

# CONFIDENTIAL

GRS350

CONFIDENTIAL

FM PARIS 071045Z JAN 84

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 12 OF 7 JANUARY

INFO PRIORITY ROME, WASHINGTON, BEIRUT, TEL AVIV, DAMASCUS,  
MODUK, MOSCOW.

YOUR TELNO 4 TO UKMIS NEW YORK AND TELECON MACRAE/NIXON:  
LEBANON

1. ON 6 JANUARY, HEAD OF CHANCERY SOUNDED OUT LUCET, DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR THE MIDDLE EAST AT THE QUAI, ON THE IDEA OF A CONCERTED APPROACH TO THE PARTIES AS A WAY OF SECURING GREATER INVOLVEMENT OF UN FORCES. LUCET NOTED THAT ALL THE MNF COUNTRIES NOW SEEMED TO SHARE THE OBJECTIVE OF SECURING GREATER UN INVOLVEMENT, ADDING THAT THE FRENCH HAD BEEN GLAD TO SEE THAT THE UK HAD NOW SO PUBLICLY NAILED ITS COLOURS TO THIS MAST. HE AVOIDED, HOWEVER, GIVING A DIRECT RESPONSE TO THE IDEA OF A CONCERTED APPROACH TO THE PARTIES, DIVERTING THE CONVERSATION INTO A MORE GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE LEBANESE AND ARAB/ISRAEL PROBLEMS.

2. HE SAID THAT THE FRENCH HAD NOT GIVEN UP HOPE OF PERSUADING THE RUSSIANS TO AGREE TO GREATER UN INVOLVEMENT. IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO SPEAK TO THEM AT A HIGHER LEVEL. LUCET SEEMED TO HINT THAT CHEYSSON MIGHT TACKLE GROMYKO ON THIS SUBJECT IN STOCKHOLM. THE RUSSIANS MIGHT BE BROUGHT TO SEE CERTAIN ADVANTAGES FOR THEMSELVES, SUCH AS REMOVING THE AMERICANS FROM LEBANON, WHICH THEY HAD ALWAYS SAID THEY WANTED, AND ALSO POSSIBLY OBTAINING INVOLVEMENT FOR THEMSELVES IN THE WIDER MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS. IN THIS LATTER CONNECTION, LUCET THOUGHT THE LEBANESE PROBLEM SHOULD BE SEEN IN THE WIDER ARAB/ISRAEL CONTEXT. HE SEEMED RELUCTANT TO EXPAND ON THIS STATEMENT BUT DID NOT DISAGREE WITH THE SUGGESTION THAT THE FRANCO-EGYPTIAN DRAFT SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION MIGHT PROVIDE A BASIS FOR THE KIND OF APPROACH TO WHICH HE HAD REFERRED. HE STRESSED, HOWEVER, THAT CONSIDERABLE PREPARATORY WORK WOULD BE NECESSARY BEFORE THE FRENCH FELT READY TO PLAY THAT CARD.

CONFIDENTIAL

/3. BOUTROS

# CONFIDENTIAL

3. BOUTROS GHALI CALLED ON BOTH MITTERRAND AND CHEYSSON YESTERDAY. HE IS REPORTED TO HAVE DELIVERED A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT MUBARAK BUT NO INFORMATION IS YET AVAILABLE ABOUT ITS CONTENTS.

4. LUCET HAD NO OTHER NEW ELEMENTS TO OFFER WHICH MIGHT BE OF INTEREST IN THE CONTEXT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATES FORTHCOMING VISIT TO THE AREA. HE REMARKED THAT THE FRENCH WERE VERY MUCH GROPING THEIR WAY FORWARD FOR THE NEXT STEP OVER LEBANON, WHICH WAS FAR FROM OBVIOUS.

FRETWELL

[COPIES SENT TO NO 10 DOWNING ST]

MULTINATIONAL FORCE IN LEBANON (MNF)

LIMITED  
NENAD  
MED  
DEFENCE DEPT  
PUSD  
NEWS DEPT  
UND  
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 MACINNES  
MR ADAMS  
MR EGERTON  
MR JENKINS

COPIES TO:

MOD DS11

MR GOODALL )CABINET  
SIR R ARMSTRONG)OFFICE

SIR P MOORE  
BUCKINGHAM PALACE

<sup>2</sup>  
CONFIDENTIAL