

TELEGRAM FROM THE UNITED NATIONS MEDIATOR TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL DATED 8 JULY 1948 CONCERNING THE REPLY OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL TO THE SUGGESTIONS OF THE MEDIATOR FOR THE PROLONGATION OF THE TRUCE

Following is text of Jewish reply to proposals of Mediator handed to Mediator by Shertok Thursday afternoon, 7 July:

"1. The Provisional Government of Israel agrees to a prolongation of the Truce for a period of thirty days from 6 a.m. G.H.T. on Friday, July 9th 1948, on the understanding that the conditions to be observed by all parties concerned shall be substantially the same as those which govern the Truce at the present time.

"2. The Provisional Government of Israel is ready to discuss the Mediator's proposal for the demilitarisation of Jerusalem. This proposal provides for the supply to Jerusalem of food, fuel, water and other essential non-military supplies without limitation of quantity. It also provides for an international force to assume full responsibility for security but not for administration in the demilitarized zone, in regard to which status quo will be maintained. It stipulates that this arrangement shall in no way prejudice the future political status of Jerusalem and also that at the end of the period of demilitarisation the Jewish forces would be entitled to return to the military status quo ante. The Israeli Government fully reserves its rights and claims with regard to the future status of Jerusalem.

"3. If the present country-wide Truce should not be prolonged, the Provisional Government of Israel is willing to accept an immediate cease fire in Jerusalem to permit a final decision to be reached on the question of demilitarisation.

"4. The Provisional Government of Israel does not favour the demilitarisation of the Haifa docks and port area, but is willing to consider an arrangement by which the offloading of supplies required for the demilitarised area of Jerusalem could take place in safety.

"5. The Provisional Government of Israel does not favour the de-

"6. The Provisional Government of Israel accepts the proposal of the Mediator for a three days' extension of the Truce to permit evacuation of observers and stores even if the Truce as a whole is not prolonged."

