

ing impartiality. Texts would of course differ from note to Tel Aviv, since US not planning military aid Israel.

Ambassador Moose saw reference telegram immediately prior his departure and will discuss with Department upon arrival.

STRONG

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No. 879

784A.3/8-3054: Telegram

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

CONFIDENTIAL

TEL AVIV, August 30, 1954—6 p. m.

212. Embtel 209, <sup>1</sup> Deptel 114. <sup>2</sup> At meeting with Prime Minister his office Jerusalem this noon, I said I wished to reiterate, with full authorization to Department, that we intended, as possible, to make full effort to utilize our improving position with Arab countries, and particularly Egypt, to induce them to take steps leading toward peace with Israel. Also interested in Israel's efforts to continue secret contacts with Egyptian leaders, especially as we are convinced that first-hand information which IG may gain from situation in Egypt will lead it to understand the basis of US approach which is based on careful and gradual measures as opposed to all-or-nothing, take-it-or-leave-it approach. US attaches greatest importance to timing and tactics in approaching our common objectives of peace and stability in Near East. Any action which interferes with or prevents this approach would inevitably be regarded in US as obstruction of our efforts to build up area security in face of Communist threat. It is our fundamental conviction that American security is deeply involved in current developments in Middle East as well as Israel's. It would be gravest disappointment to American people if Israel were to block our attempts to encourage Near East leaders who are seeking to identify their people's destiny with that of the free world. While no further statement in connection with border guarantees or US arms aid policy possible now, am authorized give assurance that fullest attention being given to following up on Secretary Dulles statement of sympathetic appreciation of Israel's sense of insecurity and isolation. It is our conviction there is no necessary conflict between objective of relieving Israel's sense of insecurity and measures which US as leader of free world deems necessary to take to forestall further acts of Communist aggression.

<sup>1</sup> Document 877.

<sup>2</sup> See footnote 5, Document 877.