

by Jordanians—that is, if they wish to be alive the next morning. Even the Trieste technique poses problems for the Jordan Government and will probably increase the peril to the Prime Minister's life. Indirect negotiations through either the United States or Great Britain would arouse too many troubles to be entertained. Probably approaches to individual Arab countries would be preferable to simultaneous approaches to two or more of them. However, it would seem that if the initial approach is to Egypt and Israel appeared at all fruitful then Jordan should be brought into the matter fairly promptly. It might also be desirable to bring Lebanon in subsequently, especially if it appeared that she might be a moderating influence. If Egypt would move towards a settlement, her example and leadership would be very important. Jordan dares not move alone or initially, but possible might follow Egyptian leadership. The question of timing as set forth appears a little too soon and a little too precise. As previously indicated, it should be delayed for the Unified Plan and Iraqi defense discussions.

There would not appear to be inducements which might be offered by the United States or the United Kingdom to Jordan. Those inducements must come from Israeli willingness to move. Assurance of a longer term aid program would be some inducement, but it must be supplement to, and could not replace, the matters of principle.

With specific regard to Jordan, I do not see that moving forward simultaneously on area defense arrangements would be of much assistance. It might be of help with respect to Egypt, Iraq, etc. However, the negative effect of movement toward a common Arab defense scheme could be of importance and should be avoided.

L. D. MALLORY

No. 943

984A.53/12-2354: Telegram

*The Ambassador in Egypt (Caffery) to the Department of State*¹

SECRET PRIORITY

CAIRO, December 23, 1954—3 p. m.

828. ReDeptel 932.² Riad has just informed Embassy officer he is drafting telegram to be sent Loutfi today instructing him to notify in writing all members SC that crew *Bat Galim* will be released January 1 and that ship "will be released".

¹ Repeated to Tel Aviv and London.

² Document 940.