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GRS 175

SECRET

DESKBY 140930Z

FM MOSCOW 140856Z FEB 84

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 209 OF 14 FEB

FOLLOWING FROM PRIVATE SECRETARY TO SECRETARY OF STATE  
FOR RICKETTS (PRIVATE OFFICE)

YOUR TELNO 171 : MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT REAGAN

1. MIFT CONTAINS A REVISED VERSION OF TEXT IN YOUR TUR WHICH HAS  
BEEN WORKED ON HERE TO PUT IT MORE IN THE STYLE THAT THE PRIME  
MINISTER IS LIKELY TO WANT TO ADOPT.

2. ON SUBSTANCE, WE WONDER WHETHER WHAT WE ARE SUGGESTING ON THE  
AGREEMENT REALLY GOES ANY FURTHER THAN THE AMERICAN POSITION  
AS IT CAN BE INFERRED FROM WHAT HAS ALREADY BEEN SAID ON VARIOUS  
OCCASIONS. THERE WOULD BE LITTLE PURPOSE IN A MESSAGE WHICH  
MERELY URGED THE AMERICANS TO DO SOMETHING WHICH THEY HAVE ALREADY  
SIGNALLED THEIR WILLINGNESS TO DO, AND IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF THE  
DEPARTMENT COULD LET US HAVE QUICKLY THEIR ADVICE ON THIS POINT.  
WHAT IS THE FURTHEST THAT WE THINK THE AMERICANS WILL HAVE GONE IN  
TALKING TO THE SYRIANS AND TO GEMAYEL ?

3. GRATEFUL ALSO FOR ANY OTHER COMMENTS ON THE TEXT IN MIFT.

SUTHERLAND

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