

No. 925

67484A/12-ZM: Telegram

*The Secretary of State to the United States Mission at the United Nations*¹

CONFIDENTIAL

WASHINGTON, December 2, 1954—7:19 p. m.

301. Re Palestine in SC: *Bat Galim*. We favor use of consensus SC as best means handling *Bat Galim* case since we of opinion any resolution condemning Egyptian action or reaffirming September 1, 1951 resolution will be vetoed by Soviets. Consensus action will be entirely reasonable if, as we hope, Egyptians prepared release crew and ship and agree pay for cargo either prior to or during Council debate. If we can receive such undertaking from Egyptians we can actively oppose tabling of resolution. However if Egyptians will not release ship and crew and Israelis insist on resolution we must be prepared not only support but co-sponsor if necessary reasonable resolution: commending Chief of Staff of TSO for objective report to SC; reaffirming view that Egypt must comply with 1951 resolution; reaffirming Council support for actions and decision of MAC, UN observers, and Chief of Staff; and calling upon Egypt release crew and ship. If consensus is used our statement should be along lines above unless Egyptians have already indicated release of crew and ship, in which case our statement should follow lines above except it should endorse action of Egyptians as indication their intention not to remain in defiance of SC.

Embassy Tel Aviv should use above for its information only. Reply to Sharrett should await further instructions. Embassy Cairo may indicate to Foreign Office fact we shall probably have to support resolution generally condemnatory of Egypt unless they act on *Bat Galim* case promptly.²

DULLES

¹ Repeated to Tel Aviv, Cairo, and Jerusalem.

² On Dec. 4, the Egyptian Representative at the United Nations informed the President of the Security Council that Egypt had set aside the charges against the crew of the *Bat Galim*. (U.N. doc. S/3326)