



Prime Minister

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

Agree text of proposed statement for the reasons indicated. The LPS will propose that the square bracketed passages be omitted.

1 September 1980

Dear Michael,

Phnt 2/9

JERUSALEM

There was an exchange of letters last month on the move of Mr Begin's office to East Jerusalem and the possibility of a statement by the Nine on the Knesset law, resting with Mike Pattison's letter of 4 August. No statement was in the event issued.

The Nine have now agreed at official level that, in accordance with past practice in dealing with Israeli offices in East Jerusalem, members of the Nine should refuse to have official contacts with Mr Begin's office if and when it is moved to East Jerusalem (the move has been delayed because the building is not yet ready).

The Luxembourg Presidency have proposed a short draft statement incorporating this decision, against the day when Mr Begin's office is finally moved. I enclose a translation of the text and the self-explanatory reply which the Lord Privy Seal proposes to send. As the enclosed telegram no 3697 from Washington makes clear, a decision and statement on these lines would be entirely in line with US policy and practice. The Presidency have asked for our comments by 3 September.

With regard -  
it is ambiguous.  
Does it really mean  
we will avoid all  
contact with in p.m.?  
Or vet. who will  
not meet with  
Gomersall?  
Gomersall?

Yours ever  
Stephen Gomersall

S J Gomersall

M O'D B Alexander Esq  
10 Downing Street

DRAFT STATEMENT OF THE NINE ON THE MOVE OF MR BEGIN'S OFFICE  
TO EAST JERUSALEMUnofficial Translation

'The governments of the Nine member states of the European Community have ~~just~~ learnt of the decision by the Israeli government to implement the transfer to East Jerusalem of the Prime Minister's office. The Nine recall that they do not accept any unilateral initiative designed to change the status of Jerusalem. The Nine deplore this decision of the Israeli government [designed to create a fait accompli]. They therefore regret to have to make clear that their official representatives [in Israel] will be obliged to avoid all contact <sup>with the Prime Minister and</sup> his office in its new location in East Jerusalem'.

x seems gratuitous & in any case the move is not being accepted by other Govts.

xx Oril because the same presumably applies to official visitors to Israel.

with

~~with~~ L. E. Jerusalem

there

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CONFIDENTIAL  
DESKBY 060800Z  
FM WASHINGTON 052325Z AUG 80  
TO IMMEDIATE F C O  
TELEGRAM NO 3697 OF 5 AUGUST  
INFO TEL AVIV, CAIRO, JERUSALEM, EC POSTS, UKMIS NEW YORK  
YOURTEL 1348: JERUSALEM

NIX 040/1  
- 7 AUG 1980

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1. POSSIBLE MOVE OF BEGIN'S OFFICE. AMBASSADOR LEWIS HAS INSTRUCTIONS NOT TO INITIATE ANY CALL ON BEGIN IN HIS EAST JERUSALEM OFFICE AND TO REFER TO WASHINGTON ANY REQUEST BY BEGIN THAT HE SHOULD CALL THERE. THE AMERICANS HAVE, HOWEVER, TOLD SADAT FORMALLY AND BEGIN INFORMALLY (THROUGH TWO PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS WITH LEWIS) THAT THEY WILL CONTINUE THEIR CURRENT PRACTICE OF NOT CALLING ON ISRAELI OFFICIALS IN EAST JERUSALEM. ANY PUBLIC STATEMENT (AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY SAUNDERS BELIEVES THAT ONE WILL BE INEVITABLE IF ONLY IN ANSWER TO PRESS ENQUIRIES) ABOUT AN ISRAELI DECISION TO MOVE THE OFFICE WILL STRESS THE CONTINUING NATURE OF AMERICAN PRACTICE RATHER THAN MAKE IT APPEAR A NEW POLICY. SAUNDERS SAID THAT THE AMERICANS HAD NOT YET ADDRESSED THE QUESTION OF CORRESPONDENCE WITH BEGIN'S EAST JERUSALEM OFFICE BUT HIS FIRST REACTION WAS THAT THE PROPOSAL IN PARA 2(11) OF TEL AVIV TEL 308 SEEMED RIGHT.

2. KNESSET LAW. THE AMERICANS PLAN NO FURTHER STATEMENT SPECIFICALLY ADDRESSING THE KNESSET LAW QUESTION, ALTHOUGH THEY MAY HAVE TO REPEAT THEIR OPPOSITION TO UNILATERAL ACTIONS OF THIS SORT IF THEY ARE CALLED UPON TO MAKE A STATEMENT ABOUT ANY FURTHER SUSPENSION/POSTPONEMENT OF THE AUTONOMY NEGOTIATIONS.

3. SAUNDERS MENTIONED THAT WHEN LEWIS CALLED WITH SISCO ON BEGIN LAST WEEK, BEGIN TOLD HIM THAT HE WOULD NOT BE MOVING HIS OFFICE "FOR A FEW WEEKS." LEWIS, WHO IS FIRMLY CONVINCED THAT BEGIN'S MIND IS MADE UP ON THE MOVE, BELIEVES THAT THIS MERELY REFLECTS THE FACT THAT THE OFFICE IS NOT YET PHYSICALLY READY. SAUNDERS DID NOT ENTIRELY RULE OUT THAT SOME OF BEGIN'S CABINET COLLEAGUES MIGHT PERSUADE HIM THAT THE TIME WAS NOT RIGHT TO MAKE THE MOVE ; BEGIN HAD TAKEN HIS DECISION TO DO SO LONG AGO - AT LEAST AS FAR BACK AS CAMP DAVID WHEN HE WAS ALREADY TALKING ABOUT IT - AND MIGHT SEE THE ADVANTAGES OF DELAYING A LITTLE LONGER.

FRETWELL

MIDDLE EAST STANDARD

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