

The original documents are located in Box 35, “6/19/76 - Remarks at the Ceremony Memorializing U.S. Officials Assassinated 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...¹⁰

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS MELOY/WARING

SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 1976

$$\begin{array}{r} 17 \\ 20 \\ 19 \\ 6 \\ \hline 62 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} 6 \\ 17 \\ 32 \\ \hline 49 \\ 56 \\ \hline 105 \end{array}$$

THIS IS A MOMENT OF SADNESS FOR AMERICA•

THE MEN WHO WERE SO RUTHLESSLY MURDERED IN LEBANON

EMBODIED THE FINEST TRADITIONS OF OUR COUNTRY•

THEIR DEDICATED PROFESSIONALISM, THEIR WILLINGNESS TO SACRIFICE,

THEIR DEVOTION TO THE SERVICE OF PEACE -- ALL WERE REFLECTED

AT EVERY STEP OF THEIR CAREERS• THE TRAGEDY THAT BEFELL THEM

HAS STRUCK DEEP IN THE HEARTS OF THEIR COUNTRYMEN•

I EXTEND TO THEIR FAMILIES THE DEEPEST SYMPATHIES OF
THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. YOU AND THE LOVED ONES YOU HAVE LOST
WILL BE IN THE THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS OF ALL OF US.

FRANCIS E. MELOY AND ROBERT O. WARING WERE CONDITIONED
BY THE DIFFICULT DAYS OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR. LIKE MANY OF
US, THEY CAME OUT OF THAT EXPERIENCE DETERMINED TO MAKE A
PERSONAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE BUILDING OF A BETTER WORLD, A WORLD
WITHOUT WAR.

FOR MORE THAN 30 YEARS THEY MADE THAT CONTRIBUTION THROUGH
SELFLESS AND DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THEIR COUNTRY.

THEIR LEBANESE ASSOCIATE, ZOHAIR MOGHREBI

(ZOO-HAIR) (MA-GRA-BEE) TOO, GAVE OVER 25 YEARS OF LOYAL SERVICE
TO AMERICA.

HE HAS OUR RESPECT, OUR HONOR AND OUR GRATITUDE, HIS FAMILY,
OUR SYMPATHY.

THIS IS ALSO A MOMENT OF REFLECTION FOR AMERICA.

WHY WERE THESE BRAVE MEN IN LEBANON? WHY ARE THERE OTHERS
STILL THERE, SEARCHING FOR EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO BRING PEACE TO
THAT TRAGIC LAND?

OUR NATION, SINCE ITS FOUNDING, HAS BEEN COMMITTED
TO PEACE AND TO RESPECT FOR THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS. UNFORTUNATELY,
THERE ARE TOO MANY PLACES IN OUR WORLD WHERE IT IS TO SOMEONE'S
TEMPORARY ADVANTAGE TO DESTROY THE PEACE, TO BREAK THE BONDS OF
UNITY, AND TO TEAR ASUNDER THE FABRIC OF RELIGIOUS, RACIAL AND
CULTURAL TOLERANCE THAT BINDS TOGETHER A SOCIETY.

LEBANON HAS KNOWN PEACE. IT WAS ONCE A MODEL
OF DIVERSITY AND TOLERANCE. THOSE WERE TIMES OF PROGRESS AND
HOPE. BUT THOSE TIMES HAVE SUDDENLY VANISHED IN LEBANON AND
HAVE BEEN REPLACED BY FEAR, HATRED, DESTRUCTION AND DESPAIR.

in Lebanon

THE COLLAPSE OF INTERNAL ORDER ~~THERE~~ IS A PROFOUND CHALLENGE TO
ALL NATIONS WHO KNOW AND CHERISH PEACE. IT IS AN EXAMPLE OF
WHAT CAN HAPPEN ANYWHERE WHEN VIOLENCE TRIUMPHS OVER MAN'S
INSTINCT FOR GOOD AND FOR PEACE.

THE GOAL OF AMERICA - AND THE GOAL OF OUR FOREIGN
SERVICE - IS TO BUILD A MORE SECURE, A MORE JUST WORLD.
WE WILL CONTINUE TO GIVE OUR BEST TO THE SEARCH FOR PEACE IN
LEBANON AND TO SHOW BY WORD AND DEED THAT THE DEATHS OF THREE
BRAVE MEN WERE NOT IN VAIN.

WE WILL CONTINUE TO EXERCISE INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP,
BECAUSE THERE IS NO MORAL ALTERNATIVE. WE WILL CONTINUE TO
NEED THE TALENT AND GENIUS OF THE BEST AMERICA HAS TO OFFER / TO DO
SO. ~~AND~~ WE WILL CONTINUE TO WORK TO BUILD A WORLD WHERE
MEN OF PEACE / CAN LIVE IN PEACE.

NOW IT IS MY SAD DUTY TO PRESENT TO MR. DANIEL MELOY
THE FLAG OF AMBASSADOR MELOY, AS A TRIBUTE TO ONE OF OUR FINEST
AMERICAN DIPLOMATS, AND TO MRS. WARING THE FLAG ^{American} ~~OF THE~~
~~UNITED STATES~~, IN HONOR OF A DISTINGUISHED AND DEDICATED FOREIGN
SERVICE OFFICER.