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Sharett
(X.U.N.)

SECRETARY-GENERAL

28 February 1956

My dear Mr. Sharett,

On my return to Headquarters I hasten to send you my warm thanks for all that you and the Israeli Government did for me during my all too short stay in Israel. I appreciate greatly your personal courtesies and all the arrangements which you made for me. You provided me indeed with an excellent opportunity of getting a first hand impression of some of your problems.

Especially I remember my long talk with you and Mr. Ben Gurion and the visit to the Kibbutz and the Collectives. Both those experiences deepened my understanding for your aims and your difficulties, and I can only repeat my expression of admiration for the strength and courage with which you have tackled the problem of building up a happy people living from what, with unexampled energy, they can wring out of a barren soil.

In the international field we will doubtless continue to have great difficulties and from time to time there may be clashes between your viewpoints and mine. I wish, however, to assure you that whatever attitude I consider it my duty to take, I shall always be inspired by sincere sympathy for you and your people and by a willingness fully to appreciate your problems. A friendship from my side in which I did not stand for my duties, would be of no value to you and very contrary to the spirit represented by the present leaders of Israel. Thus I trust that whatever the development, you will have confidence in the sincerity of my wish to help you while impartially serving the United Nations.

May I ask you to transmit to President Ben Zvi and Mr. Ben Gurion my respectful good wishes.

With kindest regards,

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Dag Hammerskjold

H.E. Mr. Moshe Sharett
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Jerusalem, Israel.

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Minister for Foreign Affairs
Jerusalem, Israel