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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

11 August 1982

**PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE**
SERIAL No. T 159/82

Your Highness.

Thank you for your message of 31 July.

I share your anguish at the terrible sufferings inflicted on the Lebanese and Palestinians in Lebanon. Israel's invasion is a clear breach of international law. We have vigorously condemned it and made clear to the Israelis through every channel that they should keep to an effective cease-fire and disengage their troops from around Beirut, as a first step towards their complete withdrawal. With our partners in the Ten we have taken a number of practical measures to show the strength of our feeling. We decided at the end of June not to supply any military equipment to Israel until further notice. We have also been active in providing food and medical supplies to the victims of the war.

We support the efforts of Mr. Habib to achieve a peaceful settlement, which should involve the orderly departure of all foreign forces who are in Lebanon against the wishes of the Lebanese Government. The Lebanese people must be left in peace to rebuild their shattered land. The Ten have said that they are ready to assist in this work.

/ As you suggest,

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As you suggest, the Palestinian problem lies close to the heart of the conflict in the Lebanon. We have long worked for an overall peace settlement which would allow the Palestinians to exercise their right to self-determination. Despite the tragedy of Lebanon, these efforts must not be abandoned. We all have a role to play in bringing the parties to accept each others rights. Without this essential first step, negotiations cannot begin.

With every good wish
to your Royal Highness,

Yours sincerely

Jaber Al Sabah

His Highness Shaikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah, G.C.M.G.