

**Middle East conflict -
Lebanon. Correspondence,
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Middle East conflict [1958] - August 23

Luncheon for Dr. Charles Malik in the Sec. Gen.'s U.N. Apartment.

present: Sec. Gen., Malik, Cordier, Bunche, Murray, Ivan Smith.

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Luncheon for Dr. Charles Malik (in the Secretary-
General's UN Apartment) at 1 o'clock on Saturday,
23 August 1958

Present: The Secretary-General
Dr. Malik
Mr. Cordier
Mr. Bunche
Mr. Murray
Mr. Ivan Smith

In the course of the luncheon Dr. Malik, in response to a question, took up the main opposition leaders one by one, i.e. Jumblatt, Hamadi, Kerami and Saab Salem. He described each of them as good Lebanese patriots, good friends of his and devoted to their country, with each having a particular complaint. In one or two instances, he said, there was no excuse at all for the men to have been permitted to join the opposition, other than Chamoun's mistake in failing to approach them.

Dr. Malik, referring to the little black book which he carries in his pocket, stated that he had had a thorough discussion of the matter with General Chehab and indicated January as the target date for the withdrawal of American troops, since it would take this long to restore internal stability (Dr. Malik did not sound very convincing in making this point).

Dr. Malik was exceedingly vague about his plans for returning to Lebanon, but repeated several times his analysis which demonstrated that he had the support of 60% of the Lebanese population.

Dr. Malik at no time made any reference to UAR interference, but said once that the problem was with Damascus and not Cairo.