

MIDDLE EAST: ADVANCE COPIES

110

PS
PS/MR HURD
PS/PJS
SIR J LEAHY
~~MR EGERTON~~
~~SIR J BULLARD~~ *McGarrison*
HD/NEAD
HD/MED
HD/UND

NO 10 DOWNING STREET
CABINET OFFICE D10



ADVANCE COPY

DBx 291700Z

IMMEDIATE

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HD/CONSULAR DEPT

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PUSD (2)

NEWS D
RESIDENT CLERK

CONFIDENTIAL

FM BEIRUT 291515Z DEC 82

DESKBY 291700Z

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 854 OF 29 DECEMBER

INFO IMMEDIATE TEL AVIV AND WASHINGTON

INFO PRIORITY DAMASCUS AND AMMAN

INFO ROUTINE TUNIS

INFO SAVING OTHER MIDDLE EAST POSTS, PARIS AND ROME.

NEGOTIATIONS FOR ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL

1. AS YOU WILL KNOW, A LEBANESE DELEGATION LED BY ANTOINE FATTAL, A FORMER AMBASSADOR, AN ISRAELI DELEGATION LED BY DAVID KINCHE, AND AN AMERICAN DELEGATION LED BY MORRIS DRAPER MET ON 29 DECEMBER AT KHALDE JUST TO THE SOUTH OF BEIRUT. THEY WILL MEET ON 30 DECEMBER AT KIRYAT SHIMOUNA.

2. THE US AMBASSADOR, WHO WAS NOT TOTALLY AU COURANT, TOLD ME TODAY THAT THE ACCOUNTS IN THE NEWS AGENCIES AND THE RADIO WERE BROADLY CORRECT. THEY HAD NOT YET AGREED ON THE AGENDA. THE CRUX SEEMS TO BE THAT THE ISRAELIS, AS THE PRICE

RADIO WERE BROADLY CORRECT. THEY HAD NOT YET AGREED ON THE AGENDA. THE CRUX SEEMS TO BE THAT THE ISRAELIS, AS THE PRICE OF WITHDRAWAL, WANT SOMETHING LIKE A PEACE TREATY, WHILE THE LEBANESE CANNOT GIVE THEM ONE.

3. KIMICHE'S STATEMENT THAT HE HOPED THE NEGOTIATIONS WOULD RESULT IN SOMETHING 'A STEP AWAY FROM' A PEACE TREATY, MAY REPRESENT A WELCOME LOWERING OF ISRAELI SIGHTS. ON THE OTHER HAND, A NEW MEMBER OF THE US EMBASSY TOLD ME (PLEASE PROTECT) THAT THE ISRAELIS HAD SAID THAT THEY WOULD NOT EVEN CONTEMPLATE AN INITIAL WITHDRAWAL UNTIL THE PALESTINIANS WERE OUT OF THE LEBANON.

4. I AM SEEING THE ACTING SECRETARY-GENERAL IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON 31 DECEMBER, AFTER THE KIRYAR SHIMOUNA MEETING FOR A TOUR D'HORIZON.

FCO PASS SAVING ADDRESSEES

ROBERTS ~~REPEATED~~ SAVING AS REQUESTED

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