

Mr. 33 (14/E/185) 11-642.  
LETTER FROM SIR ALEXANDER CADOGAN TO THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL, DATED 1 MAY 1946

UNITED KINGDOM DELEGATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

1st May, 1946

Your Excellency,

On instructions from my Government I have the honour to request you to bring the following to the attention of the Security Council.

2. On February 15th, at the close of the Security Council's discussion regarding the withdrawal of foreign troops from the Levant States, a vote was taken on the following resolution which was presented by the United States Representative: "the Security Council, taking note of statements made by the four parties and by other members of the Council; expresses its confidence that foreign troops in Syria and Lebanon will be withdrawn as soon as practicable and that negotiations to that end will be undertaken by the parties without delay; and requests the parties to inform it of the results of the negotiations."

3. Although the Council's vote in favour of this resolution had no legal validity the United Kingdom Representative undertook to give effect to the majority decision of the Council as expressed in it. Accordingly His Majesty's Government who had likewise agreed to act in accordance with the majority opinion of the Council, sent a Military delegation to Paris to agree on the necessary arrangements.

4. His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom now have the honour to inform the members of the Security Council that the following arrangements were then made for the withdrawal of British Troops:

- (1) All British troops to be withdrawn from Syria by April 30th. The withdrawal was actually carried out in advance of this date and was completed by April 15th.
- (2) The first thousand British troops to be withdrawn from the Lebanon with a similar number of French troops by March 31st. This movement was carried out by the date mentioned.
- (3) The remainder of British troops, except for a small liquidation party, to be withdrawn from the Lebanon by June 30th.
- (4) This plan was duly communicated to the Syrian and Lebanese Governments, who have suggested no modifications.

I have the honour to be

Your Excellency's obedient Servant,

(SGD.) A. CADOGAN