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PAGE 001 TOR: 150954Z FEB 84 NC 3380487

OO RUEAIIB
ZNY CCCCC ZOC STATE ZZH
STU7883
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DE RUEHDM #1184 O460835
ZNY CCCCC ZZH ZZK
O 150834Z FEB 84 ZFF4
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6311
RUEHBL/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT NIACT IMMEDIATE 2264
INFO RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE 9527
RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY 6719
RUEHHJI/AMEMBASSY JIDDA 7564
RUEHRH/USELO RIYADH 3234
BT

-C-D-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I & L-DAMASCUS 01184

DEPT ALSO FOR RUMSFELD

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS:

MOPS, PINS, LE, US, SY

SUBJECT:

JUMBLATT IN DAMASCUS RECORDS HIS ASSURANCE

PSP/AMAL DOES NOT WISH TO INVOLVE THE MARINES
AT BEIRUT AIRPORT

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT.

25X1

- 2. WALID JUMBLATT TELEPHONEDPOLCOUNS AT 0745 ZULU FEBRUARY 15 TO SAY AGAIN THAT "WE" HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO INTENTION OF ATTACKING OR INVOLVING THE MARINES IN ANY WAY. "WE", HE SAID, INCLUDES AMAL, AND HE ASSUMED EMBASSY BEIRUT WAS IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH BARRI WHO WOULD CONFIRM THIS.
- 3. POLCOUNS SAID SHE WISHED A STRAIGHT ANSWER TO A VERY IMPORTANT QUESTION. ARE THERE PALESTINIANS WITH THE PSP TROOPS? JUMBLATT SAID THAT WHILE OF COURSE THERE HAD BEEN THE INFILTRATION OF WHICH WE WERE AWARE, PALESTINIAN TROOPS ARE IN BHAMDUM, NOT REPEAT NOT WITH THE PSP TROOPS IN THE KHALDE AIRPORT AREA. POLCOUNS EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS POINT FOR US. JUMBLATT SAID -- "DON'T WORRY, WE ARE FIXING IT WITH THE SYRIANS." THE SYRIANS, HE SAID, HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO INTEREST IN RAISING THE PALESTINIAN PRESENCE NOW; NEITHER DO THE LEBANESE SUNNIS WANT THE PALESTINIANS BACK. CERTAINLY HE SAID, NEITHER I NOR BARRI WANT THEM TO RETURN.
- 4. CODEL FOWLER HAS AN APPOINTMENT AT 143C ZULU FEBRUARY 15 WITH JUMBLATT. WE WILL SEE HIM ALONE AFTER THAT MEETING, OR IF DEPARTMENT HAS FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS FOR US WE CAN SEE HIM AT FIVE MINUTES NOTICE.
- 5. ON LAST NIGHT'S FIGHTING (FEB 14-15), JUMBLATT CONFIRMED 4TH BRIGADE IS AT DAMUR; 8TH BRIGADE, HE SAID, HAD FOUGHT WELL AT ABAY AND AYN KSUR, BUT IS NOW (HE THOUGHT) IN DAMUR AREA AS WELL.

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6. BEIRUT MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. PAGANELLI CONFIDENTIAL

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