

ADVANCE COPIES

MIDDLE EAST

PS (2)
PS/MR RENTON
PS/PUS

~~MR BEREK THOMAS~~

MR FERGUSSON

SIR D. MILES.

HD/NENAD

HD/MED

PUSD (2)

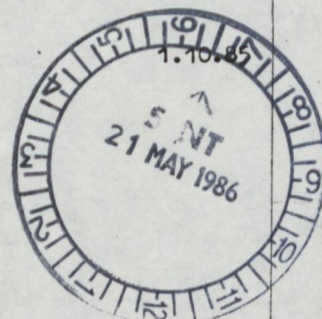
NEWS DEPT

RESIDENT CLERK

PRIME MINISTER'S
15/14
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL NO. T96(hij)/86
NO. 10 DOWNING STREET
CABINET OFFICE DIO

IMMEDIATE

ADVANCE COPY



CONFIDENTIAL

FM CAIRO

TO DESKBY 211600Z FCO

TELNO 341

OF 211511Z MAY 86

INFO IMMEDIATE TEL AMM

INFO PRIORITY AMMAN, WASHINGTON

INFO ROUTINE DAMASCUS, JERUSALEM, RIYADH, UKMIS NEW YORK

MY TELSNO 331 AND 338:

MESSAGE TO THE PRIME MINISTER FROM PRESIDENT MUBARAK

1. FOLLOWING IS ADVANCE TEXT OF MESSAGE DATED 21 MAY FROM PRESIDENT MUBARAK TO MRS THATCHER. ORIGINAL IS TO BE SENT TO US TOMORROW AND WILL BE FORWARDED TO YOU BY BAG:

BEGINS:

DEAR PRIME MINISTER THATCHER,
IN KEEPING WITH THE TRADITION OF MAINTAINING REGULAR EXCHANGES AND CONSULTATION ON MATTERS OF COMMON CONCERN, I DEEMED IT APPROPRIATE TO PUT YOU FULLY IN THE PICTURE WITH RESPECT TO THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS OF THE PEACE EFFORTS AND SHARE WITH YOU SOME THOUGHTS ON HOW BEST TO SERVE THE CAUSE OF PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST IN THE MONTHS AHEAD. AS YOU WILL KNOW, I HIGHLY VALUE YOUR OPINION AND INSIGHT. I AM CERTAIN THAT YOU ARE GENUINELY CONCERNED WITH THE RESTORATION OF SECURITY AND STABILITY IN THIS TROUBLED REGION. YOU FULLY APPRECIATE THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE CONTINUATION OF TENSION AND CONFLICT AT A TIME WHEN EACH AND EVERY NATION SHOULD BE DEVOTING ITS RESOURCES TO CONFRONTING MOUNTING ECONOMIC PROBLEMS AND MAKING OUR WORLD MORE SAFE AND SECURE. WE SHOULD NOT UNDERESTIMATE THE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES OF THE RISE OF EXTREMISM IN AN AREA WHERE DIFFERENT ETHNIC AND RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES HAVE LIVED TOGETHER FOR CENTURIES IN PEACE AND HARMONY.

I AM CONFIDENT THAT YOU AGREE WITH US THAT A JOINT JORDANIAN-PALESTINIAN POSITION IS ESSENTIAL TO THE SUCCESS OF ANY STEPS DESIGNED TO GENERATE MEANINGFUL MOVEMENT. HENCE WE ARE DETERMINED TO PURSUE THE EFFORTS EXERTED IN ORDER TO RECONSTRUCT A COMMON DENOMINATOR IN THE POSITIONS OF JORDAN AND THE PLO. RECENTLY, I HAD LENGTHY TALKS WITH OUR ESTEEMED FRIEND, KING HUSSEIN, AND PLO CHAIRMAN ARAFAT. ALTHOUGH THE GAP BETWEEN THEIR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS STILL EXISTS, BOTH REMAINED OPEN-MINDED AND WILLING TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE IN A POSITIVE SPIRIT.

DISCUSS THE ISSUE IN A POSITIVE SPIRIT.

IN MY OPINION, ISRAEL CAN MAKE A GREAT CONTRIBUTION TO THE CAUSE OF PEACE AT THIS JUNCTION BY RECOGNIZING THE RIGHT OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE TO SELF-DETERMINATION WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF A CONFEDERATION WITH THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN. THIS ARRANGEMENT, REACHED THROUGH THE AGREEMENT OF FEBRUARY 11, 1985, ADEQUATELY ADDRESSED ANY REASONABLE ISRAELI FEARS AND CONCERNS. SINCE THE PLO LEADERSHIP HAS REITERATED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS LATELY THAT THEY ARE STILL BOUND BY THIS AGREEMENT, IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT TO FIND A WAY FOR RECOGNIZING THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE'S QUALIFIED RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION IN EXCHANGE FOR AN UNEQUIVOCAL ACCEPTANCE OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 242 BY THE PLO. IN ALL CANDOR, WE BELIEVE THAT ISRAEL WILL NOT BE TAKING ANY UNDUE RISK BY SO DOING. THEY WOULD BE HELPING BOTH KING HUSSEIN AND THE MODERATE ELEMENTS IN THE PLO REACH AGREEMENT ON A FORMULA THAT IS CERTAIN TO PRODUCE MOVEMENT IN THE WEEKS-AHEAD.

APPARENTLY, SOME ISRAELIS, INCLUDING PRIME MINISTER PERES, THINK THAT THE ONLY PRACTICAL OPTION FOR THE TIME BEING IS TO CONCENTRATE EXCLUSIVELY ON IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE WEST BANK AND THE GAZA STRIP AS A PRELUDE TO EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITY FOR IMPLEMENTING A SYSTEM OF AUTONOMY IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. WE BELIEVE THAT SUCH STEPS WOULD BE POSITIVE AND EFFECTIVE ONLY IF TAKEN WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF BUILDING THE CONFIDENCE THAT IS A PREREQUISITE FOR CONDUCTING THE NEGOTIATIONS. IN OTHER WORDS, THE GOAL SHOULD BE PAVING THE WAY FOR A NEGOTIATED COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT WHICH ADDRESSES ITSELF TO THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM IN ALL ITS ASPECTS AND NOT THE IMPOSITION OF A SYSTEM OF AUTONOMY UNILATERALLY.

WE REALIZE THAT THERE EXIST CERTAIN OBSTACLES ON THE ROAD TO THE PEACE TALKS. HOWEVER, THAT DOES NOT JUSTIFY ABANDONING THE PEACE EFFORTS IN FAVOUR OF AN EASY TEMPORARY ARRANGEMENT. IN THE ABSENCE OF AN OVERALL PLAN THAT COULD BE IMPLEMENTED THROUGH SUCCESSIVE STEPS, ANY MEASURES TAKEN IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES WOULD BE NOTHING BUT A SEDATIVE. THE PALESTINIANS LIVING IN THE WEST BANK AND GAZA WILL NOT MOVE AGAINST THE POLICY OF THE PLO. ATTEMPTS TO FIND A SUBSTITUTE REPRESENTATIVE ORGANIZATION ARE FUTILE. THEY WASTE VALUABLE TIME AND DIVERT OUR ATTENTION FROM THE REAL ISSUE INVOLVED. THEREFORE, WE WOULD BE WELL-ADVISED TO FOCUS ONCE AGAIN ON REVIVING THE PEACE EFFORTS WITHOUT DELAY.

WE HAVE NO DOUBT THAT YOUR ADVICE TO ISRAELI OFFICIALS WILL WEIGH HEAVILY AND CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO STRENGTHENING THE MODERATE AND POSITIVE VOICES ON BOTH SIDES. WE HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU UPON THE COMPLETION OF YOUR VISIT.

WITH BEST WISHES AND WARM REGARDS.

SINCERELY,

MOHAMED HOSNI MUBARAK

ENDS

URWICK

YYYY

CCHPAN 3031

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



الرئيس

The President

May 21, 1986.

Dear Prime Minister Thatcher,

In keeping with the tradition of maintaining regular exchanges and consultation on matters of common concern, I deemed it appropriate to put you fully in the picture with respect to the latest developments of the peace efforts and share with you some thoughts on how best to serve the cause of peace in the Middle East in the months ahead. As you well know, I highly value your opinion and insight. I am certain that you are genuinely concerned with the restoration of security and stability in this troubled region. You fully appreciate the consequences of the continuation of tension and conflict at a time when each and every nation should be devoting its resources to confronting mounting economic problems and making our world more safe and secure. We should not underestimate the serious consequences of the rise of extremism in an area where different ethnic and religious communities have lived together for centuries in peace and harmony.

I am confident that you agree with us that a joint Jordanian-Palestinian position is essential to the success of any steps designed to generate meaningful movement. Hence we are determined to pursue the efforts exerted in order to reconstruct a common denominator in the positions of Jordan and the P.L.O. Recently, I had lengthy talks with our esteemed friend, King Hussein, and P.L.O. Chairman Arafat. Although the gap between their respective positions still exists, both remained open-minded and willing to discuss the issue in a positive spirit.



(2)

In my opinion, Israel can make a great contribution to the cause of peace at this junction by recognizing the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination within the framework of a confederation with the Hashimite Kingdom of Jordan. This arrangement, reached through the Agreement of February 11, 1985, adequately addressed any reasonable Israeli fears and concerns. Since the P.L.O. leadership has reiterated on several occasions lately that they are still bound by this Agreement, it should be possible for the Israeli Government to find a way for recognizing the Palestinian People's qualified right to self-determination in exchange for an unequivocal acceptance of Security Council Resolution 242 by the P.L.O. . In all candor, we believe that Israel will not be taking any undue risk by so doing. They would be helping both King Hussein and the moderate elements in the P.L.O. reach agreement on a formula that is certain to produce movement in the weeks ahead.

Apparently, some Israelis, including Prime Minister Peres, think that the only practical option for the time being is to concentrate exclusively on improving the quality of life in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip as a prelude to exploring the possibility for implementing a system of autonomy in the occupied territories, beginning with Gaza. While we cannot object to any improvement in the quality of life or elimination of Israeli imposed restrictions in the occupied territories, we believe that such steps would be positive and effective only if taken within the framework of building the confidence that is a prerequisite for conducting the negotiations. In other words, the goal should be paving the way for a negotiated comprehensive settlement which addresses itself to the Palestinian problem in all its aspects and not the

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



الرئيس

The President

(3)

imposition of a system of autonomy unilaterally. We realize that there exist certain obstacles on the road to the peace talks. However, that does not justify abandoning the peace efforts in favor of an easy temporary arrangement. In the absence of an overall plan that could be implemented through successive steps, any measures taken in the occupied territories would be nothing but a sedative. The Palestinians living in the West Bank and Gaza will not move against the policy of the P.L.O. • Attempts to find a substitute representative organization are futile. They waste valuable time and divert our attention from the real issue involved. Therefore, we would be well-advised to focus once again on reviving the peace efforts without delay.

I have no doubt that your advice to Israeli officials will weigh heavily and contribute significantly to strengthening the voices of moderation and positivity on both sides. I hope to hear from you upon the completion of your visit.

With best wishes and warm regards.

Sincerely,

Mohamed Hosni Mubarak

Honorable Margaret Thatcher
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.