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TO IMMEDIATE F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1215 OF 4 AUGUST 1982

INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON, BEIRUT, TEL AVIV, DAMASCUS, AMMAN,  
INFO PRIORITY PARIS, CAIRO, JEDDA, TUNIS.MY TELNO 1212 AND TELECONS HUMFREY/MILES: LEBANON: SECURITY COUNCIL.

1. AT THE END OF ANOTHER LONG BUT EVENTUALLY PRODUCTIVE DAY THE COUNCIL ADOPTED THE DRAFT RESOLUTION IN MIFT BY 14-0-1 (US) AS SCR 517. WHEN MRS KIRKPATRICK BELATEDLY APPEARED AND IN HER ERRATIC WAY BEGAN TO INDICATE U S CONCERNS THE ANGER AND IMPATIENCE OF THE ARABS AND THE OTHER NON-ALIGNED COOLED AND TIME WAS ALLOWED TO REACH A COMPROMISE TEXT ON WHICH THE U S COULD ABSTAIN.

2. THE DAY BEGAN WITH THE RUSSIANS CALLING FOR AN URGENT FORMAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL. A SOVIET/PLO DRAFT WAS FLOATED FOR WHICH JORDAN AND SPAIN BECAME CO-SPONSORS, AND AFTER A BRIEF DISCUSSION IN INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS THE COUNCIL MET FORMALLY.

3. OVINNIKOV (USSR) ACCUSED BLUM (ISRAEL) OF LYING TO THE COUNCIL THE PREVIOUS EVENING ABOUT ISRAELI FORCES NOT ENTERING WEST BEIRUT. HE DEMANDED THAT THE COUNCIL TAKE EFFECTIVE AND DECISIVE MEASURES. NUSEIBEH (JORDAN) INTRODUCED THE DRAFT RESOLUTION AND SAID THAT IT WAS TIME TO INVOKE CHAPTER VII. LING QING (CHINA) ALSO CALLED FOR SEVERE SANCTIONS AND THERE WERE BRIEF STATEMENTS FROM DE PINIES (SPAIN), MOUSSA (EGYPT), NOWAK (POLAND) AND TERZI (PLO).

4. BLUM (ISRAEL) DUCKED AN EXPLANATION OF HIS STATEMENT THE PREVIOUS EVENING; AVOIDED ANY REFERENCE TO THE ISRAELI ATTACK; AND CREATED A SMOKE SCREEN BY ATTACKING THE USSR, JORDAN AND OTHERS INDISCRIMINATELY. HE THEREBY SET OFF A LONG SERIES OF RIGHTS OF REPLY WHICH DESCENDED TO EVER LOWER LEVELS OF TRIVIALITY AND IRRELEVANCE MAKING A MOCKERY OF THE COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO THE SITUATION IN BEIRUT. WHEN I TRIED TO BRING THE DISCUSSION BACK TO BEIRUT BY AGAIN SEEKING CLARIFICATION OF BLUM'S STATEMENT OF THE NIGHT BEFORE HE DUCKED ONCE MORE. HOWEVER THE RISK OF AN IMMEDIATE VOTE WAS AVERTED AND WE BROKE FOR LUNCH.

5. OVER LUNCH I GOT FROM THE CO-SPONSORS THE MINIMUM AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT NEEDED TO ALLOW US TO VOTE IN FAVOUR - IE THE DELETION OF ANY REFERENCE TO ISRAELI "ATROCITIES" IN THE PREAMBLE AND TO CHAPTER VII IN THE LAST OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH. THE U S MISSION AT THIS STAGE AND IN THE ABSENCE OF MRS KIRKPATRICK IN WASHINGTON TOOK NO PART IN THE PROCEEDINGS. WHEN SHEAT LAST GOT INTO SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS WITH NUSEIBEH (JORDAN) AND TUENI (LEBANON) HER OBJECTIVE WAS TO BALANCE CRITICISM OF ISRAEL WITH A CLEAR ENDORSEMENT THAT THE PLO SHOULD IMMEDIATELY EVACUATE BEIRUT. IN THE END WITH TERZI ACTIVE BEHIND THE SCENES A COMPROMISE WAS REACHED ON INCLUDING THE WORDING IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 5.

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6. AFTER THE VOTE NISHIBORI (JAPAN), LOUET (FRANCE) AND I ALL MADE BRIEF EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE (TEXT OF MINE IN MY SECOND IFT). GERSHMAN (US) SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT CONTINUED TO SUPPORT SCR 516, WHICH WAS AN IMPORTANT STEP, AND REGRETTED THE LACK OF FULL COOPERATION WITH IT. THE U S HAD ABSTAINED ON SCR 517 BECAUSE IT DID NOT CALL FOR THE PROMPT WITHDRAWAL OF THE PLO.

7. TUENI (LEBANON) SAID FORCEFULLY THAT HIS GOVERNMENT'S OBJECTIVES WERE THE WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI AND ALL NON-LEBANESE FORCES AND THE REASSERTION OF LEBANESE AUTHORITY OVER ALL LEBANON. BLUM (ISRAEL), WHO WAS LOOKING CRESTFALLEN AFTER THE VOTE, ASSOCIATED HIMSELF WITH TUENI'S STATEMENT.

8. FOR TODAY WE HAVE GOT BY. BUT WE SHALL OF COURSE HAVE TO FACE TOMORROW (5 AUGUST) THE FOLLOW UP FORESHADOWED IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 8 OF SCR 517.

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