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FROM COMMCEN HSP
TO MODUK

CONFIDENTIAL UK COMMS ONLY
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GRS 150
CONFIDENTIAL
FROM DAMASCUS 051320Z DEC
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 396 OF 5 DECEMBER 1983
INFO IMMEDIATE MODUK (DI4DELN KUWAIT (FOR PS/MR LUCE), BEIRUT,
ATHENS (FOR S OF S PARTY)
INFO ROUTINE WASHINGTON, PARIS, ROME, TEL AVIV

BEIRUT TELNO 692: FIRING AT BRITFORLEB

1. MR LUCE SPOKE TO JUMBLATT BY TELEPHONE THIS MORNING AND, INTERALIA (LAST WORD UNDERLINED), MENTIONED THE INCIDENT REPORTED IN TUR, SAYING THAT THE FIRING APPEARED TO EMANATE FROM PSP CONTROLLED AREAS. IN THE LIGHT OF JUMBLATT'S POSITIVE COMMENTS ABOUT BRITFORLEB DURING THEIR MEETING ON 28 NOVEMBER, MR LUCE ASKED HIM TO DO ALL HE COULD TO ENSURE THAT THIS SORT OF INCIDENT WAS NOT REPEATED.
2. WITHOUT ACKNOWLEDGING ANY PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF THE INCIDENT, JUMBLATT REGRETTED THAT BRITFORLEB SHOULD HAVE BEEN FIRED ON AND UNDERTOOK TO DO WHAT HE COULD, BUT WARNED THAT THE SITUATION ON THE GROUND AROUND BEIRUT WAS VERY CONFUSED AND LINES OF COMMUNICATION WERE UNRELIABLE.
3. I HOPE TO SEE JUMBLATT IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS AND SHAFI MAKE THE POINT AGAIN.

LUCAS

BT

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