

June 22, 1967

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Secret

MEMO

Classification

In handwriting:

Red Cross

To: Mr. Tekoah, Deputy Director general
From: M. Comay

To:
From:

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In light of the fact that the International Committee of the Red Cross has been attempting to assert rights with respect to the civilian population subject to the Fourth Geneva Convention of August 12, 1949, some cautionary remarks must be made with respect to the use of certain terms enumerated in the Convention. I am referring mainly to the terms:

OCCUPIED TERRITORIES
OCCUPYING POWER

Our UN delegation and our diplomatic missions must be aware that locally, we avoid discussions with the ICRC on the status of the territories and the status of the ICRC in them, and attempt to cooperate with the organization on a strictly pragmatic basis.

There are two alternatives: Using the term TERRITORIES OF THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT or TERRITORIES UNDER ISRAEL [sic] CONTROL. Externally, I prefer the second option.

Sincerely
[signed]
M. Comay

CC: Director General
Mr. A. Luria Second Director General
Mr. Bitan Deputy Director General
Public Education Director
Press Officer
Ms. A.M., [illegible] UN Delegation