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State Dept. Guidelines, June 12, 1979

January 5, 1949

By NLT: HC NARS, Date 11-17-81

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SUMMARY OF TELEGRAMS

PALESTINE We have informed our representative in Tel Aviv that we are surprised at the reaction of Israeli officials to our recent representations and have instructed him to make clear to them that the purpose of our demarche was to prevent any British move to implement the Anglo-Egyptian treaty of alliance or to re-arm the Arabs. We point out that we have great strategic and other interests at stake in the Middle East and that, therefore, the Israeli government has no just grounds on which to resent our reacting strongly to any action containing a threat of enlargement of the conflict. We have instructed our Charge in Cairo to inform the King of Egypt in general terms of our representations to the Israelis and of their agreement to withdraw their forces from Egypt and to urge him to restrain the Egyptian forces from acts such as the shelling of Tel Aviv and the bombing of Jerusalem. Our Charge is also to urge upon the King compliance with the Security Council resolution of November 16, calling upon the parties to the Palestine conflict to negotiate an armistice, and the necessity for concluding an early peace.

NORTH ATLANTIC PACT We have informed the Norwegian, Danish and Icelandic representatives here that we hope to begin the definitive drafting of a North Atlantic Pact soon enough to permit its final conclusion early in February and that we would be glad to have the informal views of their governments as to the form and timing of an official approach to them as to whether they are willing to participate in a pact and, if so, whether they wish to participate in the drafting. The representatives of the three countries were informed that there would be a definite obligation in the pact to contribute toward the collective defense of the North Atlantic area both before and after the occurrence of an armed attack but that this would not necessarily involve a declaration of war as in some cases it might be more advantageous to the security of the area as a whole if certain countries did not become involved in war unless directly attacked. Similar approaches to Ireland and Portugal will be made shortly; no approach to the Swedish government is contemplated but should Sweden desire to become a party to the pact its participation would be welcomed.

THE VATICAN The Vatican Acting Secretary of State has informed our representative there that the President's statement on the arrest of Cardinal Mindszenty was timely, highly effective and very fair. He further said that he considers the US line in this case very sound and most gratifying and expressed warm appreciation of our sympathy and support.

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