

**The original documents are located in Box 35, “6/16/76 - Remarks on the Occurrence of the Assassination of U.S. Embassy Officials in Lebanon” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN..... 1.

THE ASSASSINATION OF OUR AMBASSADOR IN BEIRUT,

FRANCIS E. MELOY, JR., \ OF OUR COUNSELOR FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS,

ROBERT O. WARING, AND OF THEIR DRIVER,

IS AN ACT OF SENSELESS, OUTRAGEOUS BRUTALITY.

2.

I EXTEND TO THEIR FAMILIES MY OWN DEEP SENSE OF SORROW AND

THAT OF ALL THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

3.

THESE MEN WERE ON THEIR WAY TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT

ELECT SARKIS.

THEY WERE ON A MISSION OF PEACE, \ SEEKING

TO DO WHAT THEY COULD IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY TO HELP RESTORE

ORDER, \ STABILITY, \ AND REASON TO LEBANON. THEIR DEATHS ADD ANOTHER

TRAGEDY TO THE SUFFERING WHICH THE LEBANESE PEOPLE HAVE ENDURED

BEYOND MEASURE.

4.

THESE MEN HAD LIVED WITH DANGER FOR MANY WEEKS

AND DID SO WITH THE DEDICATION AND DISREGARD OF PERSONAL SAFETY

WHICH WE HAVE COME TO EXPECT OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE.

5.

THE GOALS OF OUR POLICY MUST REMAIN UNCHANGED.

THE UNITED STATES WILL NOT BE DETERRED FROM ITS SEARCH FOR PEACE BY

THESE MURDERS. I HAVE INSTRUCTED SECRETARY KISSINGER TO CONTINUE

OUR INTENSIVE EFFORTS IN THIS DIRECTION.

6.

I WILL NAME A NEW AMBASSADOR TO LEBANON WITHIN THE VERY NEAR

FUTURE TO RESUME THE MISSION AMBASSADOR MELOY PERFORMED SO

BRILLIANTLY.

7.

I HAVE ALSO INSTRUCTED THE SECRETARY TO GET IN TOUCH WITH ALL OF THE  
GOVERNMENTS IN THE AREA AND WITH THE LEBANESE LEADERS TO HELP  
IDENTIFY THE MURDERERS AND TO SEE THAT THEY ARE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE.

8.

I HAVE ALSO ORDERED THAT ALL APPROPRIATE RESOURCES OF THE UNITED  
STATES UNDERTAKE IMMEDIATELY TO IDENTIFY THE PERSONS OR GROUP  
RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS VICIOUS ACT.

9.

THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THESE BRUTAL ASSASSINATIONS

MUST BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE. AT THE SAME TIME, WE MUST CONTINUE

OUR POLICY OF SEEKING A PEACEFUL SOLUTION IN LEBANON, THAT IS THE

WAY WE CAN BEST HONOR THE BRAVE MEN WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR THEIR

COUNTRY AND FOR THE CAUSE OF PEACE.

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