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ID# 196646

THE WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

(10)	186
0	/ /

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: FEBRUARY 13, 1984

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE REVEREND JAMES A. JAMAIL

SUBJECT: SUPPORTS ACTION TAKEN TO SAVE THE PEOPLE OF

LEBANON

MANAGEMENT.

	ACTION	DISPOSITION
ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACT DATE CODE YY/MM/DD	TYPE C COMPLETED RESP D YY/MM/DD
ROBERT REILLY REFERRAL NOTE: REFERRAL NOTE: REFERRAL NOTE: REFERRAL NOTE: REFERRAL NOTE: COMMENTS	ORG 84/02/13 R 84/02/3	
ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS MEDIA: PL MAIL USER CODES: (A)		DES:
******************************* *ACTION CODES: * DISPOSITION CODES: *A-APPROPRIATE ACTION *A-ANSWERED *C-COMMENT/RECOM *B-NON-SPEC-REFT *D-DRAFT RESPONSE *C-COMPLETED *F-FURNISH FACT SHEET *S-SUSPENDED *I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC* *R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * *S-FOR-SIGNATURE * *X-INTERIM REPLY *	DES: *OUTGOII * CORRES *TYPE RI * COMPLES * * * * * * * * * * * * *	

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE (ROOM 75,0EOB) EXT. 2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS

UNCLASSIFIED (CLASSIFICATION)

s/s # _	8405681				
DATE	3/7/84				
U.	10				

DEPARTMENT OF STATE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT TRANSMITTAL FORM

FOR:	Nation	bbert C. McFarlane nal Security Council nite House					
REFERE	ENCE:						
	TO:	President Reagan	FROM: The	Reverend	James 2	A. Jama	il
	DATE:	2/10/84	SUBJECT:	Supports	action	taken	to
	save	the people of Lebanon					
	WHITE	HOUSE REFERRAL DATED:	2/23/84		NSC #	196646	
THE ATTACHED ITEM WAS SENT DIRECTLY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE ACTION TAKEN:							
		A draft reply is attac	hed				
		A draft reply will be forwarded					
		A translation is attached					
	X	X An information copy of a direct reply is attached					
		We believe no response cited below	is necess	sary for t	the reas	son	
		Other					

REMARKS:

Charles Hill Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED (CLASSIFICATION)



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

March 5, 1984

The Reverend James A. Jamail Diocesan Director Catholic Charities 3520 Montrose Houston, Texas 77006

Dear Father Jamail:

Thank you for the telegram you sent to President Reagan. It was good of you to relay such a thoughtful message to the President, and we deeply appreciated your support for his efforts on behalf of Lebanon.

Sincerely,

John Hughes

Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs and Department Spokesman

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

REFERRAL

FEBRUARY 23, 1984

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 196646

MEDIA: TELEGRAM, DATED FEBRUARY 10, 1984

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: THE REVEREND JAMES A. JAMAIL

DIOCESAN DIRECTOR CATHOLIC CHARITIES

3520 MONTROSE HOUSTON TX 77006

SUBJECT: SUPPORTS ACTION TAKEN TO SAVE THE PEOPLE OF

LEBANON

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE (OR DRAFT) TO:
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE

SALLY KELLEY DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

MI? pro: Pres. action - Lebanon #196646 4-0193395041 02/10/84 ICS IPMBNGZ CSP 7135264611 POM TDBN HOUSTON TX 88 02-10 1240P EST

PMS PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN WHITE HOUSE DC 20500

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT.

WITH A GREATFUL HEART I THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU'R DOING TO SAVE THE PEOPLE OF LEBANON. THE CURRENT SITUATION, IN MY VIEW, WAS DIRECTLY CAUSED BY THE RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY THE DEMOCRATIC LEADERSHIP OF THE HOUSE. AS AN AMERICAN OF LEBANESE DESCENT I THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU HAVE DONE AND I BEG OF YOU TO DO WHATEVER IS POSSIBLE TO HELP SAVE THE LIVES OF OUR CHRISTIAN BROTHERS AND SISTERS. YOU HAVE IN THE PAST AND YOU CONINUE TO HAVE MY UNFLETCHING SUPPORT.

MONSIGNOR JAMES A JAMAIL DIOCESAN DIRECTOR OF CATHOLIC CHARITTIES

3520 MONTROSE HOUSTON TX 77006

1242 EST

ID# 196831

THE WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

00086

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: FEBRUARY 17, 1984

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MISS JOAN RICH

SUBJECT: URGES SUPPORT FOR EFFORTS IN THE UN SECURITY

COUNCIL TO ESTABLISH A UNITED NATION PEACE

KEEPING FORCE IN BEIRUT

	AC	CTION	DISPOSITION
ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NA	ME) ACT CODE	DATE TYPE YY/MM/DD RESE	
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COMMENTS:			
ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS	: MEDIA:T IND	VIDUAL CODES:	
PL MAIL USER CODES: (A)(B)	(c)	
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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE (ROOM 75,0EOB) EXT. 2590

KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS MANAGEMENT.

UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)

S/S	#	8405682
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Date March 13. 1984

DEPARTMENT OF STATE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT TRANSMITTAL FORM

84 MAR 13 PID: 4:

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

FOR: Mr. Robert C. McFarlane National Security Council

The White House

REF	220	77 7 7	A13	_
D L N	H 14	P 1/4	CP.	•
TA L'A			~ 14	

TO:	The President	FROM: Jo	an Rich
DATE	: February 16, 1984	SUBJECT:	Urges Support for
Eff	orts to Establish a UN Pe	eacekeepin	g Force in Beirut
WHIT	E HOUSE REFERRAL DATED:	2/24/84	NSC # 196831
••			(if any)
,	THE ATTACHED ITEM WAS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF S		CTLY
ACTION TAKE	<u>N</u> :		
	A draft reply is attach	ed.	
	A draft reply will be f	orwarded.	
	A translation is attach	ied.	
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w-w	The Department of State travel proposed.	has no ol	ojection to
	We believe no response cited below.	is necessa	ary for the reason
algere of the contribution	Other		

REMARKS:

Charles Hill
Elecutive Secretary



Washington, D.C. 20520

MAR | 3 1984

Dear Ms. Rich:

I refer to your telegram of February 16 to President Reagan urging United States support for action in the United Nations Security Council to establish a United Nations peacekeeping force in Beirut. The proposal reflected in your telegram has been under careful review by the Administration, especially during the recent eventful weeks. I apologize for the delay in responding, but I am sure you will appreciate that the fast-moving developments in Lebanon and in the United Nations on the Lebanese problem made it difficult to reply meaningfully to your inquiry immediately.

On February 29, a French initiative in the UN Security Council aimed at deploying a UN force in the Beirut area upon the departure of the MNF was brought to a vote, after considerable negotiating among Council members about the exact terms of the draft resolution embodying this proposal. The French effort won the support of all members of the Council except the USSR and the Ukraine. The Soviets vetoed the initiative. Thus, for the time being at least, the Soviet Union has blocked the option of supplementing or replacing the remaining elements of the MNF with a UN peacekeeping operation. You may recall that the MNF was created in the first instance due to the inability of the UN to act.

We have always believed that the deployment of a UN force can only be accomplished if the situation in Beirut stabilizes sufficiently to permit progress in the political dialogue among the parties concerned. The UN Secretariat and the governments contributing to a UN force would certainly look for such progress before inserting their lightly armed peacekeepers into the volatile Lebanese scene. The French draft resolution, in mandating the Secretary General to constitute a force for Beirut without delay, wisely left the time of deployment open.

Ms. Joan Rich
International Relations Chair,
League of Women Voters of the United States,
1730 M Street, N.W.,
Washington, D.C. 20036.

Concerning the U.S. MNF personnel now deployed on U.S. Navy vessels off the Lebanese coast, I must emphasize that we have not considered the MNF to be a permanent or long-term force. We would welcome its replacement by a UN peacekeeping presence at the appropriate time, as the French initiative provided.

I hope that these comments help to clarify our policy concerning a United Nations peacekeeping force for Beirut.

Sincerely yours,

(\$)

Roger Kirk
Acting Assistant Secretary
Bureau of International
Organization Affairs

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

REFERRAL

FEBRUARY 24, 1984

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 196831

MEDIA: TELEGRAM, DATED FEBRUARY 16, 1984

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: MISS JOAN RICH

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS CHAIR LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE

UNITED STATES 1730 M STREET, NW WASHINGTON DC 20036

SUBJECT: URGES SUPPORT FOR EFFORTS IN THE UN SECURITY

COUNCIL TO ESTABLISH A UNITED NATION PEACE

KEEPING FORCE IN BEIRUT

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE (OR DRAFT) TO:
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE

SALLY KELLEY
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

14012078A047 02/16/84

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PMS WHITE HOUSE DC 20500

4-0284728047 02/16/84

ICS IPMMTZZ CSP

2024291965 TDMT WASHINGTON DC 125 02-16 0258P EST PMS PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN RPT DLY MGM

WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON DC

MR PRESIDENT: THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS URGES YOU TO SUPPORT EFFORTS IN THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL TO ESTABLISH A UNITED NATION PEACE-KEEPING FORCE IN BEIRUT. THE IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVE OF SUCH A FORCE SHOULD BE TO MONITOR COMPLIANCE WITH A CEASE FIRE AGREEMENT. IT

SHOULD BE COMPOSED OF TROOPS FROM NATIONS NEUTRAL TO THE CONFLICT. AGREEABLE TO THE PARTIES INVOLVED AND ANSWERABLE TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL. ITS MANDATE SHOULD BE LIMITED IN DURATION AND SUBJECT TO RENEWAL AFTER AN AGREED PERIOD. ADHERANCE TO SUCH CRITERIA HAVE HELPED TO FOSTER THE U.N.'S IMPARTIALITY IN PREVIOUS INSTANCES AND CAN HELP TO REDUCE TENSIONS IN THIS TROUBLESPOT. WE URGE YOU TO TAKE POSITIVE ACTION THAT WOULD LEAD TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A U.N. PEACE-KEEPING FORCE IN BEIRUT

JOAN RICH INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS CHAIR LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE UNITED STATES 1730 M ST NORTHWEST WASHINGTON DC 20036

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WSC =

*S-FOR-SIGNATURE

*X-INTERIM REPLY

THE WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 197325

CORRESPONDENCE TRACK.	ING W	JINDIIDDI		C000	9
INCOMING					
DATE RECEIVED: MARCH 01, 1984					
NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE G	LEN S	. DEWEESE			
SUBJECT: FORWARDS CHURCH BULLETIN FROM CHURCH, MERIDIAN, MISSISSPPI, ARTICLE ABOUT LEBANON WRITTEN	NOTI	NG AN			
	A	CTION	DI	SPOSITION	
ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD		C COMPLET D YY/MM/I	
LEE VERSTANDIG REFERRAL NOTE:	ORG	84/03/01	LV.	A84 P310	4
ROBERT GLEASON REFERRAL NOTE:	RSA	84/03/01		C 841 034	9.
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COMMENTS:		<u>u</u>			-
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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE (ROOM 75,0EOB) EXT. 2590 KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS MANAGEMENT.

*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 14, 1984

Dear Senator Deweese:

On behalf of the President, I would like to thank you for your recent letter regarding the article about Lebanon which was written by the Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Henderson 24 years ago.

Thank you for bringing this article to our attention. I have forwarded your letter to the National Security Council for their benefit.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Lee L. Verstandig
Assistant to the President

for Intergovernmental Affairs

The Honorable Glen S. Deweese Lauderdale County Post Office Box 5338 Meridan, Mississippi 39301 Lee Restander



Member
Budget Commission
Medicaid Commission

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

Appropriations, Chairman Contingent Expense Elections Insurance Military Affairs Municipalities State Library

SENATOR GLEN S. DEWEESE

33rd District Lauderdale County P. O. Box 5338, Meridian 39301

February 27, 1984

President Ronald Reagan White House Office Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Enclosed you will find a copy of the The Messenger (weekly bulletin from First Baptist Church, Meridian, Mississippi). You will find on the second page an article entitled "From the Pastor's Pen" written about Lebanon 24 years ago, that I think you will find extremely interesting and especially the last paragraph.

I just thought you would find this article interesting and at the same time assure you that not everyone disagreed with your decision. Let me thank you for the good job you're doing, extend my best wishes and may God be with you in your decisions in the future.

Sincere

My own most personal regards.

Glen S. Deweese

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ID# 197503

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

MAR 1 1984

O - OUTGOING I H - INTERNAL I - INCOMING Date Correspondence received (YY/MM/DD) NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: Pat	109 rick Zi	Rusself		8611 (c)	
SUBJECT: The U.S. 1	must to		zdiate	acto	n to
		113 54112			
ROUTE TO:	ACTION	ı	DIS	SPOSITION	
Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Codo	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
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ACTION CODES: A - Appropriate Action I - Info Copy O C - Comment/Recommendation R - Direct Repl D - Draft Response S - For Signatu F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be X - Interim Re	re	ry A - Answered B - Non-Special C - Completed S - Suspended	Referral	outgoing corr e of Response = II Code = " pletion Date = D	nitials of Signer
COMMENTS:					

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter. Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB). Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files. Refer questions about the Correspondence Tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590

UNCLASSIFIED (Classification)

APR 13 1984

DEPARTMENT OF STATE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT TRANSMITTAL FORM

s/s	84086	11	n		
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a + a	April	6.	1984		

For: Mr. Robert C. McFarlane National Security Council

The White House

Ref	erence	:	
•	To: _	President Reagan From: Mr. Patrick E. Russell	
	Date:	2/24/84 Assisting Lebanese Christian Subject:	າຮ
	WH Re	ferral Dated: 3/22/84 NSC ID# 197503	
		(if any)	
•		The attached item was sent directly to the Department of State.	
Act	ion Tal	ken:	
		A draft reply is attached.	
		A draft reply will be forwarded.	
		_ A translation is attached.	
	X	_ An information copy of a direct reply is attached.	
		_ We believe no response is necessary for the reason cited below.	
		The Department of State has no objection to the proposed travel.	
		_ Other.	

Remarks:

Charles Hill
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED (Classification)

United States Department of State



Washington, D.C. 20520

APR 6 1984

Mr. Patrick E. Russell Councilman 409 Fifth Street, North West Pacific, Washington 98047

Dear Mr. Russell,

Thank you very much for your recent letter to President Reagan regarding the presence of Syrian forces on Lebanese territory as well as the situation of Christians in Lebanon.

We share your concern over the continuing presence of some 50,000 Syrian troops in Lebanon. A principal objective of United States policy in Lebanon remains the withdrawal of these and other foreign forces, including those of Israel, Iran and Libya as well as Palestinians. Editorials in the American press have in fact, protested the continuing occupation of Lebanon by foreign forces and the issue has also been repeatedly addressed in the United Nations. Nevertheless, we share your dismay that media attention has often appeared to focus more on the presence of the U.S. and other Multinational Forces in Lebanon who were there at the continuing request of the Lebanese government. Undoubtedly, the tragic casualties our forces suffered heightened this press attention, which has diminished since our Marines were deployed offshore.

Regarding the specific situation of Christians in Lebanon, it is misleading to describe them as "totally surrounded" by Moslems. Lebanon is a mosaic of religious beliefs and there are a variety of Christian and Muslim denominations, many of whom live interspersed throughout Lebanon. Religion per se plays only a small part in the present complex Lebanese conflict. Not all Christians, for example, have fought on the same side. In this regard, you should be aware that Mr. Alfred Mady is a member of a particular political party in Lebanon and expresses that party's views. He does not speak for all Christians. Unfortunately, innocent civilians, both Christian and Muslim, have died in the continuing strife in Lebanon. We continue our diplomatic efforts to help end this tragic bloodshed and to ensure that Lebanese of all faiths live in peace and security.

Sincerely,

Neil H. Campbell Acting Director

Meil H. Campbell

Intergovernmental Affairs
Office of Legislative and

Intergovernmental Affairs

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

REFERRAL

MARCH 22, 1984

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

APPROPRIATE ACTION

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 197503

MEDIA: LETTER

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM:

MR. PATRICK E. RUSSELL

409 - 5TH NW

PACIFIC WA 98047

SUBJECT: THE U. S. MUST TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO

ASSIST THE LEBANESE CHRISTIANS

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE (OR DRAFT) TO: AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE

> SALLY KELLEY DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

> > next 5/5-I .
> > 3/21/84 2005-CHS

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 14, 1984

8408611

Englister

Dear Mr. Russell:

On behalf of the President, I would like to thank you for your recent correspondence.

I have forwarded a copy of your letter to the appropriate officials at the Department of State for their consideration and direct reply. You should be hearing from them shortly.

I sincerely appreciate your bringing your concerns to the attention of the Administration. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

her

Lee L. Verstandig
Assistant to the President
for Intergovernmental Affairs

Mr. Patrick Russell Councilmember 409 - Fifth, N.W. Pacific, Washington 98047 President Ronald Reagen White House Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

However I feel it is wight that this great nation of ours take simmediate action to assist the hebanese C. Ochristians.

Ochristians.

according to a "700 Club" Televised interview with
Mr alfred mady, the moslems have totally surrounded
them (hebanese Christians). There are some 72 000
Signan invaders in believen, Why hasn't the
Clinted Nation's STRONGCY PROTOSTED?
Why hasn't the american Press protested? I
have not seen one single editorial protestering
Syrian presence in bebanow, yet have seen
hundreds of protest articles on marine presence
there. If no longer trust the american
Press or modia news. My confidence is in
your though mr. Presidents. I appreciate your
Strong stand on Democracy, including Brayer

Istrong stand on Democracy, including Brayer amendment, upon position on aboution, and a chong defence you we got my vote. These, raise your boil for the trapped and beleasestered hebanastese historis.

Patrick ? Rusself 409-5-th NW Facifii, Wash 98047 206-833-4437 6

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THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON



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4/9/84

MEMORANDUM TO: DICK DARMAN

FROM: JIM BAKER

Company of

The attached notes were written by the President. He would like to have them incorporated in some future speech, so could you please pass them along to the speechwriters for their information.

JAB



Typed Capy Lebanon Inhormation with Written by the President



THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

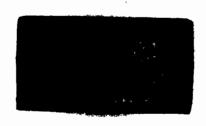
TO: James Baker

FROM: KATHY OSBORNE
Personal Secretary
to the President

DATE: 4-9-84

Attached is typed copy of Lebanon information which RR hand wrote -- per your request this morning. RR has original typed copy.





After a year and a half duty in Beirut, our Marines are coming home from Lebanon. They have known frustration and the pain of seeing friends and comrades die even though their mission was not intended to be one of combat.

They can't help but wonder if those friends died in vain and whether any of them were serving a useful purpose. There are those among us who, for their own reasons, are eager to answer in the affirmative; to add to the sorrow of widows, parents and children, and the pain of these men who are coming home.

These returning Marines deserve better. In the first place they lived up to the finest tradition of the Corps every moment they were there. They added lustre, not tarnish, to their motto, "Semper Fidelis." The goal we sought in that troubled place was worthy of their best and they gave their best. They were no part of our failure to achieve that goal. In the end, hatreds centuries old were too much for all of us.

Let me, if I can, cut through the noisy rhetoric and explain the purpose of their mission. For as long as Israel has been a nation there has been a state of war between Israel and the Arab states. The Camp David accords and the statesmanship of Egypt's Anwar Sadat brought peace between Israel and Egypt. In the spirit of Camp David and U.N. Resolution 242, I proposed that the United States seek to bring about negotiations between Israel and other moderate Arab states to settle disputes and bring a general peace to the Middle East.

We were hardly underway with this plan when Lebanon caught fire. Lebanon, a nation created after WW II, had become the window on the Middle East, but in 1975 factionalism led to fighting

between the various ethnic and religious groups in the country.

Added to this was a sizeable armed force under the P.L.O. which

conducted terrorist operations from Lebanon against Israel.

Finally, Israel crossed the border into Lebanon to put an end to these attacks. The original purpose was to set up a defensive line some 25 miles inside Lebanon. Ultimately the P.L.O. forces retreated right into the heart of Beirut and a war was being fought there in the streets of the city. Civilian casualties were in the thousands.

Facing defeat the P.L.O. were afraid to surrender and an appeal was made for outside forces to oversee their total with—drawal from Lebanon. We, the Italians, French and subsequently the United Kingdom sent in a multi-national force and some 13,000 P.L.O. were put aboard ships and sent to a number of nations that had agreed to take them.

Shortly after that the newly chosen President of Lebanon was assasinated. His brother, the present President Amin Gemayel was elected by the Parliament to succeed him.

This brings us to the reason for the multi-national force.

Syria had large forces -- eventually more than 50,000 men in

Lebanon became of Israels presence there. Israel and Syria had

been at war 5 times. Each made statements that they would withdraw

if the other did.

Put very simply we and our allies, the French, Italians and British agreed to help maintain order and stability in Beirut while the new government established itself. We provided, in addition to the Marines, an army training unit to help Lebanon have a capable military force. We also equipped that force with the

most modern weapons and equipment even including uniforms.

The plan was that as Israel and Syria withdrew, the Lebanese Army would move into the areas they had occupied to deal with the various militias that were warring among themselves. The multinational force would remain in Beirut keeping order. And they were doing this effectively. Our Marines drew the International Airport as part of their sector. It is Lebanon's doorway to the world, the only airport in Lebanon. It had been closed down because of the fighting. It re-opened under our Marine's protection.

It is almost impossible for us to imagine the savagery to which the people of Beirut had been subjected and what a change was made by our presence. A young woman sent me a letter her sweetheart had smuggled out with someone leaving Beirut. He told her of the terror and hardship when the fighting had been going on -- 17 days straight living in the cellar. Then he told of the difference our Marines had made. He added, without them there would have been a massacre of all the Christians in Beirut.

A woman wrote a letter to me that her daughter had only been able to go to school 2 out of the previous 8 years. She then wrote that because of our Mariness her daughter could at last live a normal life.

During all this we were busy on the diplomatic front trying to persuade the dissident factions and the government of Lebanon to put together a broad based government giving the dissidents a voice. Ambassador Phil Habib was shuttling from Tel Aviv to Damascus to Beirut. When he had served above and beyond human endurance, Robert McFarlane took his place and recently Don Rumsfeld has taken the duty.

The Israelis began a phased withdrawal as they had promised and signed a peace agreement with Lebanon. Syria reneged on it's premise rejecting President Gemayel's request that they leave and denouncing the accord with Israel. Syria has made it plain they have territorial ambitions, something called a "greater Syria" encompassing Lebanon and, yes, Jordan and Israel. In the meantime they linked up with the dissident Lebanese militias and brought back radical P.L.O. forces. Syrian artillery as a visible threat was positioned within range of Beirut.

The multi-national force had been performing it's duty for the better part of a year and this was not to Syria's liking. Late last summer our allied force became the target. An Italian patrol suffered a grenade ambush. Then a car bomb was driven into our embassy taking a great many lives. Sniping at our Marines at the airport began taking a toll finally culminating in the tragic suicide bombing of our Marines with the terrible toll of 260 lives. A similar attack destroyed the French headquarters with a great loss of life.

Our men were told to fire when fired upon and they did so although numerous times when the fire came from civilian populated areas they restrained themselves rather than risk harm to innocent people.

The Lebanese government which would not exist had we not been there, cancelled the agreement with Israel under pressure from Syria. It is now meeting with and seeking a consensus with the dissident factions. We are willing to help diplomatically if we can but the purpose served by our military presence no longer exists. So we and our allies have disbanded the multi-national force.

We are going to try and get the original peace plan for the Middle East in motion. No, we didn't reach the goal we sought in

Lebanon but at least they are talking to each other for whatever it's worth and even that would not be taking place if we hadn't been there.

Yes, our Marines are coming home -- but only because they did all that could be done.

Semper Fi and God bless them.

WHITE HOUSE **CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET**

202905 C0086

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Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter. Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB). Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files. Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

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CBn - Presidential & First Lady's Correspondence n - 1 - Ronald Reagan - Nancy Reagan n - 2 - Ron - Nancy

- R Report
- S Sealed
- T Telegram
 V Telephone
 X Miscellaneous
 Y Study

Dear Senator Hatch:

Thank you for the February 8 letter which you cosigned with five of your colleagues on the Senate Steering Committee recommending that the President consider receiving Sheik Shams ad-Din here at the White House.

We appreciate receiving your comments on the effects of such a visit, and have asked the appropriate advisers to promptly review your recommendation. In the interim, let me assure you that your thoughts have been brought to the President's attention, and are being carefully evaluated.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

M. B. Oglesby, Jr. Assistant to the President

The Honorable Orrin Hatch Senate Steering Committee United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

MBO: KRJ: tjr

cc: w/copy of inc to NSC Secretariat - for DIRECT response

Lette & el segues

February 8, 1984

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

202905

(1/1/1/6/

Enclosed are the recommendations of the Embassy in Beirut about an invitation to the Shiite religious leader Sheik Shams ad-Din. A recent letter from your national security adviser Bud McFarlane supports this visit by the Sheik. Bud McFarlane also agreed to meet with the Sheik himself. Moreover, staff aides to Senators Hatch, Percy, Boschwitz, and Howard Baker met with the Sheik in Beirut two months ago. These Senators have also indicated a desire to meet with the Sheik during his visit to Washington.

Therefore, we recommend that you consider personally receiving the Sheik at the White House. If you decide to do so, we believe such a visit could have a positive effect in Lebanon.

Respectfully yours,

THE ATTACHED CONGRESSIONAL MAIL
WAS HAND-DELIVERED TO THE WHITE HOUSE
VIA ROOM 45

TELEGRAM

UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY NEA

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USIA

FOR NEA

E.O. 12356: N/A
SUBJECT: FY-84 INTERNATIONAL VISITORS PROGRAM:
THIRD PARTY SUGGESTION ,

REF: .USIA 2991

- 1. POST IS MOST APPRECIATIVE OF SENATOR HATCH'S RECOMMENDATION THAT SHEIKH SHAMS AD-DIN BE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INTERNATIONAL VISITORS' PROGRAM. WE ARE FOLLOWING-UP ON THE RECOMMENDATION AND INTEND TO EXTEND THE INVITATION FOR A PROGRAM TO BE ARRANGED AT THE MOST APPROPRIATE TIME FOR SHEIKH SHAMS AD-DIN. AMBASSADOR BARTHOLOMEW IS GIVING THE MATTER HIS PERSONAL ATTENTION.
- 2. SHEIKH SHAMS AD-DIN IS CURRENTLY IN INDIA AND IS NOT EXPECTED BACK IN BEIRUT FOR AT LEAST ANOTHER WEEK. IN THE MEANTIME, WE HAVE CONTACTED HIS CLOSE ASSOCIATE, MR. HUSSEIN AL-HUSSEINI, A PARLIAMENTARY DEPUTY (AND FORMER IV GRANTEE) TO DISCUSS FUTURE SCHEDULING.
 MR. AL-HUSSEINI HAS TOLD US THAT SHEIKH SHAMS AD-DIN IS FLEXIBLE CONCERNING THE TIMING OF ANY VISIT ALTHOUGH CURRENT TENSE POLITICAL SITUATION PRECLUDED A TRIP IN THE NEAR FUTURE. MR. AL-HUSSEINI STRESSED THAT THE SHEIKH PREFERRED NOT TO VISIT THE UNITED STATES WITHOUT A COMMITMENT THAT HE COULD MEET WITH PRESIDENT REAGAN.
- 3. WE NOTE THAT PRESIDENT REAGAN HAS MET WITH LEBANESE RELIGIOUS LEADERS IN THE PAST, INCLUDING MARONITE PATRIARCH CARDINAL KHURAYSH AND ARMENIAN CATHOLICOS KEREKIN II. PERHAPS IDEA OF THE PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH SHEIKH SHAMS AD-DIN COULD BE EXPLORED IN THIS CONTEXT.

 STEWART

 # 1319

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(3)

202935

DD 20086

From: WH-PA (EOP041) Posted: Wed 8-Feb-84 14:53

Sys 64 (155)

Subject: WHITE HOUSE TALKING POINTS -- LEBANON -- 2/8/84

Acknowledgment Sent

WHAT FOLLOWS IS THE WHITE HOUSE GUIDANCE FOR FEBRUARY 8, 1984 ON THE LEBANON SITUATION. PLEASE DISSEMINATE TO PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICERS AND SPOKESMEN.

WHITE HOUSE TALKING POINTS

FEBRUARY 8, 1984

LEBANON

- o After long and hard deliberation, President Reagan decided on several measures that we believe will help the Lebanese Government meet its challenges, while at the same time improving our ability to influence the situation in Lebanon in a positive manner. These were announced yesterday.
- o After consultation with President Gemayel, the President decided to reorient U.S. political and military resources in Lebanon, so that these resources are focused sharply on the essential tasks before us.
- o It is clear to us that the GOL faces three significant challenges:
 - -- The threat of hostile artillery from Syrian-controlled areas;
 - -- The need to improve GOL capability to deal with factional conflict and control terrorism; and
 - -- The need to move quickly to reconciliation to restore the confidence of the army.
- o The United States will continue to press the Lebanese Government and the opposition alike to move toward national reconcilation. At the same time, we will deploy our military resources in a way that can best help the Lebanese, without signalling a lessening in our resolve.

- O We decided, after considerable study and at President Gemayel's request, that our military efforts will be reoriented toward a more functional role. This will include:
 - -- intensified training for the Lebanese Army;
 - -- providing a special new unit for counter-terrorism
 training;
 - -- increase of our exchange of intelligence
 information; and
 - -- increasing the supply of military equitment to the Lebanese Army.
- o There was considerably less fighting yesterday in Beirut than on February 6. West Beirut was relatively calm.
- o Syrian and Syrian-controlled artillery, however, remains a threat to the Beirut area. There are currently 57,000 Syrian troops in Lebanese territory. Therfore, to enhance the safety of MNF personnel, authority has been given to U.S. naval forces offshore to provide naval gunfire and air support against any units in Syrian-controlled territory firing into the greater Beirut area, as well as against any unit conducting a hostile attack directly on MNF or U.S. personnel and facilities. An example of the use of this authority came today, when the Battleship USS NEW JERSEY fired its 16 inch guns at Syrian-controlled artillery outside Beirut, after artillery fired into East Beirut, including rounds that impacted at the U.S. Ambassador's residence.
- o For the same purpose, we will continue to use U.S. Army trainers, naval and air assets in support of the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF), when in the judgment of the U.S. ground commander, LAF positions controlling strategic arteries to Beirut are in danger of being overrun by hostile forces.
- o The President has decided that the large contingent of Marines dug in at Beirut Airport is no longer the most appropriate way of maintaining Multinational Force (MNF) presence there. They have become a target, and their larger number is no longer necessary to fulfill what will become a training/presence mission.
- The President has requested from the Secretary of Defense a phased reduction of the Marines at the airport. They will be deployed instead on the ships offshore.

- o The drawbdown of the current Marine presence at Beirut airport will take place in phases based on an assessment of the situation. The first phase might redeploy something like 500 men from Beirut airport back to the amphibious ships within a month, with the remainder to be redeployed gradually.
- O This redeployment will probably be complete between late spring and early summer. (NOTE: media reports of 250 Marines being moved to ships yesterday refer to temporary redeployment decision by the Marine Commander in Beirut. Marines are moved to and from ships on a routine basis depending on local circumstances. This movement was not part of the permanent redeployment plan.) There are currently about 1800 U.S. military in Beirut, about 1600 of whom are stationed at the airport.
- o We expect the bulk of the redeployment operation to proceed in an orderly manner over the coming months. Congressional support of the LAF enhancement progress is critical to this effort.
- o Marines on board the ships will remain off the Lebanese coast as a mobile reserve. Units will also remain at the British Embassy and at other U.S. diplomatic buildings to protect our personnel there.
- o We have been carefully examining these modifications for some weeks. The recent outbreak of violence, far from deterring us, only reaffirms the importance of actions we are taking. These modification in the deployment of our forces in the MNF will lead most importantly to an enhanced LAF capability, and will also decrease exposure to our MNF personnel. Our plan will substantially improve the LAF's prospects of controlling Beirut and ultimately extending the GOL's authority throughout the country.
- We have informed our MNF partners, the Israelis, the Saudis and other governments of our new deployment plan. We have advised the Syrians also, to ensure there is no miscalculation or misunderstanding of our determination to seek a stable and peaceful Lebanon.

PLEASE DELIVER THIS TO YOUR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER ASAP -- THEY ARE AWAITING IT.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT MIKE BAROODY -- 456-7170.

THANK YOU.

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WILLIE DELIVER THEL TO YOUR DUBLIC APPAIRS OFFICER ASAP --

FOR PURYLES INCOMACEON PLANSE CONTACT MINE NAMOODY --

JULY HEALIT