	1. 1.
	B
CLINTON	
Signature:	CLINTON
Classified By:	Esther Brimmer, A/S IO.
Declassify on:	2020/09/27
Drafted By:	IO/MPR:GLOCKNER, MATT 09/27/10
Approved By:	BRIMMER, ESTHER D.
Info:	TEL AVIV, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE, USUN NEW YORK, USMISSION ROUTINE
Attachments:	metadata.dat
Action Post:	AMEMBASSY ANKARA
Dissemination Rule:	POL, POL MIL

## CONFIDENTIAL

### Logg, Cristina A

From:

Howard, Jeremiah H

Sent: To:

Sunday, October 10, 2010 1:38 PM

Silliman, Douglas A

Cc:

O'Grady, Daniel J; Ahn, Michael; Dayton, John W (Win) (Istanbul)

Subject:

Tel Aviv Cable: FLOTILLA FACT-FINDING REPORT: WHAT NEXT?

Categories:

Working

The entire three-paragraph cable is worth a scan.

2. (SBU) Separately, the Turkel Commission appears to be winding up its work, and is hearing its final witnesses.

#### Sensitive This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From:

**SMART Core** 

Sent:

Friday, October 08, 2010 08:7:24

Miles, Barbara J; Hunter, Rodney M; Hessler, Robert E; Basso, Dianne L; Ahn, Michael; Howard, Jeremiah H; Keen, Berna; Price, Adam P; Witmer, Kami A; Arvey, Jason M; O'Grady, Daniel J; de

To:

Otalvaro, Laura H; Godfrey, Anthony F; Pistana, Robert; Leary, Thomas M; Mineo, Mark R; Guido,

Deborah L; Fernandes, Anthony C; Avery, David; Bijanki, Ashwin; Dunn, Patrick M; Kokko,

Christopher

Subject: FLOTILLA FACT-FINDING REPORT: WHAT NEXT?

### **UNCLASSIFIED**

Sensitive



**Action Office:** 

POL, POL MIL

MRN:

10 TEL AVIV 2296

Date/DTG:

Oct 08, 2010 / 081505Z OCT 10

From:

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

Action:

WASHDC, SECSTATE PRIORITY

E.O.:

13526

TAGS: Captions: PREL, PHUM, TU, IS SENSITIVE, SIPDIS

Subject:

FLOTILLA FACT-FINDING REPORT: WHAT NEXT?

**UNCLAS TEL AVIV 002296** 

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

SENSITIVE

1

SPDIS  E.O. 15326: NA TAGS: PREL, PHUM, TU, IS SUBJECT: FLOTILLA FACT-FINDING REPORT: WHAT NEXT?  Flotilla Report in New York  1. (SBU)  Iold Post October 7 that Lavas unhappy with the referral of the HRC report of the Flotilla Fact Finding Mission to the General Assembly. Israel had reluctantly agreed to participate in the Palner Commission under the auspices of the Secretary General precisely to avoid this result, and the Gol assumes that Turkey will raise the Issue at the Third Committee. Israel had been quite unhappy with the behavior of the Turks in Geneva, as the Turks were not willing to negotiate. Israel was concerned about the possibility that bu NIAG A cold ask the Palmer Commission to report to the UNGA rather than just to the Secretary General. Islaes as ad that the Gol had heard that HH, the Turksh sponsor of the Mavi Marmara, was looking to raise the issue at the International Court of Justice. The Gol was concerned that the UNGA might try to establish a compensation fund like the registry it had created on the security fence.  1. Turkel Commission  2. (SBU) Separately, the Turkel Commission appears to be winding up its work, and is hearing its final witnesses. Commission chairman Yaskov Turkel will be granted a "double vote" in the commission's final deliberations as no new member will be appointed to replace Shabbia Rosenne. Post will observe the testimony of two Israel: citizens who were aboard the Mavi Marmara Cotober 13.  Loud not predict when the commission was still hearing lestimony suggested in that under the circumstances, he resented the Turkish Ministry of Justice document, with "no pretense of independence." — Characterized the Turkish Dehavior at the recent Human Rights Council session as viccious" and deliberation as concerned about a new Indian "flotilla" that is currently being organized and scheduled to leave India December 7. That caravan would include over 500 people and would. Iravel loved and the council and the provided and the council and the council and the council and the		
TAGS: PREL, PHUM, TU, IS SUBJECT: FLOTILLA FACT-FINDING REPORT: WHAT NEXT?  Flotilla Report in New York  1. (SBU)    Iold Post October 7 that   Iwas unhappy with the referral of the HIRC report of the Flotilla Fact Finding Mission to the General Assembly, Israel had refusctantly agreed to participate in the Palmer Commission under the auspices of the Secretary General precisely to avoid this result, and the Gol assumes that Turkey will raise the Issue at the Third Committee. Israel had been quite unhappy with the behavior of the Turks in Geneva, as the Turks were not willing to negotiate. Israel was concerned about the benevior of the Turks in Geneva, as the Turks were not willing to negotiate. Israel was concerned about the possibility that the UNGA could ask the Palmer Commission to report to the UNGA rather than just to the Secretary General.   Islae as and that the Gol had heard that HIH, the   Turkish sponsor of the Mavi Marmara, was looking to raise the issue at the International Court of Justice. The Gol was concerned that the UNGA might try to establish a compensation fund like the registry it had created on the security fence.  Turkel Commission  2. (SBU) Separately, the Turkel Commission appears to be winding up its work, and is hearing its final witnesses.  Commission chairman Yaakov Turkel will be granted a "double vote" in the commission's final deliberations as no new member will be appointed to replace Shabatia Rosenne. Post will observe the testimony of two Israeli cilizens who were aboard the Mavi Marmara Cotober 13.   Could not predict when the commission would wrap up its work, the fact that the commission was still hearing testimony suggested   Inst Turkel was not likely to be done before mid-November, at the earliest.   Complained that the Turksh submission that was not subject to the lawn of the palmer panel was simply a Turksh Ministry of Justice document, with "no pretense of independence."   Character Zed the Turksh behavior at the recent Human Righis Council session as vicious" and sug	SIPDIS	
Lodd Post October 7 that L was unhappy with the referral of the HRC report of the Flotilla Fact Finding Mission to the General Assembly. Israel had reluctantly agreed to participate in the Palmer Commission under the auspices of the Secretary General precisely to sold this result, and the Gol assumes that Turkey will raise the issue at the Third Committee. Israel had been quite unhappy with the behavior of the Turks in Geneva, as the Turks were not willing to negotiate. Israel was concerned about the possibility that the UNGA could ask the Palmer Commission to report to the UNGA rather than just to the Secretary General.	TAGS; PREL, PHUM, TU, IS	
Incid Post October 7 thatwas unhappy with the referral of the HRC report of the Flotilla Fact Finding Mission to the General Assembly. Israel had reluctantly agreed to participate in the Palmer Commission under the auspices of the Secretary General precisely to avoid this result, and the Gol assumes that Turkey will raise the issue at the Third Committee. Israel had been quite unhappy with the behavior of the Turks in Geneva, as the Turks were not willing to negotiate. Israel was concerned about the possibility that the UNGA could ask the Palmer Commission to report to the UNGA rather than just to the Secretary General.   also said that the Gol had heard that IHH, the   Turkish sponsor of the Mavi Marmara, was looking to raise the issue at the International Court of Justice. The Gol was concerned that the UNGA might try to establish a compensation fund like the registry it had created on the security fence.    Turkel Commission	Flotilla Report in New York	
2. (SBU) Separately, the Turkel Commission appears to be winding up its work, and is hearing its final witnesses. Commission chairman Yaakov Turkel will be granted a "double vote" in the commission's final deliberations as no new member will be appointed to replace Shabtal Rosenne. Post will observe the testimony of two Israeli citizens who were aboard the Mavi Marmara October 13	Itold Post October 7 that was unhappy with the referral of the HRC report of the Flotilla Fact Finding Mission to the General Assembly. Israel had reluctantly agreed to participate in the Palmer Commission under the auspices of the Secretary General precisely to avoid this result, and the Gol assumes that Turkey will raise the issue at the Third Committee. Israel had been quite unhappy with the behavior of the Turks in Geneva, as the Turks were not willing to negotiate. Israel was concerned about the possibility that the UNGA could ask the Palmer Commission to report to the UNGA rather than just to the Secretary General.  also said that the Gol had heard that IHH, the Turkish sponsor of the Mavi Marmara, was looking to raise the issue at the International Court of Justice. The Gol was concerned that the UNGA might try to establish a compensation	B6
winding up its work, and is hearing its final witnesses. Commission chairman Yaakov Turkel will be granted a "double vote" in the commission's final deliberations as no new member will be appointed to replace Shabtai Rosenne. Post will observe the testimony of two Israeli citizens who were aboard the Mavi Marmara October 13.    told us October 8 that while   could not predict when the commission would wrap up its work, the fact that the commission was still hearing testimony suggested   that Turkel was not likely to be done before mid-November, at the earliest.   complained that the Turkish submission that was rushed to the Palmer panel was simply a Turkish Ministry of Justice document, with "no pretense of independence."   characterized the Turkish behavior at the recent Human Rights Council session as "vicious" and suggested that, under the circumstances, he resented the Turkish implication that the Turkel Commission work was not credible.  Indian "Flotilla"  3. (SBU)   also told us that the MFA was concerned about a new Indian "flotilla" that is currently being organized and scheduled to leave India December 7. That caravan would include over 500 people and would travel overland via Iran, Syria and Turkey   had no further	Turkel Commission	
3. (SBU) also told us that the MFA was concerned about a new Indian "flotilla" that is currently being organized and scheduled to leave India December 7. That caravan would include over 500 people and would travel overland via Iran, Syria and Turkey. had no further	winding up its work, and is hearing its final witnesses.  Commission chairman Yaakov Turkel will be granted a "double vote" in the commission's final deliberations as no new member will be appointed to replace Shabtai Rosenne. Post will observe the testimony of two Israeli citizens who were aboard the Mavi Marmara October 13.  Lold us October 8 that while could not predict when the commission would wrap up its work, the fact that the commission was still hearing testimony suggested that Turkel was not likely to be done before mid-November, at the earliest. Complained that the Turkish submission that was rushed to the Palmer panel was simply a Turkish Ministry of Justice document, with "no pretense of independence." characterized the Turkish behavior at the recent Human Rights Council session as "vicious" and suggested that, under the circumstances, he resented the Turkish implication that the Turkel Commission	
about a new Indian "flotilla" that is currently being organized and scheduled to leave India December 7. That caravan would include over 500 people and would travel overland via Iran, Syria and Turkey. had no further	Indian "Flotilla"	
CUNNINGHAM	about a new Indian "flotilla" that is currently being organized and scheduled to leave India December 7. That caravan would include over 500 people and would travel overland via Iran, Syria and Turkey. had no further details on this flotilla at this time.	<b>&amp;</b>

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751116 Date: 06/28/2012

Signature:	CUNNINGHAM
Info:	ANKARA, AMEMBASSY PRIORITY; NEW DELHI, AMEMBASSY PRIORITY; GENEVA, USMISSION PRIORITY; USUN NEW YORK, USMISSION PRIORITY; ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
Attachments:	metadata.dat
Action Post:	
Dissemination Rule:	POL, POL_MIL

UNCLASSIFIED Sensitive

	RELEASED IN PART B1,B5,1.4(D),NR	P34
Logg, Cristina /		
From: Sent:	Howard, Jeremiah H Monday, January 31, 2011 8:59 AM	
To:	Ahn, Michael; Mineo, Mark R	
Subject:	RE: Tuesday PDB on Turkey-Israel	
Categories:	Working	
	Classification Extended ~ Class: SECRET ~ Reason:□1.4(D), B1 ~ Declassify on: 01/28/2021	
Sensitive	\	
This email is UNCL	ASSIFIED.	
		-
From: Ahn, Michael	oary 31, 2011 1:56 PM	
To: Howard, Jeremi	ah H; Mineo, Mark R	
Subject: RE: Tuesd	lay PDB on Turkey-Israel	
This looks <u>really</u> god	od.	
Classification: SEC Derived From: DSC	OG 05-1 b, d	
Declassify On: 203	6/03/29	
To: Mineo, Mark R;	ary 31, 2011 12:16 PM	
***************************************	REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer	
This email is UNCLA	No service and the service and	
	•	
From: Howard, Jere	emiah H	<del></del>
<b>Sent:</b> Saturday, Jan	uary 29, 2011 9:27 PM	
Fo: Witmer, Kami A	; Fernandes, Cheryl L	

	Classification Extended ~ Class: SEGRET ~ Reason: □1.4(D), □  Periody, Daniel J  Declassify on: 01/28/2021  Declassify on: 01/28/2021
SECR	
Politi	cal .
What	<u>Happened</u>
•	attempt to dissuade the flotilla organizers, the Turkish Islamist NGO, IHH, from its course, but to no avail. The IDF claims IHH attacked its boarding party without provocation.  Demonstrations erupt in Islambul and Ankara against Israel. The GoT does not send out its replacement ambassador; its embassy is to this day run by a charge. The GoT demands compensation, some sort of international adjudication of Israeli culpability for the deaths and a GoI apology.  A low-profile effort to resolve the dispute by Davutoglu and, I think, Labor Minister Ben Eliazer, fails when Israeli media break news of their contact.  Turkey seeks condemnation of Israel in the UN Human Rights Committee.
•	Ban Ki Moon secures Turkish and Israeli agreement to the Palmer Panel. The Gol sees the panel as doing no more than assessing its Turkel Commission investigation's compliance with "international standards." The GoT may see the panel's responsibility as developing a common narrative for the events and decisions leading up to the deaths aboard the Mavi Marmara and identifying culpable parties.  The Turkel Commission asks Turkish witnesses to the Mavi Marmara interdiction to give testimony. They do not.
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	s Happening
What	
What	

2

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751117 Date: 09/05/2012

3

From:	istina A  RELEASED IN PART  Howard, Jeremiah H  1.4(B),B1,1.4(D),NR,B5
Sent:	Monday, February 07, 2011 10:06 AM
To: Subject:	Silliman, Douglas A; O'Grady, Daniel J; Ahn, Michael FW: Update on Israel-Turkey Ties: Waiting for Palmer Commission, Assessing Erdogan's Regional Appeal in Light of Egypt Unrest
Categoris	
•	Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
,	Derived From: DSCG 05-1 b, d
	Declassify On: 2021/02/07
<del>Colos Colos Colos</del>	
From:	SMART Core
Sent:	Monday, February 07, 2011 03:27:33
	Miles, Barbara I; Hunter, Rodney M; Basso, Dianne L; Ahn, Michael; Howard, Jeremiah H; Keen, Berna; Silliman, Douglas A; Witmer, Kami A; O'Grady, Daniel J; de Otalvaro, Laura H; Tarry, George R; Godfrey, Anthony F; Pistana, Robert; Leary, Thomas M; Sanderson, Mary A; Treiber, Laird D; Mineo, Mark R; Walston, Melissa L; Guido, Deborah L; Fernandes, Anthony C; Icenogle,
To:	Christi L; Lally, Michael A; Fernandes, Cheryl L; Avery, David; Ricciardone, Francis J; Letvin, John C; Bruns, Scott T; Bijanki, Ashwin; Coleman, Thomas M; Dunn, Patrick M;
	@incirlik.af.smil.mil; Gibbs, Jennifer H;@incirlik.af.smil.mil; Hamilton, Elizabeth A; Milford, Rebekah C; Hettinga, Benjamin E
Ce:	Hamilton, Elizabeth H; @incirlik.af.smil.mil
Subject:	Update on Israel-Turkey Ties: Waiting for Palmer Commission, Assessing Erdogan's Regional Appeal in Light of Egypt Unrest
	CONFIDENTIAL
	REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer
Action O	· A
Info Offic	e: AMB_INFO, ECON_INFO

.1

# UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751118 Date: 09/05/2012

Date/DTG: From: Action: E.O.: TAGS: Captions: Reference:	Feb 07, 2011 / 071326Z FEB 11  AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE 13526  PREL, PGOV, KWBG, TU, IS, ECON  SIPDIS  A) TEL AVIV 2669	1.4(B) 1.4(D)
Subject:	Update on Israel-Turkey Ties: Waiting for Palmer Commission, Asser Regional Appeal in Light of Egypt Unrest	ssing Erdo(B1)'s
TO THE RESIDENCE OF PROPERTY AND A SECOND SEC		NF.
		The state of the s
Turkey Gains From Ur	rest in Egypt	
		NR
MFA: Palmer Commis	sion a Chance for Rapprochement	
		1.4(B) 1.4(D)
		B1

				1.4(B) 1.4(D) B1
				-
	performing the refigerability signs almost types a residence of the refigerability signs almost type and the refigerabi	100		
	ful of Netanyahu's Governme	nt		
	And a man and an article of the CPM Edition of Laboratory and Lab	and the second s	·	
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Possible Movement on To				
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Core representation for Trustee	ey as a Contrasting Model for E		Angers and the second s	
Commentators see Turke	sy as a contrasting Monet for t	- EAbr	•	
	***************************************		annungan dan menenggi dan disebahkan pendamban dan dan disebuah dan dan disebuah dan dan dan dan dan dan dan d	- PARA MASSASSIVA
				•

			1.4(D) B1
Signature:	CUNNINGHAM		
Derived From:	DSCG 05-1 b, d	Section of the sectio	
Declassify on:	2021/02/07		1
Drafted By:	TEL AVIV:Parsell, Benjamin C		
Cleared By:	POL:Silverman, Robert J		
	POL:Levin, Jan X		
Approved By:	EXEC:Goldberger, Thomas H		ļ
Released By:	TEL AVIV:Parsell, Benjamin C		
Info:	ANKARA, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE ROUTINE		
Attachments:	Metadata.det		B.L. Landyage
Action Post:	. /	**************************************	<b>S</b>
Dissemination Rule:	ECON, POL, AMB_INFO, ECON_INFO, POL_MIL		

CONFIDENTIAL

P36

From:	Howard, Jeremiah H
Sent:	Friday, February 25, 2011 12:59 PM
To:	Silliman, Douglas A; O'Grady, Daniel J; Dunn, Patrick M; Godfrey, Anthony F; Treiber, Laird D; Dayton, John W (Win) (Istanbul)
Cc:	Combs, James D; Kolega, Alen; Ahn, Michael; Mineo, Mark R; Fernandes, Chery L
Subject:	Israelis; 2/25 - Security; IHH; Trade; Regional Instability
Categories:	Working .
SECRET	
Advisor	
With regard to substance	B
•	1.4(B)
	1.4(D)
(CDI)) Commence	Customes between Turkey and terral ingraned again in Ingriting. Many on year ingreen
	volumes between Turkey and Israel increased again in January. Year-on-year imports from ose 40% last month. Exports to Turkey from Israel rose 15%. My contact said: "Turkish
	ose 40% last month. Exports to Turkey from Israel rose 15%. My contact said: "Turkish of bothered much by our political problems."
e Dusinessmen are	is a particle when by our bounds bronds in
- T	
6	
eremiah Howard	
Deputy Political Counseld	or ·
Embassy Ankara - Turkey	
r: 90 312 457-7149	
VG: 295-7149	
Classification: SECRET	
Classified by: J. Howard	
Reason: 1.4(b)	
Declassify On: 2021/02/2	25
<u>-</u>	
- -	
7.	
7.	

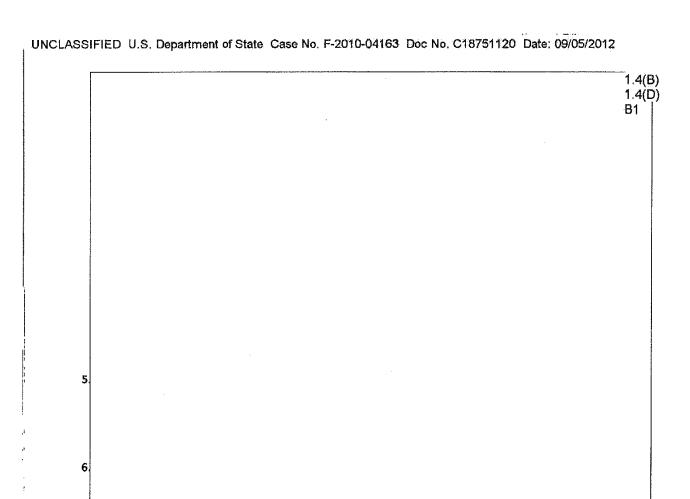
937

	Cristina A
From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject:	Howard, Jeremiah H Thursday, March 24, 2011 5:37 AM Jaworski, Richard E; O'Grady, Daniel J Ahn, Michael, Mineo, Mark R; Witmer, Kami A; Fernandes, Anthony C Tel Aviv Cable: Israel Alarmed by Plans for May Flotilla
Categor	les: Working
Grand G. V	Turkey is mentioned throughout this cable.
1. (	C) Summary: Israell officials are alarmed at the prospect of a late May flotilla to Gaza 1.4(B)
	1.4(D) B1
L	
	Declassify On: 2021/03/24
From:	SMART Core
From: Sent: To:	SMART Core  Wednesday, March 23, 2011 05:54:36  Miles, Barbara J; Read, Anthony M; Ahn, Michael; Howard, Jeremiah H; Keen, Berna; Witmer, Kami A; Fuchs, Susan; Gilmore, Bradley T; Roundy, Brian A; O'Grady, Daniel J; de Otalvaro, Laura H; Lang, Michael J; Tarry, George R; Godfrey, Anthony F; Kolega, Alen; Leary, Thomas M; Sanderson, Mary A; Mineo, Mark R; Hill, Larry W; Miles, James W; Combs, James D; Walston, Melissa L; Guido, Deborah L; Keller, Tara D; Fernandes, Anthony C; Avery, David; Ricciardone, Francis J; Bijanki, Ashwin; Dunn, Patrick M; @încirlik.af.smil.mil; Dotson, Peter O; Gibbs, Jennifer H; karlo @incirlik.af.smil.mil; Hamilton, Elizabeth A; Milford, Rebekah C; Winans,
Sent:	SMART Core  Wednesday, March 23, 2011 05:54:36  Miles, Barbara J; Read, Anthony M; Ahn, Michael; Howard, Jeremiah H; Keen, Berna; Witmer, Kami A; Fuchs, Susan; Gilmore, Bradley T; Roundy, Brian A; O'Grady, Daniel J; de Otalvaro, Laura H; Lang, Michael J; Tarry, George R; Godfrey, Anthony F; Kolega, Alen; Leary, Thomas M; Sanderson, Mary A; Mineo, Mark R; Hill, Larry W; Miles, James W; Combs, James D; Walston, Melissa L; Guido, Deborah L; Keller, Tara D; Fernandes, Anthony C; Avery, David; Ricciardone, Francis J; Bijanki, Ashwin; Dunn, Patrick M; @incirlik.af.smil.mil; Dotson, Peter O; Gibbs, Jennifer H; karlo @incirlik.af.smil.mil; Hamilton, Elizabeth A; Milford, Rebekah C; Winans, Thomas W; Treiber, Adrianne M; Downs, Jeffrey J  Appleton, Richard H; DeLuigi, Christiaan E; Hamilton, Elizabeth H; Donelson, Lale; @dea.usdoj.sgov.gov; Mopp, Deborah A; Yountchi, Suzanne M; Jaworski, Richard E; @dea.usdoj.sgov.gov; @dea.usdoj.sgov.gov;
Sent: To: Cc:	SMART Core  Wednesday, March 23, 2011 05:54:36  Miles, Barbara J; Read, Anthony M; Ahn, Michael; Howard, Jeremiah H; Keen, Berna; Witmer, Kami A; Fuchs, Susan; Gilmore, Bradley T; Roundy, Brian A; O'Grady, Daniel J; de Otalvaro, Laura H;  Lang, Michael J; Tarry, George R; Godfrey, Anthony F; Kolega, Alen; Leary, Thomas M; Sanderson,  Mary A; Mineo, Mark R; Hill, Larry W; Miles, James W; Combs, James D; Walston, Melissa L;  Guido, Deborah L; Keller, Tara D; Fernandes, Anthony C; Avery, David; Ricciardone, Francis J;  Bijanki, Ashwin; Dunn, Patrick M; @incirlik.af.smil.mil; Dotson, Peter O; Gibbs,  Jennifer H; karlo @incirlik.af.smil.mil; Hamilton, Elizabeth A; Milford, Rebekah C; Winans,  Thomas W; Treiber, Adrianne M; Downs, Jeffrey J  Appleton, Richard H; DeLuigi, Christiaan E; Hamilton, Elizabeth H; Donelson, Lale;  @dea.usdoj.sgov.gov; Klopp, Deborah A; Yountchi, Suzanne M; Jaworski, Richard E;
Sent: To: Cc:	SMART Core  Wednesday, March 23, 2011 05:54:36  Miles, Barbara J; Read, Anthony M; Ahn, Michael; Howard, Jeremiah H; Keen, Berna; Witmer, Kami A; Fuchs, Susan; Gilmore, Bradley T; Roundy, Brian A; O'Grady, Daniel J; de Otalvaro, Laura H; Lang, Michael J; Tarry, George R; Godfrey, Anthony F; Kolega, Alen; Leary, Thomas M; Sanderson, Mary A; Mineo, Mark R; Hill, Larry W; Miles, James W; Combs, James D; Walston, Melissa L; Guido, Deborah L; Keller, Tara D; Fernandes, Anthony C; Avery, David; Ricciardone, Francis J; Bijanki, Ashwin; Dunn, Patrick M; @incirlik.af.smil.mil; Dotson, Peter O; Gibbs, Jennifer H; karlo @incirlik.af.smil.mil; Hamilton, Elizabeth A; Milford, Rebekah C; Winans, Thomas W; Treiber, Adrianne M; Downs, Jeffrey J  Appleton, Richard H; DeLuigi, Christiaan E; Hamilton, Elizabeth H; Donelson, Lale; @dea.usdoj.sgov.gov; Klopp, Deborah A; Yountchi, Suzanne M; Jaworski, Richard E; B7(C) @dea.usdoj.sgov.gov; Lally, Michael A; Bruns, Scott T; Pierce, Thomas JN
Sent: To: Cc: Subject	SMART Core  Wednesday, March 23, 2011 05:54:36  Miles, Barbara J; Read, Anthony M; Ahn, Michael; Howard, Jeremiah H; Keen, Berna; Witmer, Kami A; Fuchs, Susan; Gilmore, Bradley T; Roundy, Brian A; O'Grady, Daniel J; de Otalvaro, Laura H; Lang, Michael J; Tarry, George R; Godfrey, Anthony F; Kolega, Alen; Leary, Thomas M; Sanderson, Mary A; Mineo, Mark R; Hill, Larry W; Miles, James W; Combs, James D; Walston, Melissa L; Guido, Deborah L; Keller, Tara D; Fernandes, Anthony C; Avery, David; Ricciardone, Francis J; Bijanki, Ashwin; Dunn, Patrick M; @incirlik.af.smil.mil; Dotson, Peter O; Gibbs, Jennifer H; karlo @incirlik.af.smil.mil; Hamilton, Elizabeth A; Milford, Rebekah C; Winans, Thomas W; Treiber, Adrianne M; Downs, Jeffrey J  Appleton, Richard H; DeLuigi, Christiaan E; Hamilton, Elizabeth H; Donelson, Lale; @dea.usdoj.sgov.gov; Klopp, Deborah A; Yountchi, Suzanne M; Jaworski, Richard E; B7(C) @dea.usdoj.sgov.gov; Lally, Michael A; Bruns, Scott T; Pierce, Thomas JN:  Israel Alarmed by Plans for May Flotilla



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

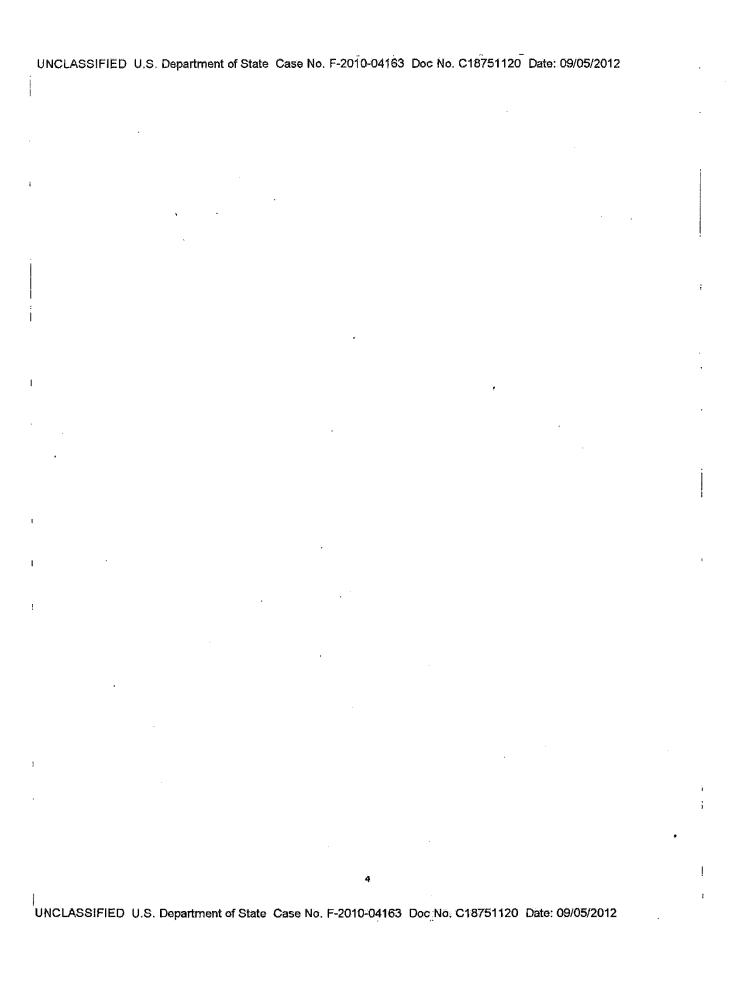
n Office: Office:	POL, RSO, LEGAT, ORA CONS_INFO, AMB_INFO, DEA_INFO, EAC	
	11 TEL AVIV 365	
OTG:	Mar 23, 2011 / 231553Z MAR 11	
	AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV	4.470)
1:	WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE	1.4(B)
	13526	1.4(D) B1
<b>:</b>	PREL, PINS, PTER, MOPS, KWBG, TU, IS	D)
ct:	Israel Alarmed by Plans for May Flotilla	
(C) Summary: 1	sraeli officials are alarmed at the prospect of a late May flotilla to Gaza	
What Israel Kno	ws of the Flotilla Plans	
1		
	DEVICE AUTODITY Phase Research	<b>a</b>
MANUTA MANUTANIA	REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewe	
(C) In the last to	wo days, senior officials in the Israeli MFA, MOD, and NSC approached us in a	coordinated effort
	on a public campaign to discourage the flotilla.	
Transmission of the contract o	L	TOTAL PRODUCTION
	2	



Signature:	Cunningham
Classified By:	Name: Thomas Goldberger, Title: Deputy Chief of Mission Office: U.S. Embassy Tel Aviv Agency: Dept of State
Reason:	1.4 (b), (d)
Declassify on:	2021/03/23
Drafted By:	TEL AVIV:Levin, Jan X
Cleared By:	POL:Silverman, Robert J
Approved By:	EXEC:Goldberger, Thomas H
Released By:	TEL AVIV:Levin, Jan X
Info:	ANKARA, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE, USUN NEW YORK, USMISSION ROUTINE
Attachments:	Metadata.dat
Action Post:	
Dissemination Rule:	POL, RSO, CONS_INFO, LEGAT, AMB_INFO, ORA, DEA_INFO, EAC

### CONFIDENTIAL

3



P38

Sent: To: Cc: Subject:	Howard, Jeremiah H. Wednesday, April 06, 2011 7:32 A Ahn, Michael Silliman, Douglas A; O'Grady, Dan Tel Aviv Cable: MFA Asks for Sper	el J	May Flotilla		
Categories: Working					
Michael:	The AMB should see thisJerry				
This ema	ail is UNCLASSIFIED.				
	SMART Core				
	Wednesday, April 06, 2011 02:19:00				
Sent:	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
	Levin, Jan X				
Γo:	Levin, Jan X Cairo-SMARTS; ANKARA-SMARTS; USUN,				
Fo: Ce:	Levin, Jan X Cairo-SMARTS; ANKARA-SMARTS; USUN, SMARTS; PMAT (Pol-Mil Action Team);	@incirlik.af.smil.mil;			
To: Cc:	Levin, Jan X Cairo-SMARTS; ANKARA-SMARTS; USUN,	@incirlik.af.smil.mil; ter May Flotilla			
To: Cc:	Levin, Jan X Cairo-SMARTS; ANKARA-SMARTS; USUN, SMARTS; PMAT (Pol-Mil Action Team); : MFA Asks for Specific USG Assistance to Cour	@incirlik.af.smil.mil; ter May Flotilla			
To: Cc: Subject:	Levin, Jan X Cairo-SMARTS; ANKARA-SMARTS; USUN, SMARTS; PMAT (Pol-Mil Action Team); : MFA Asks for Specific USG Assistance to Cour	@incirlik.af.smil.mil; ter May Flotilla			
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To: Cc: Subject:	Levin, Jan X Cairo-SMARTS; ANKARA-SMARTS; USUN, SMARTS; PMAT (Pol-Mil Action Team); : MFA Asks for Specific USG Assistance to Cour CONFIDE	@incirlik.af.smil.mil; ter May Flotilla			
To: Cc: Subject: MRN: Date/DTC From: Action:	Levin, Jan X Cairo-SMARTS; ANKARA-SMARTS; USUN, SMARTS; PMAT (Pol-Mil Action Team); : MFA Asks for Specific USG Assistance to Cour  CONFIDE  11 TEL AVIV 423 G: Apr 06, 2011 / 061118Z APR 11 AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE	@incirlik.af.smil.mil; ter May Flotilla			
To: Cc: Subject: MRN: Date/DTC From: Action: E.O.:	Levin, Jan X Cairo-SMARTS; ANKARA-SMARTS; USUN, SMARTS; PMAT (Pol-Mil Action Team); : MFA Asks for Specific USG Assistance to Cour  CONFIDE  11 TEL AVIV 423 G: Apr 06, 2011 / 061118Z APR 11 AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE 13526	@incirlik.af.smil.mil; ter May Flotilla NTIAL	1.4(B) 1.4(D)		
To: Cc: Subject: MRN: Date/DTC From: Action: E.O.: TAGS:	Levin, Jan X Cairo-SMARTS; ANKARA-SMARTS; USUN, SMARTS; PMAT (Pol-Mil Action Team); : MFA Asks for Specific USG Assistance to Cour  CONFIDE  11 TEL AVIV 423 G: Apr 06, 2011 / 061118Z APR 11 AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE 13526 PREL, PINS, PTER, MOPS, KW	@incirlik.af.smil.mil; ter May Flotilla NTIAL	Aims, Clifford A		
To: Cc: Subject: MRN: Date/DTC	Levin, Jan X Cairo-SMARTS; ANKARA-SMARTS; USUN, SMARTS; PMAT (Pol-Mil Action Team); : MFA Asks for Specific USG Assistance to Cour  CONFIDE  11 TEL AVIV 423 G: Apr 06, 2011 / 061118Z APR 11 AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE 13526 PREL, PINS, PTER, MOPS, KW	@incirlik.af.smil.mil; ter May Flotilla NTIAL BG, TU, IS	1.4(B) 1.4(D)		

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751121 Date: 09/05/2012

USMISSION ROUTINE; JERUSALEM, AMCONSUL ROUTINE

Attachments:

Metadata.dat

**Action Post:** 

Dissemination Rule:

Released Copy

CONFIDENTIAL

Y 11	,

Logg,	Cristina A
From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject	Howard, Jeremiah H Tuesday, April 19, 2011 2:57 AM Silliman, Douglas A; O'Grady, Daniel J; Ahn, Michael Mineo, Mark R; de Otalvaro, Laura H Tel Aviv Cable: INITIAL ISRAELI RESPONSE ON ANNIVERSARY FLOTILLA 1.4(D)
Categor	B1,
	(C) On April 18, MFA welcomed reftel points, and thank 1.4(B) hington for this "important effort."  1.4(D) B1
	Classification: CONFIDENTIAL  Derived From: DSCG 05-1 b, d  Declassify On: 2021/04/19
From:	SMART Core
Sent:	Monday, April 18, 2011 03:44:34  Jones, Stacey L; Miles, Barbara J; Read, Anthony M; Ahn, Michael; Howard, Jeremiah H; Keen, Betna; Silliman, Douglas A; Witmer, Kami A; Fuchs, Susan; Gilmore, Bradley T; O'Grady, Daniel J; de Otalvaro, Laura H; Lang, Michael J; Tarry, George R; Godfrey, Anthony F; Kolega, Alen; Leary, Thomas M; Mineo, Mark R; Hill, Larry W; Miles, James W; Combs, James D; Walston, Melissa L; Guido, Deborah L; Keller, Tara D; Fernandes, Anthony C; Avery, David; Ricciardone, Francis J; Bijanki, Ashwin; Dunn, Patrick M; @incirlik.af.smil.mil; Dotson, Peter O; Gibbs, Jennifer H; @incirlik.af.smil.mil; Hamilton, Elizabeth A; Milford, Rebekah C; Winans, Thomas W; Treiber, Adrianne M
Ce:	Appleton, Richard H; DeLuigi, Christiaan E; Hamilton, Elizabeth H; Donelson, Lale;  @dea.usdoj.sgov.gov; Klopp, Deborah A: Yountchi, Suzanne M; Jaworski, Richard E;  @dea.usdoj.sgov.gov;  @dea.usdoj.sgov.gov;  @dea.usdoj.sgov.gov; Lally, Michael A; Bruns, Scott T; Pierce, Thomas JN; Alexander,  Banu
Subject	: INITIAL ISRAELI RESPONSE ON ANNIVERSARY FLOTILLA DEMARCHE
Action O	

ARN:	11 TEL AVIV 505		
Date/DTG:	Apr 16, 2011 / 181242Z APR 11		
rom:	AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV		
Action:	WASHDC, SECSTATE IMMEDIATE		
i.O.;	13526		
TAGS:	PARM, PGOV, PHSA, PTER, KWBG, TU, IS		
Reference:	A) STATE 36240		
Pass Line:	AMEMBASSY ASTANA PASS TO AMCONSUL ALMATY AMEMBASSY ANKARA PASS TO AMCONSUL ADANA AMEMBASSY ROME PASS TO AMCONSUL FLORENCE AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK AMEMBASSY VILNIUS PASS TO AMEMBASSY MINSK AMEMBASSY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG AMEMBASSY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL LEIPZIG AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG B1		
iubject:	INITIAL ISRAELI RESPONSE ON ANNIVERSARY FLOTILLA		
	terdiction.		
2 (c) On April (			
3. (C) On April 1	L8, MFA welcomed reftel points, and thanked Washington		
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UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751123 Date: 09/05/2012

StateDept02021

	1.4(B) 1.4(D) B1
7. (SBU) We will fo	llow up with B6
Signature:	CUNNINGHAM
Derived From:	DSCG 05-1 b, d
Declassify on:	2021/04/18
Drafted By:	TEL AVIV:Grubb, Jason B
Cleared By:	POL:Silverman, Robert J
Approved By:	EXEC:Goldberger, Thomas H
Released By:	TEL AVIV:Grubb, Jason B
Info:	USUN NEW YORK, USMISSION ROUTINE; ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE ROUTINE; EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE ROUTINE; ZEN/AMCONSUL ALMATY; ZEN/AMCONSUL ADANA; ZEN/AMCONSUL FLORENCE; ZEN/AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK; ZEN/AMEMBASSY MINSK; ZEN/AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF; ZEN/AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG; ZEN/AMCONSUL LEIPZIG; ZEN/AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG
XMT:	AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
Attachments:	Metadata.dat
Action Post: Dissemination Rule:	POL, RSO, CONS. INFO, LEGAT, AMB. INFO, ORA, DEA_INFO, EAC

**CONFIDENTIAL** 

RELEASED IN PART 1.4(B),B1,B5,1.4(D)

PHI

В5

Logg, Cristina A					
From: Howard, Jeremiah H  Sent: Friday, April 22, 2011 11:15 AM  To: Silliman, Douglas A; O'Grady, Daniel J; Treiber, Laird D; Gregonis, Meghan E; Taylor J; Schrank, Alexander D					
•	Follow up				
Follow Up Flag: Flag Status:	Completed				
•	·	1.4(B)			
Categories:	Working	1.4(D)			
		B1			
CONFIDENTIAL					
AMBc Sanhark Randa	and Department Head Ali Riza Guney will be in New York Monda	av and Tuesday for two days of			
Palmer nanel meeting	s. They and israeli counterparts will, separately, deliver to Palme	er their reservations and question			
about the other side's					
Jerry					
leremiah Howard	REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, S	enior Reviewer			
Deputy Political Coun	selor				
Embassy Ankara - Tur					
T. DO 317 AS7-71AG	1				

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

Classifled by: J. Howard, D/POLCOUNS

**Reason:** 1.4(b) **Declassify On:** 2021/04/22

IVG: 295-7149

P43

Turkey Daily Brief  SECRET  April 27, 2011  REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer  Davutodu  sends warning to Israeli.	
SECRET April 27, 2011  REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer)  : Davutoslusends warning to Israel:	
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sends warning to Israel.	
ends warning to Israel:	١
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	one nation owns Me	Gaza next month. I editerranean. He a	rs warnings or isra Davutoglu stressed dded that the Israe	er agamst repealing that Turkey has no is blockade of Gaze	rme same misco control over the is illegal.	Re and taking flotilla and the	वदाण at no
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L	BRE II Q	NAME OF THE OWNER	The state of the s			-ACQUARTITION	······································
Return	to Top - Read the Li	atest Media Reaction	on ( <u>Ankara 580</u> )				
Upcon	ning Events						
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Return	to Top						
Links	te More Info on Turi	key					

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751127 Date: 06/28/2012

### RELEASED IN FULL

P44

Logg, Cristina A

From:

Howard, Jeremiah H

Sent:

Tuesday, May 10, 2011 10:09 AM

To:

Ahn, Michael

Subject:

RE: (C/NF) EUR Daily Activity Report for Mon, May 9, 2011

Categories:

Working

Thank you. Always nice to be read.

I sent the first half to EUR/SE in an email.

Sensitive

This email is UNCLASSIFIED//NOFORN\_

From: Ahn, Michael

Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2011 3:05 PM

To: Howard, Jeremiah H

Subject: FW: (C/NF) EUR Daily Activity Report for Mon, May 9, 2011

Jerry,

At least the second half of this is likely from your recent cable.

m.

Sensitive

This email is UNCLASSIFIED//NOFORN

From: Harris, Rian H

Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2011 1:45 AM

Subject: (C/NF) EUR Daily Activity Report for Mon, May 9, 2011

### CONFIDENTIAL/NOFORN

DECL: 05/09/2016

## EUR Daily Activity Report Monday, May 9, 2011

• (SBU) <u>Turkey: Gaza Flotilla To Sail Third Week of June</u>: The international steering committee for the Gaza "Freedom Flotilla II" met in Paris May 9 and announced ships will depart the third week of June from various European ports, including Marseille.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Organizers also announced the recent addition of a Swiss-German vessel to the flotilla. Separately, Turkish Islamist NGO IHH announced plans to send a 1,000 ton ship laden with construction materials, textile products, and medicine destined for Gaza to Egypt's El-Arish port on May 31; IHH will also participate in the "Freedom Flotilla II."

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject:	Howard, Jeremiah H Monday, June 13, 2011 11:23 AM Silliman, Douglas A; Ahn, Michael Jaworski, Richard E TEL AVIV Cable: IHH Reaches out to Israel	
Importance:	High	
Follow Up Flag: Flag Status:	Follow up Flagged REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Sel	nior Reviewer
Categories:	Working	'
This document is U Sensitivity: Classification: Derived From: Declassify On:	NCLASSIFIED when separated from CONFIDENTIAL attachments Sensitive CONFIDENTIAL Derived from previous message in thread. 2021/06/13	nt(s).
Cc: Grubb, Jason B; S	13, 2011 5:21 PM A-IPA-DL; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL Silverman, Robert J; Goldberger, Thomas H; 'Kumar, Prem G.'; 'ssimon@ SecNav, Front Office'; CIV OSD POLICY';  posd.smil.mil'; Howard, Jeremiah H; Blome, Donald A; Burnett, Dav H Reaches out to Israel	CIV DUSN, DUSN
		1.4(B) 1.4(D)
This document is U Sensitivity: Classification: Derived From: Declassify On:	NCLASSIFIED when separated from CONFIDENTIAL attachment Sensitive CONFIDENTIAL Derived from previous message in thread. 2021/06/13	B1

Sensitivity: Sensitive
Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

Derived From: Derived from previous message in thread.

Declassify On: 2021/06/13

From: SMART Core

Sent: Monday, June 13, 2011 04:45:06

To: Levin, Jan X

TELAVIV-SMARTS; NICOSIA, SMARTS; JERUSALEM-SMARTS; ANKARA-SMARTS; Cairo-

SMARTS; USUN, SMARTS; PMAT (Pol-Mil Action Team); daria.darnell@incirlik.af.smil.mil

Subject: IHH Reaches out to Israel

### CONFIDENTIAL



MRN: 11 TEL AVIV 693 Jun 13, 2011 / 131344Z JUN 11 Date/DTG: AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV From: WASHDC, SECSTATE IMMEDIATE Action: 1.4(B) E.O.: 1.4(D) PREL, PARM, PTER, PHSA, KWBG, IS TAGS: Reference: A) 11 TEL AVIV 689 IHH Reaches out to Israel Subject: 1. 2.

2

CONFIDENTIAL

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**Action Post:** 

Dissemination Rule:

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751131 Date: 09/05/2012

[RELEASED IN PART B1,1.4(D)]

P48

From:	Godfrey, Anthony F. [AGodfrey@nss.eop.sgov.gov]
Sent: To:	Thursday, June 30, 2011 8:33 AM Howard, Jeremiah H; Silliman, Douglas A
Co:	Ahn, Michael; Hay, Andrew W
Subject:	RE: (SBU) No IHH Participation in Freedom Flotilla 2 [CONFIDENTIAL, Record]
Categories:	Working
That's good news. 1	Thanks.
	emiah H [mailto:Howard]H@state.sgov.gov]
	ne 30, 2011 7:49 AM as A; Godfrey, Anthony F.; EUR-SE-TU-DL
Cc: Ahn, Michael; H	
	IHH Participation in Freedom Flotilla 2
CONFIDENTIAL	
Citing a meeting he	had had last Tuesday at IHH, told me June 30 nane of th1.4(D
	It be participating in Freedom Flotilla 2. IHH representatives plan to hail some flotilla vessels at B1
	e ports, but they won't board.
An apparently chafi	ng IHH official also the NGO had been instructed not to speak publicly about
	rom the flotilla. The IHH official would not identify the source of that instruction.
Jeremiah Howard	
Political Counselor,	Acting.
Embassy Ankara - Ti	urkey
T: 90 312 457-7149	
IVG: 295-7149	
Classification: CO	NFÍDENTIÁL
Classified by: J. H	loward, A/POLCOUNS
Reason: 1.4(	b), (d)

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Declassify On: 2021/06/30

949

NR 1

### Logg, Cristina A

From:

Sent: To:

Fernandes, Anthony C Friday, September 09, 2011 6:33 AM Fernandes, Anthony C Turkey Daily Brief - September 9, 2011

Subject:

RELEASED IN FULL, . Non-responsive deleted



REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

CON	IFIC	)EN	TIAL
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September 9, 2011	
	•

NR

From: Sent: Fo:	Howard, Jeremiah H Thursday, November 10, 2011 7:10 AM Baily, Jess L; Stafford, Edward G; Fernandes, Anthony C; Hansen, Ralp Richard E	h S; Jaworski,
Cc: Subject:	Kim, Yuri J; Hay, Andrew W; Ahn <u>, Michael; Witmer, Kami A</u> Israeli Embassy: Another Flotilla,	NR
CONFIDENTIAL		
A short chat Novem	ber 10 with the Israeli Embassy here revealed:	
• Gol concerr	about a report of a new Gaza-bound "flotilla," originating in Tunisia.	1.4(B) 1.4(D) B1

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Logg, Cristina A	RELEASED IN FULL	f53
From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject:	O'Grady, Daniel J Friday, April 16, 2010 1:31 AM Ahn, Michael; Kramer, Diana L; Price, Adam P Howard, Jeremiah H; Miles, Barbara J FW: Mitchell-Davutoglu Mtg	
Follow Up Flag: Flag Status:	Follow up Flagged	
	NON-RESPONSIVE PORTIONS REDACTED	
Jeffrey G; Lawson, Chr.	15, 2010 11:38 PM Silliman, Douglas A; O'Grady, Daniel J; Howard, Jeremiah H; Shampaine, Nicole D; Giauque, istine M; Knopf, Payton L ffrey, James F; Baily, Jess L; Riley, Robert J; Schrank, Alexander D; Taylor, Victoria J	39
Special Advisor Fred Ho Israel).	adout of S/E Mitchell's meeting with Turkish FM Davutoglu on April 14. Participants included of, AMB Jeffrey, EUR/SE Director Jess Baily and Turkish AMB Tan (former Turkish Ambassador	to
On improving Turker	y-Israel relations:	
	·	
		- Africans
		and the state of t
On restarting Turkish	mediation of indirect talks:	
<u>∑n restarting Turkish</u>	mediation of indirect talks:	

Die monage transfers france	
On weapons transfers from S	Vila to Hezbolian:
On the Turkish Humanitarian	Aid Foundation (IHH) convoy of ships to Gaza:
	th senior Turkish political figures to dissuade or shape positively the IHH's
abinata a lana Camata at a	Property and a suppose of supply bosining the lift?
snipping plans. Stressing that i	the Turkish government was not providing any encouragement or support to
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2

	RELEASED IN PART NR,B6	P54
ogg, Cristina A		
om: ent: o: o: o: object:	O'Grady, Daniel J Tuesday, May 11, 2010 1:22 AM Ahn, Michael; Howard, Jeremiah H; Price, Adam P Miles, Barbara J FW: ON ISRAELS	
: Connelly, Maura; Ma Eldowney, Nancy E; G Grady, Daniel J; Riley,	iman, Douglas A; Sievers, Marc J; Mitchell, George J arsh, Denise M; Pounds, Timothy J; Baily, Jess Ł; Kaidanow, Tina S; Marsh, Denise M; Gordon, Philip H; 'Shapiro, Daniel B.'; 'esherwood-randall@nsc.eop.sgov.gov'; Gordon, Philip	н;
<b>6</b>		
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TURKISH FACILI TAKING POSITIC WOULD BE A NE	D ALSO LIKE A CLEARER LINK BETWEEN ANY FACILITATION ON CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS FATION ON THE 'PEACE CONVOY' SET TO LEAVE FROM ISTANBUL TO GAZA. TURKS SEEM TO DER ISRAELIS—I DIDN'T GET INTO THIS WITH	D BE RIALS
■ I WILL RUN DOV	VN ISRAELI AMBASSADOR IF POSSIBLE ON ALL OF THIS TONIGHT.	
- Marie 1997	UTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer	

P58

From: Sent:	Howard, Jeremiah H Tuesday, June 01, 2010 10:27 AM	
Го:	Ankara-Political	
Subject:	FW: GUL, ERDOGAN NOW ON A MORE CONCILIATORY LINE [SECRET, Record]	
Categories:	Working	
	Control of the contro	
This are the like of	ACCUSED.	
This email is UNCLA	ASSIFIED.	
	,	
From: Sherwood-Ra	indall, Elizabeth [mailto:ESherwood-Randall@nss.eop.sgov.gov]	
Sent: Tuesday, June	e 01, 2010 5:12 PM	
Bally, Jess L; Riley, F	; Brink, Bridget A.; Gordon, Philip H; McEldowney, Nancy E; Marsh, Denise M; Kaidanow, Tina S Robert J; Waser, Tamir G; Silliman, Douglas A; Levin, Jan X; Sievers, Marc J; Operations Center;	; :
Howard, Jeremiah H	; de Otalvaro, Laura H; Daalder, Ivo H; Heffern, John A; Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul) D; Cunningham, James B; Schlicher, Ronald L; Hof, Frederic C; Wells, Alice G	
Subject: RE: GUL, E	PROGAN NOW ON A MORE CONCILIATORY LINE [SECRET, Record]	
Y:		
MIL.	·	
Jimi,		
mi,		
Juli,		
Liz		
Liz Dr. Elizabeth Sherwoo	hamman and the second s	
Liz Dr. Elizabeth Sherwoo Special Assistant to the Senior Director for E	President and propean Affairs	
Liz Dr. Elizabeth Sherwoo Special Assistant to the Senior Director for Et National Security Cour	President and propean Affairs	
Liz Dr. Elizabeth Sherwoo Special Assistant to the Senior Director for Et National Security Cour	President and propean Affairs	
Liz  Dr. Elizabeth Sherwoo  Special Assistant to the  Senior Director for Et  National Security Cour  (202) 456-9151  From: Jeffrey, James	e President and propean Affairs neil  s F [mailto:jeffrey]@state.sgov.gov]	
Liz  Dr. Elizabeth Sherwoo Special Assistant to the Senior Director for El National Security Cour (202) 456-9151  From: Jeffrey, James Sent: Tuesday, June	e President and propean Affairs noil  s F [mailto:jeffrey]@state.sgov.gov] 101, 2010 9:57 AM	
Liz  Dr. Elizabeth Sherwoo Special Assistant to the Senior Director for Elizabeth Security Cour (202) 456-9151  From: Jeffrey, James Sent: Tuesday, June Fo: Jeffrey, James F, Denise M; Kaldanow,	President and propean Affairs socil  S F [mailto:jeffrey]@state.sgov.gov] O1, 2010 9:57 AM Brink, Bridget A.; Sherwood-Randall, Elizabeth; Gordon, Philip H; McEldowney, Nancy E; Marsh, Tina S; Baily, Jess L; Riley, Robert J; Waser, Tamir G; Silliman, Douglas A; Levin, Jan X; Sievers	5,
National Security Cour (202) 456-9151 From: Jeffrey, James Sent: Tuesday, June Fo: Jeffrey, James F; Denise M; Kaldanow, Marc J; Operations O	President and propean Affairs socil  S F [mailto:jeffrey]@state.sgov.gov]  101, 2010 9:57 AM  Brink, Bridget A.; Sherwood-Randall, Elizabeth; Gordon, Philip H; McEldowney, Nancy E; Marsh,	5,
Liz  Dr. Elizabeth Sherwoo Special Assistant to the Senior Director for Educational Security Cour (202) 456-9151  From: Jeffrey, James F. Sent: Tuesday, June Fo: Jeffrey, James F. Denise M; Kaldanow, Marc J; Operations CA (Istanbul)  Cc: Feltman, Jeffrey	President and propean Affairs socil  S F [mailto:jeffrey]@state.sgov.gov] O1, 2010 9:57 AM Brink, Bridget A.; Sherwood-Randall, Elizabeth; Gordon, Philip H; McEldowney, Nancy E; Marsh, Tina S; Baily, Jess L; Riley, Robert J; Waser, Tamir G; Silliman, Douglas A; Levin, Jan X; Sievers enter; Howard, Jeremlah H; de Otalvaro, Laura H; Daalder, Ivo H; Heffern, Jöhn A; Wiener, Shard; Cunningham, James B; Schlicher, Ronald L; Hof, Frederic C; Wells, Alice G	5,

# UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751142 Date: 09/05/2012 Sensitivity: Sensitive 1.4(B) Classification: SECRET//NOFORN 1.4(D) Derived From: Derived from previous message in thread. В1

2

Declassify On: 2020/06/01

#### **RELEASED IN PART B5**

P60

**B**5

Logg, Cristina A

From:

Howard, Jeremiah H

Sent:

Friday, June 04, 2010 1:19 AM

To:

Dayton, John W (Win) (Istanbul); Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul)

Cc: Subject: Ahn, Michael: Quinn, Shannon D

FW: Gaza Flotilla cargo

Categories:

Working

Hey, Sal:

PRM is asking.

-- Jerry

Jeremiah Howard

**Deputy Political Counselor** Embassy Ankara - Turkey T; 90 312 457-7149

IVG: 295-7149

This email is UNCLASSIFIED

From: Miles, Barbara J

Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 8:13 AM

To: de Otalvaro, Laura H; Howard, Jeremiah H Cc: Quinn, Shannon D; Silliman, Douglas A

Subject: RE: Gaza Flotilla cargo

Can one of you help Shannon? Thanks

This email is UNCLASSIFIED

From: Quinn, Shannon D

Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 9:37 PM

To: Miles, Barbara J

Subject: Gaza Flotilla cargo

Importance: High

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

#### Hi Barbara,

I'm trying to gather as much detail as I can on the cargo that was aboard the Gaza Aid Flotilla when it was intercepted in international waters. I was reading your Daily Briefs and I wonder if you would if anyone at Embassy Ankara might have cargo manifests from the flotilla ships that departed from Turkey. I'll reach out to our friends in Athens to see if they have anything on the ships that joined from Greece. We are trying to compare what was supposed to be onboard vs the GOI accounting to see if there are any discrepancies. For example, Hamas and others are alleging that the cargo included cement and the GOI has said there was none aboard.

Whatever help you could give me in tracking this info down would be very much appreciated. Best,

1

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751144 Date: 06/28/2012

Shannon

Shannon Quinn

Palestinian Refugees Program Officer Office of Assistance for Asia and the Near East Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration Office: (202) 453-9295 Mobile: (202) 569-1722

	RELEASED IN PART 1.4(B),B1,B5,1.4(D)	P
Logg, Cristina /		
From:	Howard, Jeremiah H	
Sent: To:	Friday, June 04, 2010 1:31 AM Ahn, Michael	
Subject:	FW: Short-fuse request for info on conversations with Turks pre-flotilla	
	Manufactura	
Categories:	Working	
This email is UNCLA		
From: Riley, Robert Sent: Friday, June (		
	; Silliman, Douglas A	
Cc: O'Grady, Daniel	J; Howard, Jeremiah H; Kaidanow, Tina S; Baily, Jess L; Marsh, Denise M; Schrank, Alexander D	),
Subject: Short-fuse	e request for info on conversations with Turks pre-flotilla	
Ambassador and Do	oug,	
From: Jeffrey, Jame	rs F	
Sent: Friday, May 2	8, 2010 11:08 AM	
To: Gordon, Philip H	; McEldowney, Nancy E; 'esherwood-randall@nsc.eop.sgov.gov'; 'Brink, Bridget A.'; Kaidanow, T	īna
James B; 'Shapiro, D	arsh, Denise M; Baily, Jess L; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Schlicher, Ronald L; Hof, Frederic C; Cunningh paniel B. <sup>1</sup>	•
Subject: RE: MFA C	ON IHH GAZA CONVOY: 1.4(B)	
	, 1,4(D)	<del></del>
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		,
REVIEW AUT	IORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer	/ za
REVIEW AUT	iORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer	/ za

## UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751145 Date: 09/05/2012

	1.	.4(B)
	1.	.4(D)
	В	1
L		

Sensitivity: Sensitive Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

Classified by: James F. Jeffrey, Ambassador, EXEC, State

Reason: 1.4(b), (d) Declassify On: 2020/05/28

Robert J. Riley
Deputy Director
Office of Southern European Affairs (EUR/SE)
U.S. Department of State
Office: 202-647-5120
Cell: 202-374-0849
tileyti@state.sgov.gov

REL	.EASED	IN PART	1.4(B	),B1,B5	.1.4(D)

P62

From: Sent:	Howard, Jeremiah H Friday, June 04, 2010 2:17 AM
Sent: To:	Ahn, Michael
Subject:	FW: Short-fuse request for info on conversations with Turks pre-flotilla
Follow Up Flag: Flag Status:	Follow up Flagged
Categories:	Working
	· ·
# F - # - ## - ## - ## - ## - ## - ## -	<del></del>
This email is UNCLASS	
From: Silliman, Dougli Sent: Friday, June 04,	
To: Howard, Jeremiah	
<b>subject:</b> FW: Shore t	Se request for the of conversagons with runs pre-hound
Jerry,	
, ·	
•	
Douglas A. Sillîman	•
Deputy Chief of Missio	
US Embassy Ankara, To 90-312-455-5555 x719	
This email is UNCLASS	
From: Jeffrey, James   Sent: Friday, June 04,	
To: Riley, Robert J; Sil	liman, Douglas A
Cc: O'Grady, Daniel J;	Howard, Jeremiah H; Kaidanow, Tina S; Baily, Jess L; Marsh, Denise M; Schrank, Alexander D
Subject: RE: Snort-fu	se request for info on conversations with Turks pre-flotilla
·	
Sensitive	REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer
This email is UNCLASS	IFIED
From: Riley, Robert J	2010 2:39 AM
senti inday, Julie 04,	

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751146 Date: 09/05/2012 To: Jeffrey, James F; Silliman, Douglas A Cc: O'Grady, Daniel J; Howard, Jeremiah H; Kaidanow, Tina S; Baily, Jess L; Marsh, Denise M; Schrank, Alexander D Subject: Short-fuse request for info on conversations with Turks pre-flotilla Ambassador and Doug, **B**5 As always, if we could have this by our OOB, it would be much appreciated. Many thanks, Bob From: Jeffrey, James F Sent: Friday, May 28, 2010 11:08 AM To: Gordon, Philip H; McEldowney, Nancy E; 'esherwood-randall@nsc.eop.sgov.gov'; 'Brink, Bridget A.'; Kaidanow, Tina S; Riley, Robert J; Marsh, Denise M; Baily, Jess L; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Schlicher, Ronald L; Hof, Frederic C; Cunningham, James B; 'Shapiro, Daniel B.' 1.4(B)Subject: RE: MFA ON IHH GAZA CONVOY: MESSAGE THEY WANT PASSED TO ISRAELIS 1.4(D) **B**1. Sensitivity: Sensitive Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Classified by: James F. Jeffrey, Ambassador, EXEC, State Reason: 1.4(b), (d) Declassify On: 2020/05/28 Robert J. Riley Deputy Director Office of Southern European Affairs (EUR/SE)

U.S. Department of State Office: 202-647-5120 Cell: 202-374-0849 tileyti@state.sgov.gov

3

#### RELEASED IN PART B5

P63

From: Sent: Fo: Subject:	Jeffrey, James F Monday, June 07, 2010 3:56 AM Ahn, Michael; O'Grady, Daniel J; Silliman, Douglas A; Jeffrey, James F FW: S IM tasker	
Categories:	Working .	
Sensitivity: Ser Classification: COI	nes F. Jeffrey, Ambassador, EXEC, State	
Fo: Jeffrey, James I Subject: FW: S IM From: Marsh, Deni:	04, 2010 10:16 PM F; Silliman, Douglas A I tasker	
Fo: Baily, Jess L; Ri Subject: S IM task	illey, Robert J; Schrank, Alexander D; Taylor, Victoria J	
subject 5 14 task		
Subject. 3 In task		
Subject. 5 In task		
Subject. 5 In task		
Subject. 3 In task		
Subject. 3 In task		
Subject. 3 In task		

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Denise

# UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751148 Date: 09/05/2012 RELEASED IN PART 1.4(B),B1,B5,1.4(D)

Logg, Cristina A			NEGOTORIO DE LO CONTROL DE LA CONTROL DE		
From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject: Attachments:	Howard, Jeremial Friday, June 04, 2 Ahn, Michael de Otalvaro, Laur FW: IHH flotilla tic IHH Flotilla tick to	2010 7:47 AM a H :k tock (revised)			
Categories:	Working	- · · · - · ·			
		*			B5
Thank you.			NAMES AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY		
- Jerry					
This document is U Classification: Derived From:	NCLASSIFIED when	separated from CO CONFIDENTIAL DSCG 05-1 b, d	NFIDENTIAL atta	chment(s).	
Declassify On:	,	2020/06/04		DAS, A/GIS, DoS ~ Cla 4(B), 1.4(D), B1 ~ Decl	
			06/03/2020		TOTAL
From: Ahn, Michael Sent: Friday, June 04 Fo: Howard, Jeremial Subject: IHH flotilla	i H; de Otalvaro, Laura I	1			B5
Sent: Friday, June 04 Fo: Howard, Jeremial	i H; de Otalvaro, Laura I	1			B5
Sent: Friday, June 04 Fo: Howard, Jeremial Subject: IHH flotilla	i H; de Otalvaro, Laura I	+			B5
Sent: Friday, June 04 To: Howard, Jeremial Subject: IHH flotilla	i H; de Otalvaro, Laura I		06/03/2020		<b>B5</b>
Sent: Friday, June 04  To: Howard, Jeremial  Subject: IHH flotilla f  Spril 9  HH Ankara told us tw	n H; de Otalvaro, Laura H tick tock (revised)		06/03/2020		B5
Sent: Friday, June 04 Fo: Howard, Jeremial Subject: IHH flotilla	n H; de Otalvaro, Laura H tick tock (revised)		06/03/2020	(ANKARA 565)	1.4(B)
Sent: Friday, June 04 Fo: Howard, Jeremial Subject: IHH flotilla f  April 9 HH Ankara told us tw	n H; de Otalvaro, Laura H tick tock (revised)		06/03/2020		
pril 9 HA Ankara told us two pril 12 he Israel Embassy he MFA told us	n H; de Otalvaro, Laura H tick tock (revised)		06/03/2020	(ANKARA 565)	1.4(B) 1.4(D)
Sent: Friday, June 04 To: Howard, Jeremial Subject: IHH flotilla f  Sub	n H; de Otalvaro, Laura H tick tock (revised)	in the Gaza-bound flo	06/03/2020 otilla. (ANKARA 565)	(ANKARA 565)	1.4(B) 1.4(D) B1

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751148 Date: 09/05/2012

StateDept02049

014

<u>May 6</u>	
The Israeli Embassy told Deputy POL Counselor (ANKARA 680)	1.4(B 1.4(D
May 10	В1
IHH Ankara told us at least four or five AMCITS are expected to join t	the flotilla. (ANKARA 680)
Sinirlioglu told the AMB that	
May 17	
IHH President Bulent Yildirim told Consulate Istanbul POL/ECON Chie (ISTANBUL 179)	ef 10 AMCITS are expected to join the flotilla.
May 21	
Sinirlioglu told the AMB	(ANKARA 733)
May 27	
The outgoing and incoming Israeli DCMs told our DCM	
IHH told Consulate Istanbul the Mavi Marmara would depart at 5pm (ISTANBUL 195)	(May 27) with at least one AMCIT on board.
May 28	
The IHH Deputy President told Consulate Istanbul three IHH ships we Cyprus. (ISTANBUL 199)	ere en route to rendezvous with other ships near
May 31	
sraeli AMB told AMB Jeffrey	
Sinirlioglu told AMB Jeffrey	
AMB Jeffrey and the entire Dip Corps (Amb level) were called in by the Mavi Marmaris.	he MFA. The MFA said all the violence occurred on
	anted an immediate release of Turkish ships and
Murat Mercan told AMB Jeffrey and codel Delahunt that the Turks was personnel.	

4

## UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751148 Date: 09/05/2012

	A 4/15\
President Gul told AMB Jeffrey and Congressman Delahunt	1.4(B)
	1.4(D)
(ANKARA 783)	, '\O')-
ha_im	B1

June 3

The MFA told Acting POL Chief they were formally reviewing Turkey-Israeli bilateral relations.

This document is UNCLASSIFIED when separated from CONFIDENTIAL attachment(s).

Classification:

CONFIDENTIAL

Derived From:

DSCG 05-1 (b), (d)

Declassify On:

2020/06/04

				.4(B).B1		

P65

From: Sent:	O'Grady, Daniel J Monday, June 07, 2010 12:45 PM	
To:	Howard, Jeremiah H; Mineo, Mark R (Monterrey, Mexico); Ahn, Michael; Price, A	Adam P
Ce:	Miles. Barbara J	
Subject:	FW:Comments	1.4(B
Categories:	Working	1.4(C B1
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	sitive IFIDENTIAL//NOFORN	
	ved from previous message in thread.	
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer	
From: Wiener, Share	on A (Tstanbul)	
Sent: Monday, June	07, 2010 7:21 PM	
<b>Fo:</b> Dayton, John W <b>Cc:</b> Silliman, Douglas	(Win) (Istanbui); Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Hood, Courtney M (Istanbul); O'Grad s A; Jeffrey, James F	y, Daniel J
Subject: Com	ments	
0	•	
On Sunday, June 6, w	ve hosted on the Hiawatha. Following are some notes of or	. 190
conversation:	1.4(B	) ·
conversation:	1.4(B . 1.4(D	) ·
conversation:	1.4(B . 1.4(D	) ·
conversation:	1.4(B . 1.4(D	) ·
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Reason: 1.4(c	ron Wiener, Principal Officer/0 d)	Consul General, Exec, Sia	ite	
Declassify On: 2020	0/06/07			
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### RELEASED IN PART B6

P66

Logg, Cristina A		and the second
From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject:	O'Grady, Daniel J Tuesday, June 15, 2010 1:12 AM Ahn, Michael; Price, Adam P; Mineo, Mark R Miles, Barbara J FW: Free Gaza Meeting	
Categories:	Working	
This email is UNCLASSIFIE From: Baily, Jess L	ED	
Appleton, Richard H: Oale,	ner, Sharon A (Istanbul); Dayton, John W (Win) (Istanbul); Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); , Karen L.; Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul) )'Grady, Daniel J; Howard, Jeremiah H; Riley, Robert J; Schrank, Alexander D; Taylor, Victoria J	ı
Susan, Rich – many thanks	s to you and your sections for your help with Amcits in the Free Gaza flotilla. Jess	
Ogle, Karen L.: Abeyta, Su	anbul); Dayton, John W (Win) (Istanbul); Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Appleton, Richard H usan K (Istanbul) D'Grady, Daniel J; Howard, Jeremiah H; Baily, Jess L; Riley, Robert J; Schrank, Alexander D;	;
All please see below from the Challenger I. There are	m NEA/IPA – it is the interview CA and NEA conducted today with who was aboard re a couple of mentions of CONGEN Istanbul.	, ве
From: Reisser, Wesley J Sent: Monday, June 14, 2 To: Marsh, Denise M Subject: Free Gaza Meeti		
Denise, Wanted to share t Wes	this with you and for you to share with the ConGen as well.  REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer	*
6/14/2010		
(SBU) Meeting	y with Free Gaza Participant	
CA/OCS and NEA/IPA met to	who was on board the Challenger I and arrested as part of the Free Gaza as visited Gaza three times since Operation Cast Lead and was involved in the failed Gaza Freedom Marc	h
	siro with Egyptian refusal to enter at Rafah.	

1

	- 1
made several requests to the Department including:	В6
To press the GOI to release the ships to their owners;	
Have a U.S. investigation into the death of Amcit Furkan Dogan;	i
Gain the return of personal possesions from the Challenger and Svendoni believes that only possesions on the Mavi	:
Marmara were transferred to Turkey and ConGen Istanbul is working to confirm if any belongings of Amcits remain unclaimed);	;
Request that consular officers visit the ships to ensure no personal property remains on board;	
Request that Israel return electronic equipment to its owners (she stated that it was fine if the memory was wiped clean on them,	
but that the equipment should be returned);	
Have international participation in the investigation, which she understood may already have been announced by Israel.	
described the conditions at Ben Gurion prior to her removal as "brutal." She stated that along with 11 other female	1
detainees, she was forced to remain in a prison van for 5 hours with no water or ability to use a bathroom. There were many	
altercations between deportees and security officials, which she claimed were started when security officials struck individuals.	
	i
Finally expressed her thanks to both Embassy Tel Aviv and ConGen Istanbul consular staff, for their assistance to Free Gaza	
participents.  Posted at 3:00 PM by Reisser, Wesley J << OLE Object: Picture (Device Independent Bitmap) >> << OLE Object: Picture (Device	
Independent Bitmap) >>   Permalink   Email this Post   Comments (0)	

Wesley J. Reisser, Ph.D.
Desk Officer - NEA/IPA
Office of Israel & Palestinian Affairs
(202) 647-2647 (Unclass phone)

P68

Logg, Cristina /		RELEASED IN PART	,
From: Sent: To:	O'Grady, Daniel J Friday, June 18, 2010 3:34 AM Ahn, Michael	B1,B5,B7(C),1.4(D),B6	
Cc: Subject:	TIGATION RESULTS TO DECIDE ON FUTURE		
Categories:	Working		
	Attaches		B5
This email is UNCL/	ASSIFIED.		
	<del>,</del>	}	
From: Silliman, Dou Sent: Friday, June 1 To: Appleton, Richar Subject: FW: FW: 1		TO DECIDE ON FUTURE FLOTILLA	
Rich, Dan,			
Thanks,	The state of the s		
Doug	REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, \$	Senior Reviewer	
Douglas A. Silliman Deputy Chief of Miss US Embassy Ankara, 90-312-455-5555 x7	Turkey	•	ı
This document is C Sensitivity: Classification: Derived From:	CONFIDENTIAL when separated from CO Sensitive CONFIDENTIAL Derived from previous message in thre	*/	ì
Declassify On:	2020/0 <del>6</del> /18	<b></b> -	

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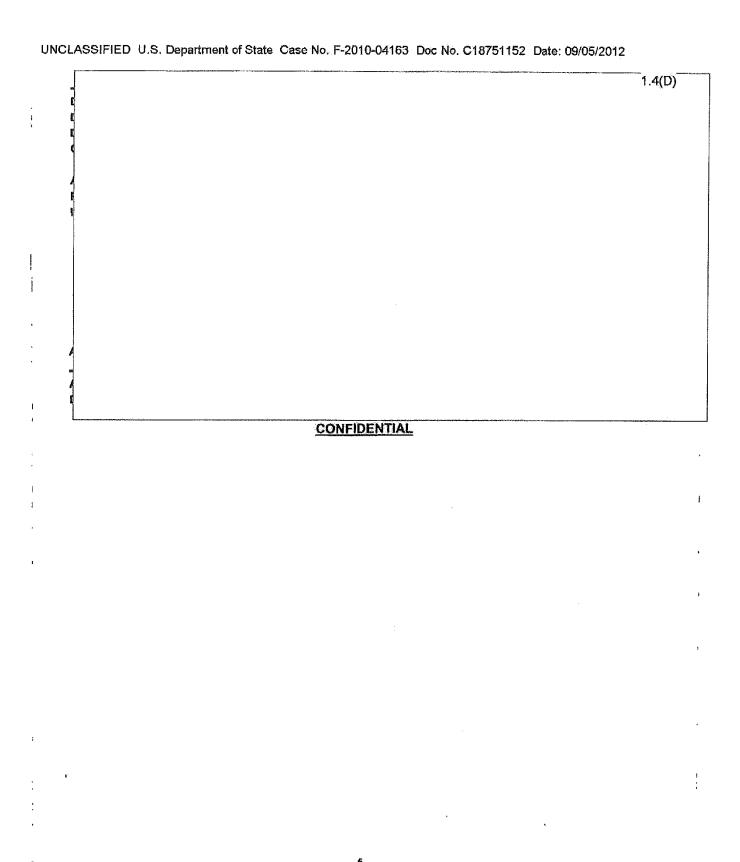
To: Silliman, Douglas A	2010 2:33 AM	
Cc: Kaldanow, Tina S; Subject: PW: FW: IHH		
Doug, thanks for this.		
		[
Value of the second sec		
less		
	NFIDENTIAL when separated from CONFIDENTIAL attachment(s).	
Sensitivity: Classification:	Sensitive CONFIDENTIAL	
Classified by:	Jess Baily, Director, EUR/SE, State	
Reason:	1.4(b), (d)	
Declassify On:	2020/06/17 .	
Pracia Halantus Tab	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	No. of the Control of
From: Holmstrom, Tode		
<b>Sent:</b> Thursday, June 1 <b>To:</b> Baily, Jess L; Walles	7, 2010 6:00 PM ;, Jacob	
<b>Sent:</b> Thursday, June 1 <b>To:</b> Baily, Jess L; Walles	7, 2010 6:00 PM	
Sent: Thursday, June 1 Fo: Baily, Jess L; Walles Subject: RE: FW: IHH V	7, 2010 6:00 PM ;, Jacob Waiting for investigation results to decide on future flotilla	
Sent: Thursday, June 1 To: Baily, Jess L; Walles Subject: RE: FW: IHH V	7, 2010 6:00 PM ;, Jacob Waiting for investigation results to decide on future flotilla	
Sent: Thursday, June 1 To: Baily, Jess L; Walles Subject: RE: FW: IHH I Thanks, Jess. Jake repla From: Baily, Jess L	7, 2010 6:00 PM ;, Jacob WAITING FOR INVESTIGATION RESULTS TO DECIDE ON FUTURE FLOTILLA ced Maura.	<del></del>
Sent: Thursday, June 1 To: Baily, Jess L; Walles Subject: RE: FW: IHH V Thanks, Jess. Jake repla From: Baily, Jess L Sent: Thursday, June 1 To: Holmstrom, Todd	7, 2010 6:00 PM ;, Jacob WAITING FOR INVESTIGATION RESULTS TO DECIDE ON FUTURE FLOTILLA ced Maura. 7, 2010 5:24 PM	<del></del>
Sent: Thursday, June 1 To: Baily, Jess L; Walles Subject: RE: FW: IHH V Thanks, Jess. Jake repla From: Baily, Jess L Sent: Thursday, June 1 To: Holmstrom, Todd	7, 2010 6:00 PM ;, Jacob WAITING FOR INVESTIGATION RESULTS TO DECIDE ON FUTURE FLOTILLA ced Maura.	·
Sent: Thursday, June 1 To: Baily, Jess L; Walles Subject: RE: FW: IHH V Thanks, Jess. Jake repla From: Baily, Jess L Sent: Thursday, June 1 To: Holmstrom, Todd Subject: FW: FW: IHH	7, 2010 6:00 PM ;, Jacob WAITING FOR INVESTIGATION RESULTS TO DECIDE ON FUTURE FLOTILLA ced Maura. 7, 2010 5:24 PM	
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From: Silliman, Douglas A Sent: Thursday, June 17, 2010 9:01 AM To: EUR-SE-DL; Brink, Bridget A.; Kaidanow, Tina S; Baily, Jess L Cc: Sievers, Marc J; Connelly, Maura; Goldberger, Thomas H Subject: FW: IHH WAITING FOR INVESTIGATION RESULTS TO DECIDE ON FUTURE FLOTILLA IHH account of Gaza flotilla and other topics given to ConGen Istanbul. Doug Sensitivity: Sensitive Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Derived From: DSCG 05-1 d Declassify On: 2020/06/17 **SMART Core** From: Thursday, June 17, 2010 02:45:10 Sent: Pistana, Robert; Mineo, Mark R; Witmer, Kami A; Lee, Robert D; Keen, Berna; Borenstein, Jeffrey D; Kiel, Stephanic; Godfrey, Anthony F; Basso, Dianne L; Ahn, Michael; Reynolds, Carol T; O'Grady, Daniel J; Silliman, Douglas A; Hunter, Rodney M; Ogle, Karen L.; DeLuigi, Christiaan E; To: Arvey, Jason M; Price, Adam P; Deblauw, Kim J; Yountchi, Suzanne M; de Otalvaro, Laura H; Appleton, Richard H; Miles, Barbara J; Leary, Thomas M; Hessler, Robert E; MassoudAnsari, Kurosh; Howard, Jeremiah H @dea.usdoj.sgov.gov; Eppler, Dale B; Kolega, Alen; Brooks, Judith A; Roundy, Brian A; B7(C) Cc: Klopp, Deborah A; Hamilton, Elizabeth H Subject: IHH WAITING FOR INVESTIGATION RESULTS TO DECIDE ON FUTURE FLOTILLA CONFIDENTIAL **Action Office:** POL\_MIL, POL, CONS, CONGEN Info Office: EAC, AMB\_INFO **B1** 

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751152 Date: 09/05/2012 entile of the contract of the **B6** 

В6





P69

Logg, Cristina A		
From: Sent:	O'Grady, Daniel J Friday, June 18, 2010 10:43 AM	A
To: Subject:	Ahn, Michael FW:(IHH) meeting, June 18	B6
Categories:	Working	,
	•	<b>B</b> 5
Sensitivity: Sensi Classification: CONI Derived From: Derive Declassify On: 2020/	FIDENTIAL ed from previous message in thread.	,
From: Jeffrey, James Sent: Friday, June 18 To: O'Grady, Daniel 3 Cc: Silliman, Douglas Subject: RE:	3, 2010 5:42 PM	 B6
Sensitivity: Sensi Classification: CONI Classified by: Jame Reason: 1.4(b) Declassify On: 2020/	FIDENTIAL s F. Jeffrey, Ambassador, EXEC, State ), (d)	<b>B5</b>
From: O'Grady, Danie Sent: Friday, June 18 To: Jeffrey, James F Cc: Silliman, Douglas Subject: FW:	, 2010 4:43 PM	 B6
AMB: FYI, Dan		50
	REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer	
This email is UNCLAS	SSIFIED.	
From: Ahn, Michael Sent: Friday, June 18 To: O'Grady, Daniel J Cc: Howard, Jeremiah Subject:	, 2010 4:23 PM I H; de Otalvaro, Laura H; Miles, Barbara Ĵ; Kramer, Diana L	 B6

Dan,	
tald us taday IHH has not/not endorsed the launching of a new	B6
flotilla.	1
He said he attended a press meeting in Strasbourg two days ago where a representative from a French (?) NGO announced a new flotilla would be launched in the second half of April said he did not make a statement about IHH's joining the new flotilla, but did acknowledge his presence at the meeting (as the official IHH representative) could have been misconstrued by the media as an endorsement. He said IHH leaders are currently trying to pursue legal action against Israel and asked for USG support.	B6
confirmed the Mavi Marmara embarked under a Comoros flag. He said IHH purchased the previously Turkish-flagged ship directly from the municipality. According to the IHH website, IHH purchased the ship from Istanbul Seabuses and Fast Ferries Inc (IDO).	B6 ,
	NR
	,
Michael	
	1
Sensitive This email is UNCLASSIFIED.	e

From: Taylor, Victoria J Sent: 8/3/2010 11:26:44 AM To: svcSMARTCrossLow

Subject: FW: Re Flotilla -- H Res 1599 (McCarthy) Israel - friend/strategic partner

This email is UNCLASSIFIED\_

From: Trejo, Maria

Sent: Tuesday, August 03, 2010 10:00 AM

To: EUR-SE-DAR-DL; EUR-PGI-CONGRESSIONAL-DL; Kaidanow, Tina S Subject: Re Flotilla — H Res 1599 (McCarthy) Israel - friend/strategic partner

BILL TEXT H Res 1599 VERSION: INTRODUCED IN HOUSE July 30, 2010

111th CONGRESS

2d Session

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H. RES. 1599

Reaffirming support for Israel as a longtime friend, ally, and strategic partner of the United States and Israel's right to defend itself.

### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 30, 2010

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York (for herself and Mrs. MYRICK) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

#### RESOLUTION

Reaffirming support for Israel as a longtime friend, ally, and strategic partner of the United States and Israel's right to defend itself.

Whereas, on May 22, 2010, a Gaza-bound flotilla, sponsored by the Turkish Humanitarian Relief Foundation, Insani Yardim Vakfi (IHH), set sail from Istanbul, Turkey, with hopes to direct international attention to Israel's blockade of the Gaza Strip through a violent confrontation;

Whereas 600 passengers, including radicals with ties to terrorist groups, boarded the Mavi Marmara ship in Antalya, Turkey, the lead vessel in the "Free Gaza" flotilla;

Whereas, on May 31, 2010, after repeated warnings and assurances that aid would be delivered, Israeli forces intercepted the flotilla that was attempting to break through its naval blockade of Gaza;

Whereas five of the six ships involved in the flotilla cooperated peacefully, but activists on the Mavi Marmara, reacted violently according to a premeditated plan to incite violence;

Whereas when the first Israeli soldier was lowered by helicopter onto the Mavi Marmara, militants onboard tried

connecting the steel cables from the overhead helicopters to the boat's antenna, in order to cause the helicopters to crash;

Whereas when Israeli soldiers boarded the ship, Mavi Marmara passengers began severely beating the soldiers with iron rods, chairs, and wooden poles, stabbing them with knives, and trying to lynch them, throwing one soldier off the deck, and taking pistols from the soldiers and firing at them with deadly intent;

Whereas the Turkish aid group that sent out the flotilla, IHH, belongs to a Saudi-based umbrella organization known as the Union of Good which was established to finance the foreign terrorist organization Hamas;

Whereas the United States Treasury Department has designated the Union of Good as supporting terrorism and has included the organization as part of both the "Designated Charities and Potential Fundraising Front Organizations for FTOs" list and the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) list of "Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons";

Whereas, on June 14, 2010, the Government of Israel approved and launched a credible investigation into the flotilla incident with two international observers, Lord William David Trimble of Northern Ireland, a Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, and Ken Watkin, a former judge advocate general of the Canadian Armed Forces:

Whereas Israel's naval blockade of Gaza was put in place as a response to thousands of rocket attacks on Israel from Hamas terrorists in Gaza, is fully compliant with international law, and has succeeded in stopping terrorists from smuggling weapons into Gaza from the sea that can be used to murder innocent Israeli civilians;

Whereas Israel has offered to fully deliver all aid intended for Gaza, following close inspection of any ship that attempts to cross its naval blockade; and

Whereas Iranian Revolutionary Guard spokesman Ali Shirazi stated that the naval wing of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard is ready to assist further "peace flotillas" to Gaza with all its effort and capabilities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives-

- (1) reaffirms its strong support for Israel as a longtime friend, ally, and strategic partner of the United States;
  - (2) supports Israel's right to defend itself;
  - (3) condemns the violent, premeditated actions of the Insani Yardim Vakfi (IHH);
- (4) calls upon other nations to express their support for Israel's right to defend itself and condemn the actions of the IHH;
  - (5) expresses its hope that-
    - (A) the recent incident does not derail the Israeli-Palestinian peace process:
- (B) other nations continue to work toward steps to have direct negotiations, advance a two-state solution, and advance the peace process; and
- (C) the recent incident does not stop ongoing efforts to confront the on-going attempts of delegitimizing Israel at the United Nations;
  - (6) denounces efforts by the naval wing of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard to escort future flotillas and

escalate future violent confrontations;

- (7) commends President Barack Obama's strong support for Israel's security and his unwavering support for Israel at the United Nations;
- (8) calls for continued strong United States leadership at the United Nations, including the utilization of its veto power, to prevent any one-sided and politically tainted "internal investigation" from proceeding; and
- (9) encourages the Administration to consider whether the IHH should be placed on the list of foreign terrorist organizations and under a visa ban, after an examination by the intelligence community, the U.S. Department of State, and the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

Source: Government Printing Office
From CQ Bill Text Service
Providing government documents on demand, in context.
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RELEASED IN PAR	T 1.4(B),B1,B5,1.4(D)

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В5

Logg, Cristina A		
From: Sent: To: Subject:	Howard, Jeremiah H Wednesday, August 11, 2010 5:44 AM Ahn, Michael FW: Isrealis Draw a Line in the Water	
Importance:	High	
Categories:	Working	
Michael:	Jerry	
This email is UNCLASSIFII	ED.	
From: Howard, Jeremiah H Sent: Thursday, May 06, 2 To: Pistana, Robert Subject: Isrealis Draw a L Importance: High	2010 12:22 PM	;
From: Howard, Jeremiah H Sent: Thursday, May 06, 2 To: Silliman, Douglas A; O' Cc: Ahn, Michael; Lee, Rob Subject: Isrealis Draw a L Importance: High	2010 12:20 PM 'Grady, Daniel J pert D	1.4(B) 1.4(D) B1
DECL:04052015		
	REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahn	nad, Senior Reviewer

We'll put out the above as a cable.

1

#### CONFIDENTIAL

-- Jerry

Jeremiah Howard
Deputy Political Counselor
Embassy Ankara - Turkey
T: 90 312 457-7149
IVG: 295-7149

om: Friday, August 20, 2010 4:48 AM Milesae, Mark Rr. Ahn. Milesael FW: 1.4(B) 1.4(D) B1  st FVI for now.		RELEASED IN PART 1.4(B),B1,B5,1.4(D)	P72
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Classified by:

Doug Silliman, DCM, EXEC, State

Reason:

1.4(b), (d)

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2035/08/20

From: Sutphin, Paul R

Sent: Thursday, August 19, 2010 9:15 PM

To: Walles, Jacob; Goldberger, Thomas H; Silverman, Robert J; Grubb, Jason B; Daughton, Thomas F (Beirut); Cohen,

Jonathan R; Comforth, Jeremy A; Shampaine, Nicole D

Cc: 'DShapiro@nsc.eop.sgov.gov'; 'Kumar, Prem G.'; NEA-IPA-DL; Silliman, Douglas A; Schlicher, Ronald I 1.4(D) Subject: FW:

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Paul R. Sutphin

Director

Office of Israel and Palestinian Affairs

Rm 6251, U.S. Department of State (T) 202-647-3672 (F) 202-736-4461

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MRN:

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Date/DTG:

Aug 19, 2010 / 191551Z AUG 10

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Classified By:	Thomas F. Daughton, Charge d'affaires, a.i.
	Embassy Beirut
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Reason:	1,4 (b), (d)
Declassify on:	2020/08/19
Drafted By:	BEIRUT:Comforth, Jeremy A
Cleared By:	U.S. Embassy Beirut:Daughton, Thomas F (Beirut)
Approved By:	U.S. Embassy Beirut:Daughton, Thomas F (Beirut)
Released By:	BEIRUT:Daughton, Thomas F (Beirut)
nfo:	NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE, SECDEF
	WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE; NICOSIA, AMEMBASSY IMMEDIATE; Abell, J Andrew
	ROUTINE, Addis, Casey L ROUTINE, Allen, Katherine E ROUTINE, Catalano, Elisa ROUTINE,
	Citrin, Ruth ROUTINE; Cornforth, Jeremy A ROUTINE; Dan Shapiro
	(DShapiro@nsc.eop.sgov.gov) ROUTINE; Daughton, Thomas F (Beirut) ROUTINE; Embury,
	Benjamin S ROUTINE; Embury, Benjamin S ROUTINE; Evans, Jennifer R ROUTINE; Feltman,
	Jeffrey D ROUTINE, Hagar Hajjar (HHajjar@nsc.eop.sgov.gov) ROUTINE, Herbol, Denise A
	ROUTINE, Herro Mustafa (HMustafa@ovp.eop.sgov.gov) ROUTINE, Hof, Frederic C ROUTINE,
	Jasmine M. El-Gamal ROUTINE, Jim Lantz ROUTINE, Lantz, James V ROUTINE, McCulloch,
	Megan L ROUTINE; McQueen, Calvin L ROUTINE; Morris, Kent X ROUTINE; NEA-Staff-
	Assistants-DL ROUTINE; Nobles, David T ROUTINE; Polacheck, Joshua W (Beirut) ROUTINE; Riggs, Susan J ROUTINE; Schedibauer, Amy W ROUTINE; Schlicher, Ronald L ROUTINE;
	Shampaine, Nicole ROUTINE; Sison, Michele J ROUTINE; Smith, Anita R (Beirut) ROUTINE;
	Somerset, Ann D (NEA/PPD) ROUTINE; Walker, Janelle A ROUTINE; Walles, Jacob ROUTINE;
	Wells, Alice G ROUTINE, Williams, Jennifer L ROUTINE, Cohen, Jonathan R ROUTINE, ARAB
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#### BİRLEŞMİŞ MİLLETLER NEZDİNDE TÜRKİYE DAİMİ TEMSİLCİLİĞİ

# PERMANENT MISSION OF TURKEY TO THE UNITED NATIONS

2010/Turkuno DT/23224

The Permanent Mission of Turkey presents its compliments to the Permanent Mission of United States of America and has the honour to enclose herewith a letter from H.E. Mr. Ahmed Davutoğlu, Foreign Minister of Turkey addressed to H.E. Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton, Foreign Minister of United States of America regarding the international investigation of the Israeli attack on the humanitarian aid convoy to Gaza on 31 May 2010.

The original of the letter will follow in due course.

The Permanent Mission of Turkey avails itself of this opportunity to reiterate to the Permanent Mission of United States of America the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 20 September 2010



The Permanent Mission of United States of America to the UN New York

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

#### RELEASED IN FULL

19 September 2010

Dear Colleague,

I would like to inform you of the recent developments in the investigation of the Israeli attack on the international humanitarian aid convoy on 31 May 2010. You will recall that the attack took place in international waters 72 miles from the nearest coast and resulted in the killing of eight Turkish and one US citizen.

The UN Secretary-General set up a four-man Panel of Inquiry on 2 August 2010, to fulfill the mandate contained in the Presidential Statement of the UN Security Council of 1 June 2010 which called for a prompt, impartial, credible and transparent investigation conforming to international standards.

In order to facilitate the work of the UN Panel, Turkey has established a National Commission of Inquiry. The Turkish Commission carried out an objective and diligent study, by inspecting three of the ships in the convoy, receiving verbal and written testimonies from several witnesses and examining the legal implications of the attack with the help of some prominent international lawyers. The resulting interim report and its voluminous factual attachments, including autopsy reports and witness accounts, were presented to the UN Panel of Inquiry on 1 September 2010.

The Turkish Commission is satisfied that the Turkish authorities discharged their responsibilities in full conformity with the Turkish legislation prior to the departure of the Mavi Marmara vessel from Turkey. The vessel and its cargo were thoroughly searched and screened. The passengers went through rigorous passport controls and x-ray checks. The Turkish Commission concluded that the Israeli forces resorted deliberately and unlawfully to violence against the civilians.

The UN Panel of Inquiry appreciated the submission of the interim report of the Turkish Commission of Inquiry. Israel is yet to present its own report to the Panel.

We expect the UN Panel of Inquiry to diligently pursue the matter: it must identify the facts about the military attack on a civilian humanitarian convoy and the killing of nine civilians. Its aim should be to investigate the incident. As a result, Israel should formally apologize and compensate the wounded and the families of the deceased.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

As envisaged, the UN Panel presented an initial progress report to the UN Secretary-General before 15 September 2010, outlining the stage reached in its activities. In view of international expectations relating to the investigation, we wish the UN authorities had shared the UN Panel's progress report with the general public. This would have been in line with the principle of transparency, referred to in the UN Security Council's Presidential Statement of 1 June 2010; as well as the Panel's operating principles, outlined in the UN Secretary-General's statement of 2 August 2010 on the establishment of the Panel. We expect the UN Secretary-General to continue his personal engagement into the matter.

There is another UN effort; the Fact Finding Mission of the Human Rights Council based in Geneva, whose three-member team visited Turkey in August to gather first-hand information and to talk to some of the passengers onboard the Mavi Marmara. I met them in person and was impressed with their professionalism and commitment. We look forward to having the report of the Fact Finding Mission.

I would appreciate it very much if you could consider the possibility of including a reference, in the national statements before the General Assembly on behalf of The United States of America, to the attack on the humanitarian convoy and the need for speed, impartiality and transparency in the work of the Scoretary-General's Panel of Inquiry.

Seeking your personal engagement on this issue, I remain,

Yours faithfully, Ahmet Davutoğlu

H.E. Ms. Hillary Rodham Clinton Secretary of State Of The United States of America

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

Logg, Cristina A		
From: Sent: To: Subject:	Baily, Jess L Friday, February 11, 2011 12:05 PM Howard, Jeremiah H; Silliman, Douglas A; O'Grady, Daniel J; Mokhtarzada, Ho Gregonis, Meghan E; Riley, Robert J; Schrank, Alexander D; Guido, Deborah I FW: FW: Turkish Gaza Flotilla Commission Report Blames Israel	omeyra N; L; Ahn, Micha
Categories:	Working	
Sensitivity: Sensitive Classification: SECRET//I Derived From: Derived fro Declassify On: 2035/09/08	om previous message in thread.	
Jess L; Riley, Robert J; Sch Jeffrey D; Baez, Alejandro	nber 08, 2010 10:12 AM nerwood-Randall, Elizabeth'; Gordon, Philip H; McEldowney, Nancy E; Kaidanow, nlicher, Ronald L; Walles, Jacob; Cunningham, James B; Goldberger, Thomas H;	Tina S; Baily Feltman,
Cc: O'Grady, Daniel J Subject: FW: Turkish Gaza	ra Flotilla Commission Report Blames Israel	1.4(B) 1.4(D) B1
All,		<b>5</b> 1
Attached is 10 Ankara 13 commission.	325, and EXDIS on my meeting with the Chair of Turkey's Free Gaza floo	tilla

Doug

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Douglas A Silliman Chargé d'Affaires, a.i. US Embassy Ankara, Turkey 90-312-455-5555 x7190

Sensitivity: Sensitive

Classification: SECRET//NOFORN

Derived From: Derived from previous message in thread.

Declassify On: 2035/09/08

From: SMART Core

Sent: Wednesday, September 08, 2010 04:57:19

To: Silliman, Douglas A

Cc: USUN, SMARTS; JERUSALEM-SMARTS; TELAVIV-SMARTS; ISTANBUL, SMARTS;

ANKARA-SMARTS

Subject: Turkish Gaza Flotilla Commission Report Blames Israel

#### SECRET//NOFORN



MRN: 10 ANKARA 1325

Date/DTG: Sep 08, 2010 / 081357Z SEP 10

From: AMEMBASSY ANKARA

Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE IMMEDIATE

E.O.: 13526

TAGS: PGOV, PREL, PTER, PHUM, UN, TU, IS

Captions: EXDIS, NOFORN

Subject: Turkish Gaza Flotilla Commission Report Blames Israel

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U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751162 Date: 06/28/2012

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SILLIMAN Signature:

Classified By: Doug Silliman, CDA

**EXEC** State

Reason: 1.4 (b), (d) 2035/09/08 Declassify on:

ANKARA: Ahn, Michael Drafted By: Political:O'Grady, Daniel J Cleared By:

Silliman, Douglas A Approved By:

ANKARA: Silliman, Douglas A Released By:

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### RELEASED IN PART B1,B5,1.4(D)

P79

From: Sent: To: Subject:	Silliman, Dougla	iah H nil 06, 2011 8:59 AM as A; Ahn, Michael; O'Grady, Daniel J IPC on Flotilla Prevention (4/1) [SECRET, Re	cord]
Categories:	Working		
Sensitive This email is UNCL	ASSIFIED.		
To: Dayton, John V Cc: O'Grady, Danie	April 06, 2011 3:56 PM	ord, Jeremiah H; Dunn, Patrick M (Istanbul) [(4/1) [SECRET, Record]	·
Dear Win and Jerry	,		B1
			1.4(D) B1
Thanks, Alex.			
Alexander Schrank Turkey Desk Officer Office of Southern Er Bureau of European a U.S. State Departmer Tel: (202) 647-7581	nd Eurasian Affairs	REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Al	hmad, Senior Reviewer
Sensitivity: Ser Classification: CO Derived From: DS Declassify On: 203	CG 05-1 (b), (d)		

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

P80

From: Sent:	Howard, Jeremiah H Sunday, April 17, 2011 4:41 PM	
Го:	Ahn, Michael; O'Grady, Daniel J; Silliman, Douglas A	
Cc: Subject:	Mineo, Mark R FW: Balanced Palmer Report Might Help Close Flotilla Rift,	7
Categories:	Working 1.4(B) 1.4(D)	•
Michael: Would	you stick this one in the AMB's read file, if he hasn't seen it already. Thank you, B1 Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Derived From: DSCG 05-1 b, d Declassify On: 2021/04/17	
From: SMART	Core April 15, 2011 07:26:05	•
A; O'Gra	racey L; Miles, Barbara J; Ahn, Michael; Howard, Jeremiah H; Keen, Berna; Witmer, Kami ady, Daniel J; de Otalvaro, Laura H; Tarry, George R; Godfrey, Anthony F;  @incirlik.af.smil.mil; Hamilton, Elizabeth A; Milford, Rebekah C; Treiber, Adrianne	
C; Avery	y, Thomas M; Mineo, Mark R; Walston, Melissa L; Guido, Deborah L; Fernandes, Anthony y, David; Ricciardone, Francis J; Bijanki, Ashwin; Dunn, Patrick M; @incirlik.af.smil.mil; Gibbs, Jennifer H	
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Erdogan's "Authoritarian" Bent Worrisome

B6 ,

the core of Turkey's strai are a passing fad, but Erd media might have a prote because Erdogan has styl Embassy in Tel Aviv press March for fear that Erdog allowing Turkish participa	t Erdogan's authoritarian nature, more so than his party's conservative religious platform, is at ined relations with Israel, as well as its push for ascendency in the region. AKP's religious policitions with Israel, as well as its push for ascendency in the region. AKP's religious policitions of the military, the MFA, and the Turkish onged impact on ties. The Turkish military's cooperation with Israel is at an all-time low largely miled its contact with Israeli counterparts in recent years told poloff that the Turkish sured Tel Aviv University to cancel spanticipation in an exchange with Turkish academics in gan's office would not approve of her lecture and would subsequently fault the Embassy for ation. Erdogan has also repeatedly worked to silence his critics in the Turkish media in recent n, and has even succeeded in jailing some of these dissenters.
Signature:	GOLDBERGER
Derived From:	DSCG 05-1 b, d
Declassify on:	2021/04/15
Drafted By:	TEL AVIV:Parsell, Benjamin C
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Cleared By: Approved By: Released By:	POL:Silverman, Robert J EXEC:Goldberger, Thomas H TEL AVIV:Parsell, Benjamin C

CONFIDENTIAL

B7(C)

#### Logg, Cristina A

From:

Mineo, Mark R

Sent:

Thursday, April 21, 2011 4:28 AM

To:

Howard, Jeremiah H

Cc: Subject: O'Grady, Daniel J; Ahn, Michael FW: EU RESPONSE: THE FREE GAZA "ANNIVERSARY FLOTILLA"

Categories:

Working

**FYI** 

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From:

**SMART Core** 

Sent:

To:

Wednesday, April 20, 2011 04:54:27

Jones, Stacey L; Combs, James D; Walston, Melissa L; Guido, Deborah L; Keller, Tara D; Fernandes,

Anthony C; Avery, David; Miles, Barbara J; Ahn, Michael; Howard, Jeremiah H; Keen, Berna; Witmer, Kami A; Fuchs, Susan; Gilmore, Bradley T; O'Grady, Daniel J; de Otalvaro, Laura H; Lang, Michael J; Tarry, George R; Godfrey, Anthony F; Kolega, Alen; Leary, Thomas M; Mineo, Mark R; Miles, James W; Bijanki, Ashwin; Dunn, Patrick M; Dotson, Peter O; Gibbs, Jennifer H; Hamilton,

Elizabeth A; Milford, Rebekah C; Winans, Thomas W; Treiber, Adrianne M

Appleton, Richard H; DeLuigi, Christiaan E; Donelson, Lale;

@dea.usdoj.sgov.gov; Klopp,

Ce:

Deborah A; Yountchi, Suzanne M; Jaworski, Richard E; Bruns, Scott T; Pierce, Thomas JN;

Alexander, Banu

Subject: EU RESPONSE: THE FREE GAZA "ANNIVERSARY FLOTILLA"

#### **UNCLASSIFIED**



REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior

Reviewer

Action Office:

POL. RSO, ORA, LEGAT

Info Office:

DEA\_INFO, EAC, CONS\_INFO

MRN:

11 USEU BRUSSELS 113

Date/DTG:

Apr 20, 2011 / 201352Z APR 11

From:

**USEU BRUSSELS** 

Action:

WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE

E.O.: TAGS: 13526

PARM, PGOV, PHSA, PTER, KWBG, EUN, TU, IS

Captions:

SENSITIVE, SIPDIS

Reference:

A) 11 STATE 36240 B) 11 TEL AVIV 365 C) 11 TEL AVIV 423

D) 11 TEL AVIV 433

1

Subject:

EU RESPONSE: THE FREE GAZA "ANNIVERSARY FLOTILLA"

1. (SBU) Poloff delivered reftel demarche to the Co-Desk for Palestine in the European External Action
Service. Our contact said that the EU was aware of media reports on a possible flotilla attempt in May and had also received information from the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The EU is concerned about the flotilla attempt and noted that land crossings should be used (consistent with the Quartet's June 2010 statement). The EEAS contact noted that there has been no public announcement to date, but that the High Representative is aware of the issue.

2. (SBU) While the EEAS had no further information about any possible European Union participation in the flotilla, we have heard that some Members of the European Parliament may be planning to participate. We have no further information at this time about which MEPs may be considering joining the flotilla, but will continue to follow up with contacts.

Signature:	WHITE
Drafted By:	BRUSSELS:Katkar, Emily L (Brussels)
Approved By:	USEU POL:Davis, Christopher R (Brussels)
Released By:	BRUSSELS:Katkar, Emily L (Brussels)
Info:	TEL AVIV, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; JERUSALEM, AMCONSUL ROUTINE; ANKARA, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; Sindle, James M ROUTINE; EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE ROUTINE
Attachments:	Metadata.dat
Action Post:	
Dissemination Rule:	POL. RSO. DEA INFO. ORA, EAC, CONS_INFO, LEGAT

**UNCLASSIFIED** 

From: Sent: To:	Howard, Jeremiah H Sunday, July 03, 2011 7:10 AM Hay, Andrew W; Ahn, Michael; Jones, Stacey L; Gibbs, Jennifer H; Hettinga, Benjamin E; Bijanki, Ashwin
Subject:	FW: Senators McCain, Lieberman, Graham Call on PM Erdogan
Categories:	Working
Guys:	
Jerry	Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
	Derived From: Derived from previous message in thread. Declassify On: 2021/07/03
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Sent: Saturday Jones, Si Anthony Susan; G Kolega, Fernande William Ruta, Ry Ce: Mineo, N	acey L; Dotson, Peter O; Gibbs, Jennifer H; Hamilton, Elizabeth A; Hay, Andrew W; Read, M; Ahn, Michael; Howard, Jeremiah H; Silliman, Douglas A; Witmer, Kami A; Fuchs, illmore, Bradley T;
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Date/DTG:	Jul 02, 2011 / 021845Z JUL 11
From:	AMEMBASSY ANKARA
Action:	WASHDC, SECSTATE <i>IMMEDIATE</i> , ISLAMABAD, AMEMBASSY <i>IMMEDIATE</i> , KABUL, AMEMBASSY <i>IMMEDIATE</i>
E.O.:	13526
TAGS:	PGOV, PREL, PTER, PREF, IZ, LE, EG, TS, IS, SY, LY, TU
Pass Line;	EMBASSY KABUL AND EMBASSY ISLAMABAD PLEASE PASS TO CODEL STAFF. AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG AMEMBASSY ANKARA PASS TO AMCONSUL ADANA
Subject:	Senators McCain, Lieberman, Graham Call on PM Erdogan
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	rael and visit there as well, Erdogan said he would do so if the Israelis apologize for killing illa incident, pay compensation, and lift the Gaza embargo.
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End Summary.	•
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acii iciations or	ick to a productive track,	,			
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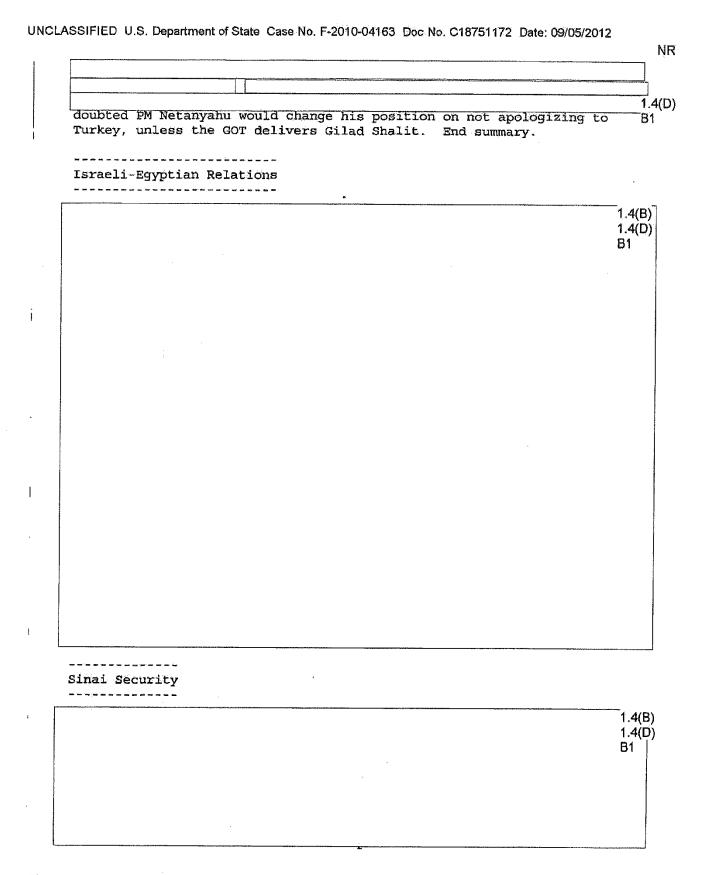
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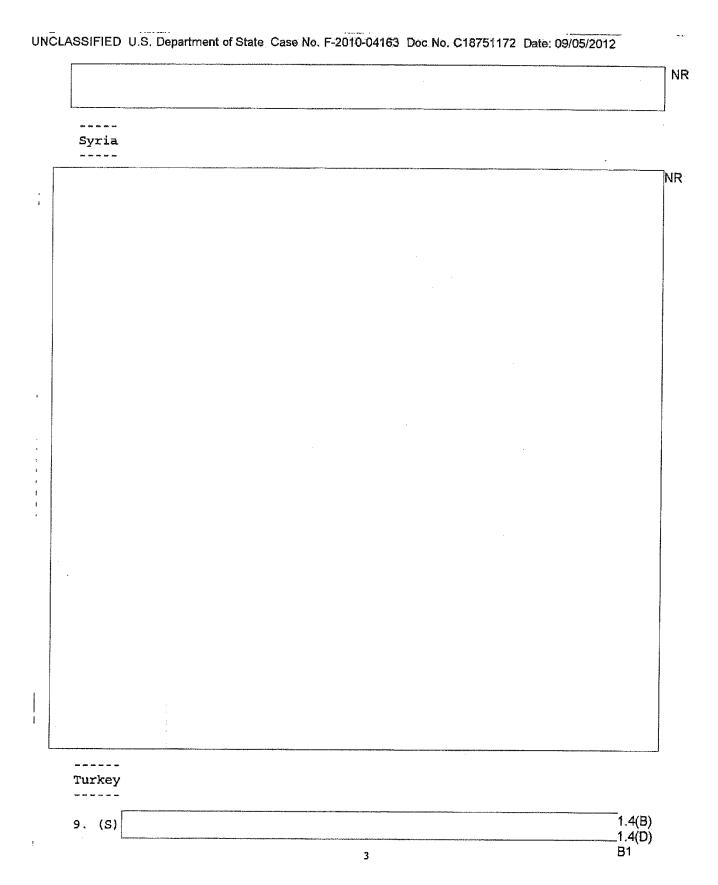
#### RELEASED IN PART 1.4(B), B1, B5, 1.4(D), NR, B6

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Cleared By:	POL:Eussen, Matthew M
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	POL:Levin, Jan X
	POL:Silverman, Robert J
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#### AMERICAN CITIZENS TO JOIN AID CONVOY TO GAZA

1. (C) SUMMARY: A representative from the Turkish NGO Humanitarian Aid Foundation (IHH) confirmed that four or five American citizens will participate in the flotilla to Gaza later this month.	⊒1.4(B)	
	1.4(D) B1	
SUMMARY.		
confirmed May 10 that "at least four or five Americans of all religions" will directly participate in the sea convoy to Gaza later this month.  said the Americans are acting as private citizens and do not represent any particular NGO. According to the flotilla's passengers will be from the U.S., Turkey, UK, Ireland, Greece, Belgium, Spain, France, Russia, Germany, the Netherlands, Venezuela, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, Kosovo, Australia, New Zealand, Algeria, Jordan, Morocco, Niger, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, and Malaysia, among countries. Participants from more countries are expected as the launch date nears. said 20 European members of parliament will participate in addition to several members of parliament from Greece, which described as "one of our main partners." He also said at least 10 Turkish members of parliament have expressed an interest in joining the convoy, though none have confirmed this. The flotilla of nine or ten ships (reports vary) plans to set sail on May 23 to deliver 5000 tons of humanitarian aid to Gaza (REFTEL).		B6
ISRAELI REACTION		
	1.4(B) 1.4(D) B1	
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# IHH REPRESENTATIVE HELD BY ISRAEL

5. (U) At an IHH press conference on May 6, IHH President Bulent Yildirim said Izzet Sahin, a Turkish national and West Bank representative for IHH, was arrested by Israeli soldiers on April 27 while passing through the Bethlehem checkpoint. According to IHH, Izzet is still held in a Shabak (Israel security Agency) detention center without being formally charged. Yildirim said he believes Sahin's arrest was aimed at pressuring IHH to stop the convoy. Ahmet Faruk Unsal told us May 10 that two lawyers were awaiting Israeli visas in order to represent Sahin in Israel.

## COMMENT

6. (SBU) The planned participation of American citizens in the sea convoy warrants close attention given indications IHH would welcome and perhaps even provoke an armed response from the IDF to score propaganda points. We will continue to monitor the situation but our ability to do so will be limited once the flotilla sets sail.

	(April 27, 2010)		
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- money alre	ady collected (fro	m poor people in every city)	
MFA & Pres a	gainst convoy, but	PM supports	
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		·	
- "Not our b	ee how Israel, Tur	key, and the U.S. will respond.	
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Izzet Sahin (IHH West Bank) held by Israel.

IHH bought 3rd ship, but may not be seaworthy.

(May 10, 2010)

B6

4-5 americans (NOT NGOs) will participate

Apparently busy with Izzet case. Didn't have details on convoy on hand.

2 (media says 3) lawyers are awaiting visas to represent Sahin in Israel.

More than 40 countries represented in convoy.
- 20 Euro MPs, Greek MPs, 10+ T MPs considering

Didn't know about 3rd ship

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

1. (C)	1.4(B) 1.4(D) B1
2. (SBU) spoke highly of the lawyers and experts of the fact-finding mission appointed by the President of the HRC, which visited Turkey August 22-29 to inspect the Mavi Marmara and interview witnesses and government officials. The fact-finding mission is chaired by K. Hudson-Phillips, former judge	В
of the International Criminal Court in the Hague, and also includes Desmond de Silva, chief prosecutor of the Sierra Leone War Crimes Tribunal, and Shanthi Dairiam, former member of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women.	

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751174 Date: 06/28/2012

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751176 Date: 09/05/2012 P92 RELEASED IN PART NR.B6 IHH WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN JULY GAZA FLOTILLA 1. (SBU) SUMMARY: The Foundation for Human Rights and Freedom and Humanitarian Relief **B6** told us June 18 IHH will not participate in the Gaza humanitarian flotilla announced for the second half of July, contrary to Turkish media reports. | confirmed the IHH's Mavi Marmara set sail in May for Gaza under a Comoros flag. END SUMMARY. 2. (SBU) The Foundation for Human Rights and Freedom and Humanitarian Relief told us June 18 IHH will not participate in the Gaza humanitarian flotilla announced for the second half of July, contrary to Turkish media reports. said he was present at B6 a press conference in Strasbourg June 16 where a French national representative from a different NGO announced preparations for the late July flotilla. | explained his his presence at the press conference may have been misconstrued by the media as an IHH endorsement of the new flotilla. 3. (SBU) confirmed the IHH's Mavi Marmara set sail on its late-May voyage for Gaza under a Comoros flag. He said IHH purchased the previously Turkish-flagged ship directly from the Istanbul municipality. According to the IHH website, IHH purchased the ship from Istanbul Seabuses and Fast Ferries Inc (IDO). He said IHH had opted for a flag of convenience when Turkish maritime regulations proved onerous. NR COMMENT

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751176 Date: 09/05/2012

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REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

s. (SBU) Though contends the Israel Defense Force's violent interdiction of the Mavi Marmara May 31 helped advance its goal of breaking the Gaza "siege," he seemed genuinely regretful of the loss of life. For the short term, IHH seems content to let the GoT champion the NGO's battles legally and diplomatically. As an organization, if not as individuals, IHH members seem disinclined to join in the several new flotillas targeting Israel's Gaza embargo.

B6

IHH DENIES JULY FLOTILLA LAUNCH	
1. (C) SUMMARY: The Foundation for Human Rights and Freedom and Humanitarian Relief's (IHH) told us IHH has not endorsed the launching of a new flotilla in the second half of July as was reported in the media.  1.4(D)	<b>B6</b>
B6 confirmed the IHH's Mavi	,
Marmara embarked in late-May under a Comoros flag. IHH purchased the previously Turkish-flagged ship from Istanbul Seabuses and	
Fast Ferries Inc, a municipal company.	NR
2. (U) The Foundation for Human Rights and Freedom and Humanitarian Relief (IHH) told us June 18 IHH has not endorsed the launching of a new flotilla in the second half of July as was reported in the media. Unsal attended a press conference in Strasbourg June 16 where a French national representative from a different NGO announced a new flotilla would be launched. said he did not make a statement about IHH's joining the new flotilla, but did acknowledge his presence at the meeting (as the official IHH representative) could have been misconstrued by the media as an endorsement. He said IHH leaders are currently trying to pursue legal action against Israel and asked for USG support.	B6
3. (U) confirmed the IHH's Mavi Marmara embarked on the late-May voyage under a Comoros flag. He said the IHH purchased the previously Turkish-flagged ship directly from an Istanbul municipality. According to the IHH website, IHH purchased the ship from Istanbul Seabuses and Fast Ferries Inc (IDO).	B6
REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer	NR

started, for now.

#### RELEASED IN PART B6

- April 9, 2010

В6

Flotilla will launch mid-May. Postponed from April 20.

- wait until after May 6 general election in the UK
- before 2010 World Cup (South Africa): June 11 July 11
- maximize media exposure

International, multi-religious, multi-sect effort

7 ships:

Greece 1
Ireland 1
UK 3

Turkey 2 - passenger (1100 capacity)

- freight (3000 tons)

1st sea convoy for IHH.

IHH bought the 2 ships because no one wanted to risk their property. Each ship cost \$2 million. Finance - contributions from people in every city and town. Alluded to fact that source of some funding is murky and they do not have strict rules on contributions: "We cannot refuse money."

As of now, Galloway & MPs have not committed to participating. - Can easily be accommodated later due to small boats plan.

T ships will launch from Istanbul. 2nd stop will be in Mersin. Not clear where the T ships will meet other ships, possibly by territorial "border."

- Reluctant to discuss coordination with other countries, other
- Due to size of flotilla and various participants, "We cannot control them." They will do their best to prevent violence (repeated: "we will not even have 1 small knife.") but said it's impossible to have absolute control. "We are not a state. We don't know what will happen."

Heavy media coverage planned.

- "Our power is the consciousness of the world people" and media coverage.
- journalists REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

- live tv
- "Day by day, hour by hour, we will inform the world."
- EU parliamentarians expected (MPs from individual EU states hoped for.)
- singers, famous entertainers

The MFA knows, but is providing no guidance. But not blocking.

- But we are T citizens, so we are under the protection of the GoT if something goes wrong.
- Wants to attend with his children (sons?). This is an honorable event.

Mother ships will create an "artificial island."

- women and children will be aboard
- large  $\vec{T}$ . passenger vessel will not be full capacity so passengers can be comfortable (planning long-term event)
- prepared to stay at least 1 month

Mother ships will be supplied by smaller, faster boats.

- enables supply-line
- rotating crew
- VIPs (possibly Galloway & MPs) can be shuttled (after flying into Turkey or Syria)
- supply runs to Mersin. Expect no trouble from T authorities. Will record all loading/unloading of supplies in case Israel wants to check.

#### "Form a bridge"

- purchased ships = long-term plans
- will continue to send convoys/flotillas "until the end"

#### Egypt (Lifeline 3)

- "In the world, Egypt has no respect."
- "We used our power. We used the media."
- "We are right. This is our power."

Contrary to some media reports, Unsal said flotilla will not/not attempt to break through blockade.

- expect to be stopped. Then the media show begins.

What if hostilities?

- "There are 4 flags. If Israel attacks, it's her problem, not ours."
- If they seize our ships, they will be just like the Somali pirates. It is "your (IC) legal obligation" to fight against pirates.

- April 9, 2010

В6

Convoy will launch May 15.

Last week, Palestinian "embassy" talked to president of IHH.

- Told him "This is not helpful."
- There are other channels to deliver aid to Gaza, through Egypt.

There are no ports in the Gaza Strip. Fishing only.

B6

TURKEY, EGYPT, AND ISRAEL CLOSELY WATCHING IHH CONVOY TO GAZA	
1. (C) SUMMARY: The Turkish Humanitarian Aid Foundation (IHH) is preparing to lead a convoy of ships to Israeli-controlled Gaza beginning on May 15 to "break the embargo" and deliver humanitarian aid. Israeli representatives say under no circumstance will they allow this flotilla to reach Gaza. The	4.480
	1.4(B) 1.4(D)
	B1
2. (SBU) Bulent Yildirim, president of the Turkish Humanitarian	
Aid Foundation (IHH), an organization linked to terrorism	
finance, has announced his organization will lead a flotilla of	
ships to Israeli-controlled Gaza in May to "break the embargo" and deliver humanitarian aid. IHH has called this convoy	
"Noah's Ark," "Freedom Is the Last Port," and most recently	
"Palestine Our Destination, Freedom Our Cargo."	
told us April 9 the flotilla	
will consist of seven ships: two from Turkey, three from the UK,	
and one each from Greece and Ireland. Inconsistent media	
reports say IHH hopes to increase the number of ships to 10, 15,	
or 20. One of the Turkish ships is a cargo ship with a 3000 ton	
freight capacity; the other is a passenger ship with a maximum	
capacity of 1100 persons. IHH was forced to buy its own ships	
because no shipping company would risk their property on this convoy. The passenger ship was purchased for \$1.2 million while	
the cargo ship cost \$570,000. said financial	
contributions for the ships came "from people in every city and	
every town of Turkey." He acknowledged that IHH does not have	
strict rules regarding contributions, saying "We cannot refuse	
money." The IHH ships will launch from Istanbul and make a stop	
in Mersin before joining the rest of the flotilla near the Gaza maritime "border." The other ships in the convoy will make a	

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751179 Date: 09/05/2012

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

stop in Cyprus before heading to Gaza. was reluctant to discuss the degree or nature of the coordination with the other ships/NGOs.	B6
An Artificial Island	
3. (SBU) According to IHH expects to be stopped along the maritime "border" by Israeli ships. He said the convoy will create an "artificial island" and they are prepared to stay at	,
least one month. This "artificial island" will be serviced and supplied by a number of smaller, faster boats that will make supply runs to Mersin and Cyprus. In addition to providing a	B6
supply-line, the smaller supply boats will also ferry and rotate the passengers, crew, and mediasaid VIPs such as	ı
entertainers, Turkish MPs, and other politicians such as George Galloway (the British MP who organized the Viva Palestina convoy) can be shuttled to the mother ships with ease. The large Turkish passenger ship will not be at full capacity.	
said this is so the passengers can be comfortable even if they have to stay long-term. Women and children will reportedly	
be aboard. Because IHH now owns its own ships, they plan to continue sending convoys by sea to Gaza "until the end."	!
Heavy Media Coverage	
4. (C) The sea convoy will have a heavy media component and organizers plan to broadcast everything live on television.	B6
said "Our power is the consciousness of the world people.  Day by day, hour by hour, we will inform the world." said	ј В6
IHH wanted to wait until after the May 6 UK election in order to maximize media coverage. IHH believes its media coverage window will close on June 11 when the 2010 World Cup begins in South	1
Africa. Israel Embassy	1.4(B) 1.4(D)
	B1 '
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	1.4(D) B1
told us the flotilla will not attempt to break through the expected line of Israeli ships. But did say it would be impossible to have absolute control over such a large and diverse convoy: "We are not a state. We don't know what will happen." understood the potential for hostilities. He stressed that the seven ships will be from four states: "There are four flags. If Israel attacks, it is an attack on four countries. It will be her problem, not ours." If Israel boards the convoy ships, said they will be no different from the Somali pirates: "It is your [international community's] obligation to fight against pirates." Other IHH representatives claim the convoy will attempt to break through the line of Israeli ships. In interviews with local media, IHH spokesperson Salih Bilici said the goal of the convoy is to reach Gaza. Bilici said, "We don't have a plan B, C, or D. We have decided to reach Gaza by sea and enter via its port." In a meeting announcing the convoy at their headquarters, IHH President Yildirim declared "We will sail in May to break the embargo."	<u>,</u>
	1.4(B) 1.4(D) B1

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	1.4 1.4 B1	(B (D

Turkish Flo	tilla	Commission	Presents	Report	to	UN
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ecarding	the May 31 M	Mavi Marmara :	incident.		1 1
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OMMARY.	REVIEW AUTHOR	ITY: Sharon Ahm:	ad, Senior Reviewer	>	
Old Bell					
. (C) Tu	rkey's Nation	nal Investiga	tion and Exami	nation	
ommissic	n chief Amb.	Mithat Rende	gave the CDA	a read out	
			rt regarding t	he May 31 Mavi	
armara (	MM) incident	<u>- [                                   </u>			
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		1.4(B) 1.4(D) B1
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P97

MFA Response to UN Human Rights Council's Flotilla Report

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In its statement, the MFA expresses its support for the Fact Finding Mission's report, saying it is in line with the GoT's own National Investigation and Examination Commission Report of September 1 (ANKARA 1327). The statement also repeats the GoT's calls for Israel to issue an apology and pay compensation to the families of the nine passengers who were killed as well as to the other passengers.

3. (C) Viva Palestina, the NGO behind January's convoy to Gaza which ended in violence, launched its fifth land convoy on September 18 with the goal of again "breaking the siege of the Gaza Strip." Viva Palestina expects this "Lifeline 5" convoy to grow to 200 vehicles by the time it reaches Latakia in Syria.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

From there the convoy will be shipped to the Egyptian port of El Arish. Viva Palestina hopes the convoy will then enter Gaza via the Rafah crossing. Lifeline 5 is scheduled to arrive in Istanbul on September 27, where its activists will stay until October 1. From there the convoy will pass through Ankara, Kayseri, Adana, Gaziantep, and Kilis en route to Syria.	1.4(E 1.4(C B1
4. (C) The Foundation for Human Rights and Freedom and Humanitarian Relief (IHH), which led the May 31 Gaza flotilla, will "host" the convoy during its time in Turkey.	
5. (U) UNOFFICIAL EMBASSY TRANSLATION	

#### ANNOUNCEMENT

No: 206

(BEGIN TEXT) As one would remember, the UN Human Rights Council tasked a HRC mission on June 2, 2010 to collect data and find out the facts in order to study the offensive and its consequences following the death of eight Turkish and one American citizen when Israel attacked a humanitarian assistance convoy destined for Gaza in international waters on May 31, 2010. The Mission visited our country on August 22-29, 2010.

We are pleased to see that the Fact Finding Mission presented its report to the HRC on September 22, 2010.

It is understood that the report, which was based on the testimonies of the witnesses, autopsy reports and the views of the experts, was a product of a comprehensive and detailed work. The Report can also contribute to meeting the expectation of the

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751181 Date: 09/05/2012

September 23, 2010

international community that the investigation should be in line with international standards, fast, unbiased, acceptable and transparent, as mentioned in the Security Council Presidency announcement on June 1, 2010.

The basic assessments in the Report were in line with the data and evaluations in our National report, prepared by the National Investigation and Examination Commission and presented to the UN Investigation Panel on September 1, 2010.

We noted carefully the assessments that in its Report the Fact Finding Mission stated that the blockade on Gaza by Israel was illegal and thus the armed intervention of Israel into the convoy in international waters, too, was clearly illegal; that the Israeli troops used disproportional, unnecessary violence and incredible force; and that the intervention was a severe violation of human rights law and humanitarian law provisions and that the national investigation that Israel initiated at the national level was far from being credible.

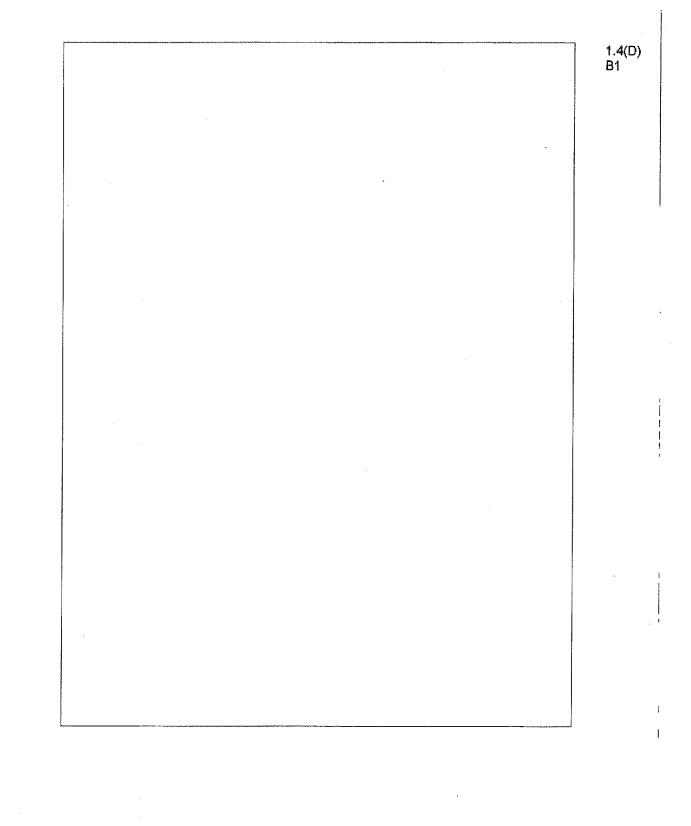
With this Report, the Israeli public opinion may for the first time be getting information from an independent source concerning the violence and inhumane treatment by Israeli security forces against the members of the convoy on board the ship and later when they were under detention. We expect the Israeli authorities to draw the necessary conclusion from the Report, apologize by accepting responsibility, and pay compensation to the wounded and the families of those who lost their lives during the offensive and to the passengers whose money and personal belongings were seized during the intervention.

In the future phases we will find it useful for the UN HRC to evaluate and follow appropriately the Fact Finding Mission Report and also the UN Investigation Panel, too, in its work to evaluate carefully this Report, which was prepared in line with international standards and in an unbiased way under the UN roof. (END TEXT)

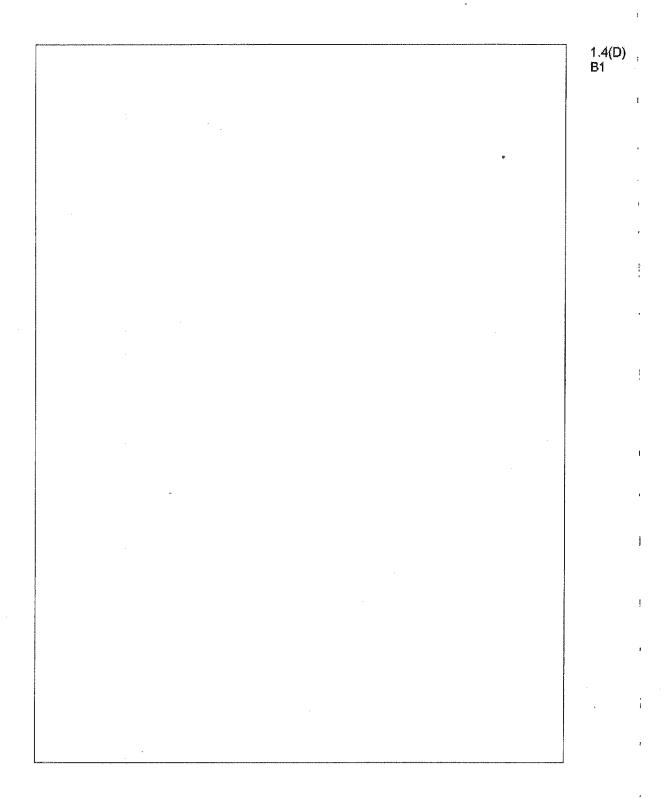
#### COMMENT

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NCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751182 Date: 09/05/2012 RELEASED IN PART B1,1.4(D),NR	P98
IHH: FLOTILLA.	1.4(D)
1. (C) SUMMARY: The Foundation for Human Rights and Freedom and Humanitarian Relief gave us his first-hand account of the May 31  Israeli interdiction of the Gaza-bound Mavi Marmara.	1.4(E B1
ISTACLI INCERCION OF CITE GRADE POPULATION	
2. (C) On June 11, the	
REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer	



REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer



them in equal for extra region or general employment and the distribution of the Park IN 1821 of haustiness		1.4(D) B1
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8. (C) is pl to consult with "I	anning to go to the U.S. as early as next week egal experts" and other NGOs in order to plan	
future IHH actions		] NF
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COMMENT		
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COMMENT		1.4(0)
COMMENT		1.4(D) B1
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COMMENT		1.4(D) B1

#### CONFIDENTIAL

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

Embassy Ankara - IHH Flotilla Actions
Aprál 9
IHH Ankara told Ankara Poloff two Turkish ships would join the Gaza-bound flotilla. (ANKARA 565)  Classification Extended ~ Class: CONFIDENTIAL ~ Reason: 0_1.4
April 12 b,d ~ Declassify on:05-01-2020
The Israel Embassy told Ankara Poloff the convoy's aim is political propaganda and "diplomatic drama." (ANKARA 565)
The MFA told Ankara Poloff they have been trying to dissuade IHH from proceeding with the convoy. (ANKARA 565)
April 14
1.4(B) 1.4(D) B1
April 19
NR
May 4
The Embassy and Consulate Istanbul received a letter from IHH calling for solidarity and support for the flotilla. (Scanned and faxed to EUR/SE.)
May 6 REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

#### CONFIDENTIAL

Classified by Ambassador James F. Jeffrey Reasons 1.4 (b, d)

### CONFIDENTIAL 1.4(B) 1.4(D) B1 May 10 IHH Ankara told Ankara Poloff at least four or five AMCITS are expected to join the flotilla. (ANKARA 680) NR May 17 IHH President Bulent Yildirim told Consulate Istanbul POL/ECON Chief 10 AMCITS are expected to join the flotilla. (ISTANBUL 179) May 21 1.4(B) 1.4(D) B1 May 22 1.4(B) 1.4(D) **B**1 Discussion of former U.S. Ambassador (and flotilla passenger) Edward Peck's status. (AMB's unclassified email to NEA and EUR/SE.) May 25 CONFIDENTIAL Classified by Ambassador James F. Jeffrey Reasons 1.4 (b, d)

#### CONFIDENTIAL

IHH told Consulate Istanbul there were no AMCITS on board the Mavi Marmara on the Istanbul to Antalya trip. Two AMCITS could board in Antalya. (Unclassified email from Consulate Istanbul to EUR/SE and other Washington addressees.)

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Annual Annual Annual Annual Annual Annual Annual Annual Annual Annual Annual Annual Annual Annual Annual Annua					
HH told Cons May 27) with	ulate Istanbul at least one	L the Mavi AMCIT on	Marmara w board. (IS	ould depart TANBUL 195)	at 5pm
y 28					
ne IHH Deput ere en route (STANBUL 199	y President to to rendezvous )	old Consul s with oth	ate Istanb er ships n	oul three If mear Cyprus.	H ships
mpromition groups against the resistance flag with time the field of the ISSN ISSN ISSN ISSN ISSN ISSN ISSN ISS	*				
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CONFIDENTIAL

Classified by Ambassador James F. Jeffrey Reasons 1.4 (b, d)

CONFIDENTIAL	
	1.4
	1.4 B1
May 31	
	<u> </u>
AMB Jeffrey and the entire Dip Corps (Amb level) were called in by the MFA. The MFA said all the violence occurred on the Mavi Marmara. (ANKARA 774)	
AKP Foreign Affairs Chairman Murat Mercan told AMB Jeffrey and Codel Delahunt that the Turks wanted an immediate release of Turkish ships and personnel from Israel. (ANKARA 779)	
June 1	
IHH told Consulate Istanbul that IHH was seeking the return of the confiscated materials. (ANKARA 777)	
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## Classified by Ambassador James F. Jeffrey Reasons 1.4 (b, d)

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June 3

The MFA told Acting POL Chief they were formally reviewing Turkey-Israeli bilateral relations. (ANKARA 800)

CONFIDENTIAL

Classified by Ambassador James F. Jeffrey Reasons 1.4 (b, d)

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751184 Date: 09/05/2012

**B1** 

6105

**B**5

I've asked

#### RELEASED IN PART B5

#### Logg, Cristina A

From:

Howard, Jeremiah H

Sent: To: Tuesday, May 11, 2010 1:31 AM Appleton, Richard H; Ogle, Karen L.

Cc:

Ahn, Michael

Subject:

AMCITS MAY JOIN CONVOY OF AID SHIPS TO GAZA

Attachments:

(CO) ANKARA 680

Importance:

High

Rich, Karen:

I want to flag this cable for you. It reports on the IHH humanitarian assistance flotilla to Gaza, which seems designed to provoke the Israelis. Unfortunately, AMCITS are participating and may be placing themselves in danger.

Istanbul's Win Dayton and Sal Amodeo to keep their phone numbers handy in case Washington wants us to inquire about the welfare and whereabouts of the flotilla's American participants.

-- Jerry

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

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P	104

#### RELEASED IN PART B6

Logg, Cristina	4	
From: Sent: To:	Howard, Jeremiah H Tuesday, June 01, 2010 12:21 PM Ankara-Political; Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Dayton, John W (Win) (Istanbul); Civ USAF USAFE 39 OS/IN'; @incirlik.af.smil.mil'	В6

Subject:

Country Team; June 1

Categories:

Working

#### **CONFIDENTIAL**

#### <u>AMB</u>

- The Israeli interdiction of the IHH-led flotilla and attendant casualties, especially the Turkish deaths, has precipitated a major crisis that can redound against the USG.
- Turkey is absolutely furious with Israel and is pushing for condemnation of Israel's interception of the convoy in the UN and at NATO.
- This is not business as usual. "This is the only thing."
- Our focus is to be "flotilla" reporting and personal security.

#### Jeremiah Howard

Deputy Political Counselor Embassy Ankara - Turkey T: 90 312 457-7149 IVG: 295-7149

110. 255 / 145

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

Classified by: J. Howard, D/POLCOUNS

Reason: 1.4(b), (d)
Declassify On: 2020/06/01

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

	partment of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751190 Date: 09/05/2012 RELEASED IN PART B1,1.4(D),NR,B6	P105
Logg, Cristina A		
From: Sent: To:	Howard, Jeremiah H Thursday, June 03, 2010 12:31 PM Ankara-Political; Dayton, John W (Win) (Istanbul); Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); L Civ USAF USAFE 39 OS/IN'; @incirtik.af.smil.mil'	
Subject:	AMB's Morning Meeting; 6/3	,
Categories:	Working	
CONFIDENTIAL		
<u>AMB</u>		1.4(D) B1
	r Tina Kaidanow, is the nature of the investigation into the flotilla interdiction. The that is international,	
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<u>DCM</u>		
<ul> <li>Watch for a reinterdiction.</li> </ul>	eaction to US vote against the UN Human Rights Committee investigation into the flotilla	
•		1.4
<u>RSO</u>		B1
e Large-scale de	emos in Istanbul, Ankara and Adana on Saturday.	
-		
POL		
•	ntify which Turkish office is coordinating the review of bilateral TU-Israeli relations. NR	
Will try to idea	THE WHICH FUNDS OFFICE IS CONTAINED THE FEVER OF CHIEF TO STREET TENTIONS.	
Day swartness		
Jeremiah Howard		
	selor	
<b>Deputy Political Couns</b>		
Deputy Political Couns Embassy Ankara - Turk		
<b>Deputy Political Couns</b>		
Deputy Political Couns Embassy Ankara - Turk T: 90 312 457-7149 IVG: 295-7149	REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer	
Deputy Political Couns Embassy Ankara - Turk T: 90 312 457-7149 IVG: 295-7149 Classification: CONF	REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer	
Deputy Political Couns Embassy Ankara - Turk T: 90 312 457-7149 IVG: 295-7149	REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer  FIDENTIAL ward, D/POLCOUNS	

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Logg, Cristina A

RELEASED IN FULL

From:

Howard, Jeremiah H

Sent:

Friday, June 04, 2010 1:39 AM

To:

Ankara-Political

Subject:

CIA: Israel/flotilla vessels

Attachments:

2010-3090.pdf

Categories:

Working

This document is UNCLASSIFIED when separated from SECRET attachment(s).

Classification:

SECRET

Classified by:

J. Howard, D/POLCOUNS

Reason: Declassify On: 1.4(b), (d) 2020/06/04

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

	RELEASED IN PART B1,1.4(D),NR,B6	P107
Logg, Cristina A		
From: Sent: To: Ce: Subject:	O'Grady, Daniel J Monday, June 07, 2010 8:25 AM Ankara-Political Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Dayton, John W (Win) (Istanbul); USAFE 39 OS/IN'; Oountry Team Notes, June 7	Civ USAF . B
Categories:	Working	
CONFIDENTIAL		
AMB: We're workin	g 24/7 on the Flotilla issue. We need to be VERY careful on the American citize and DCM afterward on this.)	en issue. (He asked to 1.4(D)
		Turks want: a) B1
an investigation into	the Flotilla incident; b) something to be done about the Gaza blockade.	
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The second secon		1.4(D)
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REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

called this the dog-that-did-not-bark, and called it significant.)

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751193 Date: 09/05/2012

Leyla is drafting a cable on the SE reaction to the flotilla. (AMB

NR

CLASSIFIED	U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163	3 Doc No. C18751193 Date; 09/05/2012
Dan		
	eation: CONFIDENTIAL	
Classifie	ed by: Daniel O'Grady, POL Counselor, POL, STATE	
Reason:	1.4(b), (d)	
Declass	ify On: 2020/06/07	

from:	O'Grady, Daniel J	
ient:	Thursday, June 17, 2010 4:34 AM Ankara-Politicat	***************************************
fo: Be:	Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Dayton, John W (Win) (Istanbul);	CIV USAF
<b></b>	USAFE 39 OS/IN': Dincirlik.af.smil.mil'	
Bubject:	Ambassador's a.m. meeting, June 17	
Categories:	Working	
CONFIDENTIAL		
MB:		
- municomulation	The state of the s	
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- asked r or wind - noted that he show the slaving	would pass to Ambassador Cunningham in Tel Aviv his assessment that the new vi of the Amcit on the Flotilla is incorrect because the IDF soldier appears to be firin	deo clip purporting to g a paint gun;
- asked r or win - noted that he show the slaving	would pass to Ambassador Cunningham in Tel Aviv his assessment that the new vi of the Amcit on the Flotilla is incorrect because the IDF soldier appears to be firin	deo clip purporting to g a paint gun;
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- asked ) of win - noted that he how the slaving	would pass to Ambassador Cunningham in Tel Aviv his assessment that the new vivor the Amount on the Flotilla is incorrect because the IDF soldier appears to be firing	deo clip purporting to g a paint gun;
how the slaving	of the Amcit on the Flotilla is incorrect because the IDF soldier appears to be firin	g a paint gun;
show the slaving	would pass to Ambassador Cunningham in Tel Aviv his assessment that the new vision the American the Flotilla is incorrect because the IDF soldier appears to be firing the American the Flotilla is incorrect because the IDF soldier appears to be firing the American the Flotilla would encounter harsh USG opposition.	g a paint gun;
thow the slaving	of the Amcit on the Flotilla is incorrect because the IDF soldier appears to be firin	g a paint gun;
thow the slaving	of the Amcit on the Flotilla is incorrect because the IDF soldier appears to be firin	g a paint gun;
caid a new IHI	of the Amcit on the Flotilla is incorrect because the IDF soldier appears to be firin	g a paint gun;
show the slaving	of the Amcit on the Flotilla is incorrect because the IDF soldier appears to be firin	g a paint gun;

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RELEASED IN FULL

6110

Logg, Cristina A

From:

Howard, Jeremiah H

Sent:

Friday, July 30, 2010 2:12 AM

To: Subject: Ahn, Michael

(C) UPDATE ON ISRAEL'S VIEWS ON GOLDSTONE AND FLOTILLA INQUIRIES

Attachments:

(CO) TEL AVIV 1722

Categories:

Working

This document is UNCLASSIFIED when separated from CONFIDENTIAL attachment(s).

Classification:

CONFIDENTIAL

Classified by:

J. Howard, D/POLCOUNS

Reason:

1.4(b), (d)

Declassify On:

2020/07/30

From: Howard, Jeremiah H

Sent: Friday, July 30, 2010 9:09 AM

To: Howard, Jeremiah H

Subject: FW: (CO) UPDATE ON ISRAEL'S VIEWS ON GOLDSTONE AND FLOTILLA INQUIRIES

This document is UNCLASSIFIED when separated from CONFIDENTIAL attachment(s).

Classification:

CONFIDENTIAL

Classified by:

J. Howard, D/POLCOUNS

Reason: Declassify On:

1.4(b), (d) 2020/07/30

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

From: Sent: To: Subject:	Howard, Jeremiah H Friday, July 30, 2010 4:07 AM Ankara-Political; Dayton, John W (Win) (Istanbul);  @incirlik.af.smil.mil' AMB's Last Morning Meeting; 7/30	E
Categories:	Working	
CONFIDENTIAL		
AMB		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
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	yesterday from the father of AMCIT Furkan Dogan, who was killed during the Mavi Marmara ONS has the autopsy report. Still awaiting the death and burial certificates.	
	REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer	
eremiah Howard Deputy Political Couns	elor .	
mbassy Ankara - Turk : 90 312 457-7149		

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

Declassify On: 2013/07/31

Classified by: J. Howard, D/POLCOUNS Reason: 1.4(d)

	RELEASED IN PART B5,NR,B6
Logg, Cristina A	
From: Sent: To: Subject:	O'Grady, Daniel J Tuesday, February 15, 2011 1:14 AM Ankara-Political FW: (C) Turkey Desk O/I - February 14, 2011
Categories:	Working
This email is UNCLA	ASSIFIED.
Godfrey, Anthony F; H; Fernandes, Chery Richard E; Treiber, L Cc: EUR-SE-TU-DL	L; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Witmer, Kami A; de Otalvaro, Laura H; Kilner, Scott F; Jaworski, aird D  Desk O/I - February 14, 2011
	Turkey Desk Official-Informal
	Monday, February 14, 2011
ACTION	
quoting from Furk before I take part	an / Radikal article: We would appreciate a copy of the June 16, 2010, article in Radikal, an Dogan's diary entry on the morning before the flotilla incident: "These are the last hours in the sweet experience of becoming a shaheed. Is there anything more beautiful than
that?" The Turkel	Commission report cites these lines in its paragraph on Furkan Dogan (page 219).
<u>INFO</u>	·
<del></del>	

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Sensitivity: Sensitive Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

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Derived From: DSCG 05-1 (b), (d)

Declassify On: 2036/02/14

P113

#### RELEASED WHETEO NR

Logg, Cristina A

From: Sent: Harris, Rian H

Sent:

Friday, April 15, 2011 6:26 PM

Subject:

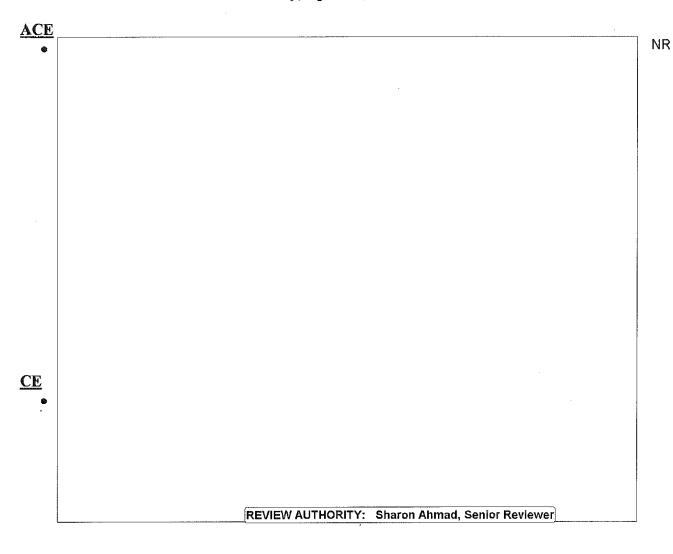
(S/NF) EUR A/S Welcome Home Notes and Daily Activity Report: Friday, April 15, 2011

Categories:

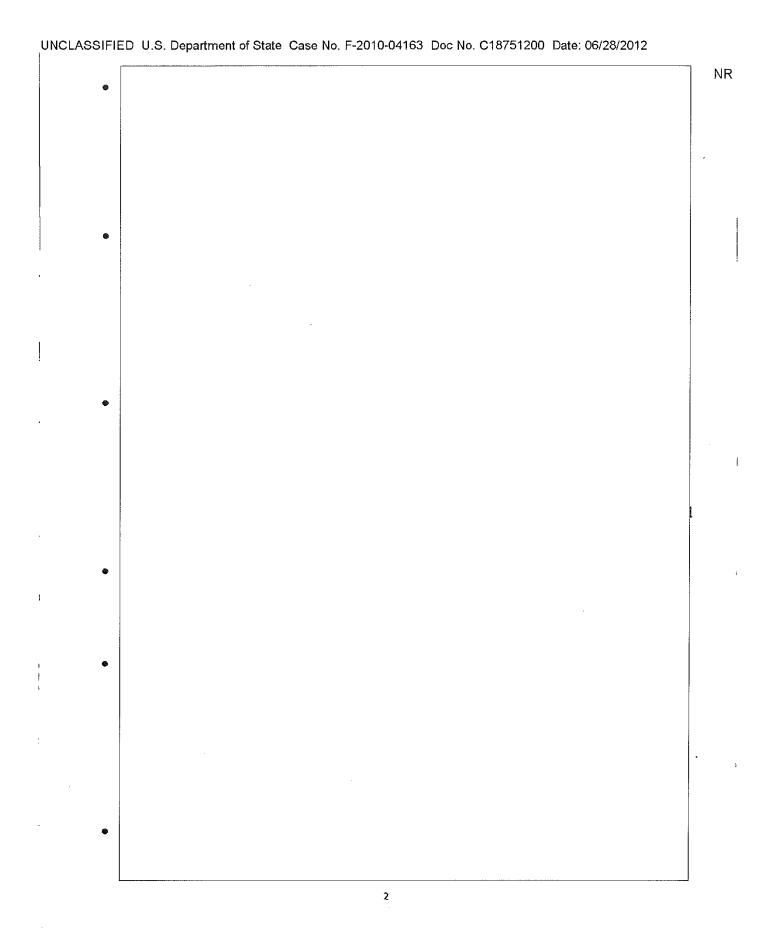
Working

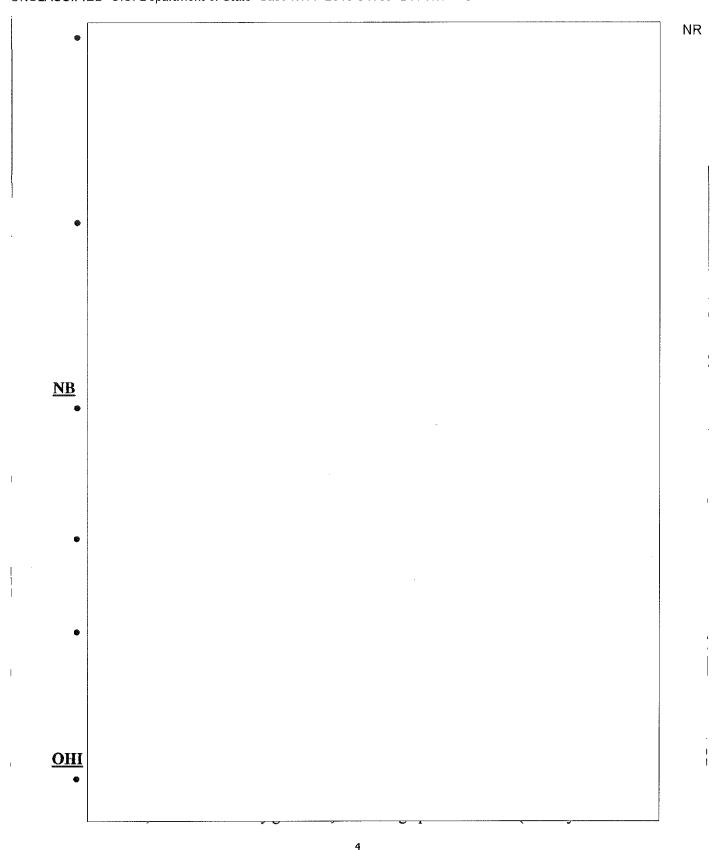
SECRET/NOFORN DECL: 04/15/2021

# EUR Daily Activity Report Welcome Home Assistant Secretary Gordon Friday, April 15, 2011



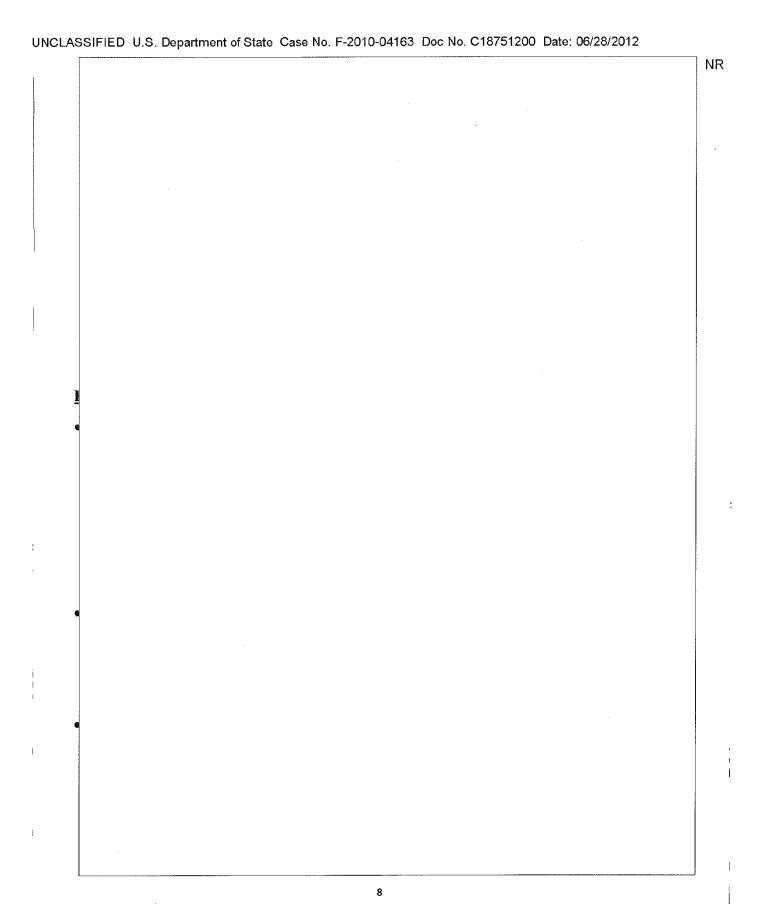
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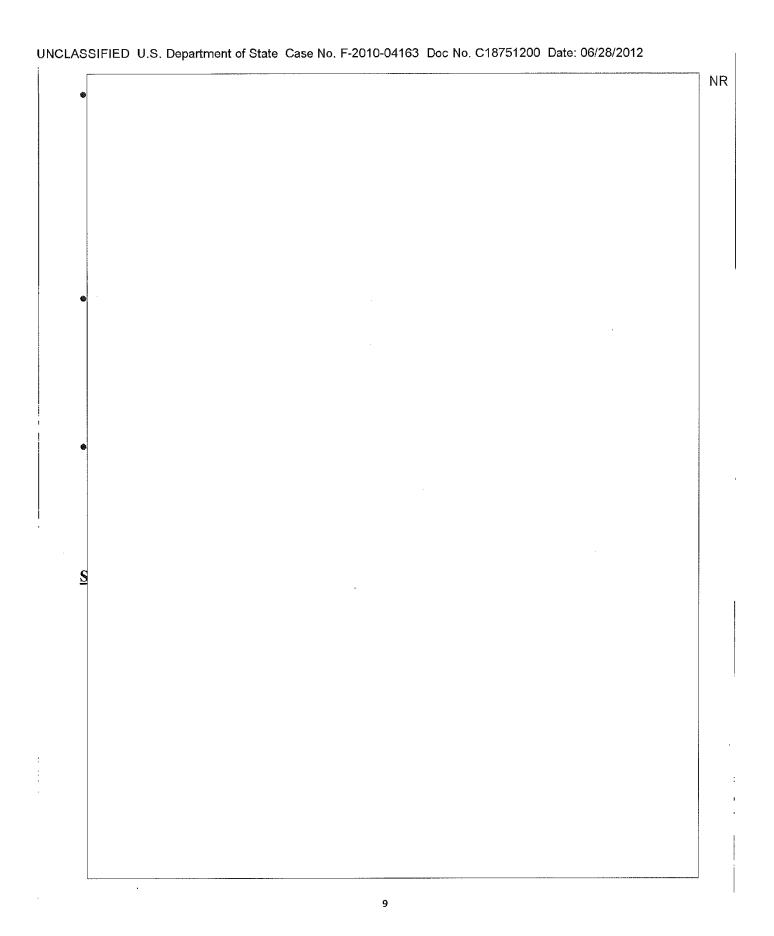


**PRA** UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751200 Date: 06/28/2012 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

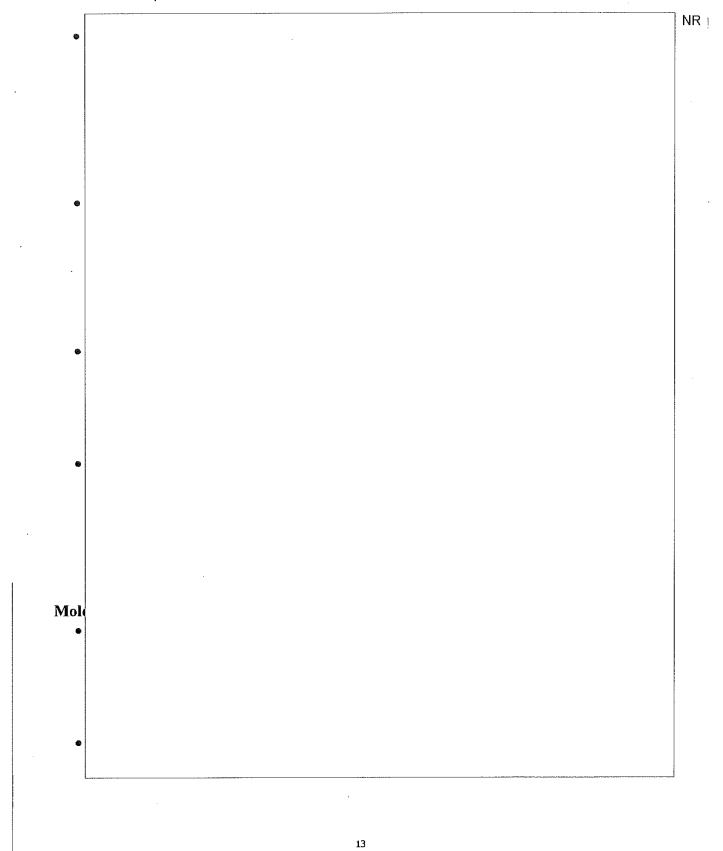
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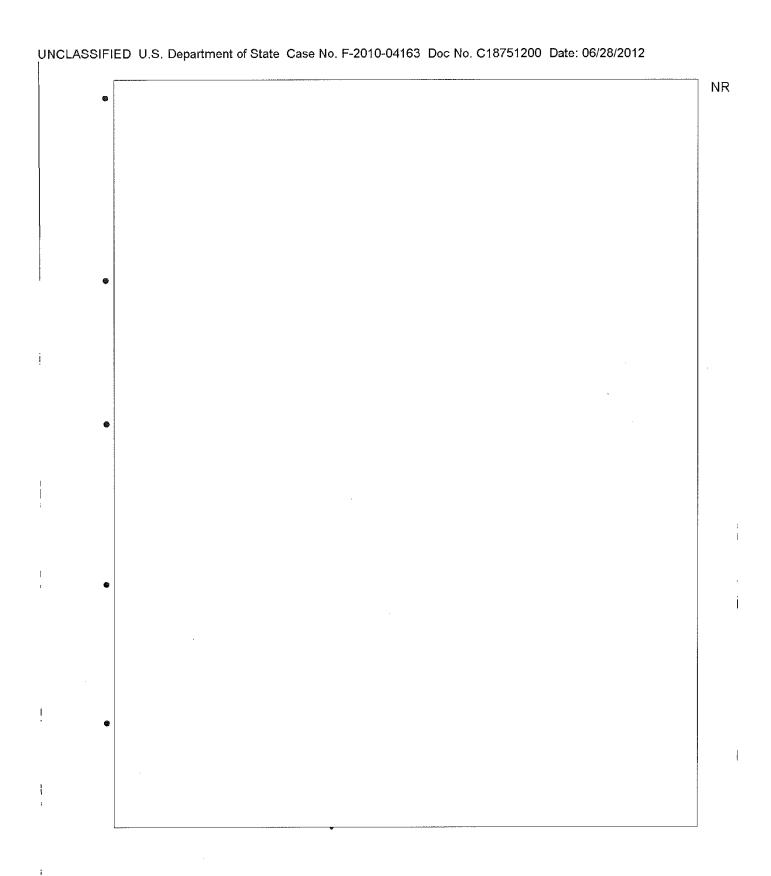
UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751200 Date: 06/28/2012



•		NF
•	(SBU) Turkey: Israel Asks Turkey to Prevent Second IHH Flotilla: Israel's Ambassador to Turkey, Gaby Levy, urged Turkish MFA Deputy U/S Halit Cevik to prevent IHH participation in a new flotilla to Gaza, according to press reports. On April	
•	7 IHH head Bulent Yildirim announced that IHH would delay its participation in a flotilla until mid-June (following Turkey's June 12 elections), and that the Mavi Marmara would sail from a "European" port.	] [
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NCLASSIFIED U.S.	Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751200 Date: 06/28/2012
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Sensitivity: Sensitive

Classification: SECRET//NOFORN Derived From: DSCG 05-1 (b), (d) Declassify On: 2021/04/15

Sensitivity: Sensitive

Classification: SECRET//NOFORN Derived From: DSCG 05-1 b, d Declassify On: 2021/04/15

na Caistina A	RELEASED IN PART 1.4(B), B1,1.4(D)		PI
ogg, Cristina A	Mayond Investigation		
om: ent: o: o: ubject:	Howard, Jeremiah H Friday, April 22, 2011 7:15 AM Silliman, Douglas A; O'Grady, Daniel J; Godfrey, Durn, Patrick M; de Otalvaro, Laura H; Witmer, H (C) Israelis on: Normalization Prospects, Flotillas	(ami A' Ahn Michael-Mineo Mork D	
ollow Up Flag: ag Status:	Follow up Completed		
ategories:	Working		
CRET		1.4(B) 1.4(D)	
ne Israeli Embassy to	ld me 4/22:	B1 /	
ormalization Prospe	is the second se		
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Jeremiah Howard Deputy Political Counselor Embassy Ankara - Turkey T: 90 312 457-7149 IVG: 295-7149

Classification: SECRET

Classified by: J. Howard, D/POLCOUNS

Reason: 1.4(b)
Declassify On: 2021/04/22

## RELEASED IN PART B1,1.4(0),NR

Logg, Cristina A

From:	Howard, Jeremiah H	
Sent:	Monday, May 09, 2011 7:17 AM	
Subject:	(S//NF) Turkey Daily Brief - May 9, 2011	
Categories:	Working	
Carefinies:	AkOtania	
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112/7/	ey Daily Briet	
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	REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer	
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M O. 1704.4	•	
May 9, 2011		
5/9 (SBU)		
(C//REL UK) Mayl N	farmara Anniversary Flotilia's Timing Still Unclear	
***************************************		
Mayi Marmara Ann	Iversary Flotilla's Timing Still Unclear	
(C//REL UK) The Tu	rkish Islamist NGO IHH announced it is sending a single ship May 31, carrying human	itarian supplie:
to El Arish, where th	e cargo will be transshipped to Gaza by truck through the Rafah border crossing. IHH	also plans a
separate anniversar	y flotilla, but timing is unclear.	1;
	Managaria - Samanga	 B1
Return to Top		ים
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P116

Logg, Cristina A RELEASED IN FULL

From:

Harris, Rian H

Sent:

Monday, May 09, 2011 6:45 PM

Subject:

(C/NF) EUR Daily Activity Report for Mon, May 9, 2011

Categories:

Working

NON-RESPONSIVE PORTIONS REDACTED

CONFIDENTIAL/NOFORN

DECL: 05/09/2016

EUR Daily Activity Report Monday, May 9, 2011

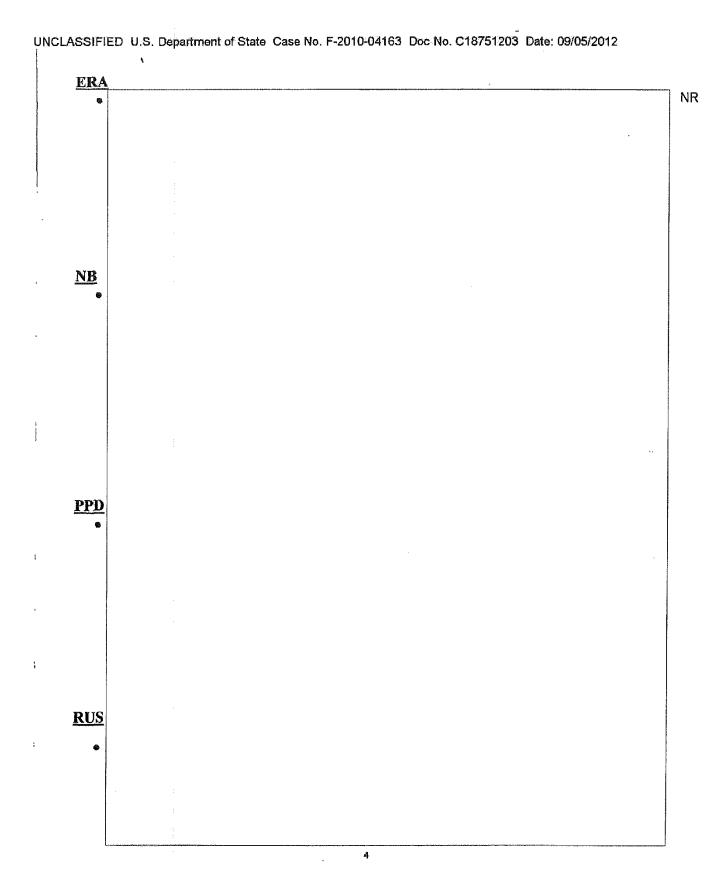
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REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

NR

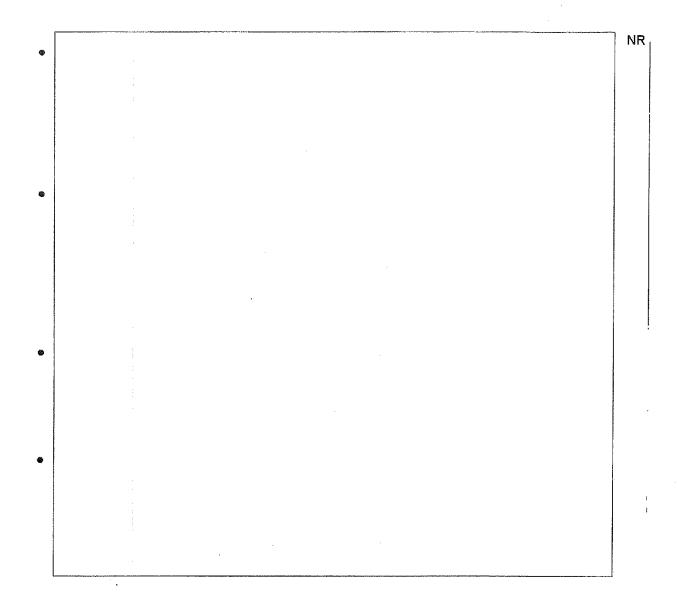
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UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751203 Date: 09/05/2012

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H-VV-1-11-11-11-11-11-11-11-11-11-11-11-1					
(SBU) ]	<u> Curkey: Gaza Floti</u>	<u>la To Sail Third</u>	Week of June	: The internat	ional steering
	tee for the Gaza "Fra				
	ers also announced t				
	ely, Turkish Islamist				
with cor	struction materials,	textile products,	and medicine d	estined for Ga	za to Egypt's
El-Arish	port on May 31; IH	H will also parti	cipate in the "F	reedom Flotilla	1 II."
	-				
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Sensitivity: Sensitive Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Derived From: DSCG 05-1 (b), (d)

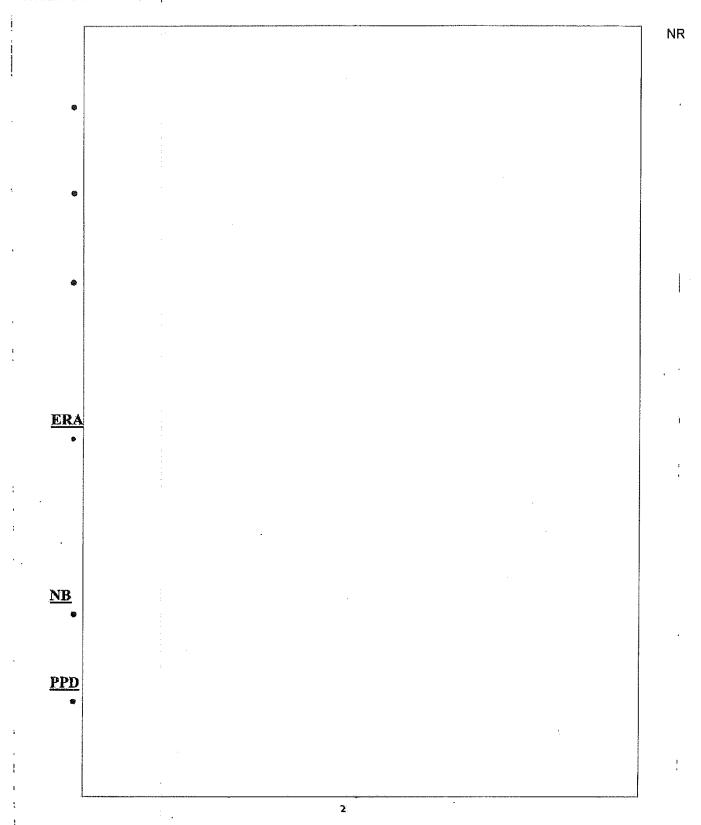
Declassify On: 2021/05/09

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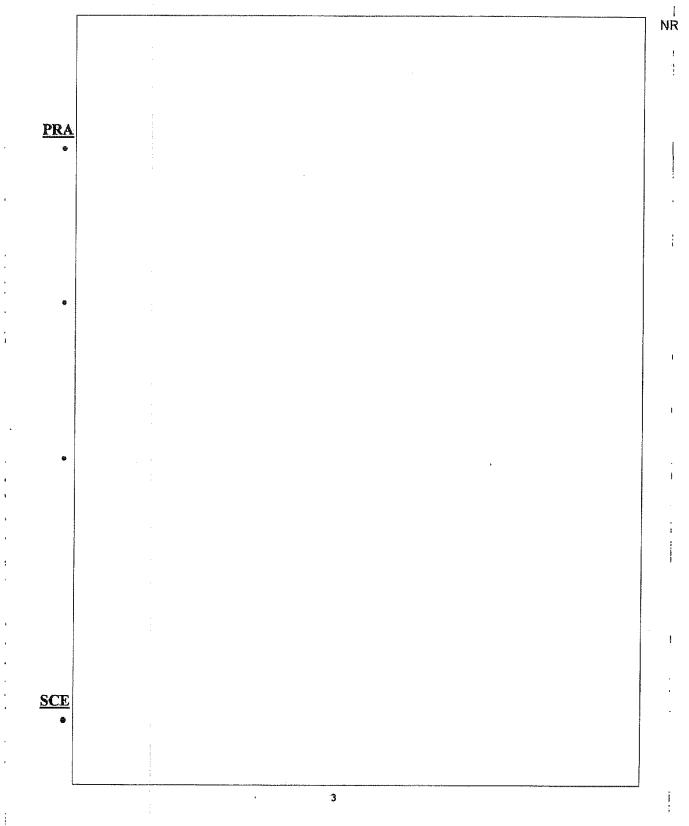
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UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751207 Date: 09/05/2012



UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751207 Date: 09/05/2012



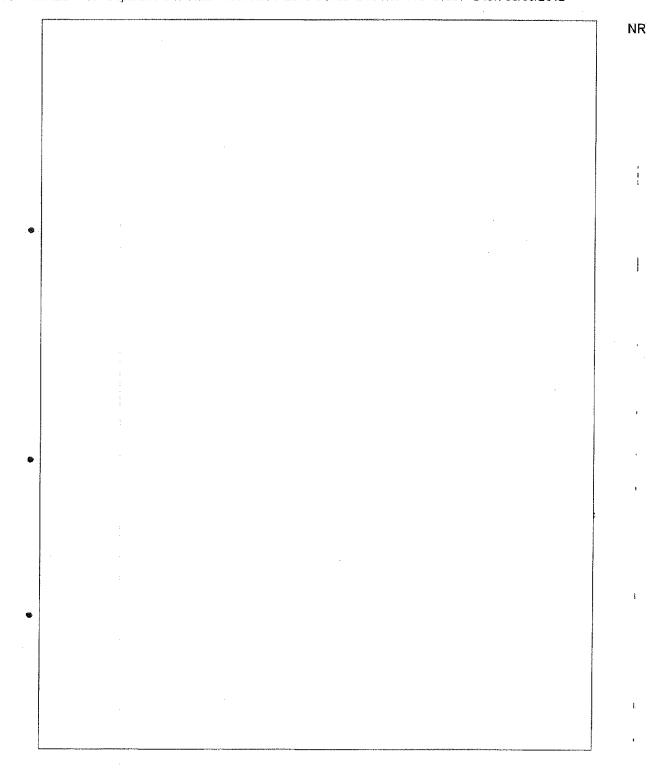
UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751207 Date: 09/05/2012

## <u>SE</u>

• (SBU) Turkey: IHH Recruiting for Second Gaza Flotilla: An IHH spokesman claimed on May 24 that the organization has received 500,000 applications to participate, and that 1,500 international activists in 15 vessels including the Mavi Marmara will sail the "last week of June." An IHH ship is also scheduled to sail to El Arish, Egypt, on the anniversary of the May 31 incident to deliver humanitarian assistance. Separately, IHH head Bulent Yildirim stated in a May 11 television interview that his goal was to solicit a

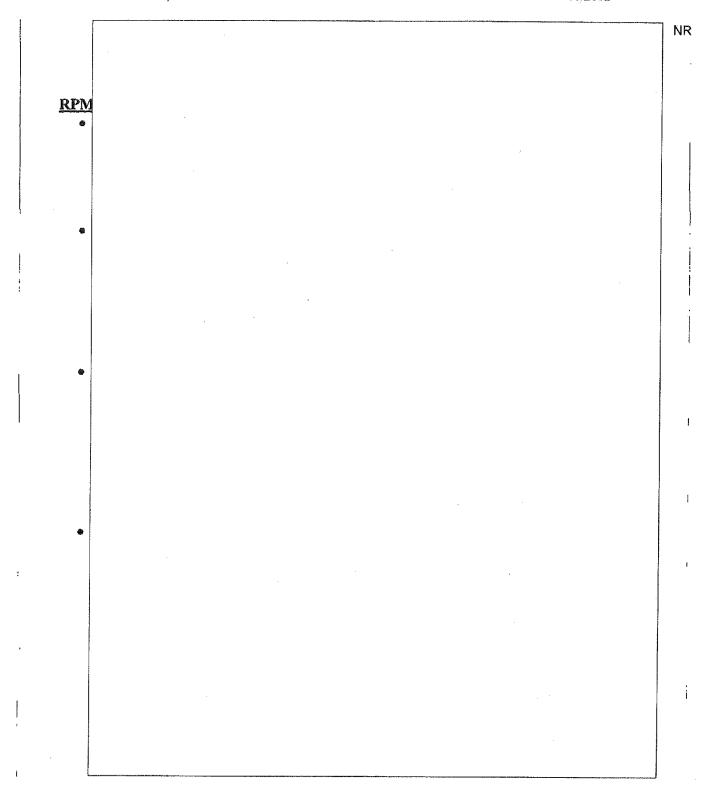
million potential candidates, of whom a limited number would be chosen to participate in the flotilla. Yildirim also said that "even if we sacrifice martyrs for this cause, we will have justice on our side."

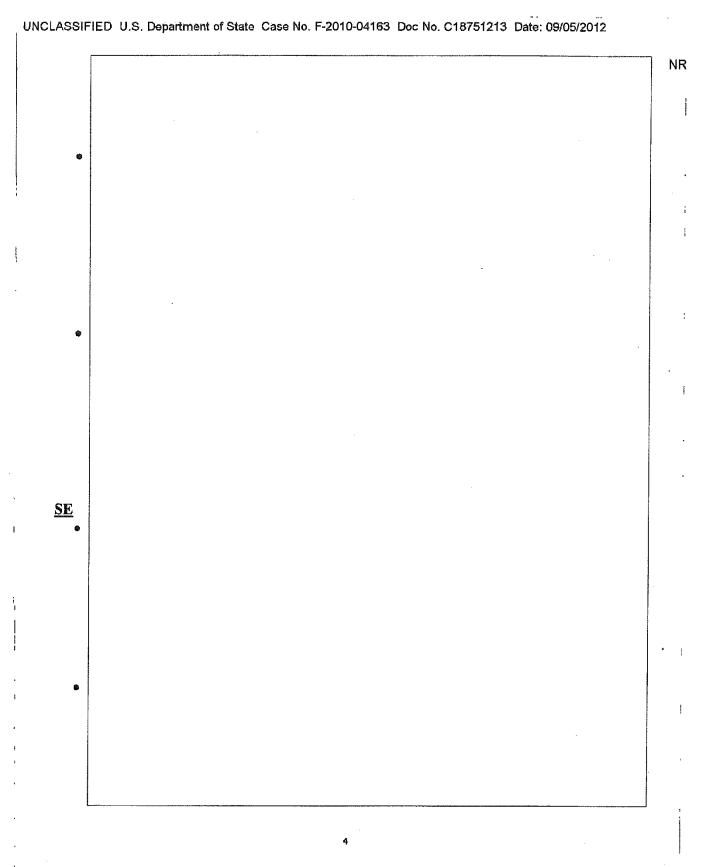
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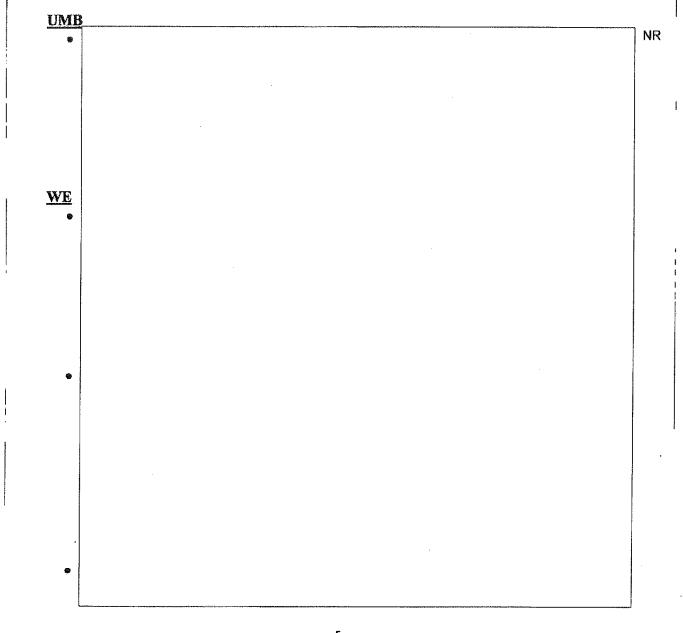
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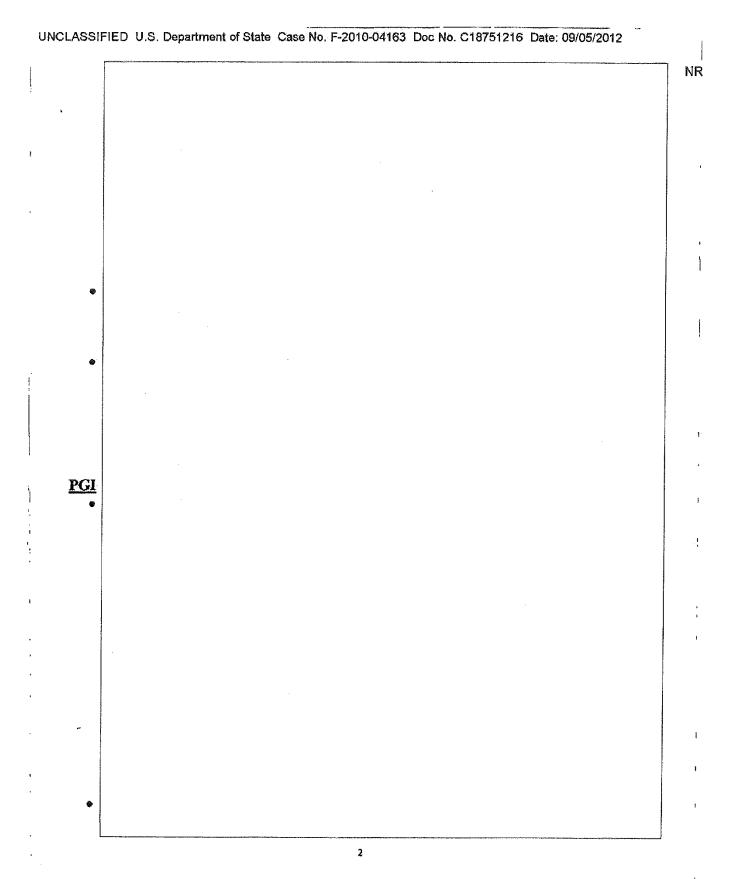
• (SBU) Turkey: IHH Reconsidering Flotilla Participation: Responding to developments in Syria, Humanitarian Relief Foundation (IHH) board member Huseyin Oruc said June 14: "We are reconsidering our plans. We cannot close our eyes to the developments on our doorstep." Oruc added: "we'll make our decision by the end of this week." A flotilla was expected to set sail for Gaza in late June from European ports. On June 6 Foreign Minister Davutoglu had urged the flotilla organizers to see how Egypt's easing of the Rafah border crossing and Palestinian unity might affect Gaza before proceeding with a flotilla.



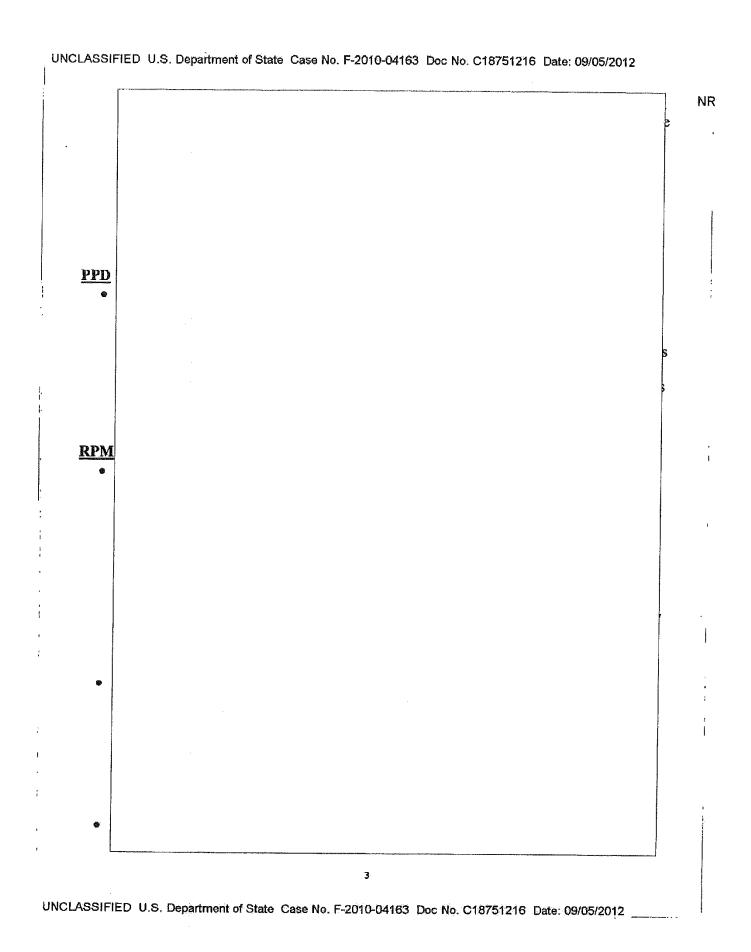
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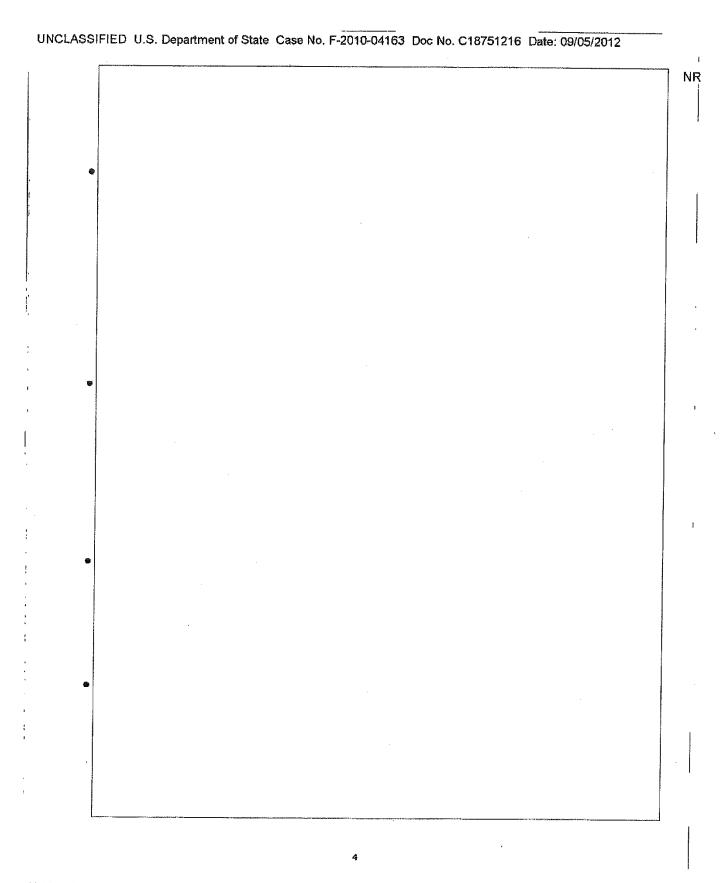
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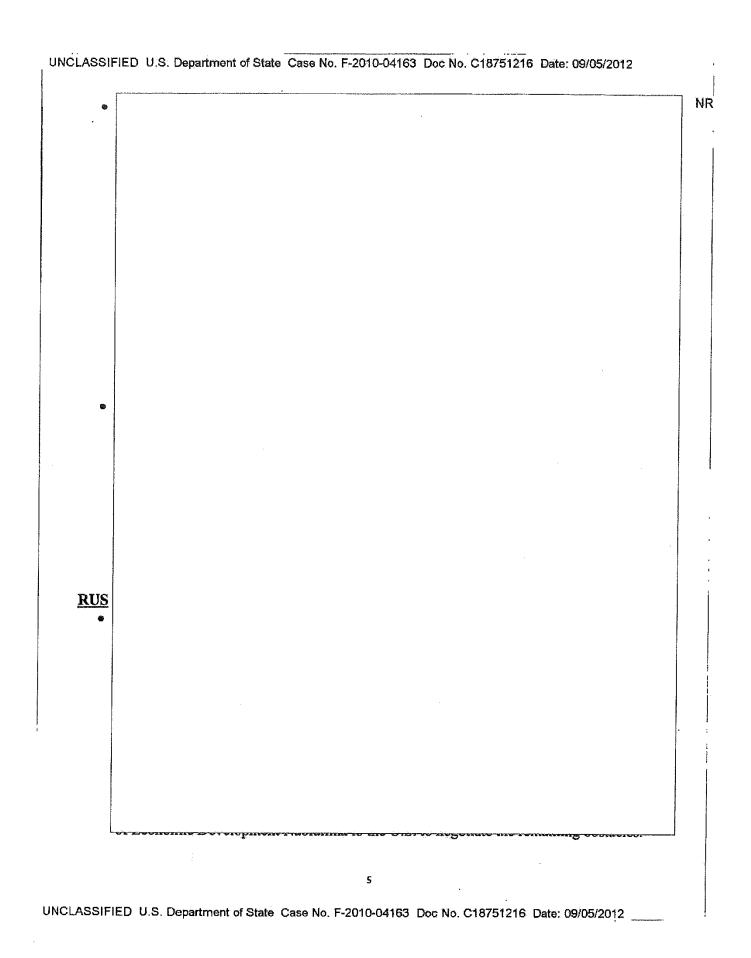


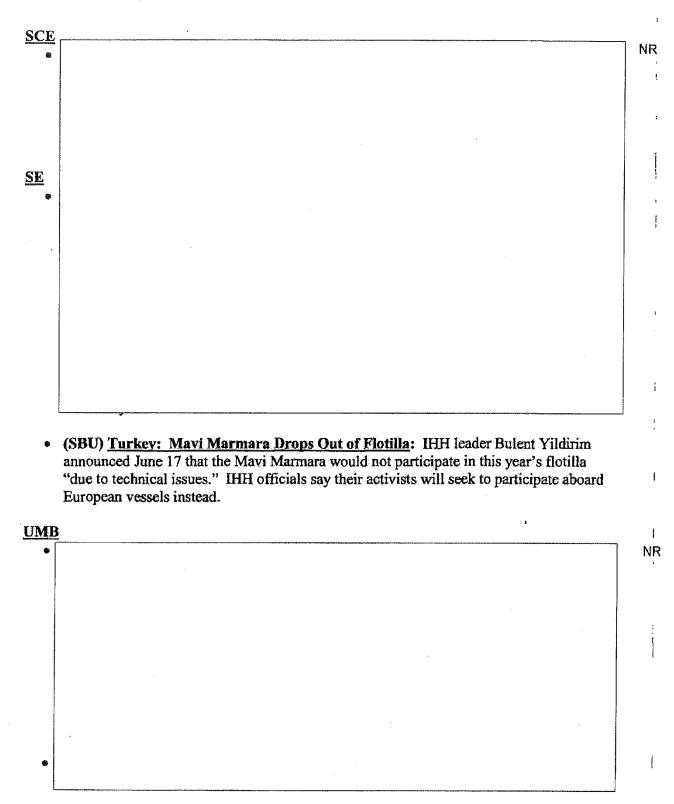
UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751216 Date: 09/05/2012



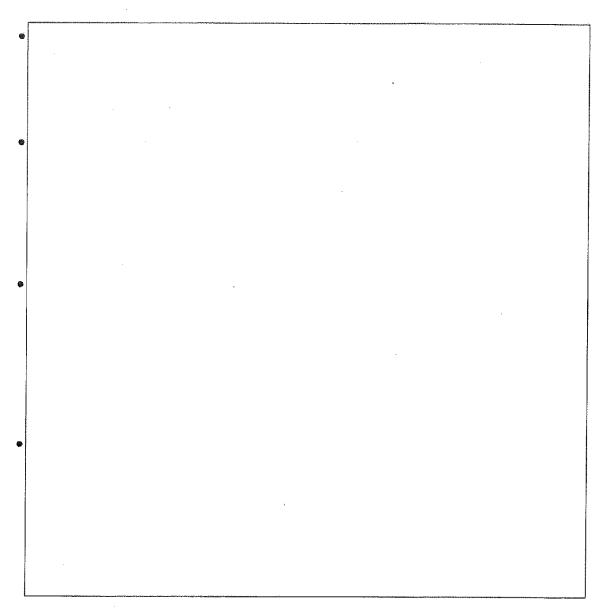


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UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751216 Date: 09/05/2012



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Classified by: Rebecca Kimbrell, Special Assistant, EUR, Department of State

Reason: 1.4(b), (d) Declassify On: 2021/06/17

Sensitivity: Sensitive Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

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# Scenesetter for Visit of Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan, Ambassador Marc Grossman Ankara, Turkey, October 3-5, 2011

1. (SBU) Welcome to Turkey. Your trip comes just after the President's meeting in New York with Prime Minister Erdogan, which reaffirmed the close ties and broadly shared vision within which the United States and Turkey manage complex challenges from different perspectives. Turkey's strength and importance as a national security ally have only grown over its six decades in NATO, leading to an evolution in its relationship with the United States, as a NATO member, and as a regional force. Its strengthening democracy and surging economy drive its growing influence in the Middle East and make it an inspirational model for many in the region suffering under failed and failing dictatorships. Your visit is an opportunity to reinforce a shared strategic vision between the United States and Turkey, press for progress in key areas of both problems and opportunities, and support the region's aspirations toward democracy and prosperity.

- 2. (U) We have been making the following points with our Turkish interlocutors:
  - As President Gul has said, the United States and Turkey do not always agree on tactics, but we do have a shared strategic vision for the region. We want Turkey's success as a U.S. ally and as a free-market democracy to inspire and influence the development of other states in the region, following the Arab Spring, particularly in Libya, Egypt, and Syria. (paras 4-8)
  - We explicitly share the goal of seeing two states, Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and within secure and recognized boundaries. We believe the discord between Turkey and Israel diminishes Turkey's ability to help advance that goal. We urge the two sides to take steps to defuse tensions and find a way to normalization. (para 9)
  - Turkey's influence as a proponent of regional peace and prosperity is only diminished by bellicose rhetoric or hints of military action in response to Israel's refusal to apologize over the Mavi Marmara flotilla incident and to Cyprus' decision to proceed with drilling in its Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). (paras 9-10)

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

- We applaud the recent government decree that would restore confiscated properties to religious minorities. An early reopening of Halki seminary would prove a great demonstration of Turkey's leadership in protecting freedom of religion. (para 11)
- The Turkish Parliament's ratification of the Armenia protocols when the new session convenes October 1 would be the most powerful means to exorcise the ghosts of 1915, and set the stage for the centennial of the Turkish Republic in 2023. (para 12)
- We strongly support Turkey's fight against the terrorist Kurdistan Workers
  Party (PKK) and its political efforts to resolve the conflict. In that vein, we
  urge Turkey to pass quickly the draft Terrorism Finance Law and to join
  other international counter terrorism mechanisms, such as the Advanced
  Passenger Information (API) and Passenger Name Recognition (PNR)
  systems. (paras 13-15)
- We support Turkey's ambition to become the world's 10<sup>th</sup> largest economy by 2023 ("10x2023"), and hope to build a strategic economic partnership with you. (paras 16-17)

#### **Domestic Context**

3. (SBU) Prime Minister Erdogan's Justice and Development Party (AKP) won an impressive 50 percent of the votes in the June 12 parliamentary election. With this mandate, Erdogan formed a third consequitive single-party government, an unprecedented feat in post-World War II Turkish political history. In the wake of his victory, Erdogan's next political project is to replace the current constitution, drafted by a military government after Turkey's last coup more than 30 years ago. Most Turks want a new constitution, but there is some anxiety about the degree to which the ruling AKP will want or need to secure buy-in from the opposition. The Kurdish Peace and Democracy Party (BDP) will want the new constitution to feature a definition of "Turkishness" that does not conflate Turkish citizenship solely with Turkic ethnicity, which has served to discourage citizens from identifying their ethnic roots. The BDP will push hard for maximum devolution of central government power to the predominantly Kurd southeastern provinces. Liberal Turks want a constitution that strengthens the judiciary's balancing role against a strongly centralized state, beefs up protection of personal freedoms, including freedom of expression and the protection of religious and ethnic minorities, and memorializes civilian control over a military that has until very recently been the driving political force in Turkey.

## Arab Spring, Regional Cooperation

- 4. (SBU) We have been working closely with Turkey to support the Arab Spring. Turkey has taken a leadership role, hosting several rounds of the Libya Contact Group, toughening its public rhetoric on Syria, and realizing an ambitious economic and aid agenda in the Middle East and North Africa to bolster these nations' respective economies while reinforcing Turkey's leadership position. PM Erdogan was among the first world leaders (he had actually hoped to be the very first) to visit Tripoli as part of a regional tour in early September that also saw him received warmly in Cairo and Tunis. Still smarting from Israel's refusal to apologize over the Mavi Marmara flotilla incident, Erdogan lashed out at the Israelis and vowed to press the cause of the recognition of Palestinian statehood at the UN.
- 5. (SBU) On August 18, President Obama demanded Syria's Bashar al-Assad relinquish power. In the aftermath of Turkey's failed efforts to get Assad to end the killings and implement radical reforms to meet the legitimate demands of the Syrian people, Turkish leaders have sharpened their public rhetoric. On September 16, Erdogan publicly warned Assad that "those who inflict repression on the people will no be able to stand on their feet" and that "anyone who sends tanks against his own people cannot rule." Frustrated and offended as they are by Assad's crackdown, Turkish leaders are at the same time wary of calling outright for Assad to step down, for lack of a clear way forward and for fear that a precipitous collapse of order could trigger a civil war that will have direct and significant impact on Turkey's security.

#### Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan

- 6. (SBU) Amidst the turmoil of the Arab Spring and Europe's struggle to manage its debt crisis, countering Iran's nuclear ambitions remains a priority. The GOT's approach to Iran's nuclear program is more credulous of Iran's insistence that it is pursuing a peaceful program. Turkey may also feel vulnerable because it depends on Iran for a significant amount of Turkey's natural gas imports (8 bcm, valued at \$7 billion, in 2010). Nevertheless, Turkey agrees that an Iranían nuclear weapons program is not in its interest, and we are working with the Turks to disrupt and counter Iran's illicit activities.
- 7. (SBU) Turkey is a natural counterbalance to Iranian influence in Iraq, a role that will increase in importance following the drawdown of USF-I. Turkish exports are robust and increasing: \$6 billion in 2010, up 5.3% from 2009, and a huge increase from zero in 2005. From Zakho to Basra, Turkish businesses are increasing their outreach. Turkish companies are very interested in partnering

with American companies in Iraq. Turkey's positive influence contributes to Iraq's recovery and stabilization.

8. (SBU) Turkey is one of our few NATO Allies that want NATO's commitment to Afghanistan to extend beyond 2014. While other Allies ramp down their operations, Turkey has declared its intention to remain in Afghanistan – via NATO or bilaterally – post-2014. Each year Turkey has increased its financial and personnel commitment to Afghan stabilization and development. Active in both the security and civilian sectors, Turkey has more than 1,600 soldiers and civilians on the ground and has committed nearly \$300 million in assistance. In addition to leading Regional Command – Capital (RC-Capital) as part of the ISAF mission, two Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRTs), and five Operational Mentoring and Liaison Teams (OMLTs), Turkey has also provided training in Turkey to Afghan National Army (ANA) cadets (approximately 1,200 in 2010). Turkey is hosting and training over 500 Afghan National Police cadets in cooperation with the NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan (NTMA) and with financial assistance from Japan.

#### israel

9. (SBU) On May 31, 2010, a flotilla of ships, organized in part by a Turkish NGO, IHH, departed Turkey with the goal of breaking Israel's blockade of Gaza. Israel Defense Force (IDF) commandos fast-roped from helicopters onto the flagship, the Mavi Marmara, and immediately encountered violence from the passengers. The commandos responded with deadly force, killing eight Turks and one Turkish-American. The incident has gravely strained Turkish-Israeli relations. A several-months-long low-profile effort by senior Turkish and Israeli diplomats to hammer out an apology/compensation formula failed in early September, as the UN's Palmer Commission released a report that upheld the legality of the blockade and determined that the Government of Israel had used excessive and unreasonable force. Turkey has responded by (1) downgrading diplomatic relations, (2) suspending all military agreements, (3) declaring it will take measures to ensure the freedom of navigation in the eastern Mediterranean, (4) requesting that the International Court of Justice (ICJ) examine the legality of the Gaza blockade, and (5) supporting all flotilla victims in pursuing lawsuits against Israel. Highly charged rhetoric from leaders on both sides has made rapprochement difficult, complicating our efforts to influence the course of the Arab Spring. We want them to put aside their dispute and work together with us in encouraging the Middle East towards democracy and prosperity.

#### Cyprus and Noble Energy

10. (SBU) Since 2007, the American energy company Noble Energy has had a license to explore for hydrocarbons in Block 12 of the Republic of Cyprus' (ROC) exclusive economic zone, south of the island. Erdogan and Turkish Foreign Minister Davutoglu assert that governmental authority to conduct natural resource exploration should be reserved for the political enfity that would arise out of a comprehensive settlement between Turkish and Greek Cypriots. The internationally recognized ROC announced August 2 Noble Energy would begin drilling on or about October 1, prompting Turkey's energy minister to declare the drilling illegal until adjudicated otherwise by a competent international body. (Exploratory drilling commenced September 17.) The Ministry of Foreign Affairs also announced its intent to pursue diplomatic and legal measures to block the drilling. We have told Turkey we recognize the ROC's sovereignty and, by implication, its right to enter into contracts to develop the resources in its exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Turkey and the so-called "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus" ("TRNC" – recognized only by Turkey) have recently stated they will pursue exploration for hydrocarbons in the waters between northern Cyprus and Turkey.

### Religious Minorities, Armenia

11. (SBU) The Turkish government has made significant strides forward in improving its relations with ethnic and religious minorities in Turkey. Earlier this year, the government granted citizenship to 12 metropolitans, enabling the orthodox church to groom a successor to the current Ecumenical Patriarch, who resides in Istanbul. During an August 28 Iftar dinner with non-Muslim religious leaders, Erdogan announced a decree that will enable religious minorities communities and non-Muslim religious entities to claim title to confiscated or otherwise currently inaccessible real property. Responding to a long-standing request of the Armenian community, the Turkish government announced that it would offer schooling for the children of illegal Armenian workers living in Turkey. This year also saw the Turkish government authorize Masses at highly symbolic Christian churches in Sumela and Akdamar. Finally, senior Turkish officials hinted that action by the Greek government to open an official mosque in Athens would ease the way for a favorable decision on reopening the Halki seminary, a step we have consistently and strongly urged Turkey to take since its closure 40 years ago.

12. (SBU) We would welcome your support in urging Turkey to ratify the Armenia protocols, which outlines a roadmap to normalization of relations between the two countries. After signing the protocols, the Turkish government encountered strong domestic opposition and tied ratification to progress on the Nagarno-Karabakh dispute between Azerbaijan and Armenia. The Turkish position hardened when the Armenian supreme court and government announced the

protocols would not oblige Armenia to abandon its claims to Turkish territory. The ratification bill expired when Parliament adjourned before general elections. We are urging the Turks to reintroduce the protocols bill when Parliament convenes October 1.

#### Terrorism

- 13. (SBU) PKK terrorism ranks at the top of Turkey's worries. It is widely believed that the Turkish government's conflict with the Kurdistan People's Congress (Kongra-Gel or KGK, formerly PKK) has cost 30,000-35,000 lives since it began in the 1980s. The Erdogan government has attempted to reconcile Turkey's alienated Kurdish citizens through language and cultural liberalization measures that allow Kurds to express their ethnic identity, but continued terrorism has disappointed the Turkish government and general public. In response to several recent high-casualty ambushes and acts of terrorism - including one in Ankara on September 20, 2011 – the Turkish government has increased its cross-border artillery strikes on suspected PKK concentrations in northern Iraq and conducted airstrikes for the first time in over a year. We support Turkey's right to defend its citizens from terrorist attacks and urge its continued care in avoiding civilian casualties and its forbearance from military actions that might threaten the stability of the Kurdish Regional Government (KRG) and the Government of Iraq. We are also pressing the Kurdish political leadership to explicitly dissociate itself form the PKK, denounce the violence, and address its concerns through peaceful political means.
- 14. (SBU) As we cooperate with Turkey against the PKK, we are also strengthening our partnership in countering the threat posed by al-Qa'ida, its affiliates, and offshoots. Turkey has been a partner in disrupting networks and arresting individuals, most recently a cell plotting an attack on the U.S. Embassy in Ankara. We are working in law enforcement and intelligence channels to strengthen our joint efforts. Turkey is also a critical partner in strengthening international efforts. On September 22, Foreign Minister Davutoglu and Secretary Clinton will co-chair the inaugural session of the Global Counter Terrorism Forum.
- 15. (SBU) But there is more that Turkey can do. Turkey is a long-time member of the international Financial Action Task Force (FATF), under which Turkey's Action plan calls for specific steps further to criminalize the financing of terrorism and associated money laundering, including specific recommendations on vehicles for freezing and confiscating terrorist assets. The Draft Law on the Prevention of the Financing of Terrorism, passed from the Prime Ministry to the Parliament on February 1, is intended to address FATF's concerns, but the law was not passed before the June elections. The new Parliament will take up the new law when it

convenes October 1. We continue to stress the importance of its passage for both Turkey's specific fight against the PKK threat and the broader global fight against terrorism. We are also urging Turkey to join other international counter terrorism mechanisms, such as the Advanced Passenger Information (API) and Passenger Name Recognition (PNR) systems.

# U.S. - Turkey Strategic Economic Partnership

16. (SBU) Turkey has enjoyed remarkable economic growth (8.8% in second quarter 2011), making it the second fastest growing economy in the world behind China. At the same time, the government is working to limit Turkey's widening current account deficit, which has almost doubled this year to an alarming 9% of GDP. Turkey's headline economic goal is to become the tenth largest economy in the world by the republic's centennial in 2023 (10x2023), up from 17th place today. The USG supports Turkey's 10x2023 ambition, as it will economically and politically strengthen an important ally in a critical part of the world. It will also create new trade and investment opportunities for American firms. Achieving the 10x2023 goal will involve challenges, including tripling Turkey's economy by 2023, quadrupling exports, deepening and expanding the financial sector and more than doubling electricity-generation capacity. Turkey will also have to develop a much stronger innovation economy, strengthen protections for intellectual property and improve entrepreneurship opportunities and financing if the country is to attract significant foreign direct investment (FDI). Regulatory transparency and predictability will be key to attracting FDI.

17. (SBU) We are making good progress creating the strategic dialogue the President called for during his 2009 trip to Turkey. Through the Cabinet-level Framework for Strategic Economic and Commercial Cooperation (FSECC) and its component dialogues, we are reaching understandings in energy, intellectual property rights, financial services and entrepreneurship. As of July, bilateral trade had increased by 47% since 2010 from \$8 billion to \$11.8 billion, with U.S. exports to Turkey up 53% and Turkish exports to the United States up 31%. Both are on pace to set new records. Turkey has also dramatically expanded its presence in Middle Eastern markets, which now account for 26% of its exports. In North Africa, Turkey is looking to help restore growth in Egypt, Tunisia and Libya and is seeking American partners in these countries.

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No. CONS 10-01137

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey and has the honor to request the assistance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the following matter.

The Embassy would like to receive an official copy of the burial permission certificate (gömme izin belgesi) and the autopsy report of deceased American Citizen Furkan Dogan (DOB: 200ct1991) who was presumed killed on the Mavi Marmara Ship. The Embassy would also like to receive a copy of the decision regarding the relinquishment of Furkan Dogan's Turkish citizenship published in the Official Gazette.

The Embassy of the United States of America avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey the assurances of its highest consideration.

Embassy of the United States of America
Ankara, June 7, 2010

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

No. CONS 10-001451

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey and refers to the Embassy's diplomatic note CONS 10-1137 dated July 7, 2010, regarding the death of American citizen Furkan Dogan.

The Embassy of the United States of America has yet to obtain through the good offices of the Ministry, an official copy of the burial permission certificate (gömme izin belgesi) and the autopsy report of deceased American Citizen Furkan Dogan (DOB: 200ct1991,) presumed killed on the Mavi Marmara Ship. The Embassy requests this at once. The Autopsy report of Dogan was released to the Media and IHH Foundation, which placed the contents on their website. The Embassy asks the Ministry to convey in the strongest terms possible our dismay at the lack of regard for the privacy of individuals evidenced by this release pertaining to the death of an American citizen. The Embassy protests the release of this information in advance of its provision to the Embassy.

The Embassy of the United States of America avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey the assurances of its highest consideration.

Embassy of the United States of America
Ankara, July 7, 2010

#### RELEASED IN FULL

No. CONS 10-01128

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey and has the honor to request the assistance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the following matter.

The Embassy would like to receive information regarding American Citizen Furkan Dogan (DOB: 200ct1991) who was presumed killed on the Mavi Marmara Ship. The Embassy would like to find out the place of death, the cause of death and the authority that gives the cause of death, and who has the custody of his effects. The Embassy would also like to find out if Furkan Dogan used his U.S. passport while exiting Turkey. The Embassy would request the urgent assistance of the Ministry in getting the answers to the above questions.

The Embassy of the United States of America avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey the assurances of its highest consideration.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Embassy of the United States of America
Ankara, June 4, 2010

R5

### RELEASED IN FULL

### Law, Rosemary C

From:

Kim, Yuri J

Sent:

Wednesday, November 02, 2011 9:34 AM

To:

Ricciardone, Francis J

Cc:

Baily, Jess L; Stafford, Edward G; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"

Subject:

"Flotilla," Iran

AMB: FS aide Mehmet confirmed that GOT has no/no intention of escorting the Tahrir, Saoirse, or any other vessels to Gaza -- "they don't have any Turkish elements." Re Iran, he confirmed that he passed on to FS the copy of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons that I'd sent him last week, noting our desire for Turkey to press the Iranians to comply with the convention. Yuri

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

### Turkish Embassy Briefing

# TURKEY'S REACTION TO THE PALMER COMMISSION'S REPORT

### Background

- The United Nations Secretary General's Panel of Inquiry (known as the Palmer Commission) released its report regarding the attack by the Israeli forces against an international humanitarian convoy en route to Gaza on May 31, 2010.
- The aid convoy for Gaza was a humanitarian initiative with people from 34 countries (including the United States and Israel) in ships sailing under the flags of several nations.
- Nine people lost their lives when Israeli commandos boarded their ship, the Mavi Marmara, and used
  excessive and lethal force against them. The attack in international waters of the Mediterranean
  violated all established norms of international law, as the U.N. Human Rights Council's fact-finding
  mission concluded.
- Eight of the nine killed were Turkish citizens, and one was a 19-year-old American citizen of Turkish descent. Most of the deceased were shot at close range and multiple times, some in the head.
- At the time of the attack, the convoy was 72 nautical miles off the coast of Israel, and 64 nautical miles away from the nearest point of the Israeli-imposed "Gaza blockade area."

#### Aftershock and Inquiry

- Turkey was shattered by the loss of its citizens and shocked that for the first time in its history, Turkish
  citizens were killed by a foreign armed force during peacetime. Hence, Turkey rightly asked for a formal
  apology and appropriate compensation to the families of those killed.
- When Israel did not meet these requests, Turkey extended its full support to the U.N. Secretary-General's efforts to establish a Panel of Inquiry and participated in this Panel in good faith. In contrast, Israel resorted to every possible way to impede the Panel's progress.
- Turkey also sincerely sought a solution to the impasse through bilateral negotiations with Israel.
   Although Turkey refrained from any negative rhetoric and upheld the confidentiality of the talks, Israel continued its intransigent behavior and insistently tried to distort the truth by leaking false information to the international med REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

#### Turkey's Response

 The following conclusions of the Palmer Commission's report testify to the severity of the crimes committed by the Israeli soldiers and other officials:

"Israel's decision to board the vessels with such substantial force at a great distance from the blockade zone and with no final warning immediately prior to the boarding was excessive and unreasonable:

a. Non-violent options should have been used in the first instance. In particular, clear prior warning that the vessels were to be boarded and a demonstration of dissuading force should have been given to avoid the type of confrontation that occurred;

b. The operation should have reassessed its options when the resistance to the initial boarding attempt became apparent.

The loss of life and injuries resulting from the use of force by Israeli forces during the take-over of the Mavi Marmara was unacceptable. Nine passengers were killed and many others seriously wounded by Israeli forces. No satisfactory explanation has been provided to the Panel by Israel for any of the nine deaths. Forensic evidence showing that most of the deceased were shot multiple times,

**Embassy of the Republic of Turkey** 

2525 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20008 | 202-612-6700 For more information, go to: www.washington.emb.mfa.gov.tr

### Turkish Embassy Briefing

including in the back, or at close range has not been adequately accounted for in the material presented by Israel.

There was significant mistreatment of passengers by Israeli authorities after the take-over of the vessels had been completed through until their deportation. This included physical mistreatment, harassment and intimidation, unjustified confiscation of belongings and the denial of timely consular assistance."

- Turkey disagrees with the Chair and the Co-Chair of the Panel regarding the question of the legality of the blockade imposed on Gaza. Turkey believes that this blockade is unlawful.
- Many governments around the world, including the U.S. Administration, declared that the situation in Gaza is not sustainable. Furthermore, the report mandated by the U.N. Human Rights Council concluded that the blockade was unlawful. This report received the consent of the U.N. General Assembly.
- By claiming that the blockade is legal, the Chair and the Co-Chair contradicted the U.N. Human Rights Council. We believe that political rather than legal considerations dominated the Chair and the Co -Chair's approach on this matter. By drawing the Panel into a legal imbroglio, the Chairmanship of the Panel has actually diverted the Panel's work from its main task.
- Under the circumstances, Turkey is determined to take the necessary steps including submitting the matter to the International Court of Justice - to bring about a competent opinion on such a delicate legal issue, which was well beyond the authority of the Panel. To this end, Turkey will start working on a U.N. General Assembly resolution to task the International Court of Justice accordingly.
- Turkey supported the release of the Panel Report from the very outset. However, certain other conclusions reached by the Chair and the Co-Chair have the potential to set a dangerous precedent at the expense of freedom and safety of navigation.
- The Report omits and disregards decisive facts about this incident. Only 15 percent of the Report deals with the actions of Israel, which led to the establishment of this Panel. It does not address how nine civilians received 30 bullets in their most vital areas and why Israeli soldiers acted in such a violent way. There is also a clear effort in the Report to demonize the international humanitarian convoy and its participants. The convoy which came under attack in international waters, resisted in self defense.
- The Report claims that "the IDF faced significant, organized and violent resistance from a group of passengers when they boarded the Mavi Marmara requiring them to use force for their own protection." On the contrary, it is clear from the evidence that the Israeli soldiers killed and wounded passengers even before they landed on the ship.
- Therefore, Turkey challenges certain conclusions of the Palmer Report, which we believe will not serve the goal of stability and peace, particularly in our region.
- Turkey is determined to defend the rights of its citizens and will take legal actions against all those responsible for the crimes committed.
- Turkey also reaffirms that relations between Turkey and Israel will not normalize as long as Israel does not apologize and refuses to pay compensation for what it has done.

Embassy of the Republic of Turkey 2525 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20008 | 202-612-6700 For more information, go to: www.washington.emb.mfa.gov.tr

Law, Rosemary C			
From: Sent: To: Subject:	Guido, Deborah L Tuesday, June 28, 2011 3:15 AM Ricciardone, Francis J; AnkaraAMB; Ankara-POL-DL; DL Armenia, Syria, McCain, Flotilla - PB Excerpts June 2	RELEASED IN FULL, Non-responsive deleted	AO-IO-
Categories:	Working	NR	
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McCain and Syria			
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 $\underbrace{ \text{REVIEW AUTHORITY:} \quad \text{Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer} }_{\text{1}}$ 

UNCLASSIFIED	U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751229 Date: 06/27/2012	
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#### GAZA Flotilla:

**QUESTION:** The – some of the ships that will make up this flotilla that you're so – not enthusiastic about have left already, heading for points close to Gaza, if not Gaza itself. The Israelis over the weekend first warned journalists and then were rescinded this warning that if they got on any of these ships that they could be subject to criminal penalties, deportation, 10-year ban from the country.

I'm wondering if there was any contact between the U.S. and Israel about that, and whether the warning that you put out last week – or, not the Travel Warning, per se, but the – your statement in which you warned Americans that they might be violating U.S. law if they participated, did that apply to journalists?

MS. NULAND: First, with regard to the Government of Israel's decision, our understanding from press reporting but also from our own contacts was that that first announcement was made at a relatively low level, and when senior Israelis became involved, the decision was amended, as you saw.

The U.S. warnings to U.S. citizens apply to all U.S. citizens. We are concerned about any of our citizens involved in a situation that could be provocative, that could be dangerous. That said, freedom of the press; journalists make their own decision, but we have made clear that we are concerned about this situation.

**QUESTION:** But a journalist who is on one of these boats, could they be subject to laws that bar – the law specifically, the legislation, the laws that you mentioned in your statement which have to do with material support for Hamas?

MS. NULAND: I'm not aware of legal distinctions that we would make between journalists and other citizens, but I can double-check whether there's a distinction to be made there. I think our concern was that this was a dangerous situation for any American to be involved in.

**QUESTION:** Yes, ma'am. Is it the understanding of the United States Government that the Rafah Crossing is sufficient to supply the Gaza population with all the needs that they want?

MS. NULAND: I think the statement that we put out last week spoke both of the Rafah Crossing and of the Israeli port which now has procedures to check cargos and to get aid into Gaza. And we have seen an increase in the amount of aid going into Gaza. The Secretary mentioned on Friday that we now have Israeli housing support going into Gaza as well. So our view is that there are sufficient mechanisms both through Egypt and through Israel to get humanitarian aid into Gaza if the goal of this action is truly to help the people of Gaza.

**QUESTION:** So it is your feeling that the intention of this flotilla is not so much to provide needed supplies to Gaza, but more of a symbolic political statement?

MS. NULAND: I can't speak to the intentions of those organizing this flotilla. I would simply say that if people around the world want to help the people of Gaza, we believe that the mechanisms established by both Egypt and Israel are sufficient to achieve that objective.

QUESTION: Given that the flotilla or at least elements of it appear to be on their way now, are you increasing your communication with the Israelis about their reaction to this? I mean, now it seems that one arm of the decision has ignored your warnings about not going; they're setting off. So now the question is: How are the Israelis going to react? What's your advice to them on this?

**MS. NULAND:** Our advice to all parties has been the same, that this is dangerous, that this is provocative. With regard to the Israeli position, they know where we stand. We have said that Israel has a right to defend itself against arms smuggling, but we have called on all sides to – for restraint, and we hope that we don't end up in the same situation we were in last year.

QUESTION: I'm sorry, you said call on all sides for restraint, so that you've called on the Israelis to restrain themselves when it comes to dealing with the flotilla?

MS. NULAND: We have been speaking for many months since this event last year, in fact, to all participating actors about the need to avoid a repeat of the situation. That said, our position with regard to Israel's right of self-defense and defense against armed smuggling hasn't changed.

QUESTION: But would you regard their reaction to the last time the flotilla came, did that – was that an appropriate response? Would that – would a similar response be expected in this case?

MS. NULAND: I think we made clear at the time that it was a dangerous situation, it was an extremely unfortunate situation, and with regard to this summer, we don't want to see a repeat. So that's why we're hoping that we don't.

QUESTION: To the best of your knowledge, has there ever been a ship caught smuggling arms on these aid ships? Has there been any ship that was caught with arms being smuggled to Gaza?

MS. NULAND: Our understanding is that Israel has been the victim of arms smuggled illegally at sea and --

QUESTION: Right. But not these aid ships? Are you aware of any of these aid ships used to smuggle arms?

MS. NULAND: I can't speak to precisely which kind of ships arms have been found on, but one of the reasons for the Israeli concern is that they have been victims of arms smuggled at sea.

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Please, back here.		
Please.		
Deborah L. Guido		
ipokesperson J.S. Embassy Ankara		
Office: 90-312-457-7312 Cell: 90 0532 341-2862		
mail: guidodl@state.gov		

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

R8

### Law, Rosemary C

From: Sent: Hilton, Robert B

Monday, June 27, 2011 6:48 PM

RELEASED IN FULL

To:

Subject: Attachments: EUR-DPB-FG-DL

Daily Press Briefing, TIP Report Rollout, LGBT Pride Month, Final Press Guidances, 6-27-11

06-27-11 Final Guidances.doc; Secretary's Remarks on the Release of the 2011 Trafficking in

Persons Report.docx; Secretary's Remarks LGBT Pride Month.docx

### NON-RESPONSIVE PORTIONS REDACTED

On-Camera Daily Press Briefing Index Monday, June 27, 2011 12:35 PM EDT

Briefer: Victoria Nuland, Spokesperson

#### ISRAEL/PALESTINIANS~

^^ Flotilla / Announcement by Government of Israel / U.S. Warnings, Statement / Dangerous Situation / Sufficient Mechanisms Established to Get Aid into Gaza / Israel Has a Right to Defend Itself Against Arms Smuggling / U.S. Call for Restraint on All Sides / Rafah Crossing

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REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

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#### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE DAILY PRESS BRIEFING

**DPB #94** 

### MONDAY, JUNE 27, 2011 (ON THE RECORD UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

12:35 p.m. EDT

MS. NULAND: Good afternoon, everybody. I have no opening announcements today, so why don't we go to whatever's on your minds.

QUESTION: The – some of the ships that will make up this flotilla that you're so – not enthusiastic about have left already, heading for points close to Gaza, if not Gaza itself. The Israelis over the weekend first warned journalists and then were rescinded this warning that if they got on any of these ships that they could be subject to criminal penalties, deportation, 10-year ban from the country.

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Anything else on flotilla or are we moving on?

OUESTION: On -

**OUESTION:** Israel?

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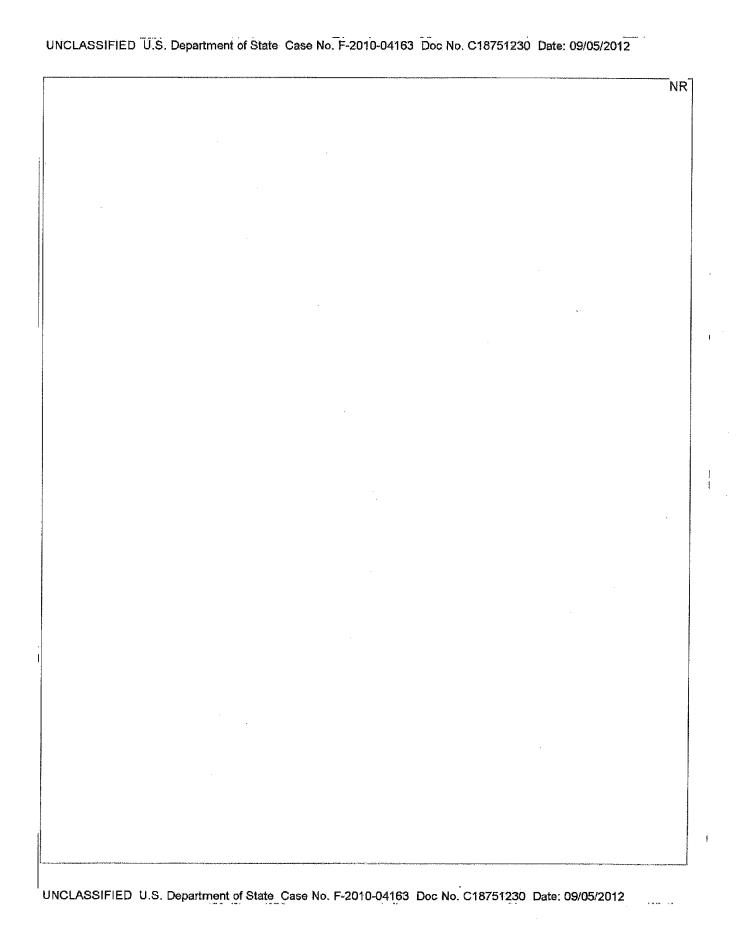
QUESTION: But --MS. NULAND: Israel, but - Matt, on flotilla? QUESTION: Well, it was going to be Israel, but --MS. NULAND: Okay. Israel, please. QUESTION: - not flotilla. MS. NULAND: Yeah, please. NR

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751230 Date: 09/05/2012

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UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751230 Date: 09/05/2012

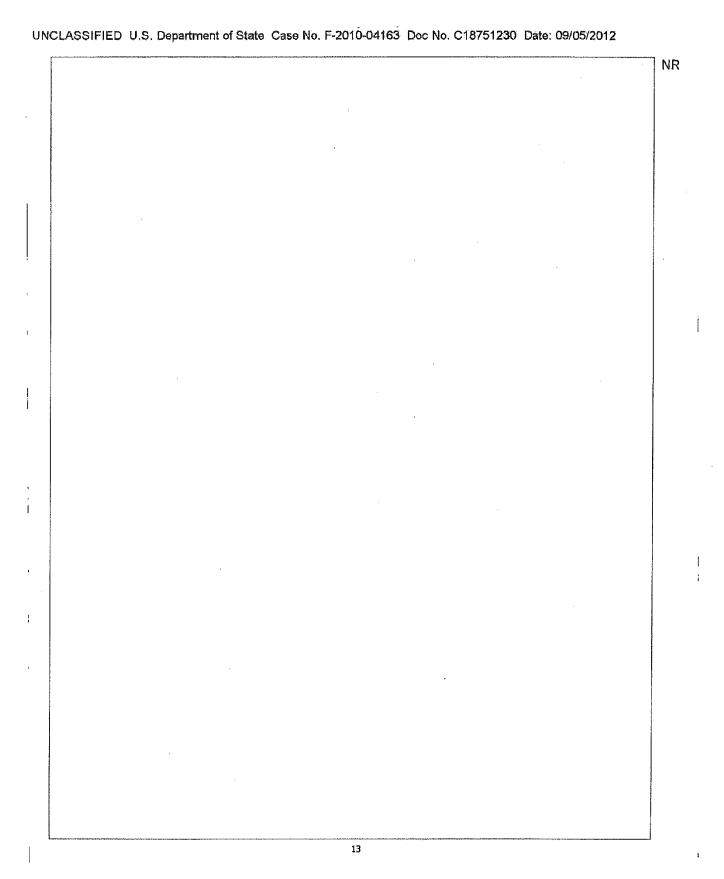
StateDept02217



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QĽ	ESTION: On flotilla, I believe you touched a little bit at the beginning – you questioned last week whether	
MS	legal or not legal. Do you have any view on that? Do you think the Israel blockade is illegal? Thank you.  NULAND: I think we put out something with regard to the - to that after the briefing on Friday. Again, I ald just stress that Israel has had a bad experience with arms smuggled at sea, so we do think that there is a not of self-defense here. But what's most important is that we avoid the situation that we had last year.	
Ple	ase, back here.	

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751230 Date: 09/05/2012

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		ort underway at the UN	

believe, in two weeks.

MS. NULAND: I think we'll wait and see what's in the report before commenting on it.

QUESTION: In your statements, as far as we can see, that - you talk about there are other means and ways to get the aid to Gaza this year. But apparently, there was none of the means and ways to get the aids to Gaza last year. So in terms of - in your analysis and statements, does it tell you that last year was actually meaningful try to get aid? Can we get that kind of result out of your - this year's statements?

MS. NULAND: I don't want to go back to last year. Last year was a very concerning and dangerous event that happened. What I would simply say is, just to repeat, that we do believe that effective channels exist today both through Israel and through Egypt, that those channels are being used, that the people of Gaza are being aided, I think it might be useful also to repeat something that the Secretary said last Friday. She drew a comparison between the humanitarian situation in Gaza, a territory controlled by Hamas, as compared to the greatly improved humanitarian situation in the West Bank, which is not controlled by Hamas. And she suggested that folks could draw their conclusions from that.

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QUESTION: Except for the fac	et that the West Bank has - the borders are different?	
AS. NULAND: The borders are numanitarian condition of their p	e different, but simply, when you ask who bears respondenced to clearly, we're doing better in the West Bank the	nsibility for the an we're doing in Gaza,
QUESTION: What do you say	about Israel's warnings to journalists who are planning	g to get on the boats?
MS. NULAND: I think we went to sition and has now modified it nother way to aid Gaza.	t through this at the beginning of the briefing, that Isr is position. But again, from a U.S. perspective, we are	ael started in - with one urging everybody to find
lease		CONCENSION OF THE PROPERTY OF
The briefing was concluded at 1	i:10 p.m.)	
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UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751231 Date: 09/05/2012 RELEASED IN FULL, 29 Non-responsive deleted Law, Rosemary C NR From: Hilton, Robert B Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2011 6:02 PM To: EUR-DPB-FG-DL Subject: Daily Press Briefing, final guidances, S remarks in Budapest and Vilnius, 6-30-11 Attachments: 06-30-11 Final Guidance.doc NR From: State Department Press Office [mailto:Press@state.gov] Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2011 5:39 PM To: State Department Press Office Subject: 6/30 On-Camera Daily Press Briefing with Mark Toner, Deputy Spokesperson FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE AND POSTING **On-Camera Daily Press Briefing Index** Thursday, June 30, 2011 1:05 PM EDT Briefer: Mark Toner, Deputy Spokesperson ~ISRAEL/PALESTINIANS~  $\Lambda\Lambda$ Foundation for Moving Talks Forward Laid Out  $\Lambda\Lambda$ Acting Special Envoy David Hale Continues Meetings with Israeli and Palestinian Negotiators ۸۸ Claims of Gaza Flotilla Ship Sabotage/Both Sabotage of Ships and Flotillas Themselves Put Individuals at Risk

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

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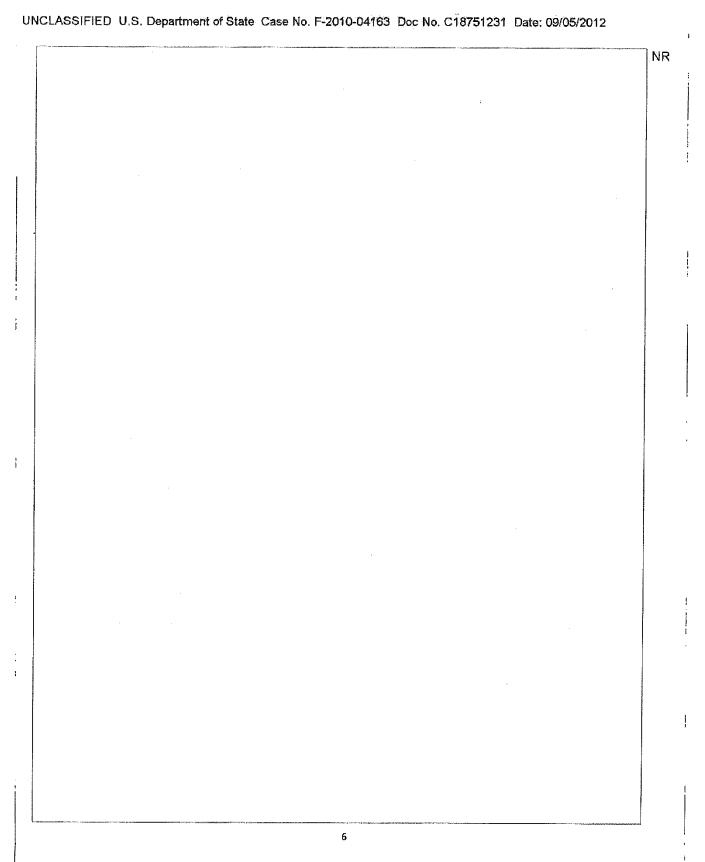
pear to be sab	ally don't have any comment on that. I've seen the press reports and haven't had any other
nfirmation bey	ond that.
IESTION: So it	wouldn't bother you at all if this was happening?
inion – that's i	st can't speak to whether — the veracity, I guess, of these claims that they've been sabotaged. Our seen stated very clearly from the State Department, both from the Secretary down to this podium — is s are a bad idea, and there's other ways to get this kind of assistance to the people of Gaza.
JESTION: So p	reventing the flotilla from leaving by a
R. TONER: 1 di	dn't say – I am in no way condoning any sabotage of these vessels.
JESTION: Wel	, are
R. TONER: But	I'm saying these vessels, these flotillas, in and of themselves, are not a good idea.
	can you say that you would be opposed to anyone trying to sabotage these - trying to sabotage these

ships?

MR. TONER: Again --

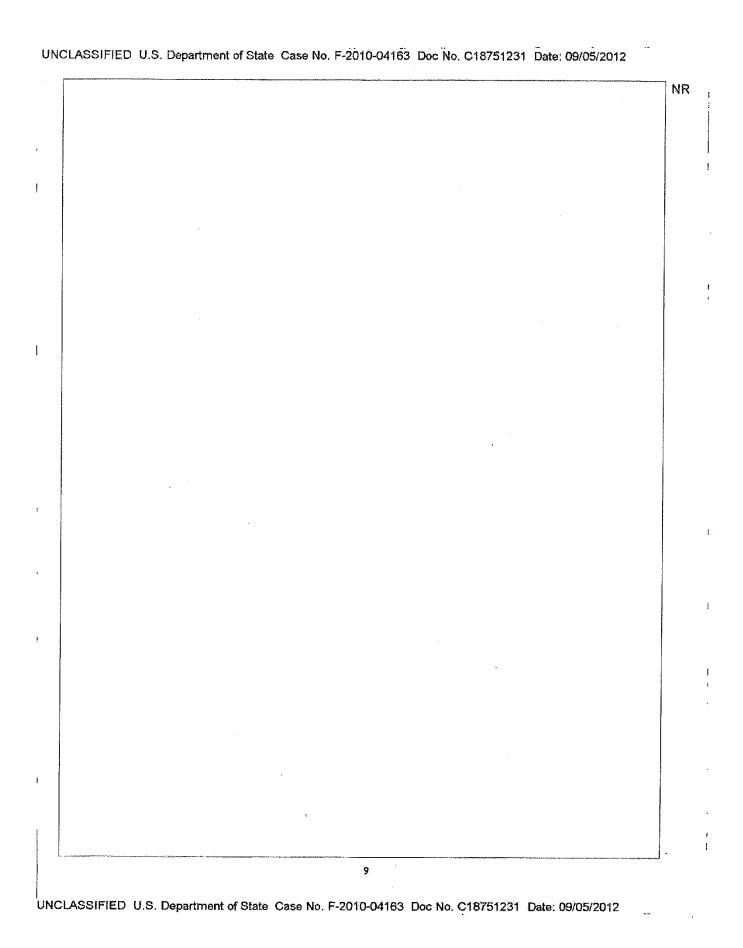
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	QUESTION: It's my understanding that you're concerned about the safety of everyone involved
,	MR. TONER: Precisely.
	QUESTION: and that if there's someone running around and trying to
•	MR. TONER: Precisely. We're concerned. This is about
)	QUESTION: sabotaging these ships, that's a safety issue.
	MR. TONER: This is about people's safety. Again, I just – it's hard for me to speak to because we don't have any independent confirmation these ships have actually been sabotaged. We've just seen press reports and what these flotilla representatives have said. But certainly, we don't want to see – you're absolutely right; our emphasis is on the safety of the individuals involved.
***************************************	QUESTION: Just a quick follow-up. Yesterday it was the Greek ship, Giuliano; today it was the Irish ship. So there are more than one incident. And then yesterday, there were fishermans in waters where there are no fish. I mean, I know it is – gasoline and things like this, so they appear suddenly. So you must be keeping tabs on that, or someone must be? Do you –
	MR. TONER: I don't have any comment.
	QUESTION: Okay. Would you equally also say that it is not a good idea to sabotage these ships in any way?
	MR. TONER: I would just reiterate what I just said to Matt, is – our bottom line is we don't want to see anyone put at risk, and that would include any action to sabotage these boats, but also the boats themselves, the flotillas themselves, will put these individuals at risk.
1	Yeah. Go ahead.
1	QUESTION: Change of topic?
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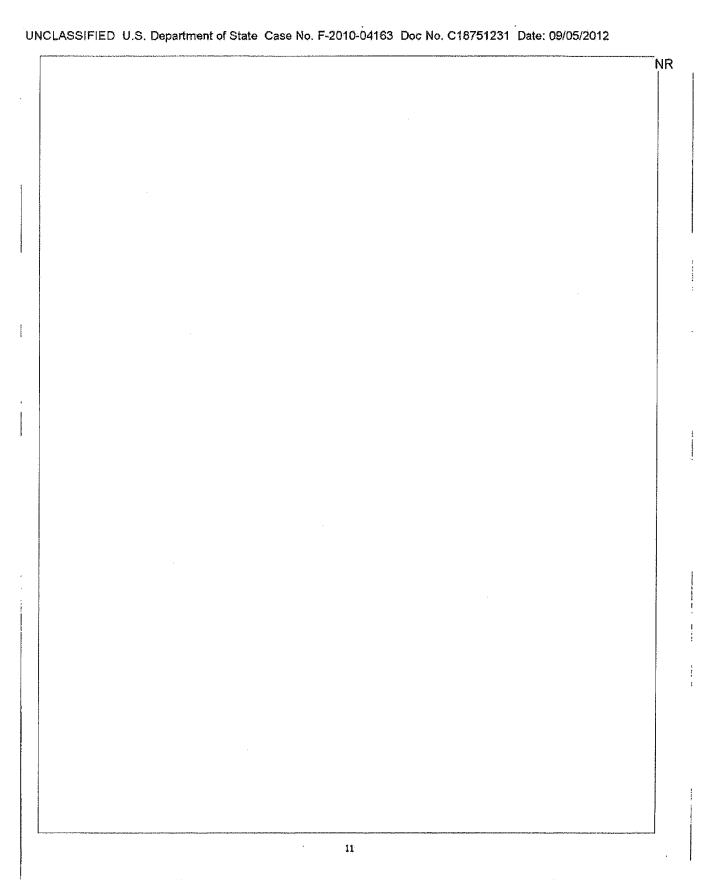
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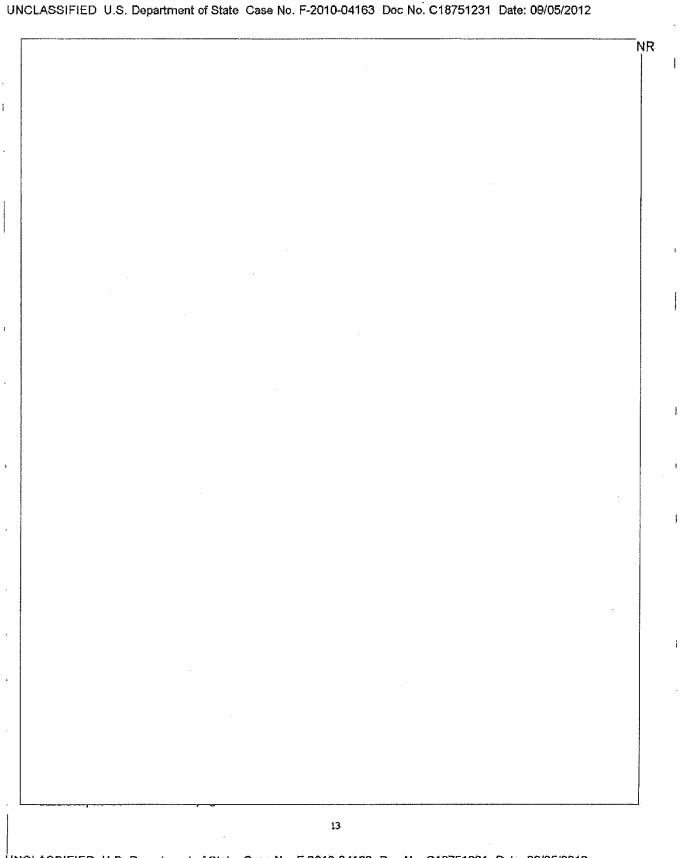
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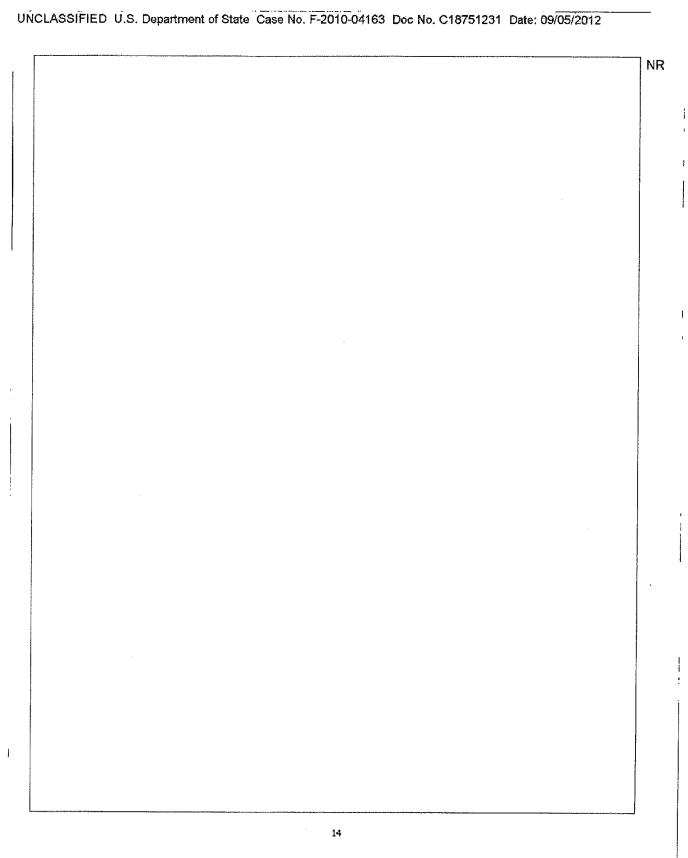
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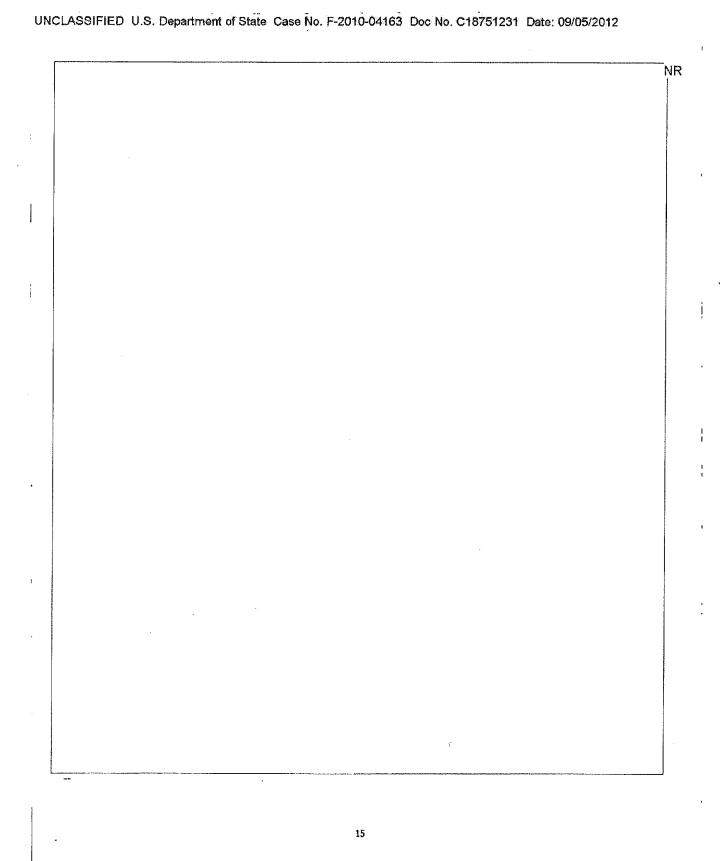




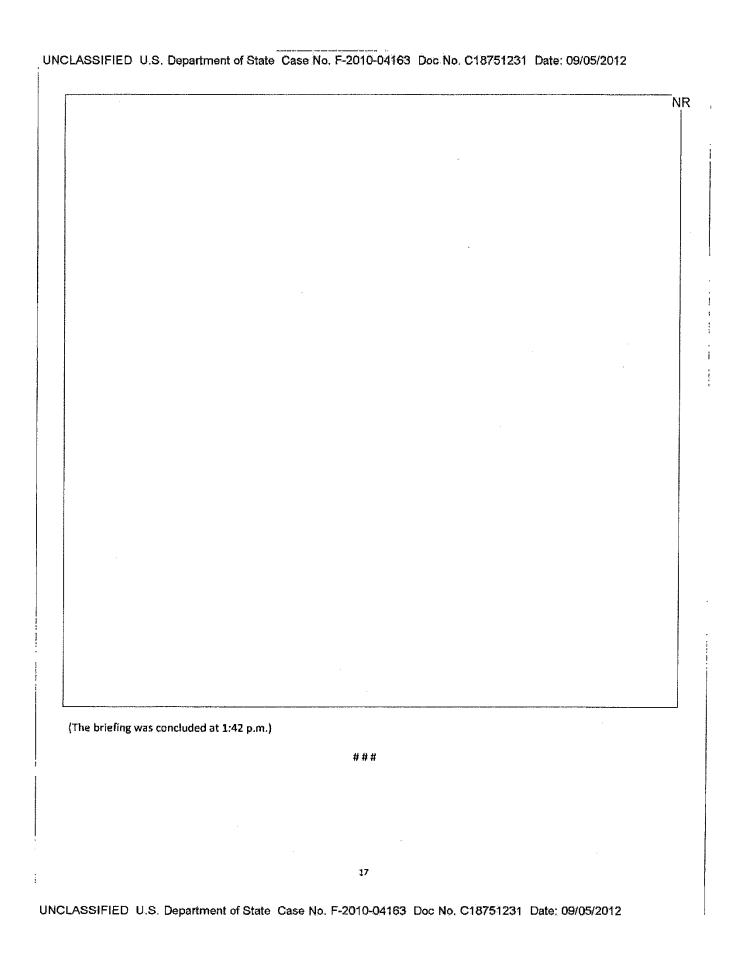
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JESTION: So it would	n't bother you at all if this was hap	pening?	
oinion – that's been st	ated very clearly from the State De	guess, of these claims that they've been partment, both from the Secretary down o get this kind of assistance to the people	to this podium – is
<b>JESTION:</b> So prevent	ing the flotilla from leaving by a		
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JESTION: Well, are			
R. TONER: But I'm sa	ying these vessels, these flotillas, in	and of themselves, are not a good idea.	
IESTION: Well can v	ou say that you would be opposed:	to anyone trying to sabotage these – tryi	ng to sabotage these

MR. TONER: Again --

QUESTION: It's my understanding that you're concerned about the safety of everyone involved --

MR. TONER: Precisely.

QUESTION: -- and that if there's someone running around and trying to --

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QUESTION: -- sabotaging these ships, that's a safety issue.

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MR. TONER: I don't have any comment.

QUESTION: Okay. Would you equally also say that it is not a good idea to sabotage these ships in any way?

MR. TONER: I would just reiterate what I just said to Matt, is – our bottom line is we don't want to see anyone put at risk, and that would include any action to sabotage these boats, but also the boats themselves, the flotillas themselves, will put these individuals at risk.

Yeah. Go ahead.

QUESTION: Change of topic?

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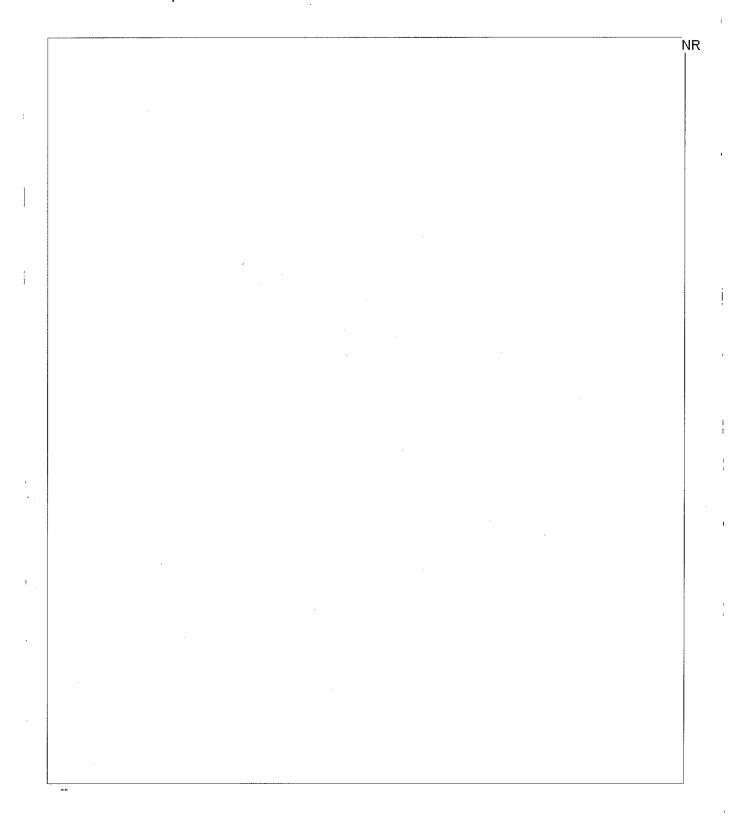
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UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751231 Date: 06/27/2012



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UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751231 Date: 06/27/2012

#### RELEASED IN FULL

#### Law, Rosemary C

From:

Stafford, Edward G

Sent:

Wednesday, November 02, 2011 5:03 AM

To:

Ricciardone, Francis J

Cc: Subject: Baily, Jess L; Kim, Yuri J; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Fernandes, Anthony C

Flotilla II coming?

#### Ambassador:

NSS and Embassy Tel Aviv have expressed concerns that Flotilla II ships may sail from Turkish ports (among severa) in the Med) in the near future before the weather in the Eastern Med turns too bad for vessels of this size/type to sail. The Gov of Israel has been demarching countries to make sure Flotilla II does not happen. Given previous GOT statements about escorting vessels in the Eastern Med and Freedom of Navigation, there are questions about GOT response. We are not suggeting you raise, or have D raise, but wanted you to be aware if it is raised by others.

#### Background information:

- --Several ships that wished to participate in Flotilla II in July but did not do so for various reasons appear to be ready to sail and have made public their intention to sail to Gaza and "break the blockade" (MV Saoirse in Fethiye and MV Tahcir)
- --to our knowledge, the ships are Irish and Sierro Leonean flagged, none are Turkish-flagged or owned
- --the last Flotilla vessel to violate the Israeli blockade was the Dignite al Karama, which sailed from a Greek port after indicating it planned to sail to Egypt. On july 19, Israeli forces, using non-lethal means, stopped it, boarded it, and took control, taking it and its personnel to Ashdod.

Edward G. Stafford Counselor for Political-Military Affairs U.S. Embassy Ankara Ataturk Bulvari 110 Kavaklidere, 06100 Ankara +90 (312) 457-7170 +90 532 620 5294 "Loyalty is too valuable a virtue to be lavished on an individual person."

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

#### Law, Rosemary C

From:

Ricciardone, Francis J

Sent:

Saturday, September 03, 2011 4:52 AM

To:

'ricciardonemd@gmail.com'

Subject:

Fw: 'RE: Turkey to Downgrade Relations with Israel

Attachments:

image001.gif

From: Baily, Jess L

To: 'Godfrey, Anthony' <Anthony\_F\_Godfrey@nss.eop.gov>; Kim, Yuri J

Cc: Ricciardone, Francis J Sent: Fri Sep 02 17:14:43 2011

Subject: RE: `RE: Turkey to Downgrade Relations with Israel

This seems about right according to my quick read. MFA web site does not have the transcript

posted. Jess

Jess L. Baily **Deputy Chief of Mission** U.S. Embassy Ankara 90-312-455-5555 bailyjl@state.gov

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Godfrey, Anthony [mailto:Anthony\_F\_Godfrey@nss.eop.gov]

Sent: Friday, September 02, 2011 5:11 PM To: Godfrey, Anthony; Kim, Yuri J; Baily, Jess L

Cc: Ricciardone, Francis J

Subject: RE: `RE: Turkey to Downgrade Relations with Israel

Here it is:

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Davutoglu Rejects Palmer Report; Announces Steps Against Israel

GMP20110902734009 Istanbul NTV in Turkish 0930 GMT 02 Sep 11

[Statement by Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu in Ankara -- live; broadcast in progress]

[Davutoglu, broadcast in progress] ... I find it useful to reiterate the following:

Israel's attack occurred in international waters. Those who were killed by Israeli soldiers were innocent civilians. The murdered persons were civilians who were responding to the cries, and trying to help the Palestinian people who are oppressed under the Gaza blockade imposed by Israel contrary to international law and human values.

War is unfortunately a bitter truth in the history of humanity. It is, above all else, the heaviest assault on the human being, the most sacred of values. In fact, all civilizations have created the concept of a just war in order to base even wars on certain principles. That is why the UN Charter says military force must be resorted to only under very strict conditions.

Also, due to the faith in the sacredness of the right to live, even in cases when a war is legitimate, the murder of civilians is considered a war crime.

As for Israel, it murdered civilians who participated in a peaceful act to bring help to innocent people suffering under an oppressive blockade, and it did that at a time of peace, not of war, and in a civilian aid convoy, not a military one. That is the picture.

Furthermore, it did that not on its own land or its territorial waters, but in international waters where freedom of navigation prevails in accordance with one of the most basic principles of international law. The crime committed by Israel is not a simple one. It is international law that has been violated. It is human conscience that has been violated. It is the right to life, the most fundamental humanitarian value, that has been violated.

There is a fact that cannot be changed, and it is this: Attacking civilians in a boat in an aid convoy and killing unarmed persons by shooting them repeatedly in the neck constitute a crime of humanity. Nothing can hide or justify this crime.

There is another point that needs to be known: No state is above the law. The world is changing. Those who murder civilians or who commit crimes of humanity are facing the law and being put on trial, sooner or later. Not the Israeli Government that ordered the attack on the Mavi Marmara, nor the ones who carried out this attack are above the law or inculpable. They must all account for their deeds before the law. Actually, they have already been convicted by human conscience.

Esteemed members of the press,

You may remember that Turkey quickly took steps to ensure that justice prevailed and that this crime did not remain unpunished. On the day of the Israeli attack, we called the UN Security Council [UNSC] to an urgent meeting. In my speech at that meeting, I said that humanity drowned in the waters of the Mediterranean with this Israeli attack that disregarded the law, human conscience and values. In fact, in the early hours of 1 June 2010, the UNSC unanimously accepted -- with a full international community consensus -- a UNSC Presidency statement. With this statement, the Security Council called for a speedy, transparent, reliable, and neutral investigation to be conducted in line with international standards into this tragedy that had occurred as a result of Israel's use of armed force.

Meanwhile, the UN Human Rights Council which is based in Geneva also adopted a decision to form a datagathering commission composed of extremely respected experts and jurists to investigate the attack. In line with the call of the UNSC, the UN secretary general formed an investigative panel. Turkey acted in full cooperation with the panel. We did all we could to help speed up the investigation process, and we submitted our national report.

As for Israel, even though it was part of the panel, it constantly acted with a view to delaying and preventing the panel's work.

Also, as we all know, we asked the Israeli Government to officially apologize for this attack and to pay compensation to the families of the murdered civilians. We stressed that the blockade on Gaza -- which was openly criticized in the UNSC Presidency statement -- must be lifted. We declared that Turkish-Israeli ties would not normalize unless our conditions were met.

On the other hand, when the Israeli Government informed us that it was ready to hold talks with the Turkish Government in order to apologize to the Turkish people and to pay compensation to the families of those killed in the attack, we held a total of four rounds of talks at different times. The Turkish and Israeli delegations that were conducting the negotiations reached agreements a few times on accords that met our country's demands for an apology and compensation. In fact, after Turkey helped put out the forest fire in Israel in December 2010, as a result of talks held in Geneva following a demand by the Israeli prime minister, agreement was reached on two separate accords ad referendum. This agreement was approved by Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu. It could not be put into practice, however, as a result of the disagreements in the Israeli Cabinet in connection with signing that agreement.

During this process, all the delays in the publication of the Palmer Commission Report — I am stressing that, because we are being faced with a very serious manipulation of the press — were caused by the Israeli Government's requests on the grounds that it needed time to achieve an inner consensus regarding the apology and compensation. In other words, all the delays were the result of the Israeli Government's requests.

We did not accept the latest Israeli request for a six-month delay. We refused that request because it became obvious that the delays were meant to spread the issue over time.

In this context, it is without a doubt food for thought that the report — of which Turkey or Israel were not a part, and which carries the signatures of only Chairman Palmer and his aide Uribe — was leaked to the press on 1 September, before it was officially presented to the UN secretary general. I discussed this issue openly with the UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon yesterday [1 September]. He said that he did not know the details of the report which had not been submitted to him yet, and that he was truly saddened by and amazed about this leak. Unfortunately, during this process, the Israeli side never acted with a sense of a seriousness or secrecy that befits a state.

The first thing that we need to make clear is that this report reflects the views of only the said persons. The report clearly cites the crimes committed by the Israeli soldiers and other Israeli officials. It states that the attack by a large military force on ships in a location that was very far away from Israel's blockade area was excessive and unexplainable. It states that the deaths and injuries caused by Israeli soldiers are unacceptable, that Israel failed to explain the loss of nine lives, and that the evidence shows that most of the

victims were shot repeatedly at close range and from behind. Furthermore, it clearly states that the passengers were seriously mishandled, meaning that they were physically beaten, abused, and threatened, that their personal belongings were illegally seized, and that they were prevented from receiving consular help.

The report states, however, that the inhuman blockade imposed on Gaza is legal. Naturally it is impossible and out of the question to accept this contention.

Last year, immediately after the incident, the UN Human Rights Council's data-gathering commission which was composed of experts and extremely qualified jurists clearly posited that the Gaza blockade is contrary to international law. This was approved by the UN Human Rights Council and the UN General Assembly, in other words, by the entire international community.

The positing of different and very debatable views by the panel's president and his aide, who clearly exceeded the authority granted to the panel, seems to be based on political rather than legal reasons.

Turkey does not accept in any way this approach which damages the panel's function and reliability.

Turkey strongly rejects this judgment which is incompatible with the text and spirit of the UNSC Presidency declaration that had been accepted unanimously.

We are determined to take this issue to international legal bodies.

#### Esteemed friends,

Our attitude toward Israel's illegal act has been very clear and principled from the first moment. Our demands are known. Unless these conditions are met, our relations with Israel will not normalize.

At the point we are at today, Israel has wasted all the opportunities given to it. The time has come for the Israeli Government to bear the consequences of and pay a price for its illegitimate actions which it carries out by considering itself to be above international law and by completely disregarding human conscience. This price is, above all, to be left without Turkey's friendship. The only responsible party for this state of affairs is the Israeli Government and the Israeli Government's irresponsible act.

In this context, our government has decided to take the following measures at this stage:

1. Turkish-Israeli diplomatic relations will be reduced to the level of second secretary. All officials above this level, headed by the ambassador, will returned to their country by Wednesday [ 7 September] at the latest. 2. All the military agreements between Turkey and Israel have been suspended. 3. As a country that has the longest shoreline in the eastern Mediterranean, Turkey will take all the measures it deems necessary for the freedom of navigation in the eastern Mediterranean. 4. Turkey does not recognize Israel's blockade of Gaza. It will make sure that the blockade, which Israel declared on Gaza on 31 May 2010, is investigated by the International Court of Justice. We are starting to take steps to activate the UNGA in this regard. 5. We will

give all the support necessary to the victims -- Turkish or otherwise -- of the Israeli attack in their quest for their rights in courts.

Esteemed members of the press,

I would like to stress one more point here. Turkey has always represented a mentality that wants to make sure peace and not war, justice and not oppression prevail. Our foreign policy is based on this fundamental understanding. That is why just as we raised our voice against the massacres in Bosnia and Kosovo in the past, we showed our reaction to the inhuman Israeli attacks in Gaza today, too.

Today, the Israeli Government must make a choice: The Israeli leaders must realize that real security can come only if real peace is built. They must realize that the way to building real peace is by strengthening friendships, not by murdering the citizens of friendly nations. Nevertheless, it is obvious that the current Israeli Government is incapable of seeing this reality or of realizing the consequences of the huge changes taking place in the Middle East.

On this occasion, I would like to particularly stress that the measures we are taking and that we will take in the future are linked only to the attitude of the current Israeli Government. Our aim is not to hurt the historic Turkish-Jewish friendship, but on the contrary, to guide the Israeli Government toward rectifying a mistake that does not fit this exceptional friendship.

Turkey has always had a sincere and constructive attitude to prevent developments that damage regional and global and peace and stability, and to redress negative developments that have taken place. From the beginning, it posited its demands and expectations regarding this issue clearly and in a principled way, and it did what was expected of it.

I would like to stress this once again: The only party responsible for the current state of affairs is the Israeli Government. Unless the Israeli Government takes the necessary steps, there will not be a going back from the current situation. Thank you.

From: Godfrey, Anthony

Sent: Friday, September 02, 2011 10:10 AM

To: 'Kim, Yuri J'; Baily, Jess L Cc: Ricciardone, Francis J

Subject: RE: `RE: Turkey to Downgrade Relations with Israel

Thanks - Yuri - OSC (the office formerly known as FBIS) has a relatively full translation. You might want to have your folks working from that...

From: Kim, Yuri J [mailto:KimYJ@state.gov]

Sent: Friday, September 02, 2011 10:09 AM

To: Godfrey, Anthony; Baily, Jess L

#### UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751233 Date: 06/27/2012

Cc: Ricciardone, Francis J

Subject: Re: `RE: Turkey to Downgrade Relations with Israel

We have the prepared text and are working on translation.

From: Godfrey, Anthony < Anthony\_F\_Godfrey@nss.eop.gov>

To: Baily, Jess L

Cc: Kim, Yuri J; Ricciardone, Francis J Sent: Fri Sep 02 17:04:08 2011

Subject: `RE: Turkey to Downgrade Relations with Israel

Jess - thanks. Here's a paper that the Embassy here just gave us.

Tom Donilon asked for a transcript of Dav's remarks today. I sent Suheyla's full readout, but that did not satisfy. Can we ask for a transcript?

From: Baily, Jess L [mailto:Baily]L@state.gov]
Sent: Friday, September 02, 2011 9:55 AM
To: Godfrey, Anthony; Silverman, Lawrence

Subject: FW: Turkey to Downgrade Relations with Israel

Jess L. Baily Deputy Chief of Mission U.S. Embassy Ankara 90-312-455-555 bailyil@state.gov

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Baily, Jess L

Sent: Friday, September 02, 2011 4:51 PM

To: EUR-SE-TU-DL; Rubin, Eric S

Subject: FW: Turkey to Downgrade Relations with Israel

Jess L. Baily Deputy Chief of Mission U.S. Embassy Ankara 90-312-455-5555 bailyjl@state.gov

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: SMART Core [mailto:svcSMARTBTSRctSPrec@state.gov]

Sent: Friday, September 02, 2011 4:41 PM

To: Brown, Kristina M; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; de Otalvaro, Laura H; Witmer, Kami A; Bailey, Sarah L; Fetterman, Eric D; Wright, Geoffrey W; Fernandes, Anthony C; Jones, Stacey L; Bijanki, Ashwin E; Dunn, Patrick M; Hay, Andrew W; Kim, Yuri J; Keane, Rob X; Stafford, Edward G

Cc: Tobey, Laurence E; Campbell, Ross C; Campbell, Brigitte MC; Bruns, Thomas; Duda, Raymond P; Destito, Mark S; Baily, Jess L; Jaworski, Richard E; Lally, Michael; Owen, Christopher M; Hamilton, Clay M; Densmore, William E; Wroblewski, K Andrew

Subject: Turkey to Downgrade Relations with Israel

## UNCLASSIFIED SBU



Action Office: Info Office: POL, POL\_MIL, ODC EAC, DAO\_INFO

MRN:

11 ANKARA 1431

Date/DTG:

Sep 02, 2011 / 021338Z SEP 11

From:

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

Action:

WASHDC, SECSTATE IMMEDIATE

E.O.:

13526

TAGS:

PREL, MARR, MOPS, ICJ, TU, IS

Captions:

SENSITIVE

Reference:

A) ANKARA 1323

Subject:

Turkey to Downgrade Relations with Israel

- 1. (SBU) SUMMARY: FM Davutoglu announced during a September 2 press conference the GoT's intention to downgrade relations with Israel if the latter does not apologize for its May 31, 2010 interception of the Freedom Flotilla flagship Mavi Marmara by the official release of the Palmer Panel report expected for September 7. Davutoglu emphasized the GoT's goal is not to harm the centuries-old friendship between Turks and Jews, but to compel the Israeli government to rectify its mistakes. He rejected the leaked report's conclusion that the Gaza embargo is consistent with international law. The Israeli Embassy here has not yet received official notification of the downgrade in relations and requirement to withdraw personnel. We expect the MFA to withhold that notice until the Palmer Panel report's official release on September 6. Davutoglu will be attending the September 3 informal EU foreign ministers meeting (Gymnich). END SUMMARY.
- 2. (SBU) Reacting to the past 24 hours' media leaks of the Palmer Panel report conclusions, FM Davutoglu announced during a 12:30 p.m. (Ankara time) press conference:
  - Turkey's intention to downgrade relations with Israel to the second secretary level effective September 7 if the GoI fails to apologize for the Mavi Marmara's interception. (Note: GOT expecting Palmer Panel report on September 6 but MFA source said indicate this action will take place on September 7 whether report is released on not.)
  - The suspension of all bilateral military agreements (NOTE: This may/may impact the servicing contract for the Israel Aerospace Industries Heron UAVs sold to the Turkish military and used in anti-PKK operations.)
  - Turkey will, as the country with the longest coastline in the eastern Mediterranean, take measures to ensure

7,

- freedom of navigation.
- The GoT will challenge the legality of Israel's blockade of Gaza in the International Court of Justice.
- The GoT will support Turkish and other victims of Israeli attacks.

(NOTE: REFTEL reported concerns that the GoT might seek to throttle the Israeli-Turkish commercial relationship. Davutoglu did not mention any GoT intent to cut business ties or other people to people exchanges with Israel.)

- 3. (U) Davutoglu emphasized that, by taking these actions, the GoT's goal is not to harm the centuries-old friendship between Turks and Jews, but to compel the Israeli government to rectify its mistakes. He attributed the downgrade in relations entirely to Israeli government actions. He said the GoI had wasted an opportunity to forestall this action and is paying the price through the loss of Turkey's friendship. He implied the GoT would reconsider its decision to downgrade relations if the GoI met Turkey's conditions, most notably an official apology for the Mavi Marmara's interception, before the Palmer report's issuance.
- 4. (SBU) Davutoglu opened his press conference with observations pertaining to the May 31, 2010 Israel Defense Forces interception of the Mavi Marmara and the associated deaths of eight Turks and one Turkish-American. He said:
  - Israel launched the attack in international waters against civilians on board a civilian vessel that was attempting
    to provide aid to the people of Gaza, which is under Israeli blockade.
  - Nine civilians, eight Turks and one American, died in the attack, while the rest of the people on board were taken prisoner.
  - The killing of innocent civilians is a war crime, a crime against humanity.
  - No countries are above the law; no countries are exempt from judicial processes.
  - A war crime was committed in international waters, a crime against humanity.
  - Turkey had cooperated with the investigation process.
  - Turkey had announced it would not normalize relations unless Israel met Turkish conditions.
  - Turkey has been confronted by attempts to manipulate the media. (NOTE: The GoT has been repeatedly irked by leaks to Israeli media on the progress of its discreet rapprochement discussions with the Gol.)
  - Israel had requested the past postponements of the Palmer Panel report's release. Turkey had rejected the Gol's last request for a six-month postponement.
  - The report was leaked in the press before it was submitted to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon.
  - The report reflects only the views of the panel chairman and his deputy.
  - Turkey cannot accept its conclusion the Gaza blockade is in compliance with international law; the report's political goals interfere with its legal analysis.
  - Turkey will take the blockade issue to the international courts.
  - The report describes Israel as having used excessive force.
- 5. (SBU) Davutoglu concluded his statement by saying that the measures he outlined would not be reversible without Israel taking the "necessary steps." MFA officials do not anticipate that the GOI will be in a position to take the long-discussed necessary steps in the near future, much less by Wednesday, the deadline for the return home of diplomats above the second secretary level.
- 6. (SBU) The Israeli Embassy here told us that, as of 15:30 p.m. (Ankara time), it had received no official notice of the downgrade in relations or order to depart. (COMMENT: We expect to MFA to withhold that notice until the Palmer Panel report's official release.) Ambassador Levy is in Israel on leave, and was to return week of September 5 prior to an expected mid-month departure from Ankara. The Israeli Consulate in Istanbul does not expect the anticipated Turkish action to force the Consul General to leave. The embassy is not aware of any planned demonstrations in front of its missions and does not expect any demonstrations this weekend.

Signature:

BAILY

Drafted By:

ANKARA: Howard, Jeremiah H

Cleared By:

Kim, Yuri J

Approved By:

Baily, Jess L ANKARA:Baily, Jess L

Released By: Info:

LONDON, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; BRUSSELS, USEU ROUTINE; THE HAGUE,

AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; SECDEF WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; DIRNSA FT GEORGE G MEADE MD IMMEDIATE; DIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE; CIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE; WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE; EUCOM POLAD VAIHINGEN GE IMMEDIATE; USUN NEW YORK, USMISSION IMMEDIATE; JERUSALEM, AMCONSUL IMMEDIATE; TEL AVIV, AMEMBASSY IMMEDIATE; CJCS WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE

Attachments:

metadata.dat

**Action Post:** 

Dissemination Rule:

EAC, POL, POL\_MIL, ODC, DAO\_INFO

UNCLASSIFIED SBU

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751234 Date: 06/27/2012 | RELEASED IN FULL,

RELEASED IN FULL, Non-responsive deleted

R12

Law, Rosemary C		
From: Sent: To:	Ricciardone, Francis J Friday, June 24, 2011 10:21 AM 'ricciardonemd@gmail.com'	
Subject:	FW: Clinton on Syria-Turkey Border, June 23	
Categories:	Working	
Francis J. Ricciardone US Ambassador		
Ankara, Turkey		
tel: +90 312 457 7280		
This email is UNCLASSIF	FIED.	
From: Guido, Deborah L		
Sent: Friday, June 24, 20 To: Ozbag, Didem; Ankar Francis J Subject: Clinton on Syria	aAMB; Ankara-POL-DL; Ankara-PAO-IO-DL; Ankara-PMA-DL; Silliman, Douglas A; Ricciardone,	
Q/A from Press Availability	y with Philippine Leader	
Excerpt, June 23		
		NR
		1411
	, there's reports that another flotilla may be headed to Gaza within the next couple days. What is your and participants in that? Thank you.	
	FUODITY: Sharen Ahmed Seniar Poviewer	

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751234 Date: 06/27/2012

			-
QUESTION: (Inaudible) flotilla (inaudible)?			
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SECRETARY CLINTON: Well, we do not believe that the flotilit			
this week, the Israell Government approved a significant comm Gaza and we think that it's not helpfut for there to be flotillas tha			
situation in which the Israelis have the right to defend themselv			-
`			
	•		
Deborah L. Guido			
Debby att at Object			
Spokesperson			
Spokesperson U.S. Embassy Ankara Office: 90-312-457-7312			
Spokesperson U.S. Embassy Ankara Office: 90-312-457-7312 Cell: 90-0532 341-2862 Email: guidodi@state.gov			
Spokesperson U.S. Embassy Ankara Office: 90-312-457-7312 Cell: 90-0532 341-2862			
Spokesperson U.S. Embassy Ankara Office: 90-312-457-7312 Cell: 90 0532 341-2862 Email: guidodi@state.gov U.S. Embassy.Web Page			
Spokesperson U.S. Embassy Ankara Office: 90-312-457-7312 Cell: 90 0-532-457-7318 Cell: 90 0-532-862 Email: guidodi@state.gov U.S. Embassy Web Page Visit us on Facebook			
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Spokesperson U.S. Embassy Ankara Office: 90-312-457-7312 Cell: 90-0532-4457-2862 Email: guidodi@state.gov U.S. Embassy Web Page Visit us on Facebook .			

R<sub>I</sub>3

#### Law, Rosemary C

From:

Ricciardone, Francis J

Sent:

Thursday, June 02, 2011 1:44 AM

To:

'ricciardonemd@gmail.com'

Subject:

Fw: FYI - Americans Joining Flotilla - NYT June 2

There is hope

Francis J. Ricciardone US Ambassador American Embassy Ankara, Turkey

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Tel: +90 312 457 7280

From: Deborah GuidoOGrady < dgo999@gmail.com>

To: Ricciardone, Francis J; Silliman, Douglas A; Ankara-POL-DL; Ankara-PMA-DL; Leary, Thomas M

Sent: Thu Jun 02 07:19:33 2011

Subject: FYI - Americans Joining Flotilla - NYT June 2

June 1, 2011 - New York Times

Americans Are Joining Flotilla to Protest Israeli Blockade
By LAURIE GOODSTEIN

When an international flotilla sails for Gaza this month to challenge Israel's naval blockade of the Palestinian territory, among the boats will be an American ship with 34 passengers, including the writer Alice Walker and an 86-year-old whose parents died in the Holocaust.

A year ago, nine people in a flotilla of six boats were killed when Israeli commandos boarded a Turkish boat in international waters off the coast of Gaza. The Israelis said their commandos were attacked and struck back in self-defense, but the Turks blamed the Israelis for using live ammunition. The raid soured relations between Israel and Turkey and intensified pressure on Israel to end the naval blockade.

Organizers said the new flotilla, scheduled to leave in late June from a port they would not identify, had at least 1,000 passengers on about 10 boats. One boat will carry Spaniards, another Canadians, another Swiss and another Irish.

The Americans have named their boat "The Audacity of Hope," lifting the title of a book by President Obama to make a point, said Leslie Cagan, a political organizer who is the coordinator of the American boat.

"We're sending a message to our own government that we think it could play a much more positive role in not only ending the siege of Gaza, but also ending the whole

occupation" of Palestinian land, she said. "The phrase does capture what we believe, which is that it is possible to make change in a positive way, and that's a very hopeful stance."

After Hamas took over Gaza in 2007, Israel imposed an embargo on the area, with Egypt's help, essentially trapping the population in an effort to enforce security and to squeeze the militant group. Although Israel has maintained the sea blockade, it loosened the land blockade after the international condemnation that followed the raid on the Turkish boat. And last week, Egypt officially reopened the Rafah border crossing, allowing more people to pass between Egypt and Gaza.

Noam Katz, minister for public diplomacy at the Israeli Embassy in Washington, said in an interview, "We see this flotilla as a political statement in order to support Hamas in Gaza. Hamas is a terror organization that took control of Gaza and its people and is committed to the destruction of the state of Israel. We have a blockade, and we are going to enforce this blockade."

The American passengers say they support the Palestinian people, not Hamas. They liken their strategy to that of the Freedom Riders, who 50 years ago rode buses to the American South to challenge segregation.

Gabriel Schivone, a student at the University of Arizona who is joining the flotilla, said, "It's in the tradition of Dr. King's direct-action principles, to create a situation so tension-packed that it forces the world to look and see what's happening to the Palestinians."

To explain why she was joining the flotilla, Hedy Epstein, the 86-year-old, said, "The American Jewish community and Israel both say that they speak for all Jews. They don't speak for me. They don't speak for the Jews in this country who are going to be on the U.S. boat, and the many others standing behind us."

The American boat is owned by a Greek company and registered in Delaware, Ms. Cagan said. It will carry letters from Americans to Palestinians, not aid. About a quarter of the passengers are Jewish. Among the crew is a former captain in the Israeli Air Force who refused to fly missions in Gaza.

Deborah Guido-O'Grady U.S. Embassy Ankara 0532-341-2862

#### Law, Rosemary C

From:

Ricciardone, Francis J

Sent:

Monday, August 29, 2011 9:20 AM

To:

Baily, Jess L

Subject: Attachments: FW: Haaretz/ "Turkey denied Netanyahu effort to delay release of Gaza flotilla report"

RELEASED IN FULL

image001.jpg

fyi

From: fsinirlioglu@mfa.gov.tr [mailto:fsinirlioglu@mfa.gov.tr]

Sent: Monday, August 29, 2011 12:18 PM

To: Burns, William J; Gordon, Philip H; Ricciardone, Francis J

Subject: Fw: Haaretz/ "Turkey denied Netanyahu effort to delay release of Gaza flotilla report"

Bu e-posta, Turkcell BlackBerry ile gönderilmiştir.

From: Burcu Erdoğdu < burcu.erdogdu@mfa.gov.tr>

Date: Mon, 29 Aug 2011 11:29:42 +0300

To: Feridun Sinirlioğlu<fsinirlioglu@mfa.gov.tr>; <fsinirlioglu@yahoo.com>

Cc: Mehmet Kemal Bozay<a href="Mehmet.Bozay@mfa.gov.tr">Mehmet.Bozay@mfa.gov.tr</a>>

Subject: Haaretz/ "Turkey denied Netanyahu effort to delay release of Gaza flotilla report"

#### HAARETZ.com

Turkey denied Netanyahu effort to delay release of Gaza flotilla report

Turkey claims Netanyahu attempting to buy time, add that they prefer an unfavorable report over waiting another two fruitless months; Palmer Report due to be published on Friday September 2.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu suggested a few days ago that the Palmer Report on the Israel Defense Forces' raid of a Gaza-bound flotilla in which nine Turkish activists were killed, be delayed by six months.

The suggestion was made to the Turkish government and UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, but Haaretz has learned that the Turkish government rejected Netanyahu's proposal, claiming it was not serious.

The UN investigative committee into the raid, headed by Geoffrey Palmer, is now due to publish the report this Friday, September 2.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

1

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751236 Date: 09/05/2012

The Palmer Report on the events that occurred on board the Turkish aid ship Mavi Marmara in 2010 has been delayed three times already, each time with the agreement of both Israel and Turkey, who made joint requests of the UN Secretary-General.

According to an official in Jerusalem, Netanyahu's latest suggestion to postpone the report's publication by six months was not warmly welcomed by the Turks.

Turkey saw Netanyahu's suggestion as an attempt to avoid reaching a decision on the reconciliation agreement and to stall progress. They explained that despite how problematic the report is for them, they would prefer for it to be published on September 2 than to wait another two grueling months, at the end of which it is not at all certain that Netanyahu would agree to apologize for what happened on board the Mavi Marmara.

An outline of the reconciliation agreement has already been approved by Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan and includes a softened Israeli apology for the events that occurred onboard the ship, in return for normalized relations with Turkey and a commitment on Turkey's behalf not to take legal proceedings personally against the Israeli soldiers and officers involved.

Turkey has said that if Israel does not apologize, it will carry out a series of actions detrimental to Israel-Turkey relations and that it would take legal action against Israel.

Netanyahu has avoided making a firm decision for a number of months regarding how Israel will deal with the situation. He told senior American officials that despite that he is interested in accepting the outline of the agreement and apologizing to Turkey, he feared such a move would lead Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman to withdraw from the coalition.

After Lieberman said he would not withdraw from the coalition, even if a decision was made to apologize to Turkey, Netanyahu changed his reasoning for postponing the report's publication, telling the Americans that he is not able to apologize, for he is under political pressure owing to the social protests.

Two weeks ago he informed U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton that Israel would not apologize for the 2010 Gaza flotilla raid. Speaking with Clinton via telephone, Netanayhu said that Israel does not intend to adopt an outline to restore its relationship with Turkey.

An official in Jerusalem said that Netanyahu told Clinton that Israel does not oppose the publication of the Palmer Committee's report, but that the date of the report's release depends on Ban Ki-moon.

i

#### **RELEASED IN PART B6**

R15

**B6** 

#### Law, Rosemary C

From:

Ricciardone, Francis J

Sent:

Sunday, July 17, 2011 12:39 PM

To:

Gordon, Philip H; 'esherwood-randall@nss.eop.gov'; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Sullivan, Jacob J

Cc:

Kim, Yuri J; Kaidanow, Tina S; Rubin, Eric S

Subject:

FW: Haaretz story on apology

In case you've not seen yet.

Holding breath for Lieberman's reaction ...

From: Yuri Kim [mailto:

Sent: Sunday, July 17, 2011 7:31 PM

To: Ricciardone, Francis J Cc: Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry" Subject: Haaretz story on apology

Looks like Israelis trying to prep their public or an apology:

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Home Print Edition News

Published 01:44 17.07.11Latest update 01:44 17.07.11

Defense officials: Israel considering apology to Turkey over deadly Gaza flotilla raid

Cautious apology could stop possible lawsuits by Turkish organizations against Israel Defense Forces officers and bring the affair to an end.

By Amos Harel

Tags: Turkey Israel Turkey Gaza flotilla

The defense establishment is showing increased support for resolving the crisis between Israel and Turkey following the Mavi Marmara affair, even at the price of an apology to Ankara by Jerusalem.

Internal discussions between defense officials and Justice Ministry officials over the past few weeks have suggested that a cautious apology could stop possible lawsuits by Turkish organizations against Israel Defense Forces officers and bring the affair to an end.

A report by the UN-sponsored Palmer Committee on the incident, of which Israel received a draft earlier this month, is scheduled to be released in a few weeks. The report focuses on the events of May 31, 2010, when nine Turkish nationals were killed and dozens of participants were wounded after Israeli commandos took over the ship, which was part of a flotilla to Gaza.

Meanwhile, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has been trying to reach a compromise between Turkey and Israel.

The committee has accepted Israel's claim - as has the Turkel committee which investigated the incident (where there were two foreign observers ) - that Israel's maritime closure of the Gaza Strip is legal, and that Israel acted lawfully in deciding to stop the flotilla.

However, the report harshly criticized the way Israel acted in doing so; these actions led to the deaths of nine Turks, members of the radical Islamic group IHH, who were shot by Israeli naval commandos aboard the Mavi Marmara.

The committee determined that Israel used excessive force and said deaths could have been prevented in several cases - although participants armed with clubs and iron rods attacked the commanders as they descended from a helicopter to the ship.

Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman has recently come out publicly against an apology, which he said would humiliate Israel and serve as a blow to national pride. Defense officials counter that an apology now will prevent legal problems

later for officers and soldiers.

Photographs of several IDF personnel involved in the raid have been posted on the Internet and are now in the hands of leftist and Islamic groups in Europe. Defense and justice officials have expressed concern that these groups will take steps similar to those of British pro-Palestinian groups, which have prevented senior Israeli officials from entering Britain for quite some time.

In this case, however, a ban would extend to young soldiers who took part in the raid, many of whom are about to be released from the army and are planning trips abroad.

Senior defense officials told Haaretz that Israel has a major stake in improving relations with Turkey in light of Turkey's standing in the region, its past economic relationship with Israel and the opportunity to renew defense-related export to Turkey.

Although these views do not represent the Defense Ministry's official stance, Defense Minister Ehud Barak intimated as much in an interview last week on Channel 1: "From a strategic point of view, we have an interest in smoothing things over with Turkey," Barak said. "National pride is important [but] in the end, we have to understand that we have other interests here ... Turkey can have an important role in Issues relating to Syria, Iran, Lebanon and Hamas."

This story is by:

Amos Harel

RIL

RELEASED IN FULL

#### Law, Rosemary C

From:

Ricciardone, Francis J

Sent:

Thursday, July 07, 2011 12:19 PM

Subject:

'ricciardonemd@gmail.com'; 'berivan\_orucoglu@yahoo.com'

Fw: Israel: Turkish leak

Francis J. Ricciardone US Ambassador American Embassy Ankara, Turkey

Tel: +90 312 457 7280

From: Kim, Yuri J

To: Ricciardone, Francis J; Silliman, Douglas A

Cc: Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry" Sent: Thu Jul 07 16:31:27 2011 Subject: Israel: Turkish leak

AFP report featuring unhelpful comments attributed to "a Turkish source."

Israel-Turkey flotilla talks 'break down'

(AFP) – 14 hours ago

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

ISTANBUL — A UN-sponsored report accused Israel of using force prematurely and causing "unacceptable" deaths in its assault of a Gaza-bound ship that killed nine Turks over a year ago, a Turkish source said Thursday.

Israel and Turkey failed to reach agreement, refusing to sign the report about the Israeli raid on the Turkish ship Mavi Marmara in May last year, which was due to be handed to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon later Thursday, the source told AFP on condition of anonymity.

"Non-violent options should have been used in the first instance," the Turkish source quoted the report as saying.

The dead and wounded resulting from the raid were "unacceptable," the report added.

The Mavi Marmara was leading a flotilla carrying humanitarian aid to the Palestinian territory, subject to an Israeli-imposed blockade, when an intervention by Israeli security forces in international waters ended in bloodshed.

Nine Turkish passengers were killed in the assault on the ship that had been chartered by a Turkish Islamist group.

Following the May 31 raid, Turkey withdrew its ambassador in Tel Aviv, vowing that bilateral relations "would never be the same."

1

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751238 Date: 09/05/2012

Israel refused to sign the report after a commission of inquiry concluded that its forces had acted in an "excessive" manner by swooping on the Mavi Mannara a long way from the Gaza Strip and without giving a final warning to the vessel.

The source said Turkey's refusal to sign off on the report stemmed from the fact that it did not say Israel's blockade of Gaza was illegal.

Over the past year, Ankara has repeatedly said it was demanding apologies and compensation from Israel for the victims' families.

Still, there have been signs in recent weeks that the two countries were trying to overcome their differences.

Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Israel and Turkey were looking to heal the breach in relations that followed the flotilla incident.

"We are seeking ways of improving our current relations," Netanyahu told journalists in Bucharest on Wednesday.

Several attempts to restore ties between the former close allies have led nowhere, but Israel was encouraged after the owners of the Turkish ferry said it would not be participating in a second attempt to reach Gaza this month.

"We are trying to make concrete steps," Netanyahu said.

"Apart from the fact that Turkey did not participate in the (latest) flotilla, there are other signs allowing us to talk of an improvement in our relations."

Key to any reconciliation is Turkey's demand that Israel apologise for its actions.

But Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman reiterated his opposition to such a step in remarks to the parliamentary Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee.

"We have no interest in a confrontation with Turkey and we are in favour of renewing our relations with Turkey; we have no territorial dispute with Turkey and we are ready to reach a compromise," he said.

"We are not prepared to be dictated to and we are not prepared to be humiliated or to abandon our troops.

"An apology is not a compromise -- in my view, it is humiliation and abandonment of our soldiers," he continued.

On Tuesday, Israeli foreign ministry spokesman Yigal Palmor said contacts with Turkey had been intensified in order to solve the crisis and "turn the page" on previous disagreements.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751239 Date: 06/27/2012

#### RELEASED IN FULL

Law, Rosemary C

Ricciardone, Francis J

From: Sent:

Tuesday, July 19, 2011 8:22 AM

To:

Kim, Yuri J; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Pierce, Thomas JN; Avery, David; Stafford, Edward G

Subject:

FW: Israeli Navy boards French M/V Dignite/Karama of the Gaza flotilla (SBU)

Categories:

Working

Francis J. Ricciardone US Ambassador Ankara, Turkey tel: +90 312 457 7280

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: OpsAlert

Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2011 1:04 PM

Subject: Israeli Navy boards French M/V Dignite/Karama of the Gaza flotilla (SBU)

(SBU) Embassy Tel Aviv confirmed the the Israeli Navy boarded the ship at 0535 EDT/1235 Tel Aviv approximately 1-2 miles outside Israel's Gaza blockade line. The navy is reportedly in control of the ship and is taking it to the Israeli port of Ashdod. The Israeli Foreign Ministry is not aware of any injuries or casualties. Embassy Paris reports the French Foreign Ministry has been in regular contact with Israeli counterparts and has urged Israel to use minimal force and to guarantee French consular access.

Automatic electronic distribution to: S, D(S), D(N), P, E, C, M, DG, T, R, PA, G, AF, EAP, EUR, NEA, SCA, WHA, IO, S/CRS, S/CT, S/HSC, H, DS, CA, PMAT, INR, AVC, IIP, ISN, CMS, S/ES, S/ES-O, NSOC, and WHSR.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

RIT

R18

#### Law, Rosemary C

From:

Ricciardone, Francis J

Sent:

Sunday, September 04, 2011 4:02 AM

'ricciardonemd@gmail.com'

Subject:

Fw: Israeli op-eds/articles on Turkey

From: Yuri Kim <yurijkim@hotmail.com>

To: Ricciardone, Francis J; Ricciardone, Marie D.; Baily, Jess L

Sent: Sun Sep 04 10:37:58 2011

Subject: Israeli op-eds/articles on Turkey

Three Items below from Israeli press: the op-ed and article from the Jerusalem Post both mention Turkey's need for Herons; Haaretz frets that international opinion will be on the side of the Turks and in calling for the Netanyahu gov't to applicate to Egypt before things get worse seems to imply advocacy for an apology to Turkey as well.

RELEASED IN FULL

3P:

Analysis: From '0-problem' to '10-problem' policy

By EFRAT AVIV

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

04/09/2011

In the current atmosphere, Israel must play a new, sharp and calculated game of diplomacy and let Turkey act first.

A famous Turkish proverb expresses similarities between relationship and a string – when a string is cut, it says, there is always a possibility connecting both ends of the thread gives no option to avoid the knot.

If that is the path Turkey chooses to take when it comes to Israel, Israel is in big trouble.

But Turkey will not gain too much from the conflict either.

The Mavi Marmara affair was grasped as "The 9/11 of Israeli-Turkish relations," a ferm used for manifesting the shock coming from Ankara a

Despite all precautions, the Turks never dreamed the result of the flotika would occur as they did.

The death of nine Turkish citizens from IDF-fire was taken as if it was a declaration of war. They were furious and made the Marmara inciden relations with israel, unless the latter bowed down and apologized.

In addition, the Turks complained about extensive leaks of information in Israel (e.g. Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's initial decision to ε have more carefully observed the importance the Turks attributed to the incident and its effect on bilateral ties. Israel should have also kept in

• Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu and the AKP government are just part of the problem. Tu taken into consideration as well.

The responses following the Marmara raid were similar in all segments of Turkish society, creating a growing wave of criticism against Israel. elections campaign was "Hedef 2023," (Aim: 2023, Erdogan believes his government will still be ruling when the Turkish Republic celebrates but no one can guarantee that of course. How can Israel bring back the Turks' alliance as well as friendship on the day after Erdogan?

• In the unusual diplomacy of the Middle East, especially when Israel can look at the great Turkish example, why does Jerusalem ignore the I haven't we learned from Erdogan how to negotiate and twist reality to setisfy our own needs and interests? Some believe that especially in the means humilitation, submission and a blow to "national pride." But following the Turks, their famous pragmatism anchored in their days as an good. Why would Israel be interested in making it easier on Erdogan, who already called to lower the level of diplomatic relations in the past? up on the staggering \$2.6 billion the two nations exchange in trade every year? Why fall into the trap of Erdogan instead of learning from his must play a new, sharp, calculated game of diplomacy and let Turkey act first.

On the other hand, Israel might emerge as the greater loser here, but Turkey will not carry the day either. Domestic criticism accompanied by coming especially from the opposition leading party CHP, on AKP's decision, claiming that Erdogan's "zero problem policy" does not prove it: the price, on the other hand, is just too high.

Turkey's need for special military equipment required for combating the terrorist organization PKK, produced and made in Israel is a concern

1

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751240 Date: 09/05/2012

losing trade and other options. Turkey's current problems with Syria and the heated declarations against Turkey coming from Ahmadinejad, c problem policy" more relevant to this region.

Since AKP took control in Turkey, it has been trying to pursuade the world, especially the West, that being at the same time a democratic and possible. Turkey has no tendencies of becoming "a second tran" and that it can mediate between East and West. After downgrading the ties with "extra measures," Turkey will have to work harder on proving its "balanced policy" to us all.

Dr. Efrat Aviv is a lecturer in Bar-llan University's Department of Middle Eastern Studies and a research associate at the Begin- Sadet (BESA Studies at BIU.

JP:

Turkey to hike naval presence in eastern Med By YAAKOV KATZ 04/09/2011

"Israel will no longer be able to exercise its bullying practices freely," a Turkish diplomatic source tells a local newspaper.

The Turkish Navy will bolster its presence in the eastern Mediterranean Sea to prevent Israeli operations, Turkish officials said over the week between Jerusalem and Ankara intensified following the publication of the Palmer Report on last year's flotilla conflict.

"A more aggressive strategy will be pursued. Israel will no longer be able to exercise its bullying practices freely," a Turkish diplomatic source in the Humiyet Daily News. The source said that the navy would accompany ships bringing aid to the Gaza Strip.

Turkey has threatened to deploy its navy to accompany aid ships to the Gaza Strip in the past.

Ahead of the recent flotilla that tried to set sail from Greece in June, the Israel Navy had raised concern that Turkish Navy ships would accord Such a scenario however never materialized.

Despite the new crisis, the IDF does not plan on recalling the newly-appointed military attaché to Ankara who took up his post last month. The Moshe Levi, former head of the Gaza Coordination and Liaison Administration.

Israell and Turkish defense ties mostly came to a standatili following Israel's operation to stop the Turkish flotilla last year, which ended with a nationals abound the Mavi Marmara passenger ship.

"There are no sales and no joint exercises between us and Turkey," a defense official said on Friday. "There is also nothing planned for the n

The official noted that if Turkey followed through with cutting all defense ties with Israel, the move would have a negative impact on Turkish d which are dependent on Israeli companies for technology and exports.

One example is the joint venture that Israel Aerospace Industries, Elbit Systems and Turkey's Aselsan established, which won a \$183 million deliver Heron 1 unmanned aerial vehicles to the Turkish military. UAV deliveries have been completed, but Israeli defense contractors continuously maintenance support.

Another example is a joint venture between Israel Military Industries and Aselsan to upgrade M60A1 main battle tanks. The two companies clast year of 170 tanks to the Turkish army in a \$687m, deal. According to recent reports, the companies were vying for a new contract in Colo

"The Turkish companies will not be able to bid for contracts without the Israeli companies," the official explained,

Meanwhile, as ties with Turkey continue to deteriorate, Israel is bolstering its ties with Greece.

On Sunday, the Greek Defense Minister Panos Beglitis will arrive in Israel for talks with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, Defense Ministe Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Benny Gantz.

Beglitis will be met by an honor guard at the Defense Ministry in Tel Aviv on Sunday and will tour IDF bases, as well as Israeli defense indust

Greece and Israel have strengthened defense ties in recent years and both air forces have held a number of joint drills in Greece over the pa

#### Haaretz:

- Published 00:51 04.09.11
- Latest update 00:51 04.09.11

# World will likely support Turkey's moves against Israel

Supporting legal actions against Israel by families of the raid victims in Turkish and international courts, and appealing to International Court of Justice against the blockade of Gaza could have far-reaching effects.

By Zvi Bar'el Tags: Israel Turkey Gaza flotilla anti-Israel

The expulsion of Israel's ambassador from Ankara and downgrading of diplomatic ties to the level of second secretary could turn out to be the lightest of the sanctions Turkey Intends to impose on Israel. Supporting legal actions against Israel by families of the victims of the 2010 naval commando raid of the Mavi Marmara, in both Turkish and international courts, and appealing to the International Court of Justice against the blockade of the Gaza Strip could prove to be much more powerful. The former could affect the foreign travel plans of Israeli officers and decision makers, while the latter would move the Gaza issue from the local arena, where Israel maintains a relative advantage, to the international stage, which has not as yet interfered in Israeli policy vis-a-vis Gaza.

Turkey is judged likely to gain international support for its actions against Israel, in light of its climb in status in the global community in recent weeks. Contributing to Ankara's rising star are its harsh criticism of the Assad regime in Syria, despite heavy pressure from Iran; its cooperation with Libya's provisional government, and its support of the revolution in Egypt. Turkey's consent to the deployment of early warning radar, part of a NATO missile-defense system whose undeclared purpose is to protect Europe from Iranian missiles, is particularly important in this regard. The decision signals Turkish commitment to its alliance with NATO in general and to the United States in particular, deflecting the "accusation" that Ankara is turning away from the West and toward the East - that is, toward Tehran. It is Israel that may have to pay a price for Turkey's growing ties with the West and Ankara's decision to refuse Russia's entreaties to reject the radar deployment on its territory.

But Turkey's demand that Israel apologize, compensate the victims and lift the Gaza blockade is rooted primarily in Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan's obligation to his electorate. It has become a common, uniting, national denominator, an integral part of Turkey's national prestige and its domestic policy.

The concept of national prestige has also trapped Israel, which on at least two occasions rejected a skillfully crafted apology to Turkey due to the objections of Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman and Vice Prime Minister Moshe Ya'alon. Turkey is not an enemy state. Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu emphasized that Ankara's actions are a result of the policies of the Netanyahu government and are not intended to hurt the Israeli or Jewish people. He called on the Israeli government to amend its mistakes, which he said were not constructive to the remarkable friendship between Turkey and the Jewish people.

Davutoglu's remarks in effect are a declaration that Turkey sees the sanctions as a means of changing Israeli policy rather than as a policy or strategy in themselves. They place all the options for action in Israeli hands and emphasize Turkey's desire to maintain relations with Israel despite the enormous disagreement between the states. Egyptians yesterday celebrated the expulsion of the Israeli ambassador from Turkey. In a headline, Al-Masry Al-Youm termed the action a "lesson that Turkey taught Egypt" - an allusion to what Cairo should have done in the wake of last month's attack near Eilat. To keep relations with Egypt from deteriorating further, Jerusalem must put aside its "national prestige" and apologize for killing five Egyptian soldiers while responding to the terror attack near the Egyptian border.

RELEASED IN PART B6

R19

#### Law, Rosemary C

From:

Kim, Yuri J

Sent:

Tuesday, November 01, 2011 2:43 PM Ricciardone, Francis J; Baily, Jess L

Subject:

Fw: MFA flotilla effort

I'm in touch with \_\_\_\_\_in Sinirlioglu's office.

В6

---- Original Message -----

From: Kim, Yuri J

To: Levin, Jan; NEA-IPA-DL; EUR-SE-TU-DL

Cc: Silverman, Robert J; Berns, David B; Palm, Robert H; Hood, Jeffrey L; Cyril, Todd A;
Goldberger, Thomas H; Stafford, Edward G; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Blome, Donald A

Sent: Tue Nov 01 20:40:30 2011 Subject: Re: MFA flotilla effort

I have contacted U/S Sinirlioglu's office, which has played a critical role in managing previous flotilla-related issued. MFA will look into this and get back to us.

---- Original Message -----

From: Levin, Jan

To: NEA-IPA-DL; EUR-SE-TU-DL

Cc: Silverman, Robert J; Berns, David B; Palm, Robert H; Hood, Jeffrey L; Cyril, Todd A;
Goldberger, Thomas H; Kim, Yuri J; Stafford, Edward G; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Blome,

Donald A

Sent: Tue Nov 01 19:03:50 2011 Subject: MFA flotilla effort

Gary Koren just called to report that the Irish MFA told the GOI that it has confirmed that the yacht Saorirse is planning to sail from an unnamed Turkish port in two days, organized by Irish citizen Fintan Lane, who is a veteran of previous flotillas. The GOI has reached out to the Turkish MFA for assistance but received no concrete response.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

R20

#### Law, Rosemary C

From:

Ricciardone, Francis J

Sent:

Monday, September 05, 2011 3:19 PM

To:

'ricciardonemd@gmail.com'

Subject:

Fw: NYT/Cohen op-ed on Turkey/Israel

From: Baily, Jess L.

To: 'yurijkim@hotmail.com' <yurijkim@hotmail.com>; Ricciardone, Francis J; Ricciardone, Marie D.; Howard, Jeremiah

"Jerry"

Cc: Grubisha, Thomas J

Sent: Mon Sep 05 21:55:03 2011

Subject: Re: NYT/Cohen op-ed on Turkey/Israel

Cohen wrote w/ passion on amcit death in july 2010 ("the forgotten american") so this view not new.

Jess L. Baily

Deputy Chief of Mission U.S. Embassy, Ankara, Turkey

From: Yuri Kim <yurijkim@hotmail.com>

To: Ricciardone, Francis J; Ricciardone, Marie D.; Baily, Jess L; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"

Sent: Mon Sep 05 21:11:42 2011

Subject: NYT/Cohen op-ed on Turkey/Israel

Roger Cohen shames U.S. for silence on the death of the Amcit, calls for Israel to do the strategically right thing and apologize.

September 5, 2011

### **Israel Isolates Itself**

By ROGER COHEN

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

LONDON — Here's what the United Nations report on Israel's raid last year on the Turkish-flagged Mavi Marmara had to say about the killing of a 19-year-old U.S. citizen on board:

"At least one of those killed, Furkan Dogan, was shot at extremely close range. Mr. Dogan sustained wounds to the face, back of the skull, back and left leg. That suggests he may already have been lying wounded when the fatal shot was delivered, as suggested by witness accounts to that effect."

The four-member panel, led by Sir Geoffrey Palmer, a former prime minister of New Zealand, appears with these words to raise the possibility of an execution or something close.

Dogan, born in upstate New York, was an aspiring doctor. Little interested in politics, he'd won a lottery to travel on the Gaza-bound vessel. The report says of him and the other eight people killed that, "No evidence has been provided to establish that any of the deceased were armed with lethal weapons."

I met Dogan's father, Ahmet, a professor at Erciyes University in Kayseri, last year in Ankara: His grief was as deep as his dismay at U.S. evasiveness. It's hard to imagine any other circumstances in which the slaying in international waters, at point-blank range, of a U.S. citizen by forces of a foreign power would prompt such a singular American silence. Senior Turkish officials told me Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan had raised Dogan's fate with President Obama. But of course no U.S. president, and certainly no first-term U.S. president, would say what Prime Minister David Cameron of Britain said: "The Israeli attack on the Gaza flotilla was completely unacceptable." Even if there's an American citizen killed, raising such questions about Israel is a political no-no. So it goes in the taboo-littered cul-de-sac of U.S. foreign policy toward Israel, a foreign policy that is in large measure a domestic policy.

The Palmer report, leaked to The New York Times last week, is a split-the-difference document, with the Israeli and

Turkish members of the panel including notes of dissent. My rough translation of its conclusion would be this message to Israel: You had the right to do it but what you did was way over the top and just plain dumb.

It found that Israel's naval blockade of Gaza is legal and appropriate — "a legitimate security measure" — given Hamas's persistent firing of thousands of rockets from the territory into Israel; that the flotilla acted recklessly in trying to breach the blockade; that the motives of the flotillas organizers raised serious questions; and that the Israeli commandos faced "organized and violent resistance."

But it also called the raid — 72 nautical miles from land — "too heavy a response too quickly." The flotilla, it says, was far from representing any immediate military threat to Israel. Clear prior warning should have been given. The decision to board "was excessive and unreasonable." It criticizes Israel for providing "no adequate explanation" for the nine deaths or explaining "why force was used to the extent that it produced such high levels of injury." The panel is left dismayed by Israel's inability to give details on the killings. It calls Israel's policy on land access to Gaza "unsustainable."

Overall, the panel finds that Israel should issue "an appropriate statement of regret" and "make payment for the benefit of the deceased and injured victims and their families."

Yes, Israel, increasingly isolated, should do just that. An apology is the right course and the smart course. What's good for Egypt — an apology over lost lives — is good for Turkey, too.

Israel and Turkey have been talking for more than a year. Feridun Sinirlioglu, a senior Turkish foreign ministry official, has met with numerous Israeli officials. At times agreement has been close. Ehud Barak and Dan Meridor, Israel's defense and intelligence ministers, have argued the case for an apology; Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman has led the hawks saying Israel never bends; Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has had his finger to the wind. In the end, Lieberman and the far right have won, as they tend to with this abject Israeli government.

"It's a typical case where coalition considerations trumped strategic thinking, and that's the tragedy," Shlomo Avineri, an Israeli political scientist, told me. "Given the Palestinian issue at the U.N., and relations with the new Egypt, we could use strategic wisdom."

That's right. Instead, locked in its siege mentality, led by the nose by Lieberman and his ilk — unable to grasp the change in the Middle East driven by the Arab demand for dignity and freedom, Inflexible on expanding settlements, ignoring U.S. prodding that it apologize — Israel is losing one of its best friends in the Muslim world, Turkey. The expulsion last week of the Israeli ambassador was a debacle foretold.

Israeli society, as it has shown through civic protest, deserves much better.

"We need not apologize," Netanyahu thundered Sunday — and repeated the phrase three times. He's opted for a needless road to an isolation that weakens Israel and undermines the strategic interests of its closest ally, the United States. Not that I expect Obama to raise his voice about this any more than he has over Dogan.

Ral

#### Law, Rosemary C

From:

Silliman, Douglas A

Sent:

Sunday, January 23, 2011 9:42 AM

To:

'fjrjr96515@yahoo.com'; Ricciardone, Francis J; 'ricciardonemd@gmail.com'

Subject:

Fw: Turkel report out

Israel's report into Mavi Marmara shootings is out and will get lots of negative press here tonight and into the week.

Douglas A. Silliman Deputy Chief of Mission US Embassy Ankara, Turkey 90-312-455-5555 x7190

---- Original Message -----

From: Guido, Deborah L

To: Silliman, Douglas A; O'Grady, Daniel J; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"

Sent: Sun Jan 23 16:36:53 2011 Subject: Turkel report out

FYI. Turkel commission report in NYT and Turkish on line media, released a little while ago.

Israeli Panel Rules Flotilla Raid LegalBy THE ASSOCIATED PRESS Published: January 23, 2011 at 8:20 am

http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2011/01/23/world/middleeast/AP-Gaza-Blockade.html?hpJERUSALEM

(AP) — An Israeli inquiry commission defended the actions of the country's troops during last year's deadly raid on a Gaza-bound protest flotilla sailing from Turkey, finding in a report released Sunday that Israel had not violated international law.

"Mavi Marmara baskını hukuka uygun"

CNNTurkhttp://www.cnnturk.com/2011/dunya/01/23/mavi.marmara.baskini.hukuka.uygun/604255.0/index.html

İsrail, Mavi Marmara raporunu açıklıyor Sabahİsrail'de dokuz Türk'ün Ölümüyle sonuçlanan Mavi Marmara baskınını soruşturan Turkel Komisyonu, beklendiği gibi İsrail'i akladı.Raporunun ilk bölümünü açıklayan Komisyon, oy birliğiyle, "İsrail, operasyon sırasında uluslararası hukuka uygun hareket etti" görüşünü benimsendi.

http://www.sabah.com.tr/Dunya/2011/01/23/

israil\_mavi\_marmara\_raporunu\_acikliyor

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

RELEASED IN FULL

R22

#### Law, Rosemary C

From:

Silliman, Douglas A

Sent:

Friday, February 11, 2011 10:31 AM

To:

Kaidanow, Tina S; Baily, Jess L; EUR-SE-DL; 'jcollins@nss.eop.gov'

Cc:

Ricciardone, Francis J; O'Grady, Daniel J

Subject:

FW: Turkey's Mavi Marmara Report; TRT (3); USG Gets Pulled In

Importance:

High

Categories:

Working

Αľ,

The Turks today publicly released their Mavi Marmara report. We had not seen it before, but had gotten an outline form Amb Mithat Rende, the TU commission head.

Note TU claim in the report that there was a TU-US-IS deal that Israel would not go after the Mavi Marmara and that it would NOT try to run the blockade.

We might need to do guidance on that point. Please do NOT let the guidance go forward without checking the draft with us.

Thanks,

Doug

Douglas A. Silliman Deputy Chief of Mission US Embassy Ankara, Turkey 90-312-455-5555 x7190

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"

Sent: Friday, February 11, 2011 5:03 PM

To: Silliman, Douglas A; O'Grady, Daniel J; Guido, Deborah L

Cc: Godfrey, Anthony F; Witmer, Kami A; Ahn, Michael; Leary, Thomas M Subject: Turkey's Mavi Marmara Report; TRT (3); USG Gets Pulled In

Importance: High

See highlight. We may need guidance.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Ersoy, Jale

**Sent:** Friday, February 11, 2011 4:58 PM **To:** Ersoy, Jale; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"

Cc: Ahn, Michael

Subject: Mavi Marmara; TRT (3)

The AA carried excerpts from Turkey's Mavi Marmara report. Highlights follow:

- Israel did not abide by the agreement reached among the U.S., Israel and Turkey before the flotilla took off (which required the route to be toward Egypt's El Aris port in case of a confrontation by Israel);
- Once clashes began Israel forced forced the boat to sail toward Israel;
- In the 45-article "Conclusion" part of Turkey's report the Turkish Commission stressed that it reached some objective and legal conclusions;
- The stressed that the humanitarian assistance convoy was â "civilian initiative" with peaceful intensions. It did not pose a threat to Israel;
- The passengers were subject to all border and customs controls;
- There was no firearms on board;
- Israel, before confronting the boat, did not try to inspect or search the ship and Israelis cut the communication among the vessels, something that put the ships and passengers at risk;
- The attack took place 72 miles to the closest shore, in other words, in international waters;
- Nine passengers died and Israel violated the basic right to live;
- Five of those who died were shot at close range in the head. Furkan Dogan received five bullets including three in the head. First bullet hit his foot and when he fell down, two Israeli soldiers kicked him and then shot him in an execution style;
- Photographer Cevdet Kiliclar was shot from a long range in the forehead. In the nine dead passengers there were 30 bullets;
- More than 50 passengers were injured and one still is in coma;
- The Israeli forces, who used helicopters, zodiac boats, submarines, frigates and commandoes did not fire in the air for warning that it might use force;
- As Israeli soldiers by using zodiacs tried to board the ship they opened fire;
- Passengers panicked and they tried to legitimately defend themselves;
- In response Israel did not reevaluate the situation;
- Israel used real ammunition against the passengers;
- Israeli soldiers continued to fire despite the fact that passengers showed white flags;
- Israeli soldiers attacked the other boats as well and number of injured was more than 70. Nobody used firearms against Israeli aggressors;

(more to follow)

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Ersoy, Jale

**Sent:** Friday, February 11, 2011 4:32 PM **To:** Ersoy, Jale; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"

Cc: Ahn, Michael

Subject: Mavi Marmara; TRT (2)

"TRT News" reported that Turkey today submitted its final "Mavi Marmara Report" to the UN.

The highlight of the report was that Israel used excessive force and fired ot close range.

The TRT correspondent in Israel noted that Tel Aviv would disclose the second part of its report soon. The UN HR Commissioner today held a press conference and said that they asked Israel to cooperate with the UN on this issue. The second part of the report is expected to focus on the mistokes of Israel.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Ersoy, Jale

Sent: Friday, February 11, 2011 4:21 PM

To: Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"

Cc: Ahn, Michael

Subject: RE: Mavi Marmara; TRT

Amb Mithat Rende, the Turkish official briefed the media on their Movi Marmara report.

They found out that there was no firearms on the Turkish ships that took off from the Turkish ports. The three israeli soldiers were carrying firearms and those on the ship threw those weapons in the sea.

The right to live was violated. Five of those who died were shot at close range. When Furkan Dogan, Turkish-American citizen, when injured was kicked and then shot and killed. Another was shot in the forehead. Around 50 were injured, including one still in coma.

Israel used a serious force, zodiacs, helicopters, boats.

If Israel wanted, it could have stopped the filatillo peacefully. Unfortunately it did not try to stop it peacefully. One reason might be to create fear and deter future such attempts.

The Israeli side claimed that the possengers attacked its soldiers. This is true. Passengers were terrorized when they were subject to firing. So passenger, whom we talked to, thought that they all would be killed and tried to protect themselves.

Another mistake by Israel was, when confronted by such a reaction from passengers Israel should have stopped and made a reevaluation.

The "TRT News" stopped live broadcast here.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"

Sent: Friday, February 11, 2011 4:08 PM

**To:** Ersoy, Jale **Cc:** Ahn, Michael

Subject: Mavi Marmara; TRT

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751244 Date: 06/27/2012

Jale:

NTV is airing a program now on the Mavi Marmara report. Would you monitor for us, please.

Thank you.

- Jerry

Jeremiah Howard

Deputy Political Counselor Embassy Ankara - Turkey T: 90 312 457-7149

IVG: 295-7149

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

Home » Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs » Bureau of Public Affairs » Bureau of Public Affairs » Bureau of Public Affairs » Bureau of Public Affairs » Releases » Press Releases: 2011 » Press Releases: June 2011 » Gaza "Anniversary" Flotilla

# Gaza "Anniversary" Flotilla

Press Statement
Victoria Nuland
Department Spokesperson, Office of the Spokesperson
Washington, DC
June 24, 2011

Last month marked the one-year anniversary of the confrontation between Israeli forces and activists when a flotilla attempted to break Israel's maritime blockade of Gaza on May 31, 2010. The United States deeply regrets the tragic loss of life and injuries suffered among those involved in that incident aboard the Gaza bound ships.

We are concerned that a number of groups are organizing a one year "anniversary" flotilla to commemorate the incident by sailing from various European ports to Gaza in the near future. Groups that seek to break Israel's maritime blockade of Gaza are taking irresponsible and provocative actions that risk the safety of their passengers. Established and efficient mechanisms exist to transfer humanitarian assistance to Gaza. For example, humanitarian assistance can be delivered at the Israeli port of Ashdod, where cargo can be offloaded, inspected, and transported to Gaza. We urge all those seeking to provide such assistance to the people of Gaza to use these mechanisms, and not to participate in actions like the planned flotilla.

Recent seizures by Israel and Egypt of advanced military systems, weapons, and ammunition bound for terrorist groups in Gaza, as well as periodic rocket and mortar attacks from Gaza against Israeli civilians, highlight the continuing problem of illicit arms smuggling to Gaza. These seizures underscore the vital importance to Israel's security of ensuring that all cargo bound for Gaza is appropriately screened for illegal arms and dual-use materials.

The United States remains concerned by conditions in Gaza, but notes that the humanifarian situation has significantly improved over the last year, including a marked increase in the range and scope of goods and materials moving into Gaza, an increase in international project activity, and the gradual expansion of exports. The United States will continue to work with Israel, the Palestinian Authority, donors, and the international community to do more and ensure that the needs of the people of Gaza are being met.

We also continue to call on Harnas to play a constructive role by renouncing violence, recognizing Israel's right to exist, and accepting past agreements. We underscore that delivering or attempting or conspiring to deliver material support or other resources to or for the benefit of a designated foreign terrorist organization, such as Harnas, could violate U.S. civil and criminal statutes and could lead to fines and incarceration.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Law, Rosemary C

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RELEASED IN FULL, Non-responsive deleted	NR

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NR

From: Sent: To: Subject:	Kim Scrivner [kimscrivner@gmail.com] Thursday, May 19, 2011 1:29 PM Scrivner, Kimberly (Istanbul) Media Monitoring, Thurs, 5/19, 8pm

The United States has warned Turkey against a new flotilla to the Israeli-blockaded Gaza Strip, saying it would not be helpful, a senior US administration official has said. The US has been very clear with the Turkish government that a new flotilla would in no way be helpful, Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs Philip Gordon was quoted as saying by the Anatolia news agency to a hearing at the Senate

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

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#### RELEASED IN PART B5

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Law,	Ros	em	ary	C

From:

Ricciardone, Francis J

Wednesday, July 20, 2011 11:21 AM

Sent: Kim, Yuri J; Walston, Lysa M; Ahn, Michael To: Cc: Baily, Jess L RE: Approaching Turks on Noor Subject: Lysa, can I see these instructions this evening? Or first thing in the morning. Francis J. Ricciardone US Ambassador Ankara, Republic of Turkey REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer tel: +90 312 455 7280 From: Kim, Yuri J Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2011 11:39 PM To: Ricciardone, Francis 3 Subject: Fw: Approaching Turks on Noor Amb: We have instructions to approach the Turks on the Noor, another vessel apparently seeking to break the Gaza blockade. Israeli CDA here has already approached MFA, who agreed last thing Turkey needs is another flotilla incident. We'll approach MFA tomorrow morning and see if we need to take more aggressive action. From: Kim, Yuri J To: Riley, Robert J; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry" Cc: Stafford, Edward G; Jaworski, Richard E; Rubin, Eric S; Gregonis, Meghan E Sent: Tue Jul 19 23:32:07 2011 Subject: Re: Approaching Turks on Noor We'll take this up with the Turks first thing tomorrow morning. From: Riley, Robert J To: Kim, Yuri J; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry" Cc: Stafford, Edward G; Jaworski, Richard E; Rubin, Eric S; Gregonis, Meghan E Sent: Tue Jul 19 22:43:28 2011 Subject: Approaching Turks on Noor

Yuri et al.,

As Jerry noted earlier, here is a bit more concrete info on the Noor. At this point seems appropriate for Emb Ankara to approach MFA per instructions in State 36240 on Gaza Flotilla (I just sent copy to you on high side) and ask them to do whatever they can to avoid a problem. Please let us know how they respond.

Many thanks for all your help,

Bab

Robert J. Riley Acting Director Office of Southern European Affairs U.S. Department of State Tel: 202-647-5120 rileyrj@state.gov

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Berns, David B

Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2011 2:06 PM

**To:** Miller, James N; Goldberger, Thomas H; Sutphin, Paul R; Silverman, Robert J; Eussen, Matthew; Palm, Robert H; Hood, Jeffrey L; Greene, Elisa; Vincent, Wendy M; George, Leah; Russell, Melissa H; Eilts, Colin C; Sachar, Alon (NEA/IPA); Blome, Donald A; Cline, Melissa R; NEA-IPA-DL; 'melissa.h.russell@gmail.com'; SES-O; NEA-ELA-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL; EUR-SE-TU-DL; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"

Cc: Walles, Jacob; 'PKumar@nsc.eop.gov'; Waters, John R; Taplin, Mark A; Bauer, Jen M (Paris); Klein, Christopher C; Sharma, Sujata; EUR-WE-France-DL

Subject: Re: Another Ship

SBU

MFA contact said the GOI is now focused on the "Noor" in Turkey. Israeli CDA in Ankara raised the issue with the Turkish MFA -- the economic dept and the territorial dept -- asking the GOT to prevent the ship from leaving. Initial Turkish response was "somewhat encouraging." Turks said the "last thing they need now is another flotilla." Israel has not raised with the Turks at a senior level. Israelis keen for us to reinforce with the Turks.

The ship was Sierra Leone-flagged, and the Israelis interceded with Sierra Leone so the ship now has no flag. Israelis will inform the Turks of this. MFA believes it will take 2-3 days for the ship to get a new flag. The ship is a ferry that can carry 300 people but Israelis believe 150-200 would be the maximum number the ship would take on the voyage. The ship is not designed to safely cross the Mediterranean, but it could. Israelis also using this safety issue to convince the Turks not to let it sail. GOI believes the Noor would carry mostly Arab passengers.

Israelis concerned about participation on the ship of a Jordanian NGO called "Lifeline." Believe the ship could sail to Egypt and pick up members of this NGO there. The ship's crew is now Bulgarian, but Israelis believe an Egyptian crew will soon take its place.

Re the Karama passengers, MFA confirmed they disembarked from the Israeli naval ship at Ashdod about 7 pm local. They were put on the naval ship at sea. Their processing in Ashdod will finish at about 9 pm tonight. GOI will then transfer them to an administrative facility in Holon where they will be able to meet with consular reps from their countries. GOI wants to repatriate them as soon as possible, and will urge them to sign papers consenting to repatriation. GOI will plan to put those who sign on planes to Europe as early as tonight or early tomorrow morning. Those who don't sign will be granted access to a lawyer and go through administrative procedures that could take a few days before they are repatriated. The GOI is not allowing the passengers to leave GOI custody before repatriation, but so far is not pursuing any criminal charges against them. The passengers so far have not been violent.

From: Berns, David B

To: Miller, James N; Goldberger, Thomas H; Sutphin, Paul R; Silverman, Robert J; Eussen, Matthew; Palm, Robert H; Hood, Jeffrey L; Greene, Elisa; Vincent, Wendy M; George, Leah; Russell, Melissa H; Eilts, Colin C; Sachar, Alon (NEA/IPA); Blome, Donald A; Cline, Melissa R; NEA-IPA-DL; 'melissa.h.russell@gmail.com'

<melissa.h.russell@gmail.com>; SES-O; NEA-ELA-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL; EUR-SE-TU-DL

**Cc**: Walles, Jacob; 'PKumar@nsc.eop.gov' <PKumar@nsc.eop.gov>; Waters, John R; Taplin, Mark A; Bauer, Jen M (Paris); Klein, Christopher C; Sharma, Sujata; EUR-WE-France-DL

Sent: Tue Jul 19 18:06:04 2011 Subject: Re: Another Ship

SBU

We received the message below this afternoon from the Israeli MFA.

After "Dignite", now we are concerned with Jordanian ferry "Noor" which is located in the vicinity of Anatalya, Turkey. According to reports in Al-Jazeera it is planned to take on board 120 activists mostly from Arab countries and to leave as early as tomorrow, apparently to an Egyptian port. We have no doubts that their intention is to arrive at Gaza. We have already approached Turkish authorities on this matter with requests to prevent ship's departure. We will appreciate if the US Embassy in Ankara could follow up on this matter with the Turkish authorities.

From: Miller, James N

To: Berns, David B; Goldberger, Thomas H; Sutphin, Paul R; Silverman, Robert J; Eussen, Matthew; Palm, Robert H; Hood, Jeffrey L; Greene, Elisa; Vincent, Wendy M; George, Leah; Russell, Melissa H; Eilts, Colin C; Sachar, Alon (NEA/IPA); Blome, Donald A; Cline, Melissa R; NEA-IPA-DL; 'melissa.h.russell@gmail.com' <melissa.h.russell@gmail.com>; SES-O; NEA-ELA-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL

Cc: Walles, Jacob; NEA-SEMEP-DL; 'PKumar@nsc.eop.gov' <PKumar@nsc.eop.gov>; Waters, John R; Taplin, Mark A; Bauer, Jen M (Paris); Klein, Christopher C; Sharma, Sujata; EUR-WE-France-DL

Sent: Tue Jul 19 16:07:39 2011

Subject: RE: PRESS RELEASE: French boat Dignite of Freedom Flotilla II leaves Greece for Gaza [+ Passenger List]

French MFA spokesman Bernard Valero called this afternoon for "caution" and "responsibility" on the part of Israeli authorities toward passengers of the "Dignity Al Karama." Here is his statement:

"We told Israeli authorities for several days that if this French boat were to attempt to break the blockade and Israeli authorities decided to stop it, we expect that they will act with responsibility and caution, respect all the rights of our citizens and enable their prompt return to France. The Ambassador of France to Israel transmitted that message yesterday and this morning to the National Security Advisor and to the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs. We have done the same this morning with the Israeli Ambassador to France."

Valero added that the French Embassy in Tel Aviv is mobilized on site to exercise its consular functions to protect French citizens.

James N. Miller Political Affairs U.S. Embassy Paris millerjn@state.gov +33 (0)1.43.12.25.75

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Berns, David B

Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2011 12:00 PM

To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Sutphin, Paul R; Silverman, Robert J; Eussen, Matthew; Palm, Robert H; Hood, Jeffrey L; Greene, Elisa; Vincent, Wendy M; George, Leah; Russell, Melissa H; Eilts, Colin C; Sachar, Alon (NEA/IPA); Blome, Donald A; Cline, Melissa R; NEA-IPA-DL; 'melissa.h.russell@gmail.com'; Miller, James N; SES-O; NEA-ELA-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL; Miller, James N

Cc: Walles, Jacob; NEA-SEMEP-DL; 'PKumar@nsc.eop.gov'; Waters, John R

Subject: RE: PRESS RELEASE: French boat Dignite of Freedom Flotilla II leaves Greece for Gaza [+ Passenger List]

I asked and MFA did not have clarity on that.

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Goldberger, Thomas H

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 19, 2011 12:59 PM

To: Berns, David B; Sutphin, Paul R; Silverman, Robert 1; Eussen, Matthew; Palm, Robert H; Hood, Jeffrey L; Greene, Elisa; Vincent, Wendy M; George, Leah; Russell, Melissa H; Eilts, Colin C; Sachar, Alon (NEA/IPA); Blome, Donald A; Cline, Melissa R; NEA-IPA-DL; 'melissa.h.russell@gmail.com'; Miller, James N; SES-O; NEA-ELA-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL; Miller, James N

Cc: Walles, Jacob; NEA-SEMEP-DL; 'PKumar@nsc.eop.gov'; Waters, John R

Subject: RE: PRESS RELEASE: French boat Dignite of Freedom Flotilla II leaves Greece for Gaza [+ Passenger List]

Was it in international or Egyptian waters?

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Berns, David B

Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2011 12:51 PM

To: Sutphin, Paul R; Goldberger, Thomas H; Silverman, Robert J; Eussen, Matthew; Palm, Robert H; Hood, Jeffrey L; Greene, Elisa; Vincent, Wendy M; George, Leah; Russell, Melissa H; Eilts, Colin C; Sachar, Alon (NEA/IPA); Blome, Donald A; Cline, Melissa R; NEA-IPA-DL; 'melissa.h.russell@gmail.com'; Miller, James N; SES-O; NEA-ELA-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL; Miller, James N

Cc: Walles, Jacob; NEA-SEMEP-DL; 'PKumar@nsc.eop.gov'; Waters, John R

Subject: RE: PRESS RELEASE: French boat Dignite of Freedom Flotilla II leaves Greece for Gaza [+ Passenger List]

MFA just confirmed that the Navy boarded the ship at 1235 local time 1-2 miles outside Israel's Gaza blockade line. MFA said the Navy is in control of the ship and is taking it to the Israeli port of Ashdod. MFA is not aware of any injuries or casualties.

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

4

From: Berns, David B

Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2011 12:38 PM

To: Sutphin, Paul R; Goldberger, Thomas H; Silverman, Robert J; Eussen, Matthew; Palm, Robert H; Hood, Jeffrey L; Greene, Elisa; Vincent, Wendy M; George, Leah; Russell, Melissa H; Eilts, Colin C; Sachar, Alon (NEA/IPA); Blome,

Donald A; Cline, Melissa R; NEA-IPA-DL; 'melissa.h.russell@gmail.com'; Miller, James N; SES-O

Cc: Walles, Jacob; NEA-SEMEP-DL; 'PKumar@nsc.eop.gov'; Waters, John R

Subject: RE: PRESS RELEASE: French boat Dignite of Freedom Flotilla II leaves Greece for Gaza [+ Passenger List]

From MFA at 1225 local: the Israeli Navy has communicated with the ship, telling it not to proceed to Gaza. (An IDF press release at 10:50 local today said the Navy offered to allow the ship to unload its humanitarian supplies at the Israeli port of Ashdod for transfer to Gaza.) MFA said the ship responded to Navy communications, but stressed it will proceed to Gaza, not to Ashdod. MFA said the Navy will have to take control of the ship and take it to Ashdod. He expects the Navy to take control of the ship shortly, but could not give an estimate of when. The GOI has told the French government (ship is French, and organizers are French) that it expects to take control of the ship shortly.

Earlier information from the MFA: Ship was off the coast of Port Said last night, and at 0600 this morning started moving toward Gaza. It traveled toward Gaza this morning on the border between Egyptian territorial waters and international waters. The GOI had asked the Egyptian Government to stop the ship and take it to an Egyptian port if the ship travelled through Egyptian waters.

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Berns, David B

Sent: Monday, July 18, 2011 6:19 PM

**To:** Sutphin, Paul R; Goldberger, Thomas H; Silverman, Robert J; Eussen, Matthew; Palm, Robert H; Hood, Jeffrey L; Greene, Elisa; Vincent, Wendy M; George, Leah; Russell, Melissa H; Eilts, Colin C; Sachar, Alon (NEA/IPA); Blome, Donald A; Cline, Melissa R; NEA-IPA-DL; 'melissa.h.russell@gmail.com'

Cc: Walles, Jacob; NEA-SEMEP-DL; 'PKumar@nsc.eop.gov'; Waters, John R

Subject: RE: PRESS RELEASE: French boat Dignite of Freedom Flotilla II leaves Greece for Gaza [+ Passenger List]

From MFA at 1815 local:

The ship is off the coast of Port Said but not in Egyptian territorial waters, and currently not moving toward Gaza. Ship could move into Egyptian territorial waters overnight. MFA will keep us posted.

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Sutphin, Paul R

Sent: Sunday, July 17, 2011 6:18 PM

**To:** Berns, David B; Goldberger, Thomas H; Silverman, Robert J; Eussen, Matthew; Palm, Robert H; Hood, Jeffrey L; Greene, Elisa; Vincent, Wendy M; George, Leah; Russell, Melissa H; Eilts, Colin C; Sachar, Alon (NEA/IPA); Blome, Donald A; Cline, Melissa R; NEA-IPA-DL; 'melissa.h.russell@gmail.com'

Cc: Walles, Jacob; NEA-SEMEP-DL; 'PKumar@nsc.eop.gov'

Subject: Re: PRESS RELEASE: French boat Dignite of Freedom Flotilla II leaves Greece for Gaza [+ Passenger List]

#### +others

This is a small yacht full of Euro activists (and Haaretz's Amira Hess and an al Jazeera crew). If it is intercepted there should be no need for violence.

Paul Sutphin Director, NEA/IPA Via Blackberry

From: Berns, David B

Sent: Sunday, July 17, 2011 08:34 AM

To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Silverman, Robert J; Eussen, Matthew; Palm, Robert H; Hood, Jeffrey L; Greene, Elisa; Vincent, Wendy M; George, Leah; Russell, Melissa H; Eilts, Colin C; Sutphin, Paul R; Sachar, Alon (NEA/IPA); Blome,

Donald A; Cline, Melissa R

Subject: Re: PRESS RELEASE: French boat Dignite of Freedom Flotilla II leaves Greece for Gaza [+ Passenger List]

#### SBU

MFA flotilla coordinator just confirmed to me that the Dignite has left Greece. He said the ship told the Greek authorities its destination is Alexandria. So far the ship is charting a course toward Alexandria, but this could change in the next few hours. Israeli Navy plans to make contact with the ship if it does begin a course toward Gaza. Navy will tell the ship it can go to Alex, Ashdod or "other destinations" excluding Gaza.

Another ship, the Giuliano, is still in Greece. After losing its registration last week from a west african country following GOI intervention, it briefly gained registration with St Kitts/Nevis before the GOI interceded again. It now has no registration.

From: Goldberger, Thomas H

To: Silverman, Robert J; Eussen, Matthew; Berns, David B; Palm, Robert H; Hood, Jeffrey L; Greene, Elisa; Vincent,

Wendy M; George, Leah; Russell, Melissa H; Eilts, Colin C; Sutphin, Paul R; Sachar, Alon (NEA/IPA)

Sent: Sun Jul 17 14:38:12 2011

Subject: Fw: PRESS RELEASE: French boat Dignite of Freedom Flotilla II leaves Greece for Gaza [+ Passenger List]

http://www.freedomflotilla.eu/en/information/4-members-announcements/176-french-boat-dignite-of-freedom-flotilla-ii-leaves-greece

From: Angela Godfrey-Goldstein <anjie@netvision.net.il>

To: 'Angela' <anjie@netvision.net.il>
Sent: Sun Jul 17 11:54:56 2011

Subject: PRESS RELEASE: French boat Dignite of Freedom Flotilla II leaves Greece for Gaza [+ Passenger List]

16 July 2011

For Immediate Release

#### French boat Dignité of the Freedom Flotilla II leaves Greece

The French boat "Dignité/Karama" (Dignity) left the Greek island Kastellorizo around 8:30PM local time on Saturday July 16, 2011, heading south. The ten passengers onboard view themselves as representatives of the whole Freedom Flotilla II – Stay Human. The rest of the Flotilla's ships have been detained in different Greek ports, through bureaucratic obstruction, sabotage, sudden restrictions and withdrawals of flags.

The Dignité, sailing under a French flag, left Corsica on June 25th, and has, over the past weeks, been in Greek waters. It has now left—so far without being followed by the Greek coast guard or Navy.

Among the delegates on board is Jacqueline Le Corre, member of the French Communist Party, Jean Claude Lefort, former French Member of the European Parliament, as well as representatives of the Canadian, French, Greek and Swedish initiatives within Freedom Flotilla II. Onboard the Dignité are also renowned Israeli journalist Amira Hass, reporting for Haaretz, and a team from Al-Jazeera TV. (Full list of passengers below).

Kastellorizo, in the far east of the Greek archipelago, is only miles from Turkish mainland. A substantial part of Kastellorizo's population fled during the Second World War to Gaza, where they stayed for years. The present mayor of the island, Paul Panigiris, was born in Gaza, and feels strongly, as do many other people from Kastellorizo, for a population that once hosted them and is now under siege.

The action of Dignité is not a mini-version of Freedom Flotilla 2, but a first wave that will be followed by others. It is a message to the Israeli government, to the international community and to the besieged people of Gaza: The Free Gaza Movement and the coalition of Freedom Flotilla II are not giving up, until the inhumane and illegitimate blockade of Gaza is lifted.

Gaza, we are coming!

www.freegaza.org www.witnessgaza.com www.freedomflotilla.eu

And see Amira Hass' report: <a href="www.haaretz.com/news/diplomacy-defense/gaza-bound-ship-carrying-propalestinian-activists-sets-sail-from-greece-1.373601">www.haaretz.com/news/diplomacy-defense/gaza-bound-ship-carrying-propalestinian-activists-sets-sail-from-greece-1.373601</a>

## Passengers on the Dignité:

Stéphan Corriveau, Coordinator of Canadian boat to Gaza

**Dror Feiler**, spokesperson of Ship to Gaza-Sweden, President of the European Jews for a Just Peace, artist, musician, composer

Jérôme Gleizes, France, Europe Ecologie Les Verts

Jacqueline Le Corre, France, Médecin-Collectif 14 de soutien au peuple palestinien, member of Parti communiste français

Jean Claude Lefort, former MEP, French Communist Party - PCF

Claude Léostic, spokesperson of Un bateau français pour Gaza

Yamin Makri, France, Collectif 69 de soutien au peuple palestinien

Omeyya Naoufel Seddik, Tunisian, Fédération des Tunisiens pour une citoyenneté des deux rives (FTCR), and Ligue tunisienne des Droits de l'Homme (LTDH), Phd in Political Science

Thomas Sommer-Houdeville, spokesperson of Un bateau français pour Gaza, Researcher, Political Sciecnce, Middle East Studies, Institut français du proche Orient

7

Vangelis Pissias, spokesperson of Ship to Gaza-Greece, Professor at Technical University of Athens
Amira Hass, Israeli journalist - Haaretz
Ayyache Derradji, Journalist from Al Jazeera
Stéphane Guida, Cameraman from Al Jazeera
Zacharia Stylianakis, Captain
Hilaire Folacci, Mariner
Yannick Voisin, Mariner
Jo Leguen, Navigator

Rab

Law, Rosemary C

From:

Ricciardone, Francis J

Sent:

Wednesday, August 17, 2011 1:21 PM

To: Subject: Allegrone, Kathleen H

Attachments:

Re: Netanyahu to Clinton: Israel won't apologize to Turkey for Gaza flotilla raid

RELEASED IN FULL

image001.jpg

Duh!

From: Allegrone, Kathleen H

To: Baily, Jess L; Kim, Yuri J; Ricciardone, Francis J; Avery, David; Grubisha, Thomas J

Cc: EUR-SE-TU-DL

Sent: Wed Aug 17 16:05:45 2011

Subject: RE: Netanyahu to Clinton: Israel won't apologize to Turkey for Gaza flotilla raid

Yes, folks are working on guidance here, as you can imagine. I raised the press issue in the staff meeting today and Tina urged us to refrain from commenting at post, if possible. If you get questions, her advice is that you refer them to Washington.

BTW - one of the Turkish contacts - Sinirlioglu - was on the phone with Phil this morning.

I also mentioned in the staff meeting the PKK incident yesterday.

Best.

From: Baily, Jess L

Sent: Wednesday, August 17, 2011 7:09 AM

To: Kim, Yuri J; Ricciardone, Francis J; Avery, David; Grubisha, Thomas J

Cc: EUR-SE-TU-DL

Subject: FW: Netanyahu to Clinton: Israel won't apologize to Turkey for Gaza flotilla raid

This will not take long before it hits TU press.

Jess

Jess L. Baily Deputy Chief of Mission U.S. Embassy Ankara 90-312-455-5555

bailyil@state.gov

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Goldberger, Thomas H

Sent: Wednesday, August 17, 2011 1:46 PM To: Bally, Jess L; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"

Subject: FW: Netanyahu to Clinton: Israel won't apologize to Turkey for Gaza flotilla raid

This should be showing up in your press...

1

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Goldberger, Thomas H

Sent: Wednesday, August 17, 2011 1:44 PM

To: Russell, Melissa H; Buzbee, John R

Cc: Shapiro, Daniel B (Tel Aviv); Silverman, Robert J; Hoyer, Kurt J; Sachar, Alon (NEA/IPA); Hale, David M

Subject: Netanyahu to Clinton: Israel won't apologize to Turkey for Gaza flotilla raid

The author called me for comment and told me he had confirmation from 3 different Israeli officials. It told him that I had no information. Tom

http://www.haaretz.com/misc/article-print-page/netanyahu-to-clinton-israel-won-t-apologize-to-turkey-for-gaza-flotilla-raid-1.379110?trailingPath=2.169%2C2.216%2C2.217%2C

# Netanyahu to Clinton: Israel won't apologize to Turkey for Gaza flotilla raid

# PM Netanyahu informs U.S. Secretary of State Clinton that Israel will not accept an outline for restoring relationship with Turkey.

By Barak Ravid

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has informed U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton that Israel will not apologize for the 2010 Gaza flotilla raid in which nine Turkish pro-Palestinian activists died.

Speaking with Clinton via telephone on Tuesday, Netanayhu said that Israel does not intend to adopt an outline to restore its relationship with Turkey.

An official in Jerusalem said that Netanyahu told Clinton that Israel does not oppose the publication of the report of the Palmer Committee, which investigated the events surrounding the flotilla, but that the date of the report's release depends on UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

The official added that the head of the UN investigatory committee, former New Zealand prime minister Jeffrey Palmer, will present the report to Ban Ki-moon next Monday and that the UN chief will release the report to the public the following day.

On Tuesday, deputy prime minister Moshe Ya'alon referred to the possibility of an Israeli apology while speaking at a Likud founders conference.

"God forbid we apologize," Ya'alon said. "National pride is not just something people say on the street but it has strategic significance. If Erdogan goes around afterwards and says that he brought us to our knees, he will appear as a regional leader in the Middle East. He won't leave it alone, even after we apologize."

Ya'alon noted that the Palmer Committee had completed its work and had ruled in favor of Israel in regards to the legality of the naval blockade of the Gaza Strip.

"The Turks are not ready to accept this," Ya'alon said. "But the relationship had deteriorated even before [the flotilla raid]. This is their policy, this is what they wanted, shame on them. So I said the Palmer Report needs to be published and I hope it will be published. Afterwards, we will meet [with the Turks]."



Barak Ravid

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

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Law, Rosemary C
                                                         RELEASED IN PART B5
From:
                      Silliman, Douglas A
                      Sunday, January 23, 2011 10:28 AM
Sent:
                      Ricciardone, Francis J
To:
                      Re: Turkel report out
Subject:
                                                                                                   B5
Douglas A. Silliman
Deputy Chief of Mission
US Embassy Ankara, Turkey
90-312-455-5555 x7190
                            REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer
---- Original Message ---
From: Silliman, Douglas A
To: Ricciardone, Francis J
Sent: Sun Jan 23 17:15:14 2011
Subject: Re: Turkel report out
No - DC wanted to see it first.
Douglas A. Silliman
Deputy Chief of Mission
US Embassy Ankara, Turkey
90-312-455-5555 x7190
---- Original Message
From: Ricciardone, Francis J
To: Silliman, Douglas A
Sent: Sun Jan 23 17:03:51 2011
Subject: Re: Turkel report out
Have we pre-cooked Washington's / our line on this?
Francis J. Ricciardone
US Department of State
Cell: +1 202 445 7438
Ofc: +1 202 647 6112
---- Original Message -----
From: Silliman, Douglas A
To: 'fjrjr96515@yahoo.com' <firjr96515@yahoo.com>; Ricciardone, Francis J;
'ricciardonemd@gmail.com' <<u>ricciardonemd@gmail.com</u>>
Sent: 5un Jan 23 16:42:18 2011
Subject: Fw: Turkel report out
Israel's report into Mavi Marmara shootings is out and will get lots of negative press here
tonight and into the week.
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UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751249 Date: 09/05/2012

i

Douglas A. Silliman Deputy Chief of Mission US Embassy Ankara, Turkey 90-312-455-5555 x7190

---- Original Message -----

From: Guido, Deborah L

To: Silliman, Douglas A; O'Grady, Daniel J; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"

Sent: Sun Jan 23 16:36:53 2011 Subject: Turkel report out

FYI. Turkel commission report in NYT and Turkish on line media, released a little while ago.

Israeli Panel Rules Flotilla Raid LegalBy THE ASSOCIATED PRESS Published: January 23, 2011 at 8:20 am

http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2011/01/23/world/middleeast/AP-Gaza-Blockade.html?hpJERUSALEM

(AP) — An Israeli inquiry commission defended the actions of the country's troops during last year's deadly raid on a Gaza-bound protest flotilla sailing from Turkey, finding in a report released Sunday that Israel had not violated international law.

"Mavi Marmara baskini hukuka uygun" CNNTurkhttp://www.cnnturk.com/2011/dunya/01/23/mavi.marmara.baskini.hukuka.uygun/604255.0/index.html

İsrail, Mavi Marmara raporunu açıklıyor Sabahİsrail'de dokuz Türk'ün ölümüyle sonuçlanan Mavi Marmara başkınını soruşturan Turkel Komisyonu, beklendiği gibi İsrail'i akladı.Raporunun ilk bölümünü açıklayan Komisyon, oy birliğiyle, "İsrail, operasyon sırasında uluslararası hukuka uygun hareket etti" görüşünü benimsendi.

http://www.sabah.com.tr/Dunya/2011/01/23/

israil\_mavi\_marmara\_raporunu\_acikliyor

# Law, Rosemary C

From:

Ricciardone, Francis J

Sent:

Tuesday, October 11, 2011 2:02 AM

To:

'fsinirlioglu@mfa.gov.tr'

Subject:

Re: WSJ/ "US Ties to Turkey Face New Strains" Jay Solomon

Feridun,

Recommend Namik speak w/ Mort, if he has not already done so. Henri B too. This is the second time Mort has been quoted along these lines.

I am en route to airport now for 10:00 flight to Istanbul. Can speak by phone @ your convenience now, or at these windows today: 11:20 - 12:20; 15:00-15:20; 18:00-18:50. Doors close/ phones off on flight to BRX @ 19:00. Jess will be in charge till I return from Doha Saturday afternoon.

Frank

From: Feridun Sinirlioğlu <fsinirlioglu@mfa.gov.tr>

**To:** Ricciardone, Francis J **Sent:** Tue Oct 11 00:29:57 2011

Subject: Fw: WSJ/ "US Ties to Turkey Face New Strains" Jay Solomon

Dear Frank,

Let us talk about this story tomorrow...

Feridun

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Bu e-posta, Turkcell BlackBerry ile gönderilmiştir.

From: Derle Demirel <derle.demirel@mfa.gov.tr>

Date: Mon, 10 Oct 2011 09:08:54 +0000

To: Feridun Sinirlioğlu<fsinirlioglu@mfa.gov.tr>

Subject: WSJ/ "US Ties to Turkey Face New Strains" Jay Solomon

#### \*\*\*WSJ/ U.S. Ties to Turkey Face New Strains

By Jay Soloman and Marc Champion, Wall Street Journal

Escalating tensions in the Mediterranean are complicating the U.S.-Turkey alliance at a time when President Barack Obama views Ankara as central to helping the U.S. manage the Middle East's political upheavals.

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton privately has pressed Turkish officials to back off from their threats to send warships to waters around Cyprus in a dispute over energy deposits, according to U.S. officials. The top American diplomat cautioned that any escalation could jeopardize U.S. interests in the Mediterranean, as the gas fields are being jointly developed by Cyprus and Houston-based Noble Energy Inc.

U.S. officials also are concerned by Turkish threats to deploy naval vessels to accompany flotillas headed to the Palestinian territories, which could heighten the potential for a military conflict between Turkey and Israel, both close U.S. allies. American diplomats have worked to broker a rapprochement between Turkey and Israel, but officials in the White House and State Department acknowledge the rift could endure.

Some strategists in Washington and Europe are calling on the Obama administration to lay down stricter red lines in the Mediterranean, by using more aggressive diplomacy and the U.S. Navy. This is seen as crucial for guarding against any miscalculations by Turkey, Israel or Cyprus, though they acknowledge such steps could anger Ankara.

"I don't think the Turks are intent on starting hostilities, but you never know what can happen in this environment," said Morton Abramowitz, a former U.S. ambassador to Turkey. He added that Washington needsto be up-front with Ankara and tell them that if conflict breaks out between Turkey and Israel, We'll choose is sael.

Turkish officials stressed in interviews they aren't seeking a war with either Cyprus or Israel, and said Turkey has been forced to take action to guard against provocative steps by others. "Look, nobody wants any disasters here. We are aware of the situation," said a senior Turkish official.

Mr. Obama has cultivated Turkey as a major strategic partner since coming into office in 2009. White House officials say the U.S. president speaks regularly with Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan to coordinate on the political transformation in the Middle East and North Africa. And the Obama administration hailed Ankara's decision last month to house a North Atlantic Treaty Organization radar facility, which is focused on Iran's long-range missiles.

"Turkey is a NATO ally, a great friend and a partner on a whole host of issues," Mr. Obama said prior to a meeting with Mr. Erdogan last month.

Still, the deepening dispute between Turkey and Cyprus over energy exploration has placed Washington squarely in the middle.

Tensions flared last month when the Cypriot government announced that Noble Energy would begin drilling for gas in its Exclusive Economic Zone. Ankara doesn't recognize Cyprus's government and said the energy exploration undercuts prospects for a United Nations-backed process aimed at reunifying the island. Cyprus was divided into ethnic-Greek and Turkish enclaves in 1974, after Turkey invaded the island following a Greece-inspired coup.

In recent weeks, Turkey has dispatched naval vessels into this economic zone, including frigates and gunboats, according to senior Cypriot officials. They said these moves are a violation of international law and aimed at intimidating Cyprus and preventing Noble from moving ahead with developing the gas fields. Cyprus's government is calling on the U.N, U.S. and European Union to increase pressure on Ankara to pull out of Cypriot waters.

"The gravity of the problem stems from the threats that are being voiced, nearly daily, by the Turkish leadership," said Cypriot Foreign Minister EratoKozakou-Marcoullis, in an interview.

Turkish officials said the international community should be focused on the Cypriot actions, which they believe are aimed at undermining the U.N. talks.

More recently, Turkey also began exploring for energy deposits in Cypriot waters. "We just need to make a point... to show the Greek Cypriots that they don't own the whole island," said the Turkish official.

Continuing tensions between Turkey and Israel are also undercutting U.S. efforts to stabilize the Middle East. Once close allies, Turkey and Israel have been locked in a growing war of words in the wake of Israel's military action last year against an international aid flotilla headed for the Gaza Strip. The operation killed eight Turkish nationals and one Turkish-American.

For months, the Obama administration has worked to ease tensions between Israel and Turkey. But the process broke down after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government refused to apologize to Ankara for the flotilla deaths. Turkey cut military ties with Israel and downgraded diplomatic relations, saying it would use its navy to protect future aid flotillas headed toward Gaza.

On Friday, Foreign Minister Ahmet Davatoglu reiterated that threat, but specified that it applied to Turkish vessels in international waters.

Some Turkey analysts believe Mr. Erdogan is bluffing. But there are increasing fears that the Turkish leader, now among the most popular in the Muslim world, could have staked a position that will be hard to back away from. And they note that Washington would be likely be dragged into any conflict.

"At some point, the U.S. is going to have to say: This rhetoric is too much," said Henri Barkey, a Turkey scholar at Lehigh University.

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From: Sent: Subject: Attachments:	Price, Gabrielle M (Istanbul) Thursday, April 21, 2011 9:09 AM Thursday, April 21, 2011 4PM Media Monitoring Report image001.jpg; image002.gif	RELEASED IN FULL, Non-resposive deleted NR	
Categories:	Working		
Thursday, April 2	21, 2011 4PM Media Monitoring Report		
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The BBC Trust has ruled that a Panorama documentary about the Israeli boarding of the Mavi Marmara was "accurate and impartial" overall, but did breach editorial guidelines. The three complaints that were upheld included "insufficient detail about the circumstances of the deaths", "the omission of allegations about Israeli mistreatment of the passengers after the flotilla was taken over" and "the misrepresentation of the humanitarian aims of the flotilla and of the Turkish humanitarian organization, the IHH". Alison Hastings, chair of the BBC Trust's editorial standards committee, apologized for three breaches of accuracy and impartiality — out of 51 points raised in complaints — but commended the corporation for "an original, insightful and well-researched piece of journalism". (Guardian)

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			-aid-flotilla?INTCMP=SRCH		
The above story is	s picked by Turkish on	iline news sites like NTVI	VISNBC which says that "The B	Capologized to the whole	
world".	and the control of	and the second			
http://www.ntvm	isnbc.com/id/2520526	<u>64/</u>			
Senior Estab Cent	ral Committee memb	ser Nabil Shaath said on	Thursday that his organization	will join the next flotilla to	
Gaza in May. (Jer		,		•	
http://www.jpost	.com/MiddleEast/Art	icle.aspx?id=217392&R=	<u>R3</u>		
		alled organisations that the last consequence are a debated to the last 2000 than 1500 that 1500 that the individual to the consequence of the con			N
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Gabrielle M. Price Information Officer Public Affairs Section U.S. Consulate General Istanbul

Phone: +90 (212) 335-9145 Mobile: +90 0554 308 1778 Email: <u>PriceGM@state.gov</u>

http://www.facebook.com/istanbul.usconsulate

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

R30

From: Sent: To: Subject:	Tuesday, March 08, 2011 5:13 PM Ricciardone, Francis J RE: your visit to Ankara and Istanbul	RELEASED IN PART B6
Frank:		
flotilla got so clos intentions. I do no would have decid	at the alleged advance understanding from the Tu se to the coast that the Israelis decided they could not know what the truth of the matter is but it is in ded on the boarding if they had been persuaded the cognized as a looming crisis.	I not wait any further to test the ships' appossible for me to believe that the Israelis
learned that there rope from the hel hit the deck. They dragged away fro mob, seeing what they believed wer	on board the Mavi Marmara, I happen to have be were serious Israeli casualties, though fortunatel icopter, armed with paint ball guns, were assaulted y were badly injured, knocked to the deck and, in our the scene and locked in a room below decks. It was happening, drew lethal weapons and fired in the intent on killing them. So, sure, it was point ble ed in a matter of a few seconds. The two injured the	ly not deaths. The first two soldiers on the ed by a mob with iron bars even before they the melee that immediately ensued, were the next soldiers to land in the midst of the n self defense against the mob members who ank, but so was the assault on the first two.
alone and I can w public, left, right the public consider	nore about the utility of compromise. I understarted understand the motivations of both the rejection and center, and the questionable utility of appease ered the truth) and of Netanyahu (quite possibly the light of center to Lieberman with elections company the lections company in the lections company is the lections company that the lections company is the lections company that the lections company is the lections company that the lections company is the lections company that the lections company is the lections company that the lections company is the lections company that the lections company is the lections company that the lections company is the lections company that the lections company is the lection of the lection is the lection of the lection is the lection of the lection is the lection of the lection is the lection of the lection is the lection of the lection is the lection of the lection of the lection is the lection of the lection of the lection of the lection is the lection of the	onists (the angry mood among the Israeli sing the AKP at the expense of what they and turning over the leadership of Israel's
Arab world which certainly aware – it were reopened.	Petraeus/Gates analogy is inexact, I take your po h threaten Israel with even greater isolation — a po might not strengthen Netanyahu's hand in dealin I'd have to guess that it would take US diplomat hat the USG could be helpful to the PM if it were	ossibility of which the Israeli government is ng with his colleagues on the Turkish issue if cy, and pretty skillful diplomacy at that, to get
have. Netanyahu' see it, the questio responsible for ap	that the Israeli government has certainly not write disagreement with some of his colleagues on the n is not only whether the compromise could be reproving it would then be discredited by continuit the country heads towards elections.	ne ad ref compromise says as much. But as I evived but whether an Israeli government

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751252 Date: 09/05/2012

Subject: RE: your visit to Ankara and Istanbul

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751252 Date: 09/05/2012 **B6** This is important so I will check w/ my colleagues in TA and follow up on this end. You probably know that the Turks allege they had an advance understanding w/ Israel that if the flotilla attempted to approach Gaza (probably vague on whether in Intl waters or whatever mile limit Israelis claim off Gaza), Israelis would deter the ships to Ashkelon or Egypt. The parties do have irreconcilably different sets of "facts" as well as different interpretations of their meaning. Turks will not concede Israeli "good faith" in boarding the boats and using bullets evidently at point blank range, even against some apparently aggressively suicidal provocateurs armed with bicycle chains. Nonetheless, while both sides feel gravely offended, what no one disputes is that Israeli soldiers killed 9 Turkish civilians and injured others, with zero Israeli casualties. Given the tragic results of both sides' folly (that's my editorial judgment) i doubt the Turks will concede the Israelis' legal "right to board," but I know for sure they were prepared not to challenge it. in their ad ref agreement to disagree last December, the diplomats' art was to distinguish each side's subjective judgment of the ethical/moral "justice" of the case, from any independent international legal determination of the same. That is, under the ad ref draft agreement, accepted by the Turkish leadership but publicly rejected by Liebermon evidently in order to corner Netanyahu, the parties would agree to disagree; each side would be free to proclaim the morality, ethics, "justice", and even "legality" etc of what each side did, with neither taking the other to court over this - provided the Israelis would express condolences and pay compensation to victims' survivors. If any life could be breathed back into the basics of this deal, it seems to me there might be an imperfect but perhaps, to the GOI, a politically useful analogy with Petraeus and Gates apologizing for US forces' genuine mistakes in (repeatedly) killing groups of Afghan civilians, including paying compensation, while retaining our legal right to keep on doing the things that inevitably result in such accidents. Frank **B6** From: Sent: Truesday, march vo, ZULL 9:30 PM **To:** Ricclardone, Francis J Subject: RE: your visit to Ankara and Istanbul Frank: I am not, and have not been involved in attempts to settle this issue and am offering my thoughts entirely as an interested member of the public. Hence, I do not know whether or which Turks might have heard the point. But from what I hear the Israeli government is absolutely convinced that it had established a blockade recognized under international law which gave it the authority to board, in international waters, vessels that were clearly attempting to breach it - the announced purpose of the flotilla. I do not know what L's opinion is. I do think that GOT recognition that Israel acted in a good faith belief that it had the right to board would be very helpful. Best.

**From:** Ricciardone, Francis J [mailto:RicciardoneFJ@state.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, March 08, 2011 1:19 PM

ubject: Re: your visit to Ankara and Istanbul	
I didn't know about that "right-to-board" point, in this? I hope to see Sinirlioglu (point man on this furns Friday in Frankfurt, Frank	You are certain? Have right Turks heard this? Are you in touch w/ WH or GoT - maybe Thurs (current blizzard permitting), + he will see Bill
rancis J. Ricciardone S Ambassador merican Embassy nkara, Turkey	
eł: +90 312 457 7280	<i>r</i> '
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o: Ricciardone, Francis J ent: Tue Mar 08 18:47:24 2011 ubject: RE: your visit to Ankara and Istanbul	
ear Frank:	
f official Turks who, I believe, have held to the olicy has not varied from days after the incider v Namik Tan). It is that Turkey wants a positive	information. I surmise that the opinions you sounded are those eir policy line with remarkable fidelity all of these months. The nt until the present (a recent iteration occurred yesterday at SAIS we relationship and that it can be restored if Israel will apologize which is to say, accept full responsibility for an incident for ible, let alone fully responsible).
s you know, there have been discussions betw	een the governments which have produced significant progress,
bout what happened. Each party is "right" in it	to governments are based on totally opposite factual narratives as negotiating position if it is also right in its factual and legal acilable. Therefore, if an agreement is to be reached it will have ide is prepared to make to the facts of the other and a willingness positions.
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positive official and broader relationship with	e a sense that Turkey still very seriously wants to restore Israel, but that the Israelis have written off the Turks. 1
pelieve that is a grave error that will become a much longer, i.e. as we approach the annivers	self-fulfilling outlook if the current impasse persists ary of the flotilla incident.
hauld you wish to speak by phone at any poin	nt, I'm at your disposal.
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rancis J. Ricciardone JS Ambassador	
(nkara,	
epublic of Turkey	
el: +90 312 455 7280	
from	
ient: Saturday, February 19, 2011 8:46 ਮਾਮ	
o: Ricciardone, Francis J Subject: RE: your visit to Ankara and Istanbul	
abject Act your thic to American and incident	
Dear Frank:	
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Frank	•
Francis J. Ricciardone	•
US Ambassador .	
American Embassy	
Ankara, Turkey	·
Tel: +90 312 457 7280	
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MACCA-CONTRACTION	
From:	
To: Ricciardone, Francis J Sent: Sat Feb 19 00:02:27 2011	
Subject: RE: your visit to Ankara and Istanbul	
Dear Frank:	
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Francis J. Ricciardone	
US Ambassador	
American Embassy Ankara, Turkey	
Tel: +90 312 457 7280	
From:	Ве
To: Ricciardone, Francis J	
Cc:	
Subject: RE: your visit to Ankara and Istanbul	
Dear Frank:	
Thanks so much, once again.	
Do you think we have something to learn from the father?	
Jess Baily very kindly offered to participate in our session tomor relatively brief window within which we have to work, given travesession which we will arrange during our three month delay per by phone. Perhaps, with your consent, I will not wait for the nex	el schedules. But t've asked if she might join us at another od. The same goes for your very kind offer to participate
I am greatly disappointed that we are unable to travel on schedulard then consult experts after the election results have become	ule as I thought it would be useful to get the picture now clear. But that was not to be.
I do hope you succeed in your good efforts to keep the election	campaign from escalating our problems.
I will certainly keep you abreast of our schedule as it takes shap	ee.
With thanks and very best wishes,	
	and the state of t
From: Ricciardone, Francis J [mailto:RicciardoneFJ@state.gov] Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 2:59 AM	_
To: C: Gregoris, Megnan E; Sillman, Douglas A; Baily, Jess L; Wa Subject: Re: your visit to Ankara and Istanbul	Bé iston, Lysa M; Kilner, Scott F (Istanbul); O'Grady, Daniel J
Dea	
Of course I'm disappointed, as I was hoping to see you here be importantly, after the results are in and a new government is in	th before the election campaign starts and even more place. That's unlikely much before July.
Meanwhile we'll keep striving to put a floor under the problem a campaign, and we'll hope our mutual friends will repair and rebubelp from the other side during this particularly sensitive period.	nd specifically to keep this issue out of the election illd their ties under a refreshed GOT. Sure could use any
(Btw the Turkish father of the Turk-AmCit killed in the flotilla inci Meghan can tell you more, if there is anynterest.)	dent will be visiting the US in the coming days. Jess +
man in the state of the state o	
This state gov address is best for me as I do read it personally	it comes to my BB.

Let's stay	y in touch as the calendar and y	your visit plans advance.
Frank		
US Amb: Americar	n Embassy	
Ankara, <sup>*</sup> Tel: +90	10rkey 312 457 7280	•
geoleolo	vido excisión	
From:		
Cc: Greg Sent: W	argone, Francis 3 Ionis, Meghan E; Silliman, Doug ed Feb 16 04:52:34 2011 : RE: your visit to Ankara and I	glas A; Baily, Jess L; Walston, Lysa M; Kilner, Scott F (Istanbul); O'Grady, Daniel J Istanbul
Dear Fra	nk:	•
more abo the need us with li meeting	ashed at having to tell you at th , per Ambassador Tan's advice ttle wiggle room and several da on Friday to decide on a new d	narily warm and supportive message of this morning; one which makes me all the his late date that we have had to postpone our visit. Staffing issues combined with e, to complete our visit to Turkey before the start of the campaign on March 12, left ays ago obliged us to make the decision to travel after the election. We are late subject, of course, to your advice and that of Ambassador Tan. In Friday and on other occasions prior to our departure to meet with academic and
governm Departm	ental authorities in preparation ent in this process.	for our trip and we would be most anxious to include senior officials at the
that my e	echnical level, the reason I four email of several weeks ago to tl ess to which all future email sh	nd it necessary to write you by snail mail, thereby holding up our exchanges, was he address from which your message of today was sent was returned to me. Is this ould be sent?
	e to renew my colleagues and n d contacts.	my own personal thanks for your support and concern. I greatly look forward to our
	icciardone, Francis J [mailto:Ri Jesday, February 15, 2011 9:48	
	ionis, Meghan E; Silliman, Doug ; your visit to Ankara and Istan	glas A; Baily, Jess L; Walston, Lysa M; Kilner, Scott F (Istanbul); O'Grady, Daniel J abul
Dear		
looking we disc is no m	forward to your visit to list cussed when we met in Wo ore urgent and important	oruary 3, which I've just now received. My colleagues and I are anbut and Ankara withn early March. As ashington last month, we will be keen to support in any way. There objective even on the crowded US-Turkey agenda than getting productive track. This has been a principal subject of my first official

calls all around the Turkish Government, and much quality time with my Israeli colleague in my first days here in Ankara. I expect that senior colleagues in the Department will be eager to see you before you depart for Turkey.

Other business obliges me to be in Istanbul from late on February 28 until return to Ankara the morning of March 3. In order further to show USG support for your purposes, I would be happy to join any or all of your official calls on top officials in Ankara, though I will defer to your wishes should you see any advantage in making your calls independently. In any case, we will close the loop with the MFA here on planning for your visit, which they will have begun through Ambassador Tan's initiative.

If you'll permit, Lysa Walston and I will be glad to work with you and the Turkish Government to arrange mutually convenient appointments in Ankara, and perhaps also for a pre-brief in Istanbul. I will copy Lysa on this message, along with DCM Doug Silliman, political counselor Dan O'Grady, and our CG in Istanbul, Scott Kilner. Please do feel warmly welcome to use my email or to phone me or any of us at any time.

Sincerely,

Frank

Francis J. Ricciardone US Ambassador Ankara, Turkey tel: +90 312 457 7280

cell: +90 533 482 0762

SBU This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

B6

#### Law, Rosemary C

From:

Todd Pierce

Sent:

Sunday, September 11, 2011 5:53 AM

To:

Ricciardone, Francis J; Jess Baily; Kim, Yuri J; berivan

Grubisha,

Subject:

Today's Zaman piece

Here you go. The quote in the JP comes from this piece published two days ago.

×

**RELEASED IN PART B6** 

# Erdoğan's misinterpreted remarks on escorting aid vessels touch raw nerves

A warning by Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan to Israel reiterating his country's firmness on ensuring freedom of navigation in the eastern Mediterranean sent shockwaves throughout the region after it was interpreted as a prelude to a naval confrontation with its former ally. But officials in Ankara made clear on Friday that Erdoğan's remarks during an interview with Al Jazeera were quoted out of context. Some of his quotes were compiled later both by Al Jazeera and Reuters in a way that implied these quotes had followed each other, the same officials said. "Turkish warships, in the first place, are authorized to protect our ships that carry humanitarian aid to Gaza," Erdoğan was quoted as saying by Reuters in the interview, broadcast by Al Jazeera with an Arabic translation.

"From now on, we will not let these ships be attacked by Israel, as what happened with the Freedom Flotilla," Erdoğan was also quoted as saying by Reuters.

In the Turkish version of the text of the interview provided by the Anatolia news agency, however, Erdoğan, in response to a question on ensuring the freedom of navigation in the eastern Mediterranean, says: "At the moment, no doubt, Turkish warships are first of all liable to protect their own ships. This is the first step. And there is humanitarian aid which we will extend. Our humanitarian assistance will no longer be attacked as happened in the case of the Mavi Marmara."

A senior government official speaking to Today's Zaman on Friday said Erdoğan's remarks cannot be interpreted to mean that Turkey has been preparing to send humanitarian aid ships to the region that will be escorted by Turkish warships. "We have put forth a principle by saying that we will ensure the freedom of navigation in the eastern Mediterranean and that this

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

field is not an Israeli playground.

As long as Israel does not interfere in the freedom of navigation, we do not plan on sending any warships to escort humanitarian aid ships," the official, who requested anonymity due to the sensitivity of the issue, told Today's Zaman. "The misquoted remarks suggest that we have been readying to provide a warship to escort each humanitarian aid ship. This is not the case. However, Turkey will protect its citizens' rights in the event of any interference in international waters," the official added.

Turkey downgraded its relations with Israel following a raid by the latter on the Mavi Marmara, a ship that was part of an international aid flotilla attempting to breach an Israeli blockade of Gaza. Turkey said relations between the two countries would only return to normal if Israel offered a formal apology for the resultant killings and paid compensation to the victims' families. Israel, however, refused, saying its soldiers had acted in self-defense. Months-long diplomatic efforts to mend relations failed to produce an agreement.

The Turkish government last Friday announced a set of sanctions against Israel, including the further downgrading of relations to second secretary level -- effectively expelling senior-level Israeli diplomats -- and measures it will take to ensure freedom of navigation in the eastern Mediterranean after Israel made clear that it would not apologize for the May 31, 2010 raid.

In Jerusalem, Erdoğan's compiled remarks found a response from Deputy Prime Minister Dan Meridor, who termed "Turkey's announcement that Turkish warships would escort any future convoys to the Gaza Strip" "harsh and serious" but said Israel wanted to avoid a war of words with its former ally.

"The things Turkish Prime Minister Erdoğan said are harsh and serious, but I don't think it would be right to get into any verbal saber-rattling with him," Deputy Prime Minister Meridor told Israeli Army Radio. "Our silence is the best response. I hope this phenomenon will pass." Meanwhile, Israel's hawkish foreign minister is planning a series of measures to retaliate against Turkey in the recent row over the apology, including military aid to the terrorist Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK), a news report said on Friday.

Other planned measures are cooperation with the Armenian lobby in the US in its efforts to win recognition for Armenian claims that 1.5 million Armenians were victims of a genocide campaign in the late Ottoman Empire during World War I and to issue a travel warning urging all Israeli military veterans to refrain from traveling to Turkey, according to a report in Israel's Yedioth Ahranoth newspaper. The travel advisory will also urge Israelis to refrain from boarding connections in Turkey, the report said.

Yedioth Ahranoth said Lieberman had planned meetings with PKK leaders in Europe in order to find ways to cooperate with them "in every possible area." In these meetings, the PKK leaders may ask Israel for military aid in the form of training and arms supplies, the report said. Lieberman is also

planning active Israeli participation in efforts worldwide to report Turkey's "violations of human rights" in the treatment of minorities in Turkey.

"We'll exact a price from Erdoğan that will prove to him that messing with Israel doesn't pay off. Turkey better treat us with respect and common decency," Lieberman was quoted as saying. Whether Lieberman's threats could ever be implemented remains questionable.

2011-09-09

Muhabir: Today's Zaman

R32

## Law, Rosemary C

From:

Guido, Deborah L

Friday, April 08, 2011 5:19 AM

RELEASED IN FULL

Sent: Subject:

Turkey Media Reaction - April 8, 2011

Categories:

Working

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

1. Turkey Media Highlights, April 8: Government Shutdown; Wikileaks Comments from Koc and Saluting US Diplomats; IHH on New Gaza Flotilla; PM Erdogan's Libyan Roadmap; Rebels Respond; Syria – New Terror Agreement with Turkey; Assad Reforms; TGS Draws Reactions for 'Sledgehammer' Statement; Third anti-Turkey Demonstration in TRNC (Prepared by PAS Information Section, US Embassy Ankara)

#### How the US is Playing

# 2. Government Shutdown: "Big Crisis in the US" (Hurriyet)

Hurriyet gives prominent play to reports that 800,000 federal public employees will be given compulsory leave if no agreement is reached between the two parties in the Congress. Hundreds of places from the Statue of Liberty to the US embassy services will be shut down, and several staff in the White House will go home, says Hurriyet. Internet newsportal Haber FX headlines, "Obama: Do not Force Government Shut Down."

#### 3. Wikileaks Explanation from Koc (Zaman)

All major Turkish papers and TVs report that Koc Holding Executive Board Chairman Mustafa Koc responded to WL documents that were published by Taraf this week. While pro-government papers interpret Koc's explanation as 'he accepted WL claims,' mainstream media tend to report exactly what he said. Islamic oriented Zaman today says Koc owned up to his comments in Wikileaks, confirming that he met U.S. Ambassador James Jeffrey during the days of economic crisis (in 2009) and that at that time he said that AKP would lose in the next elections. "I talked about political scenarios and coalition," says Koc, "however, in today's conditions, AK Party will be the top party of the general elections." Koc, in an interview with CNBC-e on 4/7 criticized Taraf's headlines, characterizing them as sensational and "ugly." Mainstream Milliyet and liberal Vatan report that Koc underlined he was only discussing possible scenarios 20 months ago with Ambassador Jeffrey.

#### 4. Commentary: "Wikileaks teaches lots of things" (Posta)

Mehmet Ali Birand in Posta: "Each Wikileaks document, as printed in a Turkish newspaper every day, is indicative of not only the meticulousness of the work of American diplomats, but also how deeper they go in some of their analyses compared to local experts. Wikileaks documents also show us how carefully and closely the US diplomacy searches and scrutinizes developments. They are working like Swiss watches. Sometimes they make mistakes, but it's obvious that a mechanism which never misleads Washington exists. One cannot help but envy them."

### In the News: Israel, Libya, Syria

# 5. Gaza Flotilla: "IHH - Don't Let Israeli Tourists to Alanya" (Milliyet)

Mainstream Milliyet reports that Islamic Human Rights and Freedom Organization (IHH) head Bulent Yildinim told an audience of over 1,000 that the IHH plans to send a second flotilla to Gaza, but apparently it will not set sail from Turkey. According to Milliyet, Yildinim said at an event in Alanya: "We are getting ready for another flotilla. There will be a ship from every country. Our own Mavi Marmara will set sail from Europe. Vessels will come from everywhere in the world. Israel will learn this: The Mediterranean does not belong to Israel. Just because we have had martyrs, we are not afraid. We will not step back. Let all know this: Until the blockade on Gaza is lifted and until our march to al-Aqsa is completed, this sea and land operation will continue. Also, it will not be only by sea. We are preparing for land convoys as well. Our project for the purchase of an airplane will soon be realized. What do we say to the world leaders? Do not expect us to live in comfort, when people in Gaza are dying and don't expect us to remain silent when al Aqsa mosque is a prisoner. We are saying this: We don't have a problem with the Christians or Jews. But we do have a problem with one place! And we declare it with courage, without fear. Our problem is Zionism, which, like a virus, has infected all humanity." Dogan News Agency (DHA) quoted Yildirim on 04/07 as saying "There is a flotilla for the memory of 31 May, but it will be in mid June. Our own Mavi Marmara will set sail from Europe." Yildirim also called Alanya residents 'not to let Israeli tourists to Alanya before Israeli government apologizes and pays compensation because of Mavi Marmara.' Alanya, on Turkey's southem coast, is a popular package tour destination for Israelis.

#### 6. PM Erdogan's Libyan Roadmap; Rebels Respond (Hurriyel)

All media report PM Erdogan's "roadmap" for Libya that he unveiled in a press conference yesterday in Ankara. The roadmap consists three elements: A ceasefire should be called and military forces loyal to Gaddafi should lift their siege on some cities; safe humanitarian zones should be set up for uninterrupted humanitarian aid to all Libyans; a democratic change process should be launched at once. Pro-government Star headlines "Step down, Gaddafi" and underlines the PM's comments that "Gaddafi needs to withdraw from besieged cities and the process of constitutional transition must commence." In "Erdogan Calls on Gaddafi: 'Open the Path to Democracy," pro-government Zaman reports Erdogan also said the anti-Turkey demonstrations in Libya were "black propaganda," and urged the Libyans to not believe in them. In "Erdogan: 'We Know the Centers of Libel in Libya," leftist-nationalist Cumhurlyet quotes Erdogan as saying, "It's a saddening development that some centers of power who see themselves close to the people in Libya has launched a stander campaign against Turkey. We know who are behind this campaign, and take note of it." "I'm calling on the Libyan administration to open the path to constitutional democracy in which the people of Libya will elect their administrators freely," said Erdogan. In "Libyan Rebels Respond to Erdogan Fast," Hurriyet reports the Libyan rebels refused to hold negotiations with Gaddafi. The insurgents' spokesman Colonel Ahmad Bani told al-Arabiya TV, "We respect the position of the Turkish people, but Erdogan's position does not reflect the views of the Turkish people. Erdogan is not speaking for the interests of Libya or the Turkish people, he is speaking only for his own interests."

#### 7. Syria Agreement: Red Line Between Turkey and Damascus (Milliyet)

In a front page report, mainstream *Milliyet* reports that a Turkish-Syrian counter-terrorism agreement has been approved. Under the agreement, Milliyet says that Turkey will be able to extradite PKK members who are Syrian citizens. *Milliyet* also writes: "Direct telephone line will be established between the chiefs of general staff of the two countries." In "Counter-Terrorism Agreement," mainstream *Humiyet* reports: With this agreement, Syria and Turkey aim to stop terrorist organizations activities. It also includes intelligence sharing, joint operations, as necessary, and the return of terrorist group members."

# 8. Syria: First Concrete Step from Assad to Stop Anti-Government Protests; 250,000 Kurds Granted Syrian Nationality (Hurriyet, Millivet, Aksam)

Today's papers report that, following the uprising results in Northern Africa and the middle East, Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad announced a reform package to calm down his own people. The package, which will be implemented immediately, covers the Sunni population as well as the Kurds who were unable to benefit from their minority rights for years. Mainstream *Milliyet* cites Syrian State News Agency SANA and reports that Assad issued a decree granting citizenship to more than 250.000 Kurds registered as aliens in Hasaka province. Kurds, which which make up 20 per cent of Syrian population, were not considered as citizens since 1962 and they have long complained of neglect and discrimination, add the papers. The second big reform decision of Assad was allowing the Sunni population to be involved in politics. According to Assad's childhood friend and activist Abdul Nur, Assad met with Islamic leader Said Ramadan al-Buti and talked about the possibilities of establishing a party in Syria similar to AKP in Turkey which is loyal to the regime and with an Islamic background, notes mainstream *Hurriyet*.

#### Commentary: Syria-Turkey; Press Freedom in Syria

#### 9. "Assad can continue his hold on power only through reforms" (Milliyet)

Sami Kohen in Milliyet: "Ankara has taken a different attitude against the movement of change in Syria, which is suitable with its southern neighbor's conditions and Turkey's interests. Ankara defends change and reforms in Syria, but does not call for a toppling of the regime or ousting of its leader. FM Davutoglu has advised President Assad in Damascus to 'hurry up' for reforms. Assad can continue his power if he quickly opts for a way to meet the expectations of his people. Syria's will be an interesting test to see whether change can happen under the same regime."

#### 10. "Press Freedom in Syria" (Hurrivet)

Ferai Tinc in Hurriyet: "The support Ankara has given to Bashar Assad actually serves the Interests of the Syrian President. Now it's time for difficult demands. Press freedom is the most critical issue in Syria, on which Turkey must be persistent. If Ankara presses for it, wouldn't it be seen as an advice coming from a country which has been ranked 138th in the lineup for world press freedom list? True, but if Turkey is defending the thesis that it sees suitable for its own interests a continuation of the Assad administration by making reforms, then Ankara has to insist on press freedom. Who knows, while pressing Damascus on press freedom, it might be possible for Turkey to perceive the situation of the press at home in an objective manner within the framework of the common principles of democracy. If Turkey doesn't press Syria for freedoms, this 'friendship' will go no further than providing a cover for an oppressive regime."

#### Other News

11. General Staffs Draws Reactions From the Government and the Opposition for Sledgehammer Statement (All media)

TV channels last night and the papers today cover the reaction of both the government and the opposition showed to the TGS statement of Wednesday saying that it had difficulty understanding the continued detention of 163 military personnel as part of the Siedgehammer probe. Parliament Speaker Mehmet Ali Sahin said "it would be better if the General Staff had not issued such a statement, as they could be interpreted as a move to interfere in the judicial process." AKP official Suat Kilic said "the statement could be perceived as intervention in the judicial process. Akif Hamzacebi of the main opposition party CHP, described the TGS remarks as a sign of excessive sensitivity and said that he didn't find the remarks right.

12. Cyprus: Third Anti-Turkey Demonstration in TRNC (Vatan)

Turkish media report on yesterday's protests against Turkey in Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC). Mainstream Vatan in its front page reports "Syndicated Platform members held the third demonstration to protest the tight austerity measures claimed to have been taken with the demands of Turkey. Around 2500 people attended the demonstration. Some groups opened placards writing 'occupier Turkish Republic get out of Cyprus"." Liberal Radikal in "Crowded Demonstration in TRNC," notes demonstrator planted a Greek Cypriot flag on the wall of Turkish Embassy and shouted slogans."

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

RELEASED IN FULL

# Law, Rosemary C

From:

Guido, Deborah L

Sent:

Tuesday, June 28, 2011 5:15 AM

Subject:

TURKEY Media Reaction June 27, 2011

Categories:

Working

1. Turkey Media Highlights, June 28: US Say Turkey a Source for Trafficking; Israel Will Stop Second Flotilla to Gaza; Turkey Deploys Gendarme Commandoes at Syria Border, Turkey Briefed Allies; Brinkmanship in Turkish Parliament Opening; PM Erdogan on CHP, BDP Boycott of Parliament; Pundits Evaluate 'Oath-Taking Crisis'; Say Boycotting Parliament Will Have High Costs; Police Operations on Energy

#### How the US is Playing/Stories of Interest

2. US Says Turkey a Source, Destination and Transit for Trafficking (Today's Zaman)

In its annual "Trafficking in Persons" report, the State Department said Turkey is a source, destination, and transit country for women, men, and children subjected to sex trafficking and forced labor, reports *Today's Zaman. Zaman* says the report accuses the government of not fully complying with the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking but stressed that Turkey is making significant efforts to do so.

3. Israel Will Stop Second Flotilla again on Open Seas (Zaman)

Turkish media report the second aid flotilla to Gaza will set sail from Greece over the weekend with 9-10 ships and over 400 activists from 22 countries onboard. "Israel Will Stop Flotilla again on Open Seas," headlines Islamist, progovernment Zaman and reports Israel continued its diplomatic pressure on Athens to stop the flotilla. In "Stop the Flotilla without Bloodshed," mainstream Humyet reports seven ships setting sail from Athens will meet on the Mediterranean with three ships from France and Spain, and reach offshore Gaza on Thursday. Hurriyet reports ministers from yesterday's Israeli security cabinet meeting said the aid cargos can be offloaded at Israel's Ashdod and Egypt's al-Arish ports, and transported to Gaza after inspections. Meanwhile, six Democrat members of the US Congress have urged Secretary Clinton in a letter to do all she can to ensure the security of the American citizens aboard the flotilla, notes Hurriyet. Liberal Radikal in "Athens Under Pressure, Flotilla Can't Depart," reports "the Flotilla organizers are facing technical and administrative difficulties in Greece due to Israeli diplomatic pressure." Meanwhile, in "Israel Should Apologize," pro government mainstream Sabeh reports that "Israeli Haaretz says Israel should apologize to Turkey for the Mavi Marmara raid, meanwhile, Israel approved a plan to intercept Gaza Freedom Flotilla II. Israel's security cabinet decided that Israel will be determined to prevent the arrival of the flotilla to Gaza, and ordered the army to adamantly stop the sail in case it tries to breach the siege."

4. Special Commandoes at the Syria Border (Sabah)

Pro-government Sabah reports "security measures are tightened in the region when Syrian soldiers opened fire at the border last week. Turkey deployed 300 elite gendame commandoes at the border with Syria. The commandoes will deal with possible tensions at the border, at the same time they will control the influx of Syrian refugees to Turkey and will prevent the infiltration of PKK terrorists." Sabah notes "the commandoes will also be responsible for the safety of Syrian refugees." Meanwhile, in "Turkish Army To Enter Syria," Islamist moderate Zaman asserts that Turkey advised Western countries that it would launch military operations into Syria to topple the Assad regime. The Zaman report is based on a story from Kuwait's Es-Siyasseh Daily, which sites a British source saying that Turkey briefed Britain, France, Italy, Germany and NATO.

5. "NATO's Libya Test" (Zaman)

Fikret Ertan in 6/27 Islamist moderate Zaman: "It is clear that NATO's Libya mission is not proceeding the way it was expected. The hypothesis that Gaddafi's regime would collapse after a couple weeks of heavy bombardment has collapsed itself. This indicates that reaching easy and fast results through air bombardment will not be possible everytime and everywhere. In Kosovo, NATO had made Milosevic give up with heavy aerial bombardment, but it had happened only after the threat that a ground operation would follow the bombardment. Today, there is no such option for Libya because UN Security Council No: 1973 does not permit ground operations. And there is no possibility that a resolution allowing ground operations can ever be taken. NATO, which exerted itself so much in Libya which was seen as a piece of cake, can never easily think of intervening anywhere else from now on."

In the Headlines

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

1

Brinkmanship Pushes Ankara to Edge of Abyss (Hurriyet Daily News); The Most Painful Parliament Opening (Millivet)

All media report the Turkish Parliament will convene today with an eath-taking ceremony following the June 12 elections (at 1500). Today's ceremony will occur under the shadow of the boycott of Kurdish BDP and the main opposition CHP over the fate of eight independent deputies not released from prison despite the fact that they were elected. In "CHP Awaits Judicial Decision," leftist-nationalist Cumhuriyet reports the 132 deputies from CHP will go to the parliament today, but they will not take oath to protest the ruling of the court. "CHP Awaits Erdogan's Pledge to Solve Jailed Deputies Crisis," headlines Hurriyet and notes this was CHP's "last call" to Erdogan. In "They Invested in Chaos," Islamist, progovernment Yeni Safak reports CHP, BDP and MHP knew from the start that their candidates who were in prison when they were nominated would not be released when elected, but that they still nominated them. "Parliament to Open with 'Oath Crisis," headlines Radikal and reports that in 1991, Kurdish MP Leyla Zana and in 1999, 'headscarf MP' Merve Kavakci had put their marks on the opening ceremonies. In "I Would Have Released Them," Vatan quotes the justice in charge of appointments at High Board of Judges and Prosecutors (HSYK) as saying if he was dealing with their cases, he would have released the elected deputies from prison. Papers note that the AKP and the MHPwill take part in the opening ceremony.

7. Erdogan Believes Nomination of Imprisoned Deputies Had Been 'Intentional' (Hurriyet)

Media report Prime Minister Erdoğan said Turkish people elected the deputies to handle their problems, not to boycott the legislature. According to *Humiyet*, Erdoğan told reporters yesterday that political parties and independent candidates were aware of the risks before they were nominated. "Couldn't they have found other candidates? Apparently, their goal was to lay the ground for bending the laws," said Erdogan, and noted that they will have to wait for a decision from the judiciary. In "Erdogan Can Relieve all Turkey," leftist-nationalist *Cumhuriyet* reports CHP leader Kernal Kilicdaroglu said all CHP deputies would swear in if Erdogan assures them in front of the public that he would resolve the problem of the deputies in prison. "Erdogan himself has gone through the same difficulties, and CHP had helped him to become a member of parliament despite the fact that Erdogan was then in a more grave situation compared to BDP's Hatip Dicle today. The deputies in prison are not convicted, so there is no need for legal arrangements," said Kilicdaroglu. Meanwhile, opposition far right MHP leader Devlet Bahceli warmed everyone to not take steps they will regret in the future, and called for a "compromise through friendship."

8. Commentary: The Oath-taking Crisis (Opposition: Radikal, Milliyet, Vatan)

Murat Yetkin in Radikal notes the BDP decision to boycott the parliament was important, but the CHP decision to boycott the oath-taking ceremony was more important, because it can "shake the grounds of the system." Yetkin writes: "In a parliament where the main opposition does not participate in the work of General Assembly and commissions, the AKP can pass every law it wants, and take the constitutional changes to referendum. This would be in line with the laws, but it is debatable whether it would be legitimate. As of yesterday night, no one had a clear idea what will happen at the swearing in ceremony today, and everyone was looking at what Erdogan would say. This process is not anything that will carry Turkey to the advanced levels of pluralist democracy." After speaking with the CHP's former leader Deniz Baykal, Asli Aydintasbas writes in Milliyet that Baykal called on everyone who has self respect to not take the oath and predicted that Baykal "will give strong support to Kilicdaroglu at a critical time." Columnist Okay Gönensin in mainstream Vatan suggests that AKP could file a proposal for delaying the oath-taking ceremony in the parliament until the judiciary finalizes all requests for the release of the imprisoned members of the parliament, which can help defuse the tensions.

9. Commentary: "Boycotting Parliament Will Have High Costs" (Pro-government: Zaman)
Zaman's Editor in Chief Ekrem Dumanii opines: "The Turkish Parliament must push aside all the tutelage systems which were the byproducts of the September 1980 military coup, and establish a libertarian, participatory, and democratic system. Those who say 'I'll boycott the parliament' are part of the problem, not the solution. And Turkish people will hold to account everyone who excludes the parliament. Those who boycott the parliament would have boycotted the people, and will pay a high cost."

10. MGK Discusses Tensions in Middle East (Sabah)

Media report Turkey's National Security Council (MGK) convened on 6/27 and identified in a final statement the meeting's main agenda items as consideration of the security ramifications in southeast Turkey of the BDP's parliamentary boycott, Syria, and Libya. Cumhuriyet comments the MGK signaled that the Turkish government's Kurdish democratic initiative would continue, and that this was a message for the BDP. Hurriyet reports that in the meeting, the Turkish Ambassador in Damascus, Ömer Önhon, briefed the officials on the possible scenarios for the developments in Syria. "We have evaluated the recent developments in Syria, Libya, the Middle East and North Africa regions. Within this frame, we have highlighted the importance of meeting the legitimate demands of the regional peoples by comprehensive political, social and economic reforms and realistic political change that would facilitate constitutional democracies," the MGK statement said, and added the meeting also discussed the activities in meeting the needs of Syrian citizens who took temporary shelter in Turkey. Sabah and Cumhuriyet report the MGK also warned that the unrest in the region could spread to Iraq.

11. Police Operations on Energy (Sabah)

Pro-government Sabah reports in its front page "30 people in 10 cities, including Ankara, Istanbul, Izmir, Sivas, Kırsehir, Zonguldak, Mersin, Kayseri, Urfa and Manisa, on charges of rigging energy bids and bribery within the scope of an energy corruption investigation launched into the state-run electricity generation company Elektrik Uretim A.S. (EUAS), which is Turkey's most profitable institution. The former director general of the EUAS, two department heads, branch managers and some businesspeople were among the suspects detained."

Compiled by the Press Office, US Embassy

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

# Law, Rosemary C

From:

Gunay, Serdil

Sent:

Wednesday, June 29, 2011 5:49 AM

Subject:

TURKEY Media Reaction June 29, 2011
REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

1. Turkey Media Highlights, June 29: Ambassador Ricciardone on Turkey; US Trafficking in Persons Report--Turkey; Gaza Flotilla: US Bases in Turkey; Turkey's 'Oath-Taking Crisis'; Three Views on the Crisis

#### How the US is Playing/Stories of Interest

## 2. Ambassador Ricciardone: "Ethnic Elements Strengthened Turkish Parliament" (Milliyet)

Turkish papers and online news portals give wide coverage to Ambassador Ricciardone's visit to the southeastern city of Mardin where the US Ambassador met with Governor Turhan Ayvaz. "Mardin has developed immensely, and became richer. There is no impediment for American businessmen to come and invest in Mardin," mainstream Milliyet quotes Ricciardone. Ricciardone, commenting on the stance of the CHP and the Kurdish BDP on yesterday's oath-taking ceremony at the parliament, told reporters that Turkey would overcome the crisis, thanks to its strong and robust democracy, and added, "the presence of ethnic groups under the roof of the parliament has been a good decision for the strengthening of democracy."

On a question whether the change in Egypt could be true for Syria as well, Ricciardone said: "I am not a prophet, I cannot predict Syria's future. Egyptians are a people open to change. Syrian people, too, want change, but I cannot guess what eventually will happen. Syrian government treats its own people very bad; this was not the case in Egypt. But in Syria, there are limits to the patience." Islamist, pro-government Zaman reported online Ambassador Ricciardone talked about their love of travel in Turkey and that "we'd like to support tourism and business," noting that the 600-year old Deyrulumur Monastery was a "very important place for history and for humanity... It's an important treasure for both Christians and Muslims. It's like fine jewelry that must be protected." Ambassador said one of his priorities is to integrate the US and Turkish businesses in the region, and that "we have efforts underway for the US business to have a positive outlook on Turkey." Answering a question on Syria, Ricciardone explained: "the US stance is clear on this issue - the Syrian government must stop the violence." The Sondakika.com online news portal reports that when asked about the Turkish elections, Ricciardone commented "I congratulate the government and opposition parties on their success in the elections, but other subjects [you are asking about] concern Turkish domestic political issues and I don't want to evaluate them."

# US Trafficking in Persons Report Categorizes Turkey among 'Tier 2' Countries (Milliyet)

Mainstream Milliyet reports the US State Department, in its annual Trafficking in Persons report, placed Turkey under the category of countries "working on the issue," and accused the government of "not fully complying with the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking," but said Turkey is making significant efforts to do so. According to the report, women and child sex trafficking victims found in Turkey originate predominately from the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe but Turkish women are also subjected to forced prostitution within the country. Milliyet reports that the report said the government of Turkey demonstrated some limited progress in protecting trafficking victims in 2010; however, it did not address critically needed improvements to achieve a more victim-centered approach.

## 4. Slander Campaign on Gaza Flotilla (Hurriyet)

Turkish media report Israel has launched a "counter-propaganda campaign" days before a second aid flotilla to Gaza sets sail from Greek ports, tomorrow or Friday. Hurriyet reports Israeli Prime Ministry sources told Ha'aretz several units of the state of Israel, "in compliance with the country's interests, is using the opportunities of the internet media." In "Bibi Production," Islamist, pro-government Yeni Safak opines "Israel, after trying everything to stop the second Gaza flotilla, this time uses black propaganda," comments Yeni Safak.

#### 5. Iran's Target is US Bases (Milliyet)

Opposition Turkish media report "the commander of Iran's aerospace force General Ali Hajizadeh sent a pointed message to Israel and the US that they were within range of Iranian missiles." Hurriyet's front page story notes "Hajizadeh made his comments as Iran was conducting the Prophet 6 war games which include testing of the Shahab-3 ballistic missile, which has a range of up to 2,000 kilometres and is capable of reaching any part of Israel." Milliyet headlines "Iran's Show of Force," while Radikal in "Iran's Missile Threat," notes "Foreign Ministry spokesman Mehmanparast said that Western worries over Iran's military strength was a 'source of delight' for the country." Radikal also adds "Iran says US economic sanctions against the country have made it harder for the national Iranian airline to refuel its planes abroad and calls the situation 'inhumane."

#### In the Headlines

## 6. "Hope for Compromise" (Sabah)

Mainstream Hurriyet's banner headlines "Oath in the Parliament with 169 Absent Deputies," and reports "for the first time, one third of the deputies of the 550 member parliament did not take oath due to the boycott of 134 deputies of CHP and 34 independent parliamentarians and absence of Engin Alan from MHP due to his arrest." Leftist-nationalist *Cumhuriyet* headlines "Heavy Political Crisis," while Islamist-oriented *Zaman* says "CHP-BDP Alliance in the Parliament." All media report "commenting on the deputies under arrest, PM Erdogan said they could evaluate the proposal that will come from CHP." Pro-government *Sabah* headlines "Hope for Compromise," while CNNTurk in "First Contact Today," reports "the first contact between CHP and AKP will take place today. Deputy PM Cemil Cicek will visit CHP leader Kilicdaroglu today to assess the process of election of Parliament Speaker." Meanwhile, liberal Radikal reports "independent deputies who were elected with the support of BDP convened in Diyarbakir on Tuesday and took a decision to hold BDP's group meetings in Diyarbakir rather than in the Turkish Parliament."

#### 7. "Bitter Parliament Opening" (Hurriyet)

Sedat Ergin in Hurriyet: "Yesterday's boycotting of parliament by opposition CHP and BDP will damage the power of the ruling AKP on the international arena. The crisis, however, has helped the Turkish public see the hazards of granting extensive powers to 'specially authorized courts.' These courts ignore the European Human Rights Treaty and the rulings of the European Court of Human Rights. Turkey claims to adjust its legislature to European norms, but these courts draw Turkey away from Europe. While working to solve the problem with the deputies in prison, the parliament needs to abolish the specially authorized courts and to align its criminal procedure with European legal norms."

## 8. "Turkish Summer" (Radikal)

Murat Yetkin in *Radikal*: "Tensions in Ankara escalated with yesterday's boycotting of the parliament by CHP and Kurdish BDP. The Turkish Summer, unlike the Arab Spring, does not witness street riots or upheavals. The fact that there are efforts to work out the problems in the parliament shows that Turkish democracy is more mature than that of the Arab countries. Even if the boycott problem is resolved, the search for constitutional reforms and Turkey's Kurdish problem have suffered severe blows. Turkey should prepare for a hot and long Turkish Summer."

#### 9. "Who built this game?" (Yeni Safak)

Ibrahim Karagūl in pro-government Y*eni Safak*: "Whoever might be the builder of this game in Turkey, he deployed the sides to the fronts. [The oath-taking crisis in parliament] is a coup, a project to suspend democracy. Those who do not prefer to give their struggle in the parliament seem to have opted for crisis and fight outside the parliament. And at a time when we are witnessing earthquakes in the entire region from North Africa to Iran, and when the entire geography is being redesigned. Those who claimed that this wave of upheavals will strike Turkey after the elections through the Kurdish problem might prove to be right. If so, the division will deepen in Turkey, and Turkey will be put in a situation of deeply buried into its own problems. I hope all this is mere concern."

# 10. Roundup: Ambassador Ricciardone in SE Turkey

Ambassador Ricciardone liked the Hilton Hotel in Sanliurfa, where he was welcomed by the governor, mayor, university rector, chief public prosecutor, and justice commission chairman. The Ambassador told the press he has been in the region for two days and found the Southeast beautiful and flourishing, adding that not only the SE, but all of Turkey has developed democratically and economically.

http://www.santiurfa.com/haber34416-buyukelciden-hilton-reklami.htm

Ambassador Ricciardone visited Mor Gabriel Monastery in Midyat, Mardin, where he lit a votive candle for world peace. http://www.haberalemi.net/HD265198\_abd-buyukelcisi-ricciardone-midyat-ta.html

Ambassador Ricciardone paid a visit to Mardin Mayor Mehmet Beşir Ayanoğlu and stated that Mardin has became a model city. http://www.haberler.com/abd-buyukelcisi-ricciardone-mardin-belediyesi-2829503-haberi/

Ambassador and Dr. Ricciardone enjoyed special Mardin coffee at a sidewalk cafe in Old Town Mardin. <a href="http://www.cafesiyaset.com/Ricciardone-Mardini-ziyaret-ediyor\_180179.html">http://www.cafesiyaset.com/Ricciardone-Mardini-ziyaret-ediyor\_180179.html</a>

Ambassador Ricciardone stated that to end the tension in Syria, Syria needs to avoid violence and concentrate on reforms immediately.

http://www.sondakika.com/haber-abd-buyukelcisi-suriye-derhal-reform-yapmali-2829593/

Compiled by the Press Office, US Embassy

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751257 Date: 06/27/2012

#### RELEASED IN FULL

## Law, Rosemary C

From:

OpsAlert

Sent:

Friday, September 02, 2011 6:52 AM

Subject:

Update 1: Turkey To Downgrade Diplomatic Relations with Israel Over Palmer Report

(SBU) Concerned Israel will not apologize and pay reparations for last year's deadly raid on a Gaza-bound flotilla, Foreign Minister Davutoglu says Turkey will downgrade diplomatic relations with Israel to the second secretary level and cut military ties as well, media reports. Embassy Ankara comments Israel's ambassador to Turkey returned to Israel previously, and is unlikely to be replaced.

Automatic electronic distribution to: S, D(B), D(N), P, E, C, M, DG, T, R, PA, G, AF, EAP, EUR, NEA, SCA, WHA, IO, S/CRS, S/CT, S/HSC, H, DS, CA, PMAT, INR, AVC, IIP, ISN, CMS, S/ES, S/ES-O, NSOC, and WHSR.

From: OpsAlert@state.gov

Sent: Thursday, September 01, 2011 1:28:08 PM

To: CC:

Subject: New York Times Publishes Palmer Commission Report (U)

(U) Ahead of the expected September 2 publication, The New York Times released the full text of the UN's findings. According to The New York Times, the review found Israel's naval blockade of Gaza to be legal and appropriate but deemed the way its forces boarded the Turkish-based flotilla to be excessive and unreasonable.

Automatic electronic distribution to: S, D(B), D(N), P, E, C, M, DG, T, R, PA, G, AF, EAP, EUR, NEA, SCA, WHA, IO, S/CRS, S/CT, S/HSC, H, DS, CA, PMAT, INR, AVC, IIP, ISN, CMS, S/ES, S/ES-O, NSOC, and WHSR.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

# UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751258 Date: 06/27/2012

#### RELEASED IN FULL

R36

# Law, Rosemary C

From:

Guido, Deborah L

Sent:

Monday, June 27, 2011 4:47 AM

To:

Ricciardone, Francis J; Silliman, Douglas A; AnkaraAMB; Ankara-POL-DL

Subject: Attachments: US Statement on Gaza Flotilla, June 24 Statement on Mavi Marmara June 24.docx

Categories:

Working

In case you didn't see....

Home » Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs » Bureau of Public Affairs » Bureau of Public Affairs; Press Relations » Press Releases: June 2011 » Gaza "Anniversary" Flotilla

# Gaza "Anniversary" Flotilla

Press Statement
Victoria Nuland
Department Spokesperson, Office of the Spokesperson
Washington, DC
June 24, 2011

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Last month marked the one-year anniversary of the confrontation between Israeli forces and activists when a flotilla attempted to break Israel's maritime blockade of Gaza on May 31, 2010. The United States deeply regrets the tragic loss of life and injuries suffered among those involved in that incident aboard the Gaza bound ships.

We are concerned that a number of groups are organizing a one year "anniversary" flotilla to commemorate the incident by sailing from various European ports to Gaza in the near future. Groups that seek to break Israel's maritime blockade of Gaza are taking irresponsible and provocative actions that risk the safety of their passengers. Established and efficient mechanisms exist to transfer humanitarian assistance to Gaza. For example, humanitarian assistance can be delivered at the Israeli port of Ashdod, where cargo can be offloaded, inspected, and transported to Gaza. We urge all those seeking to provide such assistance to the people of Gaza to use these mechanisms, and not to participate in actions like the planned flotilla.

Recent seizures by Israel and Egypt of advanced military systems, weapons, and ammunition bound for terrorist groups in Gaza, as well as periodic rocket and mortar attacks from Gaza against Israeli civilians, highlight the continuing problem of illicit arms smuggling to Gaza. These seizures underscore the vital importance to Israel's security of ensuring that all cargo bound for Gaza is appropriately screened for illegal arms and dual-use materials.

The United States remains concerned by conditions in Gaza, but notes that the humanitarian situation has significantly improved over the last year, including a marked increase in the range and scope of goods and materials moving into Gaza, an increase in international

project activity, and the gradual expansion of exports. The United States will continue to work with Israel, the Palestinian Authority, donors, and the international community to do more and ensure that the needs of the people of Gaza are being met.

We also continue to call on Hamas to play a constructive role by renouncing violence, recognizing Israel's right to exist, and accepting past agreements. We underscore that delivering or attempting or conspiring to deliver material support or other resources to or for the benefit of a designated foreign terrorist organization, such as Hamas, could violate U.S. civil and criminal statutes and could lead to fines and incarceration.

Deborah L. Guido Spokesperson U.S. Embassy Ankara Office: 90-312-457-7312 Cell: 90-0532-341-2862 Email: guidodl@state.gov U.S. Embassy Web.Page Visit us on Facebook

R37

# Gilmore, Bradley T

RELEASED IN FULL

From: Sent: de Otalvaro, Laura H

Monday, May 31, 2010 3:17 PM

To:

Wolff, Alex D (USUN); 'elizabeth\_d.\_sherwood-randall@nsc.eop.gov'; 'bbrink@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dennis\_B.\_Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; Gordon, Philip H; Kaidanow, Tina S; McEldowney, Nancy E; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Schlicher, Ronald L; Marsh, Denise M; Riley, Robert J; Baily, Jess L; Waser, Tamir G; Cunningham, James B; Leary, Thomas M; Operations Center; Rice, Susan E (USUN); Levin, Jan; Waser, Tamir G; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Schlicher, Ronald L; Taylor, Victoria J; Schrank, Alexander D; Gordon, Philip H; McEldowney, Nancy E; Kaidanow, Tina S; Baily, Jess L; Riley, Robert J; Marsh, Denise M; 'bbrink@nsc.eop.gov'; 'elizabeth\_d.\_sherwood-randall@nsc.eop.gov'; Cunningham, James B; SES-O; Watch Information; Delaurentis, Jeffrey A (USUN); Schedlbauer, Amy W; Germain, Ellen J (USUN); McLeod.

sherwood-randall@nsc.eop.gov'; Cunningham, James B; SES-O; Watch Information; Delaurentis, Jeffrey A (USUN); Schedlbauer, Amy W; Germain, Ellen J (USUN); McLeod, Mary (USUN); Leedy, Jean B; Hof, Frederic C; Greene, Elisa; Rosenstock, Matthew S; Goodman, Ilan A; Reisser, Wesley J; Parra, Yolanda A; Dilworth, Alison E; Osman, Amany A; Netos, Eleftherios E; Schlereth, Frank G; Burgess, Richard J; Chere, John E; Waters, John R; Rogan, Thomas G; Towry, Debra J; Hanania, Vera V; Weinfeld, Nill I; Lewis, Glenn K; Beran, Sarah; Greengrass, Sara D; Kaplan, Dean; Walker, Carolee B; Finver, Frank J; Greene, David J; Manring, Nicholas J; Tyson, Paul H; Maggi, Robert W; Frederick, Jeffrey D; Falls, Eric G; Reed, Julia G; Davison, Kees C; Holmstrom, Todd C; Sindle, James M; Struwe, Rebecca L; Richter, Kim B; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Mendel, Teresa S; Sievers, Marc J; Burnett, David R; Baron, Desiree A; Adams, Julie D; Parker, Andrew C; Greene, Ellsa;

Zeroubavely, Sandra S; Goldberger, Thomas H

Cc:

Jeffrey, James F; Silliman, Douglas A; Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Leary, Thomas M; Dayton, Win (Istanbul); Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Ankara-POL-DL; Ogle, Karen L; Keen, Daniel G; Tomlinson, Christina (Istanbul); Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Gisvold, Lisa C (Istanbul); Cetin, Metin (Istanbul); Appleton, Richard H; Ogle, Karen L; Combs, James D;

Gilmore, Bradley T

Subject:

Turkey: SitRep 2 on IHH Flotilla, 2:30 pm Turkey Time.

Attachments:

Turkey: SitRep 1 on Humanitarian Aid Foundation Flotilla, 12:00 pm Turkey Time

Categories:

Working

AttachmentsClassification:

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification: SensitivityCode:

Sensitive

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

1. (SBU) In response to the intervention by the Israeli Military on the Humanitarian Aid Foundation (IHH) flotilla, the MFA announced it will recall its ambassador to Israel, Oguz Celikkol, and will cancel three military exercises it had planned with Israel. It will also recall the Turkish Youth National Soccer Team before it plays its scheduled match. The press reported that PM Erdogan cut his trip to Latin America short and will return to Turkey today, while FM Ahmet Davutoglu is on his way to New York to request that the UN Security Council meet in an emergency session to discuss the intervention today. Ambassador Jeffrey has been summoned to the MFA today, with other Security Council Ambassadors, to hear the GOT position on the emergency session. Acting Prime Minister Bulent Arinc said that the intervention will be a "black stain in human history," and urged Israel to lift the blockade against Gaza so that humanitarian aid may reach Gaza. Arinc equated the intervention in international waters with an act of piracy, although he ruled out sending Turkish naval forces to the region for the time being. President Gul condemned the attack, saying that Israel "deeply wounded" the international public's conscience. He urged Israeli officials to bring an end to the developments, and urged Turks to act with restraint. Turkish Grand National Assembly Speaker Mehmet Ali Sahin said that the padiament may issue a condemnation declaration.

2. (SBU) Protests against the intervention continued. In istanbul, a crowd of protesters that had been dispersed from the Israeli Consulate moved towards Taksim Square, in the city center. The media reported that the crowd was steadily building in size, to between 5,000-10,000 people. According to press reports, many of the protesters are carrying Turkish and Palestinian flags, are chanting stagans

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UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751259 Date: 09/05/2012

denouncing Israel, and are reciting prayers in Arabic. The media reports that 9 of the apparent 16 dead were Turkish, and that all of them were killed on one Turkish ship, has inflamed passions here. Press pictures of the intervention have shown Israeli soldiers pointing rifles next to Turkish flags.

- 3. (SBU) In Adana, a number of people gathered in front of the U.S. Consulate for a peaceful protest. The Consulate local guard force estimated there were 500-700 people while the Turkish National Police (TNP) estimated there were close to 4,000. The group laid a black wreath in front of the consulate, said the U.S. is an invading country, and dispersed. The TNP cooperated very well with security staff, and sent nearly all of their branch chiefs as well as the Security Director.
- 4. (SBU) Turkish press reported that because of the intervention Greece canceled an air force exercise with Israel and canceled the visit of the Greek Air Force Commander, planned for June 1. According to the press, the Greek MFA said they have not received any information about the welfare of the 34 Greeks that had joined the flotilla, and protests outside the Israeli Embassy in Athens were planned for May 31 and June 1.
- 5. (SBU) Note: SitRep 1 incorrectly indicated that the RSO in Istanbul and Ankara sent out a warden message. RSO Adana sent a warden message regarding the protest at the U.S. Consulate, but the SMS messages in Istanbul and Ankara were sent only to the embassy intra-community regarding traffic alerts due to protests.

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

R:39

# Gilmore, Bradley T

From:

de Otalvaro, Laura H

Sent:

Monday, May 31, 2010 3:23 PM

To: Subject: Gilmore, Bradley T

Attachments:

RE: RE: Flotilia Attacked by Israeli Navy, 2-16 resported killed, upto 50 injured Turkey: SitRep 2 on IHH Flotilla, 2:30 pm Turkey Time; Turkey: SitRep 1 on Humanitarian Aid

RELEASED IN FULL

Foundation Flotilla, 12:00 pm Turkey Time

Categories:

Working

AttachmentsClassification:

**UNCLASSIFIED** UNCLASSIFIED

Classification: SensitivityCode:

Sensitive

Sure thing – here are the last 2 SifReps I've sent as well.

I just forwarded you an email from Win Dayton in Istanbul; please let me know if there's anything I should report to Washington (it's a growing audience) obout additional TNP support that we have requested. You can also send along any other security-related stuff you'd like to report. @

Happy Memorial Day,

Laura

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Gilmore, Bradley T

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 2:57 PM

To: de Otalvaro, Laura H

Subject: RE: RE: Flotilla Attacked by Israeli Navy, 2- 16 resported killed, upto 50 injured

Hi Laura,

Thanks for forwarding this update.

Brad

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: de Otalvaro, Laura H

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 2:27 PM

To: 'Salvatore Amodeo' Cc: Gilmore, Bradley T

Subject: RE: RE: Flotilla Attacked by Israeli Navy, 2- 16 resported killed, upto 50 injured

Thanks, FYI Brad Gilmore is Acting RSO in Ankara.

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751261 Date: 09/05/2012

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Salvatore Amodeo [mailto:sal\_amodeo@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 10:34 AM

To: de Otalvaro, Laura H

Subject: Fw: RE: Flotilla Attacked by Israeli Navy, 2- 16 rerported killed, upto 50 injured

# --- On Mon, 5/31/10, Dayton, Win (Istanbul) \DaytonJW@state.gov \ wrote:

From: Dayton, Win (Istanbul) < Dayton J W@state.gov>

Subject: RE: Flotilla Attacked by Israeli Navy, 2-16 rerported killed, upto 50 injured

To: "Salvatore Amodeo" <sal\_amodeo@yahoo.com>

Ce: "McCarthy, David T (Istanbul)" <McCarthyD1@state.gov>, "Roundy, Brian A" <RoundyBA@state.gov>

Date: Monday, May 31, 2010, 2:21 AM

Good report, Sal. Please also include CG and Dave McCarthy and Brian Roundy from RSO given their involvement now.

From: Salvatore Amodeo [mailto:sal\_amodeo@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 8:34 AM

To: Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbui); Goldberger, Thomas H; Holmstrom, Todd C; Sindle, James M; Struwe, Rebecca L; Richter, Kim B; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Mendel, Teresa S; Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Burnett, David R; Baron, Desiree A; Adams, Julie D; Parker, Andrew C; Greene, Elisa; Zeroubavely, Sandra S; Schlereth, Frank G; Burgess, Richard J; Chere, John E; Waters, John R; Rogan, Thomas G; Towry, Debra J; Hanania, Vera V; Weinfeld, Nili I; Lewis, Glenn K; Beran, Sarah; Greengrass, Sara D; Kaplan, Dean; Walker, Carolee B; Finver, Frank J; Greene, David J; Manring, Nicholas J; Tyson, Paul H; Maggi, Robert W; Frederick, Jeffrey D; Falls, Eric G; Reed, Julia G; Davison, Kees C; Ogle, Karen L; Keen, Daniel G; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Parra, Yolanda A; Dilworth, Alison E; Osman, Amany A; Netos, Eleftherios E; Taylor, Victoria J; Riley, Robert J; Dayton, Win (Istanbul); Marsh, Denise M; Baily, Jess L; Tomlinson, Christina (Istanbul); Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Gisvold, Lisa C (Istanbul); Silliman, Douglas A; Rosenstock, Matthew S; Goodman, Ilan A; Reisser, Wesley J; Cetin, Metin (Istanbul)
Subject: Flotilla Attacked by Israeli Navy, 2- 16 rerported killed, upto 50 injured

The IHH Head quarters in Istanbul informed post at 8:00 am that at least 3 people were killed and 50 were injured during an Israeli military attack on the Free Gaza Flotilla.

The IHH said that it not longer had contact with with its ships (note media reports Israeli forces jammed the flotilla's communication at 3:30 am today)

2

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751261 Date: 09/05/2012

Thus, they did not know how serious the injuries were. These numbers reflect information they had received from their passenger ship. They do not know about the condition of the people on the cargo ships.

Turkish NTV quotes Israeli media stating up to 16 people were killed.

BBC TV News featured the attack as it first news item at 8:00 am. Its showed footage of Israeli navy officers in the ship, passengers on the floor and bloodied cots. Al Jazeera showed same footage and with a commentator stating that Israeli officers were shooting at the passengers.

BBC also showed live a gathering outside of the Israeli Consulate in Istanbul. The crowd was calm but BBC noted that earlier the protests were heated. It then said that the Turkish police has contained the protest.

RSO sent an SMS to consulate community advising avoiding the area around the Israeli consulate.

BBC says Israeli Amb. to Turkey has been summoned by the MFA.

## --- On Sun, 5/30/10, Salvatore Amodeo <sal amodeo@yahoo.com> wrote:

```
From: Salvatore Amodeo <sal amodeo@yahoo.com>
Subject: Re: 5/30 Free Gaza Update - Flotilla headed towards Gaza
To: "Salvatore A (Istanbul)Amodeo" < AmodeoSA@state.gov>, "Thomas HGoldberger"
<GoldbergerTH@state.gov>, "Todd CHolmstrom" <HolmstromTC@state.gov>, "James MSindle"
<SindleJM@state.gov>, "Rebecca LStruwe" <StruweRL@state.gov>, "Kim BRichter"
<RichterKB@state.gov>, "ViktoriaLopatkiewicz" <LopatkiewiczV@state.gov>, "MichelleBernier-Toth"
<Bernier-TothM2@state.gov>, "Teresa SMendel" <MendelTS@state.gov>, "Marc JSievers"
<SieversMJ@state.gov>, "JanLevin" <LevinJ@state.gov>, "David RBurnett" <burnettdr@state.gov>, "Desiree
ABaron" <BaronDA@state.gov>, "Julie DAdams" <AdamsJD2@state.gov>, "Andrew CParker"
<ParkerAC@state.gov>, "ElisaGreene" <GreeneE@state.gov>, "Sandra SZeroubavely"
<zeroubavelyss@state.gov>, "Frank GSchlereth" <SchlerethFG@state.gov>, "Richard JBurgess"
<BurgessRJ@state.gov>, "John EChere" < ChereJS@state.gov>, "John RWaters" < WatersJR@state.gov>,
"Thomas GRogan" <RoganTG@state.gov>, "Debra JTowry" <TowryDJ@state.gov>, "Vera VHanania"
<HananiaVV@state.gov>, "Nili IWeinfeld" <WeinfeldNI@state.gov>, "Glenn KLewis"
<LewisGK@state.gov>, "SarahBeran" <BeranS@state.gov>, "Sara DGreengrass" <GreengrassSD@state.gov>,
"DeanKaplan" <KaplanDM@state.gov>, "Carolee BWalker" <WalkerCB@state.gov>, "Frank JFinver" <FinverFJ@state.gov>, "David JGreene" <GreeneDJ@state.gov>, "Nicholas JManring"
<ManringNJ@state.gov>, "Paul HTyson" <TysonPH@state.gov>, "Robert WMaggi" <MaggiRW@state.gov>,
"Jeffrey DFrederick" <FrederickJD@state.gov>, "Eric GFalls" <FallsEG@state.gov>, "Julia GReed"
<ReedJG@state.gov>, "Kees CDavison" <DavisonKC@state.gov>, "Karen LOgle" <OgleKL@state.gov>,
"Daniel GKeen" < KeenDG@state.gov>, "Jeremiah JerryHoward" < HowardJ@state.gov>, "Yolanda A"
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<ParraYA@state.gov>, "Alison E" <DilworthAE@state.gov>, "Amany A" <OsmanAA@state.gov>,
"Eleftherios E" <NetosEE@state.gov>, "Victoria J" <TaylorVJ@state.gov>, "Robert J" <RileyRJ@state.gov>,
"Win (Istanbul)" <DaytonJW@state.gov>, "Denise M" <MarshDM@state.gov>, "Jess L"
<BailyJL@state.gov>, "Christina (Istanbul)" <TomlinsonC@state.gov>, "Susan K (Istanbul)"
<AbeytaSK@state.gov>, "Lisa C (Istanbul)" <GisvoldLC@state.gov>, "Douglas A" <SillimanDA@state.gov>,
"Matthew S" <RosenstockMS@state.gov>, "Ilan A" <GoodmanIA@state.gov>, "Wesley J"
<ReisserWJ@state.gov>, "Metin (Istanbul)" <CetinMX@state.gov>
Date: Sunday, May 30, 2010, 12:28 PM
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On 5/30 IHH Deputy President Yavuz Dede informed post that:

- · He confirmed that the flotilla has departed the rendezvous point near Cyprus for Gaza.
- He expected the flotilla would approach Gaza tomorrow morning.

## --- On Sat, 5/29/10, Salvatore Amodeo <sal\_amodeo@yahoo.com> wrote:

```
From: Salvatore Amodeo <sal_amodeo@yahoo.com>
Subject: 5/29 Free Gaza Update - IHH ships waiting at near Cyprus for Cypriot ship
To: "Salvatore A (Istanbul)Amodeo" <AmodeoSA@state.gov>, "Thomas HGoldberger"
<GoldbergerTH@state.gov>, "Todd CHolmstrom" <HolmstromTC@state.gov>, "James MSindle"
<SindleJM@state.gov>, "Rebecca LStruwe" <StruweRL@state.gov>, "Kim BRichter"
<RichterKB@state.gov>, "ViktoriaLopatkiewicz" <LopatkiewiczV@state.gov>, "MichelleBernier-Toth"
<Bernier-TothM2@state.gov>, "Teresa SMendel" <MendelTS@state.gov>, "Marc JSievers"
<SieversMJ@state.gov>, "JanLevin" <LevinJ@state.gov>, "David RBurnett" <burnettdr@state.gov>, "Desiree
ABaron" <BaronDA@state.gov>, "Julie DAdams" <AdamsJD2@state.gov>, "Andrew CParker"
<ParkerAC@state.gov>, "ElisaGreene" <GreeneE@state.gov>, "Sandra SZeroubavely"
<zeroubavelyss@state.gov>, "Frank GSchlereth" <SchlerethFG@state.gov>, "Richard JBurgess"
<BurgessRJ@state.gov>, "John EChere" <ChereJS@state.gov>, "John RWaters" <WatersJR@state.gov>,
"Thomas GRogan" <RoganTG@state.gov>, "Debra ITowry" <TowryDJ@state.gov>, "Vera VHanania"
<HananiaVV@state.gov>, "Nili IWeinfeld" <WeinfeldNI@state.gov>, "Glenn KLewis"
<LewisGK@state.gov>, "SarahBeran" <BeranS@state.gov>, "Sara DGreengrass" <GreengrassSD@state.gov>,
"DeanKaplan" <KaplanDM@state.gov>, "Carolee BWalker" <WalkerCB@state.gov>, "Frank JFinver" <FinverFJ@state.gov>, "David JGreene" <GreeneDJ@state.gov>, "Nicholas JManring"
<ManringNJ@state.gov>, "Paul HTyson" <TysonPH@state.gov>, "Robert WMaggi" <MaggiRW@state.gov>,
"Jeffrey DFrederick" <FrederickJD@state.gov>, "Eric GFalls" <FallsEG@state.gov>, "Julia GReed"
<ReedJG@state.gov>, "Kees CDavison" <DavisonKC@state.gov>, "Karen LOgle" <OgleKL@state.gov>,
"Daniel GKeen" <KeenDG@state.gov>, "Jeremiah JerryHoward" <HowardJ@state.gov>, "Yolanda A"
<ParraYA@state.gov>, "Alison E" <DilworthAE@state.gov>, "Amany A" <OsmanAA@state.gov>,
"Eleftherios E" <NetosEE@state.gov>, "Victoria J" <TaylorVJ@state.gov>, "Robert J" <RileyRJ@state.gov>,
"Win (Istanbul)" <Dayton/W@state.gov>, "Denise M" <MarshDM@state.gov>, "Jess L"
<BailyJL@state.gov>, "Christina (Istanbul)" <TomlinsonC@state.gov>, "Susan K (Istanbul)"
<AbeytaSK@state.gov>, "Lisa C (Istanbul)" <GisvoldLC@state.gov>, "Douglas A" <SillimanDA@state.gov>,
"Matthew S" <RosenstockMS@state.gov>, "Ilan A" <GoodmanIA@state.gov>, "Wesley J"
```

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751261 Date: 09/05/2012

<ReisserWJ@state.gov>, "Metin (Istanbul)" <CetinMX@state.gov> Date: Saturday, May 29, 2010, 7:01 AM

This is an updated version of the 5/29 Update:

On 5/29 IHH Deputy President Yavuz Dede informed post that:

- the IHH ships are still waiting near Cyprus for others ships to join the flotilla.
- The IHH said the Greek Cypriot authorities did not allow the Greek Cypriot (GC) ship to leave for Gaza so the
  passengers, including some members of GC parliament, have to join the group through another route. Thus, the
  flotilla is still waiting for the Greek Cypriot passengers and ship to arrive.
- Mr Dede also confirmed that the ship from Greece, Challenge 2, could not continue because of technical
  problems and the passengers were transferred to IHH's ship "Mavi Marmara." The ship now has a total of 778
  passengers on board now. IHH expects the flotilla, to approach Gaza around 25 hours after they depart. It is
  unclear when they expect to depart since it depends on when Greek Cypriot ship arrives.
- MFA informed Embassy Ankara that that 361 Turkish citizens are participating in the flotilla either as crew or passengers.
  - --- On Fri, 5/28/10, Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul) < Amodeo SA@state.gov> wrote:

From: Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul) <AmodeoSA@state.gov> Subject: Free Gaza Update - IHH ships heading toward rendezvous point off of Cyprus To: "Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul)" <AmodeoSA@state.gov>, "Goldberger, Thomas H" <GoldbergerTH@state.gov>, "Holmstrom, Todd C" <HolmstromTC@state.gov>, "Sindle, James M" <SindleJM@state.gov>, "Struwe, Rebecca L" <StruweRL@state.gov>, "Richter, Kim B" <RichterKB@state.gov>, "Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria" <LopatkiewiczV@state.gov>, "Bernier-Toth, Michelle" <Bernier-TothM2@state.gov>, "Mendel, Teresa S" <MendelTS@state.gov>, "Sievers, Marc J" <SieversMJ@state.gov>, "Levin, Jan" <LevinJ@state.gov>, "Burnett, David R" <burnettdr@state.gov>, "Baron, Desiree A" <BaronDA@state.gov>, "Adams, Julie D" <AdamsJD2@state.gov>, "Parker, Andrew C" <ParkerAC@state.gov>, "Greene, Elisa" <GreeneE@state.gov>, "Zeroubavely, Sandra S" <zeroubavelyss@state.gov>, "Schlereth, Frank G" <SchlerethFG@state.gov>, "Burgess, Richard J" <BurgessRJ@state.gov>, "Chere, John E" <ChereJS@state.gov>, "Waters, John R" <WatersJR@state.gov>, "Rogan, Thomas G" <RoganTG@state.gov>, "Towry, Debra J" <TowryDJ@state.gov>, "Hanania, Vera V" <HananiaVV@state.gov>, "Weinfeld, Nili I" <WeinfeldNI@state.gov>, "Lewis, Glenn K" <LewisGK@state.gov>, "Beran, Sarah" <BeranS@state.gov>, "Greengrass, Sara D" <GreengrassSD@state.gov>, "Kaplan, Dean" <KaplanDM@state.gov>, "Walker, Carolee B" <WalkerCB@state.gov>, "Finver, Frank J" <FinverFJ@state.gov>, "Greene, David J"

<GreeneDJ@state.gov>, "Manring, Nicholas J" <ManringNJ@state.gov>, "Tyson, Paul H" <TysonPH@state.gov>, "Maggi, Robert W" <MaggiRW@state.gov>, "Frederick, Jeffrey D" <FrederickJD@state.gov>, "Falls, Eric G" <FallsEG@state.gov>, "Reed, Julia G" <ReedJG@state.gov>, "Davison, Kees C" <DavisonKC@state.gov>, "Ogle, Karen L" <OgleKL@state.gov>, "Keen, Daniel G" <KeenDG@state.gov>, "Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"" <HowardJ@state.gov>, "Parra, Yolanda A" <ParraYA@state.gov>, "Dilworth, Alison E" <DilworthAE@state.gov>, "Osman, Amany A" <OsmanAA@state.gov>, "Netos, Eleftherios E" <NetosEE@state.gov>, "Taylor, Victoria J" <TaylorVJ@state.gov>, "Riley, Robert J" <RileyRJ@state.gov>, "Dayton, Win (Istanbul)" <DaytonJW@state.gov>, "Marsh, Denise M" <MarshDM@state.gov>, "Baily, Jess L" <BailyJL@state.gov>, "Tomlinson, Christina (Istanbul)" <TomlinsonC@state.gov>, "Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul)" <AbeytaSK@state.gov>, "Gisvold, Lisa C (Istanbul)" <GisvoldLC@state.gov>, "Parker, Andrew C" <ParkerAC@state.gov>, "Silliman, Douglas A" <SillimanDA@state.gov>, "Rosenstock, Matthew S" <RosenstockMS@state.gov>, "Goodman, llan A" <GoodmanIA@state.gov>, "Reisser, Wesley J" <ReisserWJ@state.gov>, sal amodeo@yahoo.com, "Cetin, Metin (Istanbul)" <CetinMX@state.gov>, "Cross, Lisa T (Istanbul)" <CrossLT@state.gov>, "Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul)" <AbeytaSK@state.gov> Date: Friday, May 28, 2010, 4:32 AM

IHH Deputy President Yavuz Dede informed post at 10:45 am that:

- IHH ships are presently enroute towards the rendezvous point near Cyprus and expect to meet the other ships of the flotilla "in a few hours."
- They hope to arrive in Gaza tomorrow, "If something happens, it will happen tomorrow," he said.

As reported earlier, IHH informed post yesterday that only one Amcit, Ms Fatima Mohammedi, is aboard their passenger ship.

I plan to send an e-mail on the status of the flotilla over the week-end.

Sal

Salvatore A. Amodeo

Deputy Political & Economic Section Chief/Senior Political Officer

U.S. Consulate General Istanbul

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751261 Date: 09/05/2012

UNCLASSIFIED U.	S. Department of State (	Case No	. F-2010-04163 Dac No	. C18751261	Date: 09/05/2012

(90) 212-335-9389

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul) Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 4:22 PM

To: Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Goldberger, Thomas H; Holmstrom, Todd C; Sindle, James M; Struwe, Rebecca L; Richter, Kim B; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Mendel, Teresa S; Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Burnett, David R; Baron, Desiree A; Adams, Julie D; Parker, Andrew C; Greene, Elisa; Zeroubavely, Sandra S; Schlereth, Frank G; Burgess, Richard J; Chere, John E; Waters, John R; Rogan, Thomas G; Towry, Debra J; Hanania, Vera V; Weinfeld, Niii I; Lewis, Glenn K; Beran, Sarah; Greengrass, Sara D; Kaplan, Dean; Walker, Carolee B; Finver, Frank J; Greene, David J; Manring, Nicholas J; Tyson, Paul H; Maggi, Robert W; Frederick, Jeffrey D; Falls, Eric G; Reed, Julia G; Davison, Kees C; Ogle, Karen L; Keen, Daniel G; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Parra, Yolanda A; Dilworth, Alison E; Osman, Amany A; Netos, Eleftherios E; Taylor, Victoria J; Riley, Robert J; Dayton, Win (Istanbul); Marsh, Denise M; Baily, Jess L; Tomlinson, Christina (Istanbul); Abeyla, Susan K (Istanbul); Gisvold, Lisa C (Istanbul); Parker, Andrew C; Silliman, Douglas A; Rosenstock, Matthew S; Goodman, Ilan A; Reisser, Wesley J; 'sal\_amodeo@yahoo.com'; Cetin, Metin (Istanbul)

Subject: Free Gaza Update - IHH say only 1 Amcit with them

At 4:00 pm today IHH Deputy President Yayuz Dede informed post that Ms. Fatima Mohammedi (please note this correct spelling) is the only American Citizen on any of its three ships to participate in the Free Gaza flotilla. They are expecting their passenger ship the Mavi Marmara to depart this evening, as previously announced.

Regards,

Sal

Salvatore A. Amodeo

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751261 Date: 09/05/2012

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751261 Date: 09/05/2012

Deputy Political & Economic Section Chief/Senior Political Officer

U.S. Consulate General Istanbul

(90) 212-335-9389

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul) Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 10:58 AM

To: Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Goldberger, Thomas H; Holmstrom, Todd C; Sindle, James M; Struwe, Rebecca L; Richter, Kim B; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Mendel, Teresa S; Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Burnett, David R; Baron, Desiree A; Adams, Julie D; Parker, Andrew C; Greene, Elisa; Zeroubavely, Sandra S; Schlereth, Frank G; Burgess, Richard J; Chere, John E; Waters, John R; Rogan, Thomas G; Towry, Debra J; Hanania, Vera V; Weinfeld, Nili I; Lewis, Glenn K; Beran, Sarah; Greengrass, Sara D; Kaplan, Dean; Walker, Carolee B; Finver, Frank J; Greene, David J; Manring, Nicholas J; Tyson, Paul H; Maggi, Robert W; Frederick, Jeffrey D; Falls, Eric G; Reed, Julia G; Davison, Kees C; Ogle, Karen L; Keen, Daniel G; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Parra, Yolanda A; Dilworth, Alison E; Osman, Amany A; Netos, Eleftherios E; Taylor, Victoria J; Riley, Robert J; Dayton, Win (Istanbul); Marsh, Denise M; Baily, Jess L; Tomlinson, Christina (Istanbul); Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Gisvold, Lisa C (Istanbul); Parker, Andrew C; Silliman, Douglas A; Rosenstock, Matthew S; Goodman, Ilan A; Reisser, Wesley J; 'sal\_amodeo@yahoo.com'; Cetin, Metin (Istanbul)

Subject: Free Gaza Update - IHH expects ship to leave Antalya at 5:00 pm today, still only 1 Amcit

On the morning of 5/27, IHH informed post that:

- They expect their passenger ship, the Mavi Marmara, to depart Antalya around 5:00 pm today.
- Only one American Citizen, Fatima Mohammed, has arrived in Antalya to board the Mavi Marmara.
- Two other American Citizens may join but it is uncertain if they will reach Antalya before the ship departs.
- They expect to approach Gaza Friday evening or Saturday morning.
- IHH will have three ships in the flotilla. The Mavi Marmara, as well as two cargo ships, named the Gazze and the Defne, which only have IHH officials on board and no foreigners.

JNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751261	Date: 09/05/2012
Sal	
	a.
Salvatore A. Amodeo	
•	
Deputy Political & Economic Section Chief/Senior Political Officer	
U.S. Consulate General Istanbul	
(90) 212-335-9389	
	ŧ

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751261 Date: 09/05/2012

R40

# Gilmore, Bradley T

RELEASED IN FULL

From:

de Otalvaro, Laura H

Sent:

Monday, May 31, 2010 4:38 PM

To;

Wolff, Alex D (USUN); 'elizabeth\_d.\_sherwood-randall@nsc.eop.gov'; 'bbrink@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dennis\_B.\_Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; Gordon, Philip H; Kaidanow, Tina S; McEldowney, Nancy E; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Schlicher, Ronald L; Marsh, Denise M; Riley, Robert J; Baily, Jess L; Waser, Tamir G; Cunningham, James B; Leary, Thomas M; Operations Center, Rice, Susan E (USUN); Levin, Jan; Waser, Tamir G; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Schlicher, Ronald L; Taylor, Victoria J; Schrank, Alexander D; Gordon, Philip H; McEldowney, Nancy E; Kaidanow, Tina S; Baily, Jess L; Riley, Robert J; Marsh, Denise M; 'bbrink@nsc.eop.gov'; 'elizabeth\_d.\_sherwood-randall@nsc.eop.gov'; Cunningham, James B; SES-O; Watch Information; Delaurentis, Jeffrey A (USUN); Schedlbauer, Amy W; Germain, Ellen J (USUN); McLeod, Mary (USUN); Leedy, Jean B; Hof, Frederic C; Greene, Elisa; Rosenstock, Matthew S; Goodman, Ilan A; Reisser, Wesley J; Parra, Yolanda A; Dilworth, Alison E; Osman, Amany A;

Delaurentis, Jeffrey A (USUN); Schedibauer, Amy W; Germain, Ellen J (USUN); McLeod, Mary (USUN); Leedy, Jean B; Hof, Frederic C; Greene, Elisa; Rosenstock, Matthew S; Goodman, Ilan A; Reisser, Wesley J; Parra, Yolanda A; Dilworth, Alison E; Osman, Amany A; Netos, Eleftherios E; Schlereth, Frank G; Burgess, Richard J; Chere, John E; Waters, John R; Rogan, Thomas G; Towry, Debra J; Hanania, Vera V; Weinfeld, Nili I; Lewis, Glenn K; Beran, Sarah; Greengrass, Sara D; Kaplan, Dean; Walker, Carolee B; Finver, Frank J; Greene, David J; Manring, Nicholas J; Tyson, Paul H; Maggi, Robert W; Frederick, Jeffrey D; Falls, Eric G; Reed, Julia G; Davison, Kees C; Holmstrom, Todd C; Sindle, James M; Struwe, Rebecca L; Richter, Kim B; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Mendel, Teresa S; Sievers, Marc J; Burnett, David R; Baron, Desiree A; Adams, Julie D; Parker, Andrew C; Greene, Elisa;

Zeroubavely, Sandra S; Goldberger, Thomas H

Cc:

Jeffrey, James F; Silliman, Douglas A; Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Leary, Thomas M; Dayton, Win (Istanbul); Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Ankara-POL-DL; Ogle, Karen L; Keen, Daniel G; Tomlinson, Christina (Istanbul); Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Gisvold, Lisa C (Istanbul); Metin (Istanbul); Appleton, Richard H; Ogle, Karen L; Combs, James D;

Gilmore, Bradley T

Subject:

Turkey: SitRep 3 on IHH Flotilia, 4:30 pm Turkey Time

Categories:

Classification: SensitivityCode: Working

UNCLASSIFIED

Sensitive

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

- 1. (SBU) At 1500 Ambassador Jeffrey and other ambassadors from UN Security Council member states were briefed by the MFA regarding the intervention by the israeli Military on the Humanitarian Aid Foundation (IHH) flotilla. Following this, the MFA briefed other groups of ambassadors from (1) the Organization of the Islamic Council member states, (2) EU member states, and (3) all other states. All member states received the same briefing.
- 2. (SBU) The MFA confirmed that FM Davutoglu is going to New York with the purpose of addressing the UN Security Council today. The Ministry put particular emphasis on calling the intervention a "gross violation of international law," handing out maps to emphasize the location of the intervention. They placed the intervention at 64 nautical miles from the northeast corner of Israel's blockade area of Gaza, which covers 20 square nautical miles from the coastline. The Ministry stressed that it reserves its rights under international law, that this "grave" action should not go without a response, and that a response to the intervention is the responsibility of the entire international community.
- 3. (SBU) The Ministry also stressed that Israel bears the responsibility for the intervention, which involved an attack on innocent civilians including women, children and the elderly who were on a humanitarian mission. While Turkey has withdrawn its Ambassador to Israel for consultations, its first priority is to determine the whereabouts and identity of the passengers who were killed or wounded in action, and it would like all of the passengers returned to Turkey as soon as possible. (Note: Withdrawing the ambassador for consultations is less dramatic than recalling him, and does not necessarily require a response from the GOI. End note.)

4. (SBU) The Ministry estimated that the Turkish registered ship that was boarded, the Mavi Marmaris, carried 560 passengers not counting the crew. The majority of those passengers (353) were Turks, though there were also citizens from 43 other nations including Algeria (33 passengers), Jordan (31), the U.K. (28), between 10-20 passengers from Malaysia, Indonesia, and Kuwait, respectively, and 3 U.S. citizens.

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

R42

# Gilmore, Bradley T

From:

Leary, Thomas M

Sent:

Monday, May 31, 2010 2:06 PM

To: Subject: de Otalvaro, Laura H; Gilmore, Bradley T Re: Turkey: SitRep 1 on Humanitarian Aid Foundation Flotilla, 12:00 pm Turkey Time

Laura: Brad Gilmore is acting RSO in Ankara. He's monitoring demonstrations here.

RELEASED IN

Tom

From: de Otalvaro, Laura H

To: Appleton, Richard H; Ogle, Karen L; Combs, James D; Roundy, Brian A

Cc: Leary, Thomas M

Sent: Mon May 31 06:54:32 2010

Subject: FW: Turkey: SitRep 1 on Humanitarian Aid Foundation Flotilla, 12:00 pm Turkey Time

Please see the first SitRep on the IHH situation, below. Applogies for not including you on the first transmission. If you see others who should be included on the to: line for the next one, please let me know asap. Thanks.

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Leary, Thomas M

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:40 PM

To: de Otalvaro, Laura H Cc: Appleton, Richard H

Subject: Re: Turkey: SitRep 1 on Humanitarian Aid Foundation Flotilla, 12:00 pm Turkey Time

Laura,

Can you add CONS and RSO to this distribution.

Tom

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

From: de Otalvaro, Laura H

To: Waser, Tamir G; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Schlicher, Ronald L; Taylor, Victoria J; Schrank, Alexander D; Gordon, Philip H; McEldowney, Nancy E; Kaidanow, Tina S; Baily, Jess L; Riley, Robert J; Marsh, Denise M; 'bbrink@nsc.eop.gov' <'bbrink@nsc.eop.gov'>; 'elizabeth\_d.\_sherwood-randall@nsc.eop.gov' <'elizabeth\_d.\_sherwood-randall@nsc.eop.gov'>; Cunningham, James B; SES-O; Watch Information; Ahn, Michael; Arvey, Jason M; de Otalvaro, Laura H; Ersoy, Jale; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Hunter, Rodney M; Keen, Berna; Miles, Barbara J; O'Grady, Daniel J; Price, Adam P; Reynolds, Carol T (Ankara); Tayla, Suheyla

Cc. Jeffrey, James F; Silliman, Douglas A; Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Leary, Thomas M; Howard, Jeremlah "Jerry"; O'Grady, Daniel J; Miles, Barbara J; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Goldberger, Thomas H; Holmstrom, Todd C; Sindle, James M; Struwe, Rebecca L; Richter, Kim B; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Mendel, Teresa S; Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Burnett, David R; Baron, Desiree A; Adams, Julie D; Parker, Andrew C; Greene, Elisa; Zeroubavely, Sandra S; Schlereth, Frank G; Burgess, Richard J; Chere, John E; Waters, John R; Rogan, Thomas G; Towry, Debra J; Hanania, Vera V; Weinfeld, Nili I; Lewis, Glenn K; Beran, Sarah; Greengrass, Sara D; Kaplan, Dean; Walker, Carolee B; Finver, Frank J; Greene, David J; Manring, Nicholas J; Tyson, Paul H; Maggi, Robert W; Frederick, Jeffrey D; Falls, Eric G;

•

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751264 Date: 09/05/2012

Reed, Julia G; Davison, Kees C; Ogle, Karen L; Keen, Daniel G; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Parra, Yolanda A; Dilworth, Alison E; Osman, Amany A; Netos, Eleftherios E; Taylor, Victoria J; Riley, Robert J; Dayton, Win (Istanbul); Marsh, Denise M; Baily, Jess L; Tomlinson, Christina (Istanbul); Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Gisvold, Lisa C (Istanbul); Silliman, Douglas A; Rosenstock, Matthew S; Goodman, Ilan A; Reisser, Wesley J; Cetin, Metin (Istanbul)
Sent: Mon May 31 05:54:35 2010

Subject: Turkey: SitRep 1 on Humanitarian Aid Foundation Flotilia, 12:00 pm Turkey Time

- 1. (SBU) According to Turkish press sources, at approximately 4:30 a.m. on May 31, the Israeli military allegedly landed soldiers on the deck of the Turkish flag ship "Blue Marmara", while it was in international waters, between 69 and 70 miles from Israel's shore. The ship was part of the Turkish NGO Humanitarian Aid Foundation (IHH) flotilla attempting to reach Gaza and allegedly deliver humanitarian supplies. The latest press reports indicate that shots were fired on the ship and samewhere between 10 and 16 people were killed. Israel Prime Ministry Spokesman Gendelman said that there were firearms, knives and batons on the ship, and that fire was opened against the Israeli soldiers. Gendelman reported that between eight and ten soldiers were wounded, some in serious condition.
- 2. (SBU) So far the press has not identified any Americans among the victims. According to Al Jazeera TV, 9 of the dead are Turkish citizens. According to the Associated Press, IHH Official Omer Faruk Korkmaz reported that Israeli soldiers are taking the ship to Haifa. IHH Headquarters in Istanbul also reported that they have lost radio contact with the flotilla. The Turkish press reported that the Israeli military jammed the flotilla's radio communication starting at 3:30 a.m. Israeli television stations have reported that the wounded civilians and soldiers were transferred to hospitals in Ashkelon. Turkish television stations reported that preparations are underway detain some civilians in prisons.
- 3. (SBU) Following the intervention, the Prime Ministry established a crisis task force to follow events after 7:00 a.m. Deputy PM Bulent Arinc, Interior Minister Besir Atalay, Prime Ministry Undersecretary Efgan Ala, and Turkish General Staff Operations Commander General Mehmet Eroz are following the issue. The Turkish MFA released a strong statement that condemned the attack and protested the use of force by the Israeli Defense Forces against the civilians on the flotilla, who were from many countries and wanted to transport humanitarian assistance to the people in Gaza. It pointed out that there were women and children among the passengers, and that they had received reports so far that the intervention had caused 2 deaths and more than 30 people to be injured. It said Israel has "once again clearly demonstrated that it does not value human lives and peaceful initiatives through targeting innocent civilians." Calling the intervention an "inhuman act," it said the incident, which took place on the high seas in a gross violation of international law, "might cause irreversible consequences in our relations." It said that the Embassy in Tel Aviv would conduct initiatives to protest the event, and that the incident is being "strongly protested" in Ankara, while an explanation from the Israeli Ambassador in Ankara has been demanded at the Ministry. It said the actions against civilians conducting peaceful activities - whatever their motives - were unacceptable and that Israel will have to bear the consequences of the actions, which constitute a violation of international law. In closing the statement said "May God bestow His mercy upon those who lost their lives. We wish to express our condolences to the bereaved families of the deceased, and swift recovery to the wounded."
- 4. (SBU) MFA Undersecretory Feridun Sinirlioglu told the Ambassador that he personally could not understand how the intervention could have happened. He and others were working with the Israelis, he admitted, and they thought that they had a solution to keep everything under control. He stressed as well that there will be consequences to the intervention. He emphasized that Turks are outraged that the Israelis acted when the ships were 69 miles from Gaza, in international waters. He intimated that 'a solution' might have been possible, or at least more understanding, were the ships intercepted as he had thought they would be closer to Gaza. The Ambassador stressed the need to protect both U.S. and Israeli diplomatic establishments from crowds of protesters in Turkey, and urged

caution on any action until all of the facts were in. Sinirlioglu in turn urged for us to ask Washington to say something critical about this operation, indicating that this would help, although the Ambassador did not respond to the request.

- 5. (SBU) Israel's Ambassador to Turkey, Gaby Levi, told the Ambassador that while he had been summoned to the MFA, his residence had been blockaded by protestors and so he was unable to move. He was "under siege" at his embassy. He anticipated "the worst" from the Turks, and that there will be diplomatic consequences to the intervention. The Turkish press reported that MFA Deputy U/S Unal Cevikoz spoke to Ambassador Levi for 20 minutes, and in addition to condemning the attack, he urged Israel to send the passengers and wounded to Turkey immediately. Cevikoz also reminded Levi that Turkey preserves all its rights stemming from international law. The Turkish press also reported that the visit of an Israeli tourist ship to Alanya port today was cancelled.
- 6. (SBU) There were protests in several cities Turkey against Israeli and U.S. installations. Media outlets reported that a large crowd of protestors gathered outside the Israeli Consulate in Istanbul starting at 5:00 a.m. The group had been very agitated but at the moment was calm, and had been contained by Turkish police, using water cannons and pepper gas. Mission RSOs sent SMS messages through its warden network to avoiding protests in the areas around Israeli or U.S. diplomatic buildings. In Adana at approximately 1:45 a.m. a group of 30-40 protestors held a sit-in in front of the U.S. Consulate for half an hour, and another protest is expected.
- 7. (SBU) Turkish media outlets report that Hamas called the operation "brutal", and urgently urged the UN to interfere, while Palestinian President Abbas termed the attack as "massacre" and declared three days of mourning.
- 8. (SBU) Post will continue to monitor events and report as needed.

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

# Gilmore, Bradley T

From:

de Otalvaro, Laura H

Sent:

Monday, May 31, 2010 2:27 PM

To:

'Salvatore Amodeo'

Cc:

Gilmore, Bradley T

Subject:

RE: RE: Flotilla Attacked by Israeli Navy, 2- 16 rerported killed, upto 50 injured

Categories:

Working

Classification:

UNCLASSIFIED

SensitivityCode:

Sensitive

Thanks, FYI Brad Gilmore is Acting RSO in Ankara.

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Salvatore Amodeo [mailto:sal\_amodeo@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 10:34 AM

To: de Otalvaro, Laura H

Subject: Fw: RE: Flotilla Attacked by Israeli Navy, 2-16 rerported killed, upto 50 injured

## --- On Mon, 5/31/10, Dayton, Win (Istanbul) < Dayton JW@state.gov > wrote:

From: Dayton, Win (Istanbul) < Dayton JW @state.gov>

Subject: RE: Flotilla Attacked by Israeli Navy, 2-16 rerported killed, upto 50 injured

To: "Salvatore Amodeo" <sal amodeo@yahoo.com>

Cc: "McCarthy, David T (Istanbul)" <McCarthyD1@state.gov>, "Roundy, Brian A" <RoundyBA@state.gov>

Date: Monday, May 31, 2010, 2:21 AM

Good report, Sal. Please also include CG and Dave McCarthy and Brian Roundy from RSO given their involvement now.

#### REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

From: Salvatore Amodeo [mailto:sal\_amodeo@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 8:34 AM

To: Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Goldberger, Thomas H; Holmstrom, Todd C; Sindle, James M; Struwe, Rebecca L; Richter, Kim B; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Mendel, Teresa S; Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Burnett, David R; Baron, Desiree A; Adams, Julie D; Parker, Andrew C; Greene, Elisa; Zeroubavely, Sandra S; Schlereth, Frank G; Burgess, Richard J; Chere, John E; Waters, John R; Rogan, Thomas G; Towry, Debra J; Hanania, Vera V; Weinfeld, Nili I; Lewis, Glenn K; Beran, Sarah; Greengrass, Sara D; Kaplan, Dean; Walker, Carolee B; Finver, Frank J; Greene, David J; Manring, Nicholas J; Tyson, Paul H; Maggi, Robert W; Frederick, Jeffrey D; Falls, Eric G; Reed, Julia G; Davison, Kees C; Ogle, Karen L; Keen, Daniel G; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Parra, Yolanda A; Dilworth, Alison E; Osman, Amany A; Netos, Eleftherios E; Taylor, Victoria J; Riley, Robert J; Dayton, Win (Istanbul); Marsh, Denise M; Baily, Jess L; Tomlinson, Christina (Istanbul); Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Gisvold, Lisa C (Istanbul); Silliman, Douglas A; Rosenstock, Matthew S; Goodman, Ilan A; Reisser, Wesley J; Cetin, Metin (Istanbul)

Subject: Flotilla Attacked by Israeli Navy, 2- 16 rerported killed, upto 50 injured

The IHH Head quarters in Istanbul informed post at 8:00 am that at least 3 people were killed and 50 were injured during an Israeli military attack on the Free Gaza Flotilla.

The IHH said that it not longer had contact with with its ships (note media reports Israeli forces jammed the flotilla's communication at 3:30 am today)

Thus, they did not know how serious the injuries were. These numbers reflect information they had received from their passenger ship. They do not know about the condition of the people on the cargo ships.

Turkish NTV quotes Israeli media stating up to 16 people were killed.

BBC TV News featured the attack as it first news item at 8:00 am. Its showed footage of Israeli navy officers in the ship, passengers on the floor and bloodied cots. Al Jazeera showed same footage and with a commentator stating that Israeli officers were shooting at the passengers.

BBC also showed live a gathering outside of the Israeli Consulate in Istanbul. The crowd was calm but BBC noted that earlier the protests were heated. It then said that the Turkish police has contained the protest.

RSO sent an SMS to consulate community advising avoiding the area around the Israeli consulate.

BBC says Israeli Amb. to Turkey has been summoned by the MFA.

--- On Sun, 5/30/10, Salvatore Amodeo <sal\_amodeo@yahoo.com> wrote:

From: Salvatore Amodeo <sal amodeo@yahoo.com>

Subject: Re: 5/30 Free Gaza Update - Flotilla headed towards Gaza

To: "Salvatore A (Istanbul)Amodeo" <AmodeoSA@state.gov>, "Thomas HGoldberger"

<GoldbergerTH@state.gov>, "Todd CHolmstrom" <HolmstromTC@state.gov>, "James MSindle"

<SindleJM@state.gov>, "Rebecca LStruwe" <StruweRL@state.gov>, "Kim BRichter"

<RichterKB@state.gov>, "ViktoriaLopatkiewicz" <LopatkiewiczV@state.gov>, "MichelleBernier-Toth"

<Bernier-TothM2@state.gov>, "Teresa SMendel" <MendelTS@state.gov>, "Marc JSievers"

```
<SieversMJ@state.gov>, "JanLevin" <LevinJ@state.gov>, "David RBurnett" <burnettdr@state.gov>, "Desiree
ABaron" <BaronDA@state.gov>, "Julie DAdams" <AdamsJD2@state.gov>, "Andrew CParker"
<ParkerAC@state.gov>, "ElisaGreene" <GreeneE@state.gov>, "Sandra SZeroubavelv"
<zeroubavelyss@state.gov>, "Frank GSchlereth" <SchlerethFG@state.gov>, "Richard JBurgess"
<BurgessRJ@state.gov>, "John EChere" <ChereJS@state.gov>, "John RWaters" <WatersJR@state.gov>,
"Thomas GRogan" <RoganTG@state.gov>, "Debra JTowry" <TowryDJ@state.gov>, "Vera VHanania"
< Hanania V V@state.gov >, "Nili I Weinfeld" < Weinfeld NI@state.gov >, "Glenn KLewis"
<LewisGK@state.gov>, "SarahBeran" <BeranS@state.gov>, "Sara DGreengrass" <GreengrassSD@state.gov>,
"DeanKaplan" < KaplanDM@statc.gov>, "Carolee BWalker" < WalkerCB@state.gov>, "Frank JFinver"
<FinverFJ@state.gov>, "David JGreene" <GreeneDJ@state.gov>, "Nicholas JManring" 
<ManringNJ@state.gov>, "Paul HTyson" <TysonPH@state.gov>, "Robert WMaggi" <MaggiRW@state.gov>,
"Jeffrey DFrederick" <FrederickJD@state.gov>, "Eric GFalls" <FallsEG@state.gov>, "Julia GReed"
<ReedJG@state.gov>, "Kees CDavison" <DavisonKC@state.gov>, "Karen LOgle" <OgleKL@state.gov>,
"Daniel GKeen" <KeenDG@state.gov>, "Jeremiah JerryHoward" <HowardJ@state.gov>, "Yolanda A"
<ParraYA@state.gov>, "Alison E" <DilworthAE@state.gov>, "Amany A" <OsmanAA@state.gov>,
"Fleftherios E" <NetosEE@state.gov>, "Victoria J" <TaylorVJ@state.gov>, "Robert J" <RileyRJ@state.gov>,
"Win (Istanbul)" <DaytonJW@state.gov>, "Denise M" <MarshDM@state.gov>, "Jess L"
<BailyJL@state.gov>, "Christina (Istanbul)" <TomlinsonC@state.gov>, "Susan K (Istanbul)"
<AbeytaSK@state.gov>, "Lisa C (Istanbul)" <GisvoldLC@state.gov>, "Douglas A" <SillimanDA@state.gov>,
"Matthew S" <Rosenstock MS@state.gov>, "Ilan A" <GoodmanIA@state.gov>, "Wesley J"
<ReisserWJ@state.gov>, "Metin (Istanbul)" <CetinMX@state.gov>
Date: Sunday, May 30, 2010, 12:28 PM
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On 5/30 IHH Deputy President Yavuz Dede informed post that:

- He confirmed that the flotilla has departed the rendezvous point near Cyprus for Gaza.
- He expected the flotilla would approach Gaza tomorrow morning.

## --- On Sat, 5/29/10, Salvatore Amodeo <sal amodeo@yahoo.com> wrote:

```
From: Salvatore Amodeo <sal_amodeo@yahoo.com>
Subject: 5/29 Free Gaza Update - IHH ships waiting at near Cyprus for Cypriot ship
To: "Salvatore A (Istanbul)Amodeo" <AmodcoSA@state.gov>, "Thomas HGoldberger"
<GoldbergerTH@state.gov>, "Todd CHolmstrom" <HolmstromTC@state.gov>, "James MSindle"
<SindleJM@state.gov>, "Rebecca LStruwe" <StruweRL@state.gov>, "Kim BRichter"
<RichterKB@state.gov>, "ViktoriaLopatkiewicz" <LopatkiewiczV@state.gov>, "MichelleBernier-Toth"
<Bernier-TothM2@state.gov>, "Teresa SMendel" <MendelTS@state.gov>, "Marc JSievers"
<SieversMJ@state.gov>, "JanLevin" <LevinJ@state.gov>, "David RBurnett" <burnettdr@state.gov>, "Desiree ABaron" <BaronDA@state.gov>, "Julie DAdams" <AdamsJD2@state.gov>, "Andrew CParker"
<ParkerAC@state.gov>, "ElisaGreene" <GreeneE@state.gov>, "Sandra SZeroubavely"
<zeroubavelyss@state.gov>, "Frank GSchlereth" <SchlerethFG@state.gov>, "Richard JBurgess"
<BurgessRJ@state.gov>, "John EChere" <ChereJS@state.gov>, "John RWaters" <WatersJR@state.gov>, "Thomas GRogan" <RoganTG@state.gov>, "Debra JTowry" <TowryDJ@state.gov>, "Vera VHanania"
```

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<HananiaVV@state.gov>, "Nili IWeinfeld" <WeinfeldNI@state.gov>, "Glenn KLewis"
<LewisGK@state.gov>, "SarahBeran" <BeranS@state.gov>, "Sara DGreengrass" <GreengrassSD@state.gov>, "DeanKaplan" <KaplanDM@state.gov>, "Carolee BWalker" <WalkerCB@state.gov>, "Frank JFinver"
<FinverFJ@state.gov>, "David JGreene" <GreeneDJ@state.gov>, "Nicholas JManring"
<ManringNJ@state.gov>, "Paul HTyson" <TysonPH@state.gov>, "Robert WMaggir <MaggiRW@state.gov>, "Jeffrey DFrederick" <FrederickJD@state.gov>, "Eric GFalls" <FallsEG@state.gov>, "Julia GReed"
<ReedJG@state.gov>, "Kees CDavison" <DavisonKC@state.gov>, "Karen LOgle" <OgleKL@state.gov>, "Daniel GKeen" <KeenDG@state.gov>, "Jeremiah JerryHoward" <HowardJ@state.gov>, "Yolanda A"
<Parra YA@state.gov>, "Alison E" <DilworthAE@state.gov>, "Amany A" <OsmanAA@state.gov>, "Eleftherios E" <NetosEE@state.gov>, "Victoria J" <TaylorVJ@state.gov>, "Robert J" <RileyRJ@state.gov>, "Win (Istanbul)" <DaytonJW@state.gov>, "Denise M" <MarshDM@state.gov>, "Jess L"
<BailyJL@state.gov>, "Christina (Istanbul)" <TomlinsonC@state.gov>, "Busan K (Istanbul)" <AbeytaSK@state.gov>, "Lisa C (Istanbul)" <GisvoldLC@state.gov>, "Douglas A" <SillimanDA@state.gov>, "Matthew S" <RosenstockMS@state.gov>, "Ilan A" <GoodmanIA@state.gov>, "Wesley J" <Reisser WJ@state.gov>, "Metin (Istanbul)" <CetinMX@state.gov>
Date: Saturday, May 29, 2010, 7:01 AM
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This is an updated version of the 5/29 Update:

On 5/29 IHH Deputy President Yavuz Dede informed post that:

- the IHH ships are still waiting near Cyprus for others ships to join the flotilla.
- The IHH said the Greek Cypriot authorities did not allow the Greek Cypriot (GC) ship to leave for Gaza so the
  passengers, including some members of GC parliament, have to join the group through another route. Thus, the
  flotilla is still waiting for the Greek Cypriot passengers and ship to arrive.
- Mr Dede also confirmed that the ship from Greece, Challenge 2, could not continue because of technical
  problems and the passengers were transferred to IHH's ship "Mavi Marmara." The ship now has a total of 778
  passengers on board now. IHH expects the flotilla, to approach Gaza around 25 hours after they depart. It is
  unclear when they expect to depart since it depends on when Greek Cypriot ship arrives.
- MFA informed Embassy Ankara that that 361 Turkish citizens are participating in the flotilla either as crew or passengers.
  - --- On Fri, 5/28/10, Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul) < Amodeo SA@state.gov> wrote:

From: Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul) <AmodeoSA@state.gov>
Subject: Free Gaza Update - IHH ships heading toward rendezvous point off of Cyprus
To: "Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul)" <AmodeoSA@state.gov>, "Goldberger, Thomas H"
<GoldbergerTH@state.gov>, "Holmstrom, Todd C" <HolmstromTC@state.gov>, "Sindle, James M"

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<SindleJM@state.gov>, "Struwe, Rebecca L" <StruweRL@state.gov>, "Richter, Kim B"
<RichterKB@state.gov>, "Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria" <LopatkiewiczV@state.gov>, "Bernier-Toth,
Michelle" <Bernier-TothM2@state.gov>, "Mendel, Teresa S" <MendelTS@state.gov>, "Sievers, Marc
J" <SieversMJ@state.gov>, "Levin, Jan" <LevinJ@state.gov>, "Burnett, David R"
<burnettdr@state.gov>, "Baron, Desiree A" <BaronDA@state.gov>, "Adams, Julie D"
<AdamsJD2@state.gov>, "Parker, Andrew C" <ParkerAC@state.gov>, "Greene, Elisa"
<GreeneE@state.gov>, "Zeroubavely, Sandra S" <zeroubavelyss@state.gov>, "Schlereth, Frank G"
<SchlerethFG@state.gov>, "Burgess, Richard J" <BurgessRJ@state.gov>, "Chere, John E"
<ChereJS@state.gov>, "Waters, John R" <WatersJR@state.gov>, "Rogan, Thomas G"
<RoganTG@state.gov>, "Towry, Debra J" <TowryDJ@state.gov>, "Hanania, Vera V"
<Hanania VV@state.gov>, "Weinfeld, Nili I" < Weinfeld NI@state.gov>, "Lewis, Glenn K"
<LewisGK@state.gov>, "Beran, Sarah" <BeranS@state.gov>, "Greengrass, Sara D"
<GreengrassSD@state.gov>, "Kaplan, Dean" <KaplanDM@state.gov>, "Walker, Carolee B"
<WalkerCB@state.gov>, "Finver, Frank J" <FinverFJ@state.gov>, "Greene, David J"
<GreeneDJ@state.gov>, "Manring, Nicholas J" <ManringNJ@state.gov>, "Tyson, Paul H"
<TysonPH@state.gov>, "Maggi, Robert W" <MaggiRW@state.gov>, "Frederick, Jeffrey D"
<FrederickJD@state.gov>, "Falls, Eric G" <FallsEG@state.gov>, "Reed, Julia G"
<ReedJG@state.gov>, "Davison, Kees C" <DavisonKC@state.gov>, "Ogle, Karen L"
<OgleKL@state.gov>, "Keen, Daniel G" <KeenDG@state.gov>, "Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry""
<HowardJ@state.gov>, "Parra, Yolanda A" <ParraYA@state.gov>, "Dilworth, Alison E"
<DilworthAE@state.gov>, "Osman, Amany A" <OsmanAA@state.gov>, "Netos, Eleftherios E"
<NetosEE@state.gov>, "Taylor, Victoria J" <TaylorVJ@state.gov>, "Riley, Robert J"
<RileyRJ@state.gov>, "Dayton, Win (Istanbul)" <DaytonJW@state.gov>, "Marsh, Denise M"
<MarshDM@state.gov>, "Baily, Jess L" <BailyJL@state.gov>, "Tomlinson, Christina (Istanbul)"
<TomlinsonC@state.gov>, "Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul)" <AbeytaSK@state.gov>, "Gisvold, Lisa C
(Istanbul)" <GisvoldLC@state.gov>, "Parker, Andrew C" <ParkerAC@state.gov>, "Silliman, Douglas
A" <SillimanDA@state.gov>, "Rosenstock, Matthew S" <RosenstockMS@state.gov>, "Goodman, Ilan
A" <GoodmanIA@state.gov>, "Reisser, Wesley J" <ReisserWJ@state.gov>, sal amodeo@yahoo.com,
"Cetin, Metin (Istanbul)" <CetinMX@state.gov>, "Cross, Lisa T (Istanbul)" <CrossLT@state.gov>,
"Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul)" <AbeytaSK@state.gov>
Date: Friday, May 28, 2010, 4:32 AM
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IHH Deputy President Yavuz Dede informed post at 10:45 am that:

- IHH ships are presently enroute towards the rendezvous point near Cyprus and expect to meet the other ships of the flotilla "in a few hours."
- They hope to arrive in Gaza tomorrow. "If something happens, it will happen tomorrow," he said.

As reported earlier, IHH informed post yesterday that only one Amcit, Ms Fatima Mohammedi, is aboard their passenger ship.

I plan to send an e-mail on the status of the flotilla over the week-end.

Sal

Salvatore A. Amodeo

Deputy Political & Economic Section Chief/Senior Political Officer

U.S. Consulate General Istanbul

(90) 212-335-9389

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul) Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 4:22 PM

To: Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Goldberger, Thomas H; Holmstrom, Todd C; Sindie, James M; Struwe, Rebecca L; Richter, Kim B; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Mendel, Teresa S; Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Burnett, David R; Baron, Desiree A; Adams, Julie D; Parker, Andrew C; Greene, Elisa; Zeroubavely, Sandra S; Schlereth, Frank G; Burgess, Richard J; Chere, John E; Waters, John R; Rogan, Thomas G; Towry, Debra J; Hanania, Vera V; Weinfeld, Nill I; Lewis, Glenn K; Beran, Sarah; Greengrass, Sara D; Kaplan, Dean; Walker, Carolee B; Finver, Frank J; Greene, David J; Manring, Nicholas J; Tyson, Paul H; Maggi, Robert W; Frederick, Jeffrey D; Falls, Eric G; Reed, Julia G; Davison, Kees C; Ogle, Karen L; Keen, Daniel G; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Parra, Yolanda A; Dilworth, Alison E; Osman, Amany A; Netos, Eleftherios E; Taylor, Victoria J; Riley, Robert J; Dayton, Win (Istanbul); Marsh, Denise M; Baily, Jess L; Tomlinson, Christina (Istanbul); Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Gisvold, Lisa C (Istanbul); Parker, Andrew C; Silliman, Douglas A; Rosenstock, Matthew S; Goodman, Ilan A; Reisser, Wesley J; 'sal\_amodeo@yahoo.com'; Cetin, Metin (Istanbul))

Subject: Free Gaza Update - IHH say only 1 Amoit with them

At 4:00 pm today IHH Deputy President Yavuz Dede informed post that Ms. Fatima Mohammedi (please note this correct spelling) is the only American Citizen on any of its three ships to participate in the Free Gaza flotilla. They are expecting their passenger ship the Mavi Marmara to depart this evening, as previously announced.

UNCL	ASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751265 Date: 06/27/2012
	Regards,
	Sal
!	Salvatore A. Amodeo
	Deputy Political & Economic Section Chief/Senior Political Officer
	U.S. Consulate General Istanbul
	(90) 212-335-9389
1	
	SBU
	This email is UNCLASSIFIED.
	From: Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul) Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 10:58 AM To: Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Goldberger, Thomas H; Holmstrom, Todd C; Sindle, James M; Struwe, Rebecca L; Richter, Kim B; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Mendel, Teresa S; Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Burnett, David R; Baron, Desiree A; Adams, Julie D; Parker, Andrew C; Greene, Elisa; Zeroubavely, Sandra S; Schlereth, Frank G; Burgess, Richard J; Chere, John E; Waters, John R; Rogan, Thomas G; Towry, Debra J; Hanania, Vera V; Weinfeld, Nili I; Lewis, Glenn K; Beran, Sarah; Greengrass, Sara D; Kaplan, Dean; Walker, Carolee B; Finver, Frank J; Greene, David J; Manring, Nicholas J; Tyson, Paul H; Maggi, Robert W; Frederick, Jeffrey D; Falls, Eric G; Reed, Julia G; Davison, Kees C; Ogle, Karen L; Keen, Daniel G; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Parra, Yolanda A; Dilworth, Alison E; Osman, Amany A; Netos, Eleftherios E; Taylor, Victoria J; Riley, Robert J; Dayton, Win (Istanbul); Marsh, Denise M; Baily, Jess L; Tomlinson, Christina (Istanbul); Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Gisvold, Lisa C (Istanbul); Parker, Andrew C; Silliman, Douglas A; Rosenstock, Matthew S; Goodman, Ilan A; Reisser, Wesley J; 'sai_amodeo@yahoo.com'; Cetin, Metin (Istanbul) Subject: Free Gaza Update - IHH expects ship to leave Antalya at 5:00 pm today, still only 1 Amcit

On the morning of 5/27, IHH informed post that:

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751265 Date: 06/27/2012

- They expect their passenger ship, the Mavi Marmara, to depart Antalya around 5:00 pm today.
- Only one American Citizen, Fatima Mohammed, has arrived in Antalya to board the Mavi Marmara.
- Two other American Citizens may join but it is uncertain if they will reach Antalya before the ship departs.
- They expect to approach Gaza Friday evening or Saturday morning.
- IHH will have three ships in the flotilla. The Mavi Marmara, as well as two cargo ships, named the Gazze and the Defne, which only have IHH officials on board and no foreigners.

Sal

Salvatore A. Amodeo

Deputy Political & Economic Section Chief/Senior Political Officer

U.S. Consulate General Istanbul

(90) 212-335-9389

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R46

## Gilmore, Bradley T

From:

Cc:

Sindle, James M

Sent: To: Tuesday, June 01, 2010 5:32 PM Gaza Flotilla Monitoring Group

Riley, Robert J; Marsh, Denise M; Goodman, Ilan A; Silliman, Douglas A; Wiener, Sharon A

(istanbul); Leary, Thomas M; Dayton, Win (Istanbul); Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Ankara-POL-DL; Ogle, Karen L; Keen, Daniel G; Tomlinson, Christina (Istanbul); Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Gisvold, Lisa C (Istanbul); Cetin, Metin (Istanbul); Appleton, Richard H; Ogle, Karen L; Combs, James D; Gilmore, Bradley T; Allison, Alicia P; de Otalvaro, Laura H; Grubb, Jason B; Howe, Geoffrey G; Chue, Jason; Greene, Elisa; Parker, Andrew C; Sievers, Marc J; Grubb,

RELEASED IN FULL

Jason B; Levin, Jan; Waters, John R

Subject:

Two Additional Ships Heading to Gaza

Categories:

Working

#### Colleagues:

There is press reporting that the Free Gaza Movement is sending two additional vessels to Gaza. The first ship is Ireland's "Rachel Corrie," with about 10 passengers on board including Denis Halliday, the Irish former UN Human Rights.

Coordinator in Iraq. The second ship is the US-flagged "Challenger II", which dropped out of the first flotilla to undergo repairs in Nicosia. According to Free Gaza Movement spokesperson Audrey Bomse in Larnaca, the Rachel Corrie left Malta on her way to Gaza the night before last and she should be coming near Crete today. Arrival is expected around Gaza between late Wednesday and sometime Thursday.

If anyone has additional information on the status of the vessels and the number, nationalities, and the names of the passengers aboard please forward it to the collective. It should help us in terms of tracking any Amcits in advance of detainment. CG Istanbul and Embassy Ankara reaching out to the IHH organizers was valuable in this regard during the first iteration. GOI has told Embassy Tel Aviv that the IDF still intends to intercept these vessels, but is reviewing how to do it.

Many Thanks,

Jim Sindle
Pol-Mil Officer
Office of Israel and Palestinian Affairs
U.S. Department of State

Unclassified: Sindle/M@state.gov Classified: Sindle/M@state.sgov.gov

202-647-4386 (office)

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior

Reviewer

RELEASED IN PART B5,B6

R48

**B5** 

B6

# Gilmore, Bradley T

From: Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul)
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 11:39 AM

To: de Otalvaro, Laura H; Darnell, Daria L; Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Eppler, Dale B; Godfrey,

Anthony F; Appleton, Richard H; Gilmore, Bradley T

Dayton, Win (Istanbul); McCarthy, David T (Istanbul); Mitchell, Shamar P (Istanbul); Solomon,

Robin D; Ones, Leyla L; Borenstein, Jeffrey D; Witmer, Kami A; Lee, Robert D; Read, Anthony

M

Subject: Istanbul SitRep input

Categories: Classification:

Cc:

Working

UNCLASSIFIED

SensitivityCode:

Sensitive

From Istanbul:

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

AKP activity related to demonstrations in Istanbul: As Ibrahim Yildirim stated yesterday, AKP is present at the demonstrations for the purpose of letting the demonstrators know that they care (more than Saadet) and keeping the events from getting out of control. We are unaware that the party is organizing events per se.

The media reported that the Dep. PM Bulent Arinc was at the airport to meet the activists when they returned. The front page of AKP istanbul's website carries a picture of the Provincial Chairman Aziz Babuscu visiting the IHH. There were also statements by government officials including PM Erdogan saying that they "respected the democratic reactions of people." Thus, there are signs that the AKP is supporting the demonstrators who go out but no evidence of an official call to attend the events. There was high-level AKP attendance at yesterday's funeral, including Istanbul Mayor Topbas, Energy Minister Yildiz and Fatih Mayor Ahmet Demir.

	·	•		
Comments fro	nm			

What I've noticed on the news shows I've been watching — which admittedly are BBC and CNN International, I'm not sure that Turkish television would have shown quite the same camera angles — is that the coffins at the funeral were all draped in a large Turkish flag, with two smaller flags pinned to them — one Palestinian, the other a modification of the Saudi flag (ie, white Arabic text of the creed of faith "There is no god but God, and Mohammad is the prophet of God" on a field of green, but without the white sword on the Saudi flag).

In video shots of protests, I've seen people waving this modified flag as well as a yellow flag that I couldn't see well — however, it was the same shade of yellow as the Hizbollah flag. The men's green headbands appeared to be the same script as the larger green flags.

#### From PAS:

NTV was fairly straightforward in its 9:00 newscast – calling it "bloody" incident but not going much past that. Gave the names of all 9 nine of the dead and where they were from, but did NOT say that Furkan was an amcit, at least not that I heard. Showed new footage from the incident itself of the commandos boarding the ship and them walking around through the passengers, who were all wearing lifevests.

## R50:

TNP has not received any additional information regarding planned organized demos or protests; however, they expect that there may be demonstrations throughout the weekend. Their security posture remains the same.

At 1100 hours the IHH are reportedly planning to give a press release outside of the Israeli Consulate.

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751271 Date: 06/27/2012 Today at 1300 a funeral will be held at the Bayazit Mosque for an individual who died in the incident. The ceremony is expected to draw large crowds. This email is UNCLASSIFIED. SBU This email is UNCLASSIFIED. From: de Otalvaro, Laura H Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 9:31 AM To: Darnell, Daria L; Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Eppler, Dale B; Godfrey, Anthony F; Appleton, Richard H; Gilmore, Cc: Dayton, Win (Istanbul); Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); McCarthy, David T (Istanbul); Mitchell, Shamar P (Istanbul); Solomon, Robin D; Ones, Leyla L; Borenstein, Jeffrey D; Witmer, Kami A; Lee, Robert D; Read, Anthony M Subject: Please send me inputs for another SitRep by 11:30 The Front Office would like another SitRep to go out today before oob EST. Please prepare consolidated information from your offices (Istanbul and Adana, please focus on both security and socio/political/economic aspects) and send them to me by 11:30. In your reports, please examine (in addition to your routine news) whether you see an impact so far on the U.S. or U.S.-Turkey bilateral relations. For Daria and Sharon, the Front Office is also interested in your regional thoughts on: **B5** Looking forward to your inputs. Please let me know if you have concerns.

Laura

Laura H. de Otalvaro Internal Unit Chief and Labor Attaché Political Section U.S. Embassy Ankara IVG Prefix 295, ext. 7191 External: 90.312.457.7191 Cell: 90.(0)533.523.3592

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail. Use Green fonts! See 10 State 45224

SBU

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# RELEASED IN FULL



# Behind the Headlines: Turkel Commission publishes first part of report

23 Jan 2011

This background document has been prepared before the release of the <u>Turkel Commission's Report</u>. It is based on information made available over the past six months.



IDF soldiers assaulted by dozens of armed activists on the Mayi Marmara

# Turkel Commission (23 January 2011):

Pursuant to paragraph 10 of Government resolution no. 1796 of <u>June 14, 2010</u>, we respectfully submit to the Government a <u>report</u> on the following matters:

- a. The security circumstances in which the naval blockade on the Gaza Strip was imposed and whether the blockade complies with the rules of international law (paragraph 4a of the Government resolution).
- b. Whether the actions carried out by Israel to enforce the naval blockade on May 31, 2010, complied with the rules of international law (paragraph 4b of the Government resolution).
- c. The actions carried out by the organizers and participants of the flotilla and their identities (paragraph 4c of the Government resolution).

#### Concluding Remarks of Report Summary

Today, approximately five months after hearing the first testimonles, the Commission is completing this part of its work. After a journey full of obstacles and pitfalls, and after exhaustive investigations, inquiries, studies and discussions, here are our conclusions:

The naval blockade imposed on the Gaza Strip - in view of the security circumstances and Israel's efforts to comply with its humanitarian obligations - was legal pursuant to the rules of international law.

The actions carried out by Israel on May 31, 2010, to enforce the naval blockade had the regrettable consequences of the loss of human life and physical injuries. Nonetheless, and despite the limited number of uses of force for which we could not reach a conclusion, the actions taken were found to be legal pursuant to the rules of international law.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

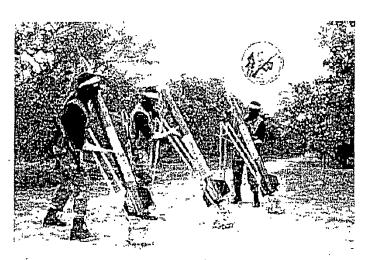
http://www.mfa.gov.il/MFA/About+the+Ministry/Behind+the+Headlines/Flotilla\_operatio... 1/24/2011 UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751274 Date: 06/27/2012

#### Behind the Headlines

Israel was entitled under international law to board the Mavi Marmara. Maritime blockades are recognized by international law as legitimate, and may be enforced in international waters

Israel is engaged in an ongoing armed conflict with Hamas, a terrorist organization which violently seized de facto control of the Gaza Strip in 2007. Hamas and other Gaza-based terrorist groups have <a href="mailto:launched\_more than\_ten\_thousand\_rockets">launched\_more than\_ten\_thousand\_rockets</a> at <a href="lsraeli-cities\_and\_towns">lsrael has imposed a maritime blockade on the Hamas regime in order to prevent it from building up its military capabilities, smuggling terrorists and weapons and staging attacks from the sea.

Security considerations have likewise led Israeli to impose a number of restrictions on the transfer of goods and supplies to Gaza via its land crossings. At the same time, Israel has continued to facilitate the import of hundreds of thousands of tons of food, medicine and other goods into Gaza, thereby ensuring that the humanitarian needs of the civilian population are met.



Hamas fighters prepare to launch rockets at Israel

International law recognizes maritime blockades as a legal and legitimate measure within the context of armed conflicts. A blockade may be enforced against breach. Article 98 of the <u>San Remo Manual on International Law Applicable to Armed Conflicts at Sea</u> states "Merchant vessels believed on reasonable grounds to be breaching a blockade may be captured." Furthermore, "Merchant vessels which, after prior warning, clearly resist capture may be attacked" (see similarly art. 67a.)

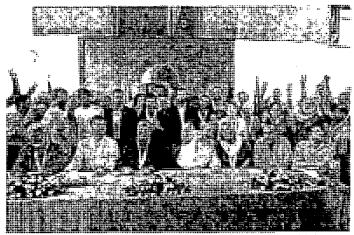
The blockading party has the right under international law to stop ships which intend to evade the blockade, even if they have not yet entered the blockaded area, Ships may be stopped even if they are in international waters. The <u>US\_Commander's Handbook on the Law of Naval Operations</u> explains that an "attempted breach of blockade occurs from the time a vessel or aircraft leaves a port or aircfield with the intention of evading the blockade."

International law requires that a blockade must "be applied impartially to the vessels of all States." (San Remo, art. 100). The blockading party may stop ships claiming to carry humanitarian aid. The duty to ensure that the humanitarian needs of a blockaded territory

are met, which (srael complies with, does not imply a duty to allow the passage of a particular ship.

Israel publicly declared the imposition of a maritime blockade on the Gaza Strip in full compliance with international law. It informed the flotilla ships of the blockade numerous times through <u>diplomatic</u>, <u>media</u> and <u>maritime</u> channels.

The flotilla's cargo was in no way essential for meeting Gaza's humanitarian needs. In any case, even if allowing a particular ship to enter the blockaded territory were essential to meeting the humanitarian needs of the civilian population, international law would still allow the blockading party to insist on inspecting the ship. It would also have the right to demand that the ship's cargo be distributed by a recognized neutral party. Such a security inspection could not be carried out at sea. Neither the Turkish IHH nor the Free Gaza Movement, the organizations which lead the flotilla, is a recognized neutral party.



Non-neutral parties- members of the Free Gaza Movement receive medals from Hamas PM Ismail Haniyeh (center, first row)



IHH head Bulent Yildirim with Hamas Political Chief Khaled Mashaal

Israel took numerous steps to avoid the need to employ force while taking control of the Mavi Marmara.

Israel made numerous efforts to avoid employing force and had no desire to cause harm to civilians. It repeatedly communicated the following or similar messages to the flotilla activists both before and during their journey (<u>video</u>):

"Mavi Marmara, you are approaching an area of hostilities, which is under a naval blockade...The Israeli government supports delivery of humanitarian supplies to the civilian

http://www.mfa.gov.il/MFA/About+the+Ministry/Behind+the+Headlines/Flotilla\_operatio... 1/24/2011 UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751274 Date: 06/27/2012

population in Gaza Strip and invites you to enter Ashdod port. Delivery of supplies will be in accordance with the authorities' regulations...and under your observation, after which you can return to your home ports aboard the vessels on which you arrived."

The ships were also <u>warned</u> that if they proceeded, Israel would be forced to take all necessary steps to enforce its blockade.

No effective method currently exists for forcing a ship the size of the Marmara to change course without taking physical control. Attempts to block the ship's passage with other vessels or to disable its systems would have endangered the flotilla participants. Israel had no choice but to board the vessel.

The naval commandos were instructed to use the minimum force necessary to take control of the vessels, and to avoid lethal force unless necessary for self-defense in the event that their lives were in immediate danger.

Accordingly the first teams to land on the Marmara were equipped primarily with riot-control equipment such as tear gas and paintball guns.

Using similar methods, Israel had stopped a number of previous attempts to violate its blockade without having to resort to lethal force. Five out of the six ships in the May 2010 flotilla were brought under Israeli control without serious injury to flotilla participants or soldiers. Since the Marmara, the IDF has prevented several additional attempts to violate its blockade without the need to employ a significant degree of force. This indicates that the problem stemmed not from Israeli methods, but from the violent behavior of the flotilla activists.

Soldiers abseiling onto the ship from helicopters were assaulted immediately by dozens of activists wielding knives and clubs, who also seized four of the soldiers' firearms. Facing an immediate threat to their lives, the soldiers had no choice but to use force to repel the attack.



Activists making preparations to confront Israeli soldiers



Soldiers assaulted by dozens of armed activists

A number of the Marmara's passengers were members of hardcore Islamist groups. These activists openly declared their desire for a violent confrontation and their hope to die as shahids (martyrs).

While the majority of the flotilla passengers may well have been peaceful civilians, some (approx. 40-50) were hardcore extremists determined to violently attack the Israeli boarding party.

Many of the members of this group were affiliated with the <u>Turkish Islamic organization IHH</u>, which Western countries and terrorism experts have described as a supporter of terrorist groups including Hamas.

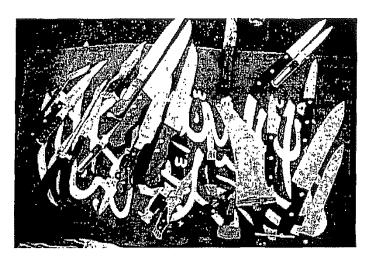
IHH head Bulent Yildirim declared on board the Marmara: "We're going to defeat the Israeli commandos... If you bring your soldiers here, we will throw you off the ship and you'll be humiliated in front of the whole world." During the voyage, IHH activists chanted songs celebrating the killing of Jews and openly declared their desire to die as shahids (martyrs) (view videos here, here and here).

Former U.S. Marine Kenneth O'Keefe, who took part in the assault on the soldiers, told the Haaretz newspaper ("Rough Passage", 24 Sept 2010) "I knew that if the Israelis boarded that ship, it would be a disaster... You have to be an idiot to board that ship and think it will be a ship of passive resistance."

This group of hardcore extremists took control of the ship prior to the IDF's boarding. According to the <u>Chief Officer of the Marmara</u>, they limited the movement of the other flotilla participants and carefully controlled entrance to certain parts of the ship.

These activists were equipped with commando knives, daggers, tear gas, gas masks, night vision goggles, and ballistic vests (view here and here) - objects not found on a humanitarian passenger ship.

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Weapons used by the Marmara passengers (Photos: IDF Spokesperson)

Israeli soldiers employed a necessary and proportionate degree of force.

The first several Israeli commandos who boarded the Marmara were rushed by dozens of activists wielding knives, clubs and chains. The first soldier to land was stabbed and thrown to the deck below. The second was shot in the stomach. Others suffered knife and gunshot wounds as well.

The attackers were able to take four of the soldiers' firearms. O'Keefe told the BBC that "myself and another brother descended on him [a wounded soldier] and the first thing I did was to go for his 9mm pistol." While O'Keefe claims that the gun was not used, two soldiers suffered gunshot wounds. Video released by the IDF records the commandos' surprise at being shot at with live fire.

Three soldiers from the first landing party were seriously wounded and taken by the activists to the ship's interior.

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Therefore the soldiers had no choice but to use limited and precise force against their attackers in self-defense.

Nearly all of those killed were IHH activists or members of affiliated Islamist groups, the very people who led the assault on the descending soldiers. About half had previously declared their hope to be martyrs.

Claims that soldiers summarily executed activists, or that they fired live ammunition indiscriminately from the air, are completely false.

Given that the soldiers were mobbed and intense hand-to-hand combat ensued, it is not surprising that a number of those shot were hit at close range. This does not in any way indicate that they were summarily executed, as the Report prepared for the UN Human Rights Council facetiously states.

The claim that activists were shot from the air is also unfounded; the commandos rappelling from helicopters required both hands to grasp the rope and could not have fired. The helicopters carrying the commandos were not equipped with firing systems, nor did they carry snipers who could have fired from the air.

Israel began its operation using stun grenades, paintball guns, and other crowd control equipment.

The timing and manner of the operation were a result of the complex situation and Israel's desire to avoid harm to civilians.

The early morning timing of Israel's boarding was the result of numerous factors. Given the expected time that if would take to board six ships carrying more than 700 flotilla participants, and the fact that the ships continued ahead at full speed, Israel decided to carry out the operation at a distance from the Israeli coast. Israel also allowed time to observe whether the ships would heed its numerous warnings to change course.

Once it became clear that boarding the ships would be necessary, Israel employed one of its most highly-trained and disciplined units, which had carried out several similar missions while avoiding the use of lethal force. The timing was tikewise meant to contribute to a rapid and non-violent transfer of control.

As soon as the danger to the soldiers subsided, IDF medics attended to wounded activists. The flotilla participants were treated in a respectful manner while specially-trained units searched for additional weapons.

Immediately following the completion of the operation, IDF medics attended to the injured. Given the violent confrontation that had just taken place, the participants and ship were searched for additional weapons by soldiers specially trained in such procedures. Activists judged to constitute a potential threat were restrained, while the other flotilla passengers were not.

31 activists were airlifted from the ship directly to Israeli hospitals. Another 24 were transferred to Israeli medical facilities after docking in Ashdod. These activists were given professional medical care at six of Israel's leading hospitals.

The flotilla participants were processed in an orderly manner and offered the option of being quickly deported. Those who refused this offer were given access to medical care and diplomatic personnel while detained. Within a week, all foreign flotilla participants had departed.

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Israel prepared extensively to quickly and efficiently process the flotilla participants. Those in need of medical attention were taken to hospitals. The rest were registered in a specially erected reception center staffed by government officials and translators. In special cases, such as that of a mother with a one-year old baby, passengers were immediately sent back to their countries of origin.

The flotilla participants were then taken to the new 'Aileh' detention center in southern Israel. There they were held in open units where, other than during roll calls, they were free at all times to leave their rooms and congregate in common areas. They were provided with all their needs including medical care.

Flotilla participants willing to be deported were able to leave the country within a very short time of their arrival. The departure of those who refused was delayed by several days.

The activists were not held incommunicado. They were given access to the diplomatic officials of their home countries. Consular representatives from 26 countries, as well as 19 lawyers providing legal services, visited the flotilla participants. Participants were also provided with phone cards.

As the flotilla ships were still making their way to Ashdod, a petition was filed with Israel's Supreme Court which challenged the custody of the flotilla passengers by Israeli authorities. The Court held hearings on the matter within 48 hours and ultimately dismissed the petition.

While Israel could have begun prosecutions against those who had assaulted its soldiers, it decided to release all of the flotilla participants. Six days after the ships were brought to Ashdod, all of the foreign flotilla participants had left Israel.

The Mavi Marmara itself did not carry humanitarian aid. The limited amount of aid carried by the other ships included outdated and useless medicines.

The Mavi Marmara did not carry humanitarian aid. The humanitarian aid that was carried by three of the flotilla ships appears to have been carelessly packed, leading to some of it being damaged. The <u>BBC's Jane Corbin found that two-thirds of the medicines aboard the flotilla "are out of date and useless."</u>

Of the 10,000 tons of humanitarian supplies which the flotilla claimed to be carrying, approximately 8,000 tons consisted of construction materials. <u>Hamas uses such materials for building rockets</u>, bunkers and <u>launching sites</u>. Therefore, while Israel regrets the difficulties that may be caused to Gaza's civilians, it can only allow the import of such materials in coordination with recognized international bodies.

Hamas initially refused to allow aid from the flotilla into Gaza. Israel made good on its promise to quickly prepare the aid for transfer. Hamas, however, apparently felt that the need was less pressing. An unnamed <u>Gaza official told the Guardian</u>, "Israel brought five truckloads of wheelchairs to the crossings, but Hamas turned them back."

Israel's import restrictions and blockade are legal under international law.

International law recognizes the right of a state to impose a naval blockade within the context of hostilities.

The blockade on Gaza has been imposed strictly for security reasons and is not aimed at harming the civilian population. These security considerations include the need to prevent the smuggling of terror operatives and military-use materials into and out of Gaza, and to

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prevent terrorist attacks against Israeli towns and vessels.

With regard to Israel's restrictions on the transfer of goods into Gaza- such a policy is neither illegal nor considered collective punishment. This is indicated by the numerous examples from the international community (for example, the UN's 13-year sanctions against Iraq.) Atthough international law requires that Israel facilitate the transfer of humanitarian aid to Gaza, Israel has no obligation to engage in economic relations or maintain open borders with the territory.

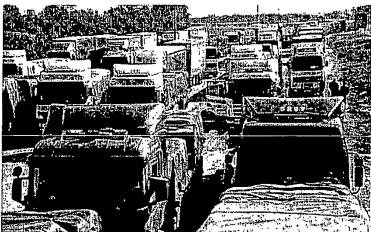
Israel has facilitated the transfer of well over a million tons of goods and supplies to Gaza, thereby more than ensuring that its humanitarian needs are met.

Despite the armed conflict with Hamas, Israel has gone far beyond the demands of international law in assisting Gaza's civilian population. Israel has provided or facilitated the transfer of over a million tons of humanitarian goods and supplies to the Gaza population. At no point has there been a humanitarian crisis in the territory.

From the end of the 2008-2009 Gaza War until approximately the time of the IHH flotilla, Israel facilitated the delivery to Gaza of 1,025,686 tons of aid, 49,610 tons of cooking gas and 136,097,330 liters of fuel. This aid includes wheat, meat, dairy products, fruits and vegetables, baby formula, seeds, clothes, school supplies, medical equipment, glass, wood and equipment for the flower industry.

Numerous indicators show that there is no humanitarian crisis or extreme hardship in Gaza. According to the <u>CIA World Factbook</u>, the projected life expectancy in Gaza is 73.68, greater than that in half of the world's countries, including many in Europe. The infant <u>mortality rate in Gaza</u> is 17.71 per 1000, lower than in the West Bank and in more than 50% of countries worldwide.

As explained, Israel has been forced to restrict the import of construction materials in order to prevent Hamas from using such materials for military purposes. However, Israel does facilitate the import of construction materials in coordination with recognized international agencies.



Truckloads of aid at the Gaza border crossing (Photo: IDF Spokesperson)

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A Gaza market, September 2009 (Photo: Reuters) (Video of daily life in Gaza)

Israel facilitates the transfer of medical supplies into Gaza and treats thousands of Gazans each year in Israeli hospitals.

In 2009, 4,883 tons of medical equipment and medicine were brought into the Strip. 10,544 patients and their companions left Gaza to receive treatment in Israeli hospitals (Israel also treats patients and trains doctors from the West Bank.)



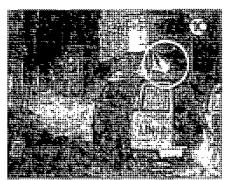
Gazan children with cancer enter Israel for treatment (Photo: Rafael Ben-Ari/Chameleons Eye). View video Video from Israeli hospital program for Iraining Palestinian doctors

The medical corridor is maintained despite the fact that since 2005, Palestinians have used medical cooperation arrangements to carry out more than 20 terrorist attacks.

Hamas refuses to allow the International Red Cross or any other organization access to an Israefi soldier which it has been holding hostage since June 2006. This is a gross violation of his basic human rights.

Israel's restrictions are necessary in light of Hamas' repeated diversion of goods and supplies for its own purposes. Israel's border crossings have been attacked numerous times since Hamas' takeover of Gaza.

The Hamas regime's control of the Gaza Strip has enabled it to divert goods and supplies on numerous occasions in order to build its military and economic capabilities. For example in February 2009 <u>UNRWA halted its import of goods into Gaza</u> after Hamas repeatedly seized thousands of tons of aid from the UN agency. In August 2009 <u>Hamas claimed to have seized three ambulances transferred from Israel to UNRWA</u> (UNRWA officials issuing conflicting reports regarding the claim.) Palestinian officials have complained that <u>Hamas commandeers fuel trucks</u> coming from the Nahal Oz crossing for its own needs.



<u>Video</u> of Hamas using ambulances to transfer armed militants in Gaza (Reuters, 2004)

The transfer of fuel to Gaza has been disrupted at times due to disputes between Hamas and the Palestinian Authority. A <u>UN official</u> described this as a "Palestinian problem, made by Palestinians, and causing Palestinian suffering." Hamas has also repeatedly attacked the Nahal Oz fuel depot. <u>Quartet envoy Tony Blair explained</u> that "most people don't understand- that we're trying to urge Israel to get fuel into Gaza, and then the extremists come and kill the people bringing the fuel in. It's a crazy situation."

Since Hamas' violent takeover of Gaza, more than a dozen bombs and mortar attacks have been launched at the crossing points at which goods are transferred. Israeli servicemen and civilians have died in these attacks.



April 2008 mortar attack on the Nahat Oz fuel terminal at the Israeli-Gaza border, in which two Israelis were killed. (Photo: Flash90)

Nevertheless, Israel has assisted in the export of several of Gaza's ain commodities, such as strawberries and flowers, in accordance with security considerations.



## Republic of Turkey Ministry of Foreign Affairs

# No: 29, 23 January 2011, Press Statement by the National Inquiry and Investigation Commission Instituted Upon Israel's Attack on the International Humanitarian Aid Convoy

On 31 May 2010, Israeli armed forces attacked, on the high seas, a convoy brought together by aid volunteers from 37 countries and different faiths to deliver humanitarian relief material to the people in the Gaza Strip. Nine persons were killed and scores were wounded during the attack.

In order to shed light upon all aspects of the attack, Turkey established a National Inquiry and Investigation Commission composed of representatives from pertinent institutions. The UN Secretary-General also set up a Panel of Inquiry in accordance with the Presidential Statement adopted by the UN Security Council which held an emergency meeting on 1 June 2010 upon Turkey's request. Israel initiated, through a commission, its own national inquiry as well. Moreover, the UN Human Rights Council has mandated an International Fact-Finding Mission to establish the violations of human rights law and international humanitarian law in connection with the attack.

Heeding the UN's call for prompt consideration of the issue, our Commission has worked intensively and submitted its Interim Report to the UN Panel on 1 September 2010. Also respecting the confidentiality of the process, our Commission has refrained from disclosing its report to the public. In contrast, the Israeli side impeded the Panel's work by constantly delaying its own report, and has chosen to share it with the public even before submitting it to the UN Panel.

Our Commission, convened on 23 January 2011 to thoroughly evaluate these developments, has decided to share, at this stage, the following with the public in view of Israel's unconstructive attitude:

- Israel's so-called "maritime blockade" against the Gaza Strip is devoid of legal basis and legitimacy. Israel's attack which is an extension of this unlawful practice is, therefore, equally illegal. REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Under international law, blockades are warfare methods applicable only in armed conflicts of "international" character. Israel is seen to avoid characterizing its armed conflict with Hamas as "international", while claiming reliance on the San Remo Manual, an important compendium of international law applicable to naval war, for its so-called blockade and related practices. Yet, the San Remo Manual, including its provisions relating to the establishment of blockades and the interception of vessels on the high seas, comprise legal rules applicable only to international armed conflicts. As long as Israel does not qualify its armed conflict with Hamas as international, it is estopped from relying any of its practices within the framework of this conflict on the San Remo

http://www.mfa.gov.tr/common/print.htm 1/24/2011 UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751275 Date: 06/27/2012

#### Manual.

- Even if Israel's alleged blockade had not been lacking of legal basis to such an extent, it would still have been unlawful due to the manner in which it is enforced, since Israel has not met various requirements for a naval blockade to be accepted as lawful.

Furthermore, Israel's so-called blockade does not fulfill the requirements of "proportionality", "necessity" and "reasonableness" under international law. Having extended its restrictive policies towards the Gaza Strip far beyond what was required for its actual security needs, Israel has banned even daily consumer goods, none of which could constitute military contraband, in order to punish the civilian population. This clearly demonstrates the arbitrary nature of the so-called blockade.

International law prohibits blockades having aimed at starving the civilian population, or inflicting them with disproportionate damage. Given that numerous international organizations such as the UN Security Council, the UN Office of the Coordinator for Humanitarian Affairs, the World Food Program, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, the World Bank, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, the UN Development Program, and the UN Relief and Works Agency have all described the humanitarian situation in Gaza as "dire", "unacceptable", "unsustainable" or "illegal", Israel's so-called blockade is clearly in violation of international law in this respect as well.

All personalities, including the high level officials of the Human Rights mechanism, who examined this issue have described the so-called Israeli blockade as collective punishment of civilians. With these practices, Israel has violated humanitarian law and in particular the prohibition of collective punishment.

All these clearly illustrate that Israel's so-called blockade and all practices thereunder are devoid of legitimacy and legal basis. Indeed, the Fact-Finding Mission mandated by the Human Rights Council with respect to the attack, has determined the "blockade" to be illegal and inferred therefrom that the interception of the humanitarian aid convoy by Israel and its subsequent detention of passengers and crew were unlawful.

- All the above show that Israel has violated the "Law of War" which it relies on with respect to the attack it carried out against the international aid convoy. Israel's attack on the international aid convoy also violates international peace time law which should in fact be applicable in this case. The freedom of navigation on the high seas and the principle of the Flag State's exclusive jurisdiction are fundamental rules of the Law of the Sea. Israel has flagrantly violated these rules by carrying out an attack, without any authority and jurisdiction, on the international aid convoy while it was sailing on the high seas.
- Israel's attack against the humanitarian aid convoy, which violated both wartime and peacetime international law, has also trampled all international principles, rules and norms with the manner in which it was conducted.

While it had the possibility of intercepting the convoy carrying unarmed civilians without causing bloodshed, Israel opted for a course which made loss of life inevitable. Instead of employing numerous established means of interdiction such as firing across the bow or disabling the rudder, Israel chose to first intimidate and terrorize the passengers, and then to raid the ships in the darkness with lethal force. While so doing, Israel imposed a total electronic blackout on the vessels so that the terror it anticipated would not be transmitted to the outside world.

While Israel should have re-assessed the situation upon the passengers' exercise of self-defense, and had ample time to do so, it chose, on the contrary, to attack with increased violence.

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State	Case No. F-2010-04163	Doc No.	C18751275	Date: 06/27/2012
Yazıcı Uyumlu Görüntü				Page 3 of 3

The result is self-evident and requires no further explanation.

Basic human rights and fundamental freedoms, first and foremost the right to life, have been flagrantly violated, and these violations have continued massively up to the moment that the passengers left Israel. The report of the Fact-Finding Mission of the UN Human Rights Council vividly depicts Israel's violations and the violence it used.

Our Commission is surprised, appalled and dismayed that the national inquiry process in Israel has resulted in the exoneration of the Israeli armed forces despite all the facts that have also been confirmed by the International Fact-Finding Mission.

R53

#### Ahn, Michael

From:

Guido, Deborah L

Sent:

Monday, November 01, 2010 3:13 PM

To:

Silliman, Douglas A; Ankara-PAO-IO-DL; Ankara-POL-DL; Ankara-ECON-DL

Subject:

Gaza Flotilla Guidance - as cleared

Classification:

**UNCLASSIFIED** 

On Friday, the final guidance was released - FYI

EUR Draft Press Guidance October 29, 2010

#### Turkey: Gaza Flotilla

- Q: Did the US have advanced notice that the Free Gaza Flotilla was in fact headed to Egypt and not Gaza?
  - The flotilla organizers consistently declared in public their intention to sail directly to Gaza.
- Q: Was there an agreement between the U.S., Israel and Turkey to get the flotilla to reroute to Al-Arish (Egypt)?
  - The United States encouraged direct contacts between Israel and Turkey prior to May 31, but was not involved in any negotiations between Turkey and Israel.

#### If Asked:

- Q: Can you confirm assertions by Turkish officials that the U.S. was informed by Turkey that the ships were going to Al-Arish?
  - We do not comment on the contents of diplomatic exchanges.
  - We continue to regard the UN Secretary General's panel as the primary method for the international community to review the incident. We again express our appreciation to the Secretary General for his efforts to establish this panel, and to the governments of Turkey and Israel for their constructive participation.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Drafted:

EUR/Press Valerie O'Brien 7-8602

Cleared:

1

#### UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751276 Date: 06/27/2012

EUR/FO: TKaidanow	ok
EUR/SE: JBaily	ok
NEA/IPA:PSutphin	ok
NEA/Press:EVasquez	ok
P: ABaez	ok
D(S): D Duty	ok
S/P: TNavratil	ok

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SENSTIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

#### RELEASED IN FULL

## The X Meeting with Turkish X September 20-29<sup>th</sup> 2010 (NY/GENEVA/ANKARA)

#### Context

We welcomed UNSYG Ban's establishment of -- and Israel and Turkey's participation in -- a panel to receive and review the Israeli and Turkish investigations of the May 31 flotilla incident. We remain opposed to the HRC flotilla fact-finding mission (FFM), which is mandated to investigate possible Israeli violations of international law related to the incident and oppose a renewal of its mandate in the September session. The FFM mission's report will be released during the September HRC session (between September 27 and 29), after which Turkey will probably introduce a resolution reacting to the FFM report. OIC members may take advantage of such an opportunity to make a politicized statement. We are urging the Turkish government to limit the scope of their resolution and not call for new UN follow-up mechanisms or further reporting. Turkey is a strong supporter of the HRC flotilla process; Israel has not cooperated with the FFM. Turkey is not pleased with USG objections to the FFM though Turkish officials have placed greater emphasis on the UN SYG panel over the HRC effort in our bilateral discussions.

#### Key Objectives

- We recognize that the Government of Turkey takes the tragic May 31<sup>st</sup> incident seriously. Convey that and the USG shares its concern. Reiterate our sincere regret over the loss of lives.
- We appreciate Turkey's constructive and cooperative spirit in participating
  on the Secretary General's panel regarding the incident of May 31<sup>st</sup>. The
  United States believes that the UNSYG panel, which includes the
  participation of both Israel and Turkey, offers a balanced and credible
  channel to address these very serious issues.
- Urge the Turkish government to avoid new follow-up mechanisms or reporting in the HRC, drawing on the following points.
  - o We understand the depth of Turkish concerns over this episode but would appreciate Turkey's help in identifying a way to move forward that avoids further inflaming the situation, complicating the direct peace talks that seek to produce a Palestinian state, or increasing and prolonging tensions among longstanding friends and partners.

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REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751277 Date: 09/05/2012

#### SENSTIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

Charting a constructive way forward can also help reinforce Turkey-U.S. bilateral relations.

- o In an environment where direct Israeli-Palestinian talks have recently resumed, we are eager to ensure that the work of the HRC FFM come to its natural conclusion now and avoid further politicization, friction, or divisions between the parties, within the region, and with the United States. We must work together to find a way forward, and we need help from our friends in the Government of Turkey to do so.
- It is not helpful to have Turkey and Israel fighting in Geneva or in front of the Human Rights Council during a time of direct talks between Israelis and Palestinians.
- o A restrained approach could have a positive effect on the U.S.-Turkey relationship, especially with members of Congress.

#### If Raised

 Turkey officials have stated that they are concerned about Israeli compensation for victims. We urge Turkish officials to discuss this issue with the Israelis directly.

SENSTIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

R55

A/HRC/RES/14/1

#### **Advance Edited Version**

Distr.: General 23 June 2010

Original: English

Human Rights Council Fourteenth session Agenda item 1 Organizational and procedural matters

#### Resolution adopted by the Human Rights Council'

#### 14/1

### The grave attacks by Israeli forces against the humanitarian boat convoy

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Taking into consideration the provisions of the fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Times of War, of 12 August 1949,

Emphasizing the importance of the safety and well-being of all civilians, including humanitarian personnel,

Expressing grave concern at the deepening humanitarian crisis in occupied Gaza,

Emphasizing the need to ensure the sustained and regular flow of goods and people into occupied Gaza, and welcoming the initiatives aimed at creating and opening humanitarian corridors and other mechanisms for the sustained delivery of humanitarian aid,

- 1. Condemns in the strongest terms the outrageous attack by the Israeli forces against the humanitarian flotilla of ships, which resulted in the killing and injuring of many innocent civilians from different countries;
- 2. Deeply deplores the loss of life of innocent civilians, and expresses its deepest sympathy and condolences to the victims and their families;

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

GE.10-

Please recycle

The resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council will be contained in the report of the Council on its fourteenth session (A/HRC/14/37), chap. I.

#### A/FIRC/RES/14/1

- 3. Calls upon the occupying Power, Israel, to cooperate fully with the International Committee of the Red Cross to seek and provide information on the whereabouts status and condition of detained and injured persons;
- 4. Demands that the occupying Power, Israel, immediately release all detained men and material and facilitate their safe return to their homelands;
- 5. Calls upon the occupying Power, Israel, to immediately lift the siege on occupied Gaza and other occupied territories;
- 6. Also calls upon the occupying Power, Israel, to ensure the unimpeded provision of humanitarian assistance, including of food, fuel and medical treatment, to the occupied Gaza Strip;
- 7. Welcomes the statements made by the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights condemning the Israeli attacks and calls for full accountability and credible independent inquiries into these attacks;
- 8. Decides to dispatch an independent, international fact-finding mission to investigate violations of international law, including international humanitarian and human rights law, resulting from the Israeli attacks on the flotilla of ships carrying humanitarian assistance:
- Also decides to authorize the President of the Council to appoint members to the above-mentioned fact-finding mission, who should report on their findings to the Council at its fifteenth session;
  - 10. Further decides to remain seized of this matter.

10<sup>th</sup> meeting 2 June 2010

[Adopted by a recorded vote of 32 to 3, with 9 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Angola, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Chile, China, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Mauritius, Mexico, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudia Arabia, Senegal, Slovenia, South Africa, Uruguay;

Against:

Italy, Netherlands, United States of America;

Abstaining:

Belgium, Burkina Faso, France, Hungary, Japan, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Ukrainc, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.]



#### Gaza flotilla: : international independent fact-finding missions opens in Geneva

10 August 2010

GENEVA – The international independent faet-finding mission of high-level experts appointed by the President of the Humal Rights Council to inquire into the Gaza flotilla incident on 31 May 2010 held its inaugural meeting at the Palais Wilson in Geneva yesterday.

Further to an urgent debate held on 1 and 2 June, the Human Rights Council decided to dispatch an independent fact-finding mission to determine whether any violation of international law, international humanitarian and human rights law had taken place.

The Mission of high-level experts is chaired by Judge K. Hudson-Phillips, former judge of the International Criminal Court in The Hague, and has two other eminent members. Sir Desmond de Silva, Queen's Counsel, was Chief Prosecutor of the Sierra Leone War Crimes Tribunal and Ms. Shanthi Dairiam was a human rights expert of Malaysia and former member of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

The Chairman indicated that in approaching the task the Mission had been given the authority to settle its own terms of reference taking into account the resolution of the Council. He indicated that the Mission interprets the resolution as requestin it to ascertain the facts surrounding the flotilla incident and then give an opinion as to whether there had been any violation of the law.

Judge Hudson-Phillips emphasized that the Mission intended to approach its task in a totally unbiased manner, free from any assumptions or prejudgments.

The Chairman of the Mission noted that the Mission's principal task is to conduct an inquiry into legal issues and possible violations of international humanitarian and human rights law. He hoped that the Mission would be permitted full access to al relevant persons and material in all of the countries concerned, so as to enable the Mission to ascertain the proper factual basis for its legal opinion.

To this end, the Mission intends to make contacts with all ambassadors of the countries involved in the coming days. It is its intention to travel to the region in order to interview persons and gather first-hand information as far as possible.

As requested by the Human Rights Council's resolution, the Mission will present its report at the next session of the Council i September.

(\*) See the Resolution adopted by the Human Rights Council: http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/docs/14session/RES.14.1\_AEV.pdf

For further media information, please contact flotillaffm@ohchr.org

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=10270&LangID... 9/8/2010 UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751279 Date: 06/27/2012



#### Gaza flotilla: UN fact-finding mission concludes visit to Turkey

GENEVA (27 August 2010) - The international, independent fact-finding mission of high-level experts appointed by the President of the Human Rights Council to inquire into the Gaza flotilla incident has concluded a one-week visit to Turkey.

During the week, the three high-level experts interviewed witnesses and government officials who provided first hand information on the incident that took place on 31 May 2010. In addition, technical and legal experts accompanying the mission held meetings with forensic and judiciary officials and also inspected the ship Mavi Marmara.

The fact-finding mission will start a visit to Jordan (29 August - 4 September) to interview witnesses based in Jordan and in neighboring countries.

As requested by the Human Rights Council resolution, the Mission is taking steps to present a report at the next session of the Council in September.

The fact-finding mission is chaired by Judge K. Hudson-Phillips, former judge of the International Criminal Court in the Hague, and has two other eminent members: Sir Desmond de Silva, Queen's Counsel, who was Chief Prosecutor of the Sierra Leone War Crimes Tribunal and Ms. Shanthi Dairiam, human rights expert of Malaysia and former member of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

(\*) See the Resolution adopted by the Human Rights Council: http://www2.ohchr.org/english/hodies/hrcouncil/docs/14session/RES.14.1\_AEV.pdf

For further information, please contact flotillaffin@ohchr.org

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=10289&LangID... 9/8/2010 UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751280 Date: 06/27/2012



#### Gaza flotilla: UN fact-finding mission to interview witnesses in Turkey and Jordan

GENEVA (23 August 2010) - The international independent fact-finding mission of high-level experts appointed by the President of the Human Rights Council to inquire into the Gaza flotilla incident on Sunday began a two-week visit to Turkey (22-29 August) and Jordan (29 August - 4 September) to interview witnesses and government officials, it was announced today. Technical and legal experts are accompanying the mission which intends to inspect the ship Mavi Marmara in which nine passengers died on 31 May 2010.

The fact-finding mission has just spent two weeks in Geneva, drafting its terms of reference and holding meetings with different Permanent Missions in Geneva, including with the ambassadors of Israel and Turkey.

The three high-level experts also started interviewing witnesses in London and Geneva last week, with the aim of gathering first-hand information to assess the facts under their consideration.

As requested by the Human Rights Council's resolution, the Mission will present its report at the next session of the Council i September.

The fact-finding mission is chaired by Judge K. Hudson-Phillips, former judge of the International Criminal Court in the Hague, and has two other eminent members: Sir Desmond de Silva, Queen's Counsel, who was Chief Prosecutor of the Sierra Leone War Crimes Tribunal and Ms. Shanthi Dairiam, human rights expert of Malaysia and former member of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

(\*) See the Resolution adopted by the Human Rights Council: <a href="http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/docs/14session/RES.14.1\_AEV.pdf">http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/docs/14session/RES.14.1\_AEV.pdf</a>

For further information, please contact flotillaffm@ohchr.org

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=10286&LangID... 9/8/2010 UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751281 Date: 06/27/2012

#### Turkey presents report on Israeli raid on Gaza aid ship to UN

RELEASED IN FULL

Turkey presented its report to UN about Israeli raid on Mavi Marmara aid ship.

Turkey presented its report to UN on Thursday about Israeli raid on Mavi Marmara aid ship.

Turkish Ambassador Mithat Rende presented Turkey's report to UN investigation committee in New York.

Sources said that Turkey's contacts and initiatives in this issue would continue.

Nine people, including eight Turkish and one U.S. citizen of Turkish descent, were killed by Israeli forces in a raid on a Gaza-bound aid flotilla including Mavi Marmara ship on May 31. Around 30 people were wounded in the attack.

The UN Human Rights Council set up the international fact-finding mission on June 2 to investigate violations of international law, including international humanitarian and human rights law, resulting from the Israeli attacks on the flotilla of ships carrying humanitarian assistance.

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http://www.worldbulletin.net/, printed on 02.09.2010.

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REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

## **TODAYS ZAMAN**

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#### Turkey sets up own national inquiry team for flotilla raid

Soon after a UN probe of Israel's deadly raid on a Gaza-bound flotilla began on Tuesday, Ankara announced that it has established its own national commission for investigating the May 31 raid in order to draft a report to be introduced to the UN panel of inquiry.

The Turkish Foreign Ministry, in a written statement released late on Wednesday, recalled that a committee led by Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoğlu and Interior Minister Beşir Atalay had already been established for investigating the May 31 attack by Israeli security forces on the Gaza humanitarian aid convoy -- which took place in international waters and ended with the killing of eight Turkish and one Turkish-American civilians.



"This time, upon the UN secretary-general's establishment of the inquiry panel, a National Investigation and Examination Commission has been established by the Prime Ministry for the purpose of investigating said attack and the treatment to which persons in the convoy had been exposed to and for preparing a report to be introduced to the UN Inquiry Panel within this framework," the ministry said.

In New York, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon met on Tuesday with the four-member panel of inquiry into the May Gaza flotilla incident as they sat down to map out how they will conduct the investigation.

The panel -- comprising Chairperson Geoffrey Palmer, the former New Zealand prime minister, Vice Chair Alvaro Uribe, the former Colombian president, Israel's Joseph Ciechanover and Turkey's Özdem Sanberk -- "will spend the coming days determining how they will undertake their task," according to information released by the UN Secretary-General's office.

Ban stressed during the meeting at UN headquarters in New York that the panelists "should seek the fullest cooperation of the national authorities" as they carry out their work, and that they should perform their mandate in line with the UN Security Council presidential statement issued following the flotilla incident on May 31. The first progress report from the panel is scheduled to be delivered to the secretary-general by Sept. 15.

Turkey's national commission will work under the coordination of the prime ministry with the participation of bureaucrats from the Foreign Ministry, the Justice Ministry, the Transportation Ministry, the Interior Ministry and the Undersecretariat for Maritime Affairs. For communication with the commission of UN officials and the UN inquiry panel, Ambassador Mithat Rende has been

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

——http://www.todavszaman.com/tz-web/detavlar-do?load=print&link=218893&vazarAd=---------9/8/2010-UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751283 Date: 06/27/2012

appointed as "the contact point," the ministry said.

The number of members on the commission is not definite as of yet, Today's Zaman learned from diplomatic sources.

"It is envisaged that the National Investigation and Examination Commission will prepare its report via examining the incident in coordination with all related institutions and establishments," the ministry concluded.

Amidst debates over the scope of the mandate of the UN panel, UN sources said earlier this week that the panel is not designed to determine individual criminal responsibility, but to examine and identify the facts, circumstances and the context of the incident involving the flotilla, which had departed from Turkey and was bound for the Gaza Strip.

As part of that, the panel will receive and review the reports of national investigations into the incident and request clarifications and information as it needs from national authorities, according to the same sources.

Meanwhile, the UN Human Rights Council's independent fact-finding mission of high-level experts that is inquiring into the same incident held its first meeting on Monday in Geneva. The mission is charged with determining whether any violation of international law, international humanitarian and human rights law has taken place. Its report is expected to be presented to the council's next session, slated for September.

#### Rende: an expert on maritime law

Ambassador Rende, who has been chosen as the contact point for communication between the UN and Ankara concerning the inquiries on the attack, is a distinguished expert of maritime law.

Rende currently holds the position of director general for economic affairs, including energy, water and environment at the Foreign Ministry. Prior to serving in this position, he was Turkey's ambassador to Qatar. From 1996-2000 he was counselor at the Turkish Embassy in London and deputy permanent representative of Turkey to the UN's International Maritime Organization (IMO). At the IMO, Rende was responsible for negotiating issues related to maritime law. He then completed the post-graduate program at the Royal College of Defence Studies in London on security and international relations.

13.08.2010 News TODAY'S ZAMAN



## Two-hour Israeli raid video presented in Turkey's UN report

SEVÎL KÜÇÜKKOŞUM ANKARA - Hürriyet Daily News Thursday, September 2, 2010

Turkey presented video cassettes, passenger testimonies and its legal reasoning that Israel's raid on the Mavi Marmara was an offense in its report Thursday to the United Nations about the attack on the Gazabound aid ship.

"We gave the Turkish Foreign Ministry a two-hour video of the Israeli raid of the ship, recorded by an American citizen. The images show how our friends were killed by Israelis," Hüseyin Oruç, a council member of the Humanitarian Relief Foundation, or İHH, told the Hürriyet Daily News & Economic Review on Thursday.

Turkey included the testimonies of 55 Mavi Marmara passengers and forensic opinions on the wounded passengers in its report.

Following Turkish Ambassador Mithat Rende's presentation of Turkey's report to the U.N. investigating committee in New York, sources said Turkey's initiatives regarding the issue would continue.

Eight Turks and one U.S. citizen of Turkish descent were killed when Israeli forces raided a Gaza-bound aid flotilla, which included the Mavi Marmara, May 31. Approximately 30 people were wounded in the attack; all of those killed were aboard the Mavi Marmara – a vessel owned by the İHH.

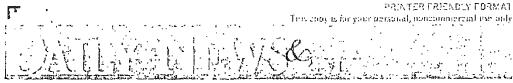
Activists claim the troops started firing as soon as they boarded the ship, while Israeli authorities say passengers attacked the commandos with steel rods and wooden staves as they were abseiling down from helicopters.

The U.N. Human Rights Council established an international fact-finding mission June 2 to investigate violations of international law, including humanitarian and human-rights law, following the attack on the flotilla.

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URL: www.hurriyetdailynews.com/n.php?n=two-hour-israeli-raid-video-is-in-turkey8217s-un-report-2010-09-02

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer



## UN Gaza aid probe finds 'clear evidence' against Israel

GENEVA - Agence France-Presse Thursday, September 23, 2010

A U.N. probe said Wednesday there was clear evidence to back prosecutions against Israel for killing and torture when its troops stormed a Gaza-bound aid flotilla in May.

In a scathing report, it also threw out Israel's argument that the aid activists were violent, thereby justifying the decision by Israeli soldiers to open fire. The incident left nine Turkish nationals dead and drew global condemnation.

Saying some were victims of actions "consistent with... summary execution," the inquiry ordered by the U.N. Human Rights Council said Israel's military used "unnecessary violence."

These "constituted grave violations of human rights law and international humanitarian law," it said, adding there was "clear evidence to support prosecutions" of crimes including "willful killing; torture or inhuman treatment; and willfully causing great suffering or serious injury to body or health."

Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoğlu hailed the U.N. report on Thursday, Anatolia news agency reported.

The report by the U.N. Human Rights Council "is extremely unbiased and based on sound evidence. We appreciate it," Davutoğlu was quoted by Anatolia as telling reporters in New York on the sidelines of the U.N. general assembly.

"It meets our expectations. I hope the Israeli side will ... from now on act within international law," he added.

Israel rejected the report as "biased" and "one-sided." "As expected of a democratic country, Israel has been - and still is - investigating the events of the Gaza flotilla," said a statement released by the Israeli foreign ministry late Wednesday night.

It added that its own committee of inquiry, which includes two international observers, was still at work and that Israel had also agreed to take part in an inquiry set up by the UN Secretary General. "The report... is as biased and as one sided as the body that has produced it," the statement said. "Israel... is of the opinion that the flotilla incident is amply and sufficiently investigated as it is. All additional dealing with this issue is superfluous and unproductive."

Israel has insisted that it acted in line with international law, arguing that it had the right to retaliate against ships attempting to breach its blockade of the impoverished Gaza Strip. However, the probe said Israel's enforcement of a blockade was itself unlawful, since Gaza was suffering from a humanitarian crisis on the day of the deadly raid.

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### UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751285 Date: 06/27/2012 UN Gaza aid probe finds 'clear evidence' against Israel - Hurriyet Daily News and Econo... Page 2 of 2

"For this reason alone, the blockade is unlawful and cannot be sustained in law. This is so regardless of the grounds on which it is sought to justify the legality of the blockade," said the report, which will be presented to the rights council on Monday.

It said even those activists who did not try to stop Israeli soldiers from boarding the aid ships "received injuries, including fatal injuries." "It is apparent that no effort was made to minimize injuries at certain states of the operation and that the use of live fire was done in an extensive and arbitrary manner," said the inquiry.

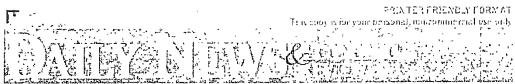
"The circumstances of the killing of at least six of the passengers were in a manner consistent with an extra-legal, arbitrary and summary execution," it added. "The conduct of the Israeli military and other personnel towards the flotilla passengers was not only disproportionate to the occasion but demonstrated levels of totally unnecessary and incredible violence," said the probe.

The fact-finding mission, chaired by Karl Hudson-Phillips, former judge of the International Criminal Court in The Hague, had travelled to Turkey, Jordan and Britain to interview witnesses and officials for the probe.

Desmond de Silva, former chief prosecutor of the Sierra Leone War Crimes Tribunal, and Shanthi Dairiam, as Malaysian human rights expert, are the other members of the panel.

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## Israel bracing for 'mother of all flotillas' to Gaza

TEL AVIV - From wire dispatches Tuesday, September 7, 2010

Israel is bracing for what is being described by its military as the "mother of all flotillas," comprising up to 20 ships planning to set sail for the blockaded Gaza Strip, a report said Tuesday.

The flotilla is being organized by a coalition of nongovernmental organizations from Europe and the United States, including a group calling itself European Jews for a Just Peace, Israel's Jerusalem Post reported. The groups hope to set off within the coming months.

"We hope to have a broad coalition from European countries, and also maybe the United States," Dror Feiler, a Stockholm-based Israeli-Swedish musician and artist who is one of the organizers behind the flotilla plans, told the Post on Monday. "We would like it to be double the size of the last flotilla, with at least a dozen ships and more than a thousand people."

According to the newspaper, the Israeli military is closely tracking the planned flotilla and is preparing for a wide range of scenarios, including the possibility that due to the large number of ships, it will need to stop the vessels far from Israel's shores.

"The Israeli army can stop 12 or 50 ships if it wants," Feiler said. "[Nonetheless] there are so many ships since so many people want to get together to stop the siege, which is a collective punishment on the people of Gaza and is unacceptable."

#### The May 31 attack

The last flotilla aimed at breaking the Gaza blockade was stopped by Israeli commandos at the end of May. Nine activists, including eight pro-Palestinian Turks and one U.S. citizen of Turkish descent, were killed during the May 31 attack, which reduced already-tense relations between Turkey and Israel to historic lows.

The coalition behind the new flotilla effort includes the Turkish Humanitarian Relief Foundation, or İHH, and the Free Gaza Movement, which organized the flotilla stopped in May, the Post said.

The newspaper also reported Tuesday that the Israeli commission investigating the Gaza flotilla attack requested that the Israeli chief of staff's assistant, Col. Erez Weiner, give the court further information on the May 31 raid.

The Turkel Committee, headed by retired high court judge Yaakov Turkel, asked for electronic data and other materials that a committee headed by Maj. Gen. Giora Eiland analyzed when investigating the military aspect of the Gaza flotilla raid.

Turkel's probe also asked for explanations of the soldiers' behavior on the Mavi Marmara, the ship where

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the nine activists were killed, and for answers to additional questions that the Eiland Commission did not probe.

Uzi Arad, the head of the Israeli National Security Council, is expected to testify next week before the committee, as is Meir Dagan, the head of Mossad, Israel's foreign intelligence service. Foreign Ministry Director-General Yossi Gal will testify Wednesday.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Defense Minister Ehud Olmert and Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Gabi Ashkenazi have previously testified before the Turkel Commission.

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#### Turkey says ready to help UN team, hopes Israel coop

Davutoglu said he hoped that Israeli party would also have cooperation with the UN missions.

Turkey's Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu met with Sir Desmond de Silva, a member of the International Fact-Finding Mission of the United Nations (UN) Human Rights Council set up to examine the Israeli raid on a Gaza-bound aid flotilla, in capital Ankara on Monday.

Officials from the Foreign Ministry said that Davutoglu and de Silva discussed the raid on Mavi Marmara ship and developments in the following period.

Officials quoted Davutoglu as saying that the stance to be assumed by international community was very important, because it would help the issue to be cleared up and also contribute to peace by showing that no country was superior to international law.

Davutoglu said that Turkey was ready to fully cooperate with UN commissions. "If you have any question, you can ask now. I am ready to share every information with you," he said in the meeting.

Davutoglu said he hoped that Israeli party would also have cooperation with the UN missions.

Members of the international mission are expected to hold a series of talks in Ankara, Istanbul and the southern town of Iskenderun till August 29.

As part of their visit, the delegation will come together with a national investigation commission, listen to those injured in the attack and the witnesses, and meet executives of Turkish ministries and institutions.

Committee members will also examine the "Mavi Marmara", "Defne Y" and "Gazze" aid ships.

Nine people, including eight Turkish and one U.S. citizen of Turkish descent, were killed when Israeli forces raided a Gaza-bound aid flotilla on May 31. Around 30 people were wounded in the attack.

The United Nations (UN) Human Rights Council set up the international fact-finding mission on June 2 to investigate violations of international law, including international humanitarian and human rights law, resulting from the Israeli attacks on the flotilla of ships carrying humanitarian assistance.

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#### UN team in Turkey to probe Israel aid flotilla attack - UPDATED

Members of an international fact-finding mission will pay a visit to Turkey to examine the Israeli attack on a Gaza-bound aid flotilla, Turkey's Foreign Ministry said on Sunday.

#### World Bulletin / News Desk

Members of an international fact-finding team established by the UN Human Rights Council began meeting with Turkish officials in Ankara on Monday as part of an investigation into an Israeli attack on an aid flotilia on May 31 that left nine activists dead.

Members of the UN panel met with President Abdullah Gul and Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu on Monday and are due to travel to Istanbul and Iskenderun, where three Turkish ships that were part of the aid flotilla are currently docked, before completing their visit on Sunday, Aug. 29, according to a Foreign Ministry statement released late on Sunday.

The fact-finding mission is composed of British lawyer Desmond de Silva -- a former UN war crimes prosecutor -- Trinidadian judge Karl T. Hudson-Phillips and Malaysian women's rights advocate Mary Shanthi Dairiam. Its mandate is primarily to investigate whether Israel breached international humanitarian or human rights law.

The Foreign Ministry statement said the investigative team will meet with representatives from a national inquiry delegation set up by Turkey, hear witnesses of the Israeli rald, including those injured in the attack, and confer with officials from the Foreign Ministry and other relevant state institutions. The Foreign Ministry also pledged full cooperation with the UN panel, saying "all sorts of assistance and facilitation will be offered" to the team during its work.

Their final report on the May 31 raid, said the statement, "carries great importance in terms of shedding light on the facts about the incident."

The UN Human Rights Council's investigation into the Israeli raid, which took place in international waters, is separate from a higher-profile UN probe announced by Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. The 47-member council's probe was launched before Ban's announcement of the high-level panel earlier this month.

The president of the Geneva-based council, Sihasak Phuangketkeow, has dismissed claims that Ban's announcement made the Human Rights Council investigation superfluous, saying earlier this month that the fact-finding mission should proceed because there is a clear distinction between the missions and mandates of the two inquiries.

Israel has said it would work with Ban's panel, which is led by former New Zealand Prime Minister Geoffrey Palmer and outgoing Colombian President Alvaro Uribe and includes members from Turkey and Israel. But the Jewish state has previously refused to take part in council investigations. Sihasak said it would be "in the interest of Israel to do so."

Both teams are expected to publish their findings in September.

Israeli commandos trying to prevent activists from breaking its blockade of Gaza killed eight Turks and one Turkish-American during the raid on one of the flotilla's six vessels.

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## UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751288 Date: 06/27/2012 WORLD BULLETIN- TURKEY NEWS, WORLD NEWS - UN team in Turkey to probe... Page 2 of 2

Turkey, on the other hand, is demanding an apology from Israel and compensation for the families of the victims.

http://www.worldbulletin.net/, printed on 24.08.2010.



## **TODAYS ZAMAN**

#### UN fact-finding team in Turkey for aid flotilla probe

Members of an international fact-finding team established by the UN Human Rights Council began meeting with Turkish officials in Ankara on Monday as part of an investigation into an Israeli attack on an aid flotilla on May 31 that left nine activists dead.

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http://www.todavszaman.com/tz-web/detaylar.do?load=print&link=219896&vazarAd= UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751289 Date: 06/27/2012 would be "in the interest of Israel to do so." Both teams are expected to publish their findings in September.

Israeli commandos trying to prevent activists from breaking its blockade of Gaza killed eight Turks and one Turkish-American during the raid on one of the flotilla's six vessels. Israel has said the soldiers acted in self-defense after being attacked as they boarded the Mavi Marmara, owned by a Turkish charity. Turkey, on the other hand, is demanding an apology from Israel and compensation for the families of the victims.

24.08.2010 News TODAY'S ZAMAN

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## Int'l Gaza flotilla committee to visit Turkey

ANKARA – Anatolia News Agency Monday, August 23, 2010

Members of an international fact-finding mission are scheduled to visit Turkey to examine evidence from Israel's attack in May on a Gaza-bound aid flotilla, Turkey's Foreign Ministry said Sunday.

The ministry's statement said members of the independent mission would hold talks in Ankara, Istanbul and the southern town of Iskenderun till Aug. 29. Turkey's Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoğlu will receive the delegation in Ankara.

The delegation is expected to confer with a domestic Turkish investigation commission, hear testimony from witnesses of the attack, including those who were injured, and meet leaders from Turkish state ministries and institutions.

Members of the international mission will also examine the Mavi Marmara, Defne Y and Gazze aid ships. In its statement, the ministry said the report the international mission would prepare was of vital importance in revealing the facts of what happened during the attack.

Around 30 people were injured when Israeli forces raided a Gaza-bound aid flotilla on May 31. Eight Turkish citizens and one U.S. citizen of Turkish descent were killed.

The United Nations Human Rights Council set up the international fact-finding mission on June 2 to investigate the possibility that Israel violated international law – specifically international humanitarian and human rights law – when it attacked the flotilla of ships carrying humanitarian assistance supplies.

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# RELEASED IN FULL

# EU-US insensitive to Israel-killed activists disappoint Turkey

UN draft resolution was adopted by 30 votes against 1 vote (that belonged to USA). EU countries abstained at the voting.

Turkish Foreign Ministry said on Thursday that the United States objected and the European Union (EU) member countries abstained against the UN Human Rights Council's draft resolution regarding Israeli attack on a Gaza-bound aid flotilla.

The ministry released a statement and said report of the fact-finding mission established by the UN Human Rights Council to investigate the raid in the international waters and its consequences which resulted in death of eight Turkish citizens and a U.S. citizen, was submitted to the Council on September 22.

The draft resolution, submitted to the council by Pakistan on behalf of the 57 OIC-member states, was adopted by 30 votes against 1 vote (that belonged to USA). EU countries abstained at the voting.

The statement said the UN Human Rights Council approved the report of the international fact-finding mission which was prepared in a professional and objective stance and adopted a draft resolution on September 29 pertaining to points on following of the report.

"Despite evident EU principles on human rights, EU member countries, whose citizens were evacuated by Turkey following Israeli raid, used abstained vote and the United States, whose citizen was killed in the attack, used negative vote. Turkey was disappointed and conveyed its sensitivity on the matter to EU and the United States."

The statement said, "assessments of the report that Israel's armed attack in the international waters was evidently illegal, that Israeli troops used excessive, unnecessary and unbelievable violence and the intervention seriously violated human rights law and rules of humanitarian law were important. Turkey expects all the related parties, mainly Israel, to draw necessary lesson from the assessments in question."

Nine people, including eight Turkish citizens and one U.S. citizen of Turkish descent, were killed when Israeli forces raided a Gaza-bound aid flotilla in international waters on May 31. Around 30 people were wounded in the attack.

The UN Human Rights Council set up an international fact-finding mission on June 2 to investigate violations of international law, including international humanitarian and human rights law, resulting from the Israeli attack on the flotilla of ships carrying humanitarian assistance.

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Gaza flotilla: Statement by PM Netanyahu

31 May 2010
This regrettable incident was the result of an intentional provocation of forces which support Iran and its terrorist enclave, Hamas, in the Gaza Strip.



Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

### [Translated from Hebrew]

Last night a regrettable incident occurred, during which people were killed and others were injured. IDF soldiers who were compelled to defend their lives were also injured. This incident was the result of an intentional provocation of forces which support Iran and its terrorist enclave, Hamas, in the Gaza Strip. This enclave, Hamas, has fired thousands of missiles at the State of Israel, and it is amassing thousands more.

This is a clear case of self-defense. Israel cannot allow the free flow of weapons, rockets and missiles to the terrorist base of Hamas in Gaza. It's a terrorist base supported by Iran; it's already fired thousands of rockets at Israeli cities; it seeks to smuggle in thousands more, and this is why Israel must inspect the goods that come into Gaza. It's also a clear case of self-defense because as our soldiers were inspecting these ships, they were attacked - they were almost lynched. They were attacked with clubs, with knives, perhaps with live gunfire, and they had to defend themselves - they were going to be killed. Israel will not allow its soldiers to be lynched and neither would any other self-respecting country.

Our policy is simple. We say: any goods, any humanitarian aid to Gaza, can enter. What we want to prevent is their ability to bring in war materiel - missiles, rockets, the means for constructing casings for missiles and rockets. This has been our policy and yesterday we told the flotilla - which was not a simple, innocent flotilla - to bring their goods into Ashdod. We told them that we would examine their cargo and allow those goods that could not be used as weapons or shielding materials for Hamas into Gaza.

Five of the six ships accepted these terms without violence. Apparently, the sixth ship, the largest, which had on board hundreds of people, had a premeditated plan to harm IDF soldiers. When the first soldiers dropped down onto the deck of the ship, they were attacked by a violent mob and were compelled to defend their fives. That is when the unfortunate events took place.

We have a simple policy, which will continue. That policy is: we have no argument or fight with the population of Gaza. We are interested in allowing them to continue their regular routines. We want to prevent any humanitarian crisis in Gaza, but we are fighting the

http://www.mfa.gov.il/MFA/Government/Speeches+hv+Israeli+leaders/2010/Gaza-flotill.....10/48/2010-UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751292 Date: 06/27/2012

Hamas organization, which threatens the citizens of Israel and fires missiles at Israeli cities. It is our duty to defend the citizens of Israel, protect Israel's cities and ensure the security of the State of Israel - and we will continue to do so.

## Statement following meeting with Canadian PM Stephen Harper (31 May 2010):

Gaza has become a base for Hamas terrorists backed by Iran, from which they fire thousands of rockets into Israel. They're amassing thousands more rockets to fire at our cities, at our towns, at our children. Our policy is this: we try to let in all humanitarian goods into Gaza, all peaceful commodities - food, medicine and the like. What we want to prevent coming into Gaza are rockets, missiles, explosives and war material that could be used to attack our civilians.

This is an ongoing policy and it was the one that guided our action yesterday. We told the flotilla of ships, we said: "You can take all your cargo. Put it in our port of Ashdod. We'll just ferret out if there are any war materiels and the rest will go through." We succeeded doing this peacefully with five of the six ships. The sixth ship, the largest, which had hundreds of people on it not only did not cooperate in this effort, they deliberately attacked the first soldiers that came on the ship. They were mobbed; they were clubbed; they were beaten; they were stabbed and there was even a report of gunfire.

Our soldiers had to defend themselves, defend their lives or they would have been killed, and regrettably, in this exchange at least ten people died. We regret this loss of life. We regret any of the violence that was there. I would like to wish speedy recovery to the wounded, including four of our own soldiers.

Our policy was and will continue to be that we will let humanitarian aid, any kinds of goods that are meant for peace to the civilian population in Gaza. We have no quarrel with the people of Gaza. We do have a conflict with the terrorist regime of Hamas, supported by Iran. We want to maintain a situation were we prevent weapons and raw materials from coming into Gaza. That is our main task.

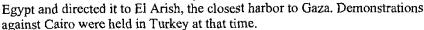
# **TODAYS ZAMAN**

# Upcoming aid ship convoy may stoke tensions between Turkey and Egypt

The Turkish Humanitarian Aid Foundation (İHH), together with several other international nongovernmental organizations, is planning to sail to Gaza with seven aid ships to draw attention to the embargo on the besieged area, but Egyptian and Palestinian diplomatic sources warn that such a move could create diplomatic problems and may not actually be beneficial to the people of Gaza.

The diplomatic sources recalled that a similar move by the Viva Palestina convoy last December caused problems and said this time the problems could be even more severe.

The December convoy, which carried British, Arab and Turkish aid to Gaza, first went to Aqaba, situated far from Gaza. Egyptian authorities did not allow the convoy to cross



iHH spokesman Salih Bilici said their goal this time is to enter Gaza via the Gaza harbor and that while they are aware of possible problems, they don't have an alternative plan. "We don't have a plan B, C or D. We have decided to reach to Gaza by sea and enter via its port," he told Sunday's Zaman.

He said they bought two ships for this purpose, one passenger vessel with a 1,083-person capacity, and a cargo vessel that can hold 3,500 tons. British NGOs will contribute two ships to the fleet, Greece one ship and Irish NGOs will send another. It is expected that five ships carrying aid to Gaza will set sail near the end of May.

Bilici said that in addition to medical aid, the ships would carry construction materials. "We are taking construction materials as a symbolic gesture. Since the war, construction materials have not been allowed in; there are many government buildings, schools and hospitals in Gaza that were devastated. We want to convey the message that 'they are destroying, we are rebuilding'," Bilici said.

Bilici claims that Israel does not have any right to prevent them from entering Gaza's port but said that Israel might find an excuse:

"They could find some pretexts, like holding military exercises, for not letting us reach Gaza. But we will. We will enter Gaza by sea via the Gaza port. We are determined," he said. According to Israeli sources, it is not possible to enter Gaza by sea, and additionally construction materials are not allowed in under any circumstances.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

"We think those kinds of convoys are political. They are more directed at

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political propaganda and less directed at humanitarian aid," Amit Zarouk, a spokesperson at the Israeli Embassy in Ankara, told Sunday's Zaman.

He claimed that there is no humanitarian crisis in Gaza now, that electricity to the area is supplied by Israel, that exports are allowed from Gaza, that hundreds of trucks carrying food enter Gaza every day and that all sorts of medical aid is free to enter Gaza.

"But there are well-known ways to do this, and these are the ways used by the UN aid agencies, other international organizations and the Turkish Red Crescent. There are two gates to Gaza, Karni and Kerem Shalom. The sea route is not acceptable for us," he said.

Zarouk underlined that the cement and iron will not be allowed to enter Gaza under any circumstances. "Those kinds of materials, instead of making houses for people, are used for building bunkers and reinforcing the armed capacity of Hamas and also constructing tunnels for smuggling weapons," he said. When he was asked what would happen if the ships tries to enter Gaza, Zarouk answered that he couldn't say at the moment.

"This propaganda is not acceptable, and we will deal with it accordingly," he said.

In the past, Israel had two tactics: Either the Israeli Navy would force ships to dock at the Port of Ashdod in Israel, unload the aid and after inspecting it send to Gaza or force ships to turn back to open sea. According to Palestinian Ambassador to Turkey Nabil Maarouf, Israel would never let such an aid fleet enter Gaza, and the fleet will be forced to alter its route to dock at the El-Arish port. If this is the case, the ambassador noted, such a situation could create diplomatic problems.

Egyptian Ambassador to Turkey Abderahman Salaheldin told Sunday's Zaman that the rules are very clear on sending humanitarian aid to Gaza:

"First of all they need to notify us ahead of time about their plans and give us details of their humanitarian aid. Medical supplies will go to the Refah crossing, but the non-medical assistance has to be coordinated with Israel," he said and added that so far they had not received any request from the IHH or the other NGOs.

The Egyptian ambassador recalled that any initiative aiming to help the Palestinian cause should remember that Israel wants to make the division of Palestine at Gaza and the West Bank in order to prevent the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. Ambassador Salaheldin added that they are constantly sending aid to Gaza and working for the reconciliation of Palestine, which would be in the best interests of the Palestinians.

"To supply humanitarian aid is only one part of efforts to help our Palestinian brothers. We should be working hand-in-hand for peace and an independent Palestine state. If the Turkish public is not well educated in the situation, we will

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lack the support of this very energetic public for this cause," he said and added that everybody should understand the laws and international obligations of Egypt and no one should put Egypt in the same boat with Israel the occupier.

The İHH 's Bilici said that they were aware of the fact that both Israel and Egypt might try to prevent them from entering but argued that since their motive is humanitarian and they have the support of 42 countries' NGOs, these two countries will be obliged to step back.

"Last time Egypt was criticized by the international community, especially by the Arab and Islamic media. We don't think they will repeat this," Bilici said. When he was asked if they had ever communicated with Israeli and Egyptian authorities about their planned trip, he said no.

Last time Egyptian authorities directed the convoy to the port of El Arish, where scuffles broke out between members of the convoy and the Egyptian police after part of the convoy was barred from entering Gaza. Violence erupted during solidarity protests held by Palestinians in Gaza awaiting the convoy's arrival, resulting in the death of an Egyptian policeman. Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed About Gheit described the aid convoy as "farcical" and said the country would no longer allow such solidarity convoys and that from now on all aid to Gaza must be handled by the Red Crescent at El Arish.

Ambassador Maarouf warned that the same scenes could be repeated, that such a move might cause diplomatic problems and that the Palestinians might not be benefit from the aid.

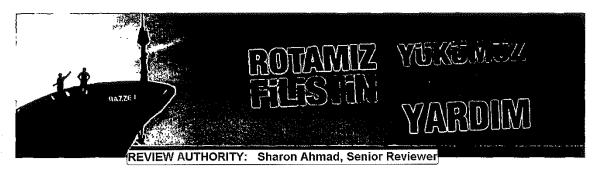
"I have another proposal, and I am discussing it with the NGOs," Ambassador Maaruf said and explained his suggestion as follows: "I am suggesting we gather the Turkish, Palestinian and Egyptian Red Crescents, form a convoy, but not of ships, raise the three flags and coordinate it together and enter Gaza. This way the ultimate aim of helping Gaza will be achieved. The three Red Crescents can directly distribute food to the people. This will also serve to enhance relations between Egypt and Turkey, instead of creating problems in Ankara-Cairo relations."

When Bilici was asked about this suggestion, he said their journey aims to enter Gaza via the Gaza seaport. "We are not calculating anything but to enter Gaza. We are determined to do it, because by sea it is possible to carry more aid than over land. Secondly we want to show the world that it is possible to break the embargo for humanitarian reasons," he said.

11.04.2010 News AYŞE KARABAT



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Madagaskar

# Flotilla to be launched in May



Activists with different religions and languages gathered at the IHH head office to discuss the forthcoming humanitarian flotilla to Gaza. They will be sailing to Gaza in ships this May. IHH President spoke resolutely: "We can sleep in the ships for mon

The IHH-led campaign "Palestine Our Destination, Freedom Our Load" was launched with a meeting at the foundation's headquarters, Bülent Yıldırım, chairman of the IHH Humanitarian Relief Foundation, a number of activists from Greece, Britain, the United States and Indonesia, Cihat Gökdemir, head of Mazlum-Der Istanbul Branch, TCTV Chairman Necatl Ceylan, Erol Erdoğan, Istanbul provincial head of Saadet Party, Bayram Karacan, Istanbul provincial head of BBP, two Palestinians being treated in Turkey and scores of people were present at the press conference,

### These medicines and dialysis machines not available in Gaza

Showing medicines and dialysis machine in front of him, Yıldırım said "These medicines used by cancer patients and this dialysis machine used by people suffering from kidney failure are not available in Gaza. These are just two simple examples. Even basic humanitarian stuff is not allowed into Gaza under the embargo. This embargo is sanctioned neither by the international law nor human conscience. Unfortunately, it has been in effect for four years. We will sail in May to break the embargo."

Yildirim noted they had been campaigning in various countries to promote the flotilla initiative and they were receiving new participants each day.

## Yildirim: We can sleep in the ships for months if needed

Yildirim stated the IHH had purchased a passenger ship with the capacity of 1,080 persons and a cargo ship that can carry 3,500 tons of cargo. "The last time we travelled to Palestine overland we said we could even sleep in the

http://www.ihh.org.tr/15-mavis-ta-filistin-e/en/ UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751294 Date: 06/27/2012

Sierra Leone Svazlland Tanzanya Tooo Tunus Uganda Zambiya Zimbabye Balkanlar Bulgaristan Romanya Arnavutluk Bosna-Hersek Hırvatistan Sirbistan Yunanistan Batı Trakya Karadaŭ Sancak Amerika Bolivya Ekvador Brezilya Haiti Kolombiya Küba Peru Surinam Sili Venezuela Orta Asya Afganistan Cin Doğu Türkistan Kırgızistan Özbekistan Tacikistan Tataristan Yakutistan Sibirva Altaylar Günev Asva Mara Banglades Doğu Timor Endonezya Filipinler Hindistan Kamboçya Kesmir Myanmar Nepal Pakistan Patani Siri Lanka Tayland Vietnam Kafkasva Rusya Gürcistan Azerbaycan Abhazya Acara Adigey-Sapsiğ Ahiska Cecenistan Dağıstan

desert. And now we are saying we can sleep in the ships for months. If Israel keeps us at the sea, it will be the losing side. This will lead to more reporting about the embargo. Israel has become very isolated at the international level. If Israel has a humane side as it claims, it has to let us enter Gaza. Then the world will say 'Israel also has a humane side.' This flotilla will serve as a test of sincerity for Israel. If it fires at our ships, it will be interpreted as declaration of war on our countries. Israel and Egypt should permit this international movement," he added.

### We are doing what our states should be doing

Another participant Huwaida Arraf, spokeswoman of the Free Gaza Movement, is a Ramallah-born Palestinian Christian married to a Jew. Arraf recalled they had sailed for Palestine in ships three times in the past.

She expressed pride for being part of the initiative and said: "A humanitarian tragedy is unfolding in Gaza and governments of world countries are remaining silent to it. We are doing now what our governments should be doing. We know it well that the power of humanity flighting for human rights is much stronger than arms. We managed to deliver aid to Gaza before and we were given a hero's welcome. The truth is the real heroes are the people of Gaza, who are resisting. We had promised them we would return in a bigger movement and we are going to keep our promise with this organization."

Israel fired at our ships in earlier attempts, Arraf said and added "Israel fired and sank our ship. But we were not discouraged. We organized three flotillas of aid ships and achieved to reach Gaza at the third attempt. And we are now sailing with the iHH to make the embargo meaningless."

### 'We are ashamed of our governments' silence'

Representing Greece's Ship to Gaza organization at the press conference, Vangelios Pissias said they were ashamed of their governments' silence on the issue. The Palestinian question is unifying and lessons should be learnt from the resistance of Gaza, he indicated. The Greek activist said irrelevant problems between regional countries should be made history and urged Mediterranean countries to unite against the Israeli aggression.

# 700 died from embargo

Mazen Kehil, representative of the European Campaign to End the Siege of Gaza, recalled 700 Palestinians had died because of the embargo and called for unity of world countries on the Gaza issue. The ships will not be carrying arms but only humanitarian supplies, Kehil noted and urged all countries to support the flotilla. Indonesian activist Nur Fitri said they were taking part in the organization to prove the Indonesian people are standing by the Palestinian people and added they were planning to found a hospital in Gaza.

# Palestine Our Destination, Humanitarian Aid Our Load

The campaign with the slogan "Palestine Our Destination, Humanitarian Aid Our Load" includes seven ships in total, two from Turkey, two from Britain, one from Greece and one from Ireland. The goal of the campaign is to support the Palestinian people, to show that arbitrary Israeli blockade is not recognized, to prove that the embargo can be legally broken, to put pressure on Egypt to open Rafah border, and to deliver humanitarian supplies.

The ships will be carrying tons of medication, medical equipment, cement and iron. Houses, hospitals and schools that were damaged in the last Israeli offensive have not been repaired yet, because Israel and Egypt do not let construction materials into Gaza under the embargo.

was organized by Istanbul Peace Fread more!

http://www.ihh.org.tr/15\_mayis\_ta\_filistin\_e/en/ 4/12/2010 UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751294 Date: 06/27/2012

İnguşetya Kabardey Balkar Karaçay Çerkes Kırım Osetya The flotilla of passenger and cargo vessels is expected to set sail in May. The vessels will be carrying over 1,000 passengers to Palestine including human rights advocates, activists, representatives of civil society, journalists and artists.

IHH president stated that ship-owners were refusing to rent their vessels for security concerns and they, therefore, decided to purchase vessels for the organization. He said: "The IHH has so far purchased two vessels, one passenger boat and one cargo ship. They were financed by donations to the Palestine fund. Mavi Marmara passenger ship was purchased at TRY 1,800,000 and the cargo ship at TRY 850,000. Mavi Marmara has the capacity to carry 200 tons and 1,080 passengers. And the cargo ship has a capacity of 3,500 tons. The flotilla will also be joined by three vessels from Britain, one from Greece and one from Ireland. There will be seven vessels in total."

Responding to the question "What will be done with the ships after the organization?" Yildirim said "The ships will be used in future aid flotillas. And after the removal of the embargo they will be donated to the Palestinian people."

# Route of flotilla

Passenger ships will depart from Istanbul and sail for Gaza in International waters, calling at the ports of Antalya, Kyrenia and Famagusta. The ships laden with relief supplies, however, will call at Istanbul and Mersin ports. Some of relief supplies will be loaded to ships, in Istanbul, while those collected in Anatolian cities will be loaded in Mersin. The journey will take between 10 to 15 days depending on weather condition and possible Israeli hurdles.

### What supplies will be carried in ships?

Many relief supplies that are not allowed into Gaza because of embargo will be carried in ships, including construction materials such as cement, iron, etc., generators (over 100 KW). MR devices (preferably new or less than two years old). ultrasound machines, dentist chairs and equipment. CBC blood testing and devices (preferably new or less than three years old), and electric wheelchairs. The participants will return to Turkey in the same ships after delivering relief supplies to Gaza.



















İHH İnsani Yardım Vakfı









IHH İnsan Hak ve Hürriyetleri İnsani Yardım Vakfı Büyük Karaman Çad, Taylasan Sok. No:3 Pk. 34230 Fatih / İstanbul Telefon: +90 212 631 21 21 Faks: +90 212 621 70 51 E-Posta: info(at|ihh.org.tr UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751295 Date: 06/27/2012

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

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R7a

RELEASED IN FULL

From:

Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"

Sent:

Friday, February 11, 2011 6:28 PM

To:

Silliman, Douglas A; O'Grady, Daniel J

Cc:

Ahn, Michael; Godfrey, Anthony F; Witmer, Kami A

Subject:

FW: Mavi Marmara; TRT (4)

Jale's final installment on Turkey's Mavi Marmara report.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Ersoy, Jale

**Sent:** Friday, February 11, 2011 5:06 PM **To:** Ersoy, Jale; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"

Cc: Ahn, Michael

Subject: RE: Mavi Marmara; TRT (4)

- Israeli soldiers moved the route toward Ashrod port and during this hours long
  journey passengers were subject to serious physical, verbal and psychological
  maltreatment;
- Maltreatment continued during transfers to prisons/hospitals and Ben Gurion Airport as they were deported;
- During this process all passengers were subject to intensive violence by Israeli forces;
- The attack on the ships violated the rights of the passengers to live, their security.
   They did arbitrary detentions and arrests and inflicted torture and inhumane treatment;

The sanctions requested in the Report follow:

- Israel is responsible for the compensation of the losses that it inflicted;
- It is necessary to condemn the attack of Israel.

(The end)

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

From: Ersoy, Jale

**Sent:** Friday, February 11, 2011 4:58 PM **To:** Ersoy, Jale; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"

Cc: Ahn, Michael

Subject: Mavi Marmara; TRT (3)

The AA carried excerpts from Turkey's Mavi Marmara report. Highlights follow:

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- Israel did not abide by the agreement reached among the U.S., Israel and Turkey before the flotilla took off (which required the route to be toward Egypt's El Aris port in case of a confrontation by Israel);
- Once clashes began Israel forced forced the boat to sail toward Israel;
- In the 45-article "Conclusion" part of Turkey's report the Turkish Commission stressed that it reached some objective and legal conclusions;
- The stressed that the humanitarian assistance convoy was a "civilian initiative" with peaceful intensions. It did not pose a threat to Israel;
- The passengers were subject to all border and customs controls;
- There was no firearms on board;
- Israel, before confronting the boat, did not try to inspect or search the ship and Israelis cut the communication among the vessels, something that put the ships and passengers at risk;
- The attack took place 72 miles to the closest shore, in other words, in international waters;
- Nine passengers died and Israel violated the basic right to live;
- Five of those who died were shot at close range in the head. Furkan Dogan received five bullets including three in the head. First bullet hit his foot and when he fell down, two Israeli soldiers kicked him and then shot him in an execution style;
- Photographer Cevdet Kiliclar was shot from a long range in the forehead. In the nine dead passengers there were 30 bullets;
- More than 50 passengers were injured and one still is in coma;
- The Israeli forces, who used helicopters, zodiac boats, submarines, frigates and commandoes did not fire in the air for warning that it might use force;
- As Israeli soldiers by using zodiacs tried to board the ship they opened fire;
- Passengers panicked and they tried to legitimately defend themselves;
- In response Israel did not reevaluate the situation;
- Israel used real ammunition against the passengers;
- Israeli soldiers continued to fire despite the fact that passengers showed white flaas;
- Israeli soldiers attacked the other boats as well and number of injured was more than 70. Nobody used firearms against Israeli aggressors;

(more to follow)

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Ersoy, Jale

**Sent:** Friday, February 11, 2011 4:32 PM **To:** Ersoy, Jale; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"

Cc: Ahn, Michael

Subject: Mavi Marmara; TRT (2)

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UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751295 Date: 06/27/2012

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"TRT News" reported that Turkey today submitted its final "Mavi Marmara Report" to the UN.

The highlight of the report was that Israel used excessive force and fired at; close range.

The TRT correspondent in Israel noted that Tel Aviv would disclose the second part of its report soon. The UN HR Commissioner today held a press conference and said that they asked Israel to cooperate with the UN on this issue. The second part of the report is expected to focus on the mistakes of Israel.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Ersoy, Jale

Sent: Friday, February 11, 2011 4:21 PM

To: Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"

Cc: Ahn, Michael

Subject: RE: Mavi Marmara; TRT

Amb Mithat Rende, the Turkish official briefed the media on their Mavi Marmara report.

They found out that there was no firearms on the Turkish ships that took off from the Turkish ports. The three Israeli soldiers were carrying firearms and those on the ship threw those weapons in the sea.

The right to live was violated. Five of those who died were shot at close range. When Furkan Dogan, Turkish-American citizen, when injured was kicked and then shot and killed. Another was shot in the forehead. Around 50 were injured, including one still in coma.

Israel used a serious force, zodiacs, helicopters, boats.

If Israel wanted, it could have stopped the filatillo peacefully. Unfortunately it did not try to stop it peacefully. One reason might be to create fear and deter future such attempts.

The Israeli side claimed that the passengers attacked its soldiers. This is true. Passengers were terrorized when they were subject to firing. So passenger, whom we talked to, thought that they all would be killed and tried to protect themselves.

Another mistake by Israel was, when confronted by such a reaction from passengers Israel should have stopped and made a reevaluation.

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UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751295 Date: 06/27/2012

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED Page 4 of 4

The "TRT News" stopped live broadcast here.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"

Sent: Friday, February 11, 2011 4:08 PM

To: Ersoy, Jale Cc: Ahn, Michael

Subject: Mavi Marmara; TRT

Jale:

NTV is airing a program now on the Mavi Marmara report. Would you monitor for us, please.

Thank you.

-- Jerry

Jeremiah Howard
Deputy Political Counselor
Embassy Ankara - Turkey
T: 90 312 457-7149
IVG: 295-7149

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Page 1 of 3

R73

# RELEASED IN FULL

From:

Guido, Deborah L

Sent:

Wednesday, June 16, 2010 9:19 AM

To:

Jeffrey, James F; Ankara-PMA-DL

Subject:

Crowley on Turkish Rejection of Israell Commission, June 14 PB

Excerpt Press Briefing on Monday, June 14: Crowley on Turkish Rejection of Israeli Commission – repeating this

QUESTION: Thank you. The Government of Israel, according to the White House yesterday, took an important step forward in proposing an independent public commission to investigate the circumstances of the recent tragic events aboard the flotilla headed for Gaza. Could you please explain for us why this independent public commission is an important step forward? Was that something that the U.S. side had encouraged the Israelis to unveil? And what would be the U.S. involvement in that commission going forward?

MR. CROWLEY: Well, first of all, this commission was set up by the Israeli Government. We've had conversations with the Israeli Government about how to assure the credibility and partiality that were called upon in the presidential statement of the UN Security Council. But these were Israeli decisions. I think the commission is — will be led by a respected Israeli jurist. There will be international participation through the — a Nobel Laureate from Northern Ireland and a judge advocate from Canada.

So we believe that Israel certainly, as a government, has the institutions and certainly the capability to conduct a credible, impartial, and transparent investigation. So I think this is an important step forward in what is called for in the UN Security Council presidential statement. That said, we're not going to prejudge the process or the outcome.

QUESTION: Wait. Just to be clear, you said that the U.S. encouraged – spoke with the Israelis about ways to encourage international participation?

MR. CROWLEY: Well, we were completely supportive of the UN Security Council presidential statement calling for a transparent, impartial, credible investigation. And we think what Israel announced yesterday is a step in that direction.

QUESTION: On the same topic? The Turkish Government said today they were not satisfied with this commission. The Turkish Government, they were not - they are not satisfied with it because they are not party to it.

MR. CROWLEY: Well, Turkey, as any sovereign country, has a right to conduct its own investigation. I'm not aware that Turkey has reached its own judgment on how to proceed. But I think this is precisely why, in our discussions with the Israeli Government, we understand that there are a number of countries, the United States included, that are looking for an impartial, credible, and transparent investigation. Certainly, we continue to believe that Israel is fully capable of conducting one.

QUESTION: Wait, so you think that the Turks should be allowed – should go out and conduct an investigation if they want?

MR. CROWLEY: Well, the Turks have that right.

QUESTION: Well, what do you mean that they have that right? So, what if Iran wants to conduct an investigation? Is that okay, too?

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REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

MR. CROWLEY: Well, I mean, this was an event that directly affected Turkish citizens. We understand that.

QUESTION: Yeah, but the reason I'm - because you voted against the resolution at the Human Rights Council which called for - which sent - which is, actually, since it passed, sending a team to look into this. So I'm just -

MR. CROWLEY: Well --

QUESTION: It's okay with you if the Turks want to get in the game here?

MR. CROWLEY: Again, what we are looking for in – with any country that decides to conduct an investigation is an impartial, is credible, is a transparent – we stand by Israel and will voice our strong views against any action that is one-sided or biased by an international organization. That's why we voted against the resolution at the Human Rights Council.

QUESTION: Okay. So all of this talk about you guys and the UN supporting some kind of an international, separate probe other than the Israeli one is not correct?

MR. CROWLEY: Well, I mean, I'm not aware that the Secretary General has yet made any decisions on steps that the UN might take.

QUESTION: Well, that means that you would be willing to support something that the Secretary General comes up with?

MR. CROWLEY: Well, again, we'll listen to what the Secretary General has in mind and make a judgment at that time.

QUESTION: There are reports of aid ships from Iran that have departed recently with an intention to break the blockade. What advice or what – how should the Israelis respond to this one since you had very strong views on how they responded last time?

MR. CROWLEY: Well, look. We are going to — we are continuing to work with Israel, Egypt, and others to try to figure out how to expand the amount of assistance to the people of Gaza. We think there are better ways to do this than what Iran has perhaps announced.

QUESTION: Are you considering --

QUESTION: Well, but - hold on. Specifically with regard to the reports of these ships coming, I mean, how --

MR. CROWLEY: Well, I mean, Iran does not have a particularly constructive role in Gaza. It's a divisive country. I suspect very strongly that its intentions here are not humanitarian in nature. But we are focusing our efforts, working to see how we can, through the land borders between Israel and Gaza and Egypt and Gaza, increase the amount of assistance to the people of Gaza?

QUESTION: Are you suggesting that the ships are not carrying the humanitarian aid that they claim to be carrying?

MR. CROWLEY: Well, I mean, I don't know.

QUESTION: Or that they (inaudible) carrying?

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MR. CROWLEY: But that is – that remains a – it remains a very legitimate concern that Israel have. They have, in fact, in the past, intercepted ships that were carrying weapons and armaments that have been used to threaten the Israeli people. But we think through land routes is a much more effective way of increasing the flow of humanitarian assistance while being able to protect Israel's security interests.

QUESTION: But what I'm trying to understand is whether you believe these ships are carrying some sort of weapons or --

MR. CROWLEY: I do not know.

Deborah L. Guido Spokesperson U.S. Embassy Ankara Office: 90-312-457-7312 Cell: 90 0532 341-2862 Email: guidodi@state.gov U.S. Embassy.Web Page Visit us on Facebook

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UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751297 Date: 06/27/2012

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SBU

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R74

From:

Schrank, Alexander D

Sent:

Monday, June 14, 2010 7:05 PM

To:

Guido, Deborah L; O'Grady, Daniel J; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Godfrey,

Anthony F; Witmer, Kami A; Dayton, Win (Istanbul)

Subject:

FW: Statement by the Press Secretary on Israel's investigation into the flotilla

incident

Fyi... in case you have not yet seen...

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Baily, Jess L

Sent: Monday, June 14, 2010 11:05 AM

To: EUR-SE-DAR-DL

Subject: FW: Statement by the Press Secretary on Israel's investigation into the flotilla incident

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Katsoulos, Athena

Sent: Monday, June 14, 2010 8:13 AM

To: EUR-FO-DL; EUR-Directors-DL; EUR-SE-DAR-DL

Cc: EUR-Press

Subject: FW: Statement by the Press Secretary on Israel's investigation into the flotilla incident

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: State Department Press Office [mailto:Press@state.gov]

Sent: Monday, June 14, 2010 7:39 AM

Subject: FW: Statement by the Press Secretary on Israel's investigation into the flotilla incident

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

THE WHITE HOUSE Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 13, 2010

Statement by the Press Secretary on Israel's investigation into the flotilla incident

Today, the Government of Israel took an important step forward in proposing an independent public commission to investigate the circumstances of the recent tragic events on board the flotilla headed for Gaza. Through a presidential statement of the United Nations Security

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Council, the United States joined the international community in condemning those acts which led to nine fatalities and many injuries on board the flotilla, and supporting the completion of a prompt, impartial, credible, and transparent investigation.

We believe that Israel, like any other nation, should be allowed to undertake an investigation into events that involve its national security. Israel has a military justice system that meets international standards and is capable of conducting a serious and credible investigation, and the structure and terms of reference of Israel's proposed independent public commission can meet the standard of a prompt, impartial, credible, and transparent investigation. But we will not prejudge the process or its outcome, and will await the conduct and findings of the investigation before drawing further conclusions.

While Israel should be afforded the time to complete its process, we expect Israel's commission and military investigation will be carried out promptly. We also expect that, upon completion, its findings will be presented publicly and will be presented to the international community.

###

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Printed By: Witmer, Kami A Page 2 of 2



Military-Strategic Information Section

Strategic Division // Israel Defense Forces

June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010

# Operation Sea Breeze Summary and Background

May 31st - June 5th





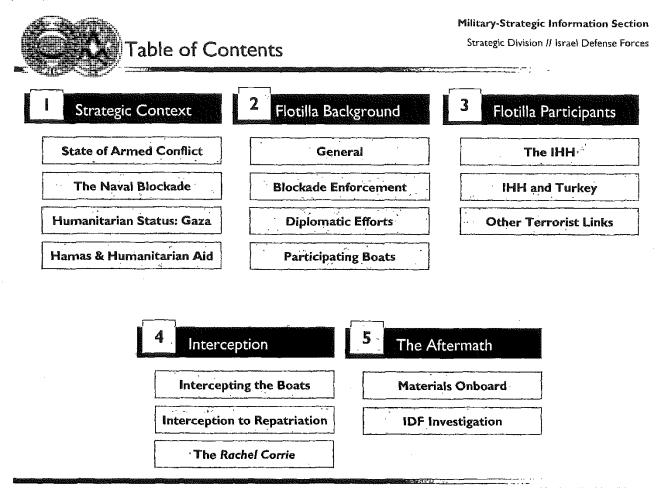




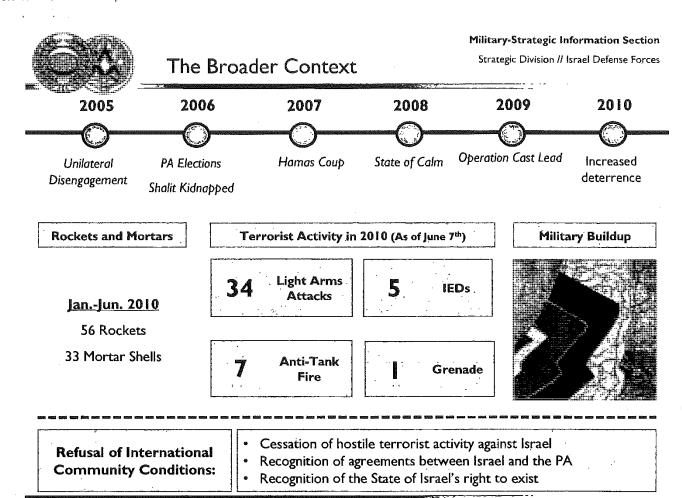
REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751298 Date: 06/27/2012

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Unclassified | Slide 3



# The Naval Blockade on Gaza

Military-Strategic Information Section
Strategic Division // Israel Defense Forces

Israel enforces certain restrictions aimed at ensuring its security, by preventing Hamas military buildup. This is subject to ongoing scrutiny by the Supreme Court.

Under International Law, naval blockades is a legitimate mean in armed conflicts. Its use requires the fulfillment of a number of conditions:



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Declaration	The date the blockade begins, the duration and location must be notified to every affected country. [Israel began the blockade on 03/01/09]						
	country: [13.407 Degan the blockade on varonor]	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	3			
Effectiveness	A State that declares a naval blockade must enforce it in practice	, , ,	7.				
Impartiality	Blockades must be applied impartially to vessels of all States			· ·	:		
Purpose	The goal of the blockade must not be to punish the population o its survival.	r refuse :	supplies	vital	for	-	

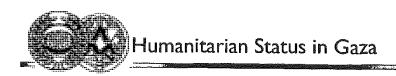
Proportionality

The damage to the population must not exceed the military advantage.

Neutral Access

A naval blockade must not bar access to the ports and coasts of neutral States

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Military-Strategic Information Section

Strategic Division // Israel Defense Forces

In coordination with the PA and NGOs, supplies and goods are transferred on a daily basis to the Gaza Strip, extending beyond the requirements of international law. Israel continues to assist in ensuring that basic water and infrastructure requirements in Gaza exist, allowing equipment transfers when necessary.

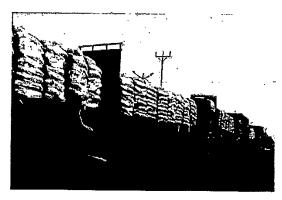
# Weekly Transfers (30/5-5/6)

Trucks: 484

Tons: 12,413

Medical Evacs: 373.

Fuel: 1.08 million liters







Transfers in 2009

Trucks: 30,920

Tons: 738,576

Medical Evacs: 10,544

NGO Personnel: 21,200

Pictures of a Gaza Market (2009)

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# Hamas and Humanitarian Aid

Military-Strategic Information Section

Strategic Division // Israel Defense Forces

Hamas seeks to create an illusion of a humanitarian crisis within the Gaza Strip. This relies largely on preventing the entry or distribution of aid and exploitation of the aid for its own purposes, achieving political and military gains at the expense of Gaza residents.

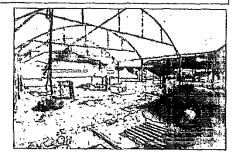
# Recent Examples

While the Hamas charges Gaza residents for electricity, it has refused to transfer the money to the PA for fuel, leading to a **Hamas instigated reduction in transfer**.

Using Molotov cocktails, radical elements in Gaza set fire to a UNRWA camp (23/5,10), apparently due to the non-religious agenda of the camp.

In mid-May 2010, the Hamas razed dozens of homes within the Gaza Strip, beating civilians who refused to leave them.

In early June 2010, Hamas forces raided and shut down numerous NGO charities in the Gaza Strip. UN officials expressed concern.



Pictures of the Burnt UNRWA Children's Camp

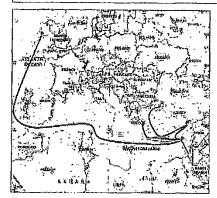


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Military-Strategic Information Section
Strategic Division // Israel Defense Forces

On April 28th, a number of organizations, led by the Turkish-based IHH, announced that they intended to sail a flotilla to the Gaza Strip coast to breach the naval blockade imposed in January, 2009.



The flotilla aimed to reach Gaza with approximately 10 ships, departing from south of Cyprus on May 24<sup>th</sup>.

This was the 3<sup>rd</sup> flotilla since the blockade was imposed. Two flotillas attempting to breach the blockade since have been stopped. Humanitarian supplies aboard transferred to Gaza by the land crossings.

The option of transferring supplies via the land crossings was conveyed, even suggesting that the organizers oversee the transfer. This was declined by the organizers, who declared that the purpose of the flotilla was to breach the blockade. Israel unequivocally conveyed that ships would not be permitted to breach the blockade.

Unclassified | Slide 7



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# Attempted Breaching of the Blockade

The entry of a vessel into a blockaded area without permission constitutes a breach of a naval blockade. According to International Law, if there are reasonable grounds to believe that a vessel has breached the blockade, it may be captured. If the vessel refuses to stop, use of force is permissible.

Moreover, a vessel may be captured when attempting to breach a naval blockade if there are reasonable grounds to believe that the vessel intends to breach it, even before the vessel reaches the blockaded area. In such a case, the capture must take place outside of territorial waters of neutral states.

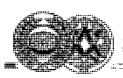
Attempted breach of blockade occurs from the time a vessel or aircraft leaves a port or airfield with the intention

"

t leaves a port or airfield with the intention of evading the blockade...

The Commander's Handbook on the Law of Naval Operations, US Navy

Unclassified || Slide 8



# Diplomatic Efforts to Avoid the Use of Force

Military-Strategic Information Section

Strategic Division // Israel Defense Forces

Prior to the operation, a multi-pronged diplomatic effort was made in to prevent the flotilla from attempting to breach the naval blockade:

# MFA and Others

Messages conveyed to relevant countries.

Meetings on working levels and higher in relevant countries

Message conveyed to flotilla organizers

Written messages conveyed to all foreign delegates in Israel

# Israeli Defense Forces

Meeting between Navy Planning and Organization Department and relevant foreign attachés

Personal meeting between Navy Commander in Chief and relevant attachés

Letter from Navy CoC sent to relevant naval CoCs.

Messages prior to interception and boarding

Reiteration of blockade

Offer to transfer humanitarian supplies through Ashdod

Warning that necessary measures would be taken if course unchanged

Warning that ship would be boarded barring change

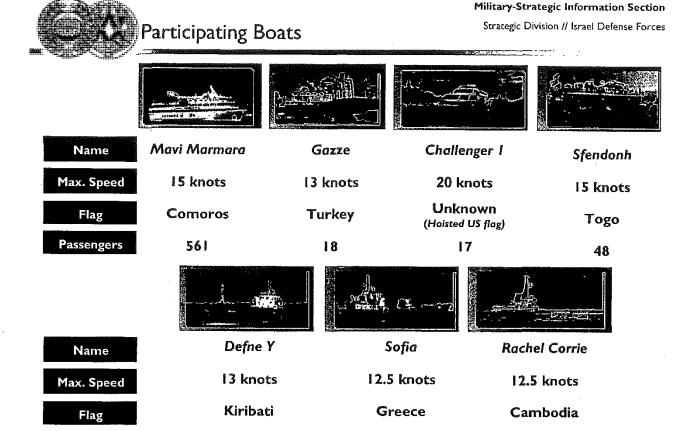
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Strategic Division // Israel Defense Forces

# **Insert Video**

Naval Warnings Prior to Interception



30

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19

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751298 Date: 06/27/2012

21

**Passengers** 



# Military-Strategic Information Section

Strategic Division // Israel Defense Forces

The IHH (Insani Yardim Vakfi) is a radical Islamic organization established in 1992, formally registered in Istanbul (1995) and led by **Bulent Yildrim**. While its activities include legitimate humanitarian activity, it also includes the **support of radical Islamic terrorist organizations**:



### Hamas

The IHH openly supports the Hamas, as a member of the Union of Good (UoG), which supports Hamas institutes in the PA. UoG was defined a terrorist entity by the US government in 2008.

# Global Jihad

IHH has links with the GJ in the Middle East, as well as Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan and Chechnya. A CIA report (1996) exposed the IHH's connection with extremist groups. It also provided aid to a terrorist planning an attack in the US (2000)

# al-Qaeda

In 2006, a Danish research group showed IHH involvement in recruitment, the purchase of weapons and the planning of attacks for al-Qaeda.

IHH provided 40 core activists, three boats, including the Mavi Marmara, as well as aid to the Hamas regime in preparing to receive the flotilla. Bulent Yildrim also admitted to having children and elderly on board as a deliberate human shields (30 May)

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Military-Strategic Information Section

Strategic Division // Israel Defense Forces

# Core group of 40 IHH activists on Mavi Marmara

Boarded without security inspection in Istanbul

Hierarchy based on regional coordinators. Wore security badges during journey and carried radio communication devices

Top deck restricted to IHH access alone

Conducted instructional briefing regarding resistance during the boarding process.

The Mavi Marmara contained passengers alone, no humanitarian aid.





Gas masks and Turkish military vests used by IHH activists

# Turkey and the IHH

Elements in the Turkish government continue to defend and praise the IHH, despite the organization's terrorist affiliations and the blatant, organized attack on Israeli soldiers.

Turkey refused to nine separate Israeli requests to provide security oversight over the ships' loading, unlike other countries which provided oversight.

The Mavi Marmara was acquired from a Turkish company (IDO), created in 1987 by the Istanbul municipality.

Interviews with passengers aboard reveal that the Turkish government aided the flotilla prior to its departure.

Unclassified | Slide 13



# Other Terrorist Links

Military-Strategic Information Section
Strategic Division // Israel Defense Forces

While internal investigations continue, it is becoming more and more evident that individuals affiliated with terrorist groups were aboard the boat:

# Armed Groups

A large number of passengers involved in the extreme violence were found without any identification papers and with large thousands of Euros in envelopes, indicating that they may be mercenaries, or people wanted for unlawful activity, therefore hiding their identity.

# **Passengers**

Specific passengers with known terror involvement:

- \*Fatimah Mahdami Iranian-born US resident caught smuggling into the Gaza Strip and an active member of Viva Palestine
- ■Ken O'Keefe —British citizen; operative in the Hamas organization; has attempted to enter Gaza to form a commando unit
- "Hassan lynasi Turkish citizen; supported the Islamic Jihad financially
- ■Hussein Urosh Turkish citizen who sought to smuggle Al-Qaeda operatives into the Gaza Strip
- Ahmed Umimon French citizen of Moroccan origin; Hamas operative

Unclassified | Slide 14



# Interception of the Ships

Military-Strategic Information Section

Strategic Division // Israel Defense Forces

On 31 May, at 0428, after numerous warnings were given to ships approaching the Gaza Strip, clarifying that entrance to the blockaded area would not be allowed, the six ships were boarded.

	Mavi Marmara	561
4	Challenger	17
nger	SFENDONH	48
asse	Gazze	18
	Sofia	-30
	Defne Y	21

# **Boarding Preparation**

Soldiers boarding the boats were instructed personally by the Chief of the Navy to use the minimal amount of force necessary, as befits operations involving civilians. They were equipped with paintball guns, beanbag ammunition, tasers and stun grenades, as well as pistols to be used when facing a clear and immediate threat to life.

Despite **some resistance** from passengers on five boats (excluding the *Mavi Marmara*), no injuries or casualties were sustained. The boats were brought to Ashdod port without extraordinary incidents.

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Military-Strategic Information Section
Strategic Division // Israel Defense Forces

# Insert Video

Violence Before Boarding



## Violence on the 'Mavi Marmara'

Military-Strategic Information Section
Strategic Division // Israel Defense Forces

Soldiers upon the Mavi Marmara encountered organized, life-threatening violence. Troops limited fire to aggressors alone, after non-lethal force failed to prove effective. All casualties resulted from attacks immediately threatening the life of Israeli soldiers.

Calls on the boat directed non-IHH members (including 16 parliament members & 34 journalists) below deck prior to the IDF boarding. Weapons were prepared and IHH members split into squads for the violent confrontation.



## **IHH Violence Upon Boarding**

Soldiers were fired upon, thrown off the top deck, abducted, stabbed and attacked with metal rods, slingshots, and other weapons. Soldiers were forced to respond with force in self-defense.

7 IDF Wounded (2 critical)

9 IHH casualties 34 wounded



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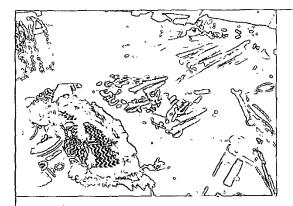
Military-Strategic Information Section
Strategic Division // Israel Defense Forces

## Insert Video

Violence Against Soldiers - Overhead

## Insert Video

Violence Against Soldiers - Side View



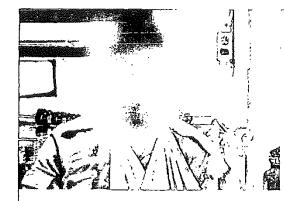
CC

and we will not allow the Israelis to enter here... if Israel wants to board the ship, it will meet strong resistance.

We will definitely resist

Bulent Yildrim, Head of the IHH  $May~30^{th}, 2010$ 

D D





There were guys who they threw off the top deck, and who were stripped of their gear. They jumped into the sea as a last resort ...

Testimony of one of the Navy commandos on the 'Mavi Marmara'





# IHH Preparation for Boarding

## Military-Strategic Information Section

Strategic Division // Israel Defense Forces

Metal rods 100 Knives 200	
Kevlar boards	
Military vests 150	
Electric saws 7	
Large tools 100	
Gas Masks 200	
Axes 20	
As.	

Unclassified | Slide 21

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751298 Date: 06/27/2012



Testimony of one of the Navy commandos on the Wavi Marmara'

GG

Every person who came down the ropes, was grabbed by three or four people and violently assaulted. We were lynched. They had metal rods, knives, slingshots, and glass bottles. At some point, live fire was shot at two of our soldiers.

DD



Military-Strategic Information Section
Strategic Division // Israel Defense Forces

## Insert Video

Soldier Describes Violence



# Interception until Repatriation

Military-Strategic Information Section

Strategic Division // Israel Defense Forces

Injured passengers were evacuated by helicopter to five hospitals in Israel

Belinson

Hadassah Ein Karem

Tel Hashomer

Rambam

Barzilay



## June Ist

Two Egyptians returned to Egypt

Approximately 120 transferred to Jordan as final destination and as transfer point

## June 2nd

Four Lebanese residents returned via Rosh HaNikra crossing

## **Procedure Once in Port**

In Ashdod Port, passengers were given medical examinations and screened for security purposes. Passengers who agreed to sign deportation notices were brought to Ben Gurion Airport for immediate repatriation. Those who refused were detained until deportation procedures were completed.

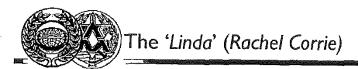
## June 3rd

With the exception of 7 injured passengers and 3 others, all passengers returned to Turkey via 3 airplanes and 3 ambulance airplanes

## June 6th

One returned on flight to Turkey

Unclassified | Slide 24

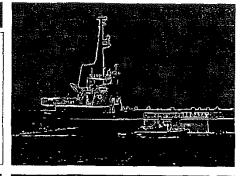


Military-Strategic Information Section

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## Interception || July 5th

The Rachel Corrie arrived in the region on July 5<sup>th</sup> and, after ignoring calls to avert its course, was boarded by IDF forces. The boarding was done calmly and peacefully. All 19 passengers were brought to Ashdod port, where they underwent medical examinations and security screening.



## Repatriation || July 6th

On July 6<sup>th</sup>, 8 of the passengers were transferred to Jordan via *Allenby* crossing. The remaining passengers were transferred to Turkey by airplane.



The perceptible difference between the behavior of the activists upon the 'Linda', as well as the other five ships, when compared to the **hostile aggression from** the passengers of the Mavi Marmara, reflect upon the nature of the "peace activists" aboard each of the ships.

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# Materials Aboard the Ships

Military-Strategic Information Section

Strategic Division // Israel Defense Forces

## Materials Aboard the Ships

After passengers disembarked, the supplies were unloaded and transferred to some 80 trucks, sent to pass through the land crossings at Kerem Shalom. The supplies included medical equipment (including expired medicine), clothing and children's toys. Material requiring refrigeration are in IDF storage units.



However, large portions of the aid were rendered useless by poor packaging upon the boat. In addition, much of the materials did not match the standard definition of humanitarian aid. Camouflage fabric intended to be transferred was found on board. Much of the clothing is old and not wearable and medical equipment was not transferred in a sterile manner.



## Transferring the Materials

Hamas has refused to accept the materials, threatening those who do try to transfer them. The materials remain at *Kerem Shalom* crossing.

The routine, daily shipments of supplies continue – in the past week, 484 trucks (including two with concrete) were transferred.

Unclassified || Slide 26

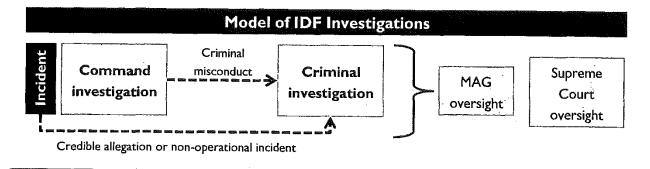


Military-Strategic Information Section

Strategic Division // Israel Defense Forces

Field investigations within the navy are currently taking place.

In addition, the Chief of the General Staff has appointed a professional inquiry team, led by Maj. Gen. (res.) Giora Eiland to examine the flotilla operation and establish lessons. The team is to present the findings no later than July 4th. Consisting of professionals who are experts in the field, the investigative team was not part of the chain of command, allowing impartial investigation.



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R76

From:

Silliman, Douglas A

Sent:

Monday, June 07, 2010 8:46 AM

To:

Jeffrey, James F; O'Grady, Daniel J; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; de

Otalvaro, Laura H; Godfrey, Anthony F; Witmer, Kami A; Leary, Thomas

M; Guido, Deborah L

Subject:

FW: Eyewitness Reports about the Flotilla Clash

Israeli analysis of the Arab media on the Gaza flotilla incident.

Douglas A. Silliman Deputy Chief of Mission U.S. Embassy Ankara, Turkey 90-312-455-5555 x7190

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: The Middle East Media Research Institute [mailto:memri@memri.org]

Sent: Monday, June 07, 2010 12:08 AM

To: Silliman, Douglas A

Subject: Eyewitness Reports about the Flotilla Clash

If you are having trouble viewing this email click here.

Special Dispatch | 3002 | June 6, 2010

**Palestinians** 

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Eyewitness Reports about the Flotilla Clash: There Was Resistance and Israeli Soldiers Were Captured; IHH

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Printed By: Witmer, Kami A

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# Official: Our Goal Was to Reach Gaza or Die Trying

MEMRI | MEMRI TV | THE MEMRI BLOG | MEMRI ECONOMIC BLOG | JIHAD AND TERRORISM THREAT MONITOR

TURKISH MEDIA PROJECT | IRAN BLOG | THE MIDDLE EAST CULTURE BLOG | THE URDU-PASHTU MEDIA BLOG

Following the flotilla clash, many eyewitness reports about what happened on board the Mavi Marmara ship were broadcast on Arab and Iranian TV channels.

According to some of the reports, several IDF soldiers were taken captive by the passengers. Journalist Saleh Al-Azraq, talking to the U.K.-based Al-Hiwar TV, said: "After the second landing attempt, Israel realized that some of its soldiers had been taken captive. That's when the heavy fire began." A Lebanese activist, interviewed by the Iranian English-language Press TV, said that when the soldiers first rappelled from their helicopter to the ship, "the Turkish resistance... grabbed four Israeli army [soldiers], and took them down."

IHH official Hussein Orush talked to the Qatari-based Al-Jazeera TV about the desire for martyrdom among the Turkish activists who were killed aboard the Mavi Marmara. "They all died smiling. Their fingers were pointing to martyrdom," he said. "Everybody wanted and was ready to become a martyr... Our goal was to reach Gaza or to die trying," he said.

Al-Azraq talked about the religious fervor among the passengers of the Mavi Marmara prior to its setting sail. "It made you feel like you were going on an Islamic conquest or raid," he said.

MEMRI TV has compiled various statements made by eyewitnesses to the clash. To view this clip on MEMRI TV, visit <a href="http://www.memritv.org/clip/en/0/0/0/0/0/0/2496.htm">http://www.memritv.org/clip/en/0/0/0/0/0/0/0/2496.htm</a>.

Journalist Saleh Al-Azraq: We Felt Like We Were Going on an Islamic Conquest or Raid

Ai-Hiwar TV, June 4, 2010:

Journalist Saleh Al-Azraq: "Religious fervor was very much present throughout the voyage. Maybe this is what led many to clash with the occupation soldiers later on. Some people ask how come not everybody was passive. They wanted to use everything they had to defend the ship, which they carried in their hearts to Gaza."

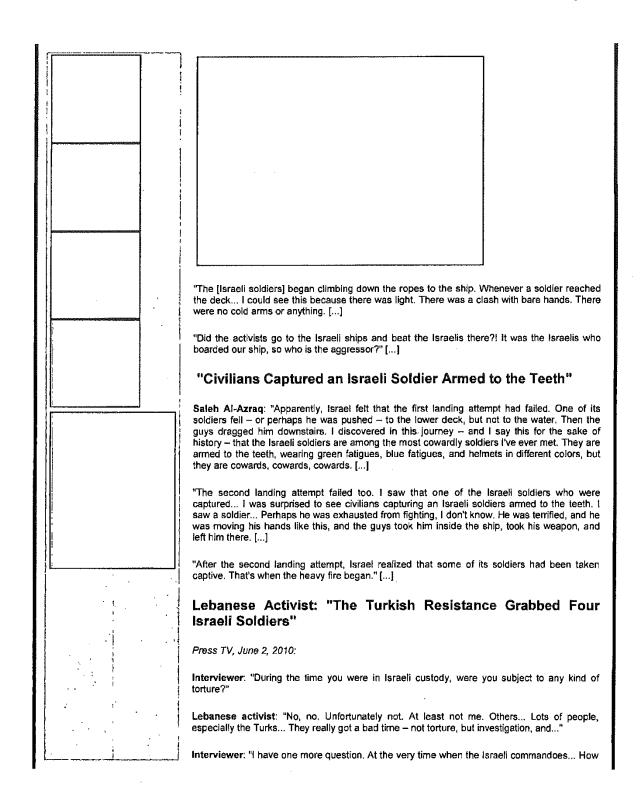
Interviewer: "We will get to that later."

Saleh Al-Azraq: "The moment the ship set sail, the cries of 'Allah Akbar' began. It was half past midnight on Friday. There were cries of 'Allah Akbar' and people reciting the Koran. It made you feel as if you were going on an Islamic conquest or raid. [...]

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did they board the ship? What was the way in which they boarded the ship?"
Lebanese activist: "The main boarding of the ship was by the helicopters and by sea, but the first attempt of the helicopter attack, or descent – the Turkish resistance, I can say, grabbed four Israeli army [soldiers], and took them down." []
IHH Official: "Our Goal Was to Reach Gaza or to Die Trying"
Al-Jazeera TV, June 5, 2010:
IHH Official Hussein Orush: "One of the martyrs was 19 years old. We've just found his last diary in his suitcase. The last lines he wrote before the attack were: 'Only a short time left before martyrdom. This is the most important stage of my life. Nothing is more beautiful than martyrdom, except for one's love for one's mother. But 1 don't know what is sweeter — my mother or martyrdom.' This was the last thing that the martyr Furkan wrote, and the last thing said by our brothers.
"They all died smiling. Their fingers were pointing to martyrdom. Their hands were pointing upward, and their faces were smiling. The smiles on some of their faces were very close to laughter. None of them died in a bad state. []

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CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED Page 5 of 7 "All the passengers on board the ship were ready for this outcome. Everybody wanted and was ready to become a martyr. [...] "Our goal was to reach Gaza or to die trying. All the ship's passengers were ready for this. IHH was ready for this too."

> Mauritanian Activist: "They Brought Airplanes and Opened Fire at the People"

Al-Jazeera TV, June 2, 2010:

Muhammad Ghulam from Mauritania: "They brought airplanes and opened fire at the people. Then we saw them rip out all the metal rods from all over the ship, and they put them at the bow of the ship, before we arrived at the Hebrew port. Then they brought all the Zionist journalists, who - instead of showing how we were not allowed to go to the restroom, how we were denied food and water and not allowed to pray for 24 hours - they started filming those metal rods, which they themselves had ripped off the ship."

Sheik Raed Sallah: When We Heard There Were Martyrs, a

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	Turkish Brother Said Congratulations
	Al-Jazeera TV, June 5, 2010:
	Shelk Raed Sallah, Head of the Islamic Movement in Israel: "When the events on board the Freedom Flotilla took place, and we all heard that there were martyrs and dozens of wounded, a Turkish brother came to me, shook my hand, and said to me: 'Congratulations, shelk. Blessings to all the martyrs.' What this means is that the power of truth that lies within us — within our minds, our hearts, and our conscience — is stronger than all of Israel's aggressive and barbaric means put together."
	Journalist Othman Al-Bteiri Describes the Fighting
	Al-Jazeera, June 2, 2010:
	Interviewer: "Tell us what happened."
	Journalist Othman Al-Btelri: "Yasser, we were witnesses to a massacre in international waters. At approximately 4:15 AM, dozens of dinghies, carrying dozens of Israeli commandos, tried to board the ship. There was resistance. As we've said, there was peaceful resistance from the start. Everybody on the ship – the participants and the supporters – tried to prevent the Israeli soldiers from boarding the ship. When they failed to board the ship, along came helicopters and landed soldiers from above onto the deck.
	"There was resistance there too, and they did not manage to take control of the ship. That's when the shooting with live ammunition began. At first, they used stun grenades, tear-gas grenades, and rubber bullets, and some people were hit by the rubber bullets. But then live ammunition was used. []
	"Four Turks [were killed]. People said there were more above, but I only saw four. The real battle The real massacre took place around the bridge. People tried to prevent the Israeli soldiers from taking over the captain's cabin. That was why live ammunition was used around the bridge. Live ammunition was also used in other parts of the ship, especially on the port side, where most of the martyrs and wounded were hit. Some 35-40 people of various nationalities were wounded."
	Interviewer: "How long did the battle last?"
	Othman Al-Bteiri: "The battle started at about 4:15. People were praying their dawn prayers, when there were cries of 'Allah Akbar,' and we knew that we were under attack. The attack lasted until 5:15 or 5:30. Then the Turks said that the Israelis had taken over the ship, and that everybody should sit down. Even so, we kept hearing gunfire."
\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.\.	Please remember the environment before printing.

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For assistance, please contact MEMRI at memri@memri.org.

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#### RELEASED IN FULL

From: Parker, Andrew C To: Sievers, Marc J

Sent: Fri Jun 04 07:03:47 2010

Subject: Re: need info on pre-incident communications

After receiving an email from CA/OCS asking that we convey our concern for the safety of participants and urge that the Israelis use restraint, I made these points by telephone to MFA consular liaison office Rachel Shani. (I will need to look at my emails to figure dates.) On a following phone conversation she told me the points were conveyed to the office of the DG. Subsequently, the Ambassador said in a Mon or Thurs mtg that he had conveyed similar points to NSA Arad. We passed that point to CA as well. (Again, I need to review my notes to refresh my memory whether Elisa or I passed that point back to CA or to Wes in IPA.)

From: Sievers, Marc J To: Parker, Andrew C

Sent: Fri Jun 04 06:23:46 2010

Subject: Fw: need info on pre-incident communications

Andy, I'm in touch with Ambassador and DAO on this. I believe you also conveyed concern for safety of Amcits to MFA in advance of May 31, right? Please send me a short summary of your contacts on this, just a few lines will do.

From: Goldberger, Thomas H

To: Sievers, Marc J; Cunningham, James B

Cc: Connelly, Maura; Reisser, Wesley J; Holmstrom, Todd C; Schlicher, Ronald L

Sent: Fri Jun 04 02:35:50 2010

Subject: need info on pre-incident communications

Michael Oren has called several people in the Department to assert that Israel has no record of the approaches described at the beginning of the below article and that he intends to issue a denial. As a consequence, S asked that NEA and EUR prepare a memo to her describing the conversations with the Israelis and the Turks in the run-up to Monday's raid.

We are aware of approaches to the GOI urging caution and expressing concern for safety of individuals, including Amcits, as described in the article. These took place in Washington as well as in Tel Aviv.

In addition, there were conversations of which we have only partial email records and less clarity about diverting the convoy and what it would take to do so. These took place between and among us, the Turks, and the Israelis.

We would appreciate it if you could reconstitute and summarize what you are aware of in 2-3 paragraphs that we could get by early morning our time. EUR is asking Embassy Ankara to assemble its recounting of discussions that took place in Ankara. We will work to mesh your and Ankara's understandings and assemble a finished product.

Thanks for your help.

Tam

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

#### RELEASED IN FULL

FYL

From: interpol israel [mailto:interpol@police.gov.il] Sent: Wednesday, June 16, 2010 12:56 PM

To: Zuckerman, Eve

Subject: RE: Request for info regarding Furkhan Dogan

Shalom Eve,

I have inquired as to the possibility of answering your request.

I have been told that all material from the flotilla – also that regarding deceased persons – is considered <u>Investigative Material</u> – and none of it can at this time be relayed to anyone outside of the Israel Police at this time.

We are not sure when this policy will change – the matter is being handled directly by the Head of the Investigations and Intelligence Dept. and the State's Attorney (MOJ). As you are aware, there will be an international investigation into this matter and it may be that we will not be allowed to pass on any information until after that investigation has been completed.

We will inform you when permission is given to pass on information to foreign bodies.

Regards, Carol

From: Zuckerman, Eve [mailto:ZuckermanEX@state.gov]

Sent: Monday, June 14, 2010 9:34 AM

To: interpol israel

Subject: Request for info regarding Furkhan Dogan

Carol,

I have been requested by the Consul General, Andrew Parker, to contact you regarding the death of Furkhan Dogan; American citizen killed on the flotilla. We are interested in receiving photographs, reports, or documentation, from Abu Kabir pertaining to Furkhan Dogan. Please note that Mr. Dogan was an American citizen only.

We have been in contact with the Abu Kabir Institute for Forensic Pathology, and we understand from them that they are sending (or have already sent) the above items to Ms. Varda Shacham, Deputy Head of Investigations. Would it be possible for us to receive copies?

I will call you soon to discuss.

Thanks. Eve REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Eve Zuckerman

Consular Assistant

US Embassy, Tel Aviv

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R80

В6

Subject:	RE:	camera
-		caniera sing personal items from the flotilla [RE remaining missing
Attacnments	personal items from	
Dear ACS Tea	m,	
	the attached email. a may have been ser	It appears that personal items for some of the Amcits on the nt to the MFA.
Tomorrow (Wednesday), please check with the MFA to see if they have received or continue to have any cameras or photographic equipment for Amcits,		
	ave it, please contac ra/equipment so tha	ct to obtain specific information about the at we can pass it along.
hank you ve	ry much.	
Best regards,		
aniel		
Daniel Keen		
	Consular Section Chief	·
	Ankara, Turkey	
-90-312-455-5.		
Privacy/PII		
	NCLASSIFIED.	
- -rom: Mendel,	Torona C	
	March 01, 2011 4:24	PM
o: Keen, Dani	el G	
c: Sisli, Fatih; iubject: RE:	Karadag, Isil; Tiglioglu camera	u, Aylin; Appleton, Richard H; Richter, Kim B
Daniel,		
hank you fo nformation.	following up on th	nis, please copy Kim Richter on your response with the
eresa		•
CICSG		

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751303 Date: 07/10/2012

Page 1 of 3

B6

From: Keen, Daniel	
<b>Sent:</b> Tuesday, Marc <b>To:</b> Mendel, Teresa S	
Cc: Sisli, Fatih; Karad Subject: RE:	dag, Isil; Tiglioglu, Aylin; Appleton, Richard H camera
Hi Teresa,	
	m. We may even have this information in our records somewhere as I recall sabout cameras/electronics previously.
	e this information. If we don't, we'll reach out tofor the back to you. Do you know if he has returned to Turkey from his U.S. trip?
Best regards,	
Daniel	
Danieł Keen Acting Deputy Consu U.S. Embassy, Ankara +90-312-455-5555	
Privacy/PII This email is UNCLA	SSIFIED
THIS SHALL IS SIVELY	
From: Mendel, Teres Sent: Monday, Febru To: Keen, Daniel G Subject: FW:	sa S uary 28, 2011 9:19 PM camera
Daniel,	
During so put La	meeting with OCS DAS the issue of his son's camera came up. Kim a request to the GOI but need the specifics on the camera to ask u reach out to and get this information?

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751303 Date: 07/10/2012

Page 2 of 3

UNICEASSITED U.S. Department of State Case NO: F-2010-04103 DOC NO. CT0/01000 Date. 0//10/2012

Page 3 of 3 CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED Privacy/PII This email is UNCLASSIFIED. From: Richter, Kim B Sent: Monday, February 28, 2011 2:06 PM **To:** Mendel, Teresa S tamera Subject: В6 Can you ask Ankara to get the specifics on the camera so that Tel Aviv can ask the GOI about it? Thanks. Rosemary Law Program Analyst A/GIS/IPS/PP/LA lawrc@state.gov 202-663-3906

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Printed By: Law, Rosemary C Page 3 of 3

# **COVER PAGE**

**USER ID: GOUSHESA** 

DATE : 07-11-2012

CADRE Reference ID: C18751305

R81 B6

RELEASED IN PART

B6

Law, Rosemary C

From:

Keen, Daniel G

Sent: To: Thursday, December 09, 2010 10:01 AM

Mendel, Teresa S; Ogle, Karen L

Cc:

Appleton, Richard H; Sisli, Fatih

Subject:

RE: remaining missing personal items from the flotilla

Categories:

Working

Thank you. I believe that Rich and Fatih have already got the ball rolling on this.

Daniel

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Mendel, Teresa S

Sent: Thursday, December 09, 2010 2:42 PM

To: Ogle, Karen L; Keen, Daniel G

Cc: Appleton, Richard H

Subject: FW: remaining missing personal items from the flotilla

I don't know what Post's holiday leave situation is, so I am forwarding to everyone. Please keep me updated on when you receive the items.

Teresa

From: Richter, Kim B

Sent: Thursday, December 09, 2010 7:39 AM

To: Mendel, Teresa S

Subject: FW: remaining missing personal items from the flotilla

From: Brosius, Theodore A

Sent: Wednesday, December 08, 2010 3:12 AM

To: Appleton, Richard H

Cc: Zuckerman, Eve; Richter, Kim B; Green, Jason H; Greene, Elisa; Parker, Andrew C

Subject: remaining missing personal items from the flotilla

Hi Richard,

I'm writing from Embassy Tel Aviv regarding the remaining missing personal items from the flotilla .

The items listed below were originally sent to the Turkish Embassy here in Tel Aviv. I called them yesterday, and they said they had forwarded the items to the Foreign Ministry in Ankara. I would appreciate if you would contact them to help us locate these last items so that we can return them to their rightful owners.

1

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

The following Ameits are claiming items from the list of unclaimed camera equipment provided by the Press Organization.

Y	Item #101: Sony camera.	В6
2	tem # 37: Sony camcorder, listed as a hdv 1080, is a Z5U.	
3)	ltem #101 - A DSC N1 SONY (SN 578260).	
4 <u>.</u>	Item #47 Nikon Camera & Lens (SN 3413395) and #52 Nikon Lens (SN 1812902). They were both in a Lowe Pro "SlingShot" camera bag, along with three 8GB SD cards.	
I appr	reciate your help.	
Teddy	y Brosius	

UNICLAGOIFIED U.G. Department of State ICase No. F\*2010\*04103 DOCINO, CITO/DIGO Date, O//10/2012 Page 1 of 4 CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED RELEASED IN PART B6 To: **B6** RE: Email Received from Prof. with Regard to Mr Subject: Possessions Attachments: Second Gaza flotilla - May 31 [Second Gaza flotilla - May 31.msg], Second Gaza flotilla - IHH web page [Second Gaza flotilla - IHH web page.msg] Hi Kim. Thanks for taking care of this. Yes, we'll be sure to keep you informed if we hear more about another flotilla. Current press statements have it between 10-15 boats. I've attached the two emails that Fatih Bey located today on the subject. Best regards, Daniel Daniel Keen Acting Deputy Consular Section Chief U.S. Embassy, Ankara, Turkey +90-312-455-5555 This email is UNCLASSIFIED. From: Richter, Kim B Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 5:02 PM To: Keen, Daniel G; Mendel, Teresa S Cc: Appleton, Richard H; Sisli, Fatih; Karadag, Isil; Tiglioglu, Aylin; Lally, Lilia V B6 Possessions Subject: RE: Email Received from with Regard to Thanks Daniel. I will pass this along to Tel Aviv. I'm not all that confident that we'll find anything but we will try. Yes, unfortunately we've already heard the rumblings of another Free Gaza Flotilla. If you get additional information please keep me in the loop and I will do the same. Regards, REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer Kim

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

Printed By: Law, Rosemary C
Page 1 of 4

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

Privacy/Pil This email is UNCLASSIFIED.	
From: Keen, Daniel G Sent: Tuesday, April 05, 2011 9:52 AM To: Richter, Kim B; Mendel, Teresa S Cc: Appleton, Richard H; Sisli, Fatih: Karadaq, Isil: Tiglioglu, Aylin; Lally, Lilia V Subject: Email Received from vith Regard to Mr.  Possessions	В6
Dear Kim and Teresa,	
We received a response from about Mr. belongings. The translated version is first with the originar rurkish letter at the bottom of this email. A photo of Mr ring is attached.	В6
I know that DAS Pettit was enquiring about this case and regret that it took so long to receive a response to our enquiries. It is my understanding that you will follow up with the GOI with regard to these items. If we may be of further assistance or if you have any additional information that we may pass along to please let us know.	В6
Best regards,	
Daniel	
PS Please note that the one year anniversary of death will be May 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2011. There are already reports of a second Gaza Flotilla in the local press. They are planning to sail on the same day.	B6
Begin translated message:	
"Dear Mr. Appleton,	
I am forwarding you the list of my son belongings including his camera and other belongings per your written request dated March 3, 2011.	B6
<ol> <li>SONY SX34E Camera (together with its external memory card)</li> <li>NOKIA 5800 Xpress Music Cellular Phone IMEI: 351531040269911 (photo attached)</li> <li>Silver Ring (photo attached)</li> <li>Adidas Sports Shoes (Dark Brown with hidden shoelaces)</li> <li>White raincoat with hood</li> <li>Adidas Black Tracksuit bottom</li> <li>Black V-neck t-shirt</li> </ol>	

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C18751305 Date: 07/10/2012

Printed By: Law, Rosemary C Page 2 of 4

l would be pleased if you could keep me inf	ormed on this issue.
Sincerely,	
	В
Privacy/PII This email is UNCLASSIFIED.	
This entails onceason leb.	
	(
From:	
Sent: Monday, April 04, 2011 11:35 AM To: Ankara-Consular-Public-MB	
Subject: Re: acsOther Müsteşar Yardımcısı	Jim Pettit ile yapmış olduğunuz görüşme
Sayın Richard Appleton,	
3 Mart 2011 tarihli yazınızla tarafımdan iste	diğiniz oğlum fotoğraf makinası ve
diğer eşyaları ile ilgili listeyi aşağıda sunuyo	rum:
1) SONY SX34E Kamera (Harici Hafiza Ka	rtı ile birlikte)
2) NOKIA 5800 XpressMusic Cep Telefonu	IMEI: 351531040269911 (Fotografi Ekte)
<ul><li>3) Gümüş Yüzük (Fotoğrafı Ekte)</li><li>4) Adidas Spor Ayakkabı (Gizli Bağcıklı Ko</li></ul>	Vahvarangi)
<ol> <li>Adıdas Spor Ayakkadı (Gizü Bağcıklı Ke</li> <li>Kapşonlu Beyaz Yağmurluk</li> </ol>	yu Kanverengi)
6) Adidas Siyah Eşofman Altı	
7) V yaka siyah tişört	
Sayın Jim Pettit'e de ifade ettiğimiz gibi, bu	esvalar tarafimiza jade edilmemistir.
vurulduğu anda kamera çekimi yapmakta old	duğundan özellikle Kamerası ve harici hafiza kartı
son derece önemlidir. Konuya gösterdiğiniz	ilgi ve hassasiyet için şimdiden teşekkür ederim.
son derece önemlidir. Konuya gösterdiğiniz Gelişmelerle ilgili bilgilendirirseniz memnu Saygılarımla	
Gelişmelerle ilgili bilgilendirirseniz memnu	

RELEASED IN FULL

R83

### Law, Rosemary C

From:

Sisli, Fatih

Sent:

Tuesday, April 05, 2011 6:12 AM

To:

Appleton, Richard H

Cc:

Keen, Daniel G

Subject:

Second Gaza flotilla - May 31

Categories:

Working

#### http://euobserver.com/24/32124

The new flotilla will carry activists from Algeria, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, the Philippines and Turkey but is to have a more 'Western' composition than in 2010.

Around 15 boats are to set sail from a number of ports in the Mediterranean including Cyprus, Italy, Malta, Turkey and Tunisia.

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REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

RELEASED IN FULL

R84

Law, Rosemary C

From:

Sisli, Fatih

Sent:

Tuesday, April 05, 2011 6:21 AM

To:

Appleton, Richard H

Cc: Subject: Keen, Daniel G Second Gaza flotilla - IHH web page

Categories:

Working

http://www.ihh.org.tr/gazze-yardim-bekliyor/tr

~10 boats from Turkey

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REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

1005128475יובט ט.א. Department of State Case No. ר-צטיזט-ט4יזטא טסכ ואס. כטסיזצאאיז Date: אוינטאובטיזצ

### RELEASED IN FULL

## Law, Rosemary C

From:

Gorove, Katherine M

Sent:

Thursday, July 22, 2010 6:00 PM

To:

Perina, Alexandra H; Banos, Mariano H; Dolan, JoAnn; Pomper, Stephen E; Townley, Stephen G; Cleveland, Sarah H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Jacobson, Linda; Sharon, Chelsea C

Cc:

Johnson, Clifton M

Subject: Attachments: RE: LEGAL-#258297-v1-Flotilla\_Note.docx LEGAL-#258297-v1-Flotilla\_Note, revs. accpeted.docx; LEGAL-#258297-v1-Flotilla\_Note (3)

Jon, Attached is a clean version and a version with tracked changes, for you to review and forward to Harold for his review. A few others may chime in later. Thanks, Kate

> REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

## Law, Rosemary C

RELEASED IN FULL

From:

Goldberger, Thomas H

Sent:

Tuesday, July 27, 2010 10:53 AM

To:

Levin, Jan; Tsou, Leslie M; Jacobson, Linda; 'Kumar, Prem G.' Cunningham, James B; Otto, Jeffrey L; Silverman, Robert J

Cc: Subject:

Eiland Report

Following is an OSC translation of a <u>long interview Giora Eiland gave to Yediot Aharonot</u> last week. With the report remaining classified, this is the most detail we have seen on its contents. Some interesting passages.

## Israeli Paper Interviews Maj Gen (Res) Giyora Eiland on IDF Gaza Flotilla Probe

GMP20100723754004 Tel Aviv Yedi'ot Aharonot (7-Yamim Supplement) in Hebrew 23 Jul 10 pp 24, 25, 26, 28

[Interview with Major General (Res) Giyora Eiland, by Amira Lam; place and date not given: "A Sinking Feeling"]

A week after publishing his report, which investigated the events of the Gaza flotilla, Maj Gen (Res) Giyora Eiland responds to those who accused him of vacillating and of giving too much consideration to military officials.

The report that he wrote, he emphasizes, encompasses 150 pages, with only a small portion published in the media. Eiland feels that the report is piercing and detailed, addresses flaws in the decision-making process among the defense leadership, exposes conflicts between Military Intelligence Branch and the Israel Navy, and does not hesitate to point out weaknesses of additional players as well, such as the IDF General Staff Operations Branch and Flotilla 13 [Shayetet navy commandos].

"A lot of people receive criticism over this operation," Eiland says this week, "including the IDF chief of staff, the navy commander, the head of Military Intelligence Branch, the head of Operations Branch, some rear admirals, as well as the commander of Flotilla 13. Although he and his people fought bravely, he was also a partner to the faulty planning process,"

[Lam] If so, why did you refrain from personal recommendations? Why didn't your report send anyone packing?

[Eiland] At the IDF Officers Training School as well, you can fail in one navigational exercise and still not be disqualified from becoming an officer. You have to look at things in perspective.

[Lam] Give an example.

[Eiland] For example, let's take the navy under the command of Eli'ezer (Cheney) Marom. Over the past four years he improved its operational capabilities in a most impressive manner. This has been expressed in operations, some complex and secret. So, yes, in this specific event they made big mistakes. If this were the only thing that the navy has done in recent years it is possible that I would have reached other conclusions.

[Lam] But your job was to examine their performance in this specific event and to draw conclusions. And that -- it has been argued against you -- you did not do.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

[Eiland] If you dismiss someone, you give the media the pound of flesh that it wants. I thought that after the investigation into the abduction of Gil'ad Shalit as well. Then, too, people said that I was lenient. If, in that case, I had led to the dismissal of people everyone would have said good, the problem has been removed, we learned lessons. The fact that officers were not dismissed then -- some of whom, by the way, were outstanding officers -- enabled Southern Command to focus on fixing the deficiencies and implementing the main lessons. In general, when the mistakes are professional and not normative, and when you're talking about successful officers, it would be a mistake in the future as well to bring about their dismissal. [end Eiland].

Conducting and writing up the investigation, the decisions that he made, as well as the criticism he received, mainly regarding the lack of personal conclusions, have left their mark on Eiland.

[Lam] You look a bit worn out.

[Eiland] It's not been an easy month. The hardest part was the conversations with several people, mainly with the navy commander, the commander of Flotilla 13, and others. At Operations Branch and Military Intelligence Branch the conversations were emotional. At the start of the investigation, they felt they were being targeted, and that they, of all people, who had done so much and invested and put forth such great effort, suddenly a team had been set up that was meant to focus on their mistakes and was supposed to hurt them badly.

[Lam] How did you contend with that?

[Eiland] I faced a difficult challenge to succeed in two things between which there was tension. On the one hand, I had to show people a calming approach. On the other hand, I could not refrain from asking tough questions, arguing with them, nor could be agree with some of their explanations. And then, in the end, I had to write what I thought -- even if that meant looking someone in the eye and telling him: On this subject you made a serious error. By the way, it is important for me to note that I did not work alone, but rather with a team of officers with the rank of lieutenant colonel through brigadier general, who examined and investigated, and the results belong to all of us.

[Lam] With whom in the military was it easiest for you?

[Eiland] Surprisingly, it was actually with the IDF chief of staff. He displayed a very open and less emotional approach. From the first meeting, he said to me: "Write the report the way you think it should be. And if there are things about which I think 'A', and you think 'B', it is your report and you should write 'B.'

And that's what I did. I did not come to placate the chief of staff or the media. The purpose of this report is neither to punish nor to settle accounts. The purpose of the report is to improve a given situation. I know that it would have been very convenient for many people if I had found one guilty person and sent him home. So, it was possible to have said that we are all OK, and just one person ruined everything for us. [end Eiland].

1. The Criticism: "No One Saw the Report"

Several days before he submitted his report, Eiland says, a journalist called and asked him: "Tell me, are there personal conclusions?" Eiland answered: "What are personal conclusions?" He replied: "To dismiss people." Eiland said: "No. No heads are rolling." The journalist responded: "If that's the case, your report is not serious."

In retrospect, Eiland says, that was the earliest indication of what was to come. "The media was disappointed over the fact that I did not recommend dismissing people, and over the fact that I did not say something along the lines of, 'And in light of all this, it is clear that everyone is stupid,' or 'Nothing has been learned since the Second Lebanon War.' I don't agree one bit with those sentences, and I therefore I did not utter them."

[Lam] Ultimately, you were accused of being too forgiving vis-a-vis the military. One commentator wrote, "A general does not expel other generals."

[Eiland] First of all, no one from the media saw the report. Anyone familiar with it knows that it is more biting than the way it was presented in the media. There haven't been many investigations done in the IDF in which mistakes that were made by such senior officers are highlighted. Clearly, not everything was published.

[Lam] Why not?

[Eiland] Partly because of field security, and partly not to go into an overly detailed explanation. In a briefing of half an hour or 40 minutes, you cannot describe a 150-page report. What went out to the media was perhaps five percent.

[Lam] Some commentators wrote that the failure proves that the military did not learn anything from the Second Lebanon War. Is that true?

[Eiland] I don't agree with that assertion. This was an operation that occurred at night, 70 miles off the coast of Israel. It involved taking control of six boats, which were sailing close to each other. Dozens of vessels and aircraft participated in the operation. From a security standpoint alone, leaving aside all the other things for a moment, it was a very complex move. On the five other ships -- which no one talks about -- it went smoothly, precisely and according to schedule. It was a complicated operation that all in all, ran well, but serious mistakes were also made in it so far as the Marmara was concerned.

[Lam] In retrospect, are you sorry that you weren't a bit more forceful?

[Eiland] No. I am 100% content with everything in the report.

[Lam] You weren't hurt even when people wrote that if you had investigated the Second Lebanon War, Halutz would have emerge d clean and remained in the army?

[Eiland] I did not investigate the Second Lebanon War, and therefore I don't want to comment.

[Lam] Could it be that you would have been more judgmental regarding Ashkenazi, had he not been at the end of his term?

[Eiland] There is really no connection.

[Lam] Do you think that Ashkenazi should not have sufficed with the letter that he wrote to the prime minister and to the defense minister, in which he asked the political leadership to do everything possible not to put troops on board the ship?

[Eiland] I disagree with the IDF chief of staff's thinking in everything related to the degree of the military's involvement in political subjects. The chief of staff's standpoint says: I do not want to get the military mixed up in political matters; it's enough for the military to present the significances of a military operation and to leave it to the political leadership to decide about non-military activities.

[Lam] How did you happen to enter this minefield, between Baraq and Ashkenazi?

[Eiland] I admit that it was entirely my fault that it happened. We made a movie in order to save time and to describe the incident's entire chain of events through it. We used it first in presenting the investigation to the General Staff. Later, we reached the conclusion that we should also prepare a "cleaned up" version that could be shown to the media and to the public.

We took the original version and made cuts in it. When the chief of staff saw the film he asked that several things be changed.

One of them was a sentence describing a personal appeal by the chief of staff to the prime minister and to the defense mihister.

He asked me to take out that part. Rightly so, from his perspective. He understood the political commentaries that would be ascribed to it. We took out several other things, and I erred when I did not make sure that that part had also been deleted. When we saw it again at the last moment it was too late, because the discs had already been distributed to journalists.

[Lam] Are you a friend of Ashkenazi's?

[Eiland] I am his friend like I'm Dan Halutz's friend, or Bogie's [Moshe Ya'alon's] friend. I was a major general at the same time with all of them. To the chief of staff's credit, it can be said that in the summary of the discussion about the investigation he began by detailing the mistakes that he himself made. I have not seen many chiefs of staff behave like that.

[Lam] And that is why you were so surprised by the reactions?

[Eiland] I was not surprised by the fact that the media was disappointed with the report, which it believes was not scathing, enough. I read the articles and the opinionated columns that were written. Except for one issue, in which there was a remark about the chief of staff's or the navy commander's location at the time of the incident, there is not a single professional statement in the things that were written that is not based on my analysis and on things that I myself said. I saw no original professional perspective.

[Lam] Except, as was said, the subject of the commanders' location.

[Eiland] Regarding the chief of staff, he is often in the Pit [IDF's underground command center in Tel Aviv]. Especially during operations in which there is a risk of an entanglement that will require hard and complex decisions, he will be there. He spent many nights in the Pit during more complicated operations.

[Lam] This event was not sufficiently complex?

[Eiland] This operation was a lot less complex, if only for one reason -- it took place in an area in which we have complete control. It is very different from an operation that takes place deep inside hostile territory, and regarding which any mistake is liable to lead to a real complication.

[Lam] Do you believe the navy co mmander's location was reasonable?

[Eiland] In operations of this kind, the navy commander can either be at his headquarters, where there are good means of communication and conditions, or at sea, on a command ship, where there is a convenient work environment. He can also choose to be a lot closer to the event, in the Shayetet commander's command boat. And he preferred to be there.

[Lam] And you think that was a mistake?

[Eiland] At first, I thought it was a mistake. I agreed that he did not have to be on shore, but rather to feel the situation at sea. There is no substitute for that. However, I thought that the more proper place for him should have been on the large command ship, not on the little boat. However, after quite a few conversations with him, with the Shayetet commander and others, I was convinced that it was not a total mistake.

There are both pros and cons to this. Ultimately, he saw the event up close. He could speak directly with the Shayetet commander. At least from the moment that the first soldier went down the rope, they made correct decisions. Thus, it is possible to say that there are advantages and disadvantages here.

#### 2. The intelligence: Erroneous Assessments

Eiland, 58, one of the IDF's most valued generals, began his career in the paratroopers. Later, he commanded the Giv'ati Brigade, was chief infantry and paratrooper officer, head of Operations Division, head of Operations Branch, and head of Planning Branch. He belongs to the generation of officers, like Amnon Lipkin-Shahaq, who strode beside politicians at peace talks and proximity talks that they held with various world leaders. As such, he also accompanied Peres, when the latter was foreign minister, at his talks with Arafat, and in Sharon's time he served as head of the National Security Council. That track positioned him as someone who understands not only tactics, but rather strategy as well. The report that he submitted deals with the military, but it contains a lot of criticism about the political echelon as well, and its relationship with the military.

[Lam] What were the main mistakes that you found regarding intelligence?

[Eiland] Intelligence's first mistake was that it did not correctly assess the intensity and the determination, the motivation and the ideology of the IHH [Foundation for Human Rights and Freedoms and Humanitarian Relief] organization. Intelligence's assessments also failed to take into account the deep connection between the organization and the Turkish government. For example, it turns out that the organization's leader and [Turkish Prime Minister] Erdogan were members of the same branch of the Islamic Party in Istanbul back in the 1990s, and that today as well the connection between the ruling party and the organization is strong. That was information that was not difficult to obtain.

There were more concrete indications, which were not given the proper interpretation. For example, this flotilla was escorted by a Turkish warship, which tracked it from not far away. That was a clear sign that Turkey was interested in what was happening.

However, the problem is not just one of information, but rather also one of judgment and of assessment. They didn't draw a connection between this and the deteriorating relations between Israel and Turkey. Therefore, they also did not realize that Israel was not going here to confront an anarchist organization, but rather an ideological organization, one supported by a strong government like Turkey. IDF Military Intelligence Branch did not give sufficient weight to that connection.

A second intelligence mistake is connected with the navy and with the intelligence body known as the Naval Intelligence
Division. The operation's commander was the navy commander, his intelligence officer was the head of naval intelligence. They
were responsible for all of the intelligence collection, which was supposed to provide the concrete or tactical intelligence
pictures. They made more than a few professional mistakes, mainly in defining the important things. Their order of priorities in
the information's importance was incorrect.

[Lam] What do you mean?

[Eiland] Naval intelligence contacted the Mosad and requested several things. The things that it asked for were not necessarily the most important things that would have been right to request. It even directly contacted certain units within Military Intelligence Branch and requested that they do all sorts of things that I do not believe were of high importance.

The navy gave too much weight to things connected with the ships themselves -- their structure, their location and their capabilities. It gave too little weight to questions such as who the people on the ship are, and what their intentions, dapabilities and means are. Who is their leadership, what are their weak points, and what can we expect from them?

They should have requested one of two things with top priority: either an agent who could report, or the existence of another means that would transmit sound or a picture. If that had been defined with high priority, it is possible that they could have known more.

[Lam] You spoke about problems of coordination between the intelligence bodies. Where did that happen, and what damage did it cause?

[Eiland] It happened in the work processes between naval intelligence and Military Intelligence Branch. Naval intelligence assumed too great a responsibility, and did certain things, in an insufficiently good way, among other things because it is not within its area of expertise. It should have contacted Military Intelligence Branch and asked for help. From its standpoint, that was a mistake. The other side of the same mistake was that Military Intelligence Branch should have taken the initiative to create a process of cooperation and said to the navy: I know better than you do, I have more means that you do — let's sit down together and I will help you. It was done, but in a way that was too little, too late. The result was that the State of Israel's capability to bring all of the intelligence was not maximized.

[Lam] How did such a thing happen?

[Eiland] The navy had an erroneous sense that the operation was theirs. They feared, "maybe we are not being understood, maybe we won't get what we need, so let's do it all alone." And from Military Intelligence Branch's perspective -- it did not display

an approach of initiated action that says, this is a big event. It does not belong to the navy, but rather it has bigger implications.

Therefore, it must be a lot more dominant in the collection process. Both sides were lacking. [end Eiland].

#### 3. The Planning: Without Alternatives

According to Eiland, in addition to mistakes stemming from the intelligence collection, several severe errors were also made in planning the operation.

[Eiland] The central problem is that the entire system assumed only one course of action for the enemy. However, when you engage in operational planning you must ask yourself, in addition to the enemy's reasonable course of action, what is the other, more dangerous, path? The only course of action that they assessed said that there would be opposition on the ships in general, and particularly on the Marmara, and that it should be assumed that it would be violent.

However, no one addressed the possibility of weapons being used against our troops -- mainly non-firearm, but effective, weapons, and that this would happen in an effort to kill, and out of a willingness to be killed. That is already a different story. They did not prepare for that.

[Lam] So what, in effect, was the operational plan?

[Eiland] The plan was based on boarding the vessels using two techniques: from rubber boats and by descent from a helicopter. They should have realized that both of those methods contain a weakness. They are good only up to a certain level of opposition. There is a critical path here. Why? Because climbing a ladder is done in single file, and descending from a rope is also done one man at a time. That is a good plan vis-a-vis one course of action by the other side. It is not strong enough, and is unsuitable, for the violence course of action by the people on the ship. In that case, it would have been proper to prepare an alternative plan of action as well, the main aspect of which is employing various means in order to prevent people from being on the deck during the takeover.

[Lam] What means do you mean?

[Eiland] The most banal example is a water cannon, which you can bring to the boat sailing next to the hostile boat and shoots water salvos up to a range of 50 meters. It doesn't kill, but it is hard to resist. If you use this opposite the stern, then when the rubber boats arrive better conditions are created for the troops to board the boat.

[Lam] And was it possible to bring along such water cannons?

[Eiland] Not at the last moment. It is something that requires advance planning. It is also possible to spray water from a helicopter. You arrive with a big helicopter, with a five-ton tank of water, and pour in onto the deck. You don't have to use it immediately. It would have been possible to notify the captain that that was what was going to happen, and to tell him, "Look, there's a danger to anyone who remains on the deck. Please order everyone to get into the ship's hold, because anyone not doing so is taking a risk.

[Lam] And if that hadn't helped?

[Eiland] Then you give them a demonstration -- 100 meters opposite the deck. That would have impressed them, and some of them would have been convinced. After you'd documented and filmed this and issued the warnings, you'd pour the water. And that, too, at different heights and with a different force. It is a means that, in my opinion, could definitely have been used. I do not want to go into any more details, but there are additional means as well.

[Lam] Was that even considered before the operation?

[Eiland] Some of the things were said during the preparations, but not one of them was shaped into an alternative plan that would be at full operational preparedness. And to embark on an operation without an alternative is a substantive error.

A third thing in connection with planning is defining essential conditions for implementation. In an operation of this sort, in which we control the place and the timing of the operation, conditions for implementing the leading alternative should be defined, and then in real time an examination should be done to see whether they indeed exist.

[Lam] In your opinion, when they saw what was happening on the deck, should the action have been aborted?

[Eiland] The proper thing is to prepare a Plan A and a Plan B, and to examine the situation in real time. If the conditions for implementing Plan A do not exist, then you should move to Plan B.

The moment our boats reached the hull the first time and were repulsed by chains and metal bars and Molotov cocktails thrown by dozens of people standing on the deck -- they should have concluded that the conditions for implementing the plan did not exist. It was not an action that you had to complete within the next minute. In fact, one of the navy commander's correct decisions was to conduct the action as far as possible from Israel's shores, in order to allow time for all sorts of developments. He did not exploit that time, because he did not prepare an alternative plan that could have been used.

[Lam] Would you say that the IDF of today is flawed by conceptual rigidity?

[Eiland] In military organizations there is a dangerous tendency toward groupthink that takes shape around what appears to be the commander's opinion. In this event as well, there was a convergence by many people around what appeared to them to be what the commander thinks. In the implementation phase that is something necessary. In the planning phase it is necessary for there to be an opposite process, in the context of which staff or other officers express doubt as to the correctness of the commander's view. In the military, including at the General Staff level, there are techniques that are supposed to neutralize groupthink. They were not employed in this case, and we of course suggested employing them in strategic events—mainly in those for which the preparations take a long time.

[Lam] What did you propose?

[Eiland] The first proposal is to establish a "study group." A study group is a less formal and less hierarchical gathering. It is preferable that its participants, in addition to those with a part to play in the operation, also include several people with a suitable background but who are still not psychologically committed to the process and to the existing decisions. Such a forum can reexamine the basic assumptions that led to the existing plan -- and cast doubt on any other decision. The second of alterhative

possibility is to establish a "Red Team," which would act as sort of a devil's advocate. The team's purpose is to accompany the entire combat procedure and to challenge the system. Both of these things did not take place here before this operation.

[Lam] Uri Sagi and Amnon Lipkin-Shahaq are Ashkenazi's "Red Team." Where were they in this case?

[Eiland] I don't know what happened in other events, but it appears that this time sufficient embarrassment was not created, which many times is essential in order to create such a process. [end Eiland].

## 4. The Question: How Do We Stop a Ship?

In the days following the flotilla affair, there was talk about the possibility that the ship should have been stopped using a rope that would have been wound around its propellers. Eiland examined the matter and addressed it in the report.

[Eiland] There is a huge gap between ideas and their feasibility. There is a difference between saying, "A rope of a certain thickness would have stopped the ship's propeller," and the answer to the question of how to get the rope there. As I 've said, there is currently no proven capability anywhere in the world of winding a rope around the propeller of such a large ship.

[Lam] You're saying that there is no technique, anywhere, of stopping a ship that does not employ fire?

[Eiland] There is more than one possibility for causing a ship to "stop cold." However, on the day of the operation we did not possess one of the theoretical possibilities, or not one of them had gotten to the point of operational capability. As strange as it may seem, as far as we know, there is also no other military in the world that has the capability of remotely stopping a large ship sailing at a speed of 10 knots, without endangering the people on the ship, of course.

[Lam] But the military had time to prepare, to plan, to think.

[Eiland] Starting in the summer of 2008, when the flotilla phenomenon began to be common and perceived as a kind of threat someone should have said, gentlemen, this is a very important mission. If they had taken this subject seriously two years ago they could have reached good operational capability for stopping such a ship with a higher probability. One of the conclusions is to do this now.

[Lam] And what about clandestine activity for stopping the ship?

[Eiland] The report did not deal with that as well. I did not investigate the subject, so I cannot determine whether the Mosad could have done something so that the ship would not have reached its destination.

[Lam] The military didn't examine that option as well?

[Eiland] About the military, I can say that they should have taken the initiative and contacted the highest levels, and insisted on establishing a joint military-Mosad forum at a senior level, which would have examined, in a much deeper manner, the subject of the clandestine alternative. The military, despite the fact that it was not its responsibility, should have been more aggressive in its requests, that the Mosad examine additional avenues with it.

#### 5. The Policy: Without Any Discussion

Eiland talks about the political alternative to the operation or, more precisely, the lack thereof.

[Eiland] When discussing the political sphere it is important to distinguish between a public diplomacy action and a political move. The purpose of public diplomacy is to convince others that we are good and just, and that our enemies are totally evil.

Public diplomacy cannot effect change in the political arena. A political move is an initiative that convinces someone generally a third party, to do something that matches our interest.

An astute political move generally necessitates a discreet approach to a third party that displays a clear interest. The nature of the offer is a "deal," according to which the third party initiates an offer that includes our ceding something less important, in order to receive something of much greater importance."

[Lam] And in practical terms?

[Eiland] Three months ago we could have already approached someone like the French president or the Italian prime minister and asked him to initiate the next deal between the European Union and Israel: Israel would change its policy and allow the transfer of more goods though the land crossings to Gaza (as we eventually were compelled to do without compensation). In exchange, the European Union would announce that from the moment the crossings problem was solved, there was no longe any justification for any flotillas.

We could have done something even bolder -- approaching the Turks and telling them: You claim that the only way to bring Gaza what it needs is through the sea. We value you and trust you, and we are prepared to allow a sea line from Turkey that would supply Gaza providing three conditions were met: A. The ships would belong to the Turkish government; B. The Turkish police would examine their contents and sign in our presence, attesting that they are conveying only permitted equipment; C. The ships would sail directly to Gaza accompanied by the Turkish Navy.

It's an approach of reverse psychology. Were Erdogan to have answered in the affirmative, it's not clear that this solution would have been half bad, and it would have improved our relations with Turkey. Had he refused, his true face would have been revealed. Other alternatives are also noteworthy, though apparently we did little on the political front. It is correct to apply soft policy and strong military power. Many times what happens here is the reverse. We apologetically apply a weak military effort. The political rhetoric, on the other hand, is belligerent.

[Lam] Well, that is outside the military's control.

[Eiland] True, yet this is a fundamental issue. Shouldn't the military deal with this issue of political solutions? Should it suffice with saying that there is a problem but I'll deal with my business and you'll deal with yours?

[Lam] So what you're saying is that the military should engage in policy?

[Eiland] I couldn't argue that the military made a mistake and did not fulfill its role by not creating political alternatives, because that really isn't its job. But I think that the military could have prepared the sort of political alternatives that I noted and proposed them to the political leadership. In the State of Israel, unfortunately, the body more capable than any other of generating political alternatives is the IDF's Planning Branch. It's not appropriate that this happen all the time, only regarding cases where the political initiative is vital to avert a problematic security reality, such as the one created by the recent flotilla.

[Lam] Is there no such current relationship between the political and military echelons?

[Eiland] The relationship between the political and military echelons is a problematic sphere for the State of Israel. It doesn't just pertain to this or that situation, government or persons. I've had first-hand knowledge of the subject since 1996, and things were never done properly, in any period.

[Lam] In an ideal scenario, in your view, what should have happened before such an operation?

[Eiland] Two months before the operation, the prime minister, the defense minister, the heads of the Mosad and the Shin Bet, the IDF chief of staff, and three or four other people should have sat down together, put the cards on the table and spoken freely to try to reach a common understanding of the issue: What can the State of Israel do? If the outcome of the discussion is a military operation, then you define under what conditions it is not implemented and determine when the political price outweighs the military success.

[Lam] No such deliberation took place before the operation?

[Eiland] Of course not. By the way, no such deliberations took place over dozens of other, more important subjects.

## 6. The Orders: Bad Writing

[Lam] So you agree with the claims that we learned nothing from the Second Lebanon War?

[Eiland] No. The army improved many things and made many correct decisions. That said, there are also things that are not directly connected with the operation and its outcomes, where professional shortcomings were in evidence.

[Lam] Can you be more specific?

[Eiland] In this operation, the manner of writing orders was not good. Such a level of writing orders during a war, when you have no time to check things, can lead the army to unsuccessful outcomes. There were contradictions between what appeared in the main orders and the professional appendices in the written orders for this operation. Trivial subjects were detailed to an absurd degree, and analysis of main items relating to the enemy was absent. Operations Branch and the head of the Operations Division did not perform their job properly in this regard.

[Lam] In the report you also address the public diplomacy shortcomings on the first day.

[Eiland] There were two problems with public diplomacy. The first was that some of the IDF Spokesman's Unit's announcements and the release of filmed material were too slow, due to a convoluted chain of command that must be shortened. A more profound mistake relates to treatment of foreign journalists. The IDF Spokesman's Unit, despite maintaining a body designed to deal with the foreign media, is not equipped for it, because it is naturally oriented to the Israeli media. This must change. The military is not an organization that should have to worry only about its own public relations. It is part of the struggle for the State of Israel's legitimacy.

[Lam] How would you propose preparing for the next flotilla?

[Eiland] First of all, we must prevent the arrival of flotillas by political means. The military lesson is this: When faced with a complex enemy, in addition to the regular battle procedure a parallel process of a study group should be held, to avoid overly narrow thinking that leads to adherence to a plan that is not of necessity the only appropriate one, as happened in this case. [end Eiland].

In recent years, Eiland has been involved in the defense industries sphere. He serves as president of SDS [Star Defense] Industries Ltd.], a defense company, and is a consultant to some of the biggest Israeli defense industries. In this field, too, he is not complacent.

"Many of the problems of Israeli defense exports happen as a consequence of penny-pinching and destructive competition between the various Israeli industries, and not as a result of technological difficulty or global competition. Unfortunately, I sometimes see how competing Israeli concerns are prepared to undermine others, not for profit, but so that another Israeli will fall. These phenomena sadden me even more that all the bad things characteristic of Israeli politics."

Eiland holds by an ordered political doctrine and a well-formulated political plan, according to which a Palestinian state would be established under Jordanian auspices. He has in mind a round of territorial swaps by which Egypt would double the size of the Gaza Strip, and Israel would retain the large settlements in the West Bank and transfer a commensurate area in the Paran Desert to Egypt.

Eiland has recently been asked if he has a mind to enter politics. He ruled out the option, saying that to be in politics you need thick skin, and that "I am thin-skinned." This week he remarked: "Perhaps after a few more commissions of inquiry and criticism like this, my skin will become thick enough."

[Description of Source: Tel Aviv Yedi'ot Aharonot in Hebrew -- Independent, centrist, largest circulation Hebrew-landuage paper]

V-GMP20100723754004015.gif

Law, Rosemary C

From:

Dolan, JoAnn

Sent:

Friday, June 18, 2010 12:45 PM

To:

Dolan, JoAnn; Banos, Mariano H; Jacobson, Linda; Gorove, Katherine M

Cc:

Perina, Alexandra H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Giauque, Jeffrey G; Khoury-Kincannon, Saḥar

Subject:

RE: Clearance reminder - TPs for OHCHR/US meetings - section on Israel and Palestinian T.

Attachments:

Israel and Pal issues for OHCHR meeting SEMEP NEA IOUNP USUNW.DOC

Further changes suggested after tracking down the WH Statement at

http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/statement-press-secretary-israels-investigationflotilla-incident

From: Dolan, JoAnn

**Sent:** Friday, June 18, 2010 12:19 PM

To: Banos, Mariano H; Jacobson, Linda; Gorove, Katherine M

Cc: Perina, Alexandra H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Giauque, Jeffrey G; Khoury-Kincannon, Sahar

Subject: RE: Clearance reminder - TPs for OHCHR/US meetings - section on Israel and Palestinian T.

Mariano: I have corrected a couple typos and offered a few comments. Unfortunately, I don't have access to high side at moment and cannot access the WH statement on the Israeli commission. Some of the language here on our position seems a bit off to me. I have noted some comments and am copying NEA and SEMEP clearers to clarify. I may be wrong. Also copying Jonathan and Alexandra who have been engaged on that issue. I will see if I can find the WH statement on line.

From: Banos, Mariano H

Sent: Friday, June 18, 2010 10:32 AM

To: Jacobson, Linda; Dolan, JoAnn; Gorove, Katherine M

Subject: Fw: Clearance reminder - TPs for OHCHR/US meetings - section on Israel and Palestinian T.

Please take a look at the attached. If you have any comments (esp on the Flotilla section), please let me know before noon.

Thanks,

Mariano

From: Johnston-Gardner, Sarah R (DRL)

To: Rosenthal, Hannah S; Lieberman, Jessica D (DRL); Patel, Gayatri A; Andris, Matthew R; Banos, Mariano H

Cc: Foley, Tara E

Sent: Fri Jun 18 10:19:06 2010

Subject: Clearance reminder - TPs for OHCHR/US meetings - section on Israel and Palestinian T.

Good morning,

Please provide your clearance and edits on the attached guidance for our delegation meeting with the OHCHR staff in Geneva. Please clear no later than 1pm today.

Thank you,

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Sarah

Sarah Johnston-Gardner
Foreign Affairs Officer
Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL)
Office of Multilateral and Global Affairs (MLGA)
202-647-2286

## Law, Rosemary C

RELEASED IN FULL

From:

Dolan, JoAnn

Sent:

Friday, July 09, 2010 9:53 AM

To:

Jacobson, Linda; Perina, Alexandra H

Subject: Attachments: FW: LEGAL-#256164-v1-Flotilla\_Outline.doc LEGAL-#256164-v1-Flotilla\_Outline.doc

A few additions. Agree this looks good.

From: Perina, Alexandra H

**Sent:** Thursday, July 08, 2010 5:41 PM **To:** Jacobson, Linda; Dolan, JoAnn

Subject: FW: LEGAL-#256164-v1-Flotilla\_Outline.doc

Linda, JoAnn – Just a few additional tweaks from me (a bit of reordering some of the points). I think this looks good.

Thanks, A.

From: Pomper, Stephen E

Sent: Friday, July 02, 2010 2:22 PM

To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Jacobson, Linda; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H; 'Alexandra Perina'

Subject: LEGAL-#256164-v1-Flotilla\_Outline.doc

I have made a few tweaks and suggestions for possible additional discussion points (!) on the outline that Jon prepared, but nothing of much significance, and would happily yield on any of these edits. AP is on vacation today but will be on the job next week for L/PM, and I am copying her here in the perhaps less than likely event that she wishes to spend her holiday weekend thinking about the best way to introduce the Secretary to the legal nuances of putative Gaza deoccupation. Over to Linda and JoAnn.

C05127006 IED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C05127006 Date: 11/09/2012

#### RELEASED IN FULL

## Law, Rosemary C

From:

Dolan, JoAnn

Sent:

Monday, July 12, 2010 3:30 PM

To:

Jacobson, Linda

Subject: Attachments: FW: LEGAL-#256164-v1-Flotilla\_Outline.doc LEGAL-#256164-v1-Flotilla\_Outline.doc

Two points worth clarifying noted in attached

From: Harris, Robert K

**Sent:** Monday, July 12, 2010 3:06 PM **To:** Gorove, Katherine M; Jacobson, Linda

Cc: Townley, Stephen G; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Dolan, JoAnn; Pomper, Stephen E; Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin

A; Banos, Mariano H

Subject: RE: LEGAL-#256164-v1-Flotilla\_Outline.doc

Linda,

I had a few fairly small comments.

Bob

From: Gorove, Katherine M

Sent: Monday, July 12, 2010 2:53 PM

To: Harris, Robert K

Subject: FW: LEGAL-#256164-v1-Flotilla\_Outline.doc

Flotilla meeting at 1:30 tomorrow. Latest outline just came in.

From: Jacobson, Linda

Sent: Monday, July 12, 2010 2:50 PM

To: Townley, Stephen G; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Dolan, JoAnn; Gorove, Katherine M; Pomper, Stephen E; Perina,

Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Banos, Mariano H Subject: LEGAL-#256164-v1-Flotilla\_Outline.doc

Please see revised version of outline for meeting tomorrow.

[C05127004FIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C05127004 Date: 11/09/2012

## Law, Rosemary C

RELEASED IN FULL

From:

Dolan, JoAnn

Sent:

Monday, July 12, 2010 6:11 PM

To:

Perina, Alexandra H; Jacobson, Linda; Gorove, Katherine M; Banos, Mariano H; Baumert,

Kevin A

Cc:

Harris, Robert K; Townley, Stephen G; Schwartz, Jonathan B

Subject: Attachments: FW: flotilla outline 2.doc flotilla outline 2.doc

Inadvertently some of the changes to the prior draft were dropped from the final version. I have reentered them here as tracked changes for others to review and Linda to confirm before we send this to Harold. Please advise if there is anything further. In view of this complication, Stephen may want to wait until OOB to send forward to permit final

From: Jacobson, Linda

input from others.

Sent: Monday, July 12, 2010 4:17 PM

To: Gorove, Katherine M; Banos, Mariano H; Baumert, Kevin A

Cc: Townley, Stephen G; Dolan, JoAnn

Subject: flotilla outline 2.doc

Here is the latest version incorporating some comments from BH and JoAnn. I need to leave at 4:45 today, so please send your comments soonest, or if later, to JoAnn. Steve, I think this is good to go to HHK if addressees have no further thoughts.

## Law, Rosemary C

#### RELEASED IN FULL

From:

Dolan, JoAnn

Sent:

Monday, July 12, 2010 7:12 PM

To: Subject: Jacobson, Linda; Perina, Alexandra H RE: LEGAL-#256164-v1-Flotilla\_Outline.doc

Stephen has gone ahead, accepted the tracked changes, and sent to Harold tonight with the proviso that further changes can be made in the course of the meeting. So there may be no need to come early for this.

From: Jacobson, Linda

**Sent:** Monday, July 12, 2010 7:07 PM **To:** Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H

Subject: Re: LEGAL-#256164-v1-Flotilla\_Outline.doc

I don't know what happened but will come in early and review.

From: Dolan, JoAnn

To: Perina, Alexandra H; Jacobson, Linda

Sent: Mon Jul 12 17:52:13 2010

Subject: RE: LEGAL-#256164-v1-Flotilla\_Outline.doc

I am remaking the missing tracked changes in a version I will send to Linda this evening. Not sure when Linda will be able to review them, but perhaps we can finalize them before OOB. That should give Harold enough time to review before the 1:30 meeting

From: Perina, Alexandra H

**Sent:** Monday, July 12, 2010 5:48 PM **To:** Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda

Subject: RE: LEGAL-#256164-v1-Flotilia\_Outline.doc

Yes, same here.

From: Dolan, JoAnn

Sent: Monday, July 12, 2010 5:42 PM

**To:** Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda; Perina, Alexandra H. **Subject:** RE: LEGAL-#256164-v1-Flotilla\_Outline.doc

First version I had from you today was at 2:50. It did not reflect our earlier input either.

From: Dolan, JoAnn

**Sent:** Monday, July 12, 2010 5:40 PM **To:** Jacobson, Linda; Perina, Alexandra H

**Subject:** RE: LEGAL-#256164-v1-Flotilla\_Outline.doc

I can do that. In the meantime, I went through our combined edits from last week and highlighted in yellow the changes that were not made. I am reluctant to make them without knowing whether you agreed with them all.

From: Jacobson, Linda

**Sent:** Monday, July 12, 2010 5:31 PM **To:** Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H

**Subject:** Re: LEGAL-#256164-v1-Flotilla\_Outline.doc

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C05126994 Date: 11/09/2012

StateDept02483

C05126994FIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C05126994 Date: 11/09/2012

Sorry, I must have worked from an incorrect version bec I definitely wanted to include your comments. Could you look at the first version I sent around today, before I added the Malaysia language.

From: Dolan, JoAnn To: Jacobson, Linda

Sent: Mon Jul 12 17:18:06 2010

Subject: FW: LEGAL-#256164-v1-Flotilia\_Outline.doc

Linda: Can you advise whether you decided not to include Alexandra's and my changes from last Friday or whether you overlooked them when finalizing today's draft. I had noted that some of mine were missing but had assumed you had chosen not to use them. With this message from Alexandra, I am now not sure.

From: Perina, Alexandra H

Sent: Monday, July 12, 2010 4:48 PM

To: Dolan, JoAnn

**Subject:** FW: LEGAL-#256164-v1-Flotilla\_Outline.doc

fyi

From: Perina, Alexandra H

Sent: Monday, July 12, 2010 4:48 PM

To: Jacobson, Linda

Subject: RE: LEGAL-#256164-v1-Flotilla\_Outline.doc

Linda - I just noticed this version doesn't seem to reflect my and JoAnn's comments and wasn't sure whether you'd decided not to include them or they got lost in the shuffle. In case of the latter, they are attached. Thanks, A.

From: Jacobson, Linda

Sent: Monday, July 12, 2010 3:05 PM

To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Townley, Stephen G; Cleveland, Sarah H; Dolan, JoAnn; Baumert, Kevin A; Gorove, Katherine

M; Perina, Alexandra H; Pomper, Stephen E; Banos, Mariano H; Harris, Robert K

**Subject:** LEGAL-#256164-v1-Flotilla\_Outline.doc

See slightly revised version to reflect Malaysia announcement on ICI referral.

C05126983FIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C05126983 Date: 11/09/2012

#### RELEASED IN FULL

## Law, Rosemary C

From:

Bass, Warren

Sent:

Friday, September 17, 2010 3:19 PM

To:

Banos, Mariano H; Andris, Matthew R; Johnston-Gardner, Sarah R (DRL); Khoury-Kincannon, Sahar; Doutrich, Jack T; Gregonis, Meghan E; Schrank, Alexander D; Perina, Alexandra H;

Masilko, Barbara J (USUN); Germain, Ellen J (USUN); Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda

Cc: Khar

Khanna, Melanie J; Lapenn, Jessica; Barks-Ruggles, Erica J

Subject:

RE: HRC Israel Statements

Attachments:

HRC 15 Flotilla Intervention.docx; HRC 15 Item 7 General Intervention.docx

#### AttachmentsClassification:

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification:

**UNCLASSIFIED** 

SensitivityCode:

Sensitive

Here's my quick cut on these—though please note this is not final clearance. Others in my FO will want to see these when the working level is done, especially the flotilla one.

Thanks again.

Warren

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Banos, Mariano H

Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2010 2:16 PM

**To:** Andris, Matthew R; Johnston-Gardner, Sarah R (DRL); Khoury-Kincannon, Sahar; Doutrich, Jack T; Gregonis, Meghan E: Schrank, Alexander D; Perina, Alexandra H; Bass, Warren; Masilko, Barbara J (USUN); Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda

**Cc:** Khanna, Melanie J; Lapenn, Jessica **Subject:** RE: HRC Israel Statements

Also looping in L/AN

From: Andris, Matthew R

Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2010 1:44 PM

To: Johnston-Gardner, Sarah R (DRL); Khoury-Kincannon, Sahar; Doutrich, Jack T; Gregonis, Meghan E; Schrank,

Alexander D; Banos, Mariano H; Perina, Alexandra H; Bass, Warren; Masilko, Barbara J (USUN)

Cc: Khanna, Melanie J; Lapenn, Jessica

**Subject:** HRC Israel Statements

All:

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Attached are our item 7 General Statement and our intervention responding to the Flotilla FFM report. To be respectful of everyone's time, I'd appreciate your review of these today, so that we can discuss conceptual comments at our meeting tomorrow morning. If you won't be able to attend the meeting, please provide your conceptual comments to a proxy. Then, as I do not wan to deprive you all of your deep love for rewriting this stuff, please provide your happy/glad. comments by COB tomorrow. After we've collected those, we'll seek 7<sup>th</sup> floor/NSC approval.

C05126983FIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C05126983 Date: 11/09/2012

Best,

Matthew R. Andris

Bureau of International Organization Affairs Office of Human Rights (202) 647-5892 - office (312) 208-9897 - cell andrismr@state.gov

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

Law, Rosemary C

From:

Banos, Mariano H

Sent:

Friday, July 09, 2010 5:08 PM

To:

Perina, Alexandra H; Gorove, Katherine M; Jacobson, Linda; Dolan, JoAnn; Townley, Stephen

G

Cc:

Aswad, Evelyn M; Harris, Robert K

Subject:

FYI: individuals to be named on Monday for the HRC Flotilla fact finding mission

From: Andris, Matthew R

Sent: Friday, July 09, 2010 3:21 PM

To: Johnston-Gardner, Sarah R (DRL); Doutrich, Jack T; Kolb, Natalie

Subject: Flotilla Fact-finding Committee

All:

Although the announcement won't be formally made until Monday, we have received the following from the President of the Human Rights Council, via Israel's ambassador in Geneva and our delegation in Geneva. For clarity's sake, this is the "independent, international fact-finding mission" created by the Human Rights Council in resolution 14/1 with a mandate "to investigate violations of international law, including international humanitarian and human rights law, resulting from the Israeli attacks on the flotilla of ships carrying humanitarian assistance."

Dino Kritsiotis is a Zimbabwean lawyer with extensive experience in the field of international humanitarian law. A regular contributor to the ICRC Warsaw Summer School on International Humanitarian Law and one of the founding directors of the All Africa Course on International Humanitarian Law, he has been teaching at the University of Nottingham School of Law since 1994.

Mary Shanthi Dairiam (Malaysia) was a member of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women from 2005 to 2008. Since 2007, she has been serving on the Gender Equality Task Force of the United Nations Development Programme. She is a founding member of the Board of Directors of the International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific.

And the Head of the FFM will be Sir **Desmond de Silva**. His CV can be obtained from the following link: <a href="http://www.argentchambers.co.uk/site/people/profile/sirdesmonddesilvaqc#">http://www.argentchambers.co.uk/site/people/profile/sirdesmonddesilvaqc#</a>

Have a great weekend!

Matthew R. Andris

Bureau of International Organization Affairs Office of Human Rights (202) 647-5892 - office (312) 208-9897 - cell andrismr@state.gov

We understand the below named will be designated Monday to the HRC fact-finding mission on the flotilla.

Best, Suzanne

Here is the short bio of the 2 members of the FFM on Flotilla, Dino Kritsiotis is a Zimbabwean lawyer with extensive experience in the field of international humanitarian law. A regular contributor to the ICRC Warsaw Summer School on International Humanitarian Law and one of the founding directors of the All Africa Course on International Humanitarian Law, he has been teaching at the University of Nottingham School of Law since 1994.

Mary Shanthi Dairiam (Malaysia) was a member of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women from 2005 to 2008. Since 2007, she has been serving on the Gender Equality Task Force of the United Nations Development Programme. She is a founding member of the Board of Directors of the International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific.

And the Head of the FFM will be Sir Desmond de SilvaHis CV can be obtained from the following linkhttp://www.argentchambers.co.uk/site/people/profile/sirdesmonddesilvaqc#

C05126969FIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C05126969 Date: 11/16/2012

Sent: To: Subject:	Perina, Alex	riano H y, July 21, 2010 9:38 AM xandra H; Jacobson, Linda; Dolan, JoAnn ions re: Israel/Palestine Issues
Classification:	UNCLASSIF	NON-RESPONSIVE PORTIONS REDACTED
FY1 only.		
From: Andris, Matth Sent: Wednesday, J To: Johnston-Gardn Masilko, Barbara J (l Subject: FW: Quest	iuly 21, 2010 8:59 Al er, Sarah R (DRL); B JSUN); Ried, Curtis F	Bass, Warren; Banos, Mariano H; Doutrich, Jack T; Germain, Ellen J (USUN); R (USUN)
FYI. Please note the	sensitive nature of	f this communication.
This email is UNCLA	ASSIFIED.	
Subject: RE: Quest		
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,		
lf we have specific q	uestions, let me kno	ow and I can follow up.

NR

	fiths, Douglas M	·		
Sent: Thurs	sday, July 15, 2010 10:22 AM	!		
Fo: Geneva HRC; Nossel, Suzanne F; Donahoe, Eileen C; IO-HR-DL Subject: FW: Questions re: Israel/Palestine Issues				
_				
Here's the l	list of Israeli and Palestine Items in text and as attachment.			
	hts Council			
Regular Ses				
	13 – October 1, 2010	1		
Israeli and I	Palestinian Items			
September	ootentially four reports related to Israel and the Palestinian session. We should consider how we will want to respondedia messaging.	Territories to be presented during the upcoming to each of these reports at the Council and		
<del></del>				
Expected Re	eports:			
1. Experts	Committee on Goldstone follow-up report:			
2. High Cor	mmissioner Pillay report:			
3. Secretar	y-General report:			
3. Secretar	y-General report:			
4. Report o	ry-General report:  of the Fact-finding Mission on the flotilla: HRC Resolution the 15th session.	14/1 mandated the flotilla Fact-Finding Mission to		
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Sent: To: Ca	Ciaccia, Sarah J Thursday, July 15, 2010 9:56 AM ssayre, Mark J; Griffiths, Douglas M; Geneva HRC t: RE: Questions re: Israel/Palestine Issues	
Attach	ed	
Thic or	nail is UNCLASSIFIED.	
••	Andris, Matthew R	
Sent:	Wednesday, July 14, 2010 8:17 PM	
To: Ge	neva HRC; Griffiths, Douglas M  t: Questions re: Israel/Palestine Issues	
auvje(	LE. QUESTIONS 16, ISLACI) Laborate ISSACS	
Genev	a colleagues,	
	ا you're a little short-staffed at the moment, so I'm sending this to a broad group in the hopes that someone wil	ill
be able	e to respond. In our weekly HRC meeting yesterday, we identified a few tasks/communications that need to	
happei	n in Geneva, and I (your faithful scribe) am passing them on with a request for assistance.	
		7
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2.	Please approach Ambassador Yaar to find out if he has views on the currently proposed flotilla committee and	_ <b>_</b>   
2.	whether he prefers that the U.S. engage or hang back on this? There was a push in the room to engage (if it's	
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C05126969FIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C05126969 Date: 11/16/2012

(202) 647-5892 - office (312) 208-9897 - cell andrismr@state.gov

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

#### NATIONS UNIES



#### UNITED NATIONS

## HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL FACT FINDING MISSION ESTABLISHED UNDER RESOLUTION 14/1

#### International Fact Finding Mission on the Gaza Flotilla Incident

#### Terms of reference

#### Background

- On 1 June 2010 at its 14th session, the Human Rights Council, in its resolution A/HRC/14/1, decided "to dispatch
  an independent international fact finding mission to investigate violations of international law, including
  international humanitarian and human rights law, resulting from the Israeli attacks on the flotilla of ships
  carrying humanitarian assistance."
- On 23 July 2010, the President of the Human Rights Council, in accordance with operative paragraph 9 of the Resolution, appointed three eminent experts to the Mission: Judge Karl Hudson-Philips (chair), Sir Desmond de Silva and Ms. Mary Shanthi Dairiam. The members of the Mission formally began their work on 9 August 2010.
- 3. The Fact-Finding Mission is requested in paragraph 9 of the Resolution to report their findings to the Human Rights Council at its 15th session.

#### Interpretation of Mandate

- 4. The members of the Mission have decided to interpret their mandate as ascertaining the facts surrounding the Israeli interception of the Gaza-bound flotilla to determine whether any violations of international law, including international humanitarian and human rights law, took place.
- 5. In carrying out this mandate, the members of the Mission have indicated to the Council that they will:
  - a. focus on the events that took place in international waters on 31 May 2010 as well as the way in which the Israeli authorities dealt with the aftermath of the operation and the repatriation of those participating in the flotilla:
  - seek to travel inter alia to Turkey, Gaza, Israel and Jordan in order to meet with witnesses, officials and non-governmental organizations;
  - c. travel to other countries to interview witnesses as may be necessary; and
  - d. make all enquiries it considers relevant to the forgoing in order to discharge its mandate.

#### Methodology

- 6. The members of the Mission intend to conduct their investigation independently and impartially and to this end are keen to receive information from any interested parties representing all points of view.
- 7. The Mission considers that the standard operating assumptions for a United Nations fact-finding mission will apply, including the following:
  - a. The Mission should enjoy the full cooperation of all States Members of the United Nations;
  - Members and staff shall enjoy the privileges and immunities accorded to experts on missions and officials under the 1946 Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations;
  - c. The Mission should have freedom of movement throughout the relevant territories;
  - d. The Mission should have unhindered access to all places and establishments, and freedom to meet and interview representatives of Governmental and local authorities, military authorities, community leaders, non-governmental organizations and other institutions, and any such person whose testimony and/or expert advice is considered necessary for the fulfilment of its mandate;
  - The Mission should have unhindered access to and for individuals and organizations wishing to meet with the Mission:
  - f. The Mission should have free access to all sources of information, including documentary material and physical evidence;

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

7

REV 1

#### DRAFT RESOLUTION

Follow up resolution to the report of the Independent International fact finding mission

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the principles and objectives of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Considering that the promotion of respect for the obligations arising from the Charter and the other instruments and rules of international laws is among the basic purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Taking into consideration the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention for the Protection of Civilian Persons in Times of War of 12 August 1942,

Emphasizing the importance of the safety and well being of all civilians including humanitarian personnel,

Recalling its resolution A/HRC/14/1 of 2 June 2010, in which the Council decided to dispatch an independent international fact finding mission to investigate violations of international law resulting from the Israeli attacks on the flotilla of ships carrying humanitarian assistance.

- 1. Takes note of the report of the Independent International fact finding Mission,
- 2. Deeply regrets the non-cooperation by the occupying power, Israel, with the independent international fact-finding mission,
- 3. Considers the recommendations contained in the report of the Independent International fact finding mission, and calls upon all concerned parties to ensure their immediate implementation,
- 4. Recommends the General Assembly to consider the report of the Independent International fact finding mission,
- 5. Welcomes the establishment of a Panel of Inquiry by the UN Secretary General and the submission of its first progress report,
- 6. Request the High Commissioner for Human Rights to submit to the 17th Human Rights Council's session, a report, on the status of implementation of paragraph 3 of this resolution.
- 7. Decides to follow up the implementation of the present resolution at its 17th Session.

## Law, Rosemary C

From:

Banos, Mariano H

Sent:

Thursday, September 23, 2010 4:55 PM

To:

Jacobson, Linda; Gorove, Katherine M; Perina, Alexandra H; Martin, Julie B

Subject:

FW: Draft FFM Resolution

Attachments:

REV 1 (2)[1].doc

Classification:

UNCLASSIFIED

SMARTClassificationData:

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FY1

From: Andris, Matthew R

Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2010 4:37 PM

To: Nossel, Suzanne F; Hale, David M; Bass, Warren; Walles, Jacob; Lapenn, Jessica; Sutphin, Paul R; Rudman, Mara; Khoury-Kincannon, Sahar; Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Khoury-Kincannon, Sahar; Doutrich, Jack T; Anderson, Brooke D

(USUN); Germain, Ellen J (USUN); Masilko, Barbara J (USUN); Banos, Mariano H; Cassidy, Joseph P

Cc: Honigstein, Michael D; Johnston-Gardner, Sarah R (DRL); Bame, David J; 'Scott\_W.\_Busby@nss.eop.gov';

'prem\_g.\_kumar@nss.eop.gov'; Waters, John R; Goldberger, Thomas H; Feltman, Jeffrey D;

'Samantha\_J.\_Power@nsc.eop.gov'; 'dshapiro@nsc.eop.gov'; Donahoe, Eileen C; Khanna, Melanie J; Cassayre, Mark J; Le Mon. Christopher J; P-IO Duty; Katz, Jonathan D

Subject: Draft FFM Resolution

All:

Attached is a bootleg draft of the resolution to be proposed by the Turks in response to the report of the Flotilla Fact-finding Mission. It is not as bad as we could have expected. But it does contain a referral to UNGA and a follow-up mechanism.

#### Key elements:

- 1. Takes note of the FFM's report, [not "welcomes" or other stronger language]
- 2. Deeply regrets Israel's non-cooperation with FFM
- 3. Calls upon all concerned parties to ensure the immediate implementation of the FFM's recommendations [Not clear what this means, as the report contained no clear recommendations]
- 4. Recommends the General Assembly to consider the report
- 5. Welcomes SYG's Panel of Inquiry
- 6. Request HCHR to submit a report to HRC on the status of implementation para 3 in June 2011.

Best,

Matthew R. Andris

Bureau of International Organization Affairs Office of Human Rights (202) 647-5892 - office (312) 208-9897 - cell andrismr@state.gov

#### DRAFT RESOLUTION

# Follow up resolution to the report of the Independent International Fact Finding Mission

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the principles and objectives of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Considering that the promotion of respect for the obligations arising from the Charter and the other instruments and rules of international laws is among the basic purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Taking into consideration the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention for the Protection of Civilian Persons in Times of War of 12 August 1942,

Emphasizing the importance of the safety and well being of all civilians including humanitarian personnel,

Recalling its resolution A/HRC/14/1 of 2 June 2010, in which the Council decided to dispatch an independent international fact finding mission to investigate violations of human rights law and international humanitarian law resulting from the Israeli attacks on the flotilla of ships carrying humanitarian assistance.

- 1. Welcomes the report of the Independent International fact finding Mission,
- 2. Deeply regrets the non-cooperation by the occupying power, Israel, with the independent international fact-finding mission,
- 3. Endorses the conclusions contained in the report of the Independent International fact finding mission, and calls upon all concerned parties to ensure their immediate implementation.
- 4. Recommends the General Assembly to consider the report of the Independent International fact finding mission,
- 5. Requests the High Commissioner for Human Rights to submit to the 16th Human Rights Council's session of March 2011, a report, on the status of implementation of paragraph 3 of this resolution.
- 6. Decides to follow up the implementation of the present resolution at its 16th Session of March 2011.

Interactive Dialogue on the Report of the Fact-finding Mission Established pursuant to Resolution 14/1

Statement by the Delegation of the United States of America Human Rights Council 15th Session Geneva, September 27, 2010

Thank you, Mr. President.

We deeply regret the tragic loss of life and injuries suffered among those involved in the incident aboard the Gaza-bound ships. We have received the report of the fact-finding mission. The report's language, tone and conclusions are unbalanced. We urge that this report not be used for actions that could disrupt the direct Israeli-Palestinian talks now underway or actions that could make it harder for Israel and Turkey to move beyond the recent strains in their historically strong bilateral relationship.

Last June, we noted the importance of a credible, impartial, and transparent investigation into the tragic events of May 31, and we continue to hold that view. We also expressed our commitment to working with partners, including our longstanding friends Israel and Turkey, to ensure a full and appropriate response to the incident and the circumstances that led to it. And we made clear that we felt that Resolution 14/1 was adopted in the heat of the moment and that much of its contents represented a rush to judgment. The resolution passed judgment on the facts before they were determined and handed the fact-finding mission a flawed mandate, something the mission itself acknowledged in its report.

We note that, with the benefit of more time and consideration, the UN Secretary General was able to obtain the support of both Turkey and Israel for the establishment of a panel of inquiry to receive and review the reports of Israel and Turkey's national investigations into the tragic incident. We continue to await the outcomes of these processes. We welcome the establishment of the Secretary General's panel and the spirit of cooperation that it represents. We continue to regard this panel as the primary method for the international community to review the incident. We again express our appreciation to the Secretary General for his efforts to establish this panel, and to the governments of Turkey and Israel for their constructive participation.

Thank you, Mr. President.

Approved: IO/FO: S Nossel (OK)

Drafted: M Andris x75892

Cleared:

USUN/FO: B Anderson (OK)

IO/HR: J Lapenn (OK) Geneva: M Khanna (OK)

NEA: JWalles (OK)

NEA/IPA: PSutphin (OK) NEA/IPA: J Doutrich (OK) SEMEP: MRudman (OK) EUR/SE: M Gregonis (OK)

L/HRR: M Banos (OK) PRM: S Quinn (OK)

DRL/MLGA: S Johnston-Gardner (OK)

USUN/W: W Bass (OK) USUN/NY: B Masilko (OK)

D(S): A Cook (OK)
P: W Haldeman (OK)
G: L Sherman (OK)
S/P: D Rand (OK)

NSC/Multi and NENA: S Busby (OK)

	RELEASED IN PART B5	
_aw, Rosema	ry C	
From:	Gorove, Katherine M	1
Sent:	Friday, July 30, 2010 4:06 PM	
Fo: Subject:	Jacobson, Linda FW: flotilla Note, for comments	
oubject.	1 VV. Hotilia Note, for comments	
		,
From: Schwartz,	Jonathan R	The state of the s
	7 30, 2010 4:05 PM	;
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	REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior	
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