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The United States Representative at the United Nations (Lodge) to the Department of State

CONFIDENTIAL - PRIORITY

NEW YORK, December 6, 1953.

283. For the Secretary from Lodge. Re: Palestine in Security Council. Following is revised version of Department's resolution (Department telegram 261, November 27) on Banat Yaacov which I have worked out on the basis of careful study of all relevant papers, including Israeli, Syrian, UK and French drafts:

"The Security Council,

1. *Recalling* its previous resolutions on the Palestine question and in particular that of 11 August 1949, endorsing the general armistice agreements concluded between Israel and the neighboring Arab states which the Council considered as superseding the truce provided for in the resolutions of 29 May and 15 July 1948; and those of 17 November 1950, 8 May 1951, and 1 May 1951 concerning methods of maintaining the armistice and resolving disputes through the Mixed Armistice Commission;

2. *Taking* into consideration the statements of the representatives of Syria and Israel and the reports of the Chief of Staff of the Truce Supervision Organization on the Syrian complaint (S/3108/rev. 1);

3. *Notes* that the Chief of Staff of the Truce Supervision Organizations requested the Government of Israel on 23 September 1953 to ensure that the authority which started work in the demilitarized zone on 2 September 1953 be instructed to cease working so long as an agreement was not arranged;

4. *Endorses* this request;

5. *Recalls* its resolution of October 27, 1953 taking note of the statement by the representative of the Government of Israel that the work started by Israel in the demilitarized zone would be suspended pending urgent examination of the question by the Council;

6. *Declares* that in order to promote the return of permanent peace in Palestine, it is essential that the general armistice agreement of July 20, 1949 between Syria and Israel be strictly and faithfully observed by the parties;

7. *Reminds* the parties that under Article 7, paragraph 8 of the armistice agreement where the interpretation of the meaning of a particular provision of the agreement other than the preamble and Articles 1 and 2 is at issue, the Mixed Armistice Commission's interpretation shall prevail;

8. *Notes* that Article 5 of the general armistice agreement between Syria and Israel gives to the Chief of Staff of the Truce Supervision Organization, as chairman of the Syrian-Israeli MAC, responsibility for the general supervision of the demilitarized zone;

9. *Calls* upon the Chief of Staff to ensure the demilitarized character of the zone;