EXEC' 'IVE OFFICE OF THE PRESID' NT Mr Hall NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

WASHINGTON

October 15, 1953

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MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LAY

The Reverend Edward L. R. Elson, the President's pastor at the National Presbyterian Church here in Washington, brought in the attached cablegram from Bertha Spafford Vester at 4:35 PM this afternoon.

Dr. Elson has visited Jerusalem within the past year and upon his return 50X1 contemplates contemplates another trip to Jerusalem after Faster 50X1

According to Dr. Elson, Mrs. Vester, the author of the cablegram, is entirely reliable and considered the best informed and most admired person in old Jerusalem. She is also Director of the American Colony there. Dr. Elson vouches for the accuracy of her statements and notes that she cannot refrain from bringing in some emotion at the end of the cablegram.

I assume that you will want to pass this on to C.I.A.

RP 11.

RICHARD · L. HALL NSC Special Staff

to C) a write a request for comment by money might

SECURITY INFORMATION

Declassified Under Authority of the Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel, E.O. 13526, sec. 5.3(b)(3) ISCAP Appeal No. 2015-114, document 1

Declassification Date: July 8, 2024