

PP TUNIS

GRS 259

RESTRICTED

FM FCO 281445Z JUN 82

TO PRIORITY TUNIS

TELEGRAM NUMBER 51 OF 28 JUNE

INFO BEIRUT, DAMASCUS, UKREP BRUSSELS, UKMIS NEW YORK,
INFO SAVING OTHER M.E. POSTS, WASHINGTON.

YOUR TELNOS 97 AND 102: ISRAEL/LEBANON: KLIBI'S MESSAGE

1. PLEASE CONVEY THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO KLIBI, IN REPLY TO HIS TWO RECENT MESSAGES: BEGINS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR RECENT MESSAGES ABOUT THE SITUATION IN LEBANON. I FULLY SHAREYYOUR CONCERN AT THE GRAVE SITUATION IN LEBANON FOLLOWING THE UNJUSTIFIED ISRAELI INVASION. YOU WILL HAVE SEEN THAT, TOGETHER WITH OUR EUROPEAN PARTNERS, WE VIGOROUSLY CONDEMNED THE INVASION IN A STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE TEN FOREIGN MINISTERS ON 9 JUNE. WE ARE COMMITTED TO THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF LEBANON AND WISH TO SEE AN IMMEDIATE AND UNCONDITIONAL WITHDRAWAL OF ALL ISRAELI FORCES IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 509. MEANWHILE WE ARE GIVING HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE VICTIMS OF THIS TRAGIC EPISODE BOTH BILATERALLY AND THROUGH THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY.

WE HAVE LEFT THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT IN NO DOUBT AS TO THE STRENGTH OF OUR FEELING ON THIS MATTER. THE TEN HAVE MADE CLEAR THAT THEY WILL CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITIES FOR FUTURE ACTION SHOULD ISRAEL REFUSE TO WITHDRAW. WE ARE ALSO KEEPING IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH THE US GOVERNMENT WHO WILL HAVE A CRUCIAL ROLE TO PLAY IN EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL AND A LASTING PEACE IN LEBANON. WE HAVE MADE CLEAR TO THEM OUR VIEW THAT THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM MUST ALSO FIND A SOLUTION IF REAL PEACE AND

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STABILITY IS TO BE ACHIEVED IN THE MIDDLE EAST. ENDS

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ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION ARAB/ISRAEL DISPUTE