

**SECURITY
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S/90
20 June 1946

ENGLISH

ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER FROM THE MINISTER OF LEBANON IN WASHINGTON, D.C. TO THE
SECRETARY-GENERAL, DATED 12 JUNE, 1946, AND ENCLOSURES

LEGATION OF LEBANON

WASHINGTON, D. C.

12 June 1946

Mr. Secretary-General:

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter from H. E.
The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lebanon, together with the text of
two letters exchanged between T. H. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of
Lebanon and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of France.

I have the Honour to be etc.

Dr. Charles Malik
Minister of LebanonMr. Trygve Lie,
Secretary-General of the United Nations

REPUBLIC OF LEBANON

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Political Department

Beyrouth, 9 May 1946

No 2206/S

Mr. Secretary-General:-

Further to the communication addressed on 27 February 1946 to the General Secretariat of the United Nations by the Chairmen of the Lebanese and Syrian delegations, and in accordance with the resolution proposed by the Delegate for the United States of America, to which the British and French Governments have adhered notwithstanding the veto of the Delegate for the U.S.S.R., I have the honour to inform you that negotiations have been undertaken between Mr. Georges Bidault, French Foreign Minister, and myself with a view to determining the forms of evacuation of French troops from Lebanon.

Those negotiations have resulted in an agreement established by an exchange of letters dated 23 March 1946.

The Lebanese Government is satisfied with the outcome of the said negotiations and has decided to inform the Security Council thereof.

In these circumstances I have the honour to submit to you the text of the two letters exchanged and to request you to communicate them to the Security Council.

I have the honour to be etc.

(signed) Hamid Frangie

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Trygve Lie,
Secretary-General of the United Nations.

REPUBLIC OF LEBANON
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Political Department

Paris, 23 March 1946

M. le Ministre,

In your letter of today's date you were kind enough to state the following:-

I had the honour to inform you on 19 March that as a result of the conference of French and British military experts which took place in Paris from 2 - 6 March, the French Military Headquarters fixed 1 April 1947 as the date by which, in view of the limited facilities locally available to the French High Command in the Levant, the withdrawal of all the French troops stationed in Lebanon could be completed.

I informed you at the same time that it might be possible to shorten and modify this time-limit, if additional resources and facilities could be made available to the French High Command by the Lebanese Government.

It is for this reason that I asked you for the aid and co-operation of your Government under the conditions which we agreed upon, and I indicated to you at the same time the modifications which might in consequence be made in the evacuation plan.

On 21 March you were good enough to inform me that your Government had agreed to the proposals which I had made to you. It follows therefrom that:

A. The Lebanese Government undertakes to grant to the French High Command in the Levant the following assistance:

1. by the public services, the co-operation of the gendarmerie, of the police and of the administrative organs and the provision to the French High Command of such contingents of workers as the French Military authorities might need for the maintenance, trans-shipment and embarkation of material;

2. by the Lebanese army, the supply of necessary material, of a certain amount of labour, of specialized teams, and the provision, at the request of the French authorities, of all guard services that it might be asked for.

3. the attachment of Lebanese officers to a joint Franco-Lebanese Military staff for the purpose of aiding the two High Commands and keeping them informed on the progress of evacuation operations.

B. On the basis of the adherence of the Lebanese Government to the programme set forth in the three foregoing paragraphs, the French Government, for its own part, undertakes to adopt the following evacuation programme:

(a) subject to the provisions contained in paragraph (b) below, the withdrawal from Lebanon of the French troops as a whole shall be concluded on 31 August 1946, by which date all auxiliary units will have been dissolved;

(b) from 31 August 1946 to 31 December 1946, the French Government shall be empowered to maintain in Lebanon a group of 30 officers and about 300 technicians for the purpose of supervising control and transport of material. The departure of those latter units will be effected by 31 December at the latest.

C. In response to the wishes expressed by the Lebanese Government, the French Government expresses its desire to effect the withdrawal of the bulk of the Combatant troops by 30 June 1946. It will devolve upon the Joint Franco-Lebanese staff to propose the French High Command, having regard to material conditions and to the progress of operations, appropriate measures for the implementation of such a programme."

I have the honour to confirm to you the approval by the Lebanese Government of the reciprocal engagements undertaken by our two governments as set forth in the above letter.

I have the honour to be etc.

(Signed) Hamid Frangie
Minister of Foreign Affairs

REPUBLIC OF FRANCE

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Paris, 23 March 1946

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I should be obliged to you if you would kindly confirm that the Lebanese Government agrees to the reciprocal obligations of our two Governments as set forth in the present letter

I have the honour to be etc.

(Signed) GEORGE RIDAULT
Minister of Foreign Affairs

