

MIDDLE EAST: ADVANCE COPIES

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MR EGERTON  
SIR J BULLARD  
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FM UKMIS NEW YORK 082210Z MAR 83

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TEL NO 125 OF 8 MARCH 1983

INFO PRIORITY WASHINGTON TEL AVIV AMMAN RABAT BEIRUT

MRS KIRKPATRICK: VISIT TO THE MIDDLE EAST

1. WHEN MRS KIRKPATRICK LUNCHEd WITH ME TODAY SHE SAID THAT SHE WOULD BE LEAVING FOR A VISIT TO ISRAEL ON SATURDAY 12 MARCH. THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT HAD APPROACHED PRESIDENT REAGAN WITH A REQUEST THAT HE SHOULD ASSIGN MRS KIRKPATRICK AS THE US REPRESENTATIVE AT A CONFERENCE IN JERUSALEM ON SOVIET JEWRY. HE HAD OBLIGED AND SHE WAS GLAD TO GO ESPECIALLY SINCE SHE HAD NEVER BEEN IN THE MIDDLE EAST. SHE FELT THAT PERHAPS SHE OUGHT TO BALANCE THE VISIT WITH A CONNECTED VISIT TO AN ARAB COUNTRY. DID I THINK THAT A VISIT TO MOROCCO WOULD BE SUFFICIENT? SHE HAD RECEIVED A SERIES OF PRESSING INVITATIONS FROM THE KING DOWNWARDS. I DID NOT THINK THAT IT WOULD BE SUFFICIENT AND SUGGESTED AMMAN. SHE THANKED ME AND SEEMED DISPOSED TO ACCEPT THE ADVICE PROVIDED OF COURSE THE

TO AMMAN WOULD BE SUFFICIENT? SHE HAD RECEIVED A SERIES OF PRESSING INVITATIONS FROM THE KING DOWNWARDS. I DID NOT THINK THAT IT WOULD BE SUFFICIENT AND SUGGESTED AMMAN. SHE THANKED ME AND SEEMED DISPOSED TO ACCEPT THE ADVICE PROVIDED OF COURSE THE JORDANIANS WERE READY TO RECEIVE HER AT A SUITABLE LEVEL. SHE SAID THAT AT NO PRICE WOULD SHE AGREE TO GO TO THE WEST BANK. WHEN I OBSERVED THAT EAST JERUSALEM WAS PART OF THE WEST BANK SHE SAID THAT THE AMERICANS DID NOT COUNT IT AS SUCH. SHE SAID SHE WOULD NEED TO RETURN TO THE US ON 19/20 MARCH.

2. MRS KIRKPATRICK SAID THAT AT HIS REQUEST SHAMIR WAS COMING TO WASHINGTON ON FRIDAY 11 MARCH. THE ISRAELIS HAD THROWN OUT HINTS THAT HE WOULD HAVE SOMETHING INTERESTING TO SAY ABOUT WITHDRAWAL FROM THE LEBANON.

3. I IMAGINE ALL THIS WILL BECOME PUBLIC VERY SOON BUT MEANWHILE MRS KIRKPATRICK STRESSED ITS CONFIDENTIALITY.

THOMSON

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