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MNF

GRS 180

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FM PARIS 221714Z DEC 83

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1198 OF 22ND DECEMBER

INFO PRIORITY MOSCOW, ROME, WASHINGTON, BEIRUT.

MOSCOW TELNO 1462 AND YOUR TELNO 686: LEBANON/MNF.

1. BONNEFOUS (DIRECTOR MIDDLE EAST) TOLD ME THIS EVENING THAT POLYAKOV, WHOM HE HAD SEEN THIS AFTERNOON, HAD STUCK TO THE RIGID SOVIET LINE THAT A UNIFIL PRESENCE IN BEIRUT WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE, SINCE THE UNIFIL MANDATE DID NOT EXTEND TO LEBANESE INTERNAL AFFAIRS; AND THAT ALL THAT WAS NEEDED TO RESTORE PEACE IN THE LEBANON WAS FOR THE ISRAELIS TO WITHDRAW AND THE LEBANESE PARTIES TO BRING THEIR DISCUSSIONS TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION. BONNEFOUS COMMENTED THAT THE FRENCH WOULD HAVE TO TACKLE THE RUSSIANS AT A MORE IMAGINATIVE LEVEL IF THEY WERE TO GET THEM TO ACCEPT OR EVEN TO UNDERSTAND WHAT WAS BEING PROPOSED, THOUGH HE DID NOT AT PRESENT KNOW HOW THEY WOULD DO THIS. THEY HAD NOT YET HAD ANY FURTHER REACTION FROM GEMAYEL. THE FRENCH WOULD NOW NEED TO REFLECT FURTHER OVER THE HOLIDAYS.

PETRIE

[COPIES SENT TO NO 10 DOWNING ST]

MULTINATIONAL FORCE IN LEBANON (MNF)

LIMITED

NENAD

MED

DEFENCE DEPT

FUSD

NEWS DEPT

UND sov'd

NAD

WED

SED

ECD(E)

FINANCE DEPT

PROTOCOL DEPT

PS

PS/LADY YOUNG

PS/MR LUCE

PS/PUS

SIR J BULLARD

SIR J LEAHY

MR WRIGHT

MR CARTLEDGE

MR MACINNES

MR ADAMS

MR EGERTON

MR JENKINS

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MR GOODALL ) CABINET  
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