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CABLEGRAM DATED 7 JULY 1948 FROM THE UNITED NATIONS MEDIATOR ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL CONCERNING THE PROLONGATION OF THE TRUCE IN PALESTINE

For transmission to the President of the Security Council:

"With reference to question of prolongation of Truce in Palestine, one aspect of existing Truce has been entirely unsatisfactory and requires strong expression Security Council view. Despite repeated representations to the Arab authorities concerned, no water has been permitted to flow into Jerusalem throughout the period of the Truce which began on 11 June. I have informed the Prime Minister of Transjordan that this situation is in clear violation of the terms of the Truce, since the situation of the population of that city at the end of the Truce will inevitably be worse than when it began, as population has been using up its water reserves. Arab authorities have never formally refused to permit water to flow through pipes under their control, but continual delay in reaching decision has had same effect. Arab position inexplicable since food convoys for Jerusalem have passed regularly through Arab lines.

Any Security Council action with regard to prolongation of Truce should be on clear understanding that food, water and other essential non-military supplies will flow into Jerusalem under United Nations control and regulation.

Count Bernadotte"

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