

OO BEIRUT

PP ROME

PP DAMASCUS

PP TEL AVIV

GRS 176

CONFIDENTIAL

FM F C O 191230Z FEB 84 CORRECTED VERSION

TO IMMEDIATE BEIRUT

TELEGRAM NUMBER 94 OF 19 FEBRUARY

INFO IMMEDIATE BRITFORLEB

INFO PRIORITY WASHINGTON, PARIS, ROME, DAMASCUS, TEL AVIV.

LEBANON MNF

1. HOOPER, U.S. EMBASSY, TELEPHONED NENAD ON 19 FEBRUARY ON INSTRUCTIONS TO REPORT THE FOLLOWING:

THE PRESIDENT HAD NOW FORMALLY DECIDED THAT THE PHASED REDEPLOYMENT OF U.S. MARINES FROM BEIRUT SHOULD TAKE PLACE AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE AND SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY 15 MARCH AT THE LATEST.

THE AMERICANS HOPE THAT MNF COMMANDERS WOULD CONTINUE TO KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH. THE PRESIDENT HAD DIRECTED THAT PLANNING AND PREPARATIONS FOR ANHANCED TRAINING AND OTHER SUPPORT FOR THE LEBANESE ARMED FORCES SHOULD ALSO PROCEED EXPEDITIOUSLY, BUT FINAL DECISIONS SHOULD DEPEND ON CLARIFICATION OF THE SITUATION.

2. HOOPER COMMENTED THAT THE PURPOSE OF THIS MESSAGE WAS TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THE AMERICANS WERE KEEPING THEIR PARTNERS CLOSELY INFORMED. HE SAID THAT IN HIS PERSONAL VIEW THE MARINES WOULD BE AWAY FROM THE AIRPORT WITHIN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS.

HOWE

[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

PLANNING STAFF

NED

PS:

PS/LADY YOUNG

PS/MR LUCE

PS/PUS

SIR J BULLARD

SIR J LEAHY

SIR W HARDING

MR WRIGHT

MR CARTLEDGE

MR MACINNES

MR ADAMS

MR JENKINS

MR EGERTON

COPIES TO:

MOD DS11

MR GOODALL )CABINET

SIR R ARMSTRONG)OFFICE

SIR P MOORE

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

CONFIDENTIAL