

prevent it.

Secondly, that we could perhaps move some of the individual problems a bit closer to solution; not that you could get the two sides to sit down and negotiate anything, but by our own diplomacy with both sides, that we might be able to move some of these things like the refugee problem or the waters distribution problem in directions where they might be less volatile and less inflammable than they are at the present time.

Our role in the Arab-Israel question for the last ten years has been a series of attempts of that nature; the Eric Johnson plan back in the mid-'50s for the sharing of the Jordan waters, right up through the Johnson plan for refugees.

Incidentally, the Arabs must somehow have the idea that American policy is in the hands of some tribe named Johnson. Because, every time you come into court or diplomatic contact with them with some proposal for a solution of some kind with Israel, there is somebody with the name of Johnson in back of it. Eric Johnson was the fellow who devised the Jordan Plan. It was Joe Johnson who went out and made the last attempt that was made to get some kind of progress going on the refugee question. And then a fellow named Alexis Johnson made a speech which roused the Arab press just about a month or so ago. Then, there's another fellow named Lyndon Johnson who ^{has} certainly begun to make his name in the Middle East, even to appearing in cartoons with a fez on his head.

So, this must seem, perhaps, like some kind of tribal explanation to the Arabs.