



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

February 3, 1949

~~TOP SECRET~~

SUMMARY OF TELEGRAMS

NORTH
ATLANTIC

Our Ambassador in Copenhagen reports that the Danes wish to present to us the special security problems of the three Scandinavian countries in the light of the reports made to the Oslo conference by the Scandinavian military authorities and are sending representatives to Washington for this purpose. They regard such a presentation as a prerequisite to answering an invitation to join the North Atlantic pact and our Ambassador feels that our willingness to listen to the Danish representatives would help the Danish Prime Minister greatly in dealing with his government and the Socialist party.

Irish Foreign Minister MacBride has informed our Minister in Dublin that as long as the British retain political and military control in Northern Ireland Eire cannot enter any defense pact in which the UK is associated but that in replying to our aide memoire he will keep the door open so as not to make the answer entirely negative.

Belgian Foreign Minister Spaak is very disturbed over the lack of progress made by the Brussels Treaty powers on military matters. He says that, although plans have been drawn up and staffs established, there still seem to be too many generals and no armies whatever.

PALESTINE

The Egyptian Foreign Minister has requested our Charge in Cairo to bring to the attention of this government the Israeli refusal of Bunche's armistice proposals in order that we might use our influence with Israel to bring about a conclusion of the Rhodes talks on a basis having some relation to the Security Council resolutions of November 4 and November 16. The Foreign Minister asserted that Egypt had made every conceivable concession in assenting to Bunche's proposals, which they consider a departure from the Security Council resolutions, and hinted that the only remaining alternative might be a further resort to arms.

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