

**Middle East - Suez story No  
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Press release by the U.S. Dept. of State  
on the meeting J. F. Dulles - represent. of  
Arab States

March 1, 1957

Secretary of State Dulles met today with the representatives of the following Arab States: Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen.

He reported to them that the Government of Israel had indicated its intention to withdraw wholly and promptly from the Sharm el-Sheikh area and from the Gaza strip, in accordance with the United Nations Resolution of February 2, a Resolution which had been unanimously supported by all the Arab States.

Secretary Dulles stated that this Israeli withdrawal would involve no promises or concessions whatsoever to Israel by the United States, but would be predicated wholly upon the prior decisions of the United Nations General Assembly and the reports of the Secretary General and the public position of the United States, notably the position expounded by President Eisenhower in his address of February 20.

For its part, the United States, in its discussions with the Israeli Government, had been endeavoring to achieve implementation of the United Nations Resolution in the interest of peace and stability in the area. The Secretary welcomed the indicated action by the Israeli Government to withdraw.

Secretary Dulles said that he was aware of the fact that Communist propaganda was spreading the story in the Arab world that there was some secret understanding between the United States and Israel. He deplored this effort to misrepresent what in fact was a great achievement for the principles and efforts of the United Nations, namely, the full and unconditional withdrawal of Israel as had been sought.

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