

on our part, moreover, will only tend to confirm their incorrigible belief that US coerced Germans into making agreement.

Lebs cite press accounts of frigidity at Adenauer-Sharett signing ceremony and numerous private indications from German Cabinet members and people, as proof that Germans themselves dislike agreement. GOL is especially concerned at Germany's contributing to up-building of Israel's heavy industries which may in time be converted for construction of war vehicles for use against Arabs. Iraqi-Syrian-Egyptian mission to Bonn was irrevocably agreed upon at AL meeting in Cairo. Consisting of pro-German Arabs, its purpose will be to propagandize German Parl members against ratification.

While threat of boycott may be carried out even if only on a token or temporary basis, Embassy's opinion is that there is so much latent pro-German sympathy in Arab world (on basis enemy of their enemy is their friend) that German interests will not in long run suffer irreparably because of agreement particularly while US is such a convenient whipping boy.

LOBENSTINE

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78SA.00/10-252: Telegram

*The Chargé in Lebanon (Lobenstine) to the Department of State*<sup>1</sup>

SECRET PRIORITY

BEIRUT, October 2, 1952—1 p. m.

673. In hour's conversation with Pres Chamoun at Beit Ed-Ed-Dine, we reviewed pending problems between two govts in atmosphere utmost cordiality. I was prepared to restate our position along lines taken with ex-Pres Khoury (Embtels 32 [320] August 19 and 512 September 12). Pres disarmed me immed by stating there are no problems between us that cannot be settled, not sometime in future but right now.

1. On local political situation Pres admitted new cabinet was "his cabinet" after he had put up with bickering politicians in Chamber Deputies long enough. Our meeting was cut short as he said the four Ministers were waiting outside for a meeting to outline details Pres program presented in his acceptance-inaugural address. As soon as this completed, they wld present it to Chamber with request Chambers grant them decree-law powers to execute it. Pres had no faith in working with present Parliament—on the electoral

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<sup>1</sup> Sent by pouch to London, Paris, Tel Aviv, and the Arab capitals.