

US, in light of previous exclusive concentration on denouncing US policies.

Eytan said he had met with Bennike and Vigier yesterday morning to discuss possible agreement on series of border proposals UNTSO had put forward recently (paragraph 1 Embtel 157)³ but that meeting came to nothing.

Eban said Dayan was given most courteous reception wherever he went in US; that his trip was from IG point of view most useful and successful. I urged that Dayan upon return make statement to that effect, correcting opposite impression created by local press.⁴

RUSSELL

³ Paragraph 1 of telegram 157 from Tel Aviv, Aug. 12, contained a report of an unofficial luncheon at which Eytan and Tekoah were said to have urged that the U.N. Truce Supervision Organization should proceed as soon as possible with an effort to bring about implementation of the recent border proposals. (674.84A/8-1254)

⁴ On Aug. 20, the Department acknowledged telegram 179 from Tel Aviv, stating that it was still formulating a position with respect to a possible formal assurance to Israel and was unable to communicate its views in time for the Embassy's use prior to the Aug. 22 cabinet meeting. (Telegram 101 to Tel Aviv, Aug. 20; 674.84A/8-1854)

No. 864

684A.85/8-1754: Telegram

*The Secretary of State to the Embassy in Jordan*¹

SECRET

WASHINGTON, August 18, 1954—7:24 p. m.

61. In light Dayan's willingness urge Israel participation in meeting HKJ and Israel commanders Jerusalem sector late August (Deptel 67 to Tel Aviv² and Tel Aviv 173 to Dept³) and in view statement last para Jerusalem's 45 to Dept.,⁴ request Amman's and Tel Aviv's views as to practicability their approaching governments soonest to urge such meeting. Should this approach be made without awaiting definitive result efforts arrange meeting Gaza?

¹ Sent also priority to Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, and Cairo; sent by pouch to Beirut, London, and Damascus.

² Printed as telegram 38 to Amman, Document 853.

³ In telegram 173 from Tel Aviv, Aug. 17, Russell reported that he had raised with Eytan the possibility of reactivating, improving, and extending the local commanders' meetings. Eytan said he would prefer to postpone discussion until Dayan returned from Washington later in the week. (684A.85/8-1754)

⁴ In the last paragraph of telegram 45 from Jerusalem, Aug. 16, Cole reported that he had sounded out the senior Arab Legion officer in the Jerusalem area about local commanders' meetings. The officer's opinion was that such meetings were useful and could presumably be renewed whenever the Israelis signified a desire to do so. (684A.85/8-1654)