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FM BEIRUT 051145Z DEC 83
TO IMMEDIATE F C O
TELEGRAM NUMBER 694 OF 5 DECEMBER 1983
INFO PRIORITY DAMASCUS, TEL AVIV, PARIS AND ROME

MY TELNO 692: FIRING AT BRITFORLEB

1. WE SPOKE LATER ON 3 DECEMBER TO MOHSEN DALLOUL, (VICE PRESIDENT PSP) HE INSISTED PSP COULD NOT KNOWINGLY HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE: "WE REGARD YOU AS FRIENDS. I SHALL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO INVESTIGATE THIS."

2. MEANWHILE BEIRUT PRESS ON 4 DECEMBER REPORTED NABIH BERRI, LEADER OF AMAL, AS SAYING (IN THE CONTEXT OF AMAL'S LACK OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR ESCALATION IN SOUTH BEIRUT), "THE MNF, IN PARTICULAR THE BRITISH CONTINGENT, WHICH HAS PRESENTED EVIDENCE TO THE CEASEFIRE COMMISSION, KNOWS VERY WELL WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR STARTING BOMBARDMENTS IN THE SOUTHERN SUBURBS". THIS WAS A HELPFUL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF BRITFORLEB'S ROLE AS NEUTRAL REFEREE. (THE REMARKS SEEM TO HAVE BEEN MADE AFTER OUR TALK WITH BERRI ON 3 DECEMBER.)

MIERS

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