

dence that some constructive thinking re ultimate peace with Israelis beginning to be manifest.

Embassy fears that impact of unilateral note on Nuri and other responsible Iraqis may, among other things, result immediately in new low in confidence US objectives this area, increase reluctance to adhere to US-sponsored Turkish Pakistan pact, particularly if Turkey associates itself with proposed note, and renew Nuri's interest in his scheme, a multilateral defense system including Pakistan and UK but not Turkey (Embassy telegram 86 <sup>4</sup>). It will certainly provide grist for anti-US and neutralist forces against US and all US-sponsored defense arrangements.

Embassy continues believe simple statement best of alternatives if Department of opinion absolutely imperative some action this regard be taken (Embassy telegram 112 <sup>5</sup>). Department may wish to consider desirability, as suggested Department Circular telegram 125, of sending simultaneous statement to all Arab States as well as to Israel. In such case, third paragraph might well be modified to read in following sense: "First. Traditional friendship of the US for all states in the area remains firm and has in no way been diminished or modified."

Such expedient should serve to satisfy Israel without alienating confidence of Arabs.

IRELAND

<sup>4</sup> Not printed.

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611.30/9-154: Telegram

*The Chargé in Syria (Strong) to the Department of State*<sup>1</sup>:

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104. Department circular telegram 125, September 1. Regardless wording, US statement directed Israel alone would: (1) Be interpreted here as acceptance Israeli contention threat area stability comes from Arabs; (2) Result increase Syrian receptivity Soviet blandishments (Embtel 96, August 30); (3) Revive Syrian belief partiality; (4) Ill accord US estimate Israeli "preponderant military strength" (paragraph 6i NSC 5428).<sup>2</sup> Department's proposal would cause least controversy in Syria provided note containing similar

<sup>1</sup> Repeated to Baghdad, Beirut, Cairo, Jidda, and Tel Aviv.

<sup>2</sup> Document 219.