



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

28 July 1982

Prime Minister

Agree that an F./C.O. Minister,  
rather than you yourself, should  
receive the delegation?

Yes  
not

Dear John,

A.S.C. 28/7.

Proposed visit by Non-Aligned Movement Delegation

The meeting of Foreign Ministers of the Non-Aligned Movement in Nicosia on 15 - 17 July on the subject of Lebanon set up a nine-man Committee charged with visiting Lebanon and maintaining contact with the Permanent Members of the Security Council with a view to finding a solution to the Lebanese crisis. The members of the Committee are the Foreign Ministers of Cuba, India, Sri Lanka, Benin, Senegal, Guyana, Nicaragua, Yugoslavia and Cyprus.

The Lebanese Government have turned down a request for an early visit by the Committee. We have now received a formal request for the Committee to visit London for talks with the Foreign Secretary and if possible the Prime Minister, as part of a round of visits to the Permanent Members of the Security Council.

The Committee is unwieldy and there is no prospect that its members will make a practical contribution to solving the Lebanese crisis. The Lebanese themselves seem to be holding them at arms length. The Communique from the Non-Aligned meeting (summary enclosed) will presumably form their brief for their Meetings. It takes a hard line against Israel, including a call to the Security Council to impose comprehensive mandatory sanctions.

In the circumstances, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary does not consider that it would be worthwhile for the Prime Minister to see the Committee, even if they managed to assemble most of the Foreign Ministers for a visit to London (which we doubt). If the Prime Minister agrees, we will tell the Cypriots

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that an FCO Minister would be happy to receive the Committee.

*Yours ever,*

*Francis Richards*

(F N Richards)  
Private Secretary

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