

which the United States would seek to reassure Israel concerning her security. There is no mention of any intention to apply military policies in the Middle East in such a way as not to change the balance of power to Israel's disadvantage. There is no talk of offering Israel inclusion in the military aid program, in which the two strongest Arab States have already been offered participation. There is no talk of any approach to a security guarantee for Israel which would go beyond the existing Declaration of May 1950.

In these circumstances, I must say that the draft submitted to you which I heard this morning would not merely fail to give us any sense of reassurance but would, I fear, have the reverse effect of confirming our worst fears and apprehensions; for the author of the draft does nothing to challenge the implication that the United States will pursue a policy of giving military aid agreements and arms to Arab States alone, while offering nothing politically or militarily to Israel.

I am writing this letter in the earnest hope that it may still be possible for action to be taken which would show respect for the vulnerability and insecurity of a small country whose hostile neighbors are being strengthened and encouraged by the security arrangements of the Western Powers. This would not be the only international occasion on which your personal statesmanship lifted a deadlock onto a new plane of hopeful progress. The feeling that this was to happen here moved me to attempt to persuade my Government and people that you understood our position and desired to alleviate it. You will, therefore, understand how grievously I was affected by hearing a draft which missed the whole spirit and content of your previous analysis. Only a deep concern for the historic relationship of our two countries would have impelled me, amidst your heavy preoccupations, to write to you as frankly as I have here. I hope that you will understand that I do so out of a sense of duty and in deep personal respect.

Yours very sincerely,

ABBA EBAN

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*Memorandum of Conversation, by the Director of the Office of Near Eastern Affairs (Hart)*

SECRET

[WASHINGTON,] October 10, 1954.

Subject: *Bat Galim Case.*