

MIDDLE EAST: ADVANCE COPIES #20

6

D/B 021000Z

PS  
PS/MR HURD  
PS/PUS  
~~SIR J LEAHY~~  
MR MOBERLY  
~~SIR J BULLARD~~  
HD/NENAD  
HD/MED  
HD/UND  
HD/SEC DEPT  
HD/... ..

NO 10 DOWNING STREET  
CABINET OFFICE D10

HD/CONSULAR DEPT  
... ..  
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PUSD (2)  
NEWS D  
RESIDENT CLERK

ADVANCE COPY

CONFIDENTIAL

FM BEIRUT 011720Z AUG 82  
TO IMMEDIATE F C O DESKBY 021000Z  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 463 OF 01 AUG  
INFO IMMEDIATE USUAL POSTS AND JEDDA  
INFO SAVING PARIS

IMMEDIATE

ADVANCE COPY

MIPT. LEBANON.

1. WE HEARD ON RADIO BEIRUT TODAY THAT PRESIDENT SARKIS WAS SENDING FOR THE AMBASSADORS OF THE PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL, AND HAD ALREADY SEEN THE AMERICANS AND THE FRENCH. OUR OFFICE WAS CLOSED FOR THE WEEK-END AND THE TELEPHONE AT AABEYH NEVER WORKS. I THEREFORE WENT DOWN TO BA'ABDA TO SEE IF THE PRESIDENT WANTED TO SPEAK TO ME.
2. HE DID. HE HAD SEEN HABIB AND THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR AND THE FRENCH CHARGE', WHOM HE SOMEWHAT DISMISSIVELY DESCRIBED AS 'NEW'. HE COULD NOT FIND THE CHINESE (SEMI COLON) AND THE RUSSIAN WAS INCOMMUNICADO ALTHOUGH THEY KNEW WHERE HE WAS. HE WISHED SIMPLY TO PROTEST TO US AT THE ISRAELI BOMBARDMENT OF WEST BEIRUT. INNOCENT LEBANESE WERE PAYING WITH THEIR LIVES.

BEIRUT. INNOCENT LEBANESE WERE PAYING WITH THEIR LIVES.

3. I PROMISED TO INFORM MY GOVERNMENT WITHOUT DELAY. I ASKED WHETHER THE LEBANON CONTEMPLATED SOME ACTION IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL. SARKIS WAS SURE THAT THEY DID BUT WAS VAGUE.

4. I DO NOT DOUBT THAT THE LEBANESE AUTHORITIES ARE AS APPALLED AS THE REST OF US AT WHAT IS HAPPENING TO WEST BEIRUT. I NEVERTHELESS HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THIS ACTION, HALF HEARTED IN SUBSTANCE AND EXECUTION, WAS MORE FOR THE RECORD THAN DESIGNED TO ACHIEVE ANY DEFINITE RESULT.

ROBERTS...

NNNN

SENT/RECD AT 01/1832 BM/AH

MIDDLE EAST: ADVANCE COPIES 20

PS  
PS/MR HURD  
PS/PUS  
~~SIR J LEAHY~~  
MR MOBERLY  
~~SIR J BULLARD~~  
HD/NENAD  
HD/MED  
HD/UND  
HD/SEC DEPT  
HD/... ..

(6)

D/B 020900Z

NO 10 DOWNING STREET

CABINET OFFICE D10

HD/CONSULAR DEPT

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PUSD (2)  
NEWS D  
RESIDENT CLERK

IMMEDIATE  
ADVANCE COPY

GRS75

ADVANCE COPY

CONFIDENTIAL

FM BEIRUT 011650Z AUG 82  
TO IMMEDIATE F C O DESKBY 020900Z  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 462 OF 01 AUG  
INFO IMMEDIATE USUAL POSTS

MS

MY TELNO. 460: LEBANON.

1. THINGS HAVE EVIDENTLY NOT GONE QUITE AS FAR AS I THOUGHT. THERE IS ANOTHER CEASE-FIRE, NO DOUBT AS PRECARIOUS AS ALL THE OTHERS.
2. PRESIDENT SARKIS (MIFT) TOLD ME THIS EVENING THAT HE THOUGHT THE IMMEDIATE ISRAELI AIM WAS TO SEIZE THE PALESTINIAN CAMPS WITH ALL THEIR UNDERGROUND SUPPLIES. THIS WOULD REDUCE THE PALESTINIANS TO IMPOTENCE.
3. HE CONFIRMED THAT THE ISRAELIS HAD ADVANCED TO OUZAI AND THOUGHT THEY HAD MADE SOME ADVANCE IN THE MUSEUM SECTOR.

ROBERTS...