

at that time a chapter would be included which would guarantee the protection of the Holy Places, not only in the Zone of Jerusalem, but also throughout Palestine.³

WASHINGTON, October 22, 1953.

³ This note was discussed in a conversation at the Department on Nov. 10 which included Deputy Under Secretary Murphy, Brazilian Ambassador Muniz, and Assistant Secretary Byroade. At the conclusion of the conversation Byroade stated that the matter should be given further study regardless of present difficulties in the area. (784.00/10-2253)

No. 703

120.280/10-2253: Telegram

*The Ambassador in Lebanon (Hare) to the Department of State*¹

CONFIDENTIAL

BEIRUT, October 22, 1953—7 p. m.

365. Eric Johnston and party arrived this morning by PanAm. Proceeding Amman tomorrow by military plane. At Prime Minister's request, Johnston and I called this morning. Proceeding on basis that preferable open substitutive discussion with Jordan and Israel and subsequently with other Arab States, Johnston sought keep discussion general and create favorable atmosphere, stressing sincerity our interest and especially of President in constructive development in area and our willingness be of assistance provided countries of area willing approach present difficulties realistically and with open mind to do their share in seeking solution problems.

Prime Minister expressed appreciation our interest and admiration for President but repeatedly emphasized that we would be in "psychological error" if we were proceed on assumption that economic assistance could be used cure political ills. Rightly or wrongly, Arabs had a clear impression that our interest in their economic betterment had only materialized in relation our solicitude for the welfare of Israel. If we were really going make progress and become positive factor in stabilization of the area, we must make it clear that we had no such ulterior motive and that our interest in the Arab countries had no other implications whatsoever. If we could adopt and follow such policy, the road to Arab confidence and cooperation was open but not otherwise. Arab States would absolutely have nothing do with our economic program if it aided Israel in the process.

¹ Repeated to Amman, Baghdad, Cairo, Damascus, Jidda, and Tel Aviv.