

instructions. I shall ask to see the Prime Minister tomorrow and early in the week, the King and Crown Prince. As my work here now is done, I shall plan to leave Baghdad by the end of next week. I trust the Department will make an appropriate announcement. I expect to say in making my farewell calls and to the press, when queried, that months ago I asked for retirement at the end of this assignment and the request has been granted. If you have objections to any of my final official actions in Iraq as proposed above please send me a niact message.

BERRY

No. 1412

787.5 MSP/4-1854: Telegram

*The Ambassador in Iraq (Berry) to the Department of State*¹

SECRET

BAGHDAD, April 18, 1954—11 a. m.

624. Regarding Deptel 577, April 15.² This morning I called on Prime Minister Jamali who, in spite of illness, got out of bed to receive me. I informed him that I had received instructions to suspend temporarily negotiations on the military aid agreement. I said that I did not know the reasons for the delay but I assumed Washington might be in the midst of a fundamental review of the entire matter. I added that in exploring my mind for the reasons I speculated that the Arab League communiqué of April 1,³ which I then read to him, had a bearing on the matter.

I commented that in the face of such a position the conclusion of our military aid agreement at this time might increase the difficulties of the Iraq Government. While it was true that the United States has been willing to consider military aid to Iraq without insisting upon its adherence to the Turkish-Pakistan pact, we were counting on the clear-cut recognition by Iraq of her interests in regional defense against outside aggression, and her willingness to cooperate with other states who also see the dangers.

The Cairo communiqué casts doubt upon this expectation. If the doubt is unfounded it should be removed. It would seem timely for Iraq to consult with Turkey and Pakistan and determine whether or not it wished to associate itself in some form of mutually satis-

¹ Repeated to Karachi, Ankara, Amman, Beirut, Cairo, Damascus, Jidda, Jerusalem, Tripoli, Tel Aviv, and London.

² Document 1410.

³ The communiqué is quoted in telegram 566 to Baghdad, Document 1409.