

RELEASED IN PART
1.4(B),B1,1.4(D)

From: Bernstein, Betty A
Sent: 6/1/2010 11:28:28 AM
To: svcSMARTHBTSP05
Subject: Gaza Clash: Chancellor Merkel Calls for Investigation and Questions Proportionality
Attachments: Metadata.dat

UNCLASSIFIED



Classified by DAS, A/GIS, DoS on 01/13/2012 ~ Class: CONFIDENTIAL
~ Reason: 1.4(B), 1.4(D ~ Declassify on: 06/01/2020

MRN: 10 BERLIN 573
Date/DTG: Jun 01, 2010 / 011528Z JUN 10
From: AMEMBASSY BERLIN
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE *ROUTINE*
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: PREL, KPAL, KWBG, PHUM, GM, IS
Captions: SENSITIVE, SIPDIS
Subject: Gaza Clash: Chancellor Merkel Calls for Investigation and Questions Proportionality

1. (U) Chancellor Merkel on May 31 told reporters in Berlin she had telephoned Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu and Turkish PM Recep Tayyip Erdogan about Israel's raid on a humanitarian flotilla off the coast of Gaza. Merkel said she told Netanyahu to allow for a comprehensive and rapid investigation and added that it would be helpful if international observers were present. Merkel expressed her deep concern and also emphasized that every effort was needed to ensure the crisis does not escalate. She called it an urgent question over whether the action was proportionate but confirmed that more information about what exactly happened is needed. Merkel also urged Israel to lift the blockade of the Gaza Strip for humanitarian reasons and called on Hamas to recognize Israel's right of exist. Earlier, the government's spokesman said Germany was shocked by the events and deeply regrets the loss of human life.

FM Westerwelle Expresses Deep Concern

[Redacted]

B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)

Germans on the Ships

3. [Redacted]

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Steve Blodgett, Senior Reviewer



B1
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4. (U) A spokesman for the Left Party told the media that at least five Germans had boarded the ship Mavi Marmara, which was attacked, among them two Left Party parliamentarians, Annette Groth and Inge Hoeger, as well as former Left Party parliamentarian Norman Paech. According to the organization "Free Gaza," the deputy chairman of the German section of international doctors for the prevention of a nuclear war, Matthias Jochheim, as well as Nader el-Sakka, a representative of the Palestinian community in Germany, were on this boat as well. In a press statement prior to the raid, the two Left Party parliamentarians, Groth and Hoeger, had complained that the German MFA had refused to support the initiative and had urged them not to participate in the convoy because of possible dangers to their person.

Strong Criticism from Various Parties

5. (U) Parliamentarians from various parties have strongly criticized Israel's actions. SPD Caucus Chairman Frank-Walter Steinmeier called Israel's action "absolutely unacceptable" and said the massive use of violence was not proportional and by no means justifiable. He said only by allowing an independent international commission can Israel try to avert further political damage. FDP foreign policy spokesman Rainer Stinner said the violent raid was "shocking" and the high number of deaths and injured raises doubts about the proportionality. He added that Israel's strategy to force down Hamas by blocking the Gaza Strip has apparently failed and the violent incident is also an expression of political helplessness. Deputy Green caucus chairman Juergen Trittin stressed that the Israeli military has clearly gone too far and requested a thorough investigation. He also called on Israel to use this incident to finally lift the blockade of Gaza which violates international law. Greens foreign policy experts Frithjof Schmidt and Kerstin Mueller added that the blockade only helps to strengthen Hamas while the people of Gaza are suffering.

Signature:	MURPHY
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Drafted By:	BERLIN:Bernstein, Betty A
Approved By:	POL:Glass, George A
Released By:	BERLIN:Bernstein, Betty A
Info:	EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE ROUTINE ; ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE ROUTINE ; FRG COLLECTIVE ROUTINE
Attachments:	Metadata.dat
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Dissemination Rule:	Archive Copy

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CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

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RELEASED IN PART B1,1.4(D)

From: svcsmartmfi
Sent: 6/1/2010 2:26:43 PM
To: SMART Core
Subject: GAZA FLOTILLA ATTACK PROMPTS ANGRY REACTIONS IN JORDAN

SECRET//NOFORN



MRN: 10 AMMAN 1231
Date/DTG: Jun 01, 2010 / 011539Z JUN 10
From: AMEMBASSY AMMAN
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE PRIORITY
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: PHUM, PREL, KPAL, IS, JO
Captions: SIPDIS, NOFORN
Subject: GAZA FLOTILLA ATTACK PROMPTS ANGRY REACTIONS IN JORDAN

SECRET AMMAN 001231

NOFORN
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/31/2020
TAGS: PHUM, PREL, KTER, KPAL, IS, JO
SUBJECT: GAZA FLOTILLA ATTACK PROMPTS ANGRY REACTIONS IN JORDAN

Classified By: Ambassador R. Stephen Beecroft for Reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

1. (S/NF) SUMMARY. The violent interception of the Free Flotilla in international waters off Gaza has provoked an angry, though thus far peaceful, reaction from a broad spectrum of Jordanian society. By early morning on Monday, the Islamist-dominated Jordanian Professional Associations had organized and executed a protest march from their main offices to PM Samir Rafal'i's office. Further protests are planned throughout the week. FM Judeh issued a strongly worded protest while on his trip to Brazil, and [redacted]

[redacted] Communications Minister and GOJ Official Spokesman Nabil Sharif condemned the Israeli seizure as a "heinous crime". END SUMMARY

Protests in Amman

2. (S/NF) Traffic in many of the normally tranquil sections of West Amman was backed up for hours as protesters marched from the Professional Associations headquarters to the neighborhood of Israeli embassy via the PM's offices. Estimates of the number of protesters ranged from several

B1
1.4(D)

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Steve Blodgett, Senior Reviewer

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hundred to upwards of two thousand. The marchers were drawn initially from the ranks of the various Professional Association component organizations, whose Islamist leadership has long opposed the peace process and urged a hard line against Israel. Marchers condemned Israeli "crimes" and loudly demanded the abrogation of the 1994 Peace Treaty with Israel and the severing of diplomatic relations.

3. (S/NF) The fact that the march was so swiftly organized, and that it was permitted to proceed without a permit from municipal authorities, speaks to resonance of these events on the Jordanian street.



B1
1.4(D)

Media Presents Wall-to-Wall Coverage

4. (S/NF) Pan-Arab and Jordanian media outlets have covered the incident extensively and been highly critical of the GOI. The partially GOJ-owned daily Ad Dustur referred to the ships' seizure as "An unprecedented Zionist crime" and demanded referral of Israel's leaders to the ICC. Columnist Orab Rantawi commented on "the rituals of Arab humiliation", and stated bitterly that Arabs "will continue their business as usual approach and Israel will continue its crimes as usual." Other outlets urged strong support for the international activists and for lifting the embargo against Gaza. Online media sources were equally critical. Beecroft

Signature:	Beecroft
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Classified By:	Ambassador R. Stephen Beecroft,
Reason:	1.4 (b) and (
Declassify on:	05/31/2020
Info:	ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE PRIORITY ; ARAB LEAGUE COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
Attachments:	metadata.dat

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CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

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RELEASED IN PART B6

From: Ginkel, John P
Sent: 6/1/2010 11:39:05 AM
To: SMART Core
Subject: KOSOVO POLITICAL FIGURE AMONG PARTICIPANTS IN GAZA FLOTILLA

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MRN: 10 PRISTINA 326
Date/DTG: Jun 01, 2010 / 011533Z JUN 10
From: AMEMBASSY PRISTINA
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE IMMEDIATE
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: PGOV, PREL, PINR, AEMR, ASEC, MARR, AMGT, IS, GZ, TU, KV
Captions: SENSITIVE, SIPDIS
Subject: KOSOVO POLITICAL FIGURE AMONG PARTICIPANTS IN GAZA FLOTILLA

1. (SBU) SUMMARY: Turkey's Ambassador to Pristina, Metin Husrev Unler, notified Kosovo's Deputy Foreign Minister on May 31 that a Kosovo citizen, [redacted] was among the participants in the Turkish NGO Humanitarian Aid Foundation flotilla bound for Gaza that Israeli forces intercepted in the Mediterranean earlier in the day. [redacted] [redacted] is currently a member of the Democratic League of Kosovo (LDK) and has been active in Kosovo politics and the Armed Forces of the Republic of Kosovo (FARK). He previously served in the Yugoslav National Army but deserted in 1991 and subsequently joined the Army of Bosnia and Herzegovina. [redacted] was a founding member of Kosovo's Islamic-oriented Justice Party, and his post-war engagement in Kosovo has focused primarily on the promotion of religious and traditional values in Kosovo society. END SUMMARY.

B6

[redacted] Reported Aboard Gaza Aid Flotilla

2. (SBU) On May 31, Turkey's Ambassador to Pristina, Metin Husrev Unler, notified Deputy Foreign Minister Viora Citaku that Kosovo citizen [redacted] was onboard the Turkish NGO Humanitarian Aid Foundation flotilla bound for Gaza that Israeli forces intercepted earlier that day. Kosovo media are reporting that [redacted] survived the incident unscathed and is expected soon to contact his family. [redacted]

B6

[redacted] Bio

3. (U) [redacted] served as a junior officer

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in the former Yugoslav National Army (JNA) until 1991, when he deserted following the outbreak of war in the former Yugoslavia. In 1992, he joined the fledgling Army of Bosnia and Herzegovina where he served as chief of staff in the Fifth Corps' Brigades 521 and 526 until 1994. In 1995, he joined the Defense Ministry of the Kosovo Government -in-exile, where he served, with the rank of Colonel, initially as advisor and later as assistant minister for organizational affairs and mobilization. In that position, he helped the efforts to stand-up and consolidate the Armed Forces of the Republic of Kosovo (FARK), a rival to the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA).

4. (U) After the war, [] helped found the Justice Party (PD), a small religiously-oriented political party, and served as its secretary-general. [] and fielded his candidacy as an independent for the 2004 general elections on a platform that called for promotion of religious and traditional values in Kosovo society. He was the most successful independent candidate in the election and fell a couple of hundred seats short of securing a seat in the Kosovo Assembly. He subsequently disappeared from public life, save for offering intermittent analyses of military and security affairs published in daily newspapers.

B6

5. (U) [] returned to public life in July 2008 when he joined the Democratic League of Kosovo (LDK). At the time, there were rumors about his appointment as deputy minister in the newly-established Ministry for the Kosovo Security Force. He was later rumored to be an LDK candidate for the board of Kosovo's Civil Aviation Authority; neither appointment materialized. He has not had any significant political engagements since then.

DELL

Signature:	DELL
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Drafted By:	PRISTINA:Ramaj, Agron
Cleared By:	POL/ECON:Crishock, Louis J POL/ECON:Ginkel, John P
Approved By:	STATE:Murphy, Michael J
Released By:	PRISTINA:Ginkel, John P
Info:	ANKARA, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE ; TEL AVIV, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE ; USNATO, USMISSION ROUTINE ; BRUSSELS, USEU ROUTINE ; SKOPJE, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE ; TIRANA, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE ; BELGRADE, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE ; JAC MOLESWORTH RAF MOLESWORTH UK ROUTINE ; NAVELEM AFSOUTH NAPLES IT ROUTINE ; CDR TF FALCON ROUTINE ; SECDEF WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE ; NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE ; CIA WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE
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RELEASED IN PART
1.4(B),B1,1.4(D),NR

From: svcsmartmfi
Sent: 6/1/2010 2:26:42 PM
To: SMART Core
Subject: GAZA DEMARCHE DELIVERED: [REDACTED]

NR

SECRET//NOFORN



MRN: 10 AMMAN 1232
Date/DTG: Jun 01, 2010 / 011548Z JUN 10
From: AMEMBASSY AMMAN
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE PRIORITY
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: PREL, PHUM, KPAL, IS, JO
Captions: SIPDIS, NOFORN
Reference: KNOPF-NEA AMBASSADORS EMAIL 1 JUNE 2010
Subject: GAZA DEMARCHE DELIVERED: [REDACTED]

SECRET AMMAN 001232

NR

NOFORN
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/01/2020
TAGS: PREL, PHUM, KPAL, IS, JO
SUBJECT: GAZA DEMARCHE DELIVERED: [REDACTED]

REF: KNOPF-NEA AMBASSADORS EMAIL 1 JUNE 2010

Classified By: Ambassador R. Stephen Beecroft for Reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

1. (S/NF) PoOff delivered refel points separately [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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B1

Street Anger Extends to Official Circles

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CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

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2. (S/NF) The violent clashes at sea drew a swift official reaction. In a statement issued from Brazil early Monday afternoon local time, FM Naser Judeh condemned the violence and held the GOI "fully responsible" for the "excessive force" used against the activists and protesters onboard. The statement further noted that there were Jordanian nationals accompanying the flotilla, and that the GOJ would hold Israel accountable for their safety as well (NOTE: Post has since been informed that all Jordanians were unharmed. END NOTE.) [REDACTED]

Communications Minister and GOJ Official Spokesman Nabil Sharif condemned the Israeli flotilla seizure as a "heinous crime".

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3. (S/NF) [REDACTED]

4. (S/NF) [REDACTED]

5. (S/NF) [REDACTED]

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

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CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

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Beecroft

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Signature: Beecroft

Classified By: Ambassador R. Stephen Beecroft,

Reason: 1.4 (b) and (

Declassify on: 06/01/2020

Info: NSC WASHDC 0466 PRIORITY ; CIA WASHDC PRIORITY ; ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE PRIORITY ; ARAB LEAGUE COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

Attachments: metadata.dat

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RELEASED IN PART
1.4(B),B1,1.4(D)

From: svcsmartmf
Sent: 6/1/2010 1:03:36 PM
To: SMART Core
Subject: MGGZ01: ALGERIA RESPONDS TO ISRAELI INTERCEPTION OF GAZA FLOTILLA

CONFIDENTIAL
Sensitive



Classified by DAS, A/GIS, DoS on 06/05/2014 ~ Class: CONFIDENTIAL
~ Reason: 1.4(B), 1.4(D) ~ Declassify on: 06/01/2020

MRN: 10 ALGIERS 524
Date/DTG: Jun 01, 2010 / 011700Z JUN 10
From: AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE IMMEDIATE
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, ASEC, KISL, AEMR, AMGT, AG, IS, GZ
Captions: SIPDIS
Sensitivity: Sensitive
Pass Line: DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO TASKFORCE MGGZ01, NEA/MAG, DS/IP/NEA, DS/TIA/ITA
Subject: MGGZ01: ALGERIA RESPONDS TO ISRAELI INTERCEPTION OF GAZA FLOTILLA

CONFIDENTIAL ALGIERS 000524

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO TASKFORCE MGGZ01, NEA/MAG, DS/IP/NEA, DS/TIA/ITA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/01/2015
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, ASEC, KISL, AEMR, AMGT, AG, IS, GZ
SUBJECT: MGGZ01: ALGERIA RESPONDS TO ISRAELI INTERCEPTION OF GAZA FLOTILLA

Classified By: DCM William Jordan; reasons 1.4 (b and d).

1. (C) SUMMARY: Algerian news outlets have universally condemned the Israeli raid on the Gaza flotilla, which reportedly included an Algerian vessel and a contingent of around 30 Algerians led by the vice president of the Islamist Movement for Society and Peace (MSP) political party. Local press circulated unverified reports on June 1 that two Algerians are among the casualties. Press also focused criticism on the West's tepid response to the crisis. One paper cited the "embarrassed reaction of the U.S.," which called into question the value of President Obama's Cairo message.



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[Redacted]

[Redacted] Publicly, the MFA denounced the Israeli raid as cowardly and criminal in a statement released May 31. To date, there have been no reports of demonstrations or violence in response to the Gaza incident. MSP party officials reportedly plan organize a rally near the UN's offices in Algiers or the Algerian Presidency.

[Redacted]

[Redacted] DGSN has increased its presence at security checkpoints around the Embassy. The Emergency Action Committee convened on June 1 and postponed official and non-official travel outside the capital, pending a review of security developments no later than June 6. END SUMMARY

ALGERIA TO CONTINUE POSITIVE ENGAGEMENT AT ARAB LEAGUE

2. (SBU) Ambassador delivered demarche points on the Gaza flotilla incident to Algerian MFA Secretary General Boudjemaa Delmi, who said we was speaking on behalf of Foreign Minister Medelci still attending, along with President Bouteflika, the France - Africa summit in Nice. Delmi said the Israeli attack was a very serious and unwelcome development that would make the Arab League discussion of proximity talks difficult.

[Redacted]

MSP PARTY LEADS ALGERIAN PARTICIPATION IN FLOTILLA

3. (U) Algeria's leading news outlets widely reported the Israeli raid against the Gaza flotilla, universally characterizing Israel's response as a massacre of civilians and deploring the tepid response by Western countries. Press articles on June 1 focused on the reported number of dead and injured as a result of Israeli military action. Some newspapers circulated unverified reports that 2 Algerians died during the Israeli raid. There were reportedly 32 Algerians who participated in the flotilla, including members of parliament, senators, political party representatives, journalists, students, and businessmen. Algeria's Islamist Movement for Society and Peace political party organized the Algerian component's participation in the flotilla. MSP Vice President Abderrezak Mokri is the reported head of the delegation; local press cited MSP party member Ahmed Brahimi as the Algerian group's campaign coordinator. MSP President Bougerra Soltani (whose wife, Masar Nedjma, is part of the Algerian group) called a press conference to underscore MSP efforts to ascertain the welfare and whereabouts of the Algerian participants. He also called for an emergency meeting with the FLN and RND parties (major elements of the "presidential alliance") to elaborate a common position on the incident. A journalist from "Le Soir d'Algerie" said MSP might attempt a rally in front of the Presidency or UN mission in Algiers by late afternoon on June 1.

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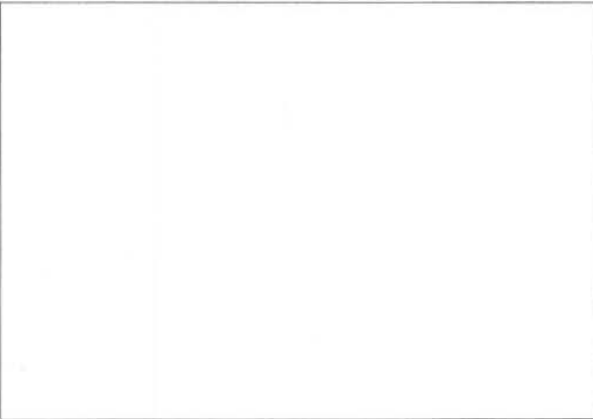
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4. (C) [redacted] told us June 1 that reports of Algerian victims among those killed were unconfirmed; [redacted] said MSP was working with Algeria's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Turkish embassy to obtain more information. [redacted] said the Algerian flotilla group was aboard a vessel purchased in Turkey but sailing under an Algerian flag as well as a white flag. He said the Algerian

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1.4(D)

vessel was transporting prefabricated homes to be distributed to Gaza residents living in tents. [redacted] said MSP lost contact with Algerian group soon after the Israeli raid. In a brief message, [redacted] communicated that the Algerian group intended to travel to Gaza as planned.



MFA STATEMENT ON GAZA INCIDENT

6. (U) The Algerian Ministry of Foreign Affairs released an official statement May 31 condemning Israeli military action, which it called cowardly and criminal. The GOA urged the international community and the UN Security Council to respond with a vigorous and unanimous reaction condemning the incident. The statement concluded by reaffirming Algeria's solidarity with the Palestinian people, its support for the establishment of a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital, and its support for a resolution to the question of Palestinian refugees in accordance with international law.

7. (U) Embassy unofficial translation of MFA communique, dated May 31, 2010:

BEGIN TEXT:

Algeria condemns with the strongest words the cowardly and criminal aggression by the Israeli army against the peace-freedom flotilla carrying activists as well as food to break up the inhumane blockade imposed on civilian

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populations in Gaza since June 2007.

In light of this deplorable military action, perpetrated in international waters, against a long-planned humanitarian initiative, Algeria calls for a vigorous and unanimous reaction from the international community, including at the level of the United Nations Security Council, to condemn with the strongest words this unjustifiable international bloody act of piracy.

The international community must also take the necessary steps to shed immediately, without any delay, light on this violation of international humanitarian law so that such an act, which is condemned by international morality, will not happen again.

During this painful ordeal, Algeria reiterates its highest level of solidarity to the Palestinian cause and its full support to the Palestinian people's struggle to recover all its stolen rights through the establishment of a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital and the resolution of its refugee situation in conformity with international law.

END TEXT.

EMBASSY EAC ACTION

8. (SBU) The Embassy's Emergency Action Committee (EAC) convened on June 1 to review local reaction to the Gaza incident and evaluate the mission's security posture. RSO noted that Algerian police (DGSN) had augmented physical security measures at check points near the Embassy and planned to control access to the Embassy by non-diplomatic

plated vehicles. The Embassy's security posture will emphasize vigilance and situational awareness. The EAC decided to postpone official and non-official in-country travel outside the capital until at least June 6. The EAC will reconvene later in the week to reassess the ban on in-country travel. (Note: The December 2008/January 2009 Israeli attacks in Gaza sparked broad public outrage among the Algerian public. During this period the GOA lifted its ban on demonstrations, allowing several days of public protests in the capital and other major cities in Algeria. These events attracted crowds numbering several thousand. END NOTE.)

COMMENT:

9. (C) Given the size of the Algerian component in the Gaza flotilla, the GOA will have to contend with an inflamed public opinion in the coming days. Rumors of Algerian casualties are already circulating and, if verified, will further aggravate the reaction here. Politically, the flotilla incident represents an opportunity for the MSP to boost its popularity with Algerians and portray itself as standing up to Israel. This message will resonate with many here who harbor residual anger left over from the Gaza attacks in December 2008/January 2009. The tone of newspaper editorials on June 1 reflects the public's sentiment: impunity for Israel, massacre of civilians, tepid denunciations by Western countries, general outcry elsewhere.

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UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C05717241 Date: 05/06/2015

StateDept006566

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

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The French language daily "Liberte" commented that the "embarrassed" reaction of the United States called into question the sincerity of President Obama's promises in Cairo for a new relationship between the U.S. and the Muslim world. After 52 years of conflict between Israelis and Palestinians, the article continued, the President, like his predecessors, appeared only to be serving the interests of Israel.

PEARCE

Signature: PEARCE

Classified By: DCM William Jordan,
Reason: 1.4 (b and d)
Declassify on: 06/01/2015
Info: ARAB LEAGUE COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
Attachments: metadata.dat

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

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UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C05717241 Date: 05/06/2015

StateDept006567

RELEASED IN PART
1.4(B),B1,1.4(D)

From: Harrison, Paul
Sent: 6/1/2010 2:01:50 PM
To: svcSMARTHBTSP0P2
Subject: MGGZ01: NATO and the Gaza Flotilla Incident
Attachments: Metadata.dat

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MRN: 10 USNATO 289
Date/DTG: Jun 01, 2010 / 011802Z JUN 10
From: USMISSION USNATO
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE IMMEDIATE
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: PREL, NATO, PGOV, IS, TU, AEMR, ASEC, CASC, MARR, PINR, GZ
Captions: SIPDIS, NOFORN
Pass Line: AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PASS TO AMEMBASSY PODGORICA
Subject: MGGZ01: NATO and the Gaza Flotilla Incident

1. (C) SUMMARY: At the request of Turkey, the North Atlantic Council (NAC) met on June 1 to discuss the Gaza Flotilla situation.

[Redacted]

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The full text of this statement can be found in Para 6. END SUMMARY

2. (C) Deputy Secretary General Bisogniero (DSYG) opened the June 1 extraordinary meeting of the North Atlantic Council by expressing condolences to all Allied nations who lost nationals in Gaza flotilla. He was followed by the Turkish Permanent Representative, Ambassador Berk, who made a brief report under instructions on the events surrounding the Israeli interception of the flotilla.

[Redacted]

3. (SBU) Following reports by the United Kingdom and Spain on behalf of the UN Security Council and EU, respectively, Charge delivered the following points:

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Steve Blodgett, Senior Reviewer

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- We note the Presidential statement at the UN Security Council.
 - We take note of the concerns expressed here today and we express deep regret for the loss of life and injuries suffered during yesterday's incident, in particular those deaths and injuries suffered by our NATO ally Turkey. Our President will be speaking to PM Erdogan later today, and the Turkish Foreign Minister is meeting with General Jones and Secretary Clinton in Washington today as well.
 - We support a prompt, impartial, credible and transparent investigation of the facts surrounding this tragedy. This was agreed upon at the UN last night. We should not take further specific Alliance action until those facts are fully known.
 - Ultimately, the only solution to this conflict is through an agreement, negotiated between the parties, that establishes an independent, contiguous, and viable Palestinian state living side by side in peace and security with Israel.
 - For this reason, President Obama, Secretary of State Clinton, and Special Envoy Mitchell have worked tirelessly from day one of this Administration to launch negotiations between the parties.
 - The proximity talks that are currently underway are the only current hope for re-starting direct, credible, and productive negotiations, and we are pursuing them, working with the Palestinians. They must continue. Further delay in negotiations only empowers extremists on both sides and postpones the day when Palestinians can live in a secure and independent state in the West Bank and Gaza.
 - The U.S. is leading diplomatic efforts to resolve the current situation and we will continue to do so.
4. (C) In the tour de table that followed, Allies were unanimous in deploring the loss of life and injuries caused by the use of force. Almost all Allies expressed the need to resolve the underlying problems, and viewed the force used as excessive. [REDACTED]

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5. [REDACTED]

- 6. Following the NAC, the Secretary General – who could not attend the meeting due to official travel – issued the following statement:

BEGIN TEXT

Statement by the Secretary General of NATO on Israeli operation against ships bound for Gaza

Today the North Atlantic Council (NAC) met for an extraordinary meeting to discuss the recent Israeli operation against ships bound for Gaza. There was an extensive exchange of views among Allies on all aspects of this tragic event. I would like to express my deep regret over the loss of lives and the other casualties resulting from the use of force during the incident involving the convoy sailing to Gaza. I offer sincere condolences to the families of all victims and condemn the acts which have led to this tragedy. I add my voice to the calls by the United Nations and the European Union for a prompt, impartial, credible and transparent investigation into the incident. As a matter of urgency, I also request the immediate release of the detained civilians and ships held by Israel.

END TEXT

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Signature: DAALDER

Classified By: John Heffern, Charge
USNATO
State

Reason: 1.4 (b), (d)

Declassify on: 2020/06/01

Drafted By: USNATO:Harrison, Paul

Cleared By: EMB:Greaney, Brian E
POL:Baez, Alejandro X

Approved By: DOS:Heffern, John A

Released By: USNATO:Harrison, Paul

Info: SECDEF WASHINGTON DCROUTINE ; JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DCROUTINE ; NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DCROUTINE ; Alikhan, Faris AROUTINE ; Anania, Jay NROUTINE ; Anderson, Gerald CROUTINE ; Astillero, William PROUTINE ; Baily, Jess LROUTINE ; Bernier-Toth, Michelle ROUTINE ; Bitter, Rena ROUTINE ; Brimmer, Esther D.ROUTINE ; Carpenter, Jonathan JROUTINE ; Cassayre, Mark JROUTINE ; Cassidy, Joseph PROUTINE ; Chase, Daniel LROUTINE ; Cherry, Elizabeth EROUTINE ; Connelly, Maura ROUTINE ; Countryman, Thomas MROUTINE ; Culver, Jeffrey WROUTINE ; Cunningham, James BROUTINE ; Danover, Jennifer ROUTINE ; DeLaurentis, JeffreyROUTINE ; Deretic, ZojaROUTINE ; Donahoe, Eileen CROUTINE ; DRL-MLGA-DLROUTINE ; DRL-NESCA-DLROUTINE ; Enav, Cari RROUTINE ; Engelken, Stephen CROUTINE ; EUR-SE-DL ROUTINE ; Feltman, Jeffrey DROUTINE ; Finver, Frank JROUTINE ; Fitzpatrick, Kathleen M ROUTINE ; Frelich, Karlene HROUTINE ; Frowick, George HROUTINE ; Garuckis, Michael J ROUTINE ; Germain, Ellen J (USUN) ROUTINE ; Giauque, Jeffrey GROUTINE ; Godec, Robert F ROUTINE ; Goldberger, Thomas HROUTINE ; Goodman, Ilan AROUTINE ; Graze, Deborah E ROUTINE ; Griffiths, Douglas MROUTINE ; Hale, David MROUTINE ; Harrison, Paul ROUTINE ; Haymon, Leslie CROUTINE ; Heffern, John AROUTINE ; Holmstrom, Todd ROUTINE ; Howard, Jeremiah HROUTINE ; Irwin, Matthew TROUTINE ; Jacobs, Janice SROUTINE ; Jacoby, Julia IROUTINE ; Jeffrey, James FROUTINE ; Kaidanow, Tina ROUTINE ; Kirby, Michael DROUTINE ; Knopf, Payton LROUTINE ; Lohman, Lee ROUTINE ; Maggi, Robert W ROUTINE ; Marchese, Gregory MROUTINE ; Marsh, Denise MROUTINE ; Maxwell, Raymond D ROUTINE ; McIntyre, Jennifer AROUTINE ; McLeod, Mary E (USUN) ROUTINE ; Morrison, Andrew LROUTINE ; NEA-IPA-DLROUTINE ; NEA-Press-DLROUTINE ; NEA-RA-DL ROUTINE ; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DLROUTINE ; Nossel, Suzanne FROUTINE ; Olsson, Kurt ROUTINE ; Ostermeier, Amy AROUTINE ; Quinville, Robin SROUTINE ; Rana, Gautam AROUTINE ; Ratney, Michael AROUTINE ; Reisser, Wesley JROUTINE ; Riley, Robert JROUTINE ; Rogan, Thomas GROUTINE ; Rubinstein, Daniel HROUTINE ; Rudman, Mara ROUTINE ; Sachar, Alon ROUTINE ; Scarsella, Gina EROUTINE ; Schedlbauer, Amy W (USUN) ROUTINE ; Schrank, Alexander DROUTINE ; SES-O_CMSROUTINE ; SES-O_Shift-IROUTINE ; SES-O_Shift-IIROUTINE ; SES-O_Shift-IIIROUTINE ; SES-O_SWO-OnlyROUTINE ; Shampaine, Nicole DROUTINE ; Shapiro, Andrew JROUTINE ; Sievers, Marc JROUTINE ; Silliman, Douglas AROUTINE ; Sindle, James MROUTINE ; Smith, Dana SROUTINE ; Taylor, Victoria JROUTINE ; Tyson, Paul HROUTINE ; Van de Vate, Katherine XROUTINE ; Waller, Robert PROUTINE ; Waters, John RROUTINE ; Winterhalter, Erik SROUTINE ; Wolff, Alex (USUN) ROUTINE ; NATO EU COLLECTIVE ROUTINE ; ZENIAMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG ; ZEN/AMEMBASSY PODGORICA

Attachments: Metadata.dat

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

Page 3 of 4

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C05717248 Date: 05/06/2015

StateDept006570

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
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CONFIDENTIAL//NOFORN

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
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UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C05717248 Date: 05/06/2015

StateDept006571

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

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From: Hunter, Rodney M
Sent: 6/2/2010 6:03:18 AM
To: svcSMARTHBTSP03
Subject: Gul Takes [redacted] with CODEL Delahunt
Attachments: Metadata.dat

RELEASED IN PART
1.4(B),B1,1.4(D)

B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)

CONFIDENTIAL



MRN: 10 ANKARA 783
Date/DTG: Jun 02, 2010 / 021003Z JUN 10
From: AMEMBASSY ANKARA
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE IMMEDIATE
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: PGOV, PTER, PHUM, TU, IS
Captions: SIPDIS
Reference: A) 10 ANKARA 781
Pass Line: AMEMBASSY ASTANA PASS TO AMCONSUL ALMATY
AMEMBASSY ANKARA PASS TO AMCONSUL ADANA
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PASS TO AMEMBASSY PODGORICA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK
AMEMBASSY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG
AMEMBASSY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL LEIPZIG
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PASS TO AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG
Subject: Gul Takes [redacted] with CODEL Delahunt

B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)

1. (C) SUMMARY. In a meeting with Congressman William Delahunt on June 1, President Abdullah Gul [redacted] He stressed the importance of the strong and continuing relationship with the United States. The Congressman agreed, adding that U.S.-Turkish ties were important at all levels, whether military, economic, or political. He encouraged Gul to get out in front of the media on this and put a positive Turkish "spin" on the situation before other actors carried the message away. Gul clearly indicated that he and the GOT want to minimize the damage from the Gaza flotilla incident. END SUMMARY.

2. (C) On June 1, President Abdullah Gul told visiting Congressman William Delahunt that Turkey would "never forget" the attack by the Israeli Defense Forces against the IHH flotilla on May 31. [redacted]

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Steve Blodgett, Senior Reviewer

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Page 1 of 3

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

Page 2 of 3

[Redacted]

B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)

[Redacted] He called for an independent and transparent investigation into the May 31 events -- one not conducted solely by the Government of Israel -- and then for the responsible parties to be punished. Only then, he said, can the Turkish people move on from this event.

3. (C) Gul stressed the importance of the U.S.-Turkey relationship, not just bilaterally, but on multilateral issues as well (Afghanistan, Iraq, etc.). He complained about people who claim that Turkey is drifting away from the West, and repeated his belief that the relationship was vital for both Turkey and the U.S. Congressman Delahunt and Gul discussed the importance of continued and strong economic cooperation between the U.S. and Turkey. Gul [Redacted]

Congressman Delahunt finished the meeting by encouraging Gul to get out ahead of the IHH issue in the media and put a Turkish "spin" on it, and not to allow the media, or other actors, to define the terms of the debate.

Comment

4. (C) [Redacted]

5. (SBU) Congressman Delahunt cleared on this cable.

Signature: JEFFREY

Classified By: Jeremiah Howard, Acting POLCOUNS
Political
State

Reason: 1.4 (b), (d)

Declassify on: 2020/06/02

Drafted By: ANKARA:Hunter, Rodney M

Cleared By: Howard, Jeremiah H
Silliman, Douglas A

Approved By: EXEC:Jeffrey, James F

Released By: ANKARA:Hunter, Rodney M

Info: GURDIL, FIMIP RROUTINE ; WILKINSON, HEATH RROUTINE ; HANAUW, TINA RROUTINE ;
Anapoulos, Jessica LROUTINE ; Baily, Jess LROUTINE ; Ciolek, Melanie KROUTINE ;
Goodman, Ilan AROUTINE ; Green, Regina YROUTINE ; Marsh, Denise MROUTINE ;
Netos, Eleftherios EROUTINE ; Osinaga, Claudia WROUTINE ; Riley, Robert JROUTINE ;
Scarlattelli, Adam WROUTINE ; Schrank, Alexander DROUTINE ; Stevens, Ruth AROUTINE ;
Taylor, Victoria JROUTINE ; Feltman, Jeffrey DROUTINE ; Schlicher, Ronald LROUTINE ;
Connelly, Maura

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CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

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ROUTINE ; Goldberger, Thomas H ROUTINE ; Cunningham, James B ROUTINE ; Sievers, Marc J
ROUTINE ; Daalder, Ivo H ROUTINE ; Heffern, John A ROUTINE ; ISTANBUL, AMCONSUL
ROUTINE ; CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL ROUTINE ; AFOSI DET 521 ANKARA TU
ROUTINE ; MNF-I C2X BAGHDAD IQ ROUTINE ; CIA WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE ;
DIA WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE ; EUCOM POLAD VAIHINGEN GE ROUTINE ;
JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE ;
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE ;
SECDEF WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE ; esherwood -randall@nss.eop.sgov.gov ROUTINE ;
bbrink@nss.eop.sgov.gov ROUTINE ; EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE ROUTINE ;
ZEN/AMCONSUL ALMATY ; ZEN/AMCONSUL ADANA ; ZEN/AMEMBASSY PODGORICA ;
ZEN/AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK ; ZEN/AMEMBASSY MINSK ;
ZEN/AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF ; ZEN/AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG ;
ZEN/AMCONSUL LEIPZIG ; ZEN/AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG

Attachments:

Metadata.dat

Dissemination Rule:

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CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

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CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

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RELEASED IN PART
1.4(B),B1,1.4(D)

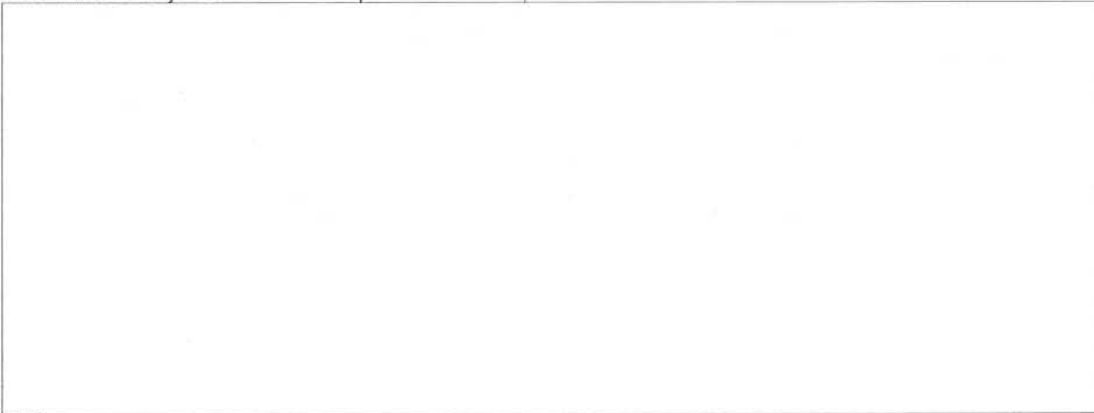
From: Cornforth, Jeremy A
Sent: 6/2/2010 5:27:12 AM
To: SMART Core
Subject: Return of Lebanese detainees from Gaza flotilla to Lebanon

Classified by DAS, A/GIS, DoS on 04/01/2015 ~ Class: CONFIDENTIAL
~ Reason: 1.4(B), 1.4(D) ~ Declassify on: 06/02/2020

UNCLASSIFIED

MRN: 10 FTR 22496
Date/DTG: Jun 02, 2010 / 020926Z JUN 10
From: Cornforth, Jeremy A
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: PREL, KPKO, LE, IS
Captions: SENSITIVE
Subject: Return of Lebanese detainees from Gaza flotilla to Lebanon

<<Metadata.dat>> Tom,
Here is more info you can send. I'll wrap it all into the O/I, as well:



B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED

From: Daughton, Thomas F (Beirut)
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 11:48 AM
To: Feltman, Jeffrey D; Sison, Michele J; 'dshapiro@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Hajjar, Hagar H.'; Cunningham, James R; Sievers, Marc J
Cc: Connelly, Maura; Sullivan, Jacob J; Schlicher, Ronald L; Shampaine, Nicole D; Lawson, Christine M; Goldberger, Thomas H; Holmstrom, Todd C; Hale, David M; Rana, Gautam A; Catalano, Elisa; Hof, Frederic C; Cornforth, Jeremy A
Subject: RE: Lebanese detainees in Israel

More information on what transpired at last night's cabinet meeting:

We spoke this morning to Minister for the Displaced Akram Shuhayyeb (PSP), who said that the cabinet did not make any formal decisions about the Lebanese held by Israel.



Thomas F. Daughton
Chargé d'affaires, a.i.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Steve Blodgett, Senior Reviewer

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

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CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

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U.S. Embassy - Beirut, Lebanon
Tel: [961] 454-2600

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED

From: Feltman, Jeffrey D

Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 2:11 AM

To: Sison, Michele J; 'dshapiro@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Hajjar, Hagar H.'; Cunningham, James R; Sievers, Marc J; Daughton, Thomas F (Beirut)

Cc: Connelly, Maura; Sullivan, Jacob J; Schlicher, Ronald L; Shampaine, Nicole D; Lawson, Christine M; Goldberger, Thomas H; Holmstrom, Todd C; Hale, David M; Rana, Gautam A; Catalano, Elisa; Hof, Frederic C

Subject: Lebanese detainees in Israel

To all:

[Redacted]

B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)

reported the following:

- 3 Lebanese will be deported to Lebanon via Ras Naqoura tomorrow.
- 1 Lebanese is Irish-Lebanese and is being expelled via the airport as an Irish citizen

[Redacted]

Jeffrey Feltman
Assistant Secretary
Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs
Department of State
202-647-7209

Drafted By: BEIRUT:Comforth, Jeremy A
Released By: BEIRUT:Comforth, Jeremy A

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

UNCLASSIFIED

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

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RELEASED IN PART
1.4(B),B1,1.4(D)

From: Daughton, Thomas F (Beirut)
Sent: 6/2/2010 6:25:36 AM
To: svcSMARTHBTSP0P7
Subject: Beirut O/I for June 2
Attachments: Metadata.dat

CONFIDENTIAL

MRN: 10 MDA 857
Date/DTG: Jun 02, 2010 / 021026Z JUN 10
From: Daughton, Thomas F (Beirut)
Action: Lawson, Christine MROUTINE
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: ASEC, PREL, KPKO, KPAL, LE, IS
Captions: OFFICIAL INFORMAL
Subject: Beirut O/I for June 2

(C) [Redacted]

B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)

Press reports indicate that a sixth Lebanese national, Lebanese-Belgian dual citizen Issam Zaatar, was also detained in the raid but left Israel for Brussels Tuesday morning.

(C) **Lebanese demand return of Gaza detainees:** MP Hassan Fadlallah, the only Hizballah member who made a public comment on June 1 about the Lebanese "captives," did not specifically threaten Hizballah retaliation. In contrast, Hizballah Agriculture Minister Hussein al-Hajj Hassan told Future News today that Israel will pay for its attack on the convoy, saying, "Lebanese nationals detained by Israel are our responsibility as a government, people and Resistance." [Redacted]

[Redacted]

In a statement before departing for the Arab League ministerial on the Gaza crisis, Foreign Minister Ali Chami told the

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Steve Blodgett, Senior Reviewer

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CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

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press, "We [should] push to sever diplomatic relations between the international community and Israel." He also called for sanctions on Israel.

As-Safir (pro-Hizballah) is reporting today that DefMin Elias Murr asked the USG to intervene in the matter to get the Lebanese released. The press also reports that LAF anti-aircraft batteries opened fire on Israeli planes overflying Lebanon last night.

(SBU) Large protest near Embassy delayed: The large protest planned for Awkar Square near the Embassy today at noon has reportedly been cancelled or postponed. We have been told that the National Kurdish Party may seek to hold a demonstration near the Embassy around 1700, but we expect it to be small if it materializes. The police told us this afternoon that Hizballah, Amal and the two small parties that were trying to organize today's noon protest are meeting to discuss possible coordination of larger protests around the country on Sunday. We are continuing to monitor the situation; the security forces are being extremely cooperative.

Classified By:	Thomas F. Daughton, Charge d'affaires, a.i. Embassy Beirut State
Reason:	1.4 (b), (d)
Declassify on:	2020/06/02
Drafted By:	BEIRUT: Cornforth, Jeremy A
Released By:	BEIRUT: Daughton, Thomas F (Beirut)
Info:	Daughton, Thomas F (Beirut) <i>ROUTINE</i> ; Brennan, Michael <i>FROUTINE</i> ; Cornforth, Jeremy A <i>ROUTINE</i> ; Cranmer, Amanda <i>CROUTINE</i> ; McCulloch, Megan <i>LROUTINE</i> ; Polacheck, Joshua W (Beirut) <i>ROUTINE</i> ; Smith, Derrin <i>RROUTINE</i> ; Tachco, Amy N (Beirut) <i>ROUTINE</i> ; Walker, Bridgette <i>LROUTINE</i> ; Evans, Jennifer <i>RROUTINE</i> ; Creedon, Reid <i>MROUTINE</i> ; Riggs, Susan <i>JROUTINE</i> ; Addis, Casey <i>LROUTINE</i> ; Kaluza, Arnold <i>FROUTINE</i> ; Wilt, Mark C (Beirut) <i>ROUTINE</i> ; Gliha, Ryan <i>MROUTINE</i> ; Kontek, Ted L (Beirut) <i>ROUTINE</i> ; Abell, J Andrew <i>ROUTINE</i> ; Herbol, Denise <i>AROUTINE</i> ; Scott, Elaine <i>MROUTINE</i> ; Embury, Benjamin <i>SROUTINE</i> ; Sison, Michele <i>JROUTINE</i> ; Citrin, Ruth <i>ROUTINE</i> ; Hosking, Erika L (Beirut) <i>ROUTINE</i> ; Brown, Karen <i>LROUTINE</i> ; Hinton, Terrance <i>ROUTINE</i> ; Schlicher, Ronald <i>LROUTINE</i> ; Riley, Richard <i>HROUTINE</i> ; Balestri, Richard <i>RROUTINE</i> ; Pannaman, Jeffrey <i>EROUTINE</i> ; Connelly, Maura <i>ROUTINE</i> ; Lantz, James <i>VROUTINE</i> ; Williams, Jennifer <i>LROUTINE</i> ; Solly, Janet R (Beirut) <i>ROUTINE</i> ; Bauer, Paul <i>AROUTINE</i> ; Berisford, Joshua <i>PROUTINE</i> ; Smith, Kirk <i>GROUTINE</i> ; Shampaine, Nicole <i>DROUTINE</i> ; Allen, Katherine <i>EROUTINE</i> ; Williams, Prestina <i>DROUTINE</i> ; Vassilev, Ivaylo <i>ROUTINE</i> ; Wong, Kam <i>TROUTINE</i> ; Smith, Anita R (Beirut) <i>ROUTINE</i>
Attachments:	Metadata.dat

Dissemination Rule:	Archive Copy
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UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C05717268 Date: 05/06/2015

StateDept006578

RELEASED IN PART
1.4(B),B1,1.4(D),B6

From: svcsmartmfi
Sent: 6/2/2010 9:14:50 AM
To: SMART Core
Subject: GAZA FLOTILLA AFTERMATH - SITREP 2

SECRET//NOFORN
Sensitive



MRN: 10 TEL AVIV 1225
Date/DTG: Jun 02, 2010 / 021305Z JUN 10
From: AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE IMMEDIATE
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: PREL, CASC, KWBG, KPAL, IS
Captions: NOFORN
Sensitivity: Sensitive
Reference: TEL AVIV 1218
Pass Line: AMEMBASSY ASTANA PASS TO AMCONSUL ALMATY
AMEMBASSY ANKARA PASS TO AMCONSUL ADANA
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PASS TO AMEMBASSY PODGORICA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PASS TO AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK
AMEMBASSY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG
AMEMBASSY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL LEIPZIG
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PASS TO AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG
Subject: GAZA FLOTILLA AFTERMATH - SITREP 2

SECRET TEL AVIV 001225

NOFORN

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/01/2020
TAGS: PREL, CASC, KWBG, KPAL, IS
SUBJECT: GAZA FLOTILLA AFTERMATH - SITREP 2

REF: TEL AVIV 1218

Classified By: A/DCM MARC SIEVERS; REASONS 1.4(b), (d)

1. As of 4 p.m. local time on June 2:

POLITICAL -MILITARY

2. (U) The Israeli government continues to reiterate that its actions in stopping the Gaza flotilla were legitimate. The security cabinet issued a communique this morning which announced that "The Cabinet decided that the imposition of

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Steve Blodgett, Senior Reviewer

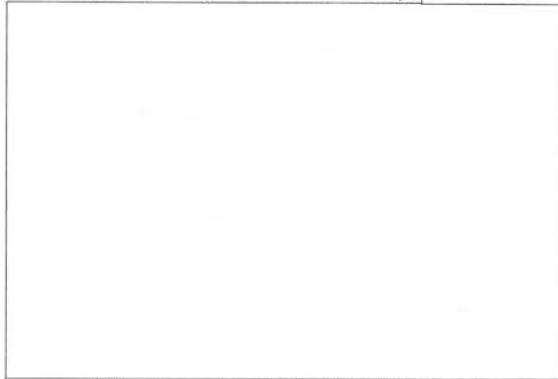
CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

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restrictions on the entry of ships into Gaza, which is controlled by the Hamas terrorist organization, is an outstanding act of self-defense against Hamas's continued aggression against Israeli citizens and communities; so too the IDF action against the violent provocation on the high seas. The Cabinet regrets the fact that there were fatalities during the event but lays full responsibility on those elements that took violent action which tangibly endangered the lives of IDF soldiers."

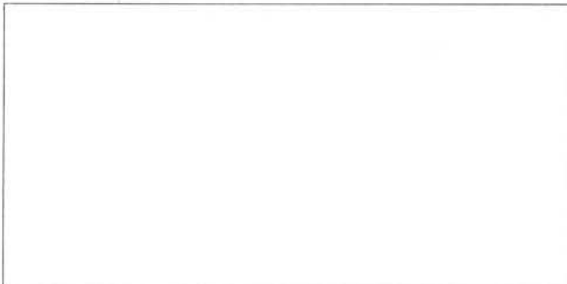
3. (C) [redacted] told the Ambassador this afternoon that a way had been found to release all the Turkish detainees, and possibly all nationalities today. [redacted]

B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)



[redacted] As of 3 p.m. local time, the MFA informed Embassy that Ella Prison had been closed and all the flotilla detainees from Ella were in transit en route to Ben Gurion Airport.

4. (C) [redacted] told EconOff today that eight truckloads of humanitarian goods from the flotilla entered Gaza via Kerem Shalom June 1, and more were scheduled to enter today. COGAT is coordinating remaining shipments with the ICRC and UN. UN approval is still pending; ICRC is still in discussions with Hamas regarding delivery of medical items. The items offloaded from the flotilla ships were not packaged properly and need to be repackaged for transfer (e.g. unpacked motor scooters); union safety rules at the port are complicating offloading since ships were not loaded properly, and many items had just been thrown in unpacked. [redacted] estimated that in all, the items offloaded from the ships might total some 70-80 truckloads.

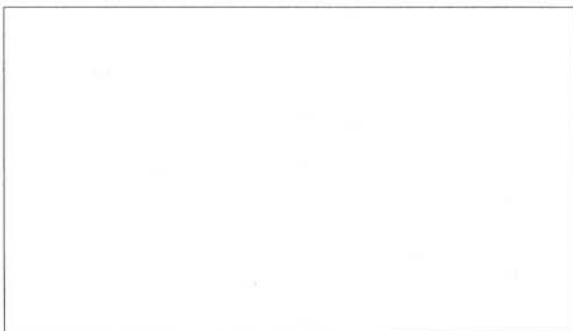


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B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)

7. (U) Demonstrations of support for the IDF were held across Israel today. Two of the main organizations behind the shows of solidarity were Im Tirtzu and Bnei Akiva, who brought hundreds of activists into the streets. (Note: Im Tirtzu is the organization that launched the recent campaign against the New Israel Fund, which supports many human rights organizations, some of which provided evidence which was used in the Goldstone Report.) Im Tirtzu organized pro-IDF demonstrations in Israeli universities in Beersheva and Haifa, at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and across the street from the Turkish Embassy in Tel Aviv. They are calling for another demonstration June 2 at Tel Aviv University, as well as another at sea near Haifa, under the title "We're all navy." Im Tirtzu's chairman, Ronen Shuval, said that the organization's aim was to show public support for the IDF as well as to "make people boycott Turkey and its products, to combat Turkish hypocrisy."

CONSULAR

8. (SBU) On June 1, consular officers visited 12 American detainees, 11 at Ella Prison in Beersheva. All were in good health and signed Privacy Act Waivers. All families were contacted. All said they would agree to be deported. One detainee, moderately injured in altercations with Israeli Navy personnel at sea and with immigration police at the Port of Ashdod, refused medical treatment and is being held at Givon Prison, Ramle. CONS continues efforts to locate and contact seven possible AmCits who may have been on the flotilla vessels.

9. (SBU) CONS asked MFA for a list of AmCits deported from Israel, those to be deported, and those likely to remain in detention. MFA said it may be able to provide such a list later today.

10. (SBU) The document all detainees are being asked to sign, a Request for Immediate Departure, does not specify any further consequences to those who sign. We have asked MFA to clarify whether those signing will be barred for a period of years from entering Israel. Generally, deportations from Israel incur a ten-year bar.

11. (SBU) ConGen Jerusalem ConOff and Consular Assistant visited [redacted] at the Ein Kerem Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem. As previously reported, [redacted] was injured when hit by an IDF-launched tear gas canister on May 31 during a pro-flotilla protest at Qalandiya, on the

B6

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West Bank. [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted] For details, see Jerusalem septel.

B6

SECURITY

12. [redacted]
[redacted]

B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)

13. (C) A relatively small minority of the Israeli Arab community in Israel participated in a general strike on June 1, though all Arab schools and some shops were closed throughout the country. Israeli Arabs noted higher participation in Umm al-Fahem, Nazareth, and east Jerusalem. [redacted]
[redacted] most Israeli observers. [redacted]
[redacted] are not concerned there will be any further increase in tensions resulting from the May 31 violence.

14. (SBU) After an eight-hour hearing, an Israeli judge extended for a week the arrest of the four Israeli Arab leaders involved in the flotilla, citing possible disruption of legal proceedings against them and concerns about the public peace. [redacted] appeared to enjoy the media attention at the hearing regarding [redacted] along with [redacted]

B6

15. (SBU) In what appears to be the sole case of violence, one man in Netanya who sustained light wounds said he was stabbed repeatedly by an Arab shouting "Allahu Akbar" (God is great) this morning. Israeli Arabs say their community has generally responded maturely, and has not resorted to any violent demonstrations. Some Israeli Arabs say the Mavi Marmara incident contributes to a growing sense of alienation and powerlessness among Israeli Arabs that leads them to look to the international community for help on Palestinian issues like the Gaza blockade. On the whole, the Israeli Arab reaction appears to be tempered in spite of incendiary statements by the Islamic Movement and some Arab members of the Knesset aiming to stir up protests.

PRESS REPORTING

16. (U) Today the Israeli newspapers began looking at issues including the impact the incident will have on Israel's foreign relations (including with the U.S.), the fate of Gaza, the current Israeli leadership's ability to make decisions in such matters, and the possibility of conducting an investigation into the affair. Media quoted Mossad Director Meir Dagan as saying before the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that "Israel is

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CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

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gradually turning from an asset to the United States to a burden."

17. (SBU) Key commentaries in the news focused on the international ramifications of the flotilla incident, as well as what the future will hold if Israel does not divest itself completely from Gaza and make peace with the Palestinians. The larger conclusion was that Israel had better take dramatic international steps to remedy its present position, or face growing isolation and condemnation.
CUNNINGHAM

Signature: CUNNINGHAM

Classified By: A/DCM MARC SIEVERS,

Reason: 1.4(b),(d)

Declassify on: 06/01/2020

Info: ANKARA, AMEMBASSY PRIORITY ; ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE PRIORITY ;
EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY ; ZEN/AMCONSUL ALMATY ;
ZEN/AMCONSUL ADANA ; ZEN/AMEMBASSY PODGORICA ;
ZEN/AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI ; ZEN/AMCONSUL STRASBOURG ;
ZEN/AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK ; ZEN/AMEMBASSY MINSK ;
ZEN/AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF ; ZEN/AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG ;
ZEN/AMCONSUL LEIPZIG ; ZEN/AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG

Attachments: metadata.dat

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

SECRET//NOFORN

Sensitive

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

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UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C05717278 Date: 05/06/2015

StateDept006583

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

Page 1 of 3

RELEASED IN PART
1.4(B),B1,1.4(D)

From: Watkins, Todd J
Sent: 6/2/2010 10:07:23 AM
To: svcSMARTHBTSP04
Subject: EGYPT OPENS GAZA BORDER IN WAKE OF ISRAEL ATTACK ON FLOTILLA
Attachments: Metadata.dat

SECRET



MRN: 10 CAIRO 611
Date/DTG: Jun 02, 2010 / 021407Z JUN 10
From: AMEMBASSY CAIRO
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: PREL, KPAL, UNSC, IS, GZ, EG
Captions: SIPDIS
Subject: EGYPT OPENS GAZA BORDER IN WAKE OF ISRAEL ATTACK ON FLOTILLA

1. (S) Key Points:

-- [redacted] told poloff June 2 that Egypt opened the Gaza border crossing at Rafah June 1 for an as yet undefined period, but that passage would be limited to humanitarian cases and medical supplies.

B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)

-- Some Western countries have requested to supply aid to Gaza through the northern Sinai port of El Arish. Egypt will facilitate this per the standing procedures whereby supplies are transferred to Gaza at the El Ouja/Kerem Shalom crossing.

-- [redacted] said Egypt had warned Israel to avoid using excessive force to disrupt the convoy. He anticipated that as a result of the incident the Arab position on the peace process will probably "harden" for the next 3-4 months.

2. (C) Comment:

[redacted]

Egypt Opens Border for Humanitarian and Medical Reasons

3. (S) [redacted] told poloff on June 2 that Egypt condemned Israel's killings of humanitarian activists during its May 31 attack on the Free Gaza flotilla and had opened the Rafah border crossing into Gaza to allow for medical and humanitarian assistance. He said that those individuals with security clearances can cross in both directions and Egypt would facilitate the movement of humanitarian cases and medical supplies into and from Gaza. [redacted] did not know how long the border would be open, but he doubted it would be open indefinitely. [redacted]

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Steve Blodgett, Senior Reviewer

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

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B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)

[redacted] Prior to attack, the border was open at best two days per week. End Note). [redacted] said the decision to open the border was a sovereign decision by the Government of Egypt and he stated that its border policy would not be influenced by "regional pressure." [redacted] Egypt rejected HAMAS leader Khalid Meshaal's request for a "comprehensive opening" of the border to allow all types of goods to cross into Gaza from Egypt. Thus, he believed that the opening of the border would have little impact on the tunnel traffic into Gaza.

4. (C) [redacted] said that Egypt was already receiving inquiries and requests from "Western countries," including the U.K., to send supplies to Gaza through the El Arish port in northern Sinai. He said all shipments would need to adhere to the "Egyptian regime," which only allows medical and humanitarian shipments and must be coordinated with the Egyptian Red Crescent and UNRWA. [redacted] spoke with [redacted]

[redacted] but concerned that there was no warehouse space in El Arish. He said that Egypt would work to clear and move shipments quickly from the El Arish port to the El Ouja/Kerem Shalom crossing, but he said that Israel practice to "stall" goods could lead to spoilage of perishable items and frustrate NGO and aid groups.

Israeli Attack Impacts Peace Initiatives and Aid Shipments

5. (C) [redacted] said the Israeli attack on the Free Gaza flotilla shed light on the Government of Israel's "capability to make peace" and complicated all peace initiatives. Noting that FM Aboul Gheit was returning to Cairo to participate in the June 2 Arab League Ministerial, [redacted] anticipated that the Arab position on peace will probably "harden" for the next 3-4 months. He believed that unless something changes on the ground in Gaza, Palestinian reconciliation will also remain stalled. [redacted]

6. (S) [redacted] said Egypt had anticipated that there could be problems with the flotilla and made it clear to Israel that it should avoid using "excessive force" to take the convoy. He said the flotilla had never applied to dock in El Arish because it refused to adhere to the Egyptian conditions. [redacted] told polcoff that Egypt expects a surge by the NGO community to mobilize more aid shipments.

Widespread, Small Protests

7. (U) There have been small demonstrations in numerous Egyptian cities condemning the Israeli attack and paying homage to those killed. (Note: Protests may have been limited because the opposition was focused on the June 1 Shura Council elections. End Note). In public, Egyptian government officials have played up Egypt's decision to open the Gaza border, condemned the Israeli attack and called for the release of those detained in Israel and the provision of humanitarian aid to the people in Gaza. Privately, senior-level contacts note they share the goal of preserving proximity talks, but stress how tough the regional environment is for that.

Signature: TUELLER

Classified By: Matthew A. Tueller, Charge d'Affaires
DoS
Reason: 1.4 (b), (d)
Declassify on: 2020/06/02
Drafted By: CAIRO:Watkins, Todd J
Cleared By: Campagna, Anthony D
Blome, Donald A
Approved By: Tueller, Matthew H

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

Page 3 of 3

Released By: CAIRO:Watkins, Todd J
Info: TEL AVIV, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE* ; JERUSALEM, AMCONSUL *ROUTINE* ;
ARAB LEAGUE COLLECTIVE *ROUTINE* ; ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE *ROUTINE*
Attachments: Metadata.dat

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

SECRET

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

Page 3 of 3

RELEASED IN PART
1.4(B),B1,1.4(D)

From: svcsmartmfi
Sent: 6/2/2010 10:34:35 AM
To: SMART Core
Subject: MGGZ01: FM KUSA'S RESPONSE TO GAZA FLOTILLA DEMARCHE

CONFIDENTIAL



MRN: 10 TRIPOLI 514
Date/DTG: Jun 02, 2010 / 021432Z JUN 10
From: AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE IMMEDIATE
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, KISL, KPAL, LY, IS, GZ
Captions: SIPDIS
Reference: A. NEA/IPA EMAIL TO NEA AMBASSADORS AND DCMS B. TRIPOLI 513 C. TRIPOLI 260
Pass Line: DEPT FOR NEA/MAG, NEA/IPA AND GAZA FLOTILLA MONITORING GROUP
Subject: MGGZ01: FM KUSA'S RESPONSE TO GAZA FLOTILLA DEMARCHE

CONFIDENTIAL TRIPOLI 000514

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR NEA/MAG, NEA/IPA AND GAZA FLOTILLA MONITORING GROUP

E.O. 12958: DECL: 6/2/2020
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, KISL, KPAL, LY, IS, GZ
SUBJECT: MGGZ01: FM KUSA'S RESPONSE TO GAZA FLOTILLA DEMARCHE

REF: A. NEA/IPA EMAIL TO NEA AMBASSADORS AND DCMS
B. TRIPOLI 513
C. TRIPOLI 260

CLASSIFIED BY: Joan Polaschik, Charge d'Affaires, US Embassy
Tripoli, Department of State.

REASON: 1.4 (b), (d)

1. (C) Summary:

[Redacted Summary Content]

End Summary.

B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Steve Blodgett, Senior Reviewer

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

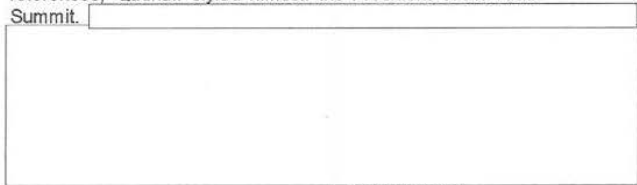
Page 2 of 3



B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)

would find sufficient.

5. (C) Comment. Gaza dominated all Libyan news and official commentary on June 1. Qadhafi's strong rebuke of the Israeli operation in his letter to POTUS was reported on all official news outlets and on the Foreign Ministry's website. In all references, Qadhafi styled himself the President of the Arab Summit.



End comment.

POLASCHIK

Signature: POLASCHIK

Classified By: Joan Polaschik, Charge d'Affaires, US Embassy Tripoli, Department of State,
Reason: 1.4 (b),(d)
Declassify on: 6/2/2020
Info: NSC WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE ; CIA WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE ;
 USUN NEW YORK, USMISSION ROUTINE ; TRIPOLI, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE ;
 ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE ROUTINE
Attachments: metadata.dat

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

Page 2 of 3

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

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CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
Page 1 of 3

RELEASED IN PART
B1,1.4(D)

From: svcsmartmfi
Sent: 6/2/2010 12:21:44 PM
To: SMART Core
Subject: MGGZ01: TUNISIA DEMONSTRATION AND CONTINUED REACTIONS TO GAZA INCIDENT

CONFIDENTIAL



MRN: 10 TUNIS 396
Date/DTG: Jun 02, 2010 / 021558Z JUN 10
From: AMEMBASSY TUNIS
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE IMMEDIATE
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: PREL, PHUM, PGOV, KPAL, ASEC, PINR, TS, IS, GZ
Captions: SIPDIS
Reference: A. TUNIS 389 B. TUNIS 293
Subject: MGGZ01: TUNISIA DEMONSTRATION AND CONTINUED REACTIONS TO GAZA INCIDENT

CONFIDENTIAL TUNIS 000396

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/02/2020
TAGS: PREL, PHUM, PGOV, KPAL, ASEC, PINR, TS, IS, GZ
SUBJECT: MGGZ01: TUNISIA DEMONSTRATION AND CONTINUED REACTIONS TO GAZA INCIDENT

REF: A. TUNIS 389
B. TUNIS 293

Classified by Ambassador Gordon Gray for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

Summary

1. (C) The Government of Tunisia sanctioned a demonstration on June 1 that voiced solidarity with the Palestinian people and protested Israeli actions over the Gaza flotilla incident. Poloffs observed hundreds of people gathering for the event, which newspapers reported included "thousands." Leaders of the ruling Democratic Constitutional Rally (RCD) party and senior government officials such as Presidential advisor Ben Dhia appeared and claimed credit for organizing the demonstration. Widespread press coverage and condemnations of the Gaza flotilla incident continued for a third day. End summary.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Steve Blodgett, Senior Reviewer

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
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Gaza Demonstration

2. (C) The government allowed a demonstration about the Gaza flotilla incident on the afternoon of June 1, following the prevention of several other demonstrations earlier in the week (ref A). Police closed off a portion of Mohamed V Avenue, a prominent street in Tunis, for the event, and Poloffs observed Tunisians gathering for the demonstration carrying banners, flags, and a megaphone. Poloffs estimated that there were several hundred people on the street, probably before the protest began, and newspapers report that the demonstrations included "thousands." Police forces heavily monitored the event, and Poloffs observed them lining the demonstration area and on street corners. The Tunisian General Labor Union (UGTT) has called for another demonstration on June 3.

3. (C) While banners appearing in the media expressed predictable sympathy for the Palestinians and anger at Israel, at least some banners carried by opposition activists included slogans such as "No to American interests and to Zionist embassies on Arab land," and "Shame on Arab regimes, Gaza is dying." According to reports UGTT leader Abdessalam Jerad was sending a message of thanks and encouragement to the Ambassador of Turkey and a message of condemnation to the U.S. Ambassador. (Note: No such message has yet been received by the Embassy. End note.)

Widespread Coverage in Press

4. (U) All eight of the daily newspapers carried headlines about the demonstration on the first page. The daily papers, which are either owned by the government or privately owned but pro-government, used the same text from the official news outlet, the Tunisian African Press Agency. The story highlighted that that "political parties, national organizations, and components of civil society" staged the demonstration and included the demonstrators' calls for the support for the Palestinian people and the lifting of the blockade on Gaza. The Arabic language papers have had wide coverage of the flotilla incident. The tabloid Chourouq, for example, carried a three page commentary of four Tunisian experts in international law who condemned Israeli actions as a violation of international law.

Ruling Party Anxious to be Seen in Front

5. (C) High-profile leaders of the RCD party and government featured prominently in photos of the demonstration, which also included heads of civil society organizations and opposition parties. Some of the leaders present were Presidency Spokesman Ben Dhia, the head of the Chamber of Advisers, RCD Secretary General Ghariani, RCD political bureau member Nezzi Naziha Zarrouk, and head of the Social Liberal Party Mondhor Thabet. Several civil society organizations were represented, including the UGTT, the farmers union, and the women's union.

6. (C) An Embassy contact said that the demonstration was

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StateDept006591

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

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originally called by three opposition parties, the El-Tajdid (Renewal) party, the Democratic Forum for Labor and Liberties (FDTL), and the Progressive Democratic Party (PDP). They requested permission for the demonstration from the Ministry of Interior, and the governor of Tunis subsequently called on

the parties to have a large demonstration with all parties represented.

Comment

7. (C)

B1
1.4(D)

End comment.

GRAY

Signature: GRAY

Classified By: Ambassador Gordon Gray,
Reason: 1.4 (b) and (d)
Declassify on: 06/02/2020
Info: ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE ROUTINE
Attachments: metadata.dat

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

CONFIDENTIAL

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

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CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

Page 1 of 3

RELEASED IN PART
1.4(B),B1,1.4(D)

From: svcsmartmfi
Sent: 6/2/2010 1:44:49 PM
To: SMART Core
Subject: MGGZ01: JUNE 2, 2010, UPDATE OF ALGERIAN REACTION TO GAZA FLOTILLA INCIDENT

CONFIDENTIAL
Sensitive



MRN: 10 ALGIERS 531
Date/DTG: Jun 02, 2010 / 021743Z JUN 10
From: AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE IMMEDIATE
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, ASEC, KISL, AEMR, AMGT, AG, IS, GZ
Captions: SIPDIS
Sensitivity: Sensitive
Reference: ALGIERS 524
Pass Line: DEPARTMENT FOR TASKFORCE MGGZ01, NEA/MAG, DS/IP/NEA,DS/TIA/ITA
Subject: MGGZ01: JUNE 2, 2010, UPDATE OF ALGERIAN REACTION TO GAZA FLOTILLA INCIDENT

CONFIDENTIAL ALGIERS 000531

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR TASKFORCE MGGZ01, NEA/MAG,
DS/IP/NEA,DS/TIA/ITA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/02/2020
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, ASEC, KISL, AEMR, AMGT, AG, IS, GZ
SUBJECT: MGGZ01: JUNE 2, 2010, UPDATE OF ALGERIAN REACTION
TO GAZA FLOTILLA INCIDENT

REF: ALGIERS 524

Classified By: DCM William Jordan; reasons 1.4 (b and d).

PRESS UPDATE

1. (U) Outrage over Israel's raid on the Gaza flotilla continued to dominate Algerian headlines on June 2. Press focused on the whereabouts of the Algerian citizens detained by Israel after the military assault and the international community's inadequate response. Political parties of the Presidential Alliance (MSP, FLN, RND) held a solidarity rally at the People's House June 1, at which Palestinian "Ambassador" to Algeria Mohamed el-Hourani, Movement for

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Steve Blodgett, Senior Reviewer

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

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CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

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Society and Peace (MSP) President Bouguerra Soltani, National Liberation Front (FLN) Secretary General Abdelaziz Belkhadem, and National Democratic Rally (RND) Spokesman Miloud Chorfi jointly denounced Israel's actions and the "silence and indifference of the international community." Belkhadem called for Arab unity in support of the Palestinian cause and requested Egyptian authorities keep the Rafah crossing border open permanently to allow for the transportation of medical and food supplies. At a Workers Party press conference June 1, party leader Louisa Hanoune called on the GOA to lift the state of emergency so that people could demonstrate their support for the Palestinian people in the streets. Other calls for popular marches to denounce Israeli actions came from Moussa Touati, president of the Algerian National Front.

RUMORS OF DEMONSTRATIONS NEAR EMBASSY

2. (SBU) Two separate groups (a Facebook group of journalists and intellectuals as well as a group organized by ex-FIS spiritual leader Ali Belhadj, who referred to themselves as "the Revolutionaries") called for peaceful demonstrations in front of U.S. Embassy Algiers June 2 at 11:00 to protest U.S. support for Israel. Host government police officials informed RSO that they would not permit demonstrations to occur in or around Embassy premises. Neither group, in the end, made a serious attempt at protesting. RSO reported two young men arrived at the Embassy main entrance but were quickly escorted from the Embassy by Algerian law enforcement. There were no reports of arrests. AP reported that a small group of Algerian intellectuals gathered near the Embassy to protest, carrying banners that were confiscated by police. RSO, however, did not observe such activity in the immediate vicinity of the Embassy.

ALGERIAN FLOTILLA COMPONENT IN JORDAN

3. (C) [redacted] told us that all 32 members of the Algerian flotilla component were released from Israeli detention during the afternoon of June 1, negating earlier rumors that two Algerians were killed or that some Algerians were still in Israeli custody. [redacted] said the delegation is at the Algerian Embassy in Amman and would be repatriated in groups starting June 2.

B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)

COMMENT:

4. (C) Events in Gaza have been used successfully to mobilize public protest in Algeria in the past; however, there have not yet been any known demonstrations in the streets of Algiers or other cities. [redacted] told [redacted] that the GOA will not approve marches or demonstrations. Many news outlets continued to criticize Western countries' insufficient condemnation of Israeli actions. "L'Expression" claimed the U.S. performed "gymnastics" to avoid criticizing the "Israeli murder" and made a comparison with U.S. efforts to impose sanctions on Iran, a country only suspected of having nuclear arms. MSP addressed a letter to the Ambassador signed by party leader Soltani urging the U.S. and others to intervene against Israel's (or, as Soltani referred to it for one of the first times we have seen in recent memory, the "Zionist Entity's") defiant actions and warned of negative

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CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

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fallout from the incident. The strong rhetoric in the press and Algerians' sincere outrage over the Gaza incident have not hampered Embassy operations. The Ambassador's reception June 1 for the opening of the Algiers Trade Fair was well attended. Prime Minister Ouyahia toured the U.S. pavilion on the opening day of the trade fair with the Ambassador;

[Redacted Signature]

PEARCE

B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)

Signature: PEARCE

Classified By: DCM William Jordan,
Reason: 1.4 (b and d)
Declassify on: 06/02/2020
Info: ARAB LEAGUE COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
Attachments: metadata.dat

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

CONFIDENTIAL
Sensitive

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

Page 3 of 3

RELEASED IN PART
1.4(B),B1,1.4(D),B6

From: Cornforth, Jeremy A
Sent: 6/3/2010 2:28:58 AM
To: SMART Core
Subject: RE: Lebanese detainees in Israel

Classified by DAS, A/GIS, DoS on 04/01/2015 ~ Class: CONFIDENTIAL
~ Reason: 1.4(B), 1.4(D) ~ Declassify on: 06/03/2020

UNCLASSIFIED

MRN: 10 FTR 22724
Date/DTG: Jun 03, 2010 / 030627Z JUN 10
From: Cornforth, Jeremy A
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: PREL, KPKO, UNIFIL, LE, IS
Subject: RE: Lebanese detainees in Israel

<<Metadata.dat>> Update:

Good news-- UNIFIL notified Embassy Beirut they are now expecting [redacted] to arrive in Naquora within the next hour. The three already in route should be arriving shortly.

Christine M. Lawson
Lebanon Desk Officer
Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs
U.S. Department of State
Phone: 202-647-1030

B6

From: Connelly, Maura
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 1:06 PM
To: Lawson, Christine M; Daughton, Thomas F (Beirut); Feltman, Jeffrey D; Sison, Michele J; 'dshapiro@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Hajjar, Hagar H.'; Cunningham, James R; Sievers, Marc J; Cornforth, Jeremy A
Cc: Sullivan, Jacob J; Schlicher, Ronald L; Shampaine, Nicole D; Goldberger, Thomas H; Holmstrom, Todd C; Hale, David M; Rana, Gautam A; Catalano, Elisa; Hof, Frederic C; Evans, Jennifer R
Subject: RE: Lebanese detainees in Israel
Can Beirut please tell UNIFIL we have done so? Thanks.

From: Lawson, Christine M
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 12:57 PM
To: Daughton, Thomas F (Beirut); Feltman, Jeffrey D; Sison, Michele J; 'dshapiro@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Hajjar, Hagar H.'; Cunningham, James R; Sievers, Marc J; Cornforth, Jeremy A
Cc: Connelly, Maura; Sullivan, Jacob J; Schlicher, Ronald L; Shampaine, Nicole D; Goldberger, Thomas H; Holmstrom, Todd C; Hale, David M; Rana, Gautam A; Catalano, Elisa; Hof, Frederic C; Evans, Jennifer R
Subject: RE: Lebanese detainees in Israel

Update from Embassy Beirut Pol Chief Jeremy Cornforth:
UNIFIL received notification from the GOI that three Lebanese nationals are ert Naquora and are scheduled to arrive at 9:00/9:30 pm local (2:00/2:30 EDT). UNIFIL was informed that [redacted] is not/not in the group set to be transferred this evening.
UNIFIL is concerned about the possible ramifications if the situation drags on and will be raising its this issue with the GOI.
UNFIL asked that the USG weigh-in at high-levels with GOI to see what can be done to secure [redacted] s speedy release.

B6

Christine M. Lawson
Lebanon Desk Officer
Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs
U.S. Department of State
Phone: 202-647-1030

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Steve Blodgett, Senior Reviewer

From: Daughton, Thomas F (Beirut)
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 11:39 AM
To: Feltman, Jeffrey D; Sison, Michele J; 'dshapiro@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Hajjar, Hagar H.'; Cunningham, James R; Sievers, Marc J

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

Page 2 of 2

Cc: Connelly, Maura; Sullivan, Jacob J; Schlicher, Ronald L; Shampaine, Nicole D; Lawson, Christine M; Goldberger, Thomas H; Holmstrom, Todd C; Hale, David M; Rana, Gautam A; Catalano, Elisa; Hof, Frederic C

Subject: RE: Lebanese detainees in Israel

Future TV is now reporting that four Lebanese will be handed over to UNIFIL at Naqoura at 21:00 local tonight (in about two and a half hours).

[Redacted]

B1
1.4(D)

Thomas F. Daughton
Charge d'affaires, a.i.
U.S. Embassy - Beirut, Lebanon
Tel: [961] 454-2600

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED

From: Feltman, Jeffrey D

Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 2:11 AM

To: Sison, Michele J; 'dshapiro@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Hajjar, Hagar H.'; Cunningham, James R; Sievers, Marc J; Daughton, Thomas F (Beirut)

Cc: Connelly, Maura; Sullivan, Jacob J; Schlicher, Ronald L; Shampaine, Nicole D; Lawson, Christine M; Goldberger, Thomas H; Holmstrom, Todd C; Hale, David M; Rana, Gautam A; Catalano, Elisa; Hof, Frederic C

Subject: Lebanese detainees in Israel

To all:

[Redacted]

[Redacted] reported the following:

- 3 Lebanese will be deported to Lebanon via Ras Naqoura tomorrow.
- 1 Lebanese is Irish-Lebanese and is being expelled via the airport as an Irish citizen

B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)

[Redacted]

Jeffrey Feltman
Assistant Secretary
Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs
Department of State
202-647-7209

Drafted By: BEIRUT:Corforth, Jeremy A
Released By: BEIRUT:Corforth, Jeremy A

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