

**Middle East conflict -
Lebanon. Correspondence,
statements, resolutions:
Mi...**

HS L 179:105a



Dag Hammarskjölds saml.

Beirut, 1958 - July 25 - 7 Aug.

- a) Sec. Gen. - to UNOGIL (Beirut, Mr. R. Dayal)
- b) R. Dayal (UNOGIL) - to Sec. Gen.

L 179: 1059



UNITED NATIONS OBSERVATION GROUP IN LEBANON

Beirut
26th July '58

Dear Mr. Hammerkjeld,

Here are a few lines culled in a lighter moment, which you may find amusing. The rest of the story has yet to be told!

The few days following the U.S. landings were a time of considerable anxiety, & we were in imminent danger of folding up. However, I was able finally to persuade Delhi that UNOGIL had by no means exhausted its functions; now they place great reliance on it to get the U.S. troops out!

We have been closely following your great efforts, and we would like to feel that we have been able to give you some support.

We are well, working hard, and in good cheer.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Rajeshwar Dayal

Top Secret

There was a row in Lebanon,
Nobody knew the reason,
Some said it was a Civil war,
Some others called it treason.

The President in his palace sat,
His doors were locked and bolted;
The summer's sun was not for him,
For the people had revolted.

Chamoun said he'd be President
For yet a second term,
He'd change the Constitution,
And the Parliament would confirm.

But if perchance it should appear
That in the national forum
The Deputies had other views,
Why, then there'd be no quorum.

Loud stormed the Opposition,
"This is a foul design,
If Chamoun does not forthwith go,
Him to Hades we'll consign".

There was fighting in the Chouf,
Beirut was barricaded,
Bombs went off all o'er the place,
While the Army it paraded.

In his office sat the General,
He mused all day and night,
Said he, "The Army it is neutral,
Its job is not to fight".

The Patriarch decked in robes of red
Cried "A man of peace am I,
If Chamoun does not mend his ways,
Pray God that he may die".

Saeb Salam in the Basta reigned,
Flanked by cohorts obedient,
His eyes turned on Chamoun's palace,
For attack whene'er convenient.

Jumblatt, chanting Vedic hymns,
By fierce Druzes surrounded,
The Army would not venture near,
The Government was confounded.

In Tripoli and in Saida too,
Loud was the noise of battle;
It was heard for days on end,
The din of machine gun rattle.

Both sides observed a gentleman's code,
That while bullets may patter,
It'd be very wrong indeed,
Were any blood to spatter.

-----***-----

~~By~~
Cebanor

7 August 1958

I was delighted to get your letter of 26 July with a stimulating contribution to the growing files on Lebanon's internal politics. I appreciate very much that you took time off to write to me.

There is much to be said about what is happening and very much to be said also about the activities of the Group which, I think, will stand up very well in the light of an objective judgment and in history. I admire your self-discipline and patience, but most of all I am deeply grateful to all of you for your willingness to continue to serve under somewhat discouraging circumstances.

You have indeed given us support, and I am proud of the way in which your work and ours has combined to create something of solidity and integrity on which future action can safely be built.

Please give my very warmest regards to your colleagues and to David and tell them how much I would like to have again an evening with you all in Beirut, comparing notes and giving some philosophical thoughts to the strange ways of man.

Mr. Rajeshwar Dayal
United Nations Observation Group
in Lebanon
Beirut

7 August 1958

I was delighted to get your letter of 26 July with a stimulating contribution to the growing files on Lebanon's internal politics. I appreciate very much that you took time off to write to me.

There is much to be said about what is happening and very much to be said also about the activities of the Group which, I think, will stand up very well in the light of an objective judgment and in history. I admire your self-discipline and patience, but most of all I am deeply grateful to all of you for your willingness to continue to serve under somewhat discouraging circumstances.

You have indeed given us support, and I am proud of the way in which your work and ours has combined to create something of solidity and integrity on which future action can safely be built.

Please give my very warmest regards to your colleagues and to David and tell them how much I would like to have again an evening with you all in Beirut, comparing notes and giving some philosophical thoughts to the strange ways of man.

Mr. Rajeshwar Dayal
United Nations Observation Group
in Lebanon
Beirut