CONVERSATION WITH DR. PHILIP HITTI
AT PRINCETON
January 6, 1960

In reply to my letter from Ogden, Dr. Hitti had written briefly to tell me that he would talk to me at the first opportunity on the subject.

On my Xmas card to him, I advised him that I would be at Princeton for two speeches on Jan. 6, and inquired whether I could meet him then.

He promptly replied expressing his eagerness.

On the afternoon of Jan. 6, I met with him, and he went into a lengthy explanation of his ideas.

1. He would concentrate, if he were me, on the teaching post for the time being. He would suspend inquiries regarding the research project — for it is at best a short-term matter, and I have reached the age and the turning-point in my life at which I should concentrate on a long-term job and security. Since I want to be in academic life eventually, this is the time to do it. My age is optimum for university teaching posts: I have enough experience; yet I am young enough to be considered favorably. Older people cause universities to worry about pension, etc.

2. In seeking university positions, he would advise me to eliminate
   a- state universities;
   b- large universities;
   c- East Coast universities.

Thus I should concentrate on small or medium-sized colleges in the Mid-west or West Coast. (The larger universities would offer me junior positions or temporary "visiting lectureships" only; state universities would fall under Zionist pressures; so would east coast colleges.)

3. In my contacts with universities (see # 5) I should offer my services for international relations, political science or M.E. studies; I should leave philosophy aside — for all my attainments and experience have been in the former group of subjects, not in philosophy.

4. I should aim at Associate Professorship ($ 7,000 annually), or, if necessary and if accompanied with promise of early promotion, Assistant Professorship ($ 4,000 per annum).

5. The best means of approach would be through the following channels jointly: