

JK: So, the Israelis were agreeable to the Emergency Force idea?

Epstein: They were in cahoots with the British and the French.

After it was clear that the British and the French were clearing out they were the last ones left. Eisenhower was putting a lot of pressure on Ben Gurion. I heard this also from the Israelis. Golda Meir came over. She was Foreign Minister at the time. Lyndon Johnson was leader of the Senate and a member of the American delegation. He was naturally much more pro-Israel than the others because the Senate and the Congressmen have always been more pro-Israel than the officials. There was an American, Loy Henderson, during the UNSCOP days who was in charge of the Middle East and he was an out and out pro-Arabist. He and Harold Bealy, the British, were out and out pro-Arab. That's why they appointed Herschel Johnson. And Truman appointed a general to watch to see that the State Department wasn't undermining UNSCOP and interfering with his orders. Warren Austin was the UN ambassador, but Herschel Johnson was brought in. The British Foreign Office was always pro-Arab. The American State Department always took the lead from the British in those days. They were turning out to be pro-Arab and that is why they went along with that resolution threatening sanctions against Israel in 1948.

Eisenhower put a lot of pressure on Ben Gurion and Abba Eban to pull out of the Sinai and the final thing that made them