

lization of UNRWA funds in her territory for development purposes.

4. Israel will obtain immediate, important development assistance in the form of irrigation works financed from United States aid funds. She will have available water in appreciable quantities free from Arab obstructionist tactics. In the long run she could not expect to divert to her own use all the waters of the Jordan and Yarmuk Rivers to which she has physical access.

*With the Arabs:*

1. The proposals will provide for the settlement of a larger number of refugees in a shorter time than any alternative. The Arabs cannot escape responsibility to their fellow Arabs by failing to cooperate fully in projects designed to resettle refugees.

2. The development work will materially assist the indigenous population, and will permanently strengthen Jordan and Syria.

3. The Arabs will obtain water which, in the absence of an agreement, Israel may preempt.

4. The rectification of the Armistice lines and elimination of the demilitarized zones contemplated will reduce friction, assure the Arabs of access to and use of more water for irrigation than they can otherwise expect, and give them access to Lake Tiberias.

5. In addition to agricultural assistance, Syria and Jordan will obtain electric power developed from the Yarmuk waters.

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No. 687

684A.85322/10-1453. Telegram

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

TOP SECRET      PRIORITY      AMMAN, October 13, 1953—5 p. m.

157. This Jordan's mood on eve of Johnston mission to Near East as it affects mission's primary task in area (Deptel 159):<sup>2</sup>

1. Jordan is disillusioned by seeming US failure to redress US policy imbalance with respect Israel and Arab States 5 months after dramatic visit of Secretary State to area had inspired such high hopes for a bold and impartial US policy. Arrival of second major US mission to area in wake of disillusionment risks serious repercussions adversely affecting US interests if it becomes clear that mission, rather than recouping US losses in area accentuated by non-fulfillment of hopes, offers little better than collaboration

<sup>1</sup> Repeated to Damascus, Beirut, Tel Aviv, London, Cairo, Paris, and Baghdad.

<sup>2</sup> Printed as telegram 1928 to London, Document 684.