

MIDDLE EAST: ADVANCE COPIES 16

Refused
10/9

PS
PS/MR LUCE
PS/FUS
SIR J LEAHY
MR ~~ESBERTON~~
SIR J BULLARD
ED/NENAD
ED/ED
ED/UND

NO 10 DOWNING STREET
CABINET OFFICE D10

ED/... ..

ADVANCE COPY

ED/CONSULAR DEPT

IMMEDIATE

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NEWS D
RESIDENT CLERK

GRS 250

UNCLASSIFIED

FM WASHINGTON 092111Z SEP 83

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 2532 OF 9 SEPTEMBER

INFO IMMEDIATE BEIRUT, ROUTINE MODUK, BRITFORLEB, PARIS, ROME,
UKMIS, NEW YORK, DAMASCUS, TEL AVIV, JEDDA, AMMAN AND CAIRO

MIPT : LEBANON

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT STATEMENT:

BEGINS

DURING THE RECENT, BITTER AND TRAGIC FACTIONAL FIGHTING THAT HAS ERUPTED BETWEEN CHRISTIAN AND DRUZE MILITIAS IN LEBANON, INNOCENT CIVILIAN LIVES ARE NEEDLESSLY BEING TAKEN IN TERRIBLE ACTS OF VENGEANCE. DRUZE AND CHRISTIAN ALIKE HAVE FALLEN VICTIM AND ARE EQUALLY THREATENED.

WE CONDEMN THE SENSELESS LOSS OF LIFE. IT CAN ONLY SERVE TO AGGRAVATE THE BITTERNESS AND HATRED THAT ALREADY EXISTS. LEBANON HAS ENDURED TOO MUCH BLOODSHED THROUGH THE MANY YEARS OF FIGHTING. FURTHER BLOODSHED CAN IN NO WAY SERVE THE CAUSE OF PEACE AND NATIONAL HARMONY AND IS A BLIGHT ON HUMANITY.

THE UNITED STATES CALLS FOR AN IMMEDIATE CEASE-FIRE AND WE APPEAL TO ALL THOSE INVOLVED IN THE FIGHTING TO RESPECT HUMAN LIFE AND ALLEVIATE THE SUFFERING THAT WAR HAS BROUGHT. NOTHING GOOD CAN COME OF INDISCRIMINATE KILLING, REGARDLESS OF ITS PERPETRATORS OR ITS VICTIMS. LEBANON OWES IT TO ITSELF TO TURN A NEW PAGE IN ITS TRAGIC HISTORY SO THAT PEACE AND HUMAN DECENCY CAN PREVAIL.

ENDS

WRIGHT