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PP WASHINGTON
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FM FCO 231730Z JAN 84

TO PRIORITY WASHINGTON

TELEGRAM NUMBER 132 OF 23 JANUARY

INFO PRIORITY PARIS, ROME, BEIRUT, DAMASCUS, TEL AVIV, UKMIS
NEW YORK, AMMAN, JEDDA, CAIRO, MOSCOW.

MY TELNO 66 TO WASHINGTON: LEBANON: UN OPTIONS

1. EGERTON HELD A FURTHER MEETING ON 23 JANUARY WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE US, ITALIAN AND FRENCH EMBASSIES TO HEAR COMMENTS ON OUR PAPER (FCO MY TELNO 67).
2. HOOPER (US) CIRCULATED A NOTE (TEXT IN MIFT) WHICH STATED THAT THE MOST PROMISING OPTION WAS THE DEPLOYMENT OF UNIFIL TO COVER ISRAELI PARTIAL WITHDRAWALS IN SOUTH LEBANON. HE ADDED (PLEASE PROTECT) THAT A SECTION IN THE NOTE COVERING THE POSSIBLE ROLE OF UNISO OBSERVERS IN THE BEIRUT AREA HAD BEEN DROPPED AFTER MUCH DISCUSSION IN WASHINGTON.
3. VATTANI (ITALY) SAID THAT THE ITALIAN MFA WELCOMED OUR PAPER AND AGREED THAT THE OPTION OF AN EXPANDED ROLE FOR UNIFIL IN SOUTH LEBANON OFFERED THE BEST CHANCE OF OVERCOMING SYRIAN AND SOVIET OBJECTIONS. THE ITALIANS ALSO SAW A ROLE FOR UN OBSERVERS IN BEIRUT. IN STOCKHOLM GROMYKO'S ATTITUDE WHEN HE DISCUSSED THE ROLE OF UN WITH ANDREOTTI HAD NOT (NOT) BEEN NEGATIVE: HE HAD TAKEN THE LINE THAT THE VIEWS OF THE SYRIANS WOULD HAVE TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. THE MNF PARTNERS SHOULD KEEP UP THE PRESSURE ON THE UN SECRETARIAT TO KEEP THE PROBLEM ALIVE. HE UNDERSTOOD THAT WHEN THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL MET THE SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER IN CASABLANCA, KHADDAM DID NOT DISPLAY PREJUDGED OPPOSITION TO A UN ROLE BUT HAD NOT "OPENED UP HIS MIND"
4. TREMEAU (FRANCE) SAID THAT OUR THINKING WAS SIMILAR TO THAT OF THE QUAI. THEY AGREED THAT THE MOST PROMISING OPTION WAS AN EXPENSION OF THE UNIFIL MANDATE WHICH MIGHT ALSO COVER THE PALESTINIAN CIVILIAN POPULATION, NOT NECESSARILY IN THE BEIRUT AREA. GROMYKO HAD TOLD CHEYSSON THAT IF WE SECURED

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SYRIAN AGREEMENT FOR AN EXTENDED ROLE FOR UNIFIL, THE SOVIET UNION WOULD LEND ITS SUPPORT.

5. EGERTON GAVE BRIEF ACCOUNTS OF OUR MEETINGS WITH SALEM (FCO TELNO 23 TO BEIRUT) AND MY MEETING WITH GROMYKO (UKDEL CED TELEGRAM NUMBER 22). IT WAS AGREED TO HOLD A FURTHER MEETING ON 6 FEBRUARY UNLESS CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE MEANTIME, EG A FURTHER ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL, NECESSITATED AN EARLIER MEETING. THIS FOLLOWED A THROW - AWAY REMARK BY HOOPER THAT A FURTHER ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL MIGHT WELL TAKE PLACE BEFORE UNIFIL'S MANDATE CAME UP FOR RENEWAL IN MID-APRIL.

6. SEE MY IFT (B)

HOWE

[COPIES SENT TO NO 10 DOWNING ST]

MULTINATIONAL FORCE IN LEBANON (MNF)

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FINANCE DEPT

PROTOCOL DEPT

PS

PS/LADY YOUNG

PS/MR LUCE

PS/PUS

SIR J BULLARD

SIR J LEAHY

MR WRIGHT

MR CARTLEDGE

MR MACINNES

MR ADAMS

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