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Mark  
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Middle East

**PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE**

SERIAL No. T.132/82

OO WHITEHOUSE

GRS 400

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CONFIDENTIAL  
FROM CABINET OFFICE 290940Z JUL 82  
TO IMMEDIATE WHITEHOUSE  
TELEGRAM NUMBER MISC 175 OF 29 JULY 1982

FROM . PRIME MINISTER  
TO PRESIDENT REAGAN

DEAR RON,  
KING HUSSEIN CALLED ON ME IN LONDON ON 22 JULY AND ALSO TALKED TO FRANCIS PYM THE FOLLOWING DAY. YOU MAY LIKE TO KNOW THE MAIN POINTS WHICH THE KING MADE IN THESE DISCUSSIONS:-  
I) HE WAS WORRIED THAT THE PRESENT NEGOTIATING EFFORT WAS FOCUSED TOO NARROWLY ON THE PLIGHT OF BEIRUT, AND NOT ON THE WIDER QUESTION OF THE FUTURE OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE.  
II) HE STRONGLY BELIEVED THAT THE HUMILIATION OF THE PLO IN BEIRUT SHOULD BE AVOIDED IF THERE WAS TO BE A CHANCE OF A MODERATE PALESTINIAN LEADERSHIP IN THE FUTURE.  
III) JORDAN WAS PREPARED TO TAKE JORDANIAN PASSPORT HOLDERS, BUT HE SHARED PRESIDENT MUBARAK'S VIEW THAT IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT TO MAKE A MAJOR EFFORT TO TACKLE THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM IF THE MODERATE ARABS WERE TO TAKE IN LARGE NUMBERS OF PLO FIGHTERS.  
IV) HE CLAIMED THAT SYRIA ALREADY HAD PLANS TO CHANGE THE PLO INTO A MORE EXTREME FORM.  
V) HE WAS CONCERNED THAT FOLLOWING LEBANON, ISRAEL MIGHT TURN ITS ATTENTION TO JORDAN, AND NOTED GROWING ISRAELI PRESSURE ON THE ARABS OF THE WEST BANK TO MOVE INTO JORDAN.  
VI) ON IRAN/IRAQ HE NOTED THAT ISRAEL WAS SUPPLYING ARMS, SPARE PARTS AND PROBABLY SOME EXPERTS TO IRAN. HE ADDED THAT THE RUSSIANS HAD MADE IT CLEAR THAT THEY WERE VERY CONTENT WITH THE SITUATION IN IRAN, AND POINTED OUT THAT THE LOSS OF IRAQ WOULD BE A SERIOUS BLOW.  
VII) HE SAID THAT HE WAS TRYING TO ARRANGE AN ARAB SUMMIT WITH AS MANY AS POSSIBLE OF THE ARAB COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING. HE WAS WORKING WITH THE SAUDIS FOR EGYPT TO REJOIN THE ARAB WORLD.  
2. WE WERE MOST GRATEFUL TO PHIL HABIB FOR TAKING THE OPPORTUNITY TO BRIEF FRANCIS PYM ABOUT THE BEIRUT NEGOTIATIONS ON 26 JULY, AS HE TOLD US HE IS CONCENTRATING ON THE IMMEDIATE PROBLEM OF BEIRUT, BUT THERE ARE WIDER CONSIDERATIONS WHICH ARE AS IMPORTANT. THE CHALLENGE REMAINS HOW TO BRING ABOUT THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE PLO IN CONDITIONS WHICH WILL INCREASE THE CHANCES OF A PALESTINIAN LEADERSHIP PURSUING MODERATE AND SENSIBLE POLICIES IN THE FUTURE. I HAVE TO SAY FRANKLY THAT I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT SENDING THE BULK OF THE PLO, INCLUDING THE LEADERSHIP, TO SYRIA WILL SERVE WESTERN INTERESTS BY PERMITTING A GENUINELY MODERATE LEADERSHIP TO EMERGE. FRANCIS PYM WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS ALL THIS FURTHER WITH GEORGE SHULTZ ON 29 JULY.

YOURS EVER

MARGARET.

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