

CONFIDENTIAL

October 24, 1983

Dear Margaret:

There is no doubt that the perpetrators of the latest bombings in Beirut have attempted once more to undermine our collective will and sense of purpose as we work to support the legitimate government of Lebanon in its efforts to secure a more stable and peaceful future.

Despite our sorrow at the great loss of life, I want to assure you that the United States remains firmly committed to our joint search for peace and stability in Lebanon. The United States will not be dissuaded by acts of violence committed by those who are seeking to prevent Lebanese political reconciliation and the restoration of Lebanese sovereignty over territory at present controlled by foreign forces.

Our common goals are still attainable; we believe that we can achieve them if we stand united and work closely together in the face of these new provocations.

I believe that our Foreign Ministers should meet to discuss matters concerning the MNF. I have asked Secretary Shultz to call his counterparts in the MNF governments to see if a meeting time and place can be arranged promptly.

Sincerely,

/s/

Ron

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