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THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

May 15, 1979

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MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT  
FROM: Cyrus Vance CRV

1. Situation in Southern Lebanon: We have avoided an acrimonious Security Council debate on Southern Lebanon for the time being. After a round of informal consultations today and with the agreement of the Arabs and Israelis, the Council authorized its President to issue a moderate statement on Southern Lebanon without formal debate. The statement notes signs of progress in the talks between the UN and Israel, but expresses concern with the situation and leaves open the possibility of future meetings of the Council if things do not improve. Whether we can continue to avoid a full-scale meeting of the Council, with attendant debate and attempts to condemn Israel, is in part dependent on Israel's willingness and ability to restrain the Christian militias and its help in improving UNIFIL's operating conditions.
2. Meeting with the Los Angeles Times: I spent an hour and a half this morning in a background session with the Washington Bureau of the Los Angeles Times. Our conversation moved easily over a full range of foreign policy questions. They were particularly interested in our position on Senate changes of the SALT treaty, the Middle East peace process, and what we intend to do next in our Rhodesia policy. They were also interested in our view of the situation in Iran. It was a worthwhile meeting, and I believe the editors and journalists were receptive to the points I made about our foreign policy concerns.

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3. The Shah: David Rockefeller's office has informed us that arrangements are moving ahead for the Shah to move to Cuernavaco, Mexico in early June. The three younger children and his mother-in-law are likely to move to Connecticut within the next two weeks.

Our emissary met the Shah late Monday night for an hour and a half. He repeated the messages we sent in other channels on admitting the Shah and members of his family here. The Shah was withdrawn and passive and was most concerned with getting his children into school. He declined our offer to send a security expert to review his protection in the Bahamas but was interested in the possibility of a security survey at a later date in Mexico. We will have a fuller report when the emissary returns late tomorrow.

4. Turkey: Warren testified today before Hamilton's House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on our requests for additional economic and military assistance for Turkey. Questions focussed on Turkish negotiations with the IMF, Green reintegration into NATO, Cyprus, and Turkish permission for US overflights. Warren refused to comment in open session on press reports concerning our overflight request except to deny that Turkey had rejected it or given the Soviets a veto over it. In closed session, Warren said the Soviets will be informed of our intention to conduct overflights of Turkey and told that the US does not expect the Soviets to object.

Earlier Warren talked with Muskie, Church, Javits, Sarbanes, and others about the feasibility of restoring the \$50 million in grant MAP for Turkey during the Senate floor debate. While Church and Javits were initially disinclined to reopen the SFRC's conversion of MAP to liberal FMS, they seemed impressed with our arguments about the importance of grant aid to the Turkish military. They will be exploring with Byrd possible compromise approaches which might be embodied in a floor amendment. Chafce and Tower will provide strong Republican support.

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5. Berlin: The FRG has told us that it expects the East Germans to take some actions, as yet unknown, against Allied and West German interests in Berlin as a protest against the participation of West Berlin in the June 10 European elections. We will instruct our Embassy in Bonn to propose that the Bonn Group consider with the US, France, and the UK, acting separately, how to raise the matter with the Soviets far enough in advance of the elections to permit them to take some steps with the East Germans.

6. WHO: We are in a period of intense lobbying at the WHO meeting in Geneva to thwart Arab efforts to impose sanctions against Israel. Representations by US and the Western Europeans, plus divisions among the developing countries, apparently have left the Arabs uncertain as to whether they can succeed. We have made clear that passage of sanctions would require the United States to assess its continued participation in the WHO. The Soviet delegation has told us that it and its allies will abstain.

7. Iran: Your messages regarding the Iranian Jewish community were sent out last evening, and our Charge raised the status of the Jewish community with Foreign Minister Yazdi today. Yazdi categorically denied any connection between the execution of Jewish industrialist Elghanian and his faith. Yazdi said no Jews were being persecuted or pressured and no would be in the future. He welcomed inspection by international human rights groups, and we intend to pursue this offer. We also understand that Khomeini attempted to reassure a group of Jewish leaders, but his remarks were negated by a sharp attack on Zionism and the community is exceedingly nervous. Although our information is still sketchy, it appears that possibly about a dozen prominent Jews are in detention.

8. Chile: We announced today that we are gravely disappointed by the decision by the President of the Chilean Supreme Court to deny extradition to the three Chilean officers indicted here for the Letelier/Moffitt murders. We are recalling Ambassador Landau to Washington for a thorough review of our relations with Chile. We will also appeal the Judge's decision to a panel of Supreme Court Judges, although

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there is little precedent for reversal in extradition cases. The President of the Supreme Court did refer the case to a military trial proceeding but it will take some time to determine whether this will result in the open and vigorous prosecution we seek.

9. **Rhodesia:** Prime Minister **Thatcher** announced in the House of Commons today that her government welcomes the major change that has taken place as a result of the recent elections in Rhodesia. In a carefully crafted statement, she stated that the objective of her government would be to build on that change to achieve a return to legality in conditions which secure wide international recognition. She expressly pointed out that both the realities of the present situation in Rhodesia and its wider international implications must be taken into account in determining the future policy of her government.

**Thatcher** also said she would be receiving tomorrow the report of Lord Boyd, who led the Conservative Party observer mission to Rhodesia, and she hoped to publish it. The report will probably give good marks to the recent elections but express reservations about the constitution under which they were held. This leads me to believe that an objective of the Tory government may be to change the existing Rhodesian constitution. Margaret **Thatcher** referred to my forthcoming talks with Lord Carrington as well as to talks planned with the EC Nine and the Commonwealth.