁴ Not printed, but see footnote 3, Document 848.

⁵ Document 848.

⁶ The last paragraph of telegram 131 from Tel Aviv, Aug. 5, began with a list of opportunities for progress in solving problems of the area:

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