

CONFIDENTIAL

151443
MDADAN 0274

CONFIDENTIAL
FM WASHINGTON
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELNO 2510

ADVANCE COPY

OF 172109Z OCTOBER 90
INFO IMMEDIATE JERUSALEM, TEL AVIV, ATHENS
INFO PRIORITY OTHER MIDDLE EAST POSTS, MOSCOW, PEKING, PARIS, ACTOR

JERUSALEM/ATHENS PLEASE PASS TO SECRETARY OF STATE'S PARTY

JERUSALEM TELNOS 239, 245 AND 247: UNSG'S MISSION TO JERUSALEM

1. ROSS (DIRECTOR, POLICY PLANNING, STATE DEPARTMENT) COMMENTED TO THE MINISTER ON 17 OCTOBER THAT THE PRESENT SITUATION WAS AWKWARD: THE EMOTIONAL ATMOSPHERE IN ISRAEL WAS VERY DIFFICULT. IT WAS TO SOME EXTENT ENCOURAGING THAT THE ISRAELIS HAD SAID THEY WOULD BE GIVING A COPY OF THEIR OWN ENQUIRY REPORT TO THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL. THE ADMINISTRATION'S FIRST OBJECTIVE WAS TO GET THE AIME MISSION INTO ISRAEL. IF THE ISRAELIS DID NOT TALK TO THEM THEY WOULD BE THE ONES TO SUFFER. THE IMPORTANT THING WAS TO GET THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO RECOGNISE THAT DECLARING THAT A UN MISSION WOULD NOT BE WELCOME WAS DIFFERENT FROM SAYING THAT THEY WOULD BE REFUSED ENTRY. WE SHOULD BE URGING THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO GO AHEAD IF HE POSSIBLY COULD.
2. ROSS NOTED THAT WE SHOULD HAVE REAL PROBLEMS IF THE ISRAELIS DENIED THE AIME MISSION ENTRY. IN THAT CASE THE PLO AND THE NAM WOULD COME FORWARD WITH ANOTHER RESOLUTION. THE PLO WANTED TO FORCE A US VETO. THE ADMINISTRATION WANTED TO AVOID THIS IF THEY COULD, BUT IF THERE WERE SERIOUS TALK OF SANCTIONS AGAINST ISRAEL THEY WOULD HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO VETO. HENCE THE IMPORTANCE OF RETAINING FREEDOM FOR MANOEUVRE.
3. KURTZER (DAS/NEA, STATE) CONFIRMED TO US SEPARATELY THAT PRESIDENT BUSH HAD RECEIVED A MESSAGE FROM SHAMIR (UKMIS TELNO 1648 REFERS). HE SAID THAT THE LETTER WAS CAST IN VERY MUCH THE SAME TERMS AS THE RESPONSES GIVEN TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE IN JERUSALEM. IT STRESSED THE SOVEREIGNTY OF JERUSALEM AND THE ONE-SIDED NATURE OF UNSR 672. THERE WAS NO HINT OF WILLINGNESS TO COMPROMISE. KURTZER SAID THAT A REPLY HAD BEEN DRAFTED, WHICH EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING OF STRONG ISRAELI FEELINGS ON THE ISSUE, BUT SOUGHT TO FOCUS ISRAELI MINDS ON THE UNWELCOME CONSEQUENCES OF REJECTING THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S MISSION.

PAGE 1
CONFIDENTIAL

KURTZER SAID THAT THE PRESIDENT, WHO IS AWAY FROM WASHINGTON,
WOULD BE UNLIKELY TO SEE THE DRAFT UNTIL TOMORROW.

ACLAND

YYYY

DISTRIBUTION

17

ADVANCE 17

.ARAB/ISRAEL
PS
PS/MR WALDEGRAVE
PS/PUS
MR P J WESTON
MR FAIRWEATHER
MR GORE-BOOTH
HD/CONSULAR D
HD/NENAD

HD/NEWS D
HD/MED
HD/PUSD
HD/UND
NO 10 DOWNING ST
CABINET OFFICE DIO
HD/EMERGENCY UNIT [VIA FTP]
RESIDENT CLERK

NNNN