

MIDDLE EAST: ADVANCE COPIES

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FM UKMIS NEW YORK 090105Z FEB 83

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TEL NO 76 OF 8 FEBRUARY 1983

INFO IMMEDIATE TEL AVIV BEIRUT AMMAN WASHINGTON

INFO PRIORITY C.G. JERUSALEM DAMASCUS JEDDA TUNIS CAIRO

UKMIS GENEVA

INFO ROUTINE PARIS MOSCOW

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MY TEL NO 72: SECURITY COUNCIL: ARAB/ISRAEL

SUMMARY

1. THE ARABS TODAY (8 FEBRUARY) FORMALLY REQUESTED A RESUMPTION OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS. THIS REQUEST WILL BE CONSIDERED BY THE COUNCIL IN INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS TOMORROW MORNING (9 FEBRUARY).

DETAIL

2. AFTER FURTHER DISCUSSION IN THE ARAB GROUP YESTERDAY AND TODAY, JORDAN THIS EVENING SENT A LETTER ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL REQUESTING "AN IMMEDIATE COUNCIL MEETING TO RESUME DISCUSSION OF ISRAEL'S PERSISTENCE IN ITS POLICY OF

TO RESUME DISCUSSION OF ISRAEL'S PERSISTENCE IN ITS POLICY OF ESTABLISHING SETTLEMENTS IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN AND OTHER ARAB TERRITORIES''.

3. THE LEBANESE APPEAR TO HAVE SUCCESSFULLY RESISTED P.L.O. ATTEMPTS TO INCLUDE THE SITUATION IN LEBANON IN THE SCOPE OF THIS REQUEST. THERE HAS ALSO BEEN NO ATTEMPT SO FAR TO DRAFT A RESOLUTION AND WE UNDERSTAND THAT NONE MAY BE PUT FORWARD.

4. IF THE DEBATE TAKES PLACE WITHOUT A DRAFT RESOLUTION LITTLE DAMAGE MAY BE DONE. THE OBVIOUS DANGER IS OF COURTING A U.S. VETO WITH THE P.N.C. MEETING DUE ON 14 FEBRUARY; AND DIVERTING SOME ATTENTION FROM THE FALL OUT FROM THE REPORT OF THE ISRAELI COMMISSION OF INQUIRY. THE U.S. MISSION, WHO ARE VERY MUCH ALIVE TO THE RISK, CONFIRM THAT THEY HAVE SPOKEN TO THE JORDANIANS (IN NEW YORK NOT AMMAN).

5. THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL (TROYANOVSKY) WILL RAISE THE JORDANIAN LETTER AT INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS OF THE COUNCIL BEGINNING AT 1530Z TOMORROW. I PROPOSE TO RAISE NO OBJECTION TO THE ARAB REQUEST, BUT TO WORK FOR AS SHORT A MEETING AS POSSIBLE AND NO RESOLUTION.

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