
CABLE DATED 13 AUGUST 1948 SENT TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL BY THE
UNITED NATIONS MEDIATOR TRANSMITTING THE
REPLY OF THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT TO THE TELEGRAM (S/954)
SENT TO IT ON 6 AUGUST 1948 BY THE UNITED NATIONS MEDIATOR

With reference to the letter dated 11 August sent to the mediator
by the Egyptian Ministry for Foreign Affairs:

"I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Excellency's
telegram of the 7th of this month transmitting to the Royal Ministry
of Foreign Affairs of the Egyptian Government the text of a note
dated the 6th of this month from the Provisional Government of the
so-called State of Israel offering to begin direct peace
negotiations with the Arab States in order to put an end to the
state of war said to exist between it and those States.

"In this regard it is needless to recall that the Security
Council, in its two resolutions dated 29 May and 15 July last,
expressly entrusted your Excellency as United Nations Mediator for
Palestine with the mission of finding a just and peaceful solution
to the Palestinian problem and that the Arab States, who accepted
the cease-fire order only out of respect for the said resolutions,
are still awaiting that solution.

"It is obvious on the other hand that the Zionist offer
transmitted through your Excellency is aimed only at forcing the
hand of the Arabs and at consolidating a de facto situation which
vain attempts are being made to stabilize, and which is the
result of terrorization, persecution and complete disregard of the
rights and the desires of the Arabs who nevertheless constitute an
enormous majority of the population of Palestine - a state of
affairs which has forced hundreds of thousands of Palestinian
Arabs into exile under atrocious conditions, while other persons
not natives of the country are coming there to establish themselves
in their place and stead.

"Your Excellency is surely aware that the Arab States, whose
military intervention in Palestine was aimed only at re-establishing

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order and security and putting an end to the crimes of all kinds that the Zionist terrorist bands have committed and are continuing to commit, have never accorded de facto or de jure recognition to the so-called State of Israel created by such Zionist terrorist bands and is therefore unable to accept the claim of this so-called State to represent in discussions or negotiations any part of Palestine whatever.

"The Egyptian Government therefore feels that no reply is necessary to the Zionist offer that your Excellency has just transmitted to it."