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#### **MEMORANDUM**

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

2/1566

January 25, 1984

C0086 F6006-12

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT M. KIMMITT

FROM:

HOWARD R. TEICHER ART

SUBJECT:

Background Papers on Lebanon for the Congress

Attached at Tab I is a memorandum to Charlie Hill for your signature asking him to transmit the background papers on Lebanon to the Congress.

Lehman, Fortier, Kempland Dur Concur.

Recommendation

That you sign the memorandum at Tab I.

Approve \_\_\_\_

Disapprove \_\_\_\_

Attachments

Tab I

Memorandum to Charles Hill

Tab A

Lebanon papers

N5C#8400743

## NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

MEMORANDUM FOR CHARLES HILL

Executive Secretary State Department

SUBJECT:

Background Papers on Lebanon for the Congress

The consultations with Congress on Lebanon have made clear the need for the Executive Branch to provide Congress with background materials which can be used to help explain America's policy in Lebanon. The attached papers (Tab A) prepared in informal interagency manner and coordinated with Ambassador Rumsfeld should be transmitted to interested members of Congress as soon as possible.

Robert M. Kimmitt Executive Secretary

Attachment

Tab A Lebanon papers

cc: Colonel John H. Stanford, U.S.A. Executive Secretary Department of Defense

#### U.S. OBJECTIVES IN LEBANON

To avoid confusion about the mission of the Marines, it is useful to distinguish among three things: long-term goals; what we will accept as a political outcome; and the specific mission of the Marines.

- 1. U.S. long-term goals in Lebanon are:
  - -- withdrawal of all foreign forces
  - -- a stable, independent Lebanon, sovereign within its territory
  - -- security of Israel's northern border
- 2. U.S. requirements for a political solution are as follows:
  - -- We realize that a diplomatic solution will require compromise.
  - -- U.S. will accept diplomatic solutions that are agreeable to the parties more directly concerned (Lebanon, Israel, Syria).
  - -- U.S. is prepared to withdraw, but withdrawal should take place in a manner consistent with our overall strategic interest, namely, that the solution should vindicate the U.S. commitment to moderation, negotiated outcomes, and standing by its friends.
- 3. The role of the MNF is:
  - -- To provide a breathing spell for the GOL to assert its authority in the Beirut area and for the Lebanese to sort out their internal problems. The MNF will defend itself if attacked.
  - -- It is not:
    - o a combat force
    - o a permanent force
    - o directed against any country or any foreign forces
    - o intended to force the withdrawal of any foreign forces
    - o intended to remain until U.S achieves its long-term goals in Lebanon.

## ARGUMENTS AGAINST AND FOR THE MARINE PRESENCE IN LEBANON

- 1. The Marines' (MNF) task is impossible. Lebanese factional animosities run deep. The Syrian will never leave:
  - -- Their task is a limited one: the MNF is to provide a breathing spell for the GOL to reestablish its authority throughout Beirut area.
  - -- The Syrians are pragmatic. when convinced that they must cut a deal, they will be accommodating. Past behavior by Assad demonstrates this pragmatism.
- 2. It is entirely possible Marines will suffer more losses to terrorism.
  - -- U.S. has made major security improvements at Beirut Airport since October 23 to enhance Marine security. The Long Commission visited Beirut before these changes were made.
  - -- U.S. cannot allow terrorists to accomplish their objectives. This would be an abdication of U.S. responsibilities in the world and would leave the world an even more dangerous place.
- 3. A superpower should not participate in a peacekeeping force:
  - -- U.S. forces were originally introduced into Beirut at the request of <u>all</u> the concerned parties, including the PLO.
  - -- Re-introduction of MNF required immediate action because of Sabra-Shatilla and desire to prevent additional massacres.
  - U.S. participation provided a sign of support which others could not provide because of heavy Soviet support for Syrian forces in Lebanon.
  - -- If a victim state (Lebanon) is incapable of defending against an aggressive neighboring state (Syria), the presence of U.S. peacekeeping forces may prove the most viable deterrent to forcible intervention in the affairs of the weaker state.
  - -- U.S. is willing to consider expanding the UN role. Israel has made more positive statements recently about UNIFIL, which it used to oppose. However, Syria has prevented use of UN observers to monitor a cease-fire agreed by Lebanese.

-- Not true that superpowers should never play peacekeeping role. U.S. participation in MFO in the Sinai has been indispensable and successful.

#### 4. U.S. has no interest in Lebanon:

- Lebanon is a flash point of confrontation between Israel and Syria, and potentially between the U.S. and USSR. Stability there is important.
- -- Lebanon is a democracy which has been friendly to the United States for years. It deserves support in the face of external challenges and an opportunity to sort out its internal problems.
- -- U.S. has interest in promoting moderation in Middle East. If GOL is overthrown because of its moderate policies and willingness to negotiate, it will have ominous implications for the peace process and other U.S. friends.
- -- If radical extremists win in Lebanon, they will be emboldened elsewhere.
- -- U.S. interest in security of Israel's northern border.
- Having committed itself, U.S. cannot ignore consequences of just walking away. Loss of credibility weakens U.S. worldwide by weakening confidence of those who rely on us. Direct relationship to the Gulf.
- -- Israel, Lebanon, Egypt, Jordan, and Saudi Arabia have urged U.S. to maintain its presence.

#### 5. U.S. will be drawn increasingly into Lebanon:

- -- No intention of increasing ground forces.
- -- Not a combat force and not directed against any country or any faction.
- -- Stated goal of MNF is security in Beirut area. Progress is being made in that regard.

#### 6. Drains U.S. military assets:

-- Middle East represents a major U.S. interest, and this is one of the most important places for us to show strength and resolve.

#### IMPLICATIONS OF MNF WITHDRAWAL--THE STAKES

#### 1. What could happen if the MNF is withdrawn now?

- -- Current "entente" of moderate Arab countries which is developing to counter Syrian actions could collapse.
- -- Jordan would be less willing to enter the peace process, because of fear of Syrian reaction.
- -- Saudi Arabia and others would be unwilling to stand up to Syrian and Libyan objections to re-entry of Egypt to Arab world.
- -- Gulf States would doubt U.S. commitment to their security and U.S. staying power.
- -- Would be perceived as major Soviet victory, which would enhance Soviet status in the region.
- -- Government of Lebanon would have less counterweight to Syrian presence as it tried to sort out its problems and would likely fall.
- -- Political "reconciliation" would be on Syrian terms.
- -- Without a chance to achieve political reconciliation on Lebanese (rather than Syrian) terms, Lebanon will become a vassal state and, quite possibly, a future base for terrorist operations against Israel.
- -- Instability in Lebanon threatens Israeli security and increases the possibility of a Syrian-Israeli confrontation in Lebanon that could lead to a U.S. Soviet confrontation.

#### 2. What happens if the MNF remains?

- -- There will continue to be terrorist attacks.
- -- Presence of MNF alone cannot force withdrawal of foreign forces or political accommodation, but strengthens U.S. diplomatic effort.
- -- Lebanon will have a chance to sort out its internal problems on Lebanese terms.
- -- By helping to create a stable security situation in Beirut and expand the authority of the central government, increase chance for continuing stability after MNF withdrawal.
- -- Demonstrate U.S. willingness to stand by a long-time friendly nation.

- -- Demonstrate that terrorism cannot dictate U.S. policy.
- -- It will withdraw when its stated mission is achieved, e.g.,
  - O If Syrian forces are withdrawn from positions which threaten Beirut.
  - o GOL reaches security arrangements for Beirut area, with sufficient political accommodation to assure durability and foreign acceptance.
  - o Another acceptable force can provide assistance to LAF e.g., UN.
  - o If GOL policies become inconsistent with U.S. objectives in Lebanon.
  - o If GOL so requests.

#### SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN (AND RELATED TO) LEBANON

#### Lebanon's Political Situation

- -- President Gemayel is now recognized as the legitimate leader by most Lebanese.
- -- The direct discussions among Lebanon's leaders in Geneva were the first that several had had with each other in ten years. At Geneva, Lebanese leaders began detailed talks on political reform, power-sharing and reconciliation.
- -- U.S. diplomacy was vital to Geneva, the on-going lower-level talks, and the seriousness with which Gemayel and other leaders approached the talks.
- -- MNF presence has provided the Lebanese leaders with confidence that western democracies are ready to pay a price to help re-establish democracy in the Arab world.

#### Lebanese Military Situation

- -- U.S. assistance has brought about the rebirth of the Lebanese Army, the most important multi-confessional institution in the country.
- -- Since the U.S. military aid program began in October, 1982, the LAF has increased in size from about 17,500 (effective) to over 32,000. The LAF has undergone a three-phase reorganization program designed to organize, equip and train a ten-brigade force. This program is well underway.
- -- The GOL has paid for over 80% of LAF procurement through cash, the remainder through FMS and other foreign country credits.
- The Army demonstrated its new capabilities during the September fighting against opposing militias and external forces (Libyans) directly supported by Syria, as well as recent operations in West Beirut.

#### Withdrawals and Israeli Security

- -- As a result of U.S. sponsored negotiations, Israel agreed to withdraw completely from Lebanon and the Lebanese agreed to security arrangements which would ensure legitimate Israeli security requirements.
- -- Israel pulled its forces back to the Awwali River line and has reduced its presence to approximately 10,000 troops.
- -- 8,000 to 10,000 PLO fighters have left Lebanon.

#### Marine Security

- -- Troops have been dispersed from buildings.
- -- Redisposition of forces to provide improved tactical defenses and more effective fields of fire.
- -- Improvements of the berming, fencing, tank obstacle and barrier arrangements are nearly completed.
- -- Vigorous self-defense tactics are being employed, e.g., the destruction with tank fire of buildings housing snipers.

#### Consequences of U.S. Military Operations

- -- Defense actions to protect MNF at Suq al-Gharb demonstrated to all that U.S. is prepared to use limited applications of force in defense of particular "red-lines."
- -- U.S. reconnaissance flights and measured retaliation confirm to Syrians, other adversaries and friends that U.S. declaratory policy must be taken seriously and that a price will be paid for attacking U.S. interests. This enhances deterrence.
- -- Such actions make Gulf leaders, including Iran, take U.S. policy regarding freedom of navigation in the Strait of Hormuz and threats to U.S. friends very seriously.

#### The Peace Process

- -- The May 17 Agreement between Israel and Lebanon represents an important accomplishment of America's step-by-step diplomacy.
- -- The President's September 1 initiative remains the cornerstone of our peace initiative on the Arab-Israel conflict.
- -- Jordanian Parliament recalled, strengthening King Hussein.
- -- Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, GCC countries coalescing into a bloc opposing Syrian-Iranian-Libyan axis.

#### Soviet Perceptions

- -- Moscow has made clear that its commitment to Syria does not extend to Syrians in Lebanon.
- -- Indeed, during Khaddam's recent visit to Moscow, Khaddam's references to Soviet commitments to Syria, contained in a toast, were deleted upon publication by the Soviet government.

#### THE REALITIES OF TERRORISM IN THE 1980s

- -- Terrorism is a fact of life. Given the technology readily available, those willing to lose their own lives can and will find increasingly effective ways to take the lives of others, and will do so.
- -- Given America's position in the world, Americans are bound to be prime targets.
- -- A particularly disturbing development is State-sponsored terrorism. The Soviet Union and East bloc countries, Iran, Libya, Syria and North Koria, all use terrorism as an instrument of foreign policy.
- -- Terrorism is a weapon directed against our interests, policies, and values: U.S. cannot abandon these.
- -- U.S. should try to minimize the export of U.S. personnel abroad, but this is not always possible. U.S. diplomatic and military personnel usually have essential jobs to do. We will do whatever is possible to protect them. But the risks are always present.
- -- If the U.S. is to remain a world leader and conduct effective foreign policies that influence events, U.S. must remain actively engaged. Therefore, U.S. must face up to the reality of terrorism.
- -- U.S. must improve capabilities for countering terrorism. U.S. must improve our intelligence capabilities, command-and-control structure, procedures for political/military policymaking, security precautions, and assistance to friendly countries to help them deal with the problem. This will cost money.
- U.S. must work with Allies, because they too are often targets. We must improve our police coordination and coordinate our foreign policies to isolate and penalize States that are sources of sponsors of terrorism. We must be willing to share the burdens and costs of such sanctions.
- -- U.S. must undertake a public campaign against State-sponsored terrorism, linking the phenomenon candidly to those States that practice it. U.S. must urge our friends to act in parallel with us.

#### NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

DATE: 20 FEB 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: JS/C, Lehman Background gapers FROM: NSC/S 1/25 on Lebanen for Conques
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SUBJECT: UNACCOUNTED FOR LOG NUMBERS
LOG #8400743 HAS BEEN ISSUED TO YOUR OFFICE.
WE NEED THE NECESSARY DATA/COPIES IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THE
ACTIVE SUSPENSE FILE OR INDEX THE ITEM FOR FURTHER REFERENCE
AND TRACKING PURPOSES.
YOUR HELP IS NEEDED. THANKS.
CHECK AS MAY BE APPROPRIATE:
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ACTION SENT FORWARD, COPY ATTACHED
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PLEASE RETURN TO NSC/S.

RECEIVED 21 FEB 84 15

TO

KIMMITT

FROM TEICHER

DOCDATE 25 JAN 83

KEYWORDS LEBANON

CO

SUBJECT: BACKGROUND PAPERS ON LEBANON FOR THE CONGRESS

ACTION: FOR RECORD PURPOSES

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WHITE HOUSE **CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET** 

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# DEPARTMENT OF STATE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT TRANSMITTAL FORM

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For: Mr. Robert C. McFarlane National Security Council

The White House

Re	f	e	r	e	n	C	е	:

	To: Pre	esident Reagan From: Mrs. Elena Stewart
	Date:	January 31, 1984 Subject: U.S. policy in Lebanon
	WH Refe	erral Dated: 3/28/84 NSC ID# 218889
		(if any)
•		The attached item was sent directly to the Department of State.
Acti	on Take	en:
		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.
è		Other.
Rema	arks:	

for Charles Hill Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)



Washington, D.C. 20520

Mrs. Elena Stewart 7 Carson Avenue Newburgh, New York 12550

13 APR 1984

Dear Mrs. Stewart:

Thank you for your letter of January 31, 1984 to President Reagan urging the withdrawal of our Marines from Lebanon.

As you know, the White House announced on February 7 that the Marines would be redeployed from their positions at Beirut Airport to their ships offshore. This redeployment was completed on February 26. Approximately 100 Marines remain in Beirut to provide additional external security for our diplomatic mission in Beirut, while another limited number of U.S. military personnel remain to provide military training and security assistance liaison to the Lebanese Armed Forces.

On March 30 the President took a further step with respect to our military involvement in Lebanon and formally notified Congress that he was terminating U.S. participation in the Multinational Force. While the United States remains committed to the long-range goals of a sovereign, united Lebanon, the withdrawal of all foreign forces and the security of Israel's northern border, the continuation of our participation in the MNF was determined to be no longer a necessary or appropriate means of achieving these goals. The other MNF participants made similar decisions; all have now withdrawn from the MNF and the Force has been disbanded.

The United States continues to back the aspirations of the Lebanese people. Our Ambassador in Lebanon remains actively engaged, and through regular contacts with all of Lebanon's communities, continues to encourage the hard work and spirit of compromise that are essential to achieving progress on political reform and national reconciliation. We will also continue to provide appropriate economic and military assistance to the Lebanese government.

Sincerely,

15/

David L. Mack, Director Office for Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and Iraq

#### THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

#### REFERRAL

MARCH 28, 1984

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 218889

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED JANUARY 31, 1984

TO:

PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM:

MRS. ELENA STEWART

7 CARSON AVENUE NEWBURGH NY 12550

SUBJECT: CONCERNS ABOUT U. S. POLICY IN LEBANON - NO

RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS LETTER

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

> > Secreted in 5/5-1 3/28 at 10:18 Am (D)

1110 response to date

7 Carson Ave. Newburgh, NY 12550 31 January 1984

218889

President of the United States The White House Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr President:

4.

I have written you before concerning the situation in Lebanon. The letter was not even acknowledged.

Yesterday, another Marine was killed. How many more lives must be lost before you will withdraw the U.S. troops? As an elected representative of the people of the United States, you should listen to the voices of the people. None of us like to see the senseless slaughter of our men for no reason.

We have always been taught to learn from history; it will prevent us from repeating our mistakes. Has Vietnam been erased from our memories? Vietnam wasn't a war either. It was a terrible mistake that many would like to forget; but if we do, we will turn Lebanon into a similar conflict as easily as we could in other countries.

It seems that the situation is of utmost importance to Congress, unlike it is to you judging by how much time was devoted to the subject in your State of the Union Address. It must have shown the Marines of the 24th MAU just how much you care. It must have shown them how easily you forgot the 250 men who were killed in the bombing of their headquarters. They will never forget the screams of the dying or all the bodies they had to dig for.

I urge you to reconsider your current policies in Lebanon before you have anymore dead men on your conscience.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Elena L. Stewart

Elena L Steward

K. AMA We



## Office of the Attorney General Washington, A. C. 20530

March 26, 1984

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### MEMORANDUM

TO:

Robert C. McFarlane

Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

FROM:

William French Smith

Attorney General

SUBJECT:

Exchange of correspondence with

Najeeb Halaby

Attached are copies of recent correspondence exchanged with Najeeb Halaby concerning the American University in Beirut, for whatever action you deem appropriate.

Attachments

3/27

RCM:

How do you want the attached

handled?

Wilma

NSC 8402572



## Office of the Attorney General

Washington, A. C. 20530

March 22, 1984

Dear Jeeb:

Thank you for your letter of February 27 regarding the American University in Beirut. You expressed concern about the status of green card-holding faculty members, and about continued U.S. financial support for the university. Let me say at the outset that I am a strong supporter of the university. AUB has made significant contributions both to educational excellence and to the cause of peace and stability in the Middle East. It is certainly in our national interests to strengthen the cultural and educational links which now exist between AUB and our country.

As you requested, I have taken another look at the problems AUB faculty members face in preserving their resident alien status in this country while abroad on teaching assignments. As you know, a combination of statutory limitations and administrative rulings has established a two-year limit on the length of time a resident alien may remain abroad on a re-entry permit. Last year we modified our administrative regulations -- which previously required re-entry within one year -- to allow such permits to be valid for a full two years. Legislation is required, however, to expand the re-entry time limit beyond two years.

With regard to the long-term financial well-being of the university, as stated earlier, I fully realize the need for substantial financial assistance at a time of confusion and turmoil in the Middle East. It is my understanding that Congress has been supportive of AUB, appropriating some \$57 million over the last five years. I have forwarded a copy of your letter to the President's National Security Advisor, Robert McFarlane, so that he may be fully advised of the matter.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

William French Smith Attorney General

\*

Mr. Najeeb E. Halaby 1822 Kalorama Square, N.W. Washington, D. C. 20008

1822 Kalorama Square N.W. Washington, D.C. 20008

February 27, 1984

The Honorable
William French Smith
The Attorney General
United States Department of Justice
10th and Constitution Avenue Northwest
Room 5111
Washington, D. C. 20530

Dear Bill:

Allison and I heard of your resignation with personal regret because we shall miss you and Jean very much! You have had a most interesting and distinguished period of public service and, as a simple citizen, I thank you and respect you for your strong convictions carried into action -- a rare achievement in Federal Service in recent years!

We expect to see you after returning from a trip to the Caribbean and hope that we will be able to entertain you at some time before you depart.

In contemplating your departure, we realize that the American University of Beirut is losing a particularly good friend and supporter in the Reagan Administration and we hope that we can count on you for your continued sympathy and concern as you resume private life.

In particular, we would like to ask you two favors. One is that you take one more look at what we can do either by direction or by legislation to assure the continued access by our faculty members holding green cards. As you are well aware, we are going through a dark period in Beirut and we need all the help we can get in that respect.

In addition, we would like to ask you to consider whether you think it appropriate and feasible to ask the President personally to endorse a campaign to underwrite the continuity of the University over the coming five years. I am a bit biased as Chairman of the

Board of Trustees -- admittedly -- but it seems to me that we are about the most enduring, constructive and hopeful institution of the United States in the Middle East. The kidnapping of David Dodge and other members of the AUB family and the assassination of our President, Malcolm Kerr, make the need for a permanent stand against terrorism in the Middle East even more poignant and urgent. There are so many enemies of freedom and zealots against the United States in the area at this time that only through the efforts of universities, churches and citizens' individual efforts are we likely to get any return to reason and compassion. AUB has over 118 years been such a voice and such a mission, as you well know. I wish you would contemplate how even in a time of deep deficit and many other demands, the President might forcefully and effectively take the lead in assuring the long-term survival of this great University.

I would like the privilege of calling you during the first week in March to see what may be possible for you to do to help us.

With the hope of seeing you soon, I am

Sincerely yours,

Majeeb E. Halaby

RECEIVED 28 MAR 84 14

TO

MCFARLANE

FROM SMITH, W

DOCDATE 26 MAR 84

SMITH, W

22 MAR 84

HALABY, NAJEEB E

27 FEB 84

KEYWORDS: LEBANON

SUBJECT	FINANCIAL	ASSISTANCE	FOR	AMERICAN	UNIVERSITY	TN	BETRUT

ACTION: PREPARE MEMO FOR MCFARLANE DUE: 30 MAR 84 STATUS S FILES

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

KEMP

THOMPSON

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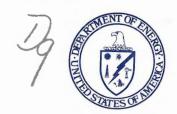
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# THE SECRETARY OF ENERGY WASHINGTON, D.C.



April 25, 1984

Mr. Craig Fuller Executive Office of the President The White House Washington, DC 20500

Dear Craig:

I am sending the enclosed to you in accordance with our prior conversation.

Sincerely,

DONALD PAUL HODEL

Enclosure

Charles Habib Mâlik

Rabiya, Almatn, Lebanon

226070 //20 CO086

Telephone: Lebanon 412,109

April 2, 1984

The Honorable Donald Hodel Secretary of Energy Department of Energy Capitol Hill Washington, D.C. 20515 United States of America

Dear Secretary Hodel:

I am writing to thank you for the privilege of seeing and chatting with you in your office lately in Washington, with our mutual friend Robert Pittinger. I profited considerably from our conversation. Regardless of any changes or developments, I beg you to keep in mind that what is historically at stake in Lebanon today is whether the free, open, democratic and pluralist society of Lebanon, and the free and secure Christian community of Lebanon, can still survive in the Eastern Mediterranean or are now doomed to perish. I assure you that the United States and the free world have it altogether in their power to determine, one way or the other, the outcome of this fateful question.

With best wishes and hoping to see you again when I am next in Washington, I am,

Faithfully yours,

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#### NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

229016 ///0 COOSG /GOGGS

May 4, 1984

TE

#### ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT C. MCFARLANE

FROM:

PHILIP A. DUR

SUBJECT:

Visit to Washington by Elie Salem

The Lebanese Embassy called and asked that I attempt to arrange a meeting with you for former Foreign Minister--now Presidential Advisor--Elie Salem, who will be in Washington from May 14-17. Salem's appointments are open on Monday, May 14 (p.m.) and all day May 15 and 16.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That you meet with Elie Salem at one of the above times.

Approve

Disapprove \_\_\_\_

NGC ID 8403595

## THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

May 10, 1984

FOR:

PHIL DUR

FROM:

Wilma Hall

Elie Salem appointment has been scheduled (with Georges Saim at the Lebanese Embassy) for 2:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 16.

Mr. Saim said that Elie Salem would be bringing his assistant and the Ambassador with him. I said that you would be in touch with him to finalize the details of the meeting as well as the participants but that our preference would be to limit the number, i.e. Salem & the Amb. I defer to your judgment on who should actually participate in the meeting.

Please provide Mr. McFarlane with talking points to use.

Many thanks.

	National Secu	rity Council	1142
	The White	System #	I
		Package #	3595
	, 11/4 PI21		
	SEQUENCE TO	O HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Dep. Exec. Sec'y		_	
<b>Bob Kimmitt</b>		K	
John Poindexter			
Tom Shull	3	<u>pl</u>	
Wilma Hall	4		
Bud McFarlane	5	M	A
<b>Bob Kimmitt</b>			
NSC Secretariat	_6	_	_ 7\
Situation Room			
			016
I = Information	= Action R = Retain	D = Dispatch N	= No further Action
cc: VP Mees	e Baker Deaver (	Other	
COMMENTS	Should be	seen by:	
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# 84 MAY 4 P6: 25

Source and Town State St

RECEIVED 04 MAY 84 20

TO

MCFARLANE

FROM DUR

DOCDATE 04 MAY 84

KEYWORDS LEBANON

AM

SALEM, ELIE

SUBJECT: APPT REQUEST W/ MCFARLANE FOR SALEM 14 - 17 MAY

ACTION: FOR DECISION

DUE: 10 MAY 84 STATUS X FILES WH

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

MCFARLANE

COMMENTS

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( MD )

ACTION OFFICER (S) ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

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ID #\_

### WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TAY 1:

00086

□ O - OUTGOING □ H - INTERNAL ☑ I - INCOMING					
Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 8 4 1 0 5 1 2		Pales I	L. Mel	later i i	220
Name of Correspondent: <u>//Mr.//M</u>	IS. //MISS	)0000	11 7700	011)	- / 1 , AX
☐ MI Mail Report U	ser Codes: (A)		(B)	(C)	
Subject: Seeks assi	otimos	- Lon	Rev. Be	usanu	in
Weir who was	Rils	inged	in B	elrut	٠.
ROUTE TO:	AC	TION	DISP	OSITION	
Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY1MM/DD	Type of Response	C	pletion Date MM/DD
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ACTION CODES:			DISPOSITION CODES:		
A - Appropriate Action C - Comment/Recommendation D - Draft Response F - Furnish Fact Sheet	I - Info Copy Only/No A R - Direct Reply w/Copy S - For Signature X - Interim Reply		A - Answered B - Non-Special Refe	C - Com rral S - Susp	
to be used as Enclosure	X vinterini Hopry		FOR OUTGOING CORP		
			Type of Response = Code = Completion Date =	"A"	
Comments:					

### RECORDS MANAGEMENT ONLY

	CLASSIFICATION SECTION	
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rime subject Code: <u>COOSL</u>	Secondary Subject Codes: \( \square \tag{2} \) \( \oldsymbol{00} \)	3.03
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	PRESIDENTIAL REPLY	
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SIGNATURE CODES:	MEDIA CODES:	
CPn - Presidential Correspondence	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
n - 0 - Unknown	B - Box/packs C - Copy	age
n - 1 - Ronald Wilson Reagan n - 2 - Ronald Reagan	D - Official de	ocument
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n - 5 - Ron Reagan	L - Letter M- Mailgram	
n - 6 - Ronald n - 7 - Ronnie	O - Memo	
II - 7 - Notitie	P - Photo	
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### UNCLASSIFIED (Classification)

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT TRANSMITTAL FORM

			S/S 8416014			
			84 JUN Date 12 June 7, 1984			
For: Mr. Robert C. McFarlane National Security Council The White House			WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM			
Refe	rence:					
	To:	President Reagan Fro	m: Dr. Robert Nelson			
	Date: 1	May 17, 1984 Subje	ct: Seeks assistance for Rev.			
	Benjar	min Weir who was kidnapped in	Beirut			
	WH Ref	erral Dated: June 1, 1984	NSC ID# 229322 (if any)			
·		The attached item was se Department of State.	nt directly to the			
Acti	on Tak	<u>en:</u>				
		A draft reply is attache	d.			
		A draft reply will be fo	rwarded.			
		A translation is attache	đ.			
,	. X	An information copy of a	direct reply is attached.			
		We believe no response i cited below.	s necessary for the reason			
		The Department of State proposed travel.	has no objection to the			
		Other.				

Charles Hill Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED (Classification)

Remarks:

June 4 1984

Dear Dr. Nelson:

Thank you for your letter to the President of May 17 regarding the kidnapping of Revecend Benjamin Weir.

The most semior levels of this Administration are deeply concerned about the kidhapping of Reverend Weir and the two other Americans taken hostage in Beirut earlier this year. We, in close consultation with our Embassy in Beirut, are exploring every possible avenue of inquiry to obtain the safe release of these three men. I regret deeply that progress has been so slow, but you can be sure that we will continue to try every possible contact that could bring us closer to finding and freeing Reverend Weir, Mr. Buckley and Mr. Levin.

My staff will remain in very close touch with the Weir family. I hope you, too, will feel free to telephone us if there are particular elements of the kidnapping you would like to discuss in detail.

Sincerely,

15/

Richard W. Murphy Assistant Secretary

Robert L. Nelson, Sr., M.O. 1235 W. Vista Way, Suite D, Vista, California.

### THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE REFERRAL

JUNE 1, 1984

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 229322

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED MAY 17, 1984

TO:

PRESIDENT REAGAN .

FROM:

DR. ROBERT L. NELSON SR.

SUITE D

1235 WEST VISTA WAY

VISTA CA 92083

SUBJECT: SEEKS ASSISTANCE FOR REVEREND BENJAMIN WEIR

WHO WAS KIDNAPED 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

> > Executed in 5/5-1
> > 6/1 at 9:50 Au(CD)

8416014

pos

ROBERT L. NELSON, M. D. 1235 W. VISTA WAY - SUITE D VISTA, CALIFORNIA 92083

May 17, 1984

200000

The Honorable Ronald Reagan President of the United States The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to you in regards to Benjamin Weir, (enclosure) my son, John Nelson's father-in-law.

I urge you to use all your influence to ensure the safe return of this kindly and gentle man.

Respectfully yours,

Robert & Welson Si

Robert L. Nelson, Sr. M.D.

vm

Enclosure

### U.S. Pastor Kidnaped on Beirut Street

### Abducted in Area Where 3 Other Americans Were Seized

By J. MICHAEL KENNEDY,

Times Staff Writer

BEIRUT-An American Presbyterian minister who has lived in Beirut for more than 30 years was kidnaped near his home Tuesday as he was walking to work with his

The Rev. Benjamin Weir, 52, was forced into a car by three armed men at about 8:15 a.m. while his wife, Carol, struggled with his abductors. The gunmen left her on the street, and she ran to a nearby police station.

Weir was kidnaped in the same West Beirut neighborhood where three other Americans have been abducted since February, when militiamen seized control of that half of the city from the Lebanese army. The others were Frank Regier, dean of engineering at the American University of Beirut; William. Buckley, a political officer at the U.S. Embassy, and Jeremy Levin, a resident correspondent for Cable News Network.

Of the three, only Regier has been released. Last month, two boys walked by a window and saw him chained to a bed in a house just south of Beirut. They quickly reported their discovery to the Shia Muslim militia, Amal, whose fighters stormed the building and freed Regier and French businessman Christian Joubert, also kidnaped in February.

Regier was abducted Feb. 10 as he was walking on a street near the university campus and freed April 15. Neither Amal nor U.S. Embassy spokesman have had anything to say about the identity of his kidnapers, fearing that they might jeopardize negotiations for the return of Buckley, Levin and now Weir.

Levin was abducted March 7. His wife, the last person to see him, said he was getting ready for work when she left their apartment, but he never arrived at his office, only a few blocks away.



Rev. Benjamin Weir.

Buckley was kidnaped March 16 as he was driving from his home to the embassy. His abduction prompted the U.S. Embassy to order all its diplomats to move into the barricaded American compound on the seafront corniche. Diplomats now leave the compound only with bodyguards.

No one has claimed responsibility for any of the kidnapings, and there have been no public ransom demands. But an Amal official working on the Buckley and Levin cases said Sunday that both men are believed to be alive and unharmed. "We still have some intricate negotiations to go," he said.

Levin and Buckley are newcomers to Beirut, while Regier and Weir, a native of Salt Lake City and a former pastor in Oakland, Calif., have lived here most of their lives. None had publicly made any strong political statements. They lived within half a mile of each other in the seaside Manara neighborhood, where most Americans in Beirut rent apartments.

Weir had been engaged in relief

and humanitarian work in Lebanon. He and his wife were scheduled to leave Lebanon next year for missionary work in Pakistan. They had planned to leave last year, but the-Near East School of Theology where his wife teaches prevailed on them to stay in Beirut because of the shortage of teachers.

The kidnapings are generally believed to be the work of fundamentalist Shia Muslim militiamen who follow Iran's leader, the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini. Suspicion has not focused on Amal, the country's largest militia, which is led by Nabih Berri, a lawyer and now a: member of Premier Rashid Karami's Cabinet.

Berri said at a press conference Tuesday afternoon that he had been informed of the kidnaping only and hour before by former Premier Salim Hoss. He said he has instructed officials in his organization to begin a search for Weir.

As the search for Weir went on. President Amin Gemayel continued his efforts to form a "government of national unity." Berri announced Monday that he would join it after Karami offered him a Cabinet post making him responsible for Israeli-occupied southern Lebanon, where most members of Berri's Shia sect live.

The news that Berri had agreed to join the Cabinet sent Muslim militiamen into the streets of West Beirut late Monday night, firing their weapons into the air in celebration. For more than an hour, few others ventured into the streets as spent bullets fell by the thousands.

Abdullah Rassi, who was appointed interior minister by Karami, is now the only nominee who has not accepted. His appointment was not well received by former President Suleiman Franjieh, Rassi's father-in-law. Despite their relationship, Franjieh was insisting that a Maronite Catholic be appointed to the post; Rassi is Greek Orthodox.

# U.S. Pastor Kidneped on Beirut Street

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CO 086

ID# 247366

### THE WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: SEPTEMBER 11, 1984

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. SAM GREENBERG

SUBJECT: SUPPORTS DECISION TO VETO THE LEBANESE
RESOLUTION IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL DEMANDING
THAT ISRAEL LIFT ALL RESTRICTIONS IN LEBANON

	A	CTION	DISPOSITION		
ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME	ACT CODE		TYPE C COMPL		
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*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *		*	OUTCOING	*	
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE *		*		*	
*X-INTERIM REPLY *		*		*	

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.

\*

(Classification)

S/S # 8425366

FROM: Mr. Sam Greenberg

Date Sept. 25, 1984

500 ps

DEPARTMENT OF STATE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT TRANSMITTAL FORM 5: 28

FOR:

Mr. Robert C. McFarlane WHITE HOUSE National Security CouncilSITUATION ROOM The White House

TO: President Reagan

#### REFERENCE:

	DATE:	09/07	/84			SUBJEC	T: Wr	ites	in Suppo	ort
	of Dec	ision	to	Veto :	Lebanese	Resolutio	n in	the S	ecurity	Counci
	WHITE	HOUSE	REF	ERRAL	DATED:	09/14/84		_	# 2473 f any)	66
					ITEM WAS	S SENT DIR	ECTLY			
ACTION	TAKEN	:							·	
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		A dra	aft	reply	will be	forwarde	d.			
		A tra	ansl	ation	is atta	ched.				
XX		An information copy of a direct reply is attached.								
			_	rtmen		te has no	obje	ction	to	
		We be			respons	se is nece	ssary	for	the rea	son
		Other	c.							

#### REMARKS:

Charles Hill
Executive Secretary



### ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE WASHINGTON

September 25, 1984

Dear Mr. Greenberg:

The White House has asked me to reply to your letter to the President of September 7 commending the United States veto of Lebanon's draft resolution in the Security Council on Israeli occupation practices in south Lebanon. We greatly appreciate your support.

As you indicated, the United States must consistently seek a balanced approach to the delicate and complex situation in the Middle East. That has been the cornerstone of our policy in the past, and it will guide our actions in the future.

Sincerely,

Gregory J. Newell International Organization Affairs

Mr. Sam Greenberg,
National Commander
Jewish War Veterans of the
United States of America
1811 R Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009

#### THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

#### REFERRAL

SEPTEMBER 14, 1984

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE ATTN: ISRAEL DESK

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID:

247366

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED SEPTEMBER 7, 1984

TO:

PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM:

MR. SAM GREENBERG NATIONAL COMMANDER

JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE UNITED

STATES OF AMERICA 1811 R STREET, NW WASHINGTON DC 20009

SUBJECT: WRITES IN SUPPORT OF DECISION TO VETO

LEBANESE RESOLUTION IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL

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

#247366



#### Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America 1811 R Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009

(202) 265-6280

8425366

0984034R September 7, 1984

The President
The White House
Washington, DC

Dear Mr. President:

As National Commander of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. (JWV), I should like to commend your recent decision to veto the Lebanese resolution in the Security Council demanding that Israel lift all restrictions on freedom of movement in the areas of Lebanon under its occupation.

We agree with your assessment of the resolution as a political initiative, motivated not by humanitarian impulses but designed to continue the pressure that is being put on Israel to withdraw from the area before they have adequate security guarantees.

We support you in your efforts to sustain an even-handed response to the delicate and difficult situation in the Middle East. The Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. is the oldest active veterans organization in America.

Sincerely,

Sam Greenberg

National Commander

cc: Jeanne Kirkpatrick



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### THE WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 248361

CO 086

INCOMING					0 00	
DATE RECEIVED: SEPTEMBE	ER 25, 1984					
NAME OF CORRESPONDENT:	MR. PAUL S. NEW	MAN	4			
SUBJECT: WRITES REGARD:	ING BOMBINGS IN	LEB AN	NC			
		ACTION		DISPOSITIO		i
ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF	NAME)		DATE YY/MM/DD			
ROBERT C. MCFARLANE	OTE:	ORG	84/09/25		C 04/08/	Sy
KATHERINE C. SHEPHERD	OTE:		84/09/25	CI	c 84 1091	25
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******	*****	****	*****	****	*****	*
*ACTION CODES:	*DISPOSITION CO	DES:	*OUTGOI		137 OF	*
* *A-APPROPRIATE ACTION	* *A-ANSWERED		* CORRE	SPONDE RESPETN		*
*C-COMMENT/RECOM	*B-NON-SPEC-REF	ERRAL	*		SIGNER	*
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE	*C-COMPLETED			CODE =		*
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET	*S-SUSPENDED		*COMPLE		DATE OF	*

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.

\*

\*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY \*

\*

\*S-FOR-SIGNATURE \*X-INTERIM REPLY

#### PAUL S. NEWMAN • 340 EAST 74 STREET • NEW YORK, N. Y. 10021

12 CC: KP

Dear Mr. President:

20 Sept.

Having written "The Lone Ranger", I have a deep appreciation of the blessedness of my American heritage....

and yes, Mr. President, you are right, patriotism is flourishing again across our land.

In 1983, we saw our Embassy blown up in Beirut and 17 American dies...and we felt bitter and sad, but rallied to our flag....

- there was no reprisal, but "officials" spoke of relatiatory options"

In the fall of that same year, 241 American servicemen died in their compound.

- we wondered why the terrorists car got in so close, so easily...but you told us more preculations would be taken
- no reprisals were taken...but we still had our vaunted "options"....options the French and Israeli used on other terrorist camps in the Bekka without a direct connection, but with the implication their messages would be passed on

The nation rallied, flags came out at the Olympics and the Conventions....

Then, yesterday, 2 more Marines blown away.

- true, you are sending out Mr. Murphy to investigate...but he already told the gress he was "satisfied with security"...this despite a warning 12 days before and a second gate still lying on the ground.

Yes, Mr. President, under your administration the country is becoming more patriotic...nothing inspires patriotism more strongly than the sight of flag draped coffins.

A registered and disgusted Republican,

Paul ). Newsum



### U.S. National Archives & Records Administration

## Current Status Details for CTRH RECID: 249171 MAIN SUBCODE: CO086

Current Status	Open
User Name	dbarrie
Status Date	2010-05-19
Case Number	
Notes	transferred to CO046

Change Status Close Window

### **Review Status History**

	Status		User	Case Number	Notes	
1	Open	2010-05-19	dbarrie		transferred to CO046	