

assurances and sanctions at same time delivered GOS. If publicity inevitable, should be even handed. Parallel US action vis-à-vis Israel and Arab States would follow pattern tripartite declaration.

Apparent intention publicize which increases need for balanced treatment leads Embassy suggest following modifications in Department's wording.

a. When speaking "security" avoid listing Israel invariably first; when speaking of "armed attack" avoid listing Arabs invariably first;

b. In third paragraph statement, omit "traditional" since US ties with Arabs antedate creation Israel. Insert "equal" before "friendship" in second line and delete "also";

c. At end fourth paragraph recommend "solutions of particular problems offer best prospect progress toward eventual goal of peace" rather than present wording which overly vague;

d. In paragraph 5, suggest specific reference arms aid to certain Arab States along with statement aid Israel not excluded. Such wording might serve emphasize Israel's legitimate security problem and consequent need some US-Israel exchange.

Embassy appreciates problem facing Department and extent to which Israel fears justified but urges that US attention Israeli security problem not be at expense broader US area objectives (page 5, NSC 5428)² effective cooperation Arab States, including Syria, in face increasingly active USSR.

STRONG

² Page 5 of NSC 5428 contained paragraphs 6e through 6i.

No. 888

611.80/9-454: Telegram

*The Ambassador in Lebanon (Hare) to the Department of State*¹

TOP SECRET

BEIRUT, September 4, 1954—2 p. m.

211. We continue feel that giving assurances to Israel at this time is not justified by facts of situation in which it is Israel, rather than the Arab states, which is assuming belligerent posture and in which any danger to Israel of our giving arms aid to Arabs is distinctly remote. However, if for reasons which Department considers compelling delivery of some such note is necessary, draft communicated in Cirtel 124, September 1 is considered reasonable presentation and one which conforms to actuality. Point on which Arabs will undoubtedly seize and which will be given headline

¹ Repeated to Tel Aviv, Amman, Baghdad, Cairo, Damascus, and Jidda.