

DECLASSIFIED

NLRR #05-096 #34325

BY AW NARA DATE 1/29/08

82 MAY 17 P10: 39

WHITE HOUSE
SITUATION ROOM

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SENSITIVE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

May 17, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Walter J. Stoessel, Jr.
Acting Secretary of State

1. Israeli Message on Lebanon. Israeli Charge Nehushtan called on me today to convey the following oral message from Prime Minister Begin on Lebanon: "Israel does not want to surprise the U.S. We wish to inform Secretary Haig that it may well become imperative or inevitable to take action to remove the threat against Israel (from Lebanon) . . . Israel wants to maintain peace and the cessation of hostilities, but terrorist statements and deeds prevent success in maintaining the ceasefire." I told Nehushtan that we wanted the ceasefire to hold, reviewed the benefits that had accrued from it, and cautioned that it would not be understood by many in the U.S. if a major Israeli operation were launched into Lebanon. In the meantime, I have been in touch with Secretary Haig and we will consider urgent measures which could be taken to cool Israeli ardor for precipitous action. Our concern is that Israel now considers that it has taken all the necessary military and (in its eyes) political steps preparatory to launching a major operation against Palestinian forces in Lebanon. Almost certainly, a Cabinet decision has been taken that would allow such an operation to proceed just as soon as a suitable provocation occurs.

2. Discussions with Summit Participants on Credit Restraints. Jim Buckley, in discussions Friday in Paris with representatives of other participants in the Versailles Summit, encountered strong resistance from the French on restraints of future official credits and guarantees for the USSR. The French representative insisted, contrary to earlier indications, that such a solution was impossible due to the provisions of France's 1980 credit agreement with the Soviet Union and that France could do nothing outside the OECD framework. Secretary Haig saw French Foreign Minister Cheysson in Luxembourg Sunday and pressed for greater French flexibility. Cheysson urged further consultations, but avoided a specific commitment. We will continue to press them in the days ahead.

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RDS-1 5/17/02 (Stoessel, Walter J., Jr)

MEMORANDUM

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL
OF CLASSIFIED ENCLOSURE(S)

CS 2/22/07

~~SECRET ATTACHMENT~~

May 18, 1982

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: WILLIAM P. CLARK

SUBJECT: Acting Secretary Stoessel's Evening Report

Attached is Walt Stoessel's Evening Report for May 17, 1982.

cc: The Vice President
Ed Meese
Jim Baker
Mike Deaver

~~SECRET ATTACHMENT~~

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