

give opportunity bring together both parties on informal, social basis.

(7) Publicity will be most effective if given immediately after incident. Recommend, therefore, that Chief of Staff be authorized to issue his own statements specific cases without referral UNSYG.

(8) These suggestions appear feasible with possible exception use helicopters. This would get UNTSO into patrolling activities which might constitute first step general UN responsibility policing entire border.

(11) Believe notification to MAC should include all types of information re efforts made by parties in case violations. Suggest also that UNTSO have authority to observe and issue reports effectiveness operations under local commanders agreement.

WHITE

No. 819

684A.86/5-1054: Telegram

*The Acting Consul at Jerusalem (Williams) to the Department of State*¹

SECRET

JERUSALEM, May 10, 1954—8 p. m.

170. Re Department's CA-6175 April 28 discussions with UK about Israel-Jordan border situation, Consulate General desires make following comment on points listed under Section III (3):

a. Points 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, and 13 are believed to be important, feasible and should prove very useful. No comment.

b. With reference to point 1, it is believed that the removal of General Bennike (who only arrived in August 1953) at any time in the near future, no matter how explained, would be considered by Arabs as evidence of Jewish (Zionist) pressure and by Israelis as diplomatic victory. Consulate General questions whether automatic respect for UNTSO Chief of Staff could be expected, even for figure of world renown. Past prestige hardly sufficient to forestall attacks on individual's impartiality when one side or other takes exception to an unfavorable decision. There is advantage to US in not having chief of staff a national due to tendency both aids blame adverse decisions on great power interference. Appointment higher-ranking officers as chairmen MACs need be no higher than ranking observer; character, ability, last training (especially legal or judicial), courage and stamina are important attributes. A tour of duty as an observer is useful to any MAC chairman.

c. Consulate General believes both Israelis and Jordanians might resent being advised how to control infiltration and crimes on administrative level by foreigners unfamiliar with area, language, or problem. (Item 3) Both sides consider themselves adept at police in-

¹ Repeated to London and Paris.