

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Digital Library Collections

This is a PDF of a folder from our textual collections.

Collection: Executive Secretariat, NSC: Cable Files
Folder: Lebanon Situation 07/27/1982 (4)
Box: 81

To see more digitized collections visit:

<https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/archives/digitized-textual-material>

To see all Ronald Reagan Presidential Library inventories visit:

<https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/archives/white-house-inventories>

Contact a reference archivist at: **reagan.library@nara.gov**

Citation Guidelines: <https://reaganlibrary.gov/archives/research-support/citation-guide>

National Archives Catalogue: <https://catalog.archives.gov/>

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT, NSC: CABLE FILE

Withdrawer

KDB 6/8/2017

File Folder LEBANON SITUATION (07/27/1982) (4)

FOIA

F03-012/3

Box Number 81

SKINNER

8114

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
200655	CABLE	271805Z JUL 82	5	7/27/1982	B1
200656	CABLE	USUN NEW YORK 2085	2	7/27/1982	B1
200657	CABLE	272346Z JUL 82	2	7/27/1982	B1
	D	6/8/2017	CREST NLR-767-81-14-3-3		
200658	CABLE	280008Z JUL 82	2	7/28/1982	B1
200659	CABLE	272311Z JUL 82	1	7/27/1982	B1
200660	CABLE	STATE 209056	2	7/27/1982	B1

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]

B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]

B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]

B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]

B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]

B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

1
SENSITIVE

PAGE 1 - 688

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 08/12/82//224

SITUATION: LEB
SUBJECT CATEGORY: SIT XII

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

MESSAGE:

EHA502
OO RUEADWW
DE RUEHTV #1376/01 2082334
ZNR UUUUU ZZH ZZK
O 272324Z JUL 82
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO RUEHFO/USINFO WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7044
RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM NIACT IMMEDIATE 5511
RUEHIA/USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1316
RUEADWW/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEADWW/WHITEHOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE 3108
RUEHAM/AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE 9972
RUEHJI/AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE 5699
RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE 7084
RUEHCX/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE 0378
BT
UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 05 TEL AVIV 11376
USICA
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PLEASE PASS AMB HABIB AND AMB LEWIS
DEPARTMENT FOR PA AND PA/PRESS
NSC FOR WILLIAM CLARK
WHITEHOUSE FOR LARRY SPEAKES
USICA FOR PGM DIRECTOR, NEA, PGM/RC, PGM/P, PGM/FW
USINFO FOR PGM/PPN, VOA NEWS/CA
E.O. 12065: N/A
SUBJECT: CODEL RAHALL PRESS CONFERENCE IN JERUSALEM,
JULY 27, 1982
1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF CODEL RAHALL PRESS CONFERENCE
HELD AT KING DAVID HOTEL IN JERUSALEM, JULY 27.
RAHALL: LET'S GO AHEAD AND GET STARTED. I'M CONGRESSMAN
NICK RAHALL. ON MY RIGHT IS CONGRESSMAN LEVITAS FROM
GEORGIA, AND ON MY LEFT IS CONGRESSWOMAN MARY ROSE OAKER
FROM CLEVELAND. THERE MAY BE OTHER MEMBERS OF OUR DELEGA-
TION THAT WILL JOIN US DURING THIS CONFERENCE, BUT WE WILL
GO AHEAD AND GET STARTED. AS CHAIRMAN OF THIS CONGRESSION-
AL DELEGATION TO THE MIDDLE EAST, WE HAVE BEEN AUTHORIZED
BY THE SPEAKER, AND OUR PURPOSE IS TO BE ON AN OBJECTIVE
FACT-FINDING MISSION TO MANY COUNTRIES IN THIS PART OF THE
WORLD. OUR PURPOSE IS TO SEE FOR OURSELVES, FIRST-HAND,
WHAT HAS OCCURRED IN LEBANON, AND TO TALK FIRST-HAND WITH
ALL PARTIES CONCERNED, THAT MAY HAVE AN INFLUENCE UPON
EVENTS IN THAT COUNTRY. WE ARE IN FULL SUPPORT OF THE

SENSITIVE

2
SENSITIVE

PAGE 1 - 689

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 08/12/82//224

SITUATION: LEB
SUBJECT CATAGORY: SIT XII

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

PEACEFUL EFFORTS THAT ARE UNDERWAY BY OUR AMBASSADOR PHILIP HABIB TO SECURE THE PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THE SITUATION IN WEST BEIRUT. INDEED, WE MET TODAY WITH AMBASSADOR PHILIP HABIB IN THE CONSUL GENERAL'S RESIDENCE. WE HAVE BEEN THUS FAR ON THIS TRIP TO THE COUNTRY OF SYRIA, WHERE WE HAVE MET WITH THE CHAIRMAN OF THEIR FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE. WE HAVE MET WITH THEIR MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS MR. KHADDAM AND WE HAVE MET FOR NEARLY THREE HOURS WITH THEIR PRESIDENT, PRESIDENT ASSAD. FOLLOWING OUR VISIT IN DAMASCUS, WE THEN TRAVELED A NORTHERN ROUTE INTO LEBANON COMING IN ON THE NORTHERN BORDER, DOWN THE COAST, THROUGH TRIPOLI, JUNEI, AND INTO BEIRUT. ONCE IN BEIRUT, WE ATTEMPTED TO MEET WITH AS MANY OF THE LEADERS OF THE MANY FACTIONS THAT EXIST WITHIN THAT CITY AS WE COULD. WE MET WITH THE FORMER PRIME MINISTER, SAID SALAM. WE MET WITH AMIN AND BASHIR JUMEIL, WE MET WITH THE FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE COUNTRY OF LEBANON CAMILLE CHAMOUN, WE MET WITH WALID JUMBLATT AND OTHER LEADERS OF THE DRUZE MOVEMENT, AND WE DID MEET WITH CHAIRMAN YASSIR ARAFAT OF THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION. THERE WERE, IN THAT MEETING WITH CHAIRMAN ARAFAT, FIVE MEMBERS OF OUR SIX-MAN DELEGATION. CONGRESSMAN LEVITAS DID NOT ATTEND THAT MEETING. I WILL GIVE A BRIEF SUMMARY OF WHAT OCCURRED AT THAT MEETING, AND THEN WE WILL PROCEED ONTO WHAT WE HAVE SEEN IN SOUTHERN LEBANON ONCE WE LEFT BEIRUT. IN OUR MEETING WITH CHAIRMAN ARAFAT, WE STRESSED TO HIM, AS THREE OF OUR DELEGATION HAD DONE EXACTLY TWO AND A HALF YEARS AGO, A NEED FOR THE PLO TO RECOGNIZE THE STATE OF ISRAEL TO EXIST WITHIN SECURE AND RECOGNIZED BOUNDARIES; THE NEED TO RENOUNCE TERRORISM AS A TACTIC. WE STRESSED TO HIM THE NEED FOR HIM TO SAY EXPLICITLY AND IN CLEAR AND SIMPLE TERMS FOR ALL THE WORLD TO UNDERSTAND THAT HE RECOGNIZES THE RIGHT OF ISRAEL TO EXIST. IN MY OPINION, WE DID NOT SECURE THAT DEFINITE AND SIMPLE AND EXPLICIT RECOGNITION. WE PROCEEDED ON FROM OUR MEETING WITH CHAIRMAN ARAFAT TO BE THE FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO VISIT WEST BEIRUT SINCE THE INVASION BY ISRAELI FORCES SOME FIFTY-TWO TO FIFTY-THREE DAYS AGO. WE SAW MUCH DESTRUCTION, WE SAW SCHOOLS, WE SAW HOSPITALS THAT HAD SUFFERED HEAVY SHELLING AND OFTEN ON MORE THAN ONE OR TWO OCCASIONS. THIS DELEGATION IS VERY MUCH AWARE OF THE POLITICAL FACTIONS THAT EXIST IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND IN THE COUNTRY OF LEBANON. WE ARE VERY MUCH AWARE OF THE POLITICAL NUANCES OF THE MIDDLE EAST AND ARE INFORMED, ALTHOUGH NOT ENTIRELY

SENSITIVE

SENSITIVE

PAGE 1 - 690

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 08/12/82//224

SITUATION: LEB
SUBJECT CATAGORY: SIT XII

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

EXPERTS. WE RECOGNIZE THE FACT THAT STATEMENTS
MADE BY VARIOUS PARTIES AND BY THE VARIOUS FACTION
LEADERS WITH WHOM WE HAVE MET HAVE TO BE CONFIRMED
BY OTHER SOURCES AND THROUGH OTHER PARTIES ALSO.
BUT WE CAN SAY THAT OUR MEETINGS HAVE BEEN OBJECTIVE,
WE HAVE ATTEMPTED TO ASK QUESTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN
ON OUR CHESTS FOR SOME TIME. WE HAVE SOUGHT ANSWERS
BT
#1376
NNNN

SENSITIVE

4
SENSITIVE

PAGE 1 - 685

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 08/12/82//224

SITUATION: LEB
SUBJECT CATEGORY: SIT XII

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

MESSAGE:

EHA503
DD RUEADWW
DE RUEHTV #1376/02 2082342
ZNR UUUUU ZZH ZZK
O 272324Z JUL 82
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO RUEHFO/USINFO WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7045
RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM NIACT IMMEDIATE 5512
RUEHIA/USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1317
RUEADWW/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEADWW/WHITEHOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE 3109
RUEHAM/AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE 9973
RUEHJI/AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE 5700
RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE 7085
RUEHCX/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE 0379

BT

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 05 TEL AVIV 11376
FROM ALL SIDES. FROM OUR VISIT WITH CHAIRMAN
ARAFAT, AND FROM OUR VIEWING OF THE MASSIVE
DESTRUCTION THAT HAS OCCURED IN WEST BEIRUT, WHERE,
I MIGHT ADD, WE ALSO VIEWED SOME OF THE SHELLING
AND SOME OF THE ACTUAL FRAGMENTS OF THOSE SHELLS
THAT HAVE BEEN LEFT ON THE GROUND, IN WHICH WE DID
SEE CLUSTER BOMBS, SOME EVEN NON-DETONATED YET,
IN WHICH THE AMERICAN INSIGNIA EITHER THE US AIR
FORCE OR THE US NAVY WERE CLEARLY MARKED ON THOSE
EXPENDED SHELLS. FROM BEIRUT, WE TRAVELED, UNDER
THE GUIDANCE AND WITH THE FULL SUPPORT OF THE
LEBANESE CIVIL DEFENSE FORCES. WE
ALSO HAD SUPPORT FROM AMERICAN EMBASSY PERSONNEL.
WE DROVE SOUTH, THROUGH THE DEVASTATED TOWN OF
DAMOUR, ON INTO SIDON, WHERE WE STOPPED AND
VISITED FURTHER CHURCHES, FURTHER SCHOOLS, RATHER,
HOSPITALS, CENTERS OF LEBANESE POPULATION THAT HAD
BEEN DEVASTATED DURING THE CURRENT WAR. WE ALSO
SAW LEBANESE ARMY BARRACKS AND TALKED WITH THE MAJOR
THERE WHO TOLD US OF THE SURPRISE ATTACK BY ISRAELI
FORCES UPON THAT LEBANESE ARMY BARRACKS.
WE SAW PALESTINIAN CAMPS. WE STOPPED AT SIDON AND
TALKED WITH MANY OF THE INDIVIDUALS IN THAT CAMP;
WIVES WHO WERE WONDERING JUST WHAT HAD HAPPENED,
AND WERE TELLING US THAT THEIR HUBANDS HAD

SENSITIVE

5
SENSITIVE

PAGE 1 - 686

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 08/12/82//224

SITUATION: LEB
SUBJECT CATAGORY: SIT XII

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

BEEN CAPTURED; AND WIVES THAT WERE TELLING US THAT THEY WERE OFF TO VISIT ISRAEL. THESE WERE CONCERNS, AND THESE WERE THOUGHTS AND IMPRESSIONS THAT WILL BE LASTING IMPRESSIONS ON OUR MINDS. THE WORST DEVASTATION THAT I HAVE EVER SEEN. DESTRUCTION OF THE WORST NATURE, AND INDEED WE WERE TOLD STORIES OF MANY, MANY CIVILIAN CASUALTIES. WE TRAVELED ON ACROSS THE LEBANESE-ISRAELI BORDER AND DROVE ON INTO JERUSALEM, ARRIVING HERE LAST EVENING. TODAY, ON OUR SCHEDULE, WE POSED MANY OF THESE CONCERNS AND QUESTIONS THAT WE HAD ABOUT WHAT WE SAW IN LEBANON TO THE HIGHEST OFFICIALS IN THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT. WE MET WITH PRIME MINISTER BEGIN, WE MET WITH DEFENSE MINISTER SHARON, WE MET WITH FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER SHAMIR, WE MET WITH LABOR PARTY LEADER PERES. WE MET MEMBERS OF THE KNESSET INVOLVED IN THE PEACE NOW MOVEMENT, WE ALSO MET WITH AMBASSADOR HABIB, WE MET WITH PALESTINIAN MAYORS FROM THE WEST BANK, AND ALSO A DOCTOR FROM THE WEST BANK. THESE MEETINGS TODAY -- A FEW OF THEM COULD BE DESCRIBED AS LIVELY INDEED -- LIVELY DISCUSSIONS TOOK PLACE DURING OUR MEETINGS WITH PRIME MINISTER BEGIN AND DEFENSE MINISTER SHARON. THEY WERE MEETINGS IN WHICH WE POSED MANY QUESTIONS. WE GOT ANSWERS, FOR THE MOST PART. ALTHOUGH PHILOSOPHICAL AND POLITICAL DIFFERENCES OF OPINION MAY OCCUR, WE WERE VERY HAPPY THAT THESE OFFICIALS OF THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT DID GREET US IN A VERY WARM AND HOSPITABLE MANNER TODAY. OF COURSE, OUR MEETINGS OF THE LAST COUPLE OF DAYS WERE DISCUSSED, AND WE WERE, AS I SAID, OF SOME DIFFERENCE OF OPINION IN THAT REGARD. BUT I MUST SAY THAT IT IS A VERY HOSPITABLE AND WARM ACT ON THE PART OF THE ISRAELI ,FFICIALS THAT MET WITH US TODAY. FOLLOWING THIS BRIEFING, WE WILL PROCEED ON TO CAIRO, EGYPT, WHERE WE DU HAVE A MEETING WITH PRESIDENT MUBARAK SCHEDULED AT 10:00 IN THE MORNING. FROM EGYPT WE WILL GO ON TO JORDAN, AND SAUDI ARABIA IN AN EFFORT TO TALK WITH ALL PARTIES WHO MAY INFLUENCE THE COURSE OF FUTURE EVENTS IN THE COUNTRY OF LEBANON AND THE MIDDLE EAST. THAT CONCLUDES MY STATEMENT. I'LL CALL UPON CONGRESSMAN LEVITAS FOR A STATEMENT. LEVITAS: THANK YOU. I DON'T HAVE ANY EXTENSIVE STATEMENT TO OFFER AT THIS TIME BY WAY OF UPENING. THE EVENTS UP THE LAST SEVERAL DAYS, OUR DISCUSSIONS, HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY USEFUL. HOWEVER, THAT I HAVE NOT THUS FAR HEARD MUCH OR SEEN MUCH THAT GIVES ME GREAT COMFORT OR OPTIMISM FOR A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THE SITUATION EITHER IN WEST BEIRUT

SENSITIVE

6
SENSITIVE

PAGE 1 - 687

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 08/12/82//224

SITUATION: LEB
SUBJECT CATEGORY: SIT XII

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

OR TOWARDS A MORE COMPREHENSIVE RESOLUTION OF THE PROBLEMS
OF THIS REGION. I AM ENCOURAGED BY REPORTS THAT WE RE-
CEIVED THIS AFTERNOON, HOWEVER, FROM AMBASSADOR PHILIP
HABIB, WITH RESPECT TO HIS MISSION, AND I'M ALSO ENCOURAGED
BY THE FACT THAT THERE IS A VERY STRONG COMMITMENT ON THE
PART OF THE ISRAELI OFFICIALS TO, IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, SEE
A PEACEFUL AND POLITICAL SOLUTION WITH RESPECT TO THE PLO
TERRORISTS STILL IN WEST BEIRUT. THERE ARE MANY, MANY
DIFFICULTIES AHEAD, AND I THINK THAT THE NEXT TWO OR THREE
BT

#1376

NNNN

SENSITIVE

7
SENSITIVE

PAGE 1 - 682

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 08/12/82//224

SITUATION: LEB
SUBJECT CATEGORY: SIT XII

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

MESSAGE:

EHA506
DD RUEADWW
DE RUEHTV #1376/03 2082351
ZNR UUUUU ZZH ZZK
O 272324Z JUL 82
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO RUEHFD/USINFO WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE
RUEHC/SFCSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7046
RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM NIACT IMMEDIATE 5513
RUEHIA/USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1318
RUEADWW/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEADWW/WHITEHOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE 3110
RUEHAM/AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE 9974
RUEHJI/AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE 5701
RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE 7086
RUEHCX/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE 0380

BT

UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 05 TEL AVIV 11376
WEEKS MAY BE DETERMINATIVE. IT IS MY SENSE THAT THE
ISRAELI ATTACK IN LEBANON WAS CLEARLY THE RESULT OF A
NECESSITY, ACTING IN SELF-DEFENSE, TO PROTECT CIVILIAN
POPULATIONS IN ISRAEL AND WAS UNDERTAKEN AFTER MUCH PROVOCATION
AND MANY EFFORTS TO AVOID THAT TYPE OF ACTION. I AM
ALSO CONVINCED THAT THE DEVASTATION WHICH CHAIRMAN RAHALL
MENTIONED IN SOUTH LEBANON AND IN BEIRUT IS NO DOUBT THE
RESULT OF THAT ACTION. AS IN ALL WARS, YOU HAVE THIS TYPE
OF DEVASTATION. ONE THING THAT STRUCK ME IN SOUTH LEBANON,
HOWEVER, WAS A VERY INTERESTING JUXTAPOSITION OF TREMENDOUS
DEVASTATION ON THE ONE HAND, AND THEN IN OTHER AREAS AND
PLACES, HOUSES, OR EVEN VILLAGES, WHICH WERE COMPLETELY
UNTOUCHED AND UNSCATHED. AND PRIME MINISTER BEGIN AND
DEFENSE MINISTER SHARON CONTINUOUSLY EMPHASIZED TO US THE
EXTREME CARE AND EFFORT WHICH WAS MADE BY THE ISRAELI
FORCES TO AVOID CIVILIAN CASUALTIES, EVEN AT THE EXPENSE
OF TAKING ADDITIONAL CASUALTIES BY THE ISRAELI DEFENSE
FORCES. THE FACT THAT CLUSTER BOMBS WERE USED, I THINK,
IS CLEARLY UNDISPUTED AND THAT SOME OF THESE CLUSTER BOMBS
WERE FOUND AND DROPPED IN WEST BEIRUT. WHETHER THEY WERE
DROPPED IN VIOLATION OF ANY AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES,
I THINK, REMAINS TO BE SEEN BY THE INVESTIGATIONS WHICH ARE
NOW UNDERWAY BY OUR GOVERNMENT. AND ONE LAST WORD. I THINK
ALL OF US AGREE THAT ONE CAN'T BE IN AN AREA OF THE WORLD FOR
THREE OR FOUR DAYS AND BECOME EITHER AN

SENSITIVE

SITUATION: LEB
SUBJECT CATEGORY: SIT XII

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

INSTANT EXPERT OR HEAR ONE PIECE OF INFORMATION OR HEAR FROM ONE SIDE OR THE OTHER AND THEREBY MAKE ALL SORTS OF CONCLUSIONS AND JUDGMENTS. IT'S MY INTENTION TO RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES, TO ASSESS ALL OF THE INFORMATION WE HAVE RECEIVED FROM VARIOUS SOURCES AND FROM OTHER SOURCES, AND AS WE PREPARE OUR REPORT TO CONGRESS, AND TO OTHERS IN THE UNITED STATES, TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE VARIOUS FACTORS WHICH HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE EVENTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST. IT IS MY INTEREST THAT DEFINITE MOVES MAY BE MADE TOWARD PEACE, AND THAT THE UNITED STATES PLAY A ROLE AS THE LEADER OF THE FREE WORLD IN BRINGING ABOUT A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEMS THAT AFFECT THIS PART OF THE WORLD, BECAUSE IT IS VITAL TO OUR INTERESTS IN THE UNITED STATES AS WELL AS THE PEOPLE IN THIS REGION AS WELL.

RAHALL: CONGRESSWOMAN OAKAR.

OAKAR: THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN. I HAVE HAD THE INTERESTING AND SOMETIMES DISTRESSING, AND SOMETIMES HOPEFUL EXPERIENCE OF GOING TO EVERY PHASE OF OUR DELEGATION'S MEETINGS, INCLUDING A TOUR, AND I BELIEVE THAT SOME OF US WERE AMONG THE FIRST AMERICANS TO TOUR WEST BEIRUT, ALONG WITH PERSONAL TOURS UNDER THE AUSPICES ONLY OF THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT, AND OUR OWN EMBASSY. WE TOURED THE SOUTH OF LEBANON, AND MET WITH ALL OF THE LEADERS. AND I MUST SAY, ALONG WITH MY COLLEAGUE NICK RAHALL, I, TOO, HAVE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT. THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT THERE WAS A LOT OF LIVES LOST THAT HAD NO PART TO PLAY IN THE VIOLENCE THAT HAS BECOME UNFORTUNATE IN THE MIDDLE EAST: WOMEN AND CHILDREN, INNOCENT MEMBERS, RESIDENTS OF A KIND OF QUASI NURSING HOME HOSPITAL, ETC. AND OF COURSE, IF YOU TALK TO THOSE PEOPLE WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED SIMILAR VIOLENCES IN ISRAEL, THEY CAN LIST A NUMBER OF VERY SIMILAR ATROCITIES. AND MY OWN MESSAGE HAS BEEN THE SAME TO EVERY PERSON THAT I'VE MET WITH. UNFORTUNATELY, TO BE HONEST IT'S NOT PARTICULARLY NEWSWORTHY, AT TIMES, BUT MY MESSAGE HAS BEEN A MESSAGE OF PEACE. I'M CONVINCED THAT THE PEOPLE INVOLVED IN DETERMINING THE LIVES OF THE MILLIONS OF PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN THE MIDDLE EAST ALL LOOK FOR MILITARY SOLUTIONS. AND I WAS EXTRAORDINARILY CONVINCED OF THAT AFTER MY MEETING WITH DEFENSE MINISTER SHARON. MY MESSAGE TO PRIME MINISTER BEGIN WHICH WAS VERY SIMILAR TO MY MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT ASSAD, CHAIRMAN ARAFAT, MEMBERS OF THE VARIOUS MILITIAS IN LEBANON, PRESIDENT SARKIS, AND THE VARIETIES OF LEADERS THAT WE HAVE MET TODAY IN ISRAEL IS VERY, VERY SIMPLE. IT MUST BE VERY, VERY DIFFICULT TO FORGET THE PAST. EACH OF YOU COULD LIST NUMEROUS HOSTS OF LIVES

9
SENSITIVE

PAGE 1 - 684

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 08/12/82//224

SITUATION: LEB
SUBJECT CATEGORY: SIT XII

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

THAT HAVE BEEN LOST DUE TO YOUR CONFLICTS. EACH OF YOU
HAVE MANY, MANY GRIEVANCES. BUT WHAT ABOUT THE FUTURE?
WHAT ABOUT THE CHILDREN WHO WILL NOT HAVE A FATHER
BECAUSE THEY HAVE BEEN LOST IN WAR? WHAT ABOUT YOUR
CONCERN NOT ONLY FOR YOUR OWN ETHNIC IDENTIFICATION,
BUT FOR OTHERS WHO WERE OTHER INNOCENT VICTIMS, WHO WERE
LOST, WHETHER THEY BE PALESTINIAN, ISRAELI, SYRIAN,
BT
#1376
NNNN

SENSITIVE

SENSITIVE

PAGE 1 - 676

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 08/12/82//224

SITUATION: LEB
SUBJECT CATEGORY: SIT XII

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

MESSAGE:

EHA507
OO RUEADWW
DE RUEHTV #1376/04 2080001
ZNR UUUUU ZZH ZZK
O 272324Z JUL 82
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO RUEHFD/USINFO WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7047
RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM NIACT IMMEDIATE 5514
RUEHIA/USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1319
RUEADWW/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEADWW/WHITEHOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE 3111
RUEHAM/AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE 9975
RUEHJI/AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE 5702
RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE 7087
RUEHCX/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE 0381

BT

UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 05 TEL AVIV 11376
OR THE VARIETIES OF LEBANESE WHO HAVE BEEN LOST. AND I
HONESTLY BELIEVE THAT OUR COUNTRY, IN SUPPLYING WEAPONRY
TO VARIETIES OF NATIONS ACROSS THE WORLD, HAS NOT DONE
THE RIGHT THING. AND OUR COUNTRY IN FAILING TO TELL
OUR ALLIES, AND INDEED OUR ADVERSARIES, WHO HAVE PURCHASED
OUR WEAPONS, WHEN THEY ARE WRONG, I THINK WE ARE REALLY
VERY, VERY WRONG IN NOT CHASTISING THOSE WHO ABUSE OUR
AID. AND QUITE HONESTLY, I WAS EXTRAORDINARILY
DEPRESSED AFTER ALL THE MEETINGS AND SEEING THE ATROCITIES
IN LEBANON AND HEARING OF THE TERRORISM OF THE PLO
ON OCCASION, UNTIL I MET WITH MR. PERES, WHO SEEMED TO HAVE
A MORE REASONABLE APPROACH TO SOLUTIONS AND EMPHASIZED
NEGOTIATION IS NOT A MILITARY SOLUTION. AND UNTIL I
MET WITH THE VERY DISTINGUISHED PARLIAMENTARIAN SHULAMIT
ALONI, AND OF COURSE I AM PLEASED TO SEE WOMEN ARE LEADING
VARIETIES OF PEACE MOVEMENTS HERE AS SOMETIMES WE
TRY TO DO IN AMERICA. AND UNTIL I MET WITH, OUR LAST
MEETING BUT NOT LEAST, TO SAY THE LEAST, THE PEACE NOW
GROUP THAT EXISTS IN ISRAEL. AND I ONLY WISH THAT
PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, AND LEBANESE PEOPLE, AND SYRIAN
PEOPLE, AND INDEED AMERICAN PEOPLE, WOULD JOIN THE
PEACE NOW MOVEMENT PEOPLE IN SEEKING A REASONABLE SOLUTION,
A NON-VIOLENT SOLUTION! I PERSONALLY AM CONVINCED
THAT THAT IS THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE. AND AS I TOLD
PRIME MINISTER BEGIN WHO OF COURSE IS ONE OF THE FEW

SENSITIVE

11
SENSITIVE

PAGE 1 - 677

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 08/12/82//224

SITUATION: LEB
SUBJECT CATEGORY: SIT XII

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

PEOPLE WHO IS STILL ALIVE WHO HAS WON THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE, AND INDEED ALONG WITH PRESIDENT SADAT DESERVED IT WITH RESPECT TO THE EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI AGREEMENT, THAT I LOOK FORWARD TO HIS BEING EQUALLY UNSELFISH AND FORGIVING IN TERMS OF HIS OWN GRIEVANCES, AND TO LOOK TO THE FUTURE NOT ONLY FOR HIS PEOPLE, BUT INDEED THE PEOPLE OF THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY.

RAHALL: CONGRESSMAN MCCLOSKEY

MCCLOSKEY: I HAVE NO DISAGREEMENT AT ALL WITH ANY OF THE DOCUMENTS THAT MY THREE COLLEAGUES HAVE SAID. I WOULD LIKE TO COMMENT JUST BRIEFLY ON THREE SPECIFICS THAT CAME OUT TODAY, TWO OF THEM IN MEETINGS WITH YOUR LEADERS, ONE IN THE RENUNCIATION BY THE PLO SPOKESMAN OF YASSER ARAFAT SAID SPECIFICALLY TO THE THREE OF THE FOUR OF US AND TWO OF OUR COLLEAGUES TWO DAYS AGO. MR. ARAFAT, IN THIS NOW FAMOUS MEETING, SAID NOT ONCE, BUT I THINK ON THREE OCCASIONS THAT HE RECOGNIZED RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338 AND THAT IN RECOGNIZING ALL THE UN RESOLUTIONS THEY OF COURSE WERE INCLUDED. NOW HIS SPOKESMAN HAS DENIED THAT THAT'S WHAT HE INTENDED OR SAID, AND I THINK THAT THAT HAS TO BE ACCEPTED, AND THAT INDICATES THE DIFFICULTIES OF DEALING WITH YASSER ARAFAT AND THE PLO, BECAUSE VERY POSSIBLY HIS CHANGE OF POSITION, OR HIS SPOKESMAN'S POSITION IS PREDICTED ON CONCERN OVER HIS ASSASSINATION BY THE RADICAL ELEMENTS IN THE PLO, I THOUGHT THAT SHIMON PERES' STATEMENT TODAY TO US CONFIRMED THIS. HE SAID THAT THERE WAS NO WAY TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE PLO BECAUSE THE LEADER OF THE PLO HAD TO SPEND ALL OF HIS TIME TRYING TO RECONCILE THESE VARIOUS ELEMENTS WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION. THE SECOND THING THAT MR. PERES SAID THAT STRUCK ME, WAS SOMETHING THAT WE HAVE LONG BEEN CONCERNED WITH IN THE UNITED STATES, THAT PERHAPS THE BEGIN-SHARON POLICY OF BEING CONCERNED WITH EDITORIAL PROTECTION FOR THE SECURITY OF ISRAEL, SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WITHIN THE CONTEXT THAT WITHIN NO MORE THAN TEN YEARS THERE WILL BE OTHER AND MORE DANGEROUS WEAPONS AVAILABLE TO ISRAEL'S ENEMIES, WEAPONS THAT -- CONCERN THE UNITED STATES, FOR EXAMPLE, WE DON'T HAVE SECURITY AGAINST ATOMIC STRIKES EVEN THOUGH WE HAVE TWO OCEANS AND CANADA AND MEXICO ON OUR BORDERS. AND THAT THE CONCERN WITH TERRITORIAL BOUNDARIES OF THE TWENTY OR THIRTY MILES FALLS INTO INSIGNIFICANCE IF ATOMIC WEAPONS COME INTO THE HANDS OF THOSE OF ISRAEL'S ENEMIES. SO THAT THE NEGOTIATION OF THE FIRM AND LASTING PEACE AND A FINAL RESOLUTION OF THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION

SENSITIVE

SENSITIVE

PAGE 1 - 678

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 08/12/82//224

SITUATION: LEB
SUBJECT CATEGORY: SIT XII

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

WITHIN THE NEAR FUTURE, IS PERHAPS AS IMPORTANT TO
ISRAEL'S SECURITY AS PROTECTION AGAINST SHELLING,
AND FINALLY, I'D LIKE TO SAY THAT IT'S MY CONCLUSION THAT
THE ISRAELI INVASION, TO PROTECT ITS NORTHERN CITIES FROM
THE SHELLING BY THE PLO FROM ALL THAT WE HAVE HEARD AND
ALL THAT WE HAVE SEEN IS COMPLETELY JUSTIFIED. I CONTINUE
TO QUESTION THE GOING BEYOND THE FORTY-FIVE KILOMETERS,
BT
#1376
NNNN

SENSITIVE

13
SENSITIVE

PAGE 1 - 668

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 08/12/82//224

SITUATION: LEB
SUBJECT CATEGORY: SIT XII

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

MESSAGE:

EHA508
OO RUEADWW
DE RUEHTV #1376/05 2080010
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 272324Z JUL 82
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO RUEHFD/USINFO WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7048
RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM NIACT IMMEDIATE 5515
RUEHIA/USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1320
RUEADWW/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEADWW/WHITEHOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE 3112
RUEHAM/AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE 9976
RUEHJI/AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE 5703
RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE 7088
RUEHCX/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE 0382

BT

UNCLAS SECTION 05 OF 05 TEL AVIV 11376
AND THE THREAT TO ISRAEL'S NORTHERN CITIES. AND I'M
CONCERNED THAT IN THE ATTACK ON BEIRUT, THE CURRENT USE
PARTICULARLY OF CLUSTER BOMBS IN BEIRUT, WHICH WAS
CONFIRMED TODAY THAT THEY WERE ORDERED BY GENERAL SHARON,
THAT THE USE OF CLUSTER BOMBS VIOLATES A VERY SERIOUS
AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES; THAT CLUSTER BOMBS
WOULD NOT BE USED EXCEPT AGAINST THE REGULAR FORCES OF
MORE THAN TWO NATIONS; THEY WOULD NOT BE USED AGAINST
IRREGULAR TROOPS; AND THEY WOULD NOT BE USED IN CIVILIAN
AREAS, AND THE CONFIRMATION BY GENERAL SHARON TODAY THAT
HE HAD ORDERED THEIR USE IN WEST BEIRUT, IN MY JUDGMENT,
IS GOING TO FORCE THE UNITED STATES INTO A VERY DIFFICULT
POSITION AND WILL DAMAGE THE PREVIOUS SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP
THAT HAS EXISTED BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL.
BECAUSE AS GENERAL SHARON PUT IT TO US TODAY, HE SAID,
I HAVE HIS WORDS PRECISELY THAT: "IN WARTIME YOU HAVE TO
LOOK AT AGREEMENTS THROUGH A LITTLE DIFFERENT EYES".
BUT THIS AGREEMENT WAS DRAWN PRECISELY FOR WARTIME CONDI-
TIONS AND I THINK THE VIOLATION OF THAT AGREEMENT BY
ISRAEL IS GOING TO BE A MATTER OF SERIOUS CONCERN WHEN WE
GET BACK INTO THESE DISCUSSIONS IN THE CONGRESS. THANK
YOU.

RAHALL: PETE, ON THAT QUOTE, I HAVE IT HERE IN FRONT OF
ME, BY GENERAL SHARON, IN REGARD TO THE USE OF CLUSTER
BOMBS IN VIOLATION OF AGREEMENTS WITH THE U.S. "NOT

SENSITIVE

14
SENSITIVE

PAGE 1 - 669

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 08/12/82//224

SITUATION: LEB
SUBJECT CATEGORY: SIT XII

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

EVERYTHING SHOULD BE LOOKED AT THROUGH THE SIGNING OF
FORMAL AGREEMENTS".
(THIS CONCLUDES STATEMENTS MADE BY CODEL RAHALL.
THE SECOND PART OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE COMPRISING Q AND A
WILL BE SENT LATER BY SEPTTEL.)

LEE

BT

#1376

NNNN

SENSITIVE

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT, NSC: CABLE FILE

Withdrawer

KDB 6/8/2017

File Folder

LEBANON SITUATION (07/27/1982) (4)

FOIA

F03-012/3

SKINNER

Box Number

81

8114

<i>ID</i>	<i>Document Type</i> <i>Document Description</i>	<i>No of</i> <i>pages</i>	<i>Doc Date</i>	<i>Restric-</i> <i>tions</i>
200655	CABLE 271805Z JUL 82	5	7/27/1982	B1

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]

B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]

B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]

B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]

B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]

B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT, NSC: CABLE FILE

Withdrawer

KDB 6/8/2017

File Folder

LEBANON SITUATION (07/27/1982) (4)

FOIA

F03-012/3

SKINNER

Box Number

81

8114

<i>ID</i>	<i>Document Type</i> <i>Document Description</i>	<i>No of</i> <i>pages</i>	<i>Doc Date</i>	<i>Restric-</i> <i>tions</i>
200656	CABLE USUN NEW YORK 2085	2	7/27/1982	B1

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]

B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]

B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]

B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]

B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]

B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT, NSC: CABLE FILE

Withdrawer

KDB 6/8/2017

File Folder

LEBANON SITUATION (07/27/1982) (4)

FOIA

F03-012/3

SKINNER

Box Number

81

8114

<i>ID</i>	<i>Document Type</i> <i>Document Description</i>	<i>No of</i> <i>pages</i>	<i>Doc Date</i>	<i>Restric-</i> <i>tions</i>
200657	CABLE 272346Z JUL 82	2	7/27/1982	B1

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]

B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]

B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]

B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]

B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]

B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT, NSC: CABLE FILE

Withdrawer

KDB 6/8/2017

File Folder

LEBANON SITUATION (07/27/1982) (4)

FOIA

F03-012/3

SKINNER

Box Number

81

8114

<i>ID</i>	<i>Document Type</i> <i>Document Description</i>	<i>No of</i> <i>pages</i>	<i>Doc Date</i>	<i>Restric-</i> <i>tions</i>
200658	CABLE 280008Z JUL 82	2	7/28/1982	B1

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]

B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]

B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]

B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]

B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]

B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT, NSC: CABLE FILE

Withdrawer

KDB 6/8/2017

File Folder

LEBANON SITUATION (07/27/1982) (4)

FOIA

F03-012/3

SKINNER

Box Number

81

8114

<i>ID</i>	<i>Document Type</i> <i>Document Description</i>	<i>No of</i> <i>pages</i>	<i>Doc Date</i>	<i>Restric-</i> <i>tions</i>
200659	CABLE 272311Z JUL 82	1	7/27/1982	B1

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

27
SENSITIVE

PAGE 1 - 662

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 08/12/82//224

SITUATION: LEB
SUBJECT CATEGORY: SIT XII

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

MESSAGE:

HCE367
OO RUEHC
DE RUEHC #9024 2090018
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 272257Z JUL 82
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE 0000
RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE 0000
INFO RUEHCX/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE 0000
BT
UNCLAS STATE 209024
PASS AMBASSADOR HABIB
E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: SUPN, LE, IS
SUBJECT: PHILIP GEYELIN ON HABIB AND BECHTEL

1. FOLLOWING ARTICLE BY HILIP GEYELIN APPEARED IN THE
WASHINGTON POST ON JULY 27:

BEGIN TEXT:

TO READ THE MORNING PAPERS AND MONITOR THE NETWORK NEWS
SHOWS SUNDAY WAS TO BE INVITED TO BELIEVE THAT PRESIDENT
REAGAN'S SPECIAL MIDDLE EAST ENVOY PHILIP HABIB IS DIS-
QUALIFIED BY A CRIPPLING CONFLICT OF INTEREST. THE INNU-
ENDO WAS THAT HE WAS SO LACKING IN INTEGRITY AND DIVIDED
IN HIS LOYALTY AS TO BE WILLING TO SELL OUT U.S. INTERESTS
TO ARABS FOR A MESS OF CONSULTANCY FEES FROM THE BECHTEL
GROUP. IN SHORT, YOU WERE INVITED TO BELIEVE THE UN-
BELIEVABLE.

SO WHY WORRY? HABIB'S DISTINGUISHED CAREER AS A PROFESS-
IONAL FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER SPEAKS FOR ITSELF. STILL
MORE SO DOES HIS WILLINGNESS TO EMERGE FROM RETIREMENT
(IN 1978, AFTER SERIOUS HEART TROUBLE) AND TO PLUNGE FOR
THE THIRD TIME INTO WHAT HAS TO BE THE MOST BRUTAL AND
DEMANDING PEACE-MAKING MISSION IN MEMORY. HABIB NEEDS

NO DEFENSE.

THE WORRY IS WHETHER THE MILLIONS OF NEWSPAPER READERS AND
TELEVISION VIEWERS WHO WATCHED WHAT I SAW UNFOLDING SUNDAY
MAY NOT NEED SOME BETTER DEFENSE AGAINST WHAT STRUCK ME
AS NEARLY HYSTERICAL HUNGER FOR IMPROPRIETY. THE POINT IS

SENSITIVE

SITUATION: LEB
SUBJECT CATEGORY: SIT XII

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

EMPHATICALLY NOT WHETHER HABIB'S BECHTEL CONNECTION WAS A FACT WORTH REVEALING (IN THE WASHINGTON POST) AND REPEATING AND EXAMINING AT REGULAR INTERVALS ON ALL THREE NETWORKS, BUT SURELY THE NEXT QUESTION HAS TO BE: WHAT OF IT?

AND TO LEAVE THE EXAMINATION OF THAT QUESTION ALMOST WHOLLY IN THE HANDS OF SEN. LARRY PRESSLER (R-S.D.) WAS TO TRANSFORM A FACT OF ARGUABLE SIGNIFICANCE INTO, LET'S FACE IT, A SMEAR.

WATCH HOW IT SPREAD. IN THE POST'S ACCOUNT, PRESSLER CHARGED THAT HABIB "WILL LOSE ALL HIS CREDIBILITY IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND I THINK IT IS GOING TO IMPAIR THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SECRETARY SHULTZ...THERE ARE TOO MANY PEOPLE FROM BECHTEL IN THIS ADMINISTRATION. THESE INTERNATIONAL CONGLOMERATES HAVE TOO MUCH POWER."

ON THOSE LAST TWO COUNTS, PRESSLER MAY BE RIGHT. WITH SHULTZ, DEFENSE SECRETARY WEINBERGER, AND DEPUTY SECRETARY OF ENERGY DAVIS (ALL FORMER BECHTEL MEN), THE DISCLOSURE OF HABIB'S CONSULTANCY DOES MAKE IT A BIT MUCH. MAYBE THERE SHOULD BE A LAW--AND ONE TO BUST UP CONGLOMERATES, AS WELL. BUT PRESSLER WASN'T RECOMMENDING LAWS. HE WAS SAYING HABIB WOULD NO LONGER BE TRUSTED.

THE POST STORY, WITH PRESSLER STILL THE ONLY INDEPENDENT WITNESS, WAS PICKED UP BY THE WIRE SERVICES AND DISPATCHED TO MORNING PAPERS NATIONWIDE. BY MID-SUNDAY, ABC'S "THIS WEEK" TALK SHOW WAS GIVING PRESSLER ANOTHER SOLO WHACK AT HABIB. CAME TIME FOR THE EVENING NEWS, AND CBS HAD PRESSLER "CHARGING CONFLICT OF INTEREST" AND MOVING FROM JUDGMENT TO PRONOUNCING SENTENCE: "I FEEL STRONGLY THAT HABIB SHOULD RESIGN." A HALF-HOUR LATER, IT WAS NBC, BREAKING THE NEWS THAT THE AMERICAN "PEACE ENVOY" IN THE MIDDLE EAST HAS A SECOND EMPLOYER, BECHTEL, THE CALIFORNIA CONSTRUCTION FIRM THAT DOES BUSINESS WITH ARAB FIRMS," AND PRESSLER WAS BACK AGAIN ON CAMERA.

BUT HE WAS FOLLOWED, FINALLY, BY SEN. JOHN GLENN (D-OHIO) WITH A SECOND OPINION: GLENN WAS "SURPRISED" BUT "NOT MUCH CONCERNED." HE THOUGHT HABIB WAS DOING "A TREMENDOUS JOB." IT BEARS NOTING THAT CARE WAS TAKEN ALL ALONG THE WAY TO SOLICIT A WHITE HOUSE VIEW--STRONGLY SUPPORTIVE

AS YOU MIGHT EXPECT.

SENSITIVE

PAGE 1 - 664

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 08/12/82/1224 29

SITUATION: LEB
SUBJECT CATEGORY: SIT XII

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

BY MONDAY, OTHER INCIDENTALS HAD SURFACED: THAT HABIB WAS ACTUALLY HIRED BY BECHTEL LAST YEAR AS AN ASIAN EXPERT; THAT HE HAD DONE LITTLE OR NOTHING FOR THE FIRM WHILE IN THE COURSE OF HIS TIRELESS MIDEAST ROUNDS. THAT SHULTZ HAD NOT DISCLOSED HABIB'S BECHTEL CONNECTION, THE EXPLANATION WENT, WAS SIMPLY CONSISTENT WITH HIS POINT OF PRINCIPLE CONCERNING HIS OWN--THAT IT WAS NO IMPEDIMENT TO LOYAL PUBLIC SERVICE.

THAT'S THE NUB OF IT; AT SOME POINT THERE HAS TO BE SOME ELEMENT OF TRUST, THE MORE SO WHEN THERE IS THE OVERSIGHT PROVIDED BY PERFORMANCE ON THE JOB. HABIB IS ONLY THE MOST RECENT IN A LONG LINE OF FORMER HIGH OFFICE HOLDERS (CYRUS VANCE, CLARK CLIFFORD, JOHN J. MCCLLOY, FORMER MIDEAST MEDIATOR SOL LINDWITZ) WHO HAVE TAKEN ON SPECIAL GOVERNMENT ASSIGNMENTS EFFECTIVELY WITHOUT RELINQUISHING PRIVATE FINANCIAL TIES.

BUT WHAT OF BECHTEL'S ARAB INVOLVEMENTS? WHAT OF APPEARANCES? THAT'S THE HEART OF PRESSLER'S ARGUMENT. AND YOU WOULD EXPECT SOME RESPONSE FROM ISRAEL; BUT IF THE ISRAELIS HAVE SUDDENLY FOUND NEW GROUNDS FOR DISTRUSTING HABIB, THEY ARE NOT SAYING SO.

A BETTER ANSWER CAN BE FOUND, HOWEVER, BY REDUCING THE ARGUMENT TO ITS ABSURDITY: FORGET THE INDIRECT BECHTEL CONNECTION TO "THE ARABS"; PHILIP HABIB IS WHAT YOU MIGHT CALL AN ARAB-AMERICAN, BORN TO A LEBANESE FATHER, BUT IN A PREDOMINANTLY JEWISH NEIGHBORHOOD OF BROOKLYN. TRY TO FIGURE OUT THE PREJUDICES OR PREDILECTIONS ENGENDERED BY THAT BACKGROUND IN FORMATIVE YEARS.

OR BETTER STILL, DON'T. THE ISSUE HERE IS NOT HABIB. IT HAS MORE TO DO, I THINK WITH A PERVASIVE INSTINCT TO DISTRUST--A LINGERING LEGACY FROM THE TRAUMA OF THE WATERGATE AND VIETNAM YEARS WHEN TOO-EASY ACCEPTANCE OF DISSEMBLING OR IMPROPRIETY PLAYED US FALSE. TO FORFEIT THE SERVICES OF PHIL HABIB IN THIS SPIRIT WOULD BE TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THIS CAN CUT TWO WAYS. JUST AS YOU CAN GO WRONG BY BELIEVING EVERYTHING, SO CAN YOU GO JUST AS WRONG BY NOT BELIEVING ANYTHING. END TEXT.

SHULTZ

BT

#9024

NNNN

SENSITIVE

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT, NSC: CABLE FILE

Withdrawer

KDB 6/8/2017

File Folder

LEBANON SITUATION (07/27/1982) (4)

FOIA

F03-012/3

SKINNER

Box Number

81

8114

<i>ID</i>	<i>Document Type</i> <i>Document Description</i>	<i>No of</i> <i>pages</i>	<i>Doc Date</i>	<i>Restric-</i> <i>tions</i>
200660	CABLE STATE 209056	2	7/27/1982	B1

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]

B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]

B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]

B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]

B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]

B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.