
LETTER DATED 7 JUNE 1948 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE, ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, TRANSMITTING A CABLEGRAM FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL

Sir:

I have the honor to convey, for the information of the Security Council, the text of an agreement arrived at between the Security Council Mediator and the Foreign Minister of the Provisional Government of Israel at a meeting in Tel Aviv on June 3, with regard to the interpretation of the immigration clauses contained in the Security Council's resolution on May 29. The agreement is based on a cable which I received from Mr. Shertok on June 5th and conveyed to you for your information. The text of the cablegram is as follows:

"The following arrangements for controls have now been ratified by the Provisional Government:

1. We notify the Mediator in advance of the date and the port of embarkation of every immigrant transport.
2. Our representatives will cooperate with the Mediator in searching ships; if practical, at ports of embarkation; otherwise, on arrival.
3. Immigrants found in possession of arms shall be disembarked, and if they arrive, they will not be admitted.
4. Arrivals during the first week of truce shall be regulated according to the Mediator's capacity to handle transport.
5. Men of military age during the cease-fire shall be kept in hostels and camps and work centers where they can be effectively supervised with a view to ensuring no recruiting and no training.
6. If the Cyprus ban is removed, Israel's immigration program during the cease-fire will concentrate mainly on the evacuation of Cyprus.
7. Regarding European transports, the Provisional Government will strive to maintain normal age composition."

In a cable dispatched from Tel Aviv on June 6, 1948, the Foreign Minister in the Provisional Government informs me that Items 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 in the above agreement are conditions which the Mediator himself proposed and which the Provisional Government of Israel accepted. Item 5 was a facility offered by the Provisional Government of Israel to the Mediator

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in order to assist him to supervise the activities of men of military age entering Palestine during the cease-fire period.

The Provisional Government of Israel, in accepting these conditions, has been animated by a desire to assist the Mediator to the maximum possible degree within the terms of the May 29 resolution. It is quite clear to the Provisional Government that this agreement offers a satisfactory way of applying the terms of that resolution in accordance with its spirit and text. This agreement is based on the clear and explicit purpose of the resolution that the entry of men of military age shall not be banned or restricted, but that their mobilization and training when they arrive in Israel shall not take place during the period of the cease-fire.

Further discussions have taken place in Haifa between the Security Council's Mediator and the Provisional Government of Israel, and I shall seek the privilege of making a submission to the Security Council concerning them.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

(signed) Aubrey S. Eban
Acting Representative
Provisional Government of Israel

