



10 DOWNING STREET

File 1/10
cc Coeline
me by goodchild

From the Private Secretary

12 December 1983

VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE LEBANON

The Prime Minister has considered the arrangements for this visit.

She understands that President Gemayel will be seeing the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary at 1145 on Wednesday, 14 December and that it is Sir Geoffrey Howe's intention to confine the discussion to bilateral issues, avoiding the main questions of the reconciliation process and matters relating to the Multi National Force.

The Prime Minister will receive President Gemayel at 1215. For the talks between then and 1300 hours, she would be grateful if the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary and the Secretary of State for Defence could be present.

The lunch will be a working lunch. The Prime Minister would be grateful if, on our side, the following could attend: the Defence Secretary, Mr. Luce (I understand that the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary has another engagement), H.M. Ambassador in Beirut and Sir Anthony Parsons (I shall also be present). You told me that President Gemayel would have with him his Foreign Minister, his Ambassador and two or three others. I should be grateful if you would let me know whom the President wishes to attend the talks at 1215 and whom he wishes to be present at the lunch - in the latter case, up to a maximum of six.

Finally, the Prime Minister believes that there should be a preliminary meeting to decide precisely what questions we should put to President Gemayel and what answers we may expect. The only time when we can arrange such a meeting is at 0915 on Wednesday, 14 December. I hope that it will be possible for all those involved in the talks and/or the lunch with President Gemayel to be present at that meeting.

I am copying this letter to Richard Mottram (MOD)

Peter Ricketts, Esq.,
 Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

CONFIDENTIAL

PRIME MINISTER

AJC
we agreed;
0915 on Wednesday
you will get name!
CR.

VISIT OF THE LEBANESE PRESIDENT

You have agreed to have talks at 1215 on Wednesday,
14 December followed by lunch.

President Gemayel is seeing the Foreign Secretary at
1145. They will discuss bilateral issues and keep off the
main questions of reconciliation and the Multi-National Force.

I suggest that at your talks at 1215 you are accompanied
by the Foreign and Defence Secretaries.

Agree?

The lunch is to be a working lunch. I suggest that on
our side it is attended by the Defence Secretary, Richard Luce
(the Foreign Secretary has another engagement), Mr. Miers
(our Ambassador in Beirut), Tony Parsons and myself.
President Gemayel will have his Foreign Minister, his
Ambassador and two or three others with him. Agree?

A.J.C. Yes not

We need a preparatory meeting
to decide precisely what questions
to put - and what answers
we may expect
not

9 December 1983

leb

LLG 264/5

LUF 004/05

PP F C O

RR ATHENS

GR 80

CONFIDENTIAL

FM BEIRUT 051250Z DEC 83

TO PRIORITY F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 696 OF 5 DECEMBER 1983

INFO ROUTINE ATHENS (FOR SECRETARY OF STATES PARTY)

MY TELNO 689: PRESIDENT GEMAYEL'S TRAVELS

1. I PURSUED THIS AGAIN WITH MAKKAWI TODAY. HE SAID THE PRESIDENT RETURNED THIS MORNING DESPITE CLOSURE OF THE AIRPORT. HE WOULD LET ME KNOW HIS PLANS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

2. I DETECTED A SLIGHT SUGGESTION THAT GEMAYEL MIGHT FIND IT TOO DIFFICULT TO COME TO LONDON. IS THERE ANY CHANCE OF TRYING TO CLINCH THIS VISIT BY NOW OFFERING FIRM DATES TO GEMAYEL?

MIERS

NNNN

let

LG 687/5

00 FCO

PP BEIRUT

GROUPS 50

CONFIDENTIAL

FM ATHENS 051958Z DEC 1983

TO IMMEDIATE F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 730 OF 5TH DECEMBER 1983

INFO PRIORITY BEIRUT

FOLLOWING FOR PRIVATE SECRETARY

BEIRUT TELNO 696 : PRESIDENT GEMAYEL

THE SECRETARY OF STATE DOES NOT WISH TO GO BEYOND TELLING GEMAYEL THAT WE SHALL OF COURSE DO OUR BEST TO RECEIVE HIM APPROPRIATELY IF HE COULD GIVE US AN INDICATION OF WHEN HE WISHES TO COME TO LONDON.

R H O D E S

NNNN

c.c. Mrs. Goodchild



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

5 December, 1983.

Visit by President Gemayel

B/P/1 Thank you for your letter of 1 December to John Coles. The Prime Minister agrees to talks with President Gemayel at 1215 on Wednesday, 14 December, followed by lunch.

David Barclay

P.F. Ricketts, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

NP