

1953).⁵ Such actions should, of course, be taken only where IG's culpability can be demonstrated to US and world public. In Embassy's opinion there is no objection to delaying current release of aid for brief period pending clarification which may be shortly forthcoming (Jerusalem Telegram 34 to Department). Until then, Embassy believes not desirable give any indication that we are deliberately delaying or reason therefor.

RUSSELL

⁵ Not printed.

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Memorandum of Conversation, by the Assistant Secretary of State for United Nations Affairs (Murphy)

TOP SECRET

[WASHINGTON,] September 11, 1953.

Subject: Jerusalem Situation

Participants: The Most Reverend Amlito Giovanni Cicognani,
Apostolic Delegate in Washington.

Mr. Robert Murphy, Assistant Secretary for United Nations Affairs.

Agreeable to the understanding with the Secretary and Mr. Byrde, I discussed today with the Apostolic Delegate in Washington, The Most Reverend Amlito Giovanni Cicognani, the prevailing situation in Jerusalem. I explained our point of view regarding a possible solution of the Jerusalem problem, avoiding a specific reference to the Swedish proposal,¹ and inquired whether there had been any recent change of view on the part of the Vatican regarding the *corpus separatum* idea. The Most Reverend Cicognani replied in the negative and said that the question, as far as he knew, had been quiescent for some time. It is a matter, he said, which he believes the Pope personally handles. He expressed the personal opinion that our present idea is certainly worth exploring and might appeal to the Vatican. He promised to communicate it immediately in the hope of eliciting a reaction in the near future. He stated the opinion that the present situation with the Jordanians and Israelis glaring at each other across the barbed wire barrier is obviously most unsatisfactory and that if some progress along the lines of our

¹ Reference is the Swedish draft resolution submitted to the *Ad Hoc* Political Committee of the U.N. General Assembly in December 1950. (U.N. doc. A/AC.38/L.63)