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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FOR THE PRESS

SEPTEMBER 7, 1929.

STATEMENT OF SECRETARY OF STATE

From the outset of the present disturbances in Palestine the American Consul General, Mr. Paul Knabenshue, and his staff have spared no efforts to protect American citizens and their property. Mr. Knabenshue at once made vigorous representations to the local authorities. He afforded shelter in the Consulate to some thirty-three persons, mostly women and children. He and his staff have been working eighteen hours a day in an effort to render every possible assistance to American citizens. It is natural that at times of alarm and panic many unreasonable requests should be made which are completely beyond the power of the American official to comply with. Such requests have unquestionably been made upon Mr. Knabenshue and up to the limit of what was possible he has granted them.

Mr. Knabenshue has served for eighteen years in the Near East and the Department has every confidence in his ability and in the soundness of his judgment.
