

MIDDLE EAST: ADVANCE COPIES

(X-13)

NO 10 DOWNING STREET  
CABINET OFFICE DIO

PS  
PS/SIR I GILMOUR  
PS/MR HURD  
PS/PUS  
~~SIR J GRAHAM~~ *Sir A. ...*  
MR. J C MOBERLY

IMMEDIATE

HD/NENAD  
HD/MED  
HD/UND

*HD/RID*

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PUSD (2)  
NEWS D

(DENTE)

CONFIDENTIAL

FM TEL AVIV 161040Z JUL 80  
TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 236 OF 15 JULY

*2 Separating Telegrams -  
Read in full.  
MB*

BRITAIN/ISRAEL

1. SHARP CRITICISM OF BRITAIN'S MIDDLE EAST POLICY CONTINUES HERE, AND IS ASSUMING AN UNPLEASANTLY PERSONAL TONE.
2. YADIN, ACTING PRIME MINISTER, (AS BASICALLY DECENT AN ISRAELI AS IT IS POSSIBLE TO FIND) TOOK ME TO TASK ON MONDAY EVENING IN RATHER PERSONAL TERMS ABOUT YOUR INTERVIEW WITH ISRAEL TELEVISION AT THE END OF LAST WEEK. YADIN SAID HE HAD SEEN IT AND IT HAD INFURIATED HIM. HE WOULD NOT HAVE REACTED AS BEGIN DID - THAT WAS NOT HIS STYLE - BUT YOU HAD REMINDED HIM OF THE DAYS OF THE MANDATE. I TOLD YADIN THAT ISRAELI TELEVISION HAD CUT YOUR ANSWERS AND HAD SHOWN A SMALL FRACTION OF THE INTERVIEW. (I HAVE SENT HIM THE FULL TRANSCRIPT TOGETHER WITH YOUR SPEECH IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS ON 9 JULY AND YOUR INTERVIEW WITH ARAB CORRESPONDENTS ON 14 JULY). ABBA EBAN LATER MADE NO SUCH CRITICISM AND MADE FUN OF BEGIN'S RESPONSE. BUT HE IS A RARE EXCEPTION AND NOT REPRESENTATIVE OF OPINION HERE.
3. A PAPER REPRESENTING NATIONAL RELIGIOUS PARTY VIEWS YESTERDAY PUBLISHED A SHARP ATTACK ON BRITAIN'S "PRO-PLO POLICIES" SAYING THAT YOU WERE KNOWN AS PRO-ARAB BEFORE YOU BECAME FOREIGN SECRETARY; REHEARSING BRITAIN'S SUPPOSED PRO-ARAB AND ANTI-ISRAELI POLICIES OVER THE YEARS, SAYING THAT UNDER THE CALLAGHAN GOVERNMENT BRITAIN'S POLICY TOWARDS ISRAEL WAS MORE MODERATE. AND

SECRETARY: REHEARSING BRITAIN'S SUPPOSED PRO-AID AND PRO-  
ISRAELI POLICIES OVER THE YEARS, SAYING THAT UNDER THE CALLAGHAN  
GOVERNMENT BRITAIN'S POLICY TOWARDS ISRAEL WAS MORE MODERATE, AND  
THAT THE PRIME MINISTER WAS KNOWN AS A FRIEND OF ISRAEL BUT  
"APPARENTLY DOES NOT INTERFERE WITH THE POLICIES SET OUT BY HER  
FOREIGN SECRETARY" AND CONCLUDING THAT BRITISH OFFICERS AND  
POLICIES WERE BEHIND THE ATTEMPT TO ANNIHILATE THE HALF MILLION  
JEWS OF ISRAEL IN 1948 AND "BRITAIN HAS NOT YET LEARNED A LESSON".

4. WHEN I LUNCHEDED YESTERDAY WITH MEMBERS OF THE LIKUD FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS GROUP, ALTHOUGH THE PERSONAL NOTE WAS LARGELY ABSENT, I  
WAS STRONGLY ATTACKED FOR OUR POLICIES, AND REPLIED APPROPRIATELY.

5. EVEN THIS MORNING'S JERUSALEM POST CARRIES A RATHER OFFENSIVE  
ADVERTISEMENT TO PROMOTE ITS INTERNATIONAL EDITION SHOWING YOUR  
PHOTOGRAPH UNDER THE TITLE "WITH FRIENDS LIKE THIS WHO NEEDS  
ENEMIES" AND CONTINUING THAT YOUR "GRATUITOUS ADVICE TO MR BEGIN  
ON ISRAEL TV WOULD BE TAKEN MUCH MORE SERIOUSLY IF ONE FELT HIS  
(I.E. YOU) ACTIONS WERE ABOVE REPROACH AND WERE NOT PREJUDICED BY  
INTERESTS OTHER THAN FRIENDSHIP FOR ISRAEL. FOLLOWING LORD  
CARRINGTON'S REPEATED APOLOGIES TO SAUDI ARABIA OVER THE "DEATH  
OF A PRINCESS" FILM ONE IS FORCED TO ASK: WHEN IS BRITAIN GOING  
TO SUGGEST TO IRAN THAT THEY SHOULD GIVE SELF-DETERMINATION TO THE  
KURDS, AND WHEN IS LONDON GOING TO SIT DOWN AND TALK WITH THE IRA".

SEE MIFT.

ROBINSON

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