

SECURITY
COUNCILCONSEIL
DE SECURITES/882
10 July 1948

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

CABLEGRAM DATED 9 JULY 1948 FROM THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL IN REPLY TO THE CABLEGRAM FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL DATED 8 JULY 1948

"HAVE HONOUR ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT YOUR TELEGRAM JULY 8 AND REPLY AS FOLLOWS ONE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT ISRAEL INFORMED UN MEDIATOR ON WEDNESDAY JULY 7 AT 12:30 GMT WHICH WAS TIME FIXED BY HIM THAT IT ACCEPTS PROLONGATION TRUCE UNDER PREVIOUS TERMS FOR PERIOD THIRTY DAYS BEGINNING FRIDAY 0600 GMT TWO PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT ISRAEL LIKEWISE INFORMED MEDIATOR AT ABOVE OCCASION ITS READINESS EXTEND TRUCE FOR THREE DAYS IF ABOVE PROLONGATION FOR THIRTY DAYS IS NOT ACCEPTED BY OTHER PARTY THREE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT ISRAEL ALSO SIGNIFIED ITS READINESS DEMILITARIZATION JERUSALEM AND EXTEND CEASEFIRE IN JERUSALEM EVEN IF THERE IS NO TRUCE IN REST OF PALESTINE PENDING COMPLETION NEGOTIATIONS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF DEMILITARIZATION PROJECT FOUR ON THURSDAY MORNING JULY 8 0600 GMT MEDIATOR INFORMED UNDERSIGNED BY TELEPHONE THAT ARAB GOVERNMENTS REJECTED PROLONGATION TRUCE FOR THIRTY DAYS AND THAT HE INFERRED FROM TERMS OF THEIR REPLY THAT THEY WERE ALSO OPPOSED TO EXTENSION TRUCE FOR THREE DAYS STOP MEDIATOR ADDED THAT HE IS WITHDRAWING HIS OBSERVERS FROM VARIOUS POSTS IN ISRAEL AND ARAB TERRITORIES AND STATED THAT FROM THEN ON HE WILL CONCENTRATE ON PROJECT OF DEMILITARIZING JERUSALEM FIVE ENTIRE STAFF OF UN MILITARY OBSERVERS WHICH OPERATED UNDER MEDIATOR ACTUALLY COMMENCED DEPART FROM THEIR POSTS DURING AFTERNOON OF WEDNESDAY JULY 7TH, AND BY NOON THURSDAY JULY 8TH NONE WAS LEFT IN ISRAEL SIX IN SMALL HOURS OF MORNING ON THURSDAY JULY 8 EGYPTIAN FORCES IN SOUTH OF PALESTINE WITHOUT SLIGHTEST PROVOCATION DELIBERATELY VIOLATED TRUCE. FOLLOWING ATTACKS OCCURRED FIRST 0200 GMT TWO EGYPTIAN INFANTRY COLUMNS SUPPORTED BY THREE TANKS ADVANCED FROM AREA BETWEEN ISDUD AND MAJDAL TOWARDS ISRAELI POSITION AT BEIT DARRAS SECOND SAME TIME EGYPTIAN INFANTRY FORCE SUPPORTED BY ARMoured CARS CAPTURED KAUKABA VILLAGE SOUTHEAST OF MAJDAL WHICH WAS IN ISRAEL OCCUPATION THIRD AT 0300 GMT COLUMN CONSISTING TWO SUDANESE COMPANIES OF EGYPTIAN INFANTRY COMMA TWELVE ARMoured CARS COMMA TWO SMALL TANKS AND BODY OF IRREGULARS ADVANCED FROM ISDUD ARE EASTWARDS TO LANDING GROUND NEAR JEWISH /SETTLEMENT

SETTLEMENT BEERTUVIA FOURTH AT 0600 EGYPTIAN INFANTRY COMPANY SUPPORTED BY SEVERAL TANKS ADVANCED FROM POINT OF INTERSECTION OF MAJDAL DASH FALUJA AND JULIS DASH BUREIR ROADS NORTHWARDS AND ATTACKED JULIS CAMP IN ISRAEL OCCUPATION STOP SHELLING OF ISRAELI POSITIONS ALONG JULIS BUREIR ROAD BY EGYPTIAN ARTILLERY CONTINUED THROUGHOUT THURSDAY SEVEN IN BEATING OFF FIRST ATTACK ON BEIT DARRAS ISRAELI FORCES TOOK PRISONER COMMANDING OFFICER SUDANESE INFANTRY MAJOR ZAHIR SURUR EL SADATY SERVING IN EGYPTIAN ARMY ON WHOM OPERATION ORDER WAS FOUND SIGNED BY COMMANDER SECOND INFANTRY BRIGADE COLONEL MAHMUD FAHMY NIAMAT ALLAH PROVING CONCLUSIVELY EGYPTIAN INITIATIVE IN THAT OFFENSIVE OPERATION AND SHOWING WITH WHAT DELIBERATION AND MINUTE DETAIL OPERATION WAS PLANNED STOP FULL LITERAL TRANSLATION FROM ARABIC OF THAT ORDER IS GIVEN IN ANNEX TO THIS TELEGRAM EIGHT WHEN ABOVE VIOLATIONS OCCURRED NO MILITARY OBSERVERS OF MEDIATORS STAFF WERE ANY LONGER AVAILABLE TO PROCEED TO THE SCENE NINE IN VIEW OF FACT THAT ARAB GOVERNMENTS REJECTED MEDIATORS PROPOSAL AND DISREGARDED SECURITY COUNCIL CALL FOR EXTENSION TRUCE AND IN ABSENCE OF ANY FURTHER ACTION EITHER BY MEDIATOR OR BY SECURITY COUNCIL, AT 0600 TODAY FRIDAY JULY 9TH ORIGINAL TRUCE ARRANGEMENT WHICH AT ABOVE HOUR ON JUNE 11TH ENTERED INTO FORCE FOR TWENTYEIGHT DAYS PERFORCE TERMINATED TEN TODAY FRIDAY JULY 9TH 1100 GMT EGYPTIAN PLANES REAPPEARED IN SKIES OF TELAVIV AFTER TWENTYEIGHT DAYS INTERVAL AND DROPPED BOMBS ON CIVILIAN POPULATION. IRAQI ARTILLERY STATIONED AT RASULAIN IN COASTAL PLAIN SHELLED OUTSKIRTS OF JEWISH TOWN PETAH TIQVA WITHIN ISRAELI TERRITORY ELEVEN WHILE ITS ARMED FORCES ARE ENGAGED IN PROTECTING TERRITORY AND SAFETY OF ISRAEL AGAINST RENEWED AGGRESSION PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT WOULD APPRECIATE BEING APPRISED OF ACTION WHICH SECURITY COUNCIL PROPOSES TAKE IN FACE OF THIS OPEN DEFIANCE OF ITS AUTHORITY BY ARAB GOVERNMENT MEMBERS OF UN INCLUDING ONE WHICH SITS ON SECURITY COUNCIL ITSELF. ANNEX FOLLOW

MOSHE SHERTOK MINISTER FOREIGN AFFAIRS PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT ISRAEL

NOTE:

FOR ANNEX SEE DOCUMENT S/882/Add.1

