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**WHORM Subject File Code:** CO086  
(Countries: Lebanon, Republic of)  
**Case File Number(s):** 595000-598999  
**Box:** 121

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# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

## Ronald Reagan Library

**Collection Name** WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT  
(WHORM): SUBJECT FILE

**Withdrawer**  
DLB 6/3/2010

**File Folder** CO086 (LEBANON) (595000-589999)

**FOIA**  
S10-306

**Box Number** 121

SYSTEMATIC  
744

ID Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
92140 PAPER	BIO	1	6/8/1988	B1 B3

The above documents were not referred for declassification review at time of processing

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
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- B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

WVS

C.F.

4546 add-on

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 23, 1988

395-03635

6/24/88

20086

PROO7-01

PROO5

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY WITH MARONITE CATHOLIC PATRIARCH SFEIR OF LEBANON

FG006-12  
PRO14-08

DECLASSIFIED  
BY SP-10/STP/STP, as amended  
DATE 6/21/10

DATE: June 24, 1988  
LOCATION: Oval Office  
TIME: 10:30 - 10:40 a.m.  
FROM: COLIN L. POWELL

JAN for

I. PURPOSE

To reaffirm U.S. support for national reconciliation in Lebanon and encourage the Patriarch to play an active moderating role in this summer's Lebanese Presidential elections.

II. BACKGROUND

Patriarch Sfeir hopes his visit to the United States will help give him the stature to mediate in Lebanon's upcoming Presidential campaign. By virtue of his office, the Patriarch remains the only Lebanese leader currently maintaining a dialogue with all elements of the Christian community, from which the Lebanese President traditionally is chosen. As he did in his meetings earlier this week with the Vice President and Secretary Shultz, the Patriarch is likely to urge continued U.S. support for political reform in Lebanon and additional humanitarian aid.

Your brief meeting provides a good opportunity to highlight U.S. concern about Lebanon and enhance the Patriarch's moderating influence. We continue to make that concern clear through humanitarian assistance (\$23 million in food aid for 135,000 Lebanese families in FY 88) and active diplomacy in support of political reform.

Patriarch Sfeir will present you with a Lebanese cedar seedling. A similar seedling was presented to President Kennedy by Patriarch Meouchi in 1962, and was planted on White House grounds.

III. PARTICIPANTS

List of participants is at Tab B.

IV. PRESS PLAN

Open Photo, Writing Pool.

~~SECRET~~

Declassify: OADR

cc: Vice President  
Chief of Staff (2)

NSA 8804546

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

SECRET

2

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- o 10:30-10:40 a.m. Photo Opportunity

Attachments

Tab A Talking Points with 3X5 cards  
Tab B List of Participants  
Tab C Biography of Patriarch Sfeir

SECRET

~~SECRET~~

TALKING POINTS FOR MEETING WITH  
MARONITE CATHOLIC PATRIARCH SFEIR

- Very pleased that you could come to the United States at such an important time in Lebanon.
  
- I remain deeply concerned about the situation in Lebanon.
  
- We will continue to help where we can, through humanitarian assistance and political support.
  
- Upcoming Presidential election is very important for Lebanon. You have unique role to play. Urge you to do all you can to ensure Christian support for peaceful, orderly election, as essential step toward political reform and national reconciliation.

(If asked to broker election, alone or with Syria:)

- Lebanese should make their own choice. Our role is to help encourage orderly, non-violent atmosphere in which election can take place, according to established procedures.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

United States

The President  
Kenneth Duberstein  
Colin Powell  
Acting Assistant Secretary of State Edward Djerejian  
Rebecca Range  
Robert Oakley  
Juanita Duggan

Lebanon

His Beatitude Maronite Catholic Patriarch Nasrallah Sfeir  
His Excellency, Archbishop Pio Laghi, Papal Nuncio  
His Excellency, Archbishop Francis Zayek, Maronite Archbishop of  
the U.S.

~~SECRET~~

SECRET

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

4546 add-on

DECLASSIFIED  
Sec. 3.4(a), E.O. 12958, as amended  
White House Guidelines, Sept. 11, 2006  
BY NARA ab DATE 4/21/10

June 23, 1988

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR COLIN L. POWELL

FROM: ROBERT B. OAKLEY <sup>ABO</sup>

SUBJECT: President's Photo Opportunity With Maronite  
Catholic Patriarch Sfeir of Lebanon, June 24,  
1988, 10:30-10:40 a.m., Oval Office

Attached at Tab I is a short memorandum and talking points for the President's use in his photo opportunity with Patriarch Sfeir. Attached at Tab II is a copy of a White House statement on the meeting which we have forwarded separately to Rhett Dawson, for issuance on June 24. I will be meeting with the Patriarch in the OEOB immediately after his session with the President.

Marybel Batjer concurs.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memorandum to the President at Tab I.

Approve ABO 6/23 Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

Attachments

Tab I Powell Memo to President  
Tab A Talking Points  
Tab B List of Participants  
Tab C Biography of Patriarch Sfeir  
Tab II White House Statement

SECRET

Declassify: OADR

~~SECRET~~

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

June 24, 1988

WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT ON LEBANON

The President was pleased to meet today with Maronite Catholic Patriarch Nasrallah Sfeir of Lebanon. The Vice President also met separately with Patriarch Sfeir. The President and the Vice President reaffirmed U.S. support for the restoration of Lebanon's unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, and the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon. Both emphasized that the suffering of the Lebanese people must end, and that a process of national reconciliation is urgently needed, including agreement on political and security reform. They also recognized that durable peace and security for Lebanon can best be assured by a comprehensive peace settlement for the Middle East, and pledged the continued efforts by this Administration on the peace process.

The United States considers the upcoming Lebanese presidential election to be very important for Lebanon's unity and stability. The election should proceed constitutionally, with a new President taking office as scheduled on September 23. It should also be orderly, so that a smooth, legitimate transition can occur. The election provides an excellent opportunity for national reconciliation and should be seen in that light.

In this context, the United States has responded to the request of Lebanese leaders to help Lebanese Moslems and Christians devise and agree upon a new arrangement for sharing political power. We are convinced by our conversations with these leaders that responsible Lebanese want to find fair guidelines for a process to establish a central government that exercises full authority over a unified, sovereign state. In that state, all Lebanese would enjoy comparable opportunities for advancement. The United States believes an agreement on such guidelines is possible and ought to be achieved as soon as possible.

The United States is particularly concerned about the plight of innocent civilians in Lebanon. The tragic casualties from the recent fighting between rival militias in Beirut's southern suburbs and from terrorist bombings and the continued taking and detention of hostages -- both Lebanese and foreign -- demonstrate the urgent need to restore the authority of the central government throughout the country. Only the central government has the clear, unencumbered right and responsibility to maintain law and order. The continued existence of armed militias and terrorist groups frustrates the desire of the vast majority of the Lebanese people to have the legal order and authority re-established.



The Lebanese and American peoples have had a long and close relationship. Out of that friendship emerges both our deep concern about Lebanon's future and our enduring commitment to help the Lebanese ease their suffering, and achieve national reconciliation. To those ends, the United States pledges both continuing humanitarian assistance and political support.

# # #

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C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.



PATRIARCHATUS MARONITARUM ANTIOCHIAE TOTIUSQUE ORIENTIS

Memorandum

On the Occasion of the Visit with President Ronald Reagan  
Friday, June 24, 1988

By His Beatitude Maronite Patriarch Nasrallah Peter Sfeir

1. We come to plead the cause of Lebanon, not only for the Maronites, but for all Lebanese, especially those who have been most hurt by the conflict.
2. We wish to thank the government of the United States for its continuing concern and interest in Lebanon. Since the outbreak of hostilities in 1975, it has often sent highly responsible officials to deal with the problem. At the present time, it is offering to mediate between Lebanon and Syria with the aim of resolving the Lebanese conflict.
3. There exist numerous ties between the United States and Lebanon.
  - a) They share the same values: love for freedom, democracy and religious pluralism, and respect for human rights.
  - b) Lebanese began emigrating to the United States in the middle of the last century and now number in the hundreds of thousands. The Maronites, for example, have a diocese with two bishops and sixty parishes throughout the United States. American-Lebanese play a prominent role in American life, contributing significantly to the fields of science, business, government, literature and entertainment. Many American-Lebanese have given their lives in the service of their country, the United States, and what it represents. Today nearly every family in Lebanon has a relative who is a citizen of the United States.
  - c) The United States has sacrificed much for the sake of Lebanon. We cannot forget the more than three hundred Marines who have fallen in the line of duty in Lebanon; the killing of the American Ambassador; and today we are still living the tragedy of the hostages on Lebanese territory.
  - d) For over a century the American University of Beirut has strengthened the bonds between the United States and Lebanon; and today thousands of Lebanese students are enrolled in universities in the United States.

4. Lebanon must remain a sovereign and independent state with its internationally recognized borders.

- a) It is a constitutional democracy.
- b) It is a land where all religious believers, particularly Christian, Moslem, and Jewish can co-exist.
- c) It serves as a meeting-ground between East and West.
- d) The disappearance of Lebanon would cause endless dissension among the nations in the area and would be a threat to the Middle East and the world.

5. The United States could support the following actions:

- a) Negotiate the establishment of an international peace conference for the Middle East at which Lebanon would be a participant. (It would be helpful to recall that at critical moments in Lebanese history, the Lebanese question was resolved through agreement of the European powers. This was the case in 1860, 1920, and 1943.)
- b) Facilitate the formation of a Lebanese government which would work for the solution of issues of vital concern to the people, for example, Lebanon's present grave economic crisis.
- c) Ensure an atmosphere favorable for the election of a president of the Republic of Lebanon, and thereby avoid a constitutional crisis which would lead to a definitive fragmentation of the country.
- d) Help in the re-establishment of the over half million Lebanese refugees back in their own villages and cities.
- e) Help to implement all the resolutions of the United Nations concerning Lebanon.
- f) Intervene on behalf of Lebanon with states and organizations in the Middle East, with the goal of convincing them not to interfere in Lebanese affairs and not to trample on Lebanese sovereignty.
- g) Help free Lebanon from foreign forces
- h) Help stop the flow of arms and ammunition to the militant forces in Lebanon.

KOL has  
original

Ant 9:50 pm 6/20/88. slw

UNCLASSIFIED  
CLASSIFICATION

CIRCLE ONE BELOW

MODE

PAGES 2

IMMEDIATE

SECURE FAX # \_\_\_\_\_

DTG \_\_\_\_\_

PRIORITY

ADMIN FAX # \_\_\_\_\_

RELEASER \_\_\_\_\_

ROUTINE

RECORD # \_\_\_\_\_

FROM/LOCATION

1. Sharon Wagner/The White House

TO/LOCATION/TIME OF RECEIPT

1. Rhett Dawson/Toronto

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_

INFORMATION ADDRESSES/LOCATION/TIME OF RECEIPT

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS/REMARKS:

I received this evening and am sending a copy along to you for your review and approval. Katherine has not seen this item yet.

FOR MORNING DELIVERY PLEASE.

UNCLASSIFIED  
CLASSIFICATION

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ID 8804546

REFERRAL

DATE: 24 JUN 88

MEMORANDUM FOR: STATE SECRETARIAT

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: TO: PRESIDENT

SOURCE: SFEIR, PETER

DATE: 20 JUN 88

SUBJ: LTR TO PRES FM SFEIR, PETER

---

REQUIRED ACTION: FOR INFORMATION

DUE DATE:

COMMENT:



FOR GEORGE VAN ERON

DIRECTOR NSC SECRETARIAT

6/2/0

~~SECRET~~

RECORD ID: 8804546

ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

<u>DOC</u>	<u>ACTION OFFICER</u>	<u>CAO</u>	<u>ASSIGNED</u>	<u>ACTION REQUIRED</u>
001	STEVENS	Z	88062016	FOR SIGNATURE
002		X	88062019	STEVENS SGD MEMO
003	POWELL	Z	88062313	FWD TO PRES FOR INFORMATION
003		X	88062315	NEGROPONTE APPROVED RECOM
004	PRESIDENT	Z	88062315	FOR DECISION
004		X	88062417	NOTED BY PRES
005	OAKLEY	Z	88062415	APPROPRIATE ACTION / ADD-ON
005		X	88062419	NFAR PER OAKLEY



National Security Council  
The White House



OP

88 JUN 23 AIO: 35

System # \_\_\_\_\_  
Package # 4546  
DOCLOG OP AIO (9)

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Bob Perito	<u>2</u>	<u>Perito</u>	<u>A</u>
Marybel Batjer	<u>1</u>	<u>MB</u>	<u>CONCUR</u>
Paul Stevens	<u>3</u>	<u>PS</u>	<u>A</u>
John Negroponte	<u>4</u>	<u>JN</u>	
Colin Powell	<u>5</u>	<u>JN/CP</u>	
Paul Stevens			
Situation Room			
West Wing Desk	<u>6</u>	<u>6/23 AC</u>	<u>d</u>
NSC Secretariat	<u>7</u>		<u>N-Pres</u> <u>Noted</u>

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

cc: VP Baker Other M. Batjer

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



~~SECRET~~  
NSC/S PROFILE

RECORD ID: 8804546  
RECEIVED: 20 JUN 88 13

RED UPON REMOVAL  
OF THIS ENCLOSURE(S)  
6/2/88

TO: PRESIDENT

FROM: SFEIR, PETER

DOC DATE: 24 JUN 88  
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: LEBANON

AP

PERSONS: SFEIR

SUBJECT: MTG W/ SFIER / LEBANESE PATRIARCH 24 JUN

ACTION: NFAR PER OAKLEY

DUE DATE: 23 JUN 88

STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: OAKLEY

LOGREF:

FILES: WH

NSCIF:

CODES:

D O C U M E N T   D I S T R I B U T I O N

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

COMMENTS:

DISPATCHED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

W/ATTCH: YES NO

OPENED BY: NSAPK

CLOSED BY: NSJWD

DOC 5 OF 5

SECRET

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

4546  
59503633  
20086

EF  
Dept. of State  
BY

July 21, 1997  
612110

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8819914

Date June 29, 1988

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

REFERENCE:

To: The President  
From: Maronite Patriarch Nasrallah Peter Sfeir  
Date: June 20, 1988  
Subject: Visit of Maronite Patriarch Nasrallah  
Peter Sfeir

WH Referral Dated: \_\_\_\_\_  
NSC ID# (if any): 8804546

\_\_\_\_\_ 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.
- X 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: Response is not necessary because the attached  
memorandum was provided for information only.

*Philip Zelikow*  
for

Director  
Secretariat Staff

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

88 JUN 30 A 7:22

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL



8819914

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- g) Help free Lebanon from foreign forces
- h) Help stop the flow of arms and ammunition to the militant forces in Lebanon.

8819914

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ID 8804546

REFERRAL

DATE: 24 JUN 88

MEMORANDUM FOR: STATE SECRETARIAT

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: TO: PRESIDENT

SOURCE: SFEIR, PETER

DATE: 20 JUN 88

SUBJ: LTR TO PRES FM SFEIR, PETER

---

REQUIRED ACTION: FOR INFORMATION

DUE DATE:

COMMENT:



FOR GEORGE VAN ERON

DIRECTOR NSC SECRETARIAT

*Received in 5/51  
6/27 at 11:14 AM (28)*

to 6/2/10

ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

DQC ACTION OFFICER

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

001 STEVENS	Z	88062016	FOR SIGNATURE
002	X	88062019	STEVENS SGD MEMO
003 POWELL	Z	88062313	FWD TO PRES FOR INFORMATION
003	X	88062315	NEGROPONTE APPROVED RECOM
004 PRESIDENT	Z	88062315	FOR DECISION
004	X	88062417	NOTED BY PRES
005 OAKLEY	Z	88062415	APPROPRIATE ACTION / ADD-ON
005	X	88062419	NFAR PER OAKLEY
006	Z	88063013	RECD STATE MEMO
006	X	88063013	NO RESPONSE REQUIRED PER STATE



~~SECRET~~  
NSC/S PROFILE

RECORD ID: 8804546  
RECEIVED: 20 JUN 88 13

TO: STEVENS

FROM: LEVITSKY, M

URGENT  
6/21/88

DOC DATE: 29 JUN 88  
SOURCE REF: 8819914

KEYWORDS: LEBANON  
          PHOTO OP

AP

PERSONS: SFEIR

SUBJECT: MTG W/ SFIER / LEBANESE PATRIARCH 24 JUN

ACTION: NO RESPONSE REQUIRED PER STATE      DUE DATE: 23 JUN 88      STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: OAKLEY

LOGREF:

FILES: WH

NSCIF:

CODES:

D O C U M E N T   D I S T R I B U T I O N

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO  
OAKLEY

COMMENTS: \*\*\* ADD TO FILE \*\*\*

DISPATCHED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_ W/ATTCH: YES NO

OPENED BY: NSAPK      CLOSED BY: NSJWD      DOC 6 OF 6

~~SECRET~~

598738  
4500

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

6830 0086  
FG 006-12  
1988 SEP 21 PM 7:12

September 21, 1988

*Handwritten notes:*  
d' or  
telex; put copies  
in file 9/22  
703  
M 9/21

MEMORANDUM FOR RHETT DAWSON

FROM: PAUL SCHOTT STEVENS *PS*

SUBJECT: Response to Cardinal O'Connor on Lebanon

Cardinal O'Connor sent a telegram to the President earlier today on the Lebanese Presidential election. We urge that a brief response be transmitted to Cardinal O'Connor this evening, in view of the fact that the election is scheduled to take place in Beirut tomorrow (September 22). We also propose that the White House Press Office release copies of both Cardinal O'Connor's telegram and the President's response this evening (Cardinal O'Connor has no objection to our releasing both messages).

Attachments

- Tab A Telegram to Cardinal O'Connor
- Tab B Telegram from Cardinal O'Connor of September 21, 1988

cc: Roman Popadiuk

NSC # 8806830

TAB

A

DRAFT TELEGRAM

Dear Cardinal O'Connor:

Thank you for your message today on the Lebanese Presidential election. The United States attaches great importance to a peaceful and constitutional Presidential election in Lebanon on September 22. We remain strongly committed to helping restore Lebanon's unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, and will continue to exert every effort toward those ends.

Sincerely,

RR

TAB

B

The President  
United States of America  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

My dear Mr. President:

In my position as President of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association, with deep involvement in Lebanon, I urge your support for Lebanon at this extremely critical moment. Lebanon has been traditionally unique in offering religious freedom to peoples of all religious persuasions and in welcoming refugees of virtually every description. I know you recognize that the presidential elections must be completely free and democratic. At the same time I am well aware of the crucial importance of preserving the presidency itself and of preventing partition and the grave possibility of intensified civil war. Your continuing concern in Lebanon is vital. The world must know unconditionally that the United States will never abandon Lebanon. I can understand that your options are limited and I will be praying for the divine guidance you need to help you make the right decision.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

/s/John Cardinal O'Connor  
Archbishop of New York

The President  
United States of America  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

My dear Mr. President:

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Sincerely yours in Christ,

/s/John Cardinal O'Connor  
Archbishop of New York





NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506


598738

6830 -

0086

September 21, 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR RHETT DAWSON

FROM: PAUL SCHOTT STEVENS   
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Tab B Telegram from Cardinal O'Connor  
of September 21, 1988

cc: Roman Popadiuk

September 21, 1988

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR PAUL SCHOTT STEVENS

FROM: WILLIAM J. BURNS <sup>WB</sup>

SUBJECT: Response to Cardinal O'Connor on Lebanon

Attached is a draft response to Cardinal O'Connor's telegram to the President today on Lebanon. It is important that the response be transmitted to the Cardinal this evening. We also propose to release to the press tonight both the Cardinal's message and the President's response (Cardinal O'Connor's office has no objection to this).

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the attached memo to Rhett Dawson.

Approve JD Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

Attachments

Tab I Stevens Memo to Rhett Dawson  
Tab A Telegram to Cardinal O'Connor  
Tab B Telegram from Cardinal O'Connor  
of September 21, 1988

WWD

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

6830

September 21, 1988

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FROM: WILLIAM J. BURNS *WJB*

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Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

Attachments

- Tab I Stevens Memo to Rhett Dawson
- Tab A Telegram to Cardinal O'Connor
- Tab B Telegram from Cardinal O'Connor  
of September 21, 1988

DRAFT TELEGRAM

Dear Cardinal O'Connor:

Thank you for your message today on the Lebanese Presidential election. The United States attaches great importance to a peaceful and constitutional Presidential election in Lebanon on September 22. We remain strongly committed to helping restore Lebanon's unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, and will continue to exert every effort toward those ends.

Sincerely,

RR

The President  
United States of America  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

My dear Mr. President:

In my position as President of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association, with deep involvement in Lebanon, I urge your support for Lebanon at this extremely critical moment. Lebanon has been traditionally unique in offering religious freedom to peoples of all religious persuasions and in welcoming refugees of virtually every description. I know you recognize that the presidential elections must be completely free and democratic. At the same time I am well aware of the crucial importance of preserving the presidency itself and of preventing partition and the grave possibility of intensified civil war. Your continuing concern in Lebanon is vital. The world must know unconditionally that the United States will never abandon Lebanon. I can understand that your options are limited and I will be praying for the divine guidance you need to help you make the right decision.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

/s/John Cardinal O'Connor  
Archbishop of New York

Add to  
package  
#6830

The President  
United States of America  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

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Sincerely yours in Christ,

/s/John Cardinal O'Connor  
Archbishop of New York

TWX 9104201212 Line 1  
CONNECTED 21-Sep-88 19:58 12

WU INFOMASTER

WHITEHOUSE WSH

0087861265 1052EST  
128 DLY GOVT WHITE HOUSE DC SEP 21  
PMS HIS EMINENCE JOHN CARDINAL O'CONNOR //DLR DONT DWR//  
452 MADISON AVENUE  
NEW YORK, NY 10022  
?WH?

DEAR CARDINAL O'CONNOR:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR MESSAGE TODAY ON THE LEBANESE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION. THE UNITED STATES ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO A PEACEFUL AND CONSTITUTIONAL PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN LEBANON ON SEPTEMBER 22. WE REMAIN STRONGLY COMMITTED TO HELPING RESTORE LEBANON'S UNITY, SOVEREIGNTY, AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, AND WILL CONTINUE TO EXERT EVERY EFFORT TOWARD THOSE ENDS.

SINCERELY,

RONALD REAGAN

ACCEPTED  
00128

1-PC

DISCONNECTED 21-Sep-88 19:59 49

*Note for record —  
Read by Pm. to Fr. Moore,  
Secretary to Cardinal O'Connor,  
@ 8:36 pm 9/21/88 — to  
issue receipt in advance of  
delivery of telegram. Noted WH  
release, + wire reports.  
Pm*

The President  
United States of America  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

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Sincerely yours in Christ,

/s/John Cardinal O'Connor  
Archbishop of New York



<ORIG> UPI  
<TOR> 880921201654

<TEXT>R W BC-LEBANON-OCONNOR 9-21 0284

WASHINGTON (UPI) — CARDINAL JOHN O'CONNOR OF NEW YORK SENT A TELEGRAM TO PRESIDENT REAGAN WEDNESDAY, URGING HIM TO SUPPORT LEBANON AS IT HEADS INTO ITS PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS THURSDAY, THE WHITE HOUSE SAID.

IN A TELEGRAM RELEASED BY THE WHITE HOUSE, O'CONNOR CITED HIS POSITION AS PRESIDENT OF THE CATHOLIC NEAR EAST WELFARE ASSOCIATION TO 'URGE YOUR SUPPORT FOR LEBANON AT THIS EXTREMELY CRITICAL MOMENT.'

'YOUR CONTINUING CONCERN IN LEBANON IS VITAL,' O'CONNOR SAID. 'THE WORLD MUST KNOW UNCONDITIONALLY THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL NEVER ABANDON LEBANON. I CAN UNDERSTAND THAT YOUR OPTIONS ARE LIMITED AND I WILL BE PRAYING FOR THE DIVINE GUIDANCE YOU NEED TO HELP YOU MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION.'

LEBANESE PRESIDENT AMIN GEMAYEL AND HIS SYRIAN COUNTERPART, HAFEZ ASSAD, HELD TALKS IN DAMASCUS WEDNESDAY ON STALLED PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS IN LEBANON, BUT FAILED TO BREAK A DEADLOCK OVER THE CHOICE OF A CANDIDATE, OFFICIALS SAID.

HIS SURPRISE TRIP TO SYRIA CAME AS FRANCE AND THE UNITED STATES WARNED THAT OBSTRUCTING THE ELECTIONS WOULD LEAD TO DISINTEGRATION WITHIN THE COUNTRY, AND U.S. DIPLOMATS ATTEMPTED TO PERSUADE CHRISTIAN LEADERS TO WITHDRAW THEIR REJECTION OF THE COMPROMISE CANDIDATE BACKED BY SYRIA AND THE UNITED STATES.

REAGAN RESPONDED TO THE CARDINAL'S MESSAGE BY SAYING THE UNITED STATES 'ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE' TO THE ELECTIONS AND ADDED, 'WE REMAIN STRONGLY COMMITTED TO HELPING RESTORE LEBANON'S UNITY, SOVREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND WILL CONTINUE TO EXERT EVERY EFFORT TOWARD THOSE ENDS.'

UPI 09-21-88 08:16 PED

TWX 9104201212 Line 1  
CONNECTED 21-Sep-88 19:58 12

WU INFOMASTER

WHITEHOUSE WSH

0087861265 1852EST

128 DLY GOVT WHITE HOUSE DC SEP 21

PMS HIS EMINENCE JOHN CARDINAL O'CONNOR //DLR DONT DWR//

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SINCERELY,

RONALD REAGAN

ACCEPTED  
00128

1-PC

DISCONNECTED 21-Sep-88 19:59 49

MEMORANDUM FOR RHETT DAWSON

FROM: PAUL SCHOTT STEVENS

SUBJECT: Response to Cardinal O'Connor on Lebanon

Cardinal O'Connor sent a telegram to the President earlier today on the Lebanese Presidential election. We urge that a brief response be transmitted to Cardinal O'Connor this evening, in view of the fact that the election is scheduled to take place in Beirut tomorrow (September 22). We also propose that the White House Press Office release copies of both Cardinal O'Connor's telegram and the President's response this evening (Cardinal O'Connor has no objection to our releasing both messages).

Attachments

Tab A Telegram to Cardinal O'Connor  
Tab B Telegram from Cardinal O'Connor  
of September 21, 1988

cc: Roman Popadiuk

DRAFT TELEGRAM

Dear Cardinal O'Connor:

Thank you for your message today on the Lebanese Presidential election. The United States attaches great importance to a peaceful and constitutional Presidential election in Lebanon on September 22. We remain strongly committed to helping restore Lebanon's unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, and will continue to exert every effort toward those ends.

Sincerely,

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The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

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Sincerely yours in Christ,

/s/John Cardinal O'Connor  
Archbishop of New York

**National Security Council  
The White House**

System # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Package # \_\_\_\_\_  
 DOCLOG \_\_\_\_\_ A/O \_\_\_\_\_

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Bob Perito	_____	_____	_____
Marybel Batjer	_____	_____	_____
Paul Stevens	_____	_____	_____
John Negroponte	_____	_____	_____
Colin Powell	_____	_____	_____
Paul Stevens	_____	_____	_____
Situation Room	_____	_____	_____
West Wing Desk	_____	_____	_____
NSC Secretariat	1	_____	ADD TO FILE

I = Information	A = Action	R = Retain	D = Dispatch	N = No further Action
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cc: VP Duberstein Other \_\_\_\_\_

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



National Security Council  
The White House

88 SEP 21 P 7: 17

System # \_\_\_\_\_  
Package # 6830  
DOCLOG DP A/O \_\_\_\_\_

SEQUENCE TO HAS SEEN DISPOSITION

Bob Perito	_____	_____	_____
Marybel Batjer	_____	_____	_____
Paul Stevens	_____	_____	_____
John Negroponte	_____	_____	_____
Colin Powell	_____	_____	_____
Paul Stevens	_____	_____	_____
Situation Room	_____	_____	_____
West Wing Desk	<u>1</u>	<u>2pa/21</u>	<u>D</u>
NSC Secretariat	<u>2</u>	_____	<u>N</u>

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

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

COMMENTS

Should be seen by: \_\_\_\_\_

(Date/Time)

Address:

Cardinal O'Connor  
452 Madison Ave.  
New York, NY 10022

UNCLASSIFIED  
ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 8806830

DOC ACTION OFFICER

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

001 STEVENS  
002

Z 88092119 FOR SIGNATURE  
X 88092119 STEVENS SGD MEMO



UNCLASSIFIED  
NSC/S PROFILE

RECORD ID: 8806830  
RECEIVED: 21 SEP 88 18

TO: DAWSON, R

FROM: STEVENS

DOC DATE: 21 SEP 88  
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: LEBANON

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO O'CONNOR LTR RE LEBANON

ACTION: STEVENS SGD MEMO DUE DATE: 24 SEP 88 STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: BURNS LOGREF:

FILES: WH NSCIF: CODES:

D O C U M E N T D I S T R I B U T I O N

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO  
BURNS  
STEVENS

COMMENTS:

DISPATCHED BY ED DATE \_\_\_\_\_ W/ATTCH: YES NO

OPENED BY: NSCTF CLOSED BY: NSCTF DOC 2 OF 2

UNCLASSIFIED

