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CABLEGRAM DATED 19 AUGUST 1948 FROM THE UNITED NATIONS MEDIATOR ADDRESSED TO
THE SECRETARY-GENERAL CONCERNING DEMILITARIZATION OF JERUSALEM

For President of Security Council:

I wish to submit to the Security Council before it adjourns the following
Interim Report regarding demilitarization of Jerusalem.

Resolution 15 July instructed Mediator continue his efforts bring about
demilitarization of Jerusalem. As soon as I returned to the area from
New York I personally initiated discussion on matter urging parties to agree
on demilitarization. Negotiations are proceeding in Jerusalem between my
representatives and Arab and Jewish authorities separately. In a draft
proposal submitted to me on 11 August, Arabs fully accept principle of
demilitarization though putting conditions. Jewish authorities although
had initially stated that they did not exclude demilitarization, they have
not shown in fact readiness to accept principle. In my opinion this is due
more to political reasons relating future status of Jerusalem than to mere
military considerations regarding present conflict. Besides even if both
parties were to agree on issue, demilitarization could not be put into
effect without strong and adequately armed United Nations force to be
provided immediately. Under these conditions I wish to inform you that I
have serious doubts whether demilitarization can be attained in near future.

Count Folke Bernadotte
