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E.O. 12356 N/A

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION/PRESS REVIEW, AUGUST 4, 1983

1. HIGHLIGHTS:

--ALL MEDIA FEATURE POLITICAL CORRESPONDENTS' REPORTS ON AMBASSADOR MCFARLANE'S TALKS IN JERUSALEM. ISRAEL RADIO CORR. SHIMON SHIFFER FEELS THAT THE LEBANESE DEMAND FOR A TIMETABLE FOR TOTAL IDF WITHDRAWAL "WILL (IN TIME) TURN INTO AN AMERICAN IDEA." ISRAEL TV CORR. YORAM RONNEN SAID THAT MCFARLANE WANTS TO USE AN ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL TIMETABLE "TO ENTICE THE SYRIANS TO PRODUCE THEIR OWN TIMETABLE."

--HAARETZ POLITICAL CORR. AKIVA ELDAR WRITES THAT MCFARLANE DENIED THE U.S. WILL PRESSURE ISRAEL TO WITHDRAW AND TO "GIVE UP THE SECOND PART OF THE AGREEMENT WITH BEIRUT."

--ISRAELI MEDIA REPORTS CHARACTERIZE STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S REMARKS CONCERNING THE "IMPRACTICABILITY" OF DISMANTLING EXISTING ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS AS SURPRISING AND AS A POSSIBLE SHIFT IN U.S. POLICY. HAARETZ

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WASHINGTON CORR. FEELS THAT THE U.S. POSITION IS NOT NEW, BUT THE PUBLIC EXPLICATION OF ITS POLICY IS. MAARIV WASHINGTON CORR., HOWEVER, REPORTS THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S MAKING CLEAR THAT THERE IS NO CHANGE IN U.S. POLICY.

--WASHINGTON CORRS. REPORT ON AMBASSADOR ROSENNE'S MEETING WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT, IN WHICH BUSH TOLD ROSENNE THAT THE U.S. WOULD "INTENSIFY ITS EFFORTS" TO CONVINCE EGYPT TO RETURN ITS AMBASSADOR TO ISRAEL. --ALL MEDIA REPORT ON EL SALVADOR'S DECISION TO RETURN ITS EMBASSY TO JERUSALEM. END HIGHLIGHTS.

- 2. AMB. MCFARLANE'S TALKS IN JERUSALEM:
- A) ISRAEL RADIO POLITICAL CORR. SHIMON SHIFFER REPORTED LAST NIGHT THAT THE SPECIAL U.S. ENVOY TOLD MINISTERS SHAMIR AND ARENS THAT ALTHOUGH PRESIDENT GEMAYEL KNEW THAT ISRAEL DID NOT PLAN TO PARTITION LEBANON, HE STILL WANTED A TOTAL WITHDRAWAL TIMETABLE, FOR INTERNAL LEBANESE CONSUMPTION. POLITICAL CORRS. REPORT THAT JERUSALEM TOLD AMB. MCFARLANE THAT THERE CAN BE NO ONE-SIDED TIMETABLE AND THAT AS SOON AS THE SYRIANS PROVIDE THEIR OWN, ISRAEL WOULD FOLLOW SUIT. RADIO CORR. SHIFFER ADDED OMINOUSLY THAT "IN A LITTLE WHILE, MCFARLANE WILL STOP BEING A SIMPLE COURIER AND THE TZMETABLE ISSUE WILL TURN INTO AN AMERICAN IDEA." ACCORDING TO CORR. SHIFFER, "MCFARLANE IS TAKING UP WHERE HABIB LEFT OFF - USING THE SAME IDEAS AND MODUS OPERANDI...." CORR. SHIFFER PREDICTED THAT "THE AMERICANS WILL STICK TO THEIR PROPOSAL THAT THE IDF QUIT LEBANON AHEAD OF SYRIA AND JERUSALEM WILL FINALLY GETSOFT AND PLAY BALL."
- B) ISRAEL TV POLITICAL CORR. YORAM RONNEN SAID: "FOUR DAYS AFTER BEGINNING HIS JOB, THE NEW MAN REPLACING AMB. HABIB STILL HAS A LONG WWY TO GO BEFORE HE REACHES HIS OBJECTIVE OF TOTAL TROOP WITHDRAWAL IN LEBANON." CORR. RONNEN EXPLAINED THAT AMB. MCFARLANE WANTS TO USE THE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL TIMETABLE TO ENTICE THE SYRIANS TO PRODUCE THEIR OWN TIMETABLE."
- C) HA'ARETZ LEADS WITH POLITICAL CORR. AKIVA ELDAR'S REPORT THAT "AMB. MCFARLANE DENIED YESTERDAY IN A MEETING WITH TOP FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS THAT THE U.S. WILL LEAN ON ISRAEL TO MAKE A COMPREHENSIVE WITHDRAWAL IN LEBANON AND GIVE UP THE SECOND PART OF THE AGREEMENT WITH BEIRUT." MEANWHILE, ALL MEDIA FRONTPAGE REPORTS THAT THE IDF HAS BEGUN MOVING OUT OF THE AREAS NORTH OF THE AWALI RIVER.
- D) ACCORDING TO MAARIV POLITICAL CORR. ILAN KFIR, ISRAEL IS GOING TO ASK AMB. MCFARLANE TO WARN SYRIA TO STOP "PLAYING WITH FIRE." JERUSALEM FEELS, WRITES CORR. KFIR, THAT "THE RECENT INCIDENTS INITIATED BY THE SYRIAN ARMY ARE PART OF A WELL-COORDINATED CAMPAIGN AGAINST //ZFF-4 NIACT ADDEES ONLY//
- ISRAEL'S PRESENCE IN LEBANON AND THE ISRAELI-LEBANESE AGREEMENT."
- E) DAVAR POLITICAL CORR. TUVIA MENDELSOHN DRAWS A PORTRAIT
- OF "THH UNSMILING NEW MEDIATOR. ROBERT MCFARLANE
- IS FAR MORE PRACTICAL AND BUSINESS-LIKE THAN HIS

PREDECESSOR," WRITES CORR. MENDELSOHN."HIS SERVICE IN THE U.S. MARINES IS REFLECTED IN HIS STYLE. HE DOES NOT TALK MUCH, USES SHORT SENTENCES, HAS NO USE FOR SMALL TALK AND GETS IMMEDIATELY TO THE POINT."

- F) YEDIOT EDITORIALIST BEN-PORAT DISMISSES AMB.
 MCFARLANE'S MISSION IN ISRAEL AS "WHISTLING IN THE DARK."
 THERE IS NO REAL PURPOSE TO HIS VISIT, WRITES
 THE YEDIOT EDITORIALIST, OTHER THAN "TO SHOW 3L THAT HE IS
 AROUND."
- 3. THE U.S. AND WEST BANK SETTLEMENTS:
- A) ISRAELI MEDIA USE VARIOUS TERMS, SUCH AS "UPHEAVAL,"
 "SURPRISE," "FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITS KIND," TO
 CHARACTERIZE THE OBSERVATION BY STATE DEPT. SPOKESMAN
 JOHN HUGHES THAT THE DISMANTLING OF WEST BANK SETTLEMENTS
 IS "IMPRACTICAL." ACCORDING TO ISRAEL RADIO
 WASH. CORR. RAZI BARKAI, THE WHITE HOUSE STOOD BEHIND
 THAT ANNOUNCEMENT, WHICH WAS GREETED WITH "MIXED FEELINGS"
 BY THE STATE DEPT.
- B) HA'ARETZ WASH. CORR. POINTS OUT THAT "THE PARAGRAPH ABOUT THE IMPRACTICABILITY OF DISMANTLING EXISTING SETTLEMENTS WAS NOT NEEDED TOEXPLAIN THE U.S. VETO AT THE UNSC." CORR. SAMET FURTHER OBSERVES THAT "WHAT IS NEW ABOUT THE STATEMENT IS THE FACT THAT THE U.S. POSITION WAS MADE PUBLIC. AN AMERICAN PLEDGE NOT TO DEMAND THE DISMANTLING OF EXISTING SETTLEMENTS WAS INCLUDED IN THE 'CLARIFICATION POINTS' CONVEYED BY AMB. LEWIS TO PRIME MINISTER BEGIN IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE PUBLICATION OF THE PRESIDENT'S INITIATIVE IN SEPTEMBER," WRITES THE HA'ARETZ WASH. CORR.
- C) DAVAR WASH. CORR. YOSEF PRIEL READS SPOKESMAN JOHN HUGHES' STATEMENT AS AN "OFFICIAL AMERICAN ANNOUNCEMENT NOT TO SUPPORT THE DISMANTLING OF ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS IN THE WEST BANK IN A PEACE ARRANGEMENT."
- D) MAARIV FRONTPAGES WASH. CORR. RAFAEL MANN'S REPORT THAT THE STATE DEPT YESTERDAY MADE GREAT EFFORTS TO EXPLAIN THAT THERE IS NO CHANGE IN THE U.S. POLICY VIS-A-VIS THE ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS IN THE TERRITORIES AND THAT "THE U.S. CONTINUES TO APPEAL TO ISRAEL TO FREEZE EWEST BANK) SETTLEMENTS IN ORDER TO PROMOTE THE PEACE PROCESS." 4. "NEO-NAZIS AND THE U.S. ARMY." UNDER THIS TITLE, HA'ARETZ EDITORIAL REFERS TO A REPORT LAST WEEK IN THE GERMAN TV NETWORK, THAT THE U.S. ARMY WAS EMPLOYING ACTIVE NEO-NAZIS. HA'ARETZ POINTS OUT THAT "AC-CIDENTALLY OR NOT, THAT REPORT FOLLOWS SHORTLY AFTER THE EXTRADICTION OF KLAUS BARBIE TO FRANCE, WHICH HAD DRAWN ATTENTION TO THE IMMUNITY GIVEN IN THE PAST BY U.S. INTELLIGENCE TO WWII NAZI CRIMINALS." ARGUING THAT "THIS TIME, IT IS NOT A QUESTION OF COLLABORATION OR DELIBERATE PATRONAGE, BUT RATHER A CASE OF INDIFFERENCE OR NEGLIGENCE ON THE PART OF AMERICAN SECURITY OFFICERS," HA'ARETZ GOES ON TO POSE SOME "SERIOUS QUESTIONS "ABOUT THE IMPACT OF THE U.S. APPROACH TO THE NEO-NAZIS ON THE OVERALL SECURITY OF AMERICAN BASES IN GERMANY, AS WELL AS ON "THE BENEFIT COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA CAN DRAW FROM THE FACT THAT ... THE U.S. ARMY IS INDIFFERENT TO TIES WITH

NEO-NAZIS."

5. VICE PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH AND ISRAEL-EGYPT TIES: A) WASH. CORRS. REPORT THAT VICE PRESIDENT BUSH TOLD AMB. ROSENNE LAST TUESDAY THAT HE WAS "DEEPLY CONCERNED" OVER THE DETERIORATING STATE OF ISRAELI-EGYTPIAN RELATIONS, AND THAT THE ADMINISTRATION WILL "INTENSIFY ITS EFFORTS" TO TALK CAIRO INTO RETURNING ITS AMBASSADOR TO TEL AVIV. CORR. WOLF BLITZER ADDS THAT THE VICE PRESIDENT "ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER ISRAEL'S CONTINUING SETTLEMENT POLICY ON THE WEST BANK." 6. EL SALVADOR TO RETURN EMBASSY TO JERUSALEM: A) ALL MEDIA HIGHLIGHT PLEDGE GIVEN IN JERUSALEM BY TWO SALVADORAN OFFICIALS TO MOVE THEIR EMBASSY BACK TO //ZFF-4 NIACT ADDEES ONLY// JERUSALEM "NO LATER THAN SEPT. 15," SALVADORAN INDEPENDENCE DAY. POLITICAL CORRS.ADD THAT ADDITIONAL LATIN AMERICAN STATES MAY DECIDE TO MOVE THEIR EMBASSIES BACK TO JERUSALEM.

B) ACCORDING TO HATZOFE, A GROUP OF YOUNG REPUBLICANS AND DEMOCRATS FROM THE U.S., NOW VISITING ISRAEL, HAS ANNOUNCED UPON THEIR DEPARTURE THAT THEY ARE GOING TO ASK PRESIDENT REAGAN TO TRANSFER THE U.S. EMBASSY FROM TEL AVIV TO JERUSALEM.

MINIMIZE CONSIDERED FOR BEIRUT. LEE

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