

ABDUCTION OF U.S. DIPLOMAT WILLIAM BUCKLEY

On March 16, 1984, Mr. William Buckley, who is an American diplomat assigned to our embassy in Beirut, was kidnapped by three armed men as he was leaving his Beirut apartment. Nothing has been heard from him or his abductors since then. The U.S. Government would appreciate help from Syria in finding and freeing Mr. Buckley.

The U.S. is not accusing Syria of complicity in this abduction, but is simply seeking Syria's assistance, because Syria has substantial resources in Lebanon. I am aware of Syria's humanitarian gesture in releasing Lt. Goodman and would appreciate your looking into this case on a humanitarian basis.

(Note: The U.S. Embassy in Damascus has already discussed this case with the Foreign Ministry which has promised to try to help. The U.S. Government suspects Mr. Buckley may be in West Beirut or in the Northern Biqa' Valley.)