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CABLEGRAM FROM THE CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE TRUCE SUPERVISION ORGANIZATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL CONCERNING ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN JORDAN AND ISRAEL IN THE JERUSALEM AREA

Note by the Secretary-General: The Secretary-General has the honour to circulate for the information of the members of the Security Council the text of the following cablegram from the Chief of Staff of the Truce Supervision Organization, dated 18 April 1955, concerning arrangements between Jordan and Israel in the Jerusalem area.

Colonel Abdul Halim Al Saket and Aloof Mishne Chaim Herzog, who have respectively been designated by the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the State of Israel as officers in control of military and police in the Jerusalem area, met at the offices of the Mixed Armistice Commission, in No-man's Land, near the Mandelbaum Gate, at 10 a.m. on Monday, 18 April 1955.

This first meeting of these officers brought into effect an arrangement between Jordan and Israel to prevent if possible or in any case suppress immediately all outbreaks of firing and hostile acts in the Jerusalem area.

The area covered by the arrangement is a rectangle seven kilometres East and West and nine kilometres North and South, centered roughly on the Jerusalem railway station.

While there is no document signed by the parties, they have signified to the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization that they agree to the provisions of the arrangement. These are, besides those referred to above, the following:

That only well trained and disciplined military or police personnel will be employed in the first line of defensive organization in this area;

That sentries, police guards, etc., will have strict orders not to fire unless by orders of an officer or if they are in danger of attack by superior numbers;

That designated senior officers will have direct telephone communication through which they may speak to each other to discuss and settle questions regarding the maintenance of peace in Jerusalem;

That the Chief of Staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization or such other United Nations Military Observers as he may nominate to act on his behalf, may communicate with designated officers and call for an informal meeting in case of firing or other disturbances;

That senior officers responsible, on receiving any report of firing or other hostile acts or threat thereof, will take immediate action to stop firing, or put an end to other disturbances;

That each senior officer, when absent from his command headquarters, will be represented by an officer having full authority to act on his behalf.