

3. Zeineddine again emphasized need for Israel cooperation in MAC consideration of problems arising in DZ. We might meet his point by adding to present paragraph 7 a clause calling on both parties to cooperate with MAC.

Department made clear to Zeineddine we could not give him any assurances on specific amendments but assured him we shall consider his views. He understood specific language would have to be discussed in New York.

Malik (Lebanon) and Zeineddine calling on Secretary Monday morning.

DULLES

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Memorandum of Conversation, by the Director of the Office of Near Eastern Affairs (Hart)

CONFIDENTIAL

[WASHINGTON,] December 28, 1953.

Subject: Tripartite Draft Resolution on the Palestine Question (Banat Ya'qub Water Diversion).

Participants: Dr. Farid Zeineddine, Ambassador of Syria
 Dr. Charles Malik, Ambassador of Lebanon
 John Foster Dulles, Secretary of State
 Mr. John D. Jernegan, Deputy Assistant Secretary,
 NEA

Mr. Parker T. Hart, Director, NE

Ambassador Zeineddine outlined to the Secretary the Syrian position regarding the Tripartite Resolution on Banat Ya'qub with particular reference to paragraph 11. He stated that while Syria recognized that the Chief of Staff of the Truce Supervision Organization possessed certain powers of his own accorded to him by the Armistice Agreement, these did not extend to the machinery of conciliation or "reconciliation". Paragraph 11 seemed to give to General Bennike duties of an undefined scope which more properly belonged to the Palestine Conciliation Commission. Ambassador Zeineddine wished to make it clear that Syrian consent was required where Syrian rights were involved and the resolution should not contain language which might give Israel the excuse to concert with Bennike on Syria's rights without Syria's consent. The Demilitarized Zone was an area in which each side had reserved its rights and where neither side had rights of sovereignty. Syria was much disturbed by Israel's policy, carried on since 1951, of encroaching