

Printed for the Cabinet. February 1953

CONFIDENTIAL

Copy No. 66

C. (53) 50

9th February, 1953

**CABINET**

**ISRAEL**

NOTE BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

My colleagues may be interested to see the exchange of letters below, in which the Israel Foreign Minister expresses his thanks for the attitude taken by Her Majesty's Government in the recent United Nations debates on Palestine.

A. E.

*Foreign Office, S.W. 1.*  
*9th February, 1953.*

LETTER FROM ISRAEL MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS DATED  
18TH JANUARY, 1953

Dear Mr. Eden,

While it is still early to make a final assessment of the Palestine debate at the General Assembly, it will, I believe, be generally agreed that the attempt made by the Eight Powers to induce the parties to engage in direct negotiations was worth making, despite the failure of the draft resolution to command a two-thirds majority in the plenary session. The very fact that such weighty support was given to the proposal cannot in the long run fail to influence its opponents.

The constructive and statesmanlike attitude taken up by the United Kingdom Government, and so admirably presented to the Assembly by your Delegation (in particular in the speech by Lord Llewellyn on 4th December, 1952) had a marked influence on the debates, and was in no small degree responsible for the adoption of the Draft Resolution in the *Ad Hoc* Political Committee.

Believe me, dear Mr. Eden,  
Yours very sincerely,  
M. SHARETT.

REPLY TO ISRAEL MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DATED 31ST JANUARY, 1953

Thank you very much for your letter of the 18th January.

I am very grateful to you for your kind words on the Palestine debate at the recent General Assembly and I share your hope that the result will be beneficial. I shall not fail to inform my colleagues of your generous reference to the speech made by the Delegate of Her Majesty's Government.



(c) crown copyright