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14 Sept. 56

- Note verbale from D.H. to A. Eban (Israel)
- Note verbale from D.H. to Th. Khalidy (Jordan)

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CAUTION: ADVANCE RELEASE
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Friday, 14 September 1956

Press Release SG/503
14 September 1956

NOTE VERBALE

Following is the text of a note verbale handed today by Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjold to Ambassador Abba Eban, Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations:

In a Note Verbale dated 12 September I called to the attention of the Government of Israel its solemn undertakings and the serious consequences that might come about if the current chain of events was not brought to an end immediately by careful avoidance of all further acts of violence. In spite of this appeal, and in disregard of the obligations undertaken in the Armistice Agreements and under the cease-fire assurance, a report of the United Nations Observers on an incident on 13 September indicates that Israeli forces have engaged in a new extensive action leading to heavy casualties. It may be supposed that this action is considered to be justified as an act "in self-defence". However, the action now undertaken cannot be considered as within the limits of legitimate self-defence in face of the acts of violence because of which it may be supposed to have been undertaken. In discussions with representatives of the Government of Israel I have repeatedly emphasized that, legal obligations apart, a policy like the one now pursued defeats its own purpose by leading to further tension and highly increasing the risk for acts of violence directed against Israeli persons or territory. In my view events amply demonstrate the utter futility of actions such as those of which the incident of 13 September offers a new example, as actions aimed at protecting Israel's security.

The disregard both of the appeals from the United Nations and of the obligations under the Armistice Agreements, specifically the cease-fire obligation, means that Israel must be held fully accountable for its actions.

14 September 1956

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NOTE VERBALE

Following is the text of a note verbale handed today by Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjold to Thabet Khalidi, Acting Permanent Representative of Jordan to the United Nations:

In a Note Verbale dated 12 September I called to the attention of the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan the serious consequences that might come about if the current chain of events was not brought to an end immediately by careful avoidance of all further acts of violence. A further incident on 12 September, which is still being investigated, suggests the possibility of a crossing of the Demarcation Line from the Jordan side, which led to new casualties.

I note with great concern that acts of violence have continued. I repeat my appeal to the Government to take all measures possible in order to forestall a repetition of such occurrences. I likewise appeal to the Government to show restraint and to abstain from all actions that would prolong the present serious unrest. It is my firm conviction that such actions would militate against Jordan's own interests in a quick reestablishment of order in the region.

For actions in disregard of the appeals of the United Nations and of the obligations under the Armistice Agreements, specifically the cease-fire obligation, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan would have to be held fully accountable.

14 September 1956.

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