



Director of  
Central  
Intelligence

~~Top Secret~~



OCPAS/CIG 

(b)(3)

(b)(3)

(b)(6)

# National Intelligence Daily

*Tuesday*  
*21 September 1982*

~~Top Secret~~

CPAS NID 82-221JX  
TCS 2921/82  
21 September 1982

Copy 265

~~Top Secret~~



(b)(3)

Contents

/ Israel-Lebanon: *Israeli Withdrawal From West Beirut* . . . 1



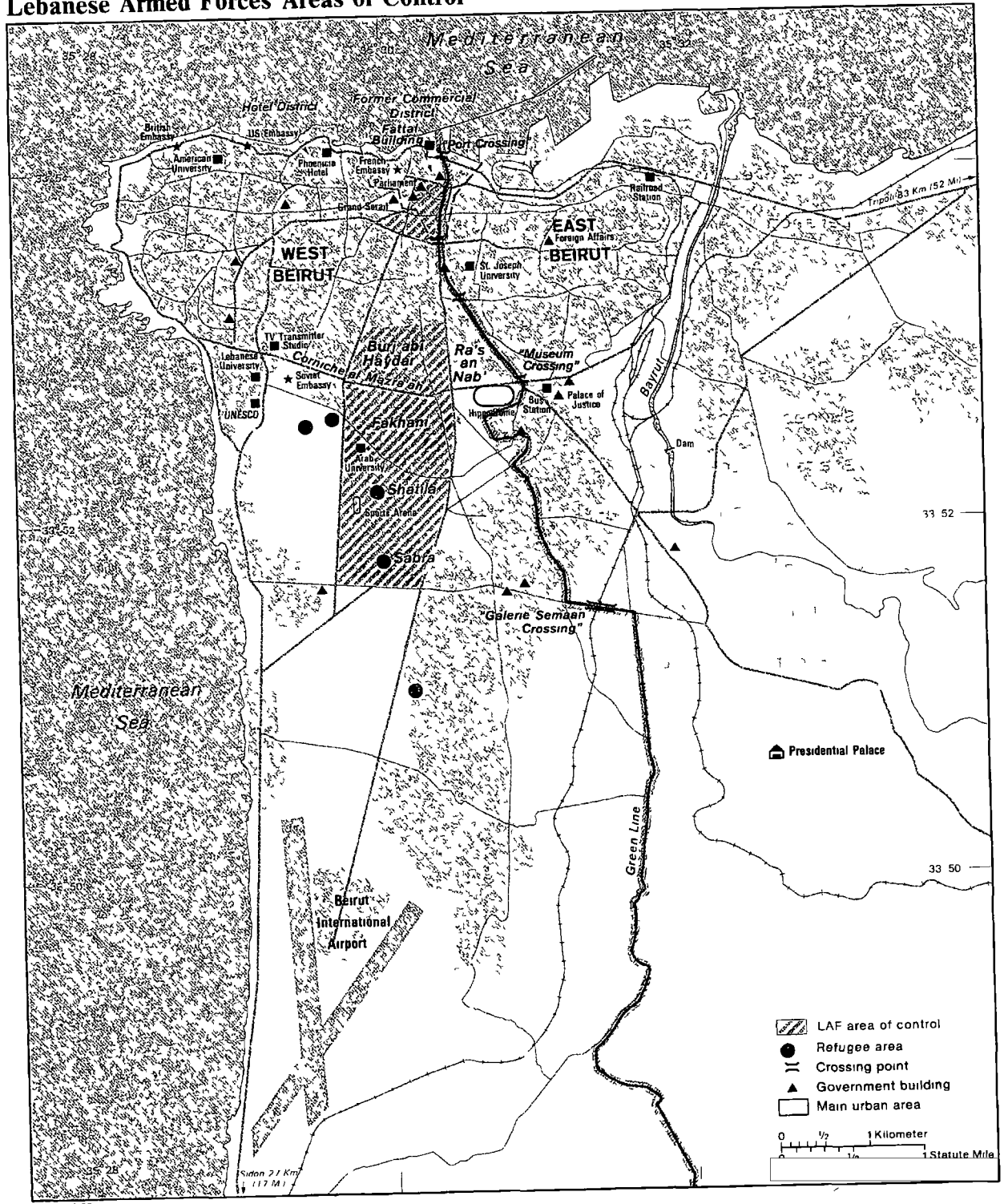
NR  
Record



~~Top Secret~~  
TCS 2921/82  
21 September 1982

(b)(3)

### Lebanese Armed Forces Areas of Control



(b)(3)

~~Top Secret~~



(b)(3)

①

ISRAEL-LEBANON: Israeli Withdrawal From West Beirut

3 The Israelis continue to evacuate their positions in West Beirut as the Lebanese Army assumes control over major areas of the city. Israeli Government spokesmen yesterday admitted that Tel Aviv had received reports about the massacre in the Palestinian refugee camps as early as Friday morning

(b)(3)

2  
3

Israeli forces turned over control of the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps and the Fakhani area to the Lebanese Army on Sunday and yesterday and are pulling back from positions along the Corniche al Mazra'ah. The Lebanese Army plans to enter the Ra's an Nab' neighborhood today and reportedly has begun searches for weapons in the Burj abi Haydar area.

(b)(3)

1

The Israelis continue to patrol throughout West Beirut, including those areas nominally under Lebanese Army control, and have restricted the movement of UN military observers. Twenty-five observers arrived in Beirut yesterday and 15 more are to arrive today and tomorrow. The duties of the observers, who are to patrol the Beirut area, are unclear and will depend on Israeli concurrence.

(b)(3)

There have been no recent reports of violence in Beirut,

4

a violation of the cease-fire yesterday in the Bekaa Valley by Palestinian guerrillas operating from behind Syrian lines. There were no Israeli casualties.

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

(b)(3)

4

leftist militias in West Beirut have suffered heavy casualties--more than 150 killed and wounded--while the PLO had another 200 killed and wounded. Israeli casualties have been light.

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

(b)(3)

Israeli Government Position

5  
6

Senior officials now claim that the government attempted to investigate the reports but was unable to verify that civilians were being killed. The government also reported that the Israeli cabinet was notified on Thursday night that Phalange forces were about to enter

--continued



~~Top Secret~~

TCS 2921/82

21 September 1982

(b)(3)

~~Top Secret~~

[Redacted]

(b)(3)

the refugee camps. Israeli President Navon, who rarely intercedes in government affairs, has called for an independent investigation of the matter, and a special Knesset session will be held tomorrow to discuss the situation in West Beirut. [Redacted]

(b)(3)

5/6

Comment: The Israeli press had published numerous reports challenging Tel Aviv's earlier claims that it was ignorant about the massacre until Saturday, and Begin apparently hopes to deflect some of the increasing public criticism of him and Defense Minister Sharon by claiming that the full cabinet approved of the Phalange move into the camps. [Redacted]

(b)(3)

Egyptian Reaction

8/9

Egyptian officials have stressed that the recall of their Ambassador from Israel yesterday to protest the Beirut massacre does not signal a break in diplomatic relations. [Redacted] a severance of ties may still be under consideration, however, and that Egypt may discuss the merits of such a move with the US. [Redacted]

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

(b)(3)

[Redacted]

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

8

all Egyptians are horrified by the killings and [Redacted] the future of the US peace initiative now depends on the ability of the US to arrange a prompt Israeli withdrawal from West Beirut. [Redacted]

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

(b)(3)

8

Comment: The Ambassador is unlikely to be returned until, at a minimum, the situation in Lebanon stabilizes and Israel withdraws from West Beirut. Mubarak's gesture is designed in part to undercut domestic opponents who had sharply criticized him for not reacting strongly enough to the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in June. [Redacted]

(b)(3)

Messages From Brezhnev

11

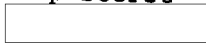
Moscow yesterday published President Brezhnev's reply to PLO leader Arafat's appeal for assistance in halting the violence in West Beirut and announced that the Soviet leader had written President Reagan. Brezhnev's only response to Arafat's plea was to affirm that the USSR will "further resolutely struggle" toward that end.

~~Top Secret~~


TCS 2921/82

21 September 1982


~~Top Secret~~



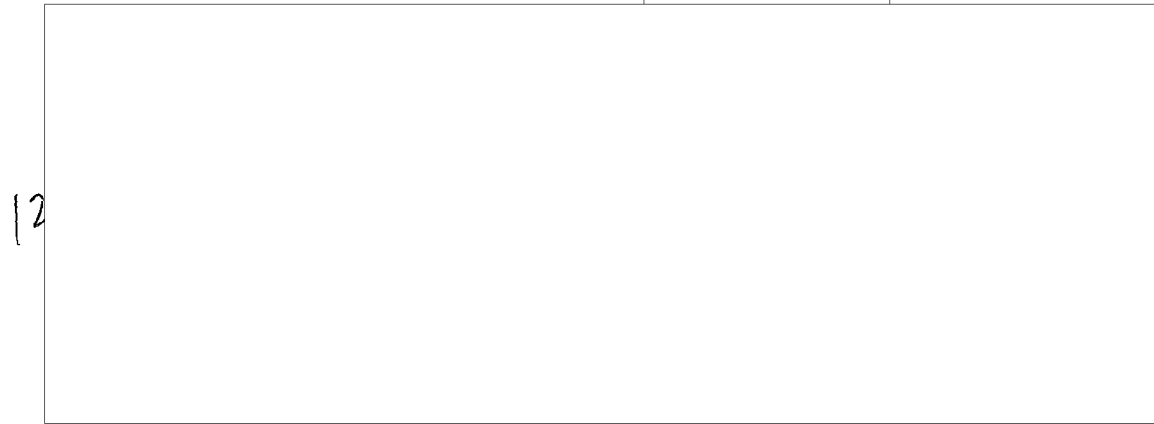
(b)(3)

11  
12 The letter to Reagan implicitly charged the US with partial responsibility for the West Beirut massacre and called for joint US-Soviet action in the UN Security Council to "curb" Israel. 

(b)(3)

11  
12 Comment: The letters are part of a Soviet effort to use the massacre to damage US credibility with the Arabs and convince them that the US is unfit to be an honest broker in the Middle East. The call for joint US-Soviet action has long been a refrain in Moscow's Middle East policy. Arafat is unlikely to be satisfied with Brezhnev's vague response. 

(b)(3)



12

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)