

within area. America's security is deeply involved [as] well as Israel's. It would be disappointment American people if Israel were to continue in its endeavors block our attempts encourage certain Near East leaders who are seeking identify their peoples' destiny with that of Free World.

SMITH

No. 875

684A.85/8-2054: Telegram

*The Acting Secretary of State to the Embassy in Israel*¹

SECRET

WASHINGTON, August 26, 1954—7:02 p. m.

110. Amman's 60² Tel Aviv's 192³ Cairo's 203.⁴ Tel Aviv requested approach Dayan reporting that our initial soundings in Cairo and Amman indicate willingness for commanders to meet. We suggest first meetings be held between commanders Jlem sector and Gaza frontiers. In our view agenda should be limited discussion border security measures and to setting up means for further periodic contacts with view reduction border incidents. Arrangements could be made regarding place and time meeting through UNTSO observers. It should be made clear that what we are seeking is resumption commanders meetings which as in past would be held informally and outside framework MAC. FYI while we would hope such meetings might improve atmosphere to degree where Israel would see value resuming full cooperation with MAC feel would be counter-productive attempt link these meetings with MAC participation at this time.

Tel Aviv requested consult closely with ConGen Jlem and at appropriate time ConGen should provide background to UNTSO.

Cairo and Amman requested make similar approaches Gohar and Arab Legion.

Report developments.

SMITH

¹ Sent also to Amman, Jerusalem, and Cairo.

² Not printed.

³ Document 869.

⁴ Document 861.