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CABLEGRAM DATED 8 JUNE 1953 FROM THE CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE TRUCE SUPERVISION ORGANIZATION ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, TRANSMITTING A REPORT TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to submit the following report for the information of the Security Council.

1. In paragraphs 12 to 15 of my report of 8 May 1953 (S/3007), I commented on the situation between Israel and Jordan, ending by expressing the hope that the Government which had just been constituted in Jordan would also accept the suggestion accepted by the Government of Israel to review the situation in high level talks. In a communication dated 25 May 1953, the Government of Jordan replied to the suggestion as follows: "It is unlikely that two senior officers will suddenly discover a golden road which nobody has thought of before. Nevertheless, the Government of Jordan has no objections to a meeting between senior military commanders".
2. Apart from such a meeting, arrangements for which have not yet been made, conversations between the Senior Jordan Delegate to the Mixed Armistice Commission and the General Staff Officer in charge of the Israel Delegations to the Mixed Armistice Commissions resulted in the conclusion on 8 June 1953 of Israel-Jordan Local Commanders Agreement, the text of which reads as follows:

"1. Both parties shall issue strict orders to the local authorities and military commanders to suppress illegal crossing of the demarcation line.

"2. (a) Periodic meetings shall take place between local commanders of both parties on the demarcation line to coordinate their efforts to combat infiltration and to co-operate on all matters regarding border relations.

"(b) Persons who crossed the demarcation line between the Hashemite Jordan Kingdom and Israel shall, when apprehended, be handed back at the Local Commanders Meetings for punishment.

"(c) Whenever an infiltrator commits an offense against the laws of either party and is convicted by the authorities who arrested him, provisions of paragraph (b) above shall be implemented after he has served his sentence.

"(d) Members of the security forces who crossed the demarcation line in error shall be returned within five days.

"3. The authorities of both parties shall take action against infiltrators and their accomplices on information submitted by either party.

"4. Complaints shall be handed in by either party according to normal procedure; however, both parties agree to keep complaints at a minimum by attempting to settle minor incidents at the Local Commanders level.

"5. No military forces or armed civilians of either party shall undertake any aggressive action across the demarcation line against the people and military forces of the other party.

"6. This agreement is valid for three months from the day of signature and shall be subjected to discussion by both parties one month before its expiry.

"Signed: for Hashemite Jordan Kingdom - Azmi Nashashibi; for Israel - Chaim Gaon. Witnessed by W.E. Riley, Chief of Staff, United Nations Truce Supervision Organization."

(Signed) General RILEY

