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TEXT

STATE FOR NEA; INR, SP, PM; FOR P/RC, P/P, P/FW, P/FN,
NEA; BEIRUT ROME AND JERUSALEM FOR VOA; VOA NEWS/CA.
AMCONGEN JERUSALEM FOR AMB. HABIB AND DRAPER. AMEMBASSY
ROME FOR MFO. MACDILL FOR USIA ADVISER BRIAN BELL.
E.O. 12356 N/A

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION/PRESS REVIEW, APRIL 11, 1983

1. HIGHLIGHTS:

-- MEDIA CONCENTRATE ON THE JORDANIAN GOVERNMENT
STATEMENT, SARTAWI'S MURDER, AND THE CABINET DISCUSSION
ON U.S. POLICY. WASHINGTON CORRS. HIGHLIGHT THE
ADMINISTRATION'S DISAPPOINTMENT WITH THE JORDANIAN DECI-
SION AND PRESIDENT REAGAN'S PLEDGE TO PURSUE HIS MIDDLE
EAST PEACE INITIATIVE. ISRAEL RADIO POLITICAL CORR.
SAID THAT ISRAEL WOULD HAVE TO MAKE SURE THAT WASHINGTON
DOES NOT USE IT AS THE SCAPEGOAT FOR THE JORDANIAN
DECISION.

-- ISRAEL TV ARAB AFFAIRS COMMENTATOR EHUD YAARI DOES NOT
VIEW HUSSEIN'S DECISION AS "FINAL. THE KING WANTED TO
SHOW HIS DISPLEASURE WITH THE PLO... (AND) WAS ALSO
APPEALING FOR AMERICAN HELP TO RESCUE THE PRESIDENT'S PLAN
FROM CERTAIN DEATH." ISRAEL TV WASHINGTON CORR.
ELIMELECH RAM REPORTED THAT THE ADMINISTRATION DOES NOT
PLAN ANY ANTI-ISRAEL SANCTIONS RIGHT NOW.

-- JERUSALEM POST EDITORIAL CALLS THE KILLING OF SARTAWI

FOR COORDINATION WITH State

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A "VICTORY FOR ARAB EXTREMISM...AND THE KREMLIN." A MAARIV EDITORIAL OBSERVES THAT WHILE WASHINGTON HAS USED THE LAST SEVEN MONTHS TO LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR HUSSEIN'S JOINING THE PEACE PROCESS, THE JORDANIAN MONARCH'S ANSWER WAS NEGATIVE "NOT ON THE BASIS OF ISRAEL'S ACTIONS, BUT ON ACCOUNT OF THE DECISION OF ARAFAT AND HIS COLLEAGUES NOT TO LET HIM SPEAK FOR THEM." YEDIOT POLITICAL COMMENTATOR CALLS ON THE ADMINISTRATION "TO CONCENTRATE ITS EFFORTS ON FIGHTING AGAINST ARAB RADICALISM, INSTEAD OF PUTTING PRESSURE ON ISRAEL AS IT IS DOING NOW."

-- MEDIA FRONTPAGE "BITTER REACTION" OF THE CABINET TO THE F-16 DECISION AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS ON SETTLEMENTS. DEFMIN ARENS IS QUOTED AS SAYING, "THE U.S. CANNOT TELL ISRAEL WHAT ITS DEFENSE REQUIREMENTS ARE." POLITICAL CORRS. REPORT THAT PM BEGIN INFLUENCED THE CABINET AGAINST ISSUING A STATEMENT ON THESE TWO SUBJECTS.

-- MEDIA REPORT THE CABINET APPROVED THE APPOINTMENT OF MEIR ROSENNE AS AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON.
END HIGHLIGHTS.

2. "HUSSEIN WASHES HANDS OF PALESTINIANS--FOR NOW."

A) WASHINGTON CORRS. HIGHLIGHT THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION'S DISAPPOINTMENT WITH KING HUSSEIN'S DECISION NOT TO ENTER AT THIS POINT THE M-E PEACE NEGOTIATIONS. ALL MEDIA QUOTE PRESIDENT REAGAN'S PLEDGE TO PURSUE HIS M-E PEACE INITIATIVE.

B) ISRAEL RADIO AND DAVAR REPORT THAT "JERUSALEM IS NOT DISAPPOINTED" WITH THE KING'S ANNOUNCEMENT. ISRAEL RADIO POLITICAL CORR. SHIMON SHIFFER EXPLAINED THAT JERUSALEM HAS NEVER THOUGHT MUCH OF A SCHEME THAT NEEDED PLO APPROVAL IN ORDER TO TAKE OFF. ISRAEL WOULD HAVE TO SEE TO IT, ADDED CORR. SHIFFER, THAT IT IS NOT FINGERED BY WASHINGTON AS THE SCAPEGOAT FOR THE PRACTICAL DEATH OF THE PRESIDENT'S PLAN.

C) ISRAEL TV COMMENTATOR EHUD YAARI OPINED LAST NIGHT THAT KING HUSSEIN'S DECISION WAS "NOT FINAL. THE KING WANTED TO SHOW HIS DISPLEASURE WITH THE PLO," SAID COMMENTATOR YAARI, "AS WELL AS TO PROD THE SAUDIS TO ACTION AGAINST CHAIRMAN ARAFAT. THE KING WAS ALSO APPEALING FOR AMERICAN HELP TO RESCUE THE PRESIDENT'S PLAN FROM CERTAIN DEATH," EXPLAINED ITV'S YAARI.

D) ISRAEL TV WASH. CORR. ELIMELECH RAM REPORTED LAST NIGHT THAT "THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION HAS NO PLANS TO LET GO" OF THE PRESIDENT'S M-E INITIATIVE. NO ANTI-ISRAEL SANCTIONS ARE CONTEMPLATED RIGHT NOW, SAID CORR. RAM. THE U.S. MIGHT TURN TO EUROPE TO PUT "DIPLOMATIC PRESSURE" ON ISRAEL, SAID THE ITV CORR., OR IT MIGHT TAKE ANTI-ISRAELI POSITIONS IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. WASHINGTON MIGHT ALSO TRY TO TURN THE STATE FOR NEA; INR, SP, PM; FOR P/RC, P/P, P/FW, P/FN, NEA; BEIRUT ROME AND JERUSALEM FOR VOA; VOA NEWS/CA. AMCONGEN JERUSALEM FOR AMB. HABIB AND DRAPER. AMEMBASSY ROME FOR MFO. MACDILL FOR USIA ADVISER BRIAN BELL. AMERICAN JEWISH COMMUNITY AGAINST ISRAEL'S SETTLEMENT POLICY IN THE WEST BANK, REPORTED CORR. RAM, BUT IT WILL STOP SHORT OF OUTRIGHT ECONOMIC OR MILITARY SANCTIONS,

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FEARING THAT THEY WOULD ACCOMPLISH "THE OPPOSITE EFFECT" ON PRIME MINISTER BEGIN.

F) A JERUSALEM POST EDITORIAL STATES THAT HUSSEIN'S DECISION, AND THE MURDER OF DR. ISSAM SARTAWI, ARE A "VICTORY FOR ARAB EXTREMISM ... AND THE KREMLIN. THIS," WRITES THE JERUSALEM POST, "CANNOT BE A VICTORY FOR ISRAEL, EVEN IF THE GOV'T, BY ITS OWN LIGHTS, IS PLEASED TO SEE THE REAGAN INITIATIVE FAIL. NEGOTIATIONS WITH JORDAN," IN THE VIEW OF THE JERUSALEM POST, "CONTINUE TO REMAIN THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE TO WAR...."

G) A MAARIV EDITORIAL OBSERVES THAT "SINCE LAST SEPTEMBER, THE STATE DEPT HAS BEEN BUSY CONS CTING A COMPLEX DIPLOMATIC NETWORK, WHOSE ONLY OBJECTIVE WAS TO BRING KING HUSSEIN TO THE NEGOTIATION TABLE AND SECURE HIS SUPPORT FOR THE REAGAN PLAN. TO MAKE THINGS ASIER FOR THE KING," CONTINUES MAARIV, "WASHINGTON SE OUT TO PRESSURE ISRAEL...THEN CAME THE KING'S DECISION AND PROVED HOW WRONG AND POINTLESS WAS THE AMERICAN POLICY. HUSSEIN HAS MADE UP HIS MIND," ARGUES MAARI , "NOT ON THE BASIS OF ISRAEL'S ACTIONS, BUT ON ACCOUN OF THE DECISION OF ARAFAT AND HIS COLLEAGUES NOT TO LET HIM SPEAK FOR THEM."

H) A CARTOON IN MAARIV SHOWS PRIME MINISTER BEGIN, IN HI QUEST FOR PEACE, TRIPPING OVER THE SYRIAN BULLET WHICH KILLED SARTAWI; CAPTION READS: "THE U.S. ACCUSES ISRAEL OF BEING AN OBSTACLE TO PEACE."

I) YEDIOT POLITICAL COMMENTATOR EROL GUINEY SPECULATES THAT "JORDAN'S REFUSAL TO JOIN THE PEACE PROCESS AND THE KILLING OF DR. SARTAWI MIGHT EASE THE DANGEROUS STRAINS IN WASHINGTON-JERUSALEM RELATIONS." WRITER GUINEY'S ADVICE TO THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION IS "TO CONCENTRATE ITS EFFORTS ON FIGHTING AGAINST ARAB RADICALISM, INSTEAD OF PUTTING PRESSURE ON ISRAEL AS IT IS DOING NOW."

3. CABINET DISCUSSES U.S. POLICY:

A) ALL MEDIA FRONTPAGE THE "ALMOST UNPRECEDENTED BITTER REACTION" YESTERDAY IN THE CABINET TO THE U S. DECISION ON THE F-16'S AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S REMARKS ON WEST BANK SETTLEMENTS. FONMIN SHAMIR IS QUOTED TO THE EFFECT THAT "THE U.S. OBJECTIVE IN THE AREA IS NOT TO MAKE PEACE BUT TO DRIVE ISRAEL OUT OF JUDEA, SAMARIA AND THE GAZA DISTRICT." DEFMIN ARENS REPORTEDLY TOLD THE CABINET THAT "THE U S. CANNOT TELL ISRAEL WHAT ITS DEFENSE REQUIREM HENTS ARE." ACCORDING TO MAARIV CORR. ILAN KFIR, "SOME CABINET MINISTERS WONDERED ALOUD WHEN WILL PRESIDENT REAGAN'S TERM BE OVER." THE JERUSALEM POST REPORTS THAT "MINISTER OF SCIENCE YUVAL NE'EMAN SAID THAT IN VIEW OF REAGAN'S POLICY REGARDING SETTELEMENTS, AN APPROACH SHOULD BE MADE TO FORMER V.P. WALTER MONDALE, TO ASCERTAIN HIS VIEWS ON JUDEA AND SAMARIA." POLITICAL CORRS. REPORT THAT PRIME MINISTER BEGIN WAS AGAINST GOINGG TOO FAR AND THAT IS WHY NO COMMUNIQUE WAS ISSUED OF YESTERDAY'S SESSION ON THOSE TWO ISSUES.

B) THE CABINET ALSO APPROVED THE APPOINTMENT OF DR. MEIR ROSENNE, FONMIN SHAMIR'S REPORTED CHOICE, TO THE

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POST OF AMB. TO THE U.S. DEFMIN ARENS IS SAID TO HAVE ASKED THE CABINET TO RECONSIDER, BECAUSE "AS A FORMER AMB. TO WASH., HE KNEW WHAT IT TAKES TO DO A GOOD JOB THERE." PRESS REPORTS THAT ARENS WAS OVERRULED.

4. ISRAEL MARKS HOLOCAUST DAY:

A) EDITORIALIZING ON "THE LESSONS ABOUT OURSELVES AND ABOUT THE WORLD" THAT THE JEWS SHOULD DRAW FROM THE HOLOCAUST, MAARIV POINTS TO THE FACT THAT "KLAUS BARBIE, THE BUTCHER OF LION, WAS EMPLOYED BY THE CIA, THEREBY WINNING FOR MANY YEARS IMMUNITY AGAINST PROSECUTION. DOES NOT THIS INDICATE," WRITES MAARIV, "THAT FROM THE VERY OUTSET, THE ALLIES DID NOT CONSIDER THE EXTERMINATION OF THE JEWS AS A TRAGEDY FOR THEMSELVES OR FOR THE HUMAN RACE, AND THAT THEY WERE PREPARED TO STATE FOR NEA; INR, SP, PM; FOR P/RC, P/P, P/FW, P/FN, NEA; BEIRUT ROME AND JERUSALEM FOR VOA; VOA NEWS/CA. AMCONGEN JERUSALEM FOR AMB. HABIB AND DRAPER. AMEMBASSY ROME FOR MFO. MACDILL FOR USIA ADVISER BRIAN BELL. GIVE SHELTER TO SOME OF THE MURDERERS IN RETURN FOR SERVICES IN THE INTELLIGENCE BUSINESS."

B) MAARIV EDITOR IN CHIEF SHMUEL SCHNITZER ADDRESSES AN OPEN LETTER TO PRESIDENT REAGAN, "A TRUE FRIEND OF ISRAEL AND THE JEWISH PEOPLE." REFERRING TO THE PRESIDENT'S RECENT COMMENTS ON ISRAEL LIVING IN A "FORTRESS," EDITOR SCHNITZER SETS OUT TO EXPLAIN "TO YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, AND TO OTHER FRIENDS, WHY THIS WAY OF LIFE CANNOT BE AVOIDED. IT IS NOT THAT WE WORSHIP POWER," WRITES THE MAARIV EDITOR. "IF WE LIVE IN AN ARMED FORTRESS, IT IS BECAUSE WE ARE FAMILIAR WITH THE FEELING OF BEING WEAK. WE ARE THE ONLY HUMAN RACE," CONTINUES EDITOR SCHINTZER, "THAT HAS FOR A THOUSAND YEARS TRIED TO LIVE A LIFE MARKED BY AN ABSOLUTE NEGATION OF POWER ... AND THIS UNDOUBTEDLY ENCOURAGED OUR PERSECUTORS TO SHED OUR BLOOD." MODERN ISRAEL, THEREFORE, "IS AFFECTED BY THAT HISTORY OF MARTYROLOGY," CONCLUDES THE MAARIV EDITOR. "WE HAVE BECOME SUSPICIOUS OF TREATIES, AGREEMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS, AS THE ONLY MEANS OF DEFENSE. WHAT WE NEED TO FEEL SECURE IS A GREAT DEAL MORE THAN A SIGNED PAPER.... AND AN ARMED FORTRESS IS THE ONLY POSSIBLE ANSWER TO 1,500 YEARS OF UNPRECEDENTED HELPLESSNESS AND THE MURDER OF SIX MILLION JEWS."

5. FOR THE RECORD:

A) DAVAR AND ISRAEL RADIO REPORT THAT A GALLUP POLL COMMISSIONED BY THE "AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE" SHOWS THAT "49 PCT OF THE AMERICANS IDENTIFY WITH ISRAEL AND 12 PCT WITH THE ARABS. 41 PCT FEEL THAT ISRAEL IS A RELIABLE ALLY (AFTER W. GERMANY AND CANADA). 10 PCT THINK THAT U.S. JEWS ENJOY TOO MUCH POWER. 36 PCT BELIEVE THAT THE ARABS HAVE ACCUMULATED TOO MUCH POWER AND INFLUENCE." LEE

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