

1953 Appropriations Act go by default. This section was inserted during the Hearings before the Senate Appropriations Committee, and the record of the hearings indicates that its authors, concerned with past cash releases to Israel, considered it necessary to prevent such releases in the future.

*Recommendation:*

(a) That you sign the attached draft letter to Mr. Stassen (Tab A);<sup>4</sup> or, alternatively,

(b) That you advise Mr. Stassen verbally that the Department is opposed to the release of cash to Israel in view of the information in recent cables from Tel Aviv and the legislative history of the Appropriations Act.

<sup>4</sup> Not printed; the Secretary signed a letter to Stassen on Nov. 21 which reads as follows:

"I understand that the Israeli Embassy has approached you for a cash release in the amount of \$20 million on the grounds that these funds are required to meet pressing obligations of Israel and that the alternative to an acquiescence in this request is default by Israel.

"I am inclined to share the joint opinion of the Embassy and Operations Mission at Tel Aviv expressed in messages No. 592 of November 15 and No. 598 of November 17." (884A.00 TA/11-1553)

No. 736

683.84A322/11-2053: Telegram

*The Secretary of State to the United States Mission at the United Nations*<sup>1</sup>

CONFIDENTIAL

WASHINGTON, November 20, 1953—8:02 p. m.

249. Ambassador Zeineddine of Syria called at Department today to discuss elements Banat Yacov situation. He emphasized essence of Syrian attitude is that provisions Armistice Agreement re demilitarized zone must be fully upheld but that once this had been accomplished by appropriate SC action Syria would be entirely disposed to consider agreements which would permit equitable development Jordan River resources. Said Syria had no intention blocking projects merely for sake of blocking. All Syria asked was that she be accorded full status due her under Armistice Agreement and right to participate in decisions affecting demilitarized zone and established Syrian rights (such as Buteina Farm) outside zone but affected by actions inside zone.

<sup>1</sup> Repeated to Damascus; sent by air pouch to Tel Aviv, Baghdad, Amman, Beirut, Cairo, Jidda, and Jerusalem.