

Policy of preventing Arabs from living near frontier set forth in security regulations which are being followed as indicated by report from Consul Haifa who recd tel from former Arab residents Iqrit village near Leb border to effect that their former homes had been demolished Dec 25; alleged they had been evacuated 1948; had requested mil frequently to return without result, had succeeded recently in obtaining court order in their favor but homes were dynamited before they cld return to them. On Jan 16 news broadcast reported defeat of opposition motion in Knesset for debate on alleged destruction village by Army. Broadcast reported further that PriMin acting in capacity MinDef explained destruction necessitated by security considerations and that former inhabitants wld be fully compensated.

Early occasion will be sought to make representations along lines suggested Deptel 495 Jan 15.

DAVIS

No. 386

784A.00/1-2162 Telegram

*The Minister in Jordan (Drew) to the Department of State*¹

CONFIDENTIAL

AMMAN, January 21, 1952—8 a. m.

203. PriMin in informal conversation Jan 20 emphasized serious view taken by HKJ on recent acts of terrorism carried out by uniformed Israeli soldiers against innocent Jordanians. He is proposing to Cabinet Jan 21 that protests be lodged with SC, signers of tripartite declaration of May 25, 1950² and Arab dels at GA and that as psychological gesture Jordan adhere to Arab League security pact.

Latest Israeli outrage perpetrated Jan 18 when respected resident Batti village working in his garden just over armistice line as authorized by Israel under long standing arrangement peculiar to that village was seized with two grown sons by uniformed Israelis, marched short distance into Israel and all three machine gunned to death at point blank range. In view traditional friendly relations between Jews and Arabs in this village incident regarded with unusual sense of shocked outrage.

¹ Repeated to London, Paris (for the Delegation to the General Assembly), Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Jidda, Baghdad, Beirut, Damascus, Cairo, and Tripoli.

² For the statement by the Governments of the United States, the United Kingdom, and France of May 25, 1950 regarding armistice borders, see Department of State *Bulletin*, June 5, 1950, p. 886.