

2453/20

DOC 2442/2 per -

But I must now point to two immediate matters of farreaching importance the handling of which may well have a decisive effect on the future development of relations between the two countries.

One is that the Government of Egypt put a final stop to interference with shipment of any kind of cargo to and from Israel thus implementing the principle of free passage through the Zuez Canal in fullfilment of Egypts international undertakins. Such a measure would be in accordance with the overwhelming consensus of international opinion and it would therefore be widely acclaimed by the international community.

Secondly, there is the burning question of the outcome of the Cairo trial against a group of hapless and helpless Jews. I fervently hope that it will not result in death sentences which have been demanded by the prosecution for this would cause a severe ~~blow~~ kindle afresh the flames of bitterness and strife and defeat the efforts of those who try to curb passions and lead their people into ways of peace. We look forward to counsel, of farsighted statesmanship prevailing over considerations of the moment lest the already heavily <sup>CHARGED</sup> charged situation between the two countries becomes even more aggravated and inflamed thus bringing to naught those aims to which Col. Nasser gave expression in his message and which I share with him

SHARETT

kt/al(77)