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(Countries: Lebanon, Republic of)  
**Case File Number(s):** 590000-594999  
**Box:** 120

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

CO 086

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: SEPTEMBER 20, 1988

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: ARCHBISHOP FRANCIS M. ZAYEK

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN WITH A MESSAGE RECEIVED  
FROM THEIR PATRIARCH NASRALLAH PETER SFEIR  
STATING THAT THE U.S. THROUGH UNDER SECRETARY  
OF STATE RICHARD MURPHY HAS GIVEN UP \*

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
		ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
JUANITA DUGGAN		ORG	88/09/20		C 8810 25 TR
<del>DO S</del>	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:	D	88/10/11 TR		C 88/11/01/14 TR
Juanita Duggan	(draft) REFERRAL NOTE:	A	88/10/19		C 88/11/22 TR
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				

COMMENTS: \* LEBANON TO SYRIA  
see ID 592728 NSC 8807429 TR

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:M INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

- \*\*\*\*\*
- |                          |                      |                      |   |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|
| *ACTION CODES:           | *DISPOSITION         | *OUTGOING            | * |
| *                        | *                    | *CORRESPONDENCE:     | * |
| *A-APPROPRIATE ACTION    | *A-ANSWERED          | *TYPE RESP=INITIALS  | * |
| *C-COMMENT/RECOM         | *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL | * OF SIGNER          | * |
| *D-DRAFT RESPONSE        | *C-COMPLETED         | * CODE = A           | * |
| *F-FURNISH FACT SHEET    | *S-SUSPENDED         | *COMPLETED = DATE OF | * |
| *I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC* |                      | * OUTGOING           | * |
| *R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * |                      |                      | * |
| *S-FOR-SIGNATURE         |                      |                      | * |
| *X-INTERIM REPLY         |                      |                      | * |
- \*\*\*\*\*

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE  
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590  
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING  
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

October 18, 1988

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR PAUL SCHOTT STEVENS

FROM: WILLIAM J. BURNS *WB*

SUBJECT: Letter Concerning a Message Received from  
Patriarch Sfeir on U.S. Policy Toward Lebanon

Attached at Tab B are two mailgrams from Archbishop Francis M. Zayek concerning a message received from Patriarch Sfeir on U.S. policy toward Lebanon and Presidential elections in Lebanon. The NSC staff concurs with the suggested State draft response.

RECOMMENDATION

That you approve and forward the attached memorandum for Sally Kelley at Tab I.

Approve

*WB*

Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

Attachments


Tab I Memorandum for Sally Kelley  
Tab A Draft Response  
Tab B Mailgrams from Archbishop Zayek

Prepared by:  
Stephen E. Benko

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

October 18, 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR SALLY KELLEY

FROM: PAUL SCHOTT STEVENS   
SUBJECT: Letter Concerning Message Received from Sfeir  
Regarding U.S. Policy Toward Lebanon

The NSC staff concurs with the attached State draft response.

Attachments

Tab A Draft Response  
Tab B Mailgrams from Archbishop Zayek

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DRAFT REPLY

Dear Archbishop Zayek:

Thank you for your messages of September 19 and 25 concerning U.S. policy toward Lebanon and the presidential election there.

The United States supports the national unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Lebanon. We encourage and support efforts to end the violence and disorder there and reestablish a dialogue among the Lebanese that could open the way to constitutional reform and national reconciliation.

On the presidential election, we believe this is a critical time to work for consensus, not confrontation and partition. We urge all parties to exercise maximum restraint. The recent evolution of rivaling ~~ing~~ claims to government authority demonstrates the need for an election to be held as soon as possible in peace, freedom, and safety. The United States believes that the Lebanese must select their next president through Lebanon's constitutional process.

Archbishop Francis M. Zayek

Bishop of the Diocese of Saint Maron, U.S.A.,

Our Lady of the Cedars of Lebanon,

61 Rockwood Street,

Jamaica Plains, MA 02130.

Throughout this critical period, the United States intends to remain in contact with as many responsible Lebanese groups and leaders **as possible**. We do not intend to take measures that will deepen partition rather than promote an election.

We are concerned about the plight of all innocent civilians, Christian and Muslim, who have suffered so much during the last 13 years of fighting. Reports of sectarian massacres and property destruction unfortunately have been widespread in Lebanon; no confessional community appears to have escaped unscathed.

As a reflection of our support for Lebanon's sovereignty, the United States maintains a military and economic assistance program. Also, the United States provides substantial humanitarian aid totalling over \$20 million annually to help feed and shelter the people of Lebanon. Our relief and reconstruction projects and programs also continue.

Finally, the United States continues to support efforts to end the cycle of violence in southern Lebanon, in part through its support for UNIFIL, the United Nations Interim Forces in Lebanon. We remain convinced that agreed-upon security arrangements among Syria, Lebanon, and Israel provide the best means of assuring stability and security for the people of southern Lebanon and northern Israel.

Sincerely,

**UNCLASSIFIED**

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

**TRANSMITTAL FORM**

7429

S/S 8829659

Date October 14, 1988

FOR: Mr. Paul Schott Stevens  
Executive Secretary  
National Security Council  
The White House

REFERENCE:

To: President Reagan

From: Archbishop Frances M. Zayek

Date: September 19, 1988

Subject: Concerned re Sfeir's Message that Assistant Secretary  
Murphy sold out to the Syrians on Lebanon

WH Referral Dated: October 11, 1988

NSC ID# (if any): 592611

       The attached item was sent directly to the  
Department of State.

ACTION TAKEN:

- XX   A draft reply is attached.
- A draft reply will be forwarded.
- A translation is attached.
- An information copy of a direct reply is attached.
- We believe no response is necessary for the reason  
cited below.
- The Department of State has no objection to the  
proposed travel.
- Other (see remarks).

REMARKS:

*for Sandra Paulis*

**UNCLASSIFIED**

Director  
Secretariat Staff

3829659

T H E W H I T E H O U S E O F F I C E

REFERRAL

OCTOBER 11, 1988

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DRAFT REPLY FOR SIGNATURE OF:  
WHITE HOUSE STAFF MEMBER

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 592611

MEDIA: MAILGRAM, DATED SEPTEMBER 19, 1988

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: ARCHBISHOP FRANCIS M. ZAYEK  
BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF  
SAINT MARON, U.S.A.  
OUR LADY OF THE CEDARS OF LEBANON  
61 ROCKWOOD STREET  
JAMAICA PLAINS MA 02130

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN WITH A MESSAGE RECEIVED  
FROM THEIR PATRIARCH NASRALLAH PETER SFEIR  
STATING THAT THE U.S. THROUGH UNDER SECRETARY  
OF STATE RICHARD MURPHY HAS GIVEN UP  
LEBANON TO SYRIA

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN  
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE  
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE  
(OR DRAFT) TO:  
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE, 20500

SALLY KELLEY  
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON  
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE



OUR LADY OF THE CEDARS OF LEBANO  
61 ROCKWOOD ST  
JAMAICA PLAINS MA 02130 19AM

Western  
Union Mailgram®



1-0229688263 09/19/88 ICS IPMRNCZ CSP WHSB  
6175220025 MGMB TDRN BOSTON MA 135 09-19 0146P EST

592611

3829659

*J. Duggan*

PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN  
WHITE HOUSE DC 20500

MR PRESIDENT,

IT IS WITH GREAT CONSTERNATION THAT I HAVE RECEIVED A MESSAGE FROM  
OUR PATRIARCH NASRALLAH PETER SFEIR WITH WHOM YOU MET IN JULY. ALL  
THE LEBANESE AND THOSE OF LEBANESE DESCENT ARE PROFOUNDLY HURT TO SEE  
THAT THE UNITED STATES THROUGH THE HANDS OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF  
STATE RICHARD MURPHY HAS GIVEN UP LEBANON TO SYRIA. WHILE ALL THEIR  
HOPES WERE IN THE WORDS OF YOUR EXCELLENCY AND THE AMERICAN  
GOVERNMENT THAT YOU WILL KEEP LEBANON FREE, SOVEREIGN AND INDEPENDENT  
THEY ARE SEEING THAT ALL THIS IS GOING DOWN THE DRAIN. WE BEG YOUR  
EXCELLENCY TO DO SOMETHING TO CORRECT THIS WRONG WHICH THE GOOD  
LEBANESE AND THE CHRISTIANS OF LEBANON WILL NEVER ACCEPT.

ARCHBISHOP FRANCIS M ZAYEK, / BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF SAINT MARON  
U.S.A.

13:44 EST

MGMCOMP

4

OUR LADY OF LEBANON MARONITE SEM  
7164 ALASKA AVE NORTHWEST  
WASHINGTON DC 20012 25AM

Western Union Mailgram

592721

1-0087545269 09/25/88 ICS IPMMY77 CSP WHRB  
2027236831 MGMR TDMT WASHINGTON DC 11A 09-25 0224P EST

PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON DC 20500

DE 205157 ION TO LEBANON'S PRESENT CRISIS IS THE HOLDING OF FREE  
PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS IN A NEUTRAL PLACE, SUCH A PLACE IS THE VILLA  
MAJSC R ON THE DIVIDING LINE BETWEEN EAST AND WEST BEIRUT. IT HAS  
BEEN THE MEETING PLACE FOR THE LEBANESE PARLIAMENT DURING THE PAST 12  
YEARS. HOLDING THE ELECTIONS IN WEST BEIRUT WHERE MEMBERS OF  
PARLIAMENT WOULD BE SUBJECT TO INTIMIDATION BY SYRIA'S ARMY IS  
UNACCEPTABLE TO ANY LOVER OF FREEDOM. THE LEBANESE SHOULD BE FREE TO  
CONSIDER ALL CANDIDATES AND NOT ONLY THE ONES DICTATED BY SYRIA.  
PLEASE HELP THE LEBANESE TO HAVE A FREE AND DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL  
ELECTION.

ARCHBISHOP FRANCIS ZAYEK  
DIOCESE OF ST MARON, USA

14:22 EST

MGMCMP

Cardinal of the C.A. of Lebanon  
61 Rockefeller Street  
Jungluc Plains, MA 02130

National Security Council  
The White House

CM

38 OCT 18 P4: 11

System # T  
Package # 7429  
DOCLOG CM AIO \_\_\_\_\_

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Bob Perito	<u>1</u>	<u>Rmp</u>	<u>A</u>
Marybel Batjer	_____	_____	_____
Paul Stevens	<u>2</u>	<u>pm</u>	<u>A</u>
John Negroponte	_____	_____	_____
Colin Powell	_____	_____	_____
Paul Stevens	_____	_____	_____
Situation Room	_____	_____	_____
West Wing Desk	<u>3</u>	_____	<u>N</u>
NSC Secretariat	<u>4</u>	<u>Oct 18 / GAD</u>	<u>5</u>

I = Information   **A = Action**   R = Retain   D = Dispatch   N = No further Action

cc: VP   Duberstein   Other \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS   Should be seen by: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date/Time)

UNCLASSIFIED  
NSC/S PROFILE

RECORD ID: 8807429  
RECEIVED: 17 OCT 88 10

TO: KELLEY, S

FROM: STEVENS

DOC DATE: 18 OCT 88  
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: LEBANON

MP

PERSONS: SFEIRS, PETER

SUBJECT: LTR CONCERNED RE SFEIRS MSG THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY MURPHY SOLD  
OUT SYRIANS ON LEBANON

ACTION: STEVENS SGD MEMO DUE DATE: 20 OCT 88 STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: BURNS

LOGREF:

FILES: WH

NSCIF:

CODES:

DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTION

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

BENKO

BURNS

STEVENS

COMMENTS:

DISPATCHED BY GAD

DATE 18 OCT

BY HAND

W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSRCB

CLOSED BY: NSGAD

DOC 4 OF 4

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED  
ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 8807429

DOC ACTION OFFICER

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

001 BURNS	Z 88101710 PREPARE MEMO STEVENS TO KELLEY
003 STEVENS	Z 88101815 FOR SIGNATURE
004	X 88101818 STEVENS SGD MEMO

UNCLASSIFIED



THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

20084

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: SEPTEMBER 21, 1988

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: CHOR-BISHOP SEELY BEGGIANI

SUBJECT: OPPOSES UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE RICHARD MURPHY'S AGREEMENT WITH SYRIA TO IMPOSE A PRE-SELECTED PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE ON THE LEBANESE PEOPLE

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
		ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
JUANITA DUGGAN		ORG	88/09/21		C8810 25 CN
	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /

COMMENTS: incoming retained by Duggan's office

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:T INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

- \*\*\*\*\*
- |                          |                      |                      |   |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|
| *ACTION CODES:           | *DISPOSITION         | *OUTGOING            | * |
| *                        | *                    | *CORRESPONDENCE:     | * |
| *A-APPROPRIATE ACTION    | *A-ANSWERED          | *TYPE RESP=INITIALS  | * |
| *C-COMMENT/RECOM         | *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL | * OF SIGNER          | * |
| *D-DRAFT RESPONSE        | *C-COMPLETED         | * CODE = A           | * |
| *F-FURNISH FACT SHEET    | *S-SUSPENDED         | *COMPLETED = DATE OF | * |
| *I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC* |                      | * OUTGOING           | * |
| *R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * |                      | *                    | * |
| *S-FOR-SIGNATURE         | *                    | *                    | * |
| *X-INTERIM REPLY         | *                    | *                    | * |
- \*\*\*\*\*

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE (ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590  
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS MANAGEMENT.





THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

CO 086

INCOMING

C.F.

DATE RECEIVED: SEPTEMBER 21, 1988

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. MICHEL K. NAHAS

SUBJECT: ASKS FOR SUPPORT IN HIS CANDIDACY FOR THE  
PRESIDENCY OF LEBANON, HE IS A CANDIDATE FROM  
THE GREEK CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
DEPARTMENT OF STATE REFERRAL NOTE: _____	<u>BAR</u> <u>ORG</u>	88/09/22	<u>TR</u>	<u>C88,08,30</u> CN
REFERRAL NOTE: _____	---	__/__/__	---	__/__/__
REFERRAL NOTE: _____	---	__/__/__	---	__/__/__
REFERRAL NOTE: _____	---	__/__/__	---	__/__/__
REFERRAL NOTE: _____	---	__/__/__	---	__/__/__

COMMENTS: SEE ID 586981

NSC 8807064 CN

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

MI MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

- \*\*\*\*\*
- |                          |                      |                      |   |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|
| *ACTION CODES:           | *DISPOSITION         | *OUTGOING            | * |
| *                        | *                    | *CORRESPONDENCE:     | * |
| *A-APPROPRIATE ACTION    | *A-ANSWERED          | *TYPE RESP=INITIALS  | * |
| *C-COMMENT/RECOM         | *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL | * OF SIGNER          | * |
| *D-DRAFT RESPONSE        | *C-COMPLETED         | * CODE = A           | * |
| *F-FURNISH FACT SHEET    | *S-SUSPENDED         | *COMPLETED = DATE OF | * |
| *I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC* |                      | * OUTGOING           | * |
| *R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * |                      | *                    | * |
| *S-FOR-SIGNATURE         | *                    | *                    | * |
| *X-INTERIM REPLY         | *                    | *                    | * |
- \*\*\*\*\*

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE  
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590  
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING  
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8827988

Date September 29, 1988

FOR: Mr. Paul Schott Stevens  
Executive Secretary  
National Security Council  
The White House

REFERENCE:

To: President Reagan

From: Michel K. Nahas

Date: Letter dated August 30, 1988

Subject: Ask to support his candidacy for Presidency of  
Lebanon

WH Referral Dated: September 22, 1988

NSC ID# (if any): 592617

       The attached item was sent directly to the  
Department of State.

ACTION TAKEN:

       A draft reply is attached.

       A draft reply will be forwarded.

       A translation is attached.

       An information copy of a direct reply is attached.

XXX We believe no response is necessary for the reason  
cited below.

       The Department of State has no objection to the  
proposed travel.

       Other (see remarks).

REMARKS: Nahas is not a serious candidate; in fact, he is not even eligible to be president under the Lebanese National Pact of 1943, which restricts the presidency to Maronite Catholics. Nahas is Greek Catholic. Any response would quite likely be distorted or misused by Nahas to enhance his position in Lebanon. The USG need not be a party to these efforts.

*Philip Zelikson*  
Director  
Secretariat Staff

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

3827988

T H E W H I T E H O U S E O F F I C E

REFERRAL

SEPTEMBER 22, 1988

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 592617

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED AUGUST 30, 1988

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: MR. MICHEL K. NAHAS  
POST OFFICE BOX 70844  
ANTELIAS  
BEIRUT LEBANON

SUBJECT: ASKS FOR SUPPORT IN HIS CANDIDACY FOR THE  
PRESIDENCY OF LEBANON, HE IS A CANDIDATE FROM  
THE GREEK CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN  
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE  
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE  
(OR DRAFT) TO:  
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE, 20500

SALLY KELLEY  
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON  
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

8 - SEE JO 586981

592617

005

Michel K. Nahas /

C/o Embassy of the United States  
of America Beirut

August 30, 1988

The Honorable Ronald W. Reagan  
President of the United States of America  
Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. President

The election for the presidency of the Lebanese  
Republic will take place this coming September.

I count on your support and sustenance with  
all concerned to be able to reach this high  
ranking position. I shall be a staunch  
ally to the United States of America which  
I consider as my second homeland

Sincerely  
Michel K. Nahas  
Honorary Citizenship

1586  
Michel K. NAHAS  
P.O.Box : 70844  
Antelias - Beirut  
Lebanon

My dear Mr. President,

This article appeared in the British magazine "JANE'S"  
on May 21st 1988 .

This magazine is specialized in defense issues and  
clearly outlines all Syria's actions towards streng-  
thening its defense continuously and intensifying its  
hostilities against the United States, Israel and  
Lebanon, all with Russia's extensive assistance .

Why does Syria have the right to give concessions to  
Russia in the form of military bases on its land and  
sign political, economic and defensive treaties with  
Russia ? Also Syria is purchasing Chinese rockets  
capable of carrying nuclear warheads to destroy Israel  
and Lebanon, the two U.S. allies .

If I were to be elected to the presidency of the Leba-  
nese Republic, I surely shall have the right to ratify  
such treaties with the U.S.A. for 50 years or more, or  
as long as you see fit, given that I get your full fi-  
nancial and political support to win the election for  
the presidency in August. I shall tie the destiny of  
Lebanon as that of Israel with the United States, and  
make the Lebanese pound connected to the U.S. dollar  
to ease the way for Lebanon to become the fifty third  
state and an additional star on the United States flag.

Sincerely,

*Michel K. Nahas*

Michel K. NAHAS



His Beatitude, Patriarch  
Maximos V Hakim

*Melkite - Greek Catholic Patriarchate  
of Antioch and all the East,  
of Alexandria and of Jerusalem*

P. O. Box 50076  
Beirut, Lebanon

Reg. XIX N° 295

Raboueh, Sept. 5th, 1985

To Whom It May Concern.

We Maximos V Hakim, Patriarch of Antioch and all the East, of Alexandria and of Jerusalem, have very well known our beloved son Mr. Michel Nahas of Zahleh and the Bekaa, for a long time. He is a notable Lebanese citizen of great merit.

We know that Mr. Nahas is the only greek.catholic candidate for the presidency of the Lebanese Republic.

Estimating his qualifications of honesty and straight forwardness, in addition to his administrative and commercial capacities, we appreciate his openness towards the neighbouring arab countries and towards other countries of the western world particularly the United States of America and France.

We are glad to express our respect to Mr. Nahas and our full confidence in him and to wish him the best.

With our apostolic blessing.



*+Maximos V*

+ MAXIMOS V HAKIM,  
Patriarch of Antioch and all the East,  
of Alexandria and of Jerusalem.

The following is the text of the speech I made during the Marines Christmas party held in one of the halls at Beirut International Airport.

I came here tonight to welcome you, friends, on this very precious and dear occasion, the remembrance of Jesus Christ's Birth, the birth of peace, forgiveness, love and brotherhood prevailed the whole world.

There is no other nation following the sayings and teachings of our Lord and behaving in virtue of his Epistle as the people and the government of the United States of America do.

You, officers and soldiers, by your bravery and courage, represent the people and the government of the United States of America as well as your great President, Ronald W. Reagan who deserves our respect and esteem and that of every honourable man in the world.

Your great Nation was and is yet the supporter of justice and truth and conquered whom it helps in their most difficult times.

Since the days of your Leader, Abraham Lincoln, the days when people were freed from oppression and slavery, your people made the covenant to free nations and adopted the mission of veracity, honesty and love distributing it amongst all nations starting from your own land to remove all distinctions among classes of society. Then this high mission began to extend all over the world whilst you had pledged to back the weak, to free the persecuted and to aid the ill-treated.

You used to lend a hand without hesitation, taking no count of all obstacles and criticisms.

I welcome you, heroes, as we all welcome you in your second homeland, Lebanon, assuring you of our great appreciation. Every Lebanese citizen will remember through years your human action while you are miles and miles away of your country and families and in very difficult and complex conditions to help us free our land, retrieve our freedom and rights and recover our sovereignty. These symbols of civilization were doomed to vanish and our state was about to deviate had it not been for your assistance and support.

In this day, the day of love, sacrifice and forgiveness, I seize the opportunity to ask you all to support us in our decision to regain our rights and our exploited land, to support our beloved President, Sheikh Amin Gemayel as well as our intrepid and brave army enabling our government to extend its sovereignty over all our country and to insure protection and justice to every Lebanese citizen who almost lost the hope to survive within these eight years of exodus, suffering and torture.

We trust you, heroes, as our expectations are as great as your country, so do not disappoint us.

In this occasion, I would like to express my gratitude and sincere appreciation to the French and Italian Military forces and to all friendly forces who are helping us to overcome our severe trial, wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



# Soviets set to expand Tartus base

DIPLOMATIC sources are indicating that the facility at Tartus, on Syria's coast, which has long been used by the Soviet Navy's Mediterranean squadron as a limited repair and maintenance facility, is to be expanded and a permanent base established there.

Analysts are expressing particular concern because the Soviet admiral in charge of the Tartus work is Adm Sidorov, who supervised the development of the Cam Ranh base in Vietnam.

This port has been described by US intelligence as "the largest Soviet naval forward deployment base outside the USSR". Sidorov is officially deputy for 'rear services' for the Soviet Navy.

Other senior Soviet naval figures have been to Syria recently to visit the Tartus base. Adm of the Fleet V N Chernavin, the C-in-C of the Soviet Navy, was there last year, as well as his deputy Adm Grishin. Other high-level visits to the country have been reported (JDW 30 April).

The Soviet Navy began using Tartus in 1969, following the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, but use increased dramatically in 1976 after the expulsion of Soviet advisers and facilities from Egypt.

The Americans noted at the time: "Soviet presence in and additional access to facilities in Syria can restore the USSR's military position on the Mediterranean littoral."

Tartus is the primary maintenance facility for

Soviet submarines operating in the Mediterranean. A submarine, tender, a yard oiler and a water tender are stationed there.

In 1987 it was reported that port calls had "increased in frequency", and deployments of Soviet Naval Aviation anti-surface warfare and reconnaissance aircraft have apparently been expanded.

It is thought that Syria has been persuaded to extend greater access to the Soviet Union because of her growing indebtedness. The USSR is paying no rent for the base, and the agreement has no fixed expiry date.

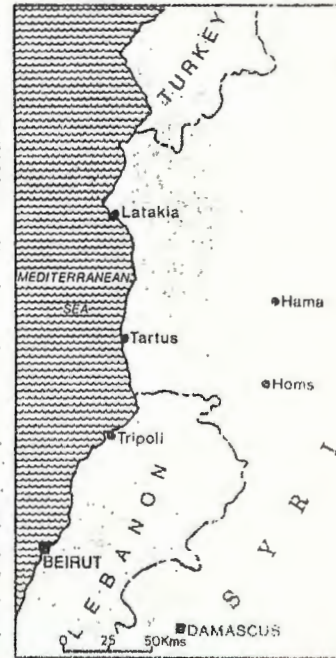
The development at Tartus indicates a consolidation of the Soviet Union's military relationship with its key Middle East ally.

On 17 March, Chairman Gorbachev, during a visit to Yugoslavia, put forward a new arms control proposal involving various measures to restrict naval activities in the Mediterranean. He said: "We are interested in seeing lanes of peace and not routes of war passing here."

His proposal included an offer to "freeze the number of ships and the potential of the naval forces stationed there", from 1 July this year.



▲ Adm of the Fleet Chernavin... "in Tartus last year"



## Soviet space: reconnaissance problems remain

● Troubles continue to plague the Soviet advanced high resolution photographic reconnaissance programme. Kosmos 1935 was launched on 24 March, a month after its predecessor, Kosmos 1916, had to be destroyed in orbit following a malfunction.

During 1-3 April Kosmos 1935 adjusted its orbit several times to set up a series of passes over the eastern section of Afghanistan near the Pakistan border in the late morning hours at an altitude of only 170 km. For five days the spy satellite lingered over the area on its daily passes as details of the withdrawal of Soviet troops were being completed. However, when this portion of its mission was over and the satellite should have been re-boosted to continue its flight, the satellite unexpectedly returned to Earth on 8 April, completing only 15 days of an anticipated 50-60 day mission.

● During April, Kosmos 1936 assumed the duties of the USSR's only long duration photographic reconnaissance capability, having replaced Kosmos 1881 within hours of the latter's re-entry on 30 March after a flight of 201 days.

● On 26 April Kosmos 1900 appeared to become the longest lived radar ocean reconnaissance satellite (RORSAT) after

surpassing the 136-day record of Kosmos 1365 in 1982. However, on 13 April Kosmos 1900 failed to make a regular orbit correction and continued to slowly lose altitude. By the end of April the nuclear-powered spacecraft had dropped to the lower altitude of its sister RORSAT Kosmos 1932. Since Kosmos 1900 has an orbital profile slightly different from that of any previous RORSAT, the motivation for this recent behaviour is not yet clear.

● With the launch of an apparently new generation remote sensing satellite on 26 April, the Soviet demonstrated a new geostationary launch profile of significance both to the rapid replacement of military satellites and to the potential

commercial launch service customer. For 14 years all Soviet geostationary satellites have been inserted into high equatorial orbits near 90° east. From here they had to drift east or west to their assigned positions, sometimes for several weeks.

Kosmos 1940 was allowed to remain in a low altitude parking orbit for an extra six hours, permitting a direct insertion in the Western Hemisphere near 15° west with 12 and a half hours of launch. By contrast Gorizont 15, launched on 31 March, took two weeks to reach the same location. The new technique greatly enhances the Soviet capability to rapidly replenish high altitude satellite constellations.

### APRIL SOVIET MILITARY SPACE FLIGHTS

Name	Date	Launch site	Launch vehicle	Mission
Kosmos 1937	5th	PL	SL-8	Tactical communications
Kosmos 1938	11th	PL	SL-4	Spot photographic reconnaissance
Kosmos 1941	27th	TT	SL-4	Spot photographic reconnaissance

TT : Tyuratam

PL : Plesetsk



MARY ANNE FACKELMAN-MINER—THE WHITE HOUSE  
er, Reagan and Duberstein in the Oval Office

## end for Bush?

Duberstein ward Baker chief of staff, anticipate r's presiden- bush's men voring Bob later work- sident Rea- r Bush's fu- oo, was part House "Dole expected to to Bush's ein "under- ke here and during the hen Ronald take a back adviser. so likely to

ambassado- luding key East, could ear because ibbling be- use and the over the traordinary e "serious sequences"

join the swelling chorus of Republicans urging Bush to choose Dole as his running mate. Dole appears presidential, appeals to Democrats and—with wife, Liddy—could help narrow Bush's gender gap. Bush aides say a recent rapprochement between the former foes could lead to a Bush-Dole ticket, but some wonder if the acerbic Kansas senator can "attack on command and sit and heel on command as well."

## Confrontation

When Angolan rebel leader Jonas Savimbi comes to the United States next week, he can look forward to a warm meeting with President Reagan and a fierce confrontation with black leaders. Among those protesting Savimbi's South African connections are NAACP leader Benjamin Hooks, the Rev. Joseph Lowery of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, National Education Association president Mary Futrell and Baltimore Mayor Kurt Schmoke. Jesse

## Missile 'Crisis'

It will be the worst crisis in U.S.-Chinese relations in 10 years," predicts a Reagan administration official. Despite warnings from Washington, China is about to sell its newest shorter-range missile, the M-9, to Syria. "If they haven't signed already, it's only days away," says a senior U.S. official. Although Syria now has missiles capable of striking much of Israel, the Chinese deal is expected to cause a furor on Capitol Hill—with outraged protests from the U.S. Israeli lobby

and supporters of Taiwan.

A mobile, solid-fuel missile with high accuracy and at least a 600-kilometer range, the M-9 is 20 years more advanced than the Silkworm missiles China sold to Iran or the Chinese DF-3 medium-range missiles bought by the Saudis. It is thought to be the first Chinese missile made specifically for export.

■ The Soviets also appear worried by China's expanded missile sales. Little noticed in the Moscow summit communiqué was a line signaling their concern by agreeing to U.S.-Soviet talks on curtailing the international missile market.

## CAMPAIGN '88

## Conventional-Wisdom Watch

Howard Baker's no fool. Eight months ago he was a CW goat: Bork had been defeated, Ginsburg (remember him?) had withdrawn. The Dow had collapsed. Baker's White House was in disarray, the CW said.

Now, Reagan's enjoying a mild summit high, and Baker quit while his CW was up... Democratic Sen. Wyche Fowler of Georgia went in and out of the vice presidential CW so fast he didn't even make this chart.

DEMOCRATS		Conventional Wisdom
PRESIDENT		
Dukakis	↓	Bad luck: Sam Donaldson assigned to his campaign. Wright affair starting to smell.
VICE PRESIDENT		
Glenn	↑	Practically a fait accompli, to hear some CW-ers talk. His state (Ohio) looming as crucial.
Bradley	↑	Says he's not interested. CW translation: Make me an offer.
Nunn	↓	Says he's not interested. CW translation: I'll take it, I'll take it.
Jackson	↓	Is he playing poker or is he just indecisive? Gossip about his private life revives.
REPUBLICANS		
PRESIDENT		
Bush	↓	CW realizing what a hapless campaigner he is. Pentagon scandal, North trial will hurt.
VICE PRESIDENT		

## Saudi and UK in al-Yamamah talks

SAUDI DEFENCE Minister Prince Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz al-Saud, who is to visit the UK in the next two weeks, is expected to try and iron out differences between the UK and Saudi Arabia over the £5 billion (\$US9 billion) al-Yamamah project, under which the Royal Saudi Air Force is to be supplied with 72 Panavia Tornados, 30 BAe Hawks and 30 Pilatus PC-9s.

The problems centre on arrangements for UK offset investment in Saudi Arabia which was the subject of a memorandum of understanding signed last year.

Under the agreement, the UK will reinvest in Saudi Arabia a sum equivalent to a third of the value of the UK's share in the project's technical content, ie the aircraft and weapon sales but excluding training.

There have, however, been delays in reaching agreement over the precise arrangements for carrying out the £5-600 million investment and the Saudis have yet to respond to UK proposals tabled several months ago.

Unlike the offset deal between Boeing and Saudi Arabia connected with the Peace Shield programme, offset was not originally part of the

al-Yamamah contract and therefore no UK company is currently under any contractual obligation to invest in Saudi Arabia.

UK companies are at present competing for a number of new defence contracts with Saudi Arabia, most notably Vosper Thornycroft's submission of a version of its *Sandown* class single role minehunter to fulfil a Saudi requirement for new mine warfare forces. Other contenders are the Franco-Belgian-Dutch Tripartite minehunter and Italy's *Levici* design.

As well as the industrial offset dimension of the al-Yamamah project, about 50% of the cost is being met through oil revenue.

Shell and BP are lifting oil for the contract, which totalled 300 000 barrels a day when the deal was signed and, following subsequent

fluctuations in the price of oil, is currently standing at 400 000 barrels a day.

According to a London-based oil analyst, a pricing disagreement suspended lifting during February, but work was back on course by the end of March. He also noted that some technical problems may possibly disrupt lifting this month.

As far as aircraft deliveries are concerned, a BAe spokesman said that they are on course with 20 IDS Tornados having been received by Saudi to date.

No Tornados are now scheduled for delivery until spring 1989 when the company will begin supplying the ADV version of the aircraft. BAe is currently working on fulfilling the Hawk aircraft portion of the contract.

## Japanese companies to study V-22 potential

TWO JAPANESE trading companies, Mitsui and C.Itoh, have teamed and forged an agreement with Bell-Boeing to study the

By Karen Walker

Placemav deliver

to be reached



The honorables  
Senators and congressmen  
Please

Attention, Attention!...

It is necessary for us the Americans to  
protect the economical welfare of the  
United States of America and from any  
outside competition even if it was a  
friendly nation namely the United  
Kingdom



Mr. Michel Nahas  
Post Office Box 42  
Zahle, Lebanon



JIMMY CARTER

October 30, 1984

To Josephine Nahas

Rosalynn and I are grateful for your expression of thoughtfulness. We appreciate your many kindnesses on our behalf, and are glad to know we can always count on you.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

*Yes Mr. President  
Certainly you can always  
count on me.  
The United States it is  
our second homeland  
Josephine and Michel*

Mrs. Josephine Nahas  
Post Office Box 42  
Zahle, Lebanon

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON



Mr Michel K. Nahas  
Post office Box 70844  
antelias, Beirut  
Lebanon



Nancy and I are deeply touched by the way so many people have reached out to us during these days. My recovery has been hastened and my spirits uplifted by the many good wishes that have come my way from friends like you. From the bottom of my heart, thank you and God bless you.

Ronald Reagan

We pray to the Almighty to keep you and your family and bless the United States and her people  
Michel K. Nahas

CONFIDENTIAL  
NSC/S PROFILE

RECORD ID: 8807064  
RECEIVED: 30 SEP 88 08

TO: PRESIDENT

FROM: NAHAS, MICHEL K

DOC DATE: 30 AUG 88  
SOURCE REF: 592617

KEYWORDS: LEBANON

MP

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: LTR ASK TO SUPPORT HIS CANDIDACY FOR PRES OF LEBANON

ACTION: ANSWERED BY STATE LTR DUE DATE: 04 OCT 88 STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: BURNS

LOGREF:

FILES: WH

NSCIF:

CODES:

DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTION

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

BURNS  
KELLY, B  
OAKLEY  
RODMAN  
ROSTOW

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

DISPATCHED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_ BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSRCB

CLOSED BY: NSRCB

DOC 1 OF 1

CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL  
ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 8807064

DOC ACTION OFFICER

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

001 BURNS

X 88093008 ANSWERED BY STATE LTR

CONFIDENTIAL

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

CD 086

ING

DATE RECEIVED: SEPTEMBER 27, 1988

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MOST REVEREND FRANCIS ZAYEK

SUBJECT: REQUESTS SUPPORT FOR THE LEBANESE TO HAVE A  
FREE AND DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
		ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
JUANITA DUGGAN		ORG	88/09/27		C 88/10/5 TR
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:		88/10/11 TR		C 88/10/1 TR
	REFERRAL NOTE:		88/10/18 TR		C 88/11/22 TR
	REFERRAL NOTE: atten: FYJ		88/11/22 DM		A 88/11/22 TR
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				

COMMENTS: NSC 88 07429 TR

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:M INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

- \*\*\*\*\*
- |                          |                      |                      |   |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|
| *ACTION CODES:           | *DISPOSITION         | *OUTGOING            | * |
| *                        | *                    | *CORRESPONDENCE:     | * |
| *A-APPROPRIATE ACTION    | *A-ANSWERED          | *TYPE RESP=INITIALS  | * |
| *C-COMMENT/RECOM         | *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL | * OF SIGNER          | * |
| *D-DRAFT RESPONSE        | *C-COMPLETED         | * CODE = A           | * |
| *F-FURNISH FACT SHEET    | *S-SUSPENDED         | *COMPLETED = DATE OF | * |
| *I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC* |                      | * OUTGOING           | * |
| *R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * |                      |                      | * |
| *S-FOR-SIGNATURE         |                      |                      | * |
| *X-INTERIM REPLY         |                      |                      | * |
- \*\*\*\*\*

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE  
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590  
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING  
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 22, 1988

Dear Archbishop Zayek:

Thank you for your messages of September 19 and 25 concerning U.S. policy toward Lebanon and the Presidential election there.

The United States supports the national unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Lebanon. We encourage and support efforts to end the violence and disorder there and reestablish a dialogue among the Lebanese that could open the way to constitutional reform and national reconciliation.

On the Presidential election, we believe that this is a critical time to work for consensus, not confrontation and partition. We urge all parties to exercise maximum restraint. The recent evolution of rival claims to government authority demonstrates the need for an election to be held as soon as possible in peace, freedom, and safety. The United States believes that the Lebanese must select their next president through Lebanon's constitutional process.

Throughout this critical period, the United States intends to remain in contact with as many responsible Lebanese groups and leaders as possible. We do not intend to take measures that will deepen partition rather than promote an election.

We are concerned about the plight of all innocent civilians, Christian and Muslim, who have suffered so much during the last 13 years of fighting. Reports of sectarian massacres and property destruction unfortunately have been widespread in Lebanon; no confessional community appears to have escaped unscathed.

As a reflection of our support for Lebanon's sovereignty, the United States maintains a military and economic assistance program. Also, the United States provides substantial humanitarian aid totalling over \$20 million annually to help feed and shelter the people of Lebanon. Our relief and reconstruction projects and programs also continue.

Finally, the United States continues to support efforts to end the cycle of violence in southern Lebanon, in part through its support for the United Nations Interim Forces in Lebanon. We remain convinced that agreed-upon security arrangements among Syria, Lebanon, and Israel provide the best means of assuring stability and security for the people of southern Lebanon and Northern Israel.

Sincerely,

Mary Dewhirst  
Special Assistant to the President  
Office of Public Liaison

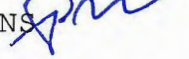
Archbishop Francis M. Zayek  
Bishop of the Diocese of Saint Maron, U.S.A.  
Our Lady of the Cedars of Lebanon  
61 Rockwood Street  
Jamaica Plains, MA 02130

PL Dugl

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

October 18, 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR SALLY KELLEY

FROM: PAUL SCHOTT STEVENS 

SUBJECT: Letter Concerning Message Received from Sfeir  
Regarding U.S. Policy Toward Lebanon

The NSC staff concurs with the attached State draft response.

## Attachments

Tab A Draft Response  
Tab B Mailgrams from Archbishop Zayek

UNCLASSIFIED  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8829668

Date October 14, 1988

FOR: Mr. Paul Schott Stevens  
Executive Secretary  
National Security Council  
The White House

REFERENCE:

To: President Reagan

From: Archbishop Francis Zayek

Date: September 25, 1988

Subject: Requests Support for the Lebanese to Have a Free  
and Democratic Presidential Election

WH Referral Dated: October 11, 1988

NSC ID# (if any): 592728

\_\_\_\_\_ The attached item was sent directly to the  
Department of State.

ACTION TAKEN:

\_\_\_\_\_ A draft reply is attached.

\_\_\_\_\_ A draft reply will be forwarded.

\_\_\_\_\_ A translation is attached.

\_\_\_\_\_ An information copy of a direct reply is attached.

We believe no response is necessary for the reason  
cited below.

\_\_\_\_\_ The Department of State has no objection to the  
proposed travel.

\_\_\_\_\_ Other (see remarks).

REMARKS:

This is Archbishop Zayek's second letter to the President.  
We replied to him under another action request (NSCS #592611). No  
further reply is necessary.

*Philip Zelikow*  
for

Director  
Secretariat Staff

UNCLASSIFIED

3829668

T H E W H I T E H O U S E O F F I C E

REFERRAL

OCTOBER 11, 1988

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DRAFT REPLY FOR SIGNATURE OF:  
WHITE HOUSE STAFF MEMBER

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 592728

MEDIA: MAILGRAM, DATED SEPTEMBER 25, 1988

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: MOST REVEREND FRANCIS ZAYEK  
ARCHBISHOP  
DIOCESE OF ST. MARON, USA  
OUR LADY OF THE CEDARS OF LEBANON  
61 ROCKWOOD STREET  
JAMAICA PLAINS MA 02130

SUBJECT: REQUESTS SUPPORT FOR THE LEBANESE TO HAVE A  
FREE AND DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN  
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE  
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE  
(OR DRAFT) TO:  
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE, 20500

SALLY KELLEY  
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON  
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DRAFT REPLY

Dear Archbishop Zayek:

Thank you for your messages of September 19 and 25 concerning U.S. policy toward Lebanon and the presidential election there.

The United States supports the national unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Lebanon. We encourage and support efforts to end the violence and disorder there and reestablish a dialogue among the Lebanese that could open the way to constitutional reform and national reconciliation.

On the presidential election, we believe this is a critical time to work for consensus, not confrontation and partition. We urge all parties to exercise maximum restraint. The recent evolution of rivaling ~~ing~~ claims to government authority demonstrates the need for an election to be held as soon as possible in peace, freedom, and safety. The United States believes that the Lebanese must select their next president through Lebanon's constitutional process.

Archbishop Francis M. Zayek

Bishop of the Diocese of Saint Maron, U.S.A.,

Our Lady of the Cedars of Lebanon,

61 Rockwood Street,

Jamaica Plains, MA 02130.



Throughout this critical period, the United States intends to remain in contact with as many responsible Lebanese groups and leaders as possible. We do not intend to take measures that will deepen partition rather than promote an election.

We are concerned about the plight of all innocent civilians, Christian and Muslim, who have suffered so much during the last 13 years of fighting. Reports of sectarian massacres and property destruction unfortunately have been widespread in Lebanon; no confessional community appears to have escaped unscathed.

As a reflection of our support for Lebanon's sovereignty, the United States maintains a military and economic assistance program. Also, the United States provides substantial humanitarian aid totalling over \$20 million annually to help feed and shelter the people of Lebanon. Our relief and reconstruction projects and programs also continue.

Finally, the United States continues to support efforts to end the cycle of violence in southern Lebanon, in part through its support for UNIFIL, the United Nations Interim Forces in Lebanon. We remain convinced that agreed-upon security arrangements among Syria, Lebanon, and Israel provide the best means of assuring stability and security for the people of southern Lebanon and northern Israel.

Sincerely,

SEE ID 592611

OUR LADY OF LEBANON MARONITE SEM  
7164 ALASKA AVE NORTHWEST  
WASHINGTON DC 20012 25AM

Western Union Mailgram



1-0087548269 09/25/88 ICS IPMMTZZ CSP WHSR  
2027238831 MGMB TDMT WASHINGTON DC 118 09-25 0224P EST

592728

J. Duggan

PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON DC 20500

DC 20515 ITION TO LEBANON'S PRESENT CRISIS IS THE HOLDING OF FREE  
PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS IN A NEUTRAL PLACE, SUCH A PLACE IS THE VILLA  
MANSOUR ON THE DIVIDING LINE BETWEEN EAST AND WEST BEIRUT. IT HAS  
BEEN THE MEETING PLACE FOR THE LEBANESE PARLIAMENT DURING THE PAST 12  
YEARS. HOLDING THE ELECTIONS IN WEST BEIRUT WHERE MEMBERS OF  
PARLIAMENT WOULD BE SUBJECT TO INTIMIDATION BY SYRIA'S ARMY IS  
UNACCEPTABLE TO ANY LOVER OF FREEDOM. THE LEBANESE SHOULD BE FREE TO  
CONSIDER ALL CANDIDATES AND NOT ONLY THE ONES DICTATED BY SYRIA.  
PLEASE HELP THE LEBANESE TO HAVE A FREE AND DEMOCATIC PRESIDENTIAL  
ELECTION.

ARCHBISHOP FRANCIS ZAYEK  
DIOCESE OF ST MARON, USA

14:22 EST

MGMCOMP

Our Lady of the Cedars of Lebanon  
61 Rockwood Street  
Jamaica Plains, MA 02130

5241 (R 7/82)

