

11

11

ADVANCE COPIES 835

IMMEDIATE

PS (4)  
PS/WRUCE  
PS/PUS  
SIR J LEAHY  
MR SPERTON  
SIR J BULLARD  
ED/REID MR WELBORN  
ED/ED MR CHAMBERLAIN  
ED/USD MR PERRY

ADVANCE COPY  
NO 10, DOWNING STREET  
CABINET OFFICE D10

ED/Defence Dept...

ED/CONSULAR DEPT

... ..  
... ..

*ms*

FUSD (2)  
NEWS D  
RESIDENT CLERK

GR450  
CONFIDENTIAL  
FM UKMIS NEW YORK 070120Z JAN 64  
TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 28 OF 6 JANUARY  
INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON, PARIS, ROME, BEIRUT, TEL AVIV,  
DAMASCUS, MODUL, PRIORITY MOSCOW, CAIRO, THE HAGUE  
MIPT : LEBANON

1. THIS EXHAUSTIVE DISCUSSION WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (SUPPLEMENTED BY A TALK WITH URQUHART) UNDERLINES AGAIN THE INABILITY OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO TAKE AN INITIATIVE WHICH WOULD LEAD TO AN EXTENDED ROLE FOR UN FORCES ALLOWING THE MNF TO WITHDRAW WITH HONOUR. HE IS OF COURSE HIGHLY SYMPATHETIC TO THIS GOAL AND WOULD LIKE TO FORWARD IT IF HE CAN. BUT WITHOUT A LEBANESE GOVERNMENT REQUEST AND SECURITY COUNCIL COVER HE CANNOT ACT. HE BELIEVES THAT EVENTUALLY A UN FORCE WILL TAKE OVER FROM THE MNF THOUGH PROBABLY IN AN EXPANDED GEOGRAPHICAL AREA. BUT HE THINKS THAT THIS WILL BE A RESULT OF THE MNF CONTRIBUTORS PULLING OUT WILLY-NILLY UNDER POLITICAL PRESSURES.

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL CLEARLY DOES NOT THINK THAT THE ITALIAN

2. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL CLEARLY DOES NOT THINK THAT THE ITALIAN IDEA ABOUT FLYING A UN FLAG OVER THE REFUGEE CAMPS IF THAT MEANS MORE THAN WHAT IS HAPPENING AT PRESENT WOULD BE EASY TO SQUARE WITH LEGALITIES. MOREOVER HE HAS NO CONFIDENCE, THAT IT WOULD BE EFFECTIVE.

3. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL IS NATURALLY KEEN TO PURSUE THE PROSPECT WHICH HE NOW SEES AS BEING ON THE VERGE OF ACTUALITY THAT THE ISRAELIS WILL CONDUCT A FURTHER UNILATERAL WITHDRAWAL IN SOUTHERN LEBANON. AFTER THE EXPERIENCE OF THE LAST ONE HE HOPES THAT ALL CONCERNED WILL AGREE THAT UNIFIL SHOULD PLAY A ROLE IN MONITORING THE WITHDRAWAL AND IN SECURING THE AREA VACATED. HE HAS ONLY A RATHER VAGUE HOPE THAT THIS WILL IN SOME WAY DISPOSE THE INTERESTED PARTIES PARTICULARLY THE SYRIANS AND SOVIETS TO THINK BETTER OF UN ACTIVITY ELSEWHERE IN THE LEBANON INCLUDING THE BEIRUT AREA.

4. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL IS TRYING TO WORK ON THE AMERICANS TO DO A DEAL WITH THE RUSSIANS. IF AS URQUHART EXPECTS THIS FAILS HE DOES NOT SEEM TO HAVE A FALL-BACK POSITION. HE WAS HOWEVER DISTINCTLY PLEASED AT THE THOUGHT THAT YOU WOULD BE SPEAKING NEXT WEEK IN DAMASCUS. CLEARLY HE HOPES THAT YOU MAY BE ABLE TO PERSUADE THE SYRIANS TO ACCEPT A NEW UN ROLE IN THE LEBANON. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL WAS OBVIOUSLY GRATIFIED BY THE PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE AND WAS CLEARLY READY TO CONSULT CLOSELY AND TO LISTEN TO ANY SUGGESTIONS WE MAY HAVE TO MAKE. THAT IS GOOD. BUT I DO NOT THINK WE CAN COUNT UPON HIM TO LAUNCH AN EFFECTIVE NEW INITIATIVE.

5. URQUHART SAID HE WISHED TO DISCUSS THE POSITION WITH ME AGAIN ON MONDAY. I MAY BE ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE SOMETHING THERAFTER.

THOMSON

NNNN

BUT HE THINKS THAT THIS WILL BE