

ADVANCE COPY

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SIR J LEAHY  
~~MR MOFFET~~ MR EGERTON  
SIR J BULLARD  
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FM UKMIS NEW YORK 121940Z OCT 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1619 OF 12 OCTOBER.

INFO IMMEDIATE BEIRUT TEL AVIV,

PRIORITY AMMAN DAMASCUS WASHINGTON KUWAIT PARIS MOSCOW AND UKMIS GENEVA.

INFO SAVING TO UKMIS VIENNA.

YOUR TEL NO 428: PALESTINIAN REFUGEES AND UNIFIL.

1. I HAD A LONG CONVERSATION WITH RYDBECK (COMMISSIONER GENERAL OF UNRWA) TODAY, 12 OCTOBER, WHICH I SHALL BE REPORTING SEPARATELY. I QUIZZED HIM ABOUT SECURITY IN THE REFUGEE CAMPS IN SOUTH LEBANON. HE SHOWED GREAT CONCERN. HE SAID THAT NASTY INCIDENTS WERE OCCURRING AND THE SITUATION WAS SUCH THAT PARENTS WERE AFRAID TO SEND THEIR CHILDREN TO SCHOOL. WHEN I ASKED WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE HE MENTIONED BOTH HADDAD AND THE PHALANGISTS. HE ALSO EXPRESSED DOUBTS ABOUT THE RELIABILITY OF THE LEBANESE ARMY AND RECOUNTED A CONVERSATION WHICH HE HAD HAD ON 1 OCTOBER WITH WAZZAN IN WHICH THE LATTER HAD HINTED AS MUCH. RYDBECK SAID THAT IT WOULD BE SPLENDID IF UNIFIL COULD GUARD THE CAMPS BUT ALL OF THEM WERE OUTSIDE THE PRESENT AREA FOR WHICH UNIFIL HELD A MANDATE AND HE WAS SURE THAT THE ISRAELIS WOULD NOT AGREE.

2. I TOLD URQUHART OF RYDBECK'S CONCERN AND HIS JUDGEMENT ABOUT THE

2. I TOLD URQUHART OF RYDBECK'S CONCERN AND HIS JUDGEMENT ABOUT THE ISRAELIS. URQUHART SAID THAT THIS JUDGEMENT WAS CORRECT AS THINGS STOOD BUT THAT THE ISRAELIS WOULD GIVE WAY IF THE AMERICANS PUT ENOUGH PRESSURE ON THEM.

3. URQUHART SAID THAT MY SOVIET COLLEAGUE HAD JUST TOLD HIM THAT HE COULD AGREE TO A TWO MONTH EXTENSION FOR UNIFIL FROM 19 OCTOBER, BUT NOT A DAY LONGER. URQUHART SAID HE DOUBTED IF THIS MATTERED VERY MUCH BECAUSE HE FELT THAT THIS WAS LIKELY TO BE THE ATTITUDE OF MOST OF THE TROOP CONTRIBUTORS ANYWAY. I ASKED HIM IF HE THOUGHT THERE WAS ANY CHANCE THAT THE ISRAELIS WOULD BE OUT OF LEBANON BY MID-DECEMBER. HE THOUGHT THE CHANCES WERE VIRTUALLY NIL AND SAID THE SITUATION IN LEBANON WAS AGAIN DETERIORATING.

4. IF WE ARE TO ACHIEVE THE INTRODUCTION OF SOME UN PRESENCE INTO THE MAIN REFUGEE CAMPS IN SOUTH LEBANON THIS SHOULD BE DONE IN THE CONTEXT OF THE RENEWAL OF THE UNIFIL MANDATE. BUT WE STILL DO NOT KNOW WHAT ATTITUDE THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE AND IT IS POSSIBLE THAT WE MAY NOT DO SO UNTIL GEMAYEL COMES HERE JUST BEFORE RENEWAL IS DUE ON 19 OCTOBER. UNLESS THE LEBANESE CLEARLY REQUEST THAT UNIFIL'S ROLE BE EXTENDED TO INCLUDE TYRE AND SIDON TAKING IN THE REFUGEE CAMPS, THEN IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO MAKE PROGRESS, OR TO GET THE AMERICANS TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE ISRAELIS. ONE FALLBACK POSITION WHICH WE MIGHT TRY TO GET THE LEBANESE (AND THROUGH THE AMERICANS THE ISRAELIS) TO CONSIDER IS THE INTRODUCTION OF UNTSO OBSERVERS INTO THE CAMPS. WHILE THEY WOULD NOT ACT AS A PHYSICAL DETERRENT LIKE UNIFIL'S FORCES THEY WOULD BE A DETERRENT OF SORTS. IF YOU AGREE, I COULD FLOAT THIS IDEA, IF AND WHEN IT BECOMES CLEAR THAT THE LEBANESE ARE NOT GOING TO ASK FOR UNIFIL TO BE STATIONED IN THE CAMPS. HOWEVER AS SEEN FROM HERE IT IS VERY MUCH A SECOND BEST AND WOULD BE WIDELY JUDGED AS SUCH. IF WE WANT TO PLAY A PART IN EXTENDING THE UNIFIL MANDATE TO COVER AT BLEAST SOME OF THE CAMPS IT IS BY NO MEANS TOO SOON TO START. A FIRST STEP MIGHT BE FOR ME TO APPROACH THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON INSTRUCTIONS. IT WOULD ALSO BE NECESSARY TO SPEAK SOON WITH THE AMERICANS AND THE FRENCH.

FCO PLEASE PASS SAVING TO UKMIS VIENNA

THOMSON

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