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Aide-Memoire (Embassy of USA)

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1. The United States is giving most serious study to the request made by His Majesty the King and His Excellency the Prime Minister for additional support to preserve the independence and integrity of Jordan. We feel that the role we have played in the past in this regard, particularly within the past year, should leave no doubt in their minds as to our sincerity of purpose, and that the close relationship thus developed will continue to provide a basis of mutual confidence in which we can work out our problems together. We greatly admire the courage and determination of His Majesty the King and His Excellency the Prime Minister, and feel confident of their unwillingness to take any action which would jeopardize the achievement of the objectives for which we have all been working.
2. We earnestly believe that as a result of the special session of the United Nations General Assembly a situation has been created which provides greater hope for Jordan than has been the case in the recent past, and that there will be a lessening of tensions which may provide a better climate for constructive efforts. It would indeed be tragic if the opportunity which has thus presented itself should be lost as a result of precipitate action, particularly if such an action were to be based upon a misconception of the motives and intentions of the countries, including the United States and the United Kingdom, which have come to the assistance of Jordan at a time of peril and which are still striving to assist Jordan. As a result of the Arab Resolution, moreover, there now exists a substantial parallelism of interests in the well-being of Jordan.

3. As His Majesty the King and His Excellency the Prime Minister were recently informed, we are giving urgent consideration to joining with the United Kingdom in support of an additional program involving the establishment of new Jordanian military units. We are not yet ready to give a definitive reply, but we hope to be prepared to discuss this matter with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan soon.

4. His Majesty the King and His Excellency the Prime Minister can be assured of our serious interest in the economic aspects of the problem and of our firm intention to continue rendering assistance in this area.

On the subject of budget support, the United States has already granted \$18.83 million through August of the current Jordanian fiscal year, and we have indicated that the local currency counterpart from petroleum sales can be used to meet budget expenditures. Although the total counterpart generated by these sales cannot at this time be firmly estimated, the petroleum program is expected to amount eventually to the equivalent of \$5 million of which perhaps \$3 million will be generated counterpart. The total budget aid discussed above should substantially cover Jordan's essential budget needs through the month of September.

As for the remaining two quarters of the current Jordanian fiscal year, the United States is prepared to make available budget aid up to \$10 million each quarter. We would thus be providing approximately \$42 million of budget aid during the 1959 Jordanian fiscal year. We understand that the United Kingdom is also prepared to provide some budget support during the remainder of the current Jordanian fiscal year. Therefore, Jordan should have available sufficient foreign aid to cover its essential budgetary expenditures.

On the subject of development aid, it should be recalled that the greater part of the \$10 million made available from Mutual Security Program funds for United States fiscal year 1958 will actually be spent during the current Jordanian fiscal year.

CONFIDENTIAL

-3-

The foregoing does not include other types of aid such as military assistance and PL 480 deliveries which might be provided. While we cannot at this time estimate the sums for subsequent fiscal years, because of United States appropriation procedures, we believe that our assistance for the current and past fiscal years should be reassuring not only to His Majesty the King and His Excellency the Prime Minister, but also to the Jordanian people.

5. The attitude of the United States toward Jordan, and our policy with respect to preserving the independence of Jordan, have repeatedly been made known publicly, and we feel that there should be no doubt in this regard. With attention now focused on United Nations efforts, within the framework of the General Assembly resolution sponsored by all the Arab States, to bring about a situation in which the security of Jordan is better assured, we believe that it would be unwise to detract from these efforts, particularly while the Secretary General of the United Nations is undertaking his important mission to the Middle East. We are confident that the Government of Jordan will cooperate fully with the Secretary General.

6. At the present critical juncture we sincerely hope that His Majesty the King and His Excellency the Prime Minister will not lose confidence in those who have proven themselves willing to assist Jordan, and that they will continue in their staunch and heroic efforts which are based on a high order of statesmanship. We hope and expect that the United States and Jordan will remain in close touch as the situation unfolds.

Embassy of the United States of America,

Amman, August 28, 1958.