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Radio Communication between

C. Hill - Habib, L.

7/6/82 0715 AM

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Habib -

Begin says he issued the order last night but somehow or another, I didn't realize his orders aren't carried out these days. Now we're told maybe by 5:00 this afternoon the water and electricity will be on, that there are technical difficulties. The technical difficulties are that the Israeli guys down at the end of the line don't want to do it, that's what the technical difficulties are, they just want to squeeze the people a little bit more. As far as I'm concerned those are the technical difficulties. I don't buy that in other words. Secondly. There is no way, absolutely no way in which I can move the negotiations along under the present conditions. I've got one telephone that's always busy, goes into the Prime Minister. All the other telephones are down and I can only get him on that phone once in awhile because he doesn't always stay sitting on the telephone. He can't come out. But he can go in. It's just, there is no way. They keep talking about I have to move in a hurry, they have lost two days by virtue of their refusing to do what I asked them to do. Two days of negotiation have been lost. I want them to understand that. I want you to understand it. I want the President to understand it, I want everybody in the country to understand it. I'm getting sick and tired. We get somewhere and then it all dissipates because somehow or another things go wrong. Most of the things that have gone wrong have gone wrong because of Israeli action in my opinion. I've been screaming for three weeks now about the importance of cease-fire in place. You want to know why they got into a fire fight the day before yesterday? Which set everything back another two days, that's four days? It's because the Israeli forces moved in. Under cover of a so-called cease-fire. They moved in closer and closer to the city. They kept moving. All right. Now maybe I've got them stopped once again. Meanwhile, I can't do anything because I can't talk to anybody. Now that's just the beginning. Now if you can make people begin to understand that. You understand what I'm talking about?

Hill:

Yes, I understand very clearly. We'll go get Aarons up and I'll be back to see him. I presume that somebody here has been talking to Sam in the early hours already. We'll get back on it. Over.

Habib

They've been talking. There's no question they've been talking. Well they're not getting. They're giving this line well, there's technical difficulties, but on Gary's demand you know what the latest line is? Oh, well, when they talk to / Abdu yesterday, it was Johnny

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agreed they would stay in one place, Abdu would stay in one place, and that's nonsense I want them off. Off. Out. That was my request. It wasn't that they stay in one place these days another place. I want them out of that crossroad. No ifs, ands butts. That's one thing. I haven't been able to get a hold of Abdu the last half hour or so, I don't know what his latest (static) . The other thing is that there are some other problems I want to raise with you now. Now for one thing, Wazzan (static). the question. He says the PLO will not accept our participation in the MNF. I said is that right. I said the Israelis and don't want to accept the French position (static) don't want to accept our role so there isn't going to be any MNF. I said they asked for our guarantee, we're giving them the best guarantee possible, the answer is it's not negotiable. That is the MNF. That's the MNF that the government of Lebanon asked for. And it's up to him to go back and tell them so. And if they don't like it they know what they can do. All right. In addition, of course, the work of the so-called (static) is still supposedly being conducted. It is not being conducted very efficiently. They have this problem of communication. Over.

Hill: Phil, I lost you on both those transmissions a little bit. Let me just repeat if you understand me. You said that Wazzan said the PLO won't accept US participation. You told them that maybe the Israelis wouldn't accept the French but he should go back and tell them that was what the MNF was going to be. Then you said that the military commission was not proceeding well. Did I miss something? There's been a lot of static. Over.

Habib : One of the reasons that the Military commission is proceeding well is because I can't get at people because of the closed roads and also because of the lack of electricity which affects the telephone service too. (static) approach that the Israelis are using. Now in addition. I want to make sure that Howe isn't going too far with certain things. We have got now a revised version of the Lebanese so-called plan. It's not substantially changed in any real way. The important thing is that we're still going to have to negotiate things out. For example, the Lebanese prefer to use the Ban Militaire to take them out rather than the port. And that suits me as well for a number of reasons. Over.

Hill: Could you repeat that? The Lebanese prefer what? Instead of what to take them out? Over.

Habib They prefer a place called the Ban Militaire, the military, both rather than the port, and that would mean they'd have to be lightered (?) out to the freighters. There are good reasons for that. I'm not altogether

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opposed to them. But these are things that are going to be negotiated out over the next few days if we ever get to where we can negotiate. Over.

Hill: Give me a general idea where the Ban Militaire is. Is that over on the west coast part of the city? Over.

Habib Yes, it's on what they call the southern end of Ras Beirut. It's where we took people out in 1976. We evacuated. Anybody in the Working Group will show you where it is on the map. It's in west Beirut. Just on the south-west edge of Beirut. All right. Now. There are a number of other things that have to be worked out on an ad hoc basis and I'll just work them out. I don't need any advice or instructions, I'll just do the best I can. But I want you to understand that we're still hung up on this business of the Israelis, the Christians moaning about no PLO presence. Now if that isn't clear, then you know, our negotiations, we don't have a package. And I'm negotiating a package. I'm not negotiating pieces of a package. Over.

Hill: Yes. That's very clear. The situation here on that is that everybody, Secretary and so on, White House, say we will deliver on that, but we're not engaging the Israelis in negotiations on it now. Do you think that's the right way to proceed, or do you think we ought to start talking to them, and fighting with them, another set of talks, about these two points? Over.

Habib I talked to Sharon about it yesterday. He knows exactly where I stand. And he said they stand and I said I'm not arguing with it. I'm just telling you that's the way it's going to be. Now I have to be backed up. That's all. You have to make sure I'm backed up. Now we've just sent you in a cable which looks forward to the near term. You know, the next few weeks. So that you can start working, thinking about some of those things. Because if you think we're just going to (static). We've got to talk about disengagements, (static) we've got to get them out of this country. Now you have to start thinking about those things. They don't come to you, and say we're going to stay there for another two months, while we run Lebanon. No way. Now I've told you this before and nobody listens. Now maybe some of you think it's a good idea they stay here and run this country the next two months. I'm telling you it is not a good idea. There's going to be trouble

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all along. There's going to be no cease-fire that way. There's going to be killing, there's going to be all sorts of trouble. Now. Three weeks or a month ago I told you we're going to have trouble with all the Arabs if we don't move, move, and we've gotten ourselves in this position and it's getting worse. My reading the cables, we're in, we're getting in a worse mess every day. They're introducing new things every day. All of a sudden now we gotta deal with the comprehensive peace settlement before we can deal with anything else. Three weeks ago nobody even mentioned (static). You wait another three weeks you'll have more things to think about. It is getting ridiculous. It has to end. (static)

Habib Charlie, are you still there.

static

Hill: Phil, I lost you for a minute there. Can you read me now. Over.

Habib static

Hill: Sorry, Phil, we're getting sunspots or something. I can tell you're transmitting, but I can't pick it up. Over.

Habib noise

Hill: Yes, you're a little bit clearer. Go ahead and try it. Over.

Habib We've got to look ahead a few weeks now. Even if we get this one thing done we've got to make sure we understand where we're going next. We cannot just let the Israelis sit. All over Lebanon where they are and let the Syrians stay where they are for that matter either. We have to start looking ahead. There's no way which they can stay here for the next several months and run this country. Is that understood. Over.

Hill: Yes, I think that's very well understood. Once we get the PLO out of there I think we'll be in a good position to really turn on the Israelis and make them do something. Over.

Habib Frankly, Charlie, I don't believe you. I mean, I believe you would love to, but I don't think that anybody back there has thought about it or is ready to do it. Maybe you have. But the important thing is that we don't even have them on board. So the things I have to have for the package yet. And we've been talking about that now for several days. Now if I get squared away

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and get some contact with these people in the next 24 hours, which I have not had for four or five days, and I can get the negotiations moving quickly, I can close this thing out in the next three days. That's presuming I get some decent contact if the Israelis will allow me to have it.

Hill Okay, we're having trouble with transmission again. I understand. I'll go down and talk to Larry and we'll step up the pressure to get you the things you need to day. To get the services back on, not any excuses, and to quit screwing around with the check point problem. Over.

Habib The galleries static I cannot move the way they've got me boxed in now. They've been telling me about how little time I had and I've ...4 days by virtue of the actions over the last four days. Over.

Hill Okay. Let me collar Larry and we'll talk to ~~ARCAS~~ and I'll get to Sam Lewis on this and make it very clear what you're thinking about all of this. Over.

Habib I'm going to have enough trouble with the Lebanese, the Syrians, the by the way, the Katea are going to cause us trouble. They say they don't want the French now. And the Katea are saying they don't care whether the Israelis agree to a matter of fact, they didn't even want a multilateral force. Now only did they not want the French in it, they say they don't want a multilateral force. They say the Israelis agreed to it. They don't like it. They don't want it. They want to go in and kill all those people that's what they want to do. And the other thing is, they don't want a token force here. Symbolic force. And of course the Israelis don't want it either. I said to them, I don't give a damn what you want, this is a package. I don't accept what you say. And we still got this age-old problem of the cease-fire. Every time there's a cease-fire they move in another quarter of a mile around the city. What kind of a cease-fire is that? That's why the firing started two days ago. Does anybody understand that? Over.

Hill Phil, one problem we're really going to have is that if these guys, if the Phalange, Katea, say this kind of thing publicly we're never going to get the US Navy in there. They're going to be just too frightened

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to do it. You know, they want assurances from everybody that nothing's going to happen to their boys. I just got a note here saying that we have two TV channels this morning reporting that there's going to be 1600 Marines coming in as part of an international force. And I heard on the radio a little while ago speculation that it would be a US-French force. Over.

Habib How long did you think it was going to be kept secret? What radio is this? Is it Radio Israel? Where is it coming from? Over.

Hill Phil, it sounds like it's Guli Zahal, out of Israel. the Israeli military radio. Over.

Habib We crossed Charlie, did you really think we were going to keep that secret? I mean, where's the story come from? Over.

Hill No. We were sitting around here yesterday, amazed that it still hadn't come out. That we got through the weekend on it. But it apparently comes originally leaked by IDF Radio, Guli Zahal. Over.

Habib The Israelis leak any thing they wish. Now listen. As far as and all that, don't worry. I have told everybody that when they come in nobody shoots at them. I'm not going to worry about the Katea shooting at them. The Katea aren't going to shoot at them. And neither are the Israelis. But you know, anything that happened, every kid over the age of 12 has a gun, you understand that? They better have their bullet-proof vests on. Over.

Hill Yeah, they understand that they can't control everything. But if any major faction sounds like they are opposed to it or can't be willing to hold their fire, it's going to be a real problem getting Congress or anybody else to let these guys go in. Over.

Habib static. And if we don't get all the guarantees that you need you still bring them in. Over.

Hill Phil, I don't think we're in a very productive radio time here. It's very hard to get you. I'm losing you from time to time. I think we just better use the time to go get Larry and start to go to work, unless you have something other vital we better wait for a better atmospheric condition. Over.

Habib Okay. static... You get working on it so we can see what we can clear up. Maybe we can clear it up with a different channel. Over and out.

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