

CONFIDENTIAL

October 24, 1983

Dear Margaret:

There is no doubt that the perpetrators of the latest bombings in Beirut have attempted once more to undermine our collective will and sense of purpose as we work to support the legitimate government of Lebanon in its efforts to secure a more stable and peaceful future.

Despite our sorrow at the great loss of life, I want to assure you that the United States remains firmly committed to our joint search for peace and stability in Lebanon. The United States will not be dissuaded by acts of violence committed by those who are seeking to prevent Lebanese political reconciliation and the restoration of Lebanese sovereignty over territory at present controlled by foreign forces.

Our common goals are still attainable; we believe that we can achieve them if we stand united and work closely together in the face of these new provocations.

I believe that our Foreign Ministers should meet to discuss matters concerning the MNF. I have asked Secretary Shultz to call his counterparts in the MNF governments to see if a meeting time and place can be arranged promptly.

Sincerely,

/s/

Ron

CONFIDENTIAL



cc MOD
LPO
CO

tu

10 DOWNING STREET

24 October 1983

From the Private Secretary

Lebanon

I enclose a copy of a message which the Prime Minister has received from President Reagan.

I should be grateful for your advice on whether a reply is necessary and, if so, for a suitable draft.

I am copying this letter and enclosure to Richard Mottram (Ministry of Defence), Janet Lewis-Jones (Lord President's Office) and Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

A. J. COLES

Peter Ricketts, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
LONDON

Mr. Coler
PM has seen
RRB
24.10

October 24, 1983

**PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T 159/83**

CC MASTER
OPS

Dear Prime Minister:

I have been asked to deliver the enclosed message to you from President Reagan, which was received at the Embassy this morning.

Sincerely,

John J. Louis, Jr.
Ambassador

Enclosure:

CONFIDENTIAL

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, M. P.,
Prime Minister,
Downing Street,
London.

OUT TELEGRAM

	Classification and Caveats CONFIDENTIAL	Precedence/Deskby IMMEDIATE
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ZCZC
GRS
CLASS
CAVEATS
DESKBY
FM FCO
PRE/ADD
TEL NO

1 ZCZC
2 GRS
3 CONFIDENTIAL
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6 FM FCO 241530Z OCT 83
7 TO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON
8 TELEGRAM NUMBER
9 REPEATED INFORMATION IMMEDIATE PARIS, ROME, BEIRUT, DAMASCUS
10 PRIORITY TEL AVIV, AMMAN, CAIRO, TUNIS, JEDDA, UKMIS NEW YORK
11 LEBANON/MNF: MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT REAGAN
12 1. US Embassy delivered the following message to the Prime
13 Minister from President Reagan today, 24 October: begins -
14 Dear Margaret, There is no doubt that the perpetrators of the
15 latest bombings in Beirut have attempted once more to undermine
16 our collective will and sense of purpose as we work to support the
17 legitimate government of Lebanon in its efforts to secure a more
18 stable and peaceful future.
19 Despite our sorrow at the great loss of life, I want to assure
20 you that the United States remains firmly committed. The United
21 States will not be dissuaded by acts of violence committed by
22 those who are seeking to prevent Lebanese political reconciliation
23 and the restoration of Lebanese sovereignty over territory at
24 present controlled by foreign forces.
25 Our common goals are still attainable: we believe that we can

Prime Minister

See overleaf.

AR 25/6

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NNNN ends telegram	BLANK	Catchword achieve
File number	Dept NENAD	Distribution Lebanon MNF
Drafted by (Block capitals) E G M CHAPLIN		
Telephone number 233 4856		
Authorised for despatch		
Comcen reference	Time of despatch	

OUT TELEGRAM (CONT)

Classification and Caveats	IMMEDIATE	Page
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the face of these new provocations.
I believe that our Foreign Ministers should meet to discuss
matters concerning the MNF. I have asked Secretary Shultz
to call his counterparts in the MNF governments to see if a
meeting time and place can be arranged promptly. Sincerely,
Ron.
ENDS
2. Please pass the following reply from the Prime Minister:
BEGINS
Dear Ron, Thank you for your message of 24 October.
3. I entirely agree that we should not let the outrageous
attacks on the Multinational Force deflect us from our efforts
to help restore peace and stability in Lebanon. We have said
so publicly.
4. Geoffrey Howe is ready to attend a meeting of MNF Foreign
Ministers as soon as one can be arranged. I understand that
plans are now being made for a meeting in Paris on 27 October.
5. We need to consider not only the future of the MNF but
also how we can push forward the process of reconciliation,
which is the only basis for long-term stability in that country.
ENDS
HOWE
NNNN

This was not the objection

*with best wishes
Yours ever
Rogent.*

~~TOP~~

NNNN ends telegram	BLANK	Catchword
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