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INTERNATIONAL
SECURITY AFFAIRS

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

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Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: AUG 06 2018

18 AUG 1982
I-24646/82 AS SEEN
AUG 18 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: CPPG Meeting on Lebanon August 18 (U)

In preparation for your breakfast with Secretary Shultz tomorrow, here is a rundown of the CPPG today on Beirut:

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Co. 8/19*

- The GOL has approved the Habib plan; the Israeli cabinet meets on it the morning of August 19. Thus, we should know in the morning if they now agree to it.
- There are three issues on which the Israelis might hold up agreement:
 - Verification that all the PLO depart. No one can guarantee this and Habib has tried to finesse the issue.
 - A direct written commitment from the French that they will leave Beirut if the departure plan breaks down.
 - Return of the Israeli POW held by the PLO and the nine bodies of IDF personnel.
- The consensus of the meeting seemed to be that there was a one in three chance of final agreement tomorrow and thus that the President's meeting with the Congressional leadership and subsequent public announcement would take place tomorrow.
- Bud McFarlane said the President thinks there is some value to US forces holding in their positions in Beirut after the PLO departure is completed as a presence in view of LAF weakness. This would not be for more than 30 days and could be less.
- On this issue, the JCS representative and I expressed DoD's preference for departure as soon as the departure mission is completed. All agreed with us that any movement of US forces or mission change would have to be approved here.
- State argued that we should not be seen as leaving the French and Italians holding the bag and that our presence for 30 days was a valuable political asset to the Lebanese in achieving control.

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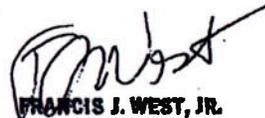
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- Other Issues:

- Egypt has now quietly volunteered to take some wounded PLO.
- We will notify Congress under the War Powers Act the day after we enter Beirut.
- EUCOM's meeting with the French General Staff did not go well; the French seem to be ready to be very activist and take risks. JCS believes this may work out in further talks.
- There was discussion of mine clearing in West Beirut in which DoD stated that our troops would not be prepared to clear mines or to attempt to teach the Lebanese to do so during a short period of US force deployment; however, we did not rule out teaching in Europe some Lebanese to clear mines if a formal request were received from the Lebanese. We could also do so with a MTT at some future time.



FRANCIS J. WEST, JR.
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
(INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS)

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Date: 06 Aug 2018 Authority: EO 13526 + 5 USC 9552
Declassify: X Deny in Full: _____
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