

The Secretary read aloud the provisions of new Article 14 of the Tripartite Resolution (S/3151/Revision 1, December 21, 1953)<sup>1</sup> which he personally had drafted to meet what he understood to be the principal concern of Ambassador Zeineddine. He would be willing to discuss with Mr. Jernegan any further points which the Ambassador had raised with Mr. Jernegan, but made no commitment to change the draft resolution.

<sup>1</sup> Not printed, but see the second revision of the tripartite resolution, S/3151/Rev. 2, Document 770.

---

No. 759

784.00/12-3153: Despatch

*The Ambassador in Jordan (Mallory) to the Department of State*

SECRET

AMMAN, December 31, 1953.

No. 232

Subject: Comment on Vatican Attitude Toward Internationalization of Jerusalem

The Embassy has read with a great deal of interest the Department's Instruction No. CA-3150 of December 11, 1953, and its enclosures with regard to the views of the Holy See in connection with a possible demilitarization of a zone within a radius of 50 kilometers from Jerusalem. This suggestion has apparently been put forth by the Holy See as a provisional measure to remove "imminent danger" to the holy places.

However desirable the proposal may seem it appears to the Embassy that it is divorced from the realities of the existing political situation. There has been no lessening of the tensions which exist between Jordan and Israel over the past several years. On the contrary, owing to the Qibya incident and to other incidents well known to the Department bitterness against Israel in this country has reached greater proportions than ever before. It is believed to be unlikely that Jordan would consider the demilitarized zone proposal.

The Embassy notes that informal discussions with U.S. military officials indicate that demilitarization of the area recommended would affect Jordan and Israel equally. Without presuming to question the professional views of the U.S. military, the Embassy ventures to doubt that either the Government of Jordan or the Arab Legion would see the matter in that light. It seems possible to the Embassy that Jordan would feel that the superior road system, particularly the subsidiary road system, of Israel would place that