

**Middle East conflict -
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Amman, corresp. (1959)

Dag Hammarskjöld - to Samir Rifai (Prime Minister of Jordan)

L 179: 1069

sent to Spinelli
re: SP-4.

13 January 1959

Dear Samir,

On my return to New York I hasten to send you my warm thanks for the time in Amman. As usual I have to express to you my great appreciation for your warm hospitality and for the many courtesies extended to me. Please, convey to His Majesty my respectful thanks for his hospitality and for the kind reception accorded to myself and my colleagues.

Through Ambassador Spinelli you have already the general picture of the further developments on the points we discussed together. I will send you my comments on some aspects later, but do not wish to delay this letter of thanks until then.

In fact, all the main elements of the picture as it developed in Cairo are reflected in my communications to Ambassador Spinelli. The only point which it may be useful for me to add here is that back of the slight modifications of procedure regarding the offices in Damascus (and Beirut) - modifications which in no way impair their substance or cause me any difficulty - was the critical discussion which, as you know, had developed in Beirut, and the fact that the Syrian communists had taken up the matter for propaganda purposes. I shall now complete the arrangements as soon as I find the people necessary for the various tasks.

I have written to Mr. Ben Gurion regarding your reaction to the Article VIII proposals. When I hear from him I shall get in touch with you again, if necessary.

In connection with my visit to the refugee camp in Jericho, I found on my return to Headquarters an article published in the Daily Telegraph of Monday, 5 January, whose tone and interpretation might interest you in the light of our talks and of the visit itself. I have asked Mr. Sanger to draw it to the attention of Mr. Abdul Monem Rifa'i.

I will not end this letter without repeating to you how helpful I find the frank and friendly spirit with which you and other Jordan leaders approach the collaboration with the UN, whether it be through me or through the Spinelli Mission.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

His Excellency Mr. Samir Rifa'i
Prime Minister
Amman, Jordan

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