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NATIONAL SECURITY
DECISION DIRECTIVE 117

December 5, 1983

Lebanon (X)

Pursuant to the December 1, 1983 NSPG meeting on this subject, the following decisions will govern our next steps in Lebanon: ~~(S)~~

-- The decisions directed in NSDD 111 bearing on our diplomatic and military measures for Lebanon are reaffirmed. This specifically includes measures to assure the Rules of Engagement provide for an effective self-defense against the range of foreseeable threats. ~~(TS)~~

-- The U. S. contingent of the MNF supported by naval surface and tactical air forces will pursue a policy of vigorous self-defense against all attacks from any hostile quarter. Responsive attacks will be used to destroy targets originating fire if this can be done with minimum collateral damage. ~~(TS)~~

-- In the event the above action can not be carried out due to risk of collateral damage or lack of precise information on the source of fire, destructive fire will be directed against discrete military targets in unpopulated areas which are organizationally associated with the firing units. ~~(TS)~~

-- Moreover, the United States will insist that the Government of Lebanon undertake a more aggressive security posture in and around Beirut against radical Lebanese and foreign elements which pose a security risk to the MNF. ~~(TS)~~

Ronald Reagan

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