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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

June 15, 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: United States Government Representation
in Palestine.

Reference is made to the Department's memorandum of May 27, 1948 in which the following recommendations were made:

"A Mission of the United States should be established in the capital of the new state of Israel for the purpose of performing political and consular functions. It is believed that Tel Aviv or a suburb of that city will be selected as the capital by the Provisional Government of Israel. This Mission should be headed by a Special Representative of the United States.

"Approval should be given to the establishment of a Mission of the Provisional Government of Israel in Washington, headed by a Special Representative of the Provisional Government of Israel. The United States should agree to the designation, by the Provisional Government of Israel, of Mr. Eliahu Epstein as Special Representative of the Provisional Government of Israel in the United States."

These recommendations were approved by you on May 27, 1948.

On June 7, 1948 the Department was informed that the Provisional Government of Israel accepts the proposed arrangement ad interim in the confident expectation that an exchange of legations and envoys extraordinary and ministers plenipotentiary will follow without undue delay.

Pending the selection and appointment of a special representative to head the Mission of the United States

in Israel

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in Israel the Department proposes to establish its Mission in Tel Aviv or a suburb of Tel Aviv and will provide the necessary personnel. The Department has assigned Mr. Charles Frederick Knox, Jr., an American Foreign Service Officer, to the staff of its Mission and is assigning him as Acting Special Representative pending the selection and appointment of a Special Representative.

There is attached a copy of a press release which the Department of State plans to issue announcing the substance of the foregoing.

It would be appreciated if you will approve this procedure.



DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)
Dept. of State letter, Aug. 9, 1973
By NLT- , NARS Date 2-16-76

Attachment:

Proposed Press Release

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS RELEASE

Agreement was reached, as of June 7, 1948, between the Government of the United States and the Provisional Government of Israel on the establishment of a Mission of the United States in Israel and a Mission of the Provisional Government of Israel in the United States. Agreement was also reached on the exchange of special representatives.

Mr. Eliahu Epstein has been designated by the Provisional Government of Israel as its Special Representative in the United States heading the Mission of the Provisional Government of Israel in this country. Mr. Charles Frederick Knox, Jr., an American Foreign Service Officer, has been assigned Acting Special Representative of the United States, temporarily heading the Mission of the United States in Israel.

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E. O. 11652, Sec. 1(E) and 1(D) or (B)
D-pt. of State letter, 7-15-73
By NLT: , NARS Date 2-24-75

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