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SITUATION LISTING

DATE 12/14/83//348

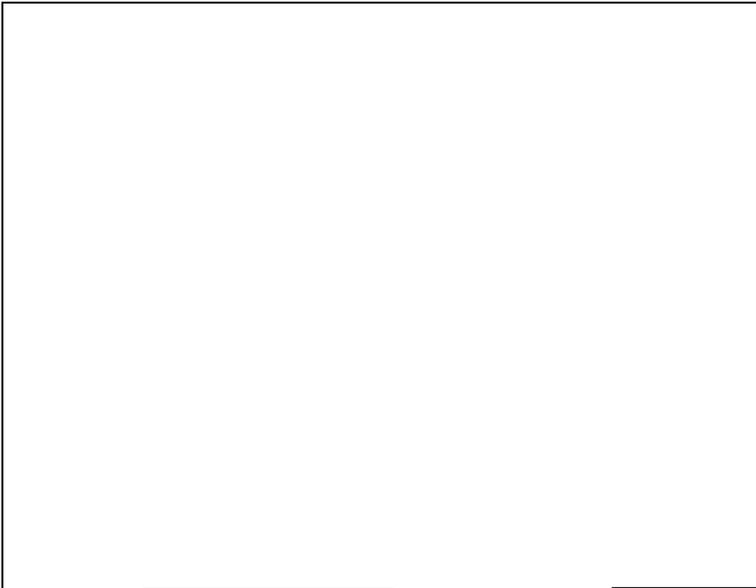
SITUATION: MARINE
SUBJECT CATEGORY: EXPLOSION

18

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

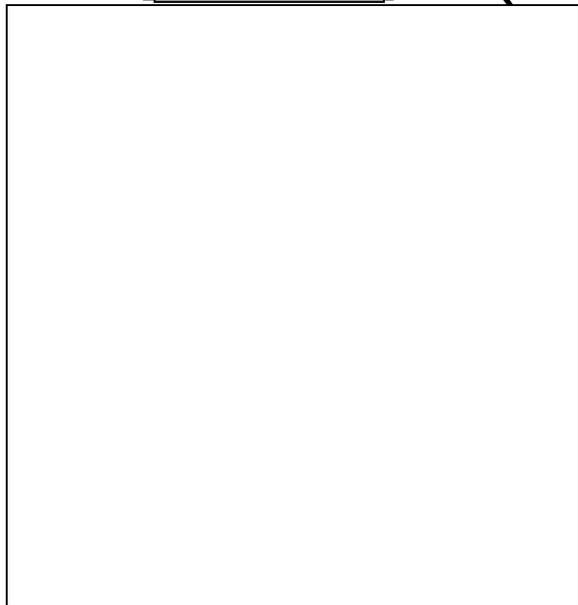
MESSAGE:

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: JAN 2002

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SITUATION: MARINE
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CITE: CIA 722799

SERIAL:

PASS:

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WARNING: INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE.

REPORT CLASS ~~SECRET~~

DIST: 23 OCTOBER 1983

COUNTRY: LEBANON

SUBJ: SITUATION REPORT AS OF 0900 HOURS LOCAL

DOI: 23 OCTOBER 1983

SOURCE: THIS IS A SITUATION REPORT PREPARED AT 0920 HOURS
LOCAL TIME ON 23 OCTOBER 1983.

TEXT: 1. AT 0622 HOURS ON 23 OCTOBER 1983, A VEHICLE LOADED WITH
EXPLOSIVES (NFI) EXPLODED INSIDE THE U.S. MARINE AMPHIBIOUS UNIT
(MAU) OF THE MULTINATIONAL (PEACEKEEPING) FORCE (MNF) BATTALION

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LANDING TEAM (BLT) HEADQUARTERS BUILDING AT BEIRUT INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT. THE BLT BUILDING, A FOUR-FIVE STORY BUILDING, ALSO
SERVED AS BARRACKS AND DINING HALL FOR THE HEADQUARTERS STAFF. THE
MAU ESTIMATES THAT 200-300 MARINE PERSONNEL WERE IN THE BUILDING AT
THE TIME OF THE EXPLOSION. (U.S. EMBASSY)

2. THE VEHICLE, BELIEVED TO BE A LARGE TRUCK, PROCEEDED
ACROSS AN AIRPORT PARKING LOT SOUTH OF THE BLT, SMASHED THROUGH
A METAL GATE AND PAST MARINE DEFENSIVE POSITIONS INTO THE LOBBY
OF THE BUILDING WHERE IT DETONATED. THE LOBBY EXTENDS TO THE ROOF
OF THE BUILDING. MOST OF THE MARINES IN THE BUILDING WHICH
COLLAPSED ARE BELIEVED DEAD. THE WOUNDED ARE BEING EVACUATED TO
THE ITALIAN MNF FIELD HOSPITAL LOCATED NEAR THE SABRA-SHATILA
REFUGEE CAMPS, TO U.S. NAVAL VESSELS OFF SHORE AND, TO LOCAL
HOSPITALS. INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS AND LEBANESE DISASTER
ORGANIZATIONS ARE ASSISTING IN THE REMOVAL OF THE DEAD AND WOUNDED.
HEAVY EQUIPMENT FROM THE "OGER LIBAN" CONSTRUCTION COMPANY IS
ASSISTING IN MOVING THE RUBBLE. (U.S. EMBASSY)

3. SIMULTANEOUSLY, A SUBORDINATE HEADQUARTERS OF THE FRENCH

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MNF FORCE IN RAMALI AL-BAIDA WAS ALSO DESTROYED BY AN EXPLOSION.
THERE IS LITTLE INFORMATION AT THIS TIME REGARDING CASUALTIES BUT
SOME 200 FRENCH SOLDIERS ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN IN THE BUILDING
AT THE TIME OF THE EXPLOSION. FRENCH CASUALTIES ARE ALSO BEING
EVACUATED TO THE ITALIAN MNF FIELD HOSPITAL. (U.S. EMBASSY)

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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