

tees for land rights and water rights. I feel that in this way it can be made clear that if the Banat Yaacov project should be resumed it must be within the context of larger objectives for the area.

Paragraph 12 is a new paragraph which has been added to cover the Israeli argument that Bennike must understand explicitly our view on Syria's right of veto. It is equally applicable to Israeli veto over larger development schemes.

Paragraph 13 is the Department's draft unchanged.

Paragraph 14 is the revised French draft which seems to be useful way of providing Bennike with necessary help to avoid his prejudicing Johnston's plans. The French seem insistent upon it, and Eban appears not to object to it.

It would be desirable to have early meetings with the UK and French delegations. I would appreciate Department's comments.

LODGE

No. 750

693.24A322/12-653: Telegram

*The Acting Secretary of State to the United States Mission at the
United Nations*

CONFIDENTIAL

WASHINGTON, December 8, 1953--5:26 p. m.

281. Re Palestine in SC. Your draft resolution in urtel 283, December 6 is quite acceptable to us except provisions of paragraphs 1, 11 and 12. We assume that you will find no basic conflict between your draft and our suggestions re UK and French amendments contained in Deptel 278 of December 5.¹ With specific reference to paragraphs indicated the following are our comments:

Paragraph 1: We prefer our first preambular paragraph which does not raise matter of General Armistice Agreements "superseding the truce". Resolution cited does have this language but objective of Israelis in desiring this wording is, in our opinion, that of having Council appear to endorse position which Eban has given before Council in attempting to refute Bennike's decision on military advantage to Israel in diversion project. It is of course Israel's right to attempt to persuade Bennike to revise his decision on this point but if Council recalls this particular provision to notable exclusion of a number of other provisions in other resolutions cited, undue weight is given to this point and will probably be persuasive to Bennike as to what is Council's intent. Proper procedure for

¹ Not printed.