

DOC 03777

CONFIDENTIAL

American Embassy,
Tel Aviv, Israel
April 21, 1955

MEMORANDUM

The Department of State has requested the Embassy to transmit to the Israel Ministry for Foreign Affairs the following comments regarding the Security Council debate on April 19:

(1) No resolution was adopted since the United States Government and other members of the Security Council felt that the important result of the meeting should be the reaffirmation of the March 30 resolution.

(2) Secondly, it was the estimate of the United States Government that the Soviets would veto a resolution which censured Egypt and a resolution without such censure would be of no interest or value to Israel.

(3) The United States representative underscored United States concurrence in General Burns' first conclusion of his last report that the majority of incidents was due to emotional tension following the Gaza raid on February 28. The United States specifically did not condone incidents occurring since the Gaza raid, pointing out that such incidents demonstrated a lack of responsibility by local and governmental authorities, holding that if the situation on the border was not further to deteriorate Egyptians must repress such action as minings. The United States specifically reiterated that there was no justification for retaliation, official or unofficial, military or civilian, and pointed out that Security Council consideration and action per se were neither a remedy for present difficulties nor likely to bring about peace in the Palestine area.

(4) Positions similar to the foregoing were taken by the United Kingdom, France, New Zealand, Belgium and the U.S.S.R. and at the conclusion of the meeting Sobolev, as president, summarized the unanimous sentiment of the Security Council that parties should carry out the provisions of the March 30 resolution and cooperate with General Burns.

(5) The Embassy has been requested by the Department of State to express the urgent hope of the United States that Israel is prepared to indicate by cooperation with General Burns that it wishes the earliest stabilization of the border situation.

502
2854/6