

MIDDLE EAST: ADVANCE COPIES 16

PS/MR LUCE
PS/PUS
SIR J LEAHY
MR EGERTON.
SIR J BULLARD
HD/NENAD
HD/MED
HD/UND



NO 10 DOWNING STREET
CABINET OFFICE D10

HD/... ..

HD/CONSULAR DEPT

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RESIDENT CLERK

IMMEDIATE

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CONFIDENTIAL

FM WASHINGTON 212350Z JUN 83

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1711 OF 21 JUNE

INFOR PRIORITY BEIRUT DAMASCUS TEL AVIV ROUTINE CARIO AMMAN JEDDA
ROME PARIS UKMIS NEW YORK MOSCOW MODUK

ISRAEL/LEBANON

1. DESPITE ISRAELI ASSURANCES THAT IT WAS NOT ON HIS AGENDA, PARTIAL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL WAS THE FIRST SUBJECT KIMCHE RAISED WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT LAST WEEK. HE GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THIS WAS A MATTER OF URGENCY, BY IMPLICATION BECAUSE OF DOMESTIC POLITICAL PRESSURE, THOUGH HE ADMITTED THAT IT WOULD NOT SOLVE THE PROBLEM OF CONTINUING IDF CASUALTIES. HE SUGGESTED THAT PARTIAL WITHDRAWAL MIGHT BE PRESENTED AS THE FIRST STAGE IN IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ISRAEL/LEBANON AGREEMENT, INSTRUMENTS OF RATIFICATION HAVING FIRST BEEN EXCHANGED, AND THAT AFTER THE TWELVE WEEK PERIOD FORESEEN IN THE AGREEMENT FOR THE COMPLETION OF ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL HAD ELAPSED, IT MIGHT SIMPLY BE ANNOUNCED THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT HAD BEEN SUSPENDED. THE STATE DEPARTMENT REGARD THIS PROPOSAL, WHICH DID NOT APPEAR TO BE WELL THOUGHT OUT, AS UNREALISTIC.

2. THE STATE DEPARTMENT BELIEVE THAT THE ISRAELI CABINET HAS NOT

~~THIS PROPOSAL, WHICH DID NOT APPEAR TO BE WELL THOUGHT OUT, AS UNREALISTIC.~~

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2. THE STATE DEPARTMENT BELIEVE THAT THE ISRAELI CABINET HAS NOT YET CONSIDERED PARTIAL WITHDRAWAL. BUT ISRAELI MILITARY PLANNERS ARE ACTIVELY EXAMINING VARIOUS OPTIONS AND THE AMERICANS HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THE ISRAELIS REGARD KIMCHE'S TALKS IN WASHINGTON LAST WEEK AS BEGINNING THE CONSULTATIONS THEY HAVE PROMISED. THEY REMAIN CONFIDENT THAT THERE WILL BE NO SURPRISE MOVES AND THAT THE ISRAELIS WILL CONSULT FULLY WITH THEM AND THE LEBANESE BEFORE WITHDRAWING.

3. MEANWHILE, KHADDAM HAS ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE AN INVITATION EXTENDED LATE LAST WEEK TO VISIT WASHINGTON, THOUGH AT SUCH VERY SHORT NOTICE HE COULD NOT ACCEPT THE PROPOSED DATES OF 20/21 JUNE.

4. PRESIDENT GEMAYEL IS TO VISIT WASHINGTON ON 22 JULY. THE STATE DEPARTMENT SAY THAT THIS IS A LEBANESE INITIATIVE THOUGH THEY HAD IT IN MIND TO INVITE HIM TO BALANCE BEGIN'S VISIT, NOW ARRANGED FOR 27/29 JULY.

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