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UNITED NATIONS PALESTINE COMMISSION

Communication Received from Jewish Agency Concerning Army
Supplies for the Arab Legion

The following communication concerning transfer of British Army
Supplies from Egypt to Palestine for the use of the Arab Legion, has
been received from the Jewish Agency for Palestine.

THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE
16 East 66th Street, New York 21

March 19, 1948

Mr. Karel Lisicky, Chairman
United Nations Palestine Commission
Lake Success, New York

Dear Mr. Lisicky:

On behalf of the Jewish Agency for Palestine I have the honor to submit for the attention of the United Nations Palestine Commission the following information which we have received from entirely trustworthy sources in Palestine.

During the first half of March certain British army supplies were transferred from Egypt to Rafah in Palestine for the use of the Arab Legion. Included in these stores were charging sets, artillery stores, anti-tank rifles and mortars.

The movement into Palestine and the transfer to the Arab Legion of material of this type must necessarily be a source of grave anxiety and the actions of the British authorities in this regard are incomprehensible in the light of their professed neutrality in the present situation in Palestine.

The Jewish Agency desires in this connection to draw the attention of the Commission to reports which appear in today's press that additional troops of the Arab Legion were yesterday moved into Palestine and were welcomed by the Arab Mayor of Hebron as entering "under the authority of the Arab League".

The Arab Legion, as indicated in previous communications from the Jewish Agency, has, on a number of occasions, been involved in serious attacks on members of the Jewish community. It has been a long-standing and insistent request of the Jewish authorities in Palestine that the Legion should be withdrawn from Palestinian territory. The dangerous implications of augmenting the numbers and equipment of the Arab Legion in Palestine at this time, when the date for the termination of British Mandatory authority

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there is fast approaching and when there can be no certainty whatever as to the behavior of the Arab Legion and the use to which their arms will be put after that date, are obvious and deeply disturbing.

Sincerely yours,

Arthur Lourie (signed
Director,