

The following day Liberal member Warren Allmand and Conservative member Bob Corbett raised the subject again and urged the Government to do all it could to ensure that the victims received relief assistance.⁵ On 13 February, in reply to a question by Conservative member Reginald Stackhouse as to what Canada might do to help the refugees, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Joe Clark, replied that there were limits to what Canada could do about the situation but that they were encouraging Syria to do all that it could to get medicine and food to the refugee camps.⁶

Responding to questions about the re-opening of the Canadian Embassy in Beirut, Mr. Clark stated:

We took the decision to close our embassy there because we thought it was not safe to maintain it open. Circumstances in Lebanon have not changed since that decision was taken.⁷

He added that the Government would consider setting up an immigration operation with the British embassy or another embassy in Beirut, to enable Lebanese to come to Canada.⁸

Current References

"Security Council approves measures", UN Chronicle, February 1987, pp. 51-53.

Collins, Dunn, M., "The Middle East Survey" Defense and Foreign Affairs, June 1986, pp. 8-31.

Norton, A. R., "Estrangement and fragmentation in Lebanon", Current History, Vol. 85, No. 508, February 1986, pp. 58-62.

Pipes, D., "Damascus and the claim to Lebanon", Orbis, Vol. 30, No. 4, January 1987, pp. 663-81.

⁵ Commons Debates, 12 Feb. 1987, p. 3362.

⁶ Commons Debates, 13 Feb. 1987, p. 3412.

⁷ Commons Debates, 20 May 1987, p. 6245.

⁸ Ibid.