

CONFIDENTIAL

GR 220

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM TEL AVIV 081355Z MAR 83

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELNO 84 OF 8 MARCH 1983

INFO PRIORITY BEIRUT, WASHINGTON, AMMAN, DAMASCUS AND MODUK.

MY TELEGRAMS NOS 81 AND 82: ISRAEL/LEBANON

1. IT HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED THAT THE ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER IS TO VISIT WASHINGTON SHORTLY.

2. THE MINISTER/COUNSELLOR AT THE US EMBASSY TOLD US TODAY THAT SHAMIR WAS LIKELY TO LEAVE HERE ON 11 MARCH, WITH TALKS WITH THE ADMINISTRATION BEGINNING AFTER THE WEEKEND. IN THE HOPE OF AVOIDING A SITUATION IN WHICH SHAMIR ARRIVED WITH UNREALISTIC AND INFLEXIBLE INSTRUCTIONS, THE AMERICANS WERE TRYING TO ENSURE THAT THE CABINET DID NOT CONSIDER THE COUNTER PROPOSALS WHICH ISRAELI OFFICIALS WERE CURRENTLY DRAFTING AT LEAST UNTIL AFTER THERE HAD BEEN A FIRST ROUND OF TALKS IN WASHINGTON.

3. FLATEN DESCRIBED THE VISIT AS A FIRST SUCCESS FOR THE NEW ISRAELI MINISTER OF DEFENCE, WHOSE IDEA IT WAS. HE WANTED SHAMIR TO BE EXPOSED TO DIRECT HIGH LEVEL AMERICAN PRESSURE RATHER THAN ARENS HIMSELF HAVING TO ARGUE THE CASE FOR MODERATION IN MINISTERIAL DISCUSSIONS HERE.

4. FLATEN SUGGESTED THAT WE SHOULD SEE RECENT FLUCTUATIONS IN THE ISRAELI POSITION IN TERMS OF TWO STEPS FORWARD ONE STEP BACK. AS ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS, HE WAS FULL OF PRAISE FOR KIMCHE'S ROLE IN THE ISRAEL/LEBANON NEGOTIATIONS. KIMCHE WAS GOING FLAT OUT FOR A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME. HE WAS TAKING CONSIDERABLE PERSONAL RISKS IN THE PROCESS, AND HAD NOT BEEN DETERRED BY GEBUKES FOR HAVING MORE THAN ONCE EXCEEDED HIS INSTRUCTIONS BY A FAIRLY WIDE MARGIN.

5. FCO: PLEASE ADVANCE TO NENAD.

MOBERLY

ADVANCED AS REQUESTED

MIDDLE EAST

STANDARD

NENAD	MAED
MED	ESSD
NAD	ERD
SAD	ESID
UND	CONS D
EESD	CONS EM UNIT
ECD	MR EGERTON
WED	MR THOMAS
RID	MR HAYES
SEC D	CABINET OFFICE

ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION

ARAB/ISRAEL DISPUTE

CONFIDENTIAL