

Prime Minister added that, in stressing foregoing, he wished make entirely clear that we need have no fear Arab aggression against Israel. Such was not their intention and preoccupation with their own affairs would in any event preclude their launching any such adventure. Hence, we could help Arab States with no fear that by so doing we might be contributing to the undoing of Israel.

Johnston thereupon outlined certain basic principles guiding his mission and drew parallel Colorado and Rio Grande Rivers which benefitted Mexico. He stressed impossibility fully developing Jordan River without aiding all four countries involved. However, he suggested he would prefer defer discussion details until his return.

Meeting ended on friendly note.

HARE

No. 704

120,280/10-2253: Telegram

*The Chargé in Jordan (Lynch) to the Department of State*¹

CONFIDENTIAL PRIORITY AMMAN, October 22, 1953—7 p. m.

190. Johnston mission arrived noon October 22. I accompanied Johnston in call on Prime Minister 4 p. m. primarily to pay respects and arrange future meeting for substantive discussion.

Prime Minister stated that in order facilitate Johnston's work vis-à-vis Jordan Government he wished frankly to make position of Jordan, decided upon after consultations with King and Cabinet, perfectly clear. He then enumerated five points which Jordan Government would not under any circumstances discuss. These, if accepted, would have rendered Johnston visit utterly useless and included flat refusal to discuss any plan for use of Jordan waters other than Bunge scheme for Yarmuk.

Johnston then stated he wished with equal frankness to make position of President of United States perfectly clear and proceeded to point out that President would have to go before Congress to obtain necessary money for any scheme and in order to obtain it scheme must be along economical lines. He, Johnston, came to Jordan with an open mind and he hoped Jordan Government on its part would receive him with open mind. It was hope of President to bring great benefits to area and Jordan would be principal beneficiary. After considerable discussion Prime Minister seemed to agree

¹ Repeated to Baghdad, London, Paris, Cairo, Beirut, Damascus, Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, and Jidda.