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FROM RIYADH 210930Z FEB 84

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 42 OF 21 FEBRUARY

INFO PRIORITY JEDDA, BEIRUT, DAMASCUS, TEL AVIV, WASHINGTON,
UKMIS NEW YORK.

JEDDA TEL 92
LEBANON

1. I TOOK SIR DAVID ROBERTS TO CALL ON THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION ON 21 FEBRUARY. ALI SHAER SAID THAT THE EIGHT POINTS WERE NOT A SAUDI PLAN: THEY HAD BEEN PREPARED BY THE PEOPLE ROUND GEMAYEL. BUT SAUD AL FAYSAL HAD BEEN VERY UPSET AT THE SYRIAN REJECTION OF THEM AND HAD ASKED THE SYRIANS TO PRODUCE ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS.
2. THE KING HAD ASKED PRINCE ABDULLA TO GO TO DAMASCUS ON 20 FEBRUARY QUOTE TO SEE WHAT HE COULD DO UNQUOTE. SHAER COMMENTED THAT PRINCE ABDULLA HAD PARTICULARLY CLOSE RELATIONS WITH RIFA'AT AL ASSAD ALTHOUGH OF COURSE THE SOLUTION LAY IN THE HANDS OF THE PRESIDENT WITH WHOM PRINCE ABDULLA WOULD BE HAVING A FURTHER MEETING TODAY. THE SAUDIS, SAID SHAER, WANTED TO AVOID A ROW WITH SYRIA OVER LEBANON.

MUR

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MULTINATIONAL FORCE IN LEBANON (MNF)
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DEFENCE DEPT
PUSD
NEWS DEPT
UND
NAD
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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 BERTON

COPIES TO:
MOD DS11
MR GOODALL)CABINET
SIR R ARMSTRONG)OFFICE

SIR P MOORE
BUCKINGHAM PALACE

THIS TELEGRAM
WAS NOT
ADVANCED

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