

given to her by this Government we hope we can expect cooperation and a measure of enlightened self sacrifice in the interests of effecting some reduction of area tensions.

This project has been discussed with U.K. Mission to the U.N. and British Ambassador will now be filled in on details. In view time element involved request you acquaint Eden with general line of thought contained this message and accompanying Deptel 1928. ² Johnston will visit London enroute Near East October 16 and 17 to discuss matter with you and British. We may also wish him discuss with British status our thinking Jerusalem at that time which may have bearing on water distribution plan.

Please inform Eden we confident U.S. and U.K. governments will be in accord this project after these direct discussions in London and our hope agreement can be reached where purposes of Johnston's mission will have full support H.M.G.

LOURIE

² *Supra.*

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*The Secretary of State to the Chairman of the Advisory Board for
International Development (Johnston)*

TOP SECRET

WASHINGTON, October 13, 1953.

MY DEAR MR. JOHNSTON: With reference to the President's letter of October 7, 1953 ¹ appointing you his Personal Representative with the personal rank of Ambassador, I am setting forth below the objectives and broad terms of reference of your mission.

You are entrusted with a twofold task:

1. To secure agreement of the states of Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and Israel to the division and use of the waters of the Jordan River Basin;

2. To secure agreement from Jordan and Israel on plans that may be prepared for the internationalization of Jerusalem, if it is

¹ President Eisenhower's letter to Eric Johnston of Oct. 7 reads as follows:

"It gives me pleasure to appoint you as my Personal Representative with the personal rank of Ambassador for the purpose of undertaking a mission to resolve certain problems affecting the Near East. I have asked the Secretary of State to provide you with the necessary terms of reference.

"I assure you of my personal interest in the tasks you are about to undertake and of my appreciation of your willingness to accept this difficult and delicate assignment which, in my opinion, is of primary importance to the United States." (Eisenhower Library, White House central files, Confidential file)