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FROM TEL AVIV 130805Z JUN 83

TO PRIORITY MODUK

TELNO U2G 130805Z JUN 83

AND TO PRIORITY FCO.

MODUK FOR DI4

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1. IT HAS BEEN A BAD WEEKEND FOR IDF IN LEBANON. A SPATE OF ATTACKS HAS RESULTED IN THREE KILLED AND TWO WOUNDED.
2. PUBLIC CONCERN ABOUT IDF CASUALTIES IS GROWING AND TODAYS JERUSALEM POST REPORTS PGESSURE WITHIN CABINET FOR AN EARLY MILITARY REDEPLOYMENT IN LEBANON. ON SUNDAY THE PRESS REPORTED THAT ISRAEL WOULD APPLY A 3 WEEK DEADLINE FOR A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN SYRIAN ATTITUDE TO THE ISRAELI/LEBANESE AGREEMENT. IF THIS CHANGE IS NOT FORTHCOMING ISRAEL WOULD CONSIDER, IN CONJUNCTION WITH U.S. AND LEBANON, A UNILATERAL WITHDRAWAL. THIS IS THE FIRST OCCASION THAT THE ISRAELIS HAVE MENTIONED A TIME LIMIT.
3. AS REPORTED PREVIOUSLY, THE IDF HAS GIVEN UP OR LOST THE MILITARY INITIATIVE IN LEBNON AND HAS BEEN SUCKED INTO PRECISELY THE SORT OF ATTRITION SITUATION THEY HAVE BEEN DESPARATELY TRYING TO AVOID. IT REMAINS DIFFICULT TO SEE AN EASY WAY OUT FOR THEM.

MOBERLY

MIDDLE EAST

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