

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
Page 1 of 2

I231

From: McCutcheon, Robert H (Beirut)
Sent: 4/19/2011 7:15:37 AM
To: svcSMARTHBTSP05
Subject: The Free Gaza "Anniversary Flotilla" - Lebanon Response
Attachments: Metadata.dat

CONFIDENTIAL



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

MRN: 11 BEIRUT 313
Date/DTG: Apr 19, 2011 / 191115Z APR 11
From: AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE/IMMEDIATE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PARM, PGOV, PHSA, PTER, PREL, KWBG, IS, IE
Reference: A) 11 STATE 36240
Pass Line: STATE FOR NEA/IPA JIM SINDLE
Subject: The Free Gaza "Anniversary Flotilla" - Lebanon Response

(C) On April 19, poloff delivered reftel demarche on the impending Gaza flotilla to [REDACTED] 1.4(B)
MFA [REDACTED] [REDACTED] reported that [REDACTED] had no information about vessel 1.4(D)
movements related to this flotilla -- or any plans for the flotilla to enter or depart Lebanese ports -- [REDACTED] B1
[REDACTED] We will follow up with the MFA and report
any additional information septel.

Signature: Connelly

Classified By: Name: Maura Connelly, Title: Ambassador
Agency: Department of State
Reason: 1.4 (b), (d)
Declassify on: 2036/04/19
Drafted By: BEIRUT:Comeau, Russell X
Cleared By: McCutcheon, Robert H (Beirut)
Approved By: McCutcheon, Robert H (Beirut)
Released By: BEIRUT:McCutcheon, Robert H (Beirut)
Info: Sindle, James MROUTINE
Attachments: Metadata.dat

Action Post:
Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

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1233

From: Kiene, Robert R (Brussels)
Sent: 4/20/2011 8:28:06 AM
To: svcSMARTHTSPOP3
Subject: BELGIANS LIKELY TO ACCOMPANY GAZA FLOTILLA, BUT NOT ON THEIR OWN SHIP
Attachments: Metadata.dat

CONFIDENTIAL



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

MRN: 11 BRUSSELS 225
Date/DTG: Apr 20, 2011 / 201228Z APR 11
From: AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PARM, PGOV, PREL, PHSA, PTER, KWBG, IS, BE, TU
Captions: SIPDIS
Reference: A) 11 STATE 36240
Pass Line: STATE FOR EUR/WE AND NEA/IPA
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
Subject: BELGIANS LIKELY TO ACCOMPANY GAZA FLOTILLA, BUT NOT ON THEIR OWN SHIP

1. (C) On April 19, Deputy Political Economic Counselor discussed with [REDACTED] MFA [REDACTED] the likelihood that Belgian citizens may participate in a politically charged Gaza flotilla on the anniversary of last year's flotilla events. Four Belgian citizens were arrested on board the Mavi Marmara in 2010. They are identified as [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] said that the Belgian government is still involved in consular efforts in Israel to recover some of their property confiscated by the Israelis. These persons and others are now attempting to organize Belgian participation in the 2011 flotilla. There are a number of websites visible, including "BelgiumtoGaza.com", which unites various groups in a fundraising effort to procure a ship for the trip to Gaza.

1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

2. (C) According to [REDACTED], fundraising has not been successful, so no ship is likely to depart Belgium to join the flotilla. A few Belgians may travel on ships organized by other national groups to Gaza. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the Belgian government is still considering whether to do more than it has already done, which is to issue a travel warning advising against travel to Gaza. [REDACTED]

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

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3. (C) Deputy Political Counselor told [] that the port of Ashdod is being made available by the Israelis as a safe alternative for delivery of goods to the Gazans. He also mentioned that the USG has called on Israel to exercise restraint if the flotilla arrives as planned. [] agreed to keep on touch about developments in the []

1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

Signature: GUTMAN

Classified By: Name: Steven Fagin, Title: Political Economic Counselor
Agency: Embassy Brussels

Reason: 1.4 (b), (d)

Declassify on: 2021/04/20

Drafted By: BRUSSELS:Kiene, Robert R (Brussels)

Approved By: POL:Fagin, Steven H

Released By: BRUSSELS:Kiene, Robert R (Brussels)

Info: TEL AVIV, AMEMBASSYROUTINE; CAIRO, AMEMBASSYROUTINE; BEIRUT, AMEMBASSYROUTINE; USUN NEW YORK, USMISSIONROUTINE; ANKARA, AMEMBASSYROUTINE; EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVEROUTINE; 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

Attachments: Metadata.dat

Action Post:
Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

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CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
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CLASSIFICATION: SECRET
Page 1 of 1

I 234

From: Cline, Melissa R
Sent: 5/10/2011 9:37:33 AM
To: svcSMARTHBTSP0P1
Subject: "Anniversary Flotilla" Demarche Delivered
Attachments: Metadata.dat

SECRET



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

MRN: 11 CAIRO 545
Date/DTG: May 10, 2011 / 101337Z MAY 11
From: AMEMBASSY CAIRO
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, PARM, KWBG, IS, TU, EG
Reference: A) 11 STATE 36240
Subject: "Anniversary Flotilla" Demarche Delivered

1. (S) On May 8, Ambassador raised reftel points on a potential attempt to break the Israeli maritime blockade of Gaza with MFA [redacted] Ambassador asked if the GOE would allow humanitarian assistance to be delivered through the port of el-Arish in northern Sinai, as Egypt had previously done. [redacted] said no decision had been made, but believed that the flotilla planned for late-May would be "delayed." [redacted]

1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

Signature: SCOBAY

Classified By: Name: Margaret Scobey, Title: Ambassador
Office: Executive Office
Agency: DOS
Reason: 1.4 (b), (d)
Declassify on: 2021/05/10
Drafted By: CAIRO:Cline, Melissa R
Cleared By: Blome, Donald A
O'Dowd, Stephen P
Approved By: Scobey, Margaret M
Released By: CAIRO:Cline, Melissa R
Info: TEL AVIV, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE ; ANKARA, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE ;
SECDEF WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE ; HQ USCENCOM MACDILL AFB FL ROUTINE ;
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE
Attachments: Metadata.dat

Action Post:
Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

SECRET

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET
Page 1 of 1

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET
Page 1 of 2

I235

From: Mates, Michael J
Sent: 4/21/2011 10:41:47 AM
To: svcSMARTHBTSP02
Subject: Anniversary Flotilla Demarche Passed to Government of Moldova
Attachments: Metadata.dat

SECRET



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

MRN: 11 CHISINAU 99
Date/DTG: Apr 21, 2011 / 211445Z APR 11
From: AMEMBASSY CHISINAU
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PARM, PGOV, PHSA, PTER, KWBG, TU, IS, MD
Reference: A) STATE 36240
Pass Line: DEPT FOR EUR/UMB, NEA/IPA-JSINDLE
AMEMBASSY ASTANA PASS TO AMCONSUL ALMATY
AMEMBASSY ANKARA PASS TO AMCONSUL ADANA
AMEMBASSY ROME PASS TO AMCONSUL FLORENCE
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PASS TO AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI
AMEMBASSY PARIS PASS TO AMCONSUL STRASBOURG
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
Subject: Anniversary Flotilla Demarche Passed to Government of Moldova

1. (S) On April 21, we passed reftel demarche to [REDACTED] the Moldovan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration. [REDACTED] promised that Government of Moldova would inform us immediately if any information became available about Moldovan citizens or Moldovan-flagged ships involved in the Free Gaza "Anniversary Flotilla."

1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

Chaudhry

Signature: CHAUDHRY

Classified By: Name: Asif J Chaudhry, Title: Ambassador
Reason: 1.4 (b), (d)
Declassify on: 2021/04/21

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET
Page 1 of 2

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET
Page 2 of 2

Drafted By: CHISINAU:Mates, Michael J
Cleared By: Chisianu:Winstead, Gregory M
Approved By: Chisianu:Micheli, Marcus R
Released By: CHISINAU:Mates, Michael J
Info: EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE ROUTINE; ZEN/AMCONSUL ALMATY;
ZEN/AMCONSUL ADANA; ZEN/AMCONSUL FLORENCE;
ZEN/AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI; ZEN/AMCONSUL STRASBOURG;
ZEN/AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK; ZEN/AMEMBASSY MINSK;
ZEN/AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF; ZEN/AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG;
ZEN/AMCONSUL LEIPZIG; ZEN/AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG
Attachments: Metadata.dat

Action Post:
Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

~~SECRET~~

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET
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CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
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I237

From: svcsmartnfi
Sent: 6/7/2010 4:29:46 AM
To: SMART Core
Subject: MGGZ01:TUNISIA [REDACTED] ON GAZA FLOTILLA, ARAB LEAGUE MINISTERIAL

1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

CONFIDENTIAL



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

MRN: 10 TUNIS 408
Date/DTG: Jun 07, 2010 / 070802Z JUN 10
From: AMEMBASSY TUNIS
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATEPRIORITY
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: PREL, ASEC, KPAL, PGOV, PHUM, TS, GZ, IS
Captions: SIPDIS
Subject: MGGZ01:TUNISIA [REDACTED] ON GAZA FLOTILLA, ARAB LEAGUE MINISTERIAL

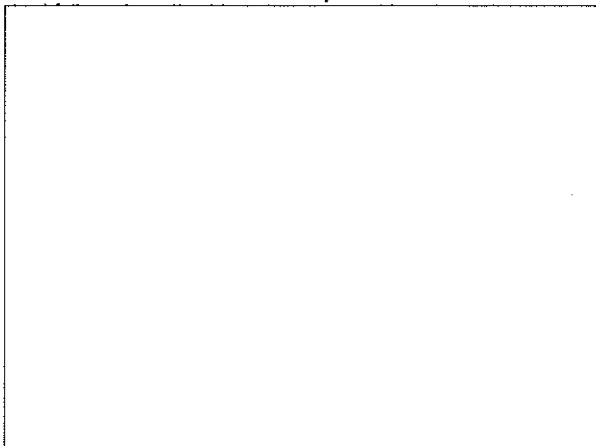
CONFIDENTIAL TUNIS 000408

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/05/2020
TAGS: PREL, ASEC, KPAL, PGOV, PHUM, TS, XP, GZ, IS
SUBJECT: MGGZ01:TUNISIA [REDACTED] ON GAZA FLOTILLA, ARAB LEAGUE MINISTERIAL

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

1. (C) [REDACTED] told the Ambassador on June 5 that deliberations at the Arab League Ministerial convened in Cairo June 3 in reaction to the May 31 Gaza flotilla incident



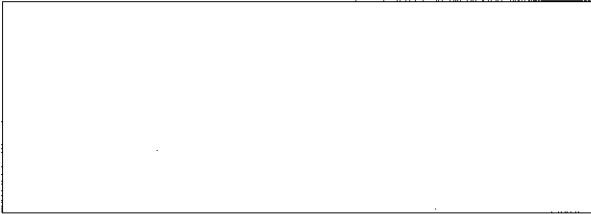
REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
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

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
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1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1



NR

4. (C) The Ambassador underlined U.S. views that the Gaza incident needed to be investigated and that efforts for peace must continue.  

NR



GRAY

Signature: GRAY

Classified By: Ambassador Gordon Gray,
Reason: 1.4 (b) and (d)
Declassify on: 06/05/2020
Info: ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE ROUTINE
Attachments: metadata.dat

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

CONFIDENTIAL

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
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CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
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I238

From: Schedlbauer, Amy W (USUN)
Sent: 6/23/2010 5:48:31 PM
To: svcSMARTHBTSP0P7
Subject: ISRAELI FM LIEBERMAN MEETING WITH AMB RICE ON GAZA FLOTILLA AND PROXIMITY TALKS
Attachments: Metadata.dat

CONFIDENTIAL



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

MRN: 10 USUN NEW YORK 397
Date/DTG: Jun 23, 2010 / 232148Z JUN 10
From: USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: PREL, KWBG, IS
Captions: SIPDIS
Subject: ISRAELI FM LIEBERMAN MEETING WITH AMB RICE ON GAZA FLOTILLA AND PROXIMITY TALKS

1. (C) Summary: Ambassador Rice met June 8 with Israeli Foreign Minister Lieberman and discussed Iran sanctions, follow-up on the Gaza flotilla incident, and the proximity talks.

1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

NR

Iran

NR

Gaza Flotilla follow-up

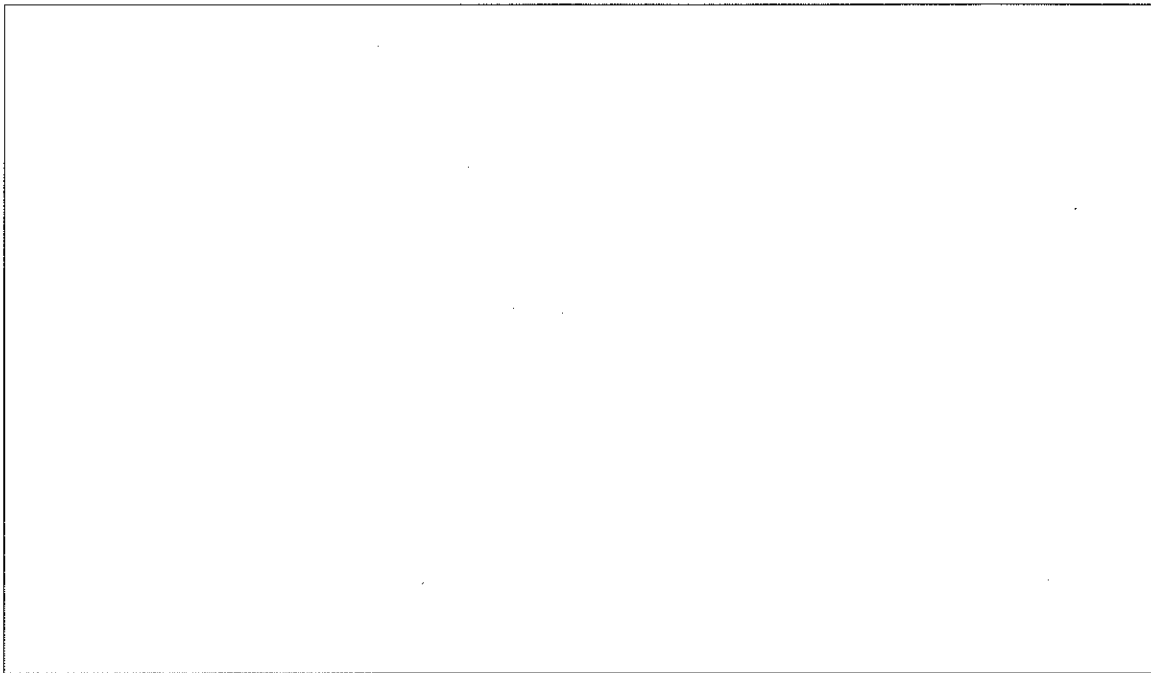
3. (C)

1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

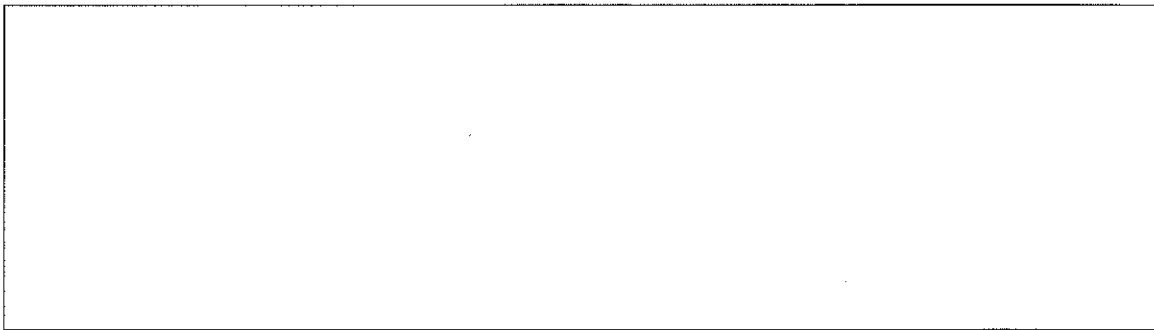
REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
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CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
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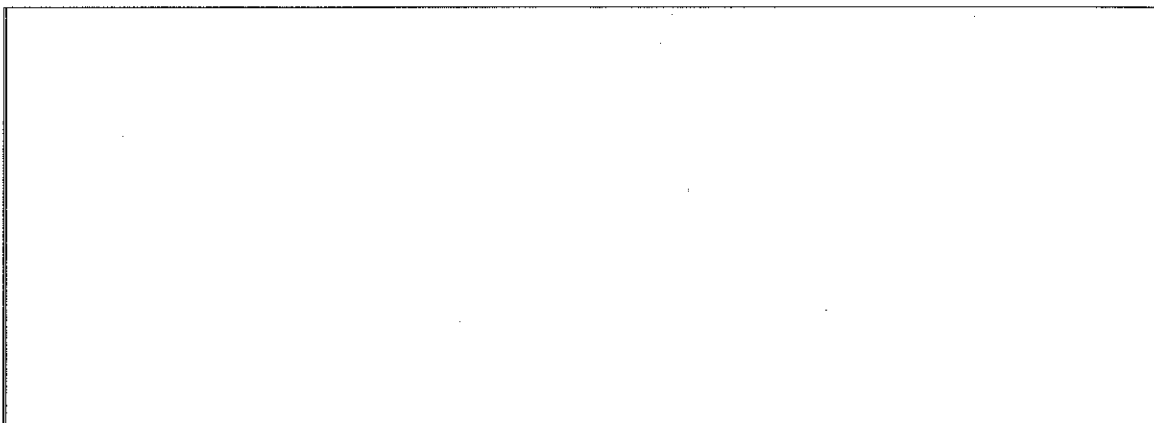


1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1



NR

Palestinian and Proximity Talks



NR

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
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CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
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NR

Egypt

Signature:	Rice
Classified By:	Susan E. Rice, Ambassador
Reason:	1.4 (b), (d)
Declassify on:	2020/06/23
Drafted By:	USUN NEW YORK:Masilko, Barbara
Cleared By:	USUNNY:Wolff, Alex (USUN) USUN New York:DeLaurentis, Jeffrey USUNNY:Germain, Ellen J (USUN)
Approved By:	US Mission NY:Rice, Susan E (USUN)
Released By:	USUN NEW YORK:Schedlbauer, Amy W (USUN)
Info:	JERUSALEM, AMCONSULROUTINE ; TEL AVIV, AMEMBASSYROUTINE ; Masilko, Barbara J (USUN)ROUTINE
Attachments:	Metadata.dat

Dissemination Rule:	Archive Copy
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CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
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RELEASED IN PART B1,1.4(D)

I250

Bowers, Allyson M

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2010 8:45 AM
To: Grubb, Jason B
Cc: TELAVIV POL; 'MEISEL, OMER (TE)(FBI)'; 'ROSENTHAL, RUSSELL H. (TE) (FBI)'; 'Cyril, COL Todd'; Sindle, James M; Sutphin, Paul R; Buzbee, John R; Parker, Andrew C; Doutrich, Jack T
Subject: RE: FW: ACTION REQUEST: FOLLOW UP DEMARCHE ON THE ASIA TO GAZA AID CARAVAN
Attachments: image001.gif
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed
Categories: Working

Very good. Please ask IPA to follow up on those questions.

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

Sensitivity: Sensitive
Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Derived From: Derived from previous message in thread.
Declassify On: 2020/12/21

From: Grubb, Jason B
Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2010 2:55 PM
To: Goldberger, Thomas H
Cc: TELAVIV POL; MEISEL, OMER (TE)(FBI); 'ROSENTHAL, RUSSELL H. (TE) (FBI)'; 'Cyril, COL Todd'; Sindle, James M; Sutphin, Paul R; Buzbee, John R; Parker, Andrew C; Doutrich, Jack T
Subject: FW: ACTION REQUEST: FOLLOW UP DEMARCHE ON THE ASIA TO GAZA AID CARAVAN

Tom -

I followed up with MFA [REDACTED] on our latest efforts detailed below regarding the "Asia to Gaza Aid Caravan"; [REDACTED] appreciated the information. He alerted me to several internet reports (www.telegraphindia.com, among others) noting that an Iranian-American citizen named Azam Azaditabar Carlton or Carlson is participating in the caravan and was apparently denied entry into Turkey from Iran. [REDACTED] asked if we knew the reasons for the denied entry, or if we had asked the Turkish authorities to intervene.

1.4(D)
B1

Regards,
Jason

Sensitivity: Sensitive
Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Derived From: Derived from previous message in thread.
Declassify On: 2020/12/21

From: SMART Core
Sent: Monday, December 20, 2010 07:16:43
To: Silverman, Robert J; Wilson, Joseph M; Wholters, James R; Drake, Virginia D; Eussen, Matthew M; Parsell, Benjamin C; Burgess, Richard J; Burton, Terry D; Failla, Ann M; Goldberger, Thomas H;

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Grubb, Jason B; Hennard, John S; Kirk, Edward W; Lawrence, Tim R; Levin, Jan X; Lurie, Mikael D; Madera, Eduardo A; Mederrick, Debra J; Nelson, Timothy D; Otto, Jeffrey L; Shannon, Clark L; Stepp, Elizabeth D; Stepp, Keith L; Usher, William R; Wilson, Dennis R

Cc: Adams, Julie D; Baldwin, Virginia E; Burnett, David R; Cain, Isaac T; Conklin, DeWitt C; Garcia, Dennis J; Hall, Loretta H; Manyam, Shaila B; McConaughy, Christine H; Monosson, Danielle H; Parker, Andrew C; Rohrllich, Paul E; Swartz, Charles J; Tate, Sonja T; Treacy, Stephen M; Crippen, Ramona; Crippen, John

Subject: ACTION REQUEST: FOLLOW UP DEMARCHE ON THE ASIA TO GAZA AID CARAVAN

CONFIDENTIAL



Action Office: POL, DAO
Info Office: POL_INFO, EXEC_INFO, FPD

MRN: 10 STATE 129967
Date/DTG: Dec 20, 2010 / 201705Z DEC 10
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Action: AMMAN, AMEMBASSY *IMMEDIATE*; BEIRUT, AMEMBASSY *IMMEDIATE*; DAMASCUS, AMEMBASSY *IMMEDIATE*
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PREL, KPAL, KWBG, PHUM, IR, TU, SY, LE, JO, IS
Captions: SIPDIS
Reference: ANKARA 1649
NEW DELHI 1923
STATE 119883
Subject: ACTION REQUEST: FOLLOW UP DEMARCHE ON THE ASIA TO GAZA AID CARAVAN

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 129967

SIPDIS

E.O. 13526: DECL: 2020/12/20
TAGS: PREL, KPAL, KWBG, PHUM, IR, TU, SY, LE, JO, IS
SUBJECT: ACTION REQUEST: FOLLOW UP DEMARCHE ON THE ASIA TO GAZA AID CARAVAN

REF: A) ANKARA 1649
B) NEW DELHI 1923
C) STATE 119883

Classified by: Ronald Schlicher, A/S, Acting
NEARReason(s): 1.4 (b), (d)

1. (U) This is an action request. Please see paragraph 5.
2. (C) The department appreciates responses from Embassies Ankara and New Delhi (Refs A and B) to the November 19 demarche request (ref C) asking host governments to reiterate that those wishing to deliver humanitarian aid to Gaza do so through existing mechanisms ?- so cargo can be inspected and transferred via land crossings --

and for additional information about the planned "Asia to Gaza Solidarity Caravan" that originated in India. Reports at that time indicated the group might seek to break the Israeli naval blockade and enter Gaza by sea. In recent press releases and interviews, the organizers are now stating they will sail to Al-Arish, Egypt and enter Gaza by land at the Rafah crossing. Posts are requested to seek more information about this group from host governments and urge host governments to deter this group from attempting to break the naval blockade.

3. (C) BACKGROUND: After getting underway in India in early December, the "Asia to Gaza Solidarity Caravan," organized by the ad-hoc coalition "Asian People's Solidarity for Palestine," traveled through Pakistan and is currently in Iran. Iranian media reports that President Ahmadinejad greeted the caravan at an event in Tehran on December 13, and several Iranian MPs will join the group. Organizers state the caravan will continue on to Turkey and Syria en route to a Syrian or Turkish port, where goods and activists would board ships and sail to Rafah, Egypt before traveling to Gaza by land. Depending on timing, the caravan may seek to enter Jordan and/or Lebanon, or meet up with additional caravan elements originating from those countries. The group's aim is to arrive in Gaza on December 27, the second anniversary of 2008-2009 Israeli incursion into Gaza "Operation Cast Lead." Information from the organization can be found on its website at asiatogaza.org. Posts are also requested to seek more information on the "Asia to Gaza Solidarity Caravan."

4. (U) According to press reports and Asian People's Solidarity for Palestine press releases, organizers expect 100-500 activists from 17 Arab and Asian nations to participate. Organizers, including the Turkish Humanitarian Relief Foundation (IHH), announced plans for the caravan in early October in India, Iran, Indonesia, Lebanon, and Turkey.

5. (C/REL Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria) Amman, Beirut, and Damascus are requested to deliver the following points to appropriate host government officials. Please slug reply to NEA/IPA Jack Doutrich.

Begin talking points:

- After getting underway in India in early December, the "Asia to Gaza Solidarity Caravan," organized by the ad-hoc coalition "Asian People's Solidarity for Palestine," traveled through Pakistan and is currently in Syria.

- Early statements by organizers indicated that the "Asia to Gaza Solidarity Caravan" intended to break through Israel's naval blockade to deliver assistance to Gaza by sea.

- Although recent public statements suggest the group will instead seek to sail from Turkey or Syria to Al-Arish, Egypt and then travel to Gaza by land, we remain concerned that the group could follow its earlier plan and attempt to enter Gaza by sea.

- We would be interested in hearing what your government knows about this group and its planned "Asia to Gaza Solidarity Caravan."

- The United States believes strongly that aid flotillas that aim to deliver goods directly to Gaza by sea are irresponsible and intentionally provocative.

- We urge you to take whatever steps you can to prevent this convoy from taking this approach; we must do all we can to avoid another incident like the tragic events of May 31 aboard the M/V Mavi Marmara.

- We are committed to meeting the humanitarian and development needs of those in Gaza, including rebuilding the private sector that will be the engine of Gaza's recovery.

-- Legitimate mechanisms exist for the transfer of humanitarian assistance to Gaza by states and groups that want to do so.
-- All those wishing to deliver goods should do so through established channels so cargo can be inspected and transferred via land crossings into Gaza.
-- We hope that you will engage the convoy organizers to underscore the need to focus on how best to assist the people of Gaza and to avoid provocative confrontations.

6. (U) Minimize considered.

CLINTON

Signature: CLINTON

Classified By: Ronald Schlicher, A/S, Acting NEA,
Declassify on: 2020/12/20
Drafted By: NEA_IPA:DOUTRICH, JACK T -- 12/20/10
Cleared By: NEA/FO:WALLES, JACOB SEMEP (NEA/I-POL):KHOURY-KINCANNON, SAHAR
NEA/IPA:BUZBEE, JOHN R NEA/RIGGS, SUSAN J EA/ELA:ABELL, J ANDREW
NEA:ROBERTS, KRISTI M DRL/MLGA:JOHNSTON-GARDNER, SARAH R (DRL)
L/AN:DOLAN, JOANN
Approved By: NEA/FO:SCHLICHER, RONALD L
Info: JERUSALEM, AMCONSUL *ROUTINE*; ANKARA, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; CAIRO,
AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; ISLAMABAD, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; NEW DELHI,
AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; TEL AVIV, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*
Attachments: metadata.dat

Action Post:

Dissemination Rule: POL, DAO_Action2, POL_INFO, EXEC_INFO

CONFIDENTIAL

RELEASED IN PART B5

I252

Bowers, Allyson M

From: Doutrich, Jack T
Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2010 8:57 AM
To: Abell, J Andrew
Subject: RE: Demarches/Convoy
Attachments: image001.gif

Categories: Working

Thx.

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

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL//NOFORN
Derived From: DSCG 05-1 b, d
Declassify On: 2035/12/21

From: Abell, J Andrew
Sent: Monday, December 20, 2010 6:28 PM
To: Doutrich, Jack T
Subject: FW: Demarches/Convoy

B5

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

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL//NOFORN
Derived From: DSCG 05-1 b, d
Declassify On: 2035/12/20

From: Munir, Junaid Jay
Sent: Monday, December 20, 2010 6:14 PM
To: Abell, J Andrew; Goodfriend, Andre M
Cc: Hunter, Charles F; Tachco, Amy N; Shampaine, Nicole D; Creedon, Reid M; Cummings, Joanne
Subject: Demarches/Convoy

Andy,

Thanks! Jay.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

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

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL//NOFORN
Derived From: DSCG 05-1 b, d
Declassify On: 2035/12/21

From: Abell, J Andrew

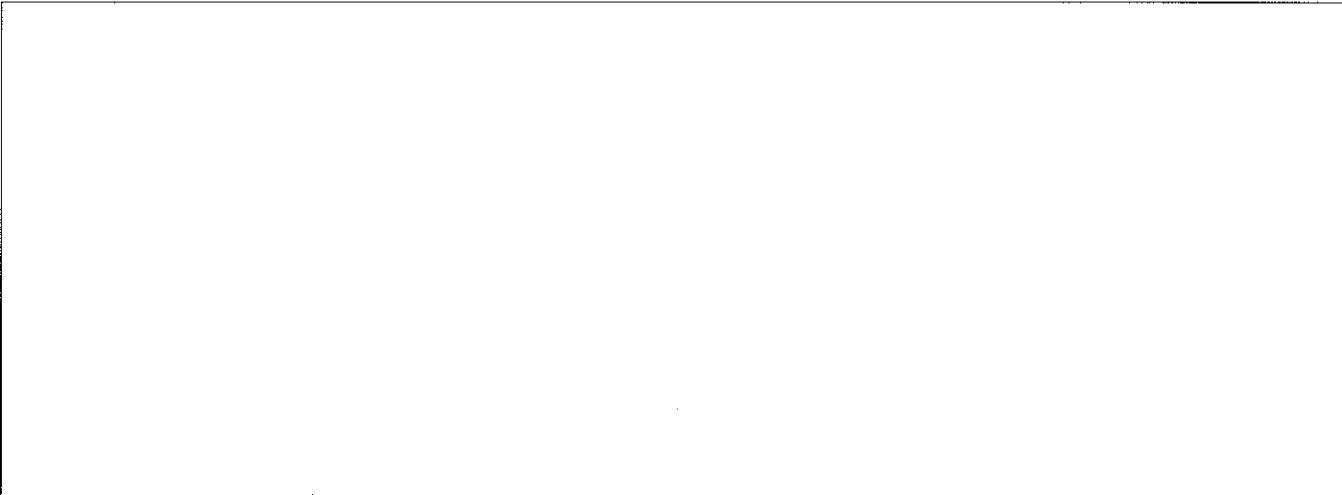
Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2010 1:10 AM

To: Goodfriend, Andre M; Munir, Junaid Jay

Cc: Hunter, Charles F; Tachco, Amy N; Shampaine, Nicole D; Creedon, Reid M

Subject: ACTION REQUEST: FOLLOW UP DEMARCHE ON THE ASIA TO GAZA AID CARAVAN

Andre/Jay,



B5

Best,
Andy

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

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL//NOFORN
Derived From: DSCG 05-1 b, d
Declassify On: 2035/12/20

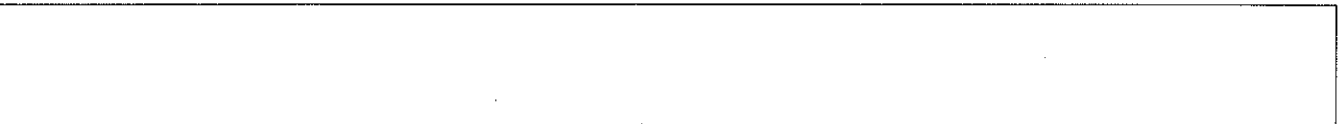
From: Doutrich, Jack T

Sent: Monday, December 20, 2010 4:54 PM

To: Abell, J Andrew

Cc: Shampaine, Nicole D; Creedon, Reid M; Sutphin, Paul R; Munir, Junaid Jay

Subject: RE: FW: ACTION REQUEST: FOLLOW UP DEMARCHE ON THE ASIA TO GAZA AID CARAVAN



JD.

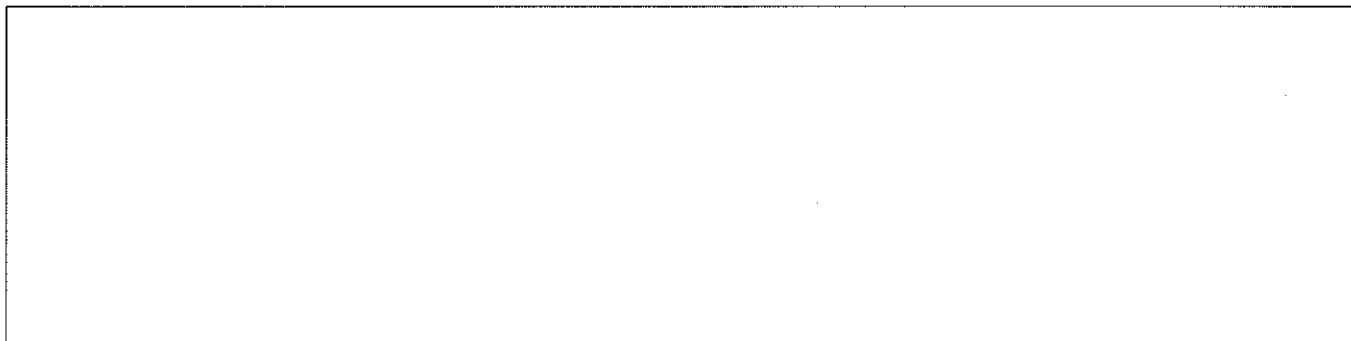
This document is UNCLASSIFIED//NOFORN when separated from CONFIDENTIAL//NOFORN attachment(s).

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL//NOFORN

Derived From: DSCG 05-1 b, d
Declassify On: 2035/12/20

From: Abell, J Andrew
Sent: Monday, December 20, 2010 3:48 PM
To: Doutrich, Jack T; Munir, Junaid Jay
Cc: Shampaine, Nicole D; Creedon, Reid M
Subject: RE: FW: ACTION REQUEST: FOLLOW UP DEMARCHE ON THE ASIA TO GAZA AID CARAVAN

Jack,



B5

Thanks,
Andy

-- We would be interested in hearing what your government knows about this group and its planned "Asia to Gaza Solidarity Caravan."
-- The United States believes strongly that aid flotillas that aim to deliver goods directly to Gaza by sea are irresponsible and intentionally provocative.
-- We urge you to take whatever steps you can to prevent this convoy from taking this approach; we must do all we can to avoid another incident like the tragic events of May 31 aboard the M/V Mavi Marmara.
-- We are committed to meeting the humanitarian and development needs of those in Gaza, including rebuilding the private sector that will be the engine of Gaza's recovery.
-- Legitimate mechanisms exist for the transfer of humanitarian assistance to Gaza by states and groups that want to do so.
-- All those wishing to deliver goods should do so through established channels so cargo can be inspected and transferred via land crossings into Gaza.

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

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL//NOFORN
Derived From: DSCG 05-1 b, d
Declassify On: 2035/12/20

From: Doutrich, Jack T
Sent: Monday, December 20, 2010 1:49 PM

To: Rosenstock, Matthew S; Munir, Junaid Jay
Cc: Waters, John R; Silverman, Robert J; Abell, J Andrew; Kosa, Lauren S
Subject: FW: ACTION REQUEST: FOLLOW UP DEMARCHE ON THE ASIA TO GAZA AID CARAVAN
Importance: High

Matt/Jay,

B5

JD.

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Derived From: Derived from previous message in thread.
Declassify On: 2020/12/20

From: SMART Core
Sent: Monday, December 20, 2010 12:16:44
To:
Doutrich, Jack T; Coley, Lea M; Frelich, Karlene H; Sachar, Alon; Levinson, Jesse S; Riley,
Cc: Le'Shawnda V; Reed, Julia G; Hof, Frederic C; Khoury-Kincannon, Sahar; Irwin, Matthew T; Eilts, Colin C
Subject: ACTION REQUEST: FOLLOW UP DEMARCHE ON THE ASIA TO GAZA AID CARAVAN
CONFIDENTIAL



Info Office: POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, SE_MEP, SE_MEP_DAM_BEI, SE_MEP_ECON_DEV

MRN: 10 STATE 129967
Date/DTG: Dec 20, 2010 / 201705Z DEC 10
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Action: AMMAN, AMEMBASSY IMMEDIATE; BEIRUT, AMEMBASSY IMMEDIATE; DAMASCUS, AMEMBASSY IMMEDIATE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PREL, KPAL, KWBG, PHUM, IR, TU, SY, LE, JO, IS
Captions: SIPDIS
Reference: ANKARA 1649
NEW DELHI 1923
STATE 119883
Subject: ACTION REQUEST: FOLLOW UP DEMARCHE ON THE ASIA TO GAZA AID CARAVAN

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 129967

SIPDIS

E.O. 13526: DECL: 2020/12/20

TAGS: PREL, KPAL, KWBG, PHUM, IR, TU, SY, LE, JO, IS

SUBJECT: ACTION REQUEST: FOLLOW UP DEMARCHE ON THE ASIA TO GAZA
AID CARAVAN

REF: A) ANKARA 1649

B) NEW DELHI 1923

C) STATE 119883

Classified by: Ronald Schlicher, A/S, Acting

NEARreason(s): 1.4 (b), (d)

1. (U) This is an action request. Please see paragraph 5.
2. (C) The department appreciates responses from Embassies Ankara and New Delhi (Refs A and B) to the November 19 demarche request (ref C) asking host governments to reiterate that those wishing to deliver humanitarian aid to Gaza do so through existing mechanisms -- so cargo can be inspected and transferred via land crossings -- and for additional information about the planned "Asia to Gaza Solidarity Caravan" that originated in India. Reports at that time indicated the group might seek to break the Israeli naval blockade and enter Gaza by sea. In recent press releases and interviews, the organizers are now stating they will sail to Al-Arish, Egypt and enter Gaza by land at the Rafah crossing. Posts are requested to seek more information about this group from host governments and urge host governments to deter this group from attempting to break the naval blockade.
3. (C) BACKGROUND: After getting underway in India in early December, the "Asia to Gaza Solidarity Caravan," organized by the ad-hoc coalition "Asian People's Solidarity for Palestine," traveled through Pakistan and is currently in Iran. Iranian media reports that President Ahmadinejad greeted the caravan at an event in Tehran on December 13, and several Iranian MPs will join the group. Organizers state the caravan will continue on to Turkey and Syria en route to a Syrian or Turkish port, where goods and activists would board ships and sail to Rafah, Egypt before traveling to Gaza by land. Depending on timing, the caravan may seek to enter Jordan and/or Lebanon, or meet up with additional caravan elements originating from those countries. The group's aim is to arrive in Gaza on December 27, the second anniversary of 2008-2009 Israeli incursion into Gaza "Operation Cast Lead." Information from the organization can be found on its website at asiatogaza.org. Posts are also requested to seek more information on the "Asia to Gaza Solidarity Caravan."
4. (U) According to press reports and Asian People's Solidarity for Palestine press releases, organizers expect 100-500 activists from 17 Arab and Asian nations to participate. Organizers, including the Turkish Humanitarian Relief Foundation (IHH), announced plans for the caravan in early October in India, Iran, Indonesia, Lebanon, and Turkey.
5. (C/REL Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria) Amman, Beirut, and Damascus are requested to deliver the following points to appropriate host government officials. Please slug reply to NEA/IPA Jack Doutrich.

Begin talking points:

-- After getting underway in India in early December, the "Asia to Gaza Solidarity Caravan," organized by the ad-hoc coalition "Asian

People's Solidarity for Palestine," traveled through Pakistan and is currently in Syria.

-- Early statements by organizers indicated that the "Asia to Gaza Solidarity Caravan" intended to break through Israel's naval blockade to deliver assistance to Gaza by sea.

-- Although recent public statements suggest the group will instead seek to sail from Turkey or Syria to Al-Arish, Egypt and then travel to Gaza by land, we remain concerned that the group could follow its earlier

plan and attempt to enter Gaza by sea.

-- We would be interested in hearing what your government knows about this group and its planned "Asia to Gaza Solidarity Caravan."

-- The United States believes strongly that aid flotillas that aim to deliver goods directly to Gaza by sea are irresponsible and intentionally provocative.

-- We urge you to take whatever steps you can to prevent this convoy from taking this approach; we must do all we can to avoid another incident like the tragic events of May 31 aboard the M/V Mavi Marmara.

-- We are committed to meeting the humanitarian and development needs of those in Gaza, including rebuilding the private sector that will be the engine of Gaza's recovery.

-- Legitimate mechanisms exist for the transfer of humanitarian assistance to Gaza by states and groups that want to do so.

-- All those wishing to deliver goods should do so through established channels so cargo can be inspected and transferred via land crossings into Gaza.

-- We hope that you will engage the convoy organizers to underscore the need to focus on how best to assist the people of Gaza and to avoid provocative confrontations.

6. (U) Minimize considered.

CLINTON

Signature: CLINTON

Classified By: Ronald Schlicher, A/S, Acting NEA,

Declassify on: 2020/12/20

Drafted By: NEA_IPA:DOUTRICH, JACK T -- 12/20/10

Cleared By: NEA/FO:WALLES, JACOB SEMEP (NEA/I-POL):KHOORY-KINCANNON, SAHAR
NEA/IPA:BUZBEE, JOHN R NEA:RIGGS, SUSAN J EAVELA:ABELL, J ANDREW
NEA:ROBERTS, KRISTI M DRL/MLGA:JOHNSTON-GARDNER, SARAH R (DRL)
L/AN:DOLAN, JOANN

Approved By: NEA/FO:SCHLICHER, RONALD L

Info: JERUSALEM, AMCONSUL ROUTINE; ANKARA, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; CAIRO,
AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; ISLAMABAD, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; NEW DELHI,
AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; TEL AVIV, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE

Attachments: metadata.dat

Action Post:

Dissemination Rule: DIS_POLITICAL, DIS_ECONOMIC, DIS_SE_MEP_A, DIS_SE_MEP_DAM_BEI,
DIS_SE_MEP_ECON_DEV

CONFIDENTIAL

RELEASED IN PART B1,B5,1.4(D)

I254

Bowers, Allyson M

From: Schrank, Alexander D
Sent: Wednesday, December 22, 2010 11:59 AM
To: Doutrich, Jack T
Cc: Sindle, James M; Taylor, Victoria J
Subject: RE: FW: ACTION REQUEST: FOLLOW UP DEMARCHE ON THE ASIA TO GAZA AID CARAVAN
Attachments: image001.gif
Categories: Working

B5

Let me know if you need any further assistance with this.

Thanks;
Alex.

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

Sensitivity: Sensitive
Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Derived From: Derived from previous message in thread.
Declassify On: 2020/12/22

From: Doutrich, Jack T
Sent: Wednesday, December 22, 2010 11:45 AM
To: Taylor, Victoria J; Schrank, Alexander D
Cc: Sindle, James M
Subject: RE: FW: ACTION REQUEST: FOLLOW UP DEMARCHE ON THE ASIA TO GAZA AID CARAVAN

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

Sensitivity: Sensitive
Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Derived From: Derived from previous message in thread.
Declassify On: 2020/12/22

From: Taylor, Victoria J
Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2010 10:35 AM
To: Doutrich, Jack T; Schrank, Alexander D
Subject: RE: FW: ACTION REQUEST: FOLLOW UP DEMARCHE ON THE ASIA TO GAZA AID CARAVAN

Hi Jack,

Best,
VT

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

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

Sensitivity: Sensitive
Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Derived From: Derived from previous message in thread.
Declassify On: 2020/12/21

From: Doutrich, Jack T
Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2010 10:26 AM
To: Schrank, Alexander D; Taylor, Victoria J
Subject: FW: FW: ACTION REQUEST: FOLLOW UP DEMARCHE ON THE ASIA TO GAZA AID CARAVAN

B5

JD.

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

Sensitivity: Sensitive
Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Derived From: Derived from previous message in thread.
Declassify On: 2020/12/21

From: Grubb, Jason B
Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2010 2:55 PM
To: Goldberger, Thomas H
Cc: TELAVIV POL; MEISEL, OMER (TE)(FBI); 'ROSENTHAL, RUSSELL H. (TE) (FBI)'; 'Cyril, COL Todd'; Sindle, James M; Sutphin, Paul R; Buzbee, John R; Parker, Andrew C; Doutrich, Jack T
Subject: FW: ACTION REQUEST: FOLLOW UP DEMARCHE ON THE ASIA TO GAZA AID CARAVAN

Tom -

I followed up with MFA [redacted] on our latest efforts detailed below regarding the "Asia to Gaza Aid Caravan"; [redacted] appreciated the information. He alerted me to several internet reports (www.telegraphindia.com, among others) noting that an Iranian-American citizen named Azam Azaditabar Carlton or Carlson is participating in the caravan and was apparently denied entry into Turkey from Iran. [redacted] asked if we knew the reasons for the denied entry, or if we had asked the Turkish authorities to intervene. 1.4(D) B1

Regards,
Jason

Sensitivity: Sensitive
Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Derived From: Derived from previous message in thread.
Declassify On: 2020/12/21

From: SMART Core
Sent: Monday, December 20, 2010 07:16:43
To: Silverman, Robert J; Wilson, Joseph M; Wholters, James R; Drake, Virginia D; Eussen, Matthew M; Parsell, Benjamin C; Burgess, Richard J; Burton, Terry D; Failla, Ann M; Goldberger, Thomas H; Grubb, Jason B; Hennard, John S; Kirk, Edward W; Lawrence, Tim R; Levin, Jan X; Lurie, Mikael D; Madera, Eduardo A; Mederrick, Debra J; Nelson, Timothy D; Otto, Jeffrey L; Shannon, Clark L;

Stepp, Elizabeth D; Stepp, Keith L; Usher, William R; Wilson, Dennis R
 Adams, Julie D; Baldwin, Virginia E; Burnett, David R; Cain, Isaac T; Conklin, DeWitt C; Garcia,
 Cc: Dennis J; Hall, Loretta H; Manyam, Shaila B; McConaughy, Christine H; Monosson, Danielle H;
 Parker, Andrew C; Rohrllich, Paul E; Swartz, Charles J; Tate, Sonja T; Treacy, Stephen M; Crippen,
 Ramona; Crippen, John

Subject: ACTION REQUEST: FOLLOW UP DEMARCHE ON THE ASIA TO GAZA AID CARAVAN

CONFIDENTIAL



Action Office: POL, DAO
Info Office: POL_INFO, EXEC_INFO, FPD

MRN: 10 STATE 129967
Date/DTG: Dec 20, 2010 / 201705Z DEC 10
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Action: AMMAN, AMEMBASSY IMMEDIATE; BEIRUT, AMEMBASSY IMMEDIATE; DAMASCUS,
 AMEMBASSY IMMEDIATE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PREL, KPAL, KWBG, PHUM, IR, TU, SY, LE, JO, IS
Captions: SIPDIS
Reference: ANKARA 1649
 NEW DELHI 1923
 STATE 119883
Subject: ACTION REQUEST: FOLLOW UP DEMARCHE ON THE ASIA TO GAZA AID CARAVAN

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 129967

SIPDIS

E.O. 13526: DECL: 2020/12/20
 TAGS: PREL, KPAL, KWBG, PHUM, IR, TU, SY, LE, JO, IS
 SUBJECT: ACTION REQUEST: FOLLOW UP DEMARCHE ON THE ASIA TO GAZA
 AID CARAVAN

REF: A) ANKARA 1649
 B) NEW DELHI 1923
 C) STATE 119883

Classified by: Ronald Schlicher, A/S, Acting
 NEARReason(s): 1.4 (b), (d)

1. (U) This is an action request. Please see paragraph 5.
2. (C) The department appreciates responses from Embassies Ankara and New Delhi (Refs A and B) to the November 19 demarche request (ref C) asking host governments to reiterate that those wishing to deliver humanitarian aid to Gaza do so through existing mechanisms -- so cargo can be inspected and transferred via land crossings -- and for additional information about the planned "Asia to Gaza Solidarity Caravan" that originated in India. Reports at that time

indicated the group might seek to break the Israeli naval blockade and enter Gaza by sea. In recent press releases and interviews, the organizers are now stating they will sail to Al-Arish, Egypt and enter Gaza by land at the Rafah crossing. Posts are requested to seek more information about this group from host governments and urge host governments to deter this group from attempting to break the naval blockade.

3. (C) BACKGROUND: After getting underway in India in early December, the "Asia to Gaza Solidarity Caravan," organized by the ad-hoc coalition "Asian People's Solidarity for Palestine," traveled through Pakistan and is currently in Iran. Iranian media reports that President Ahmadinejad greeted the caravan at an event in Tehran on December 13, and several Iranian MPs will join the group. Organizers state the caravan will continue on to Turkey and Syria en route to a Syrian or Turkish port, where goods and activists would board ships and sail to Rafah, Egypt before traveling to Gaza by land. Depending on timing, the caravan may seek to enter Jordan and/or Lebanon, or meet up with additional caravan elements originating from those countries. The group's aim is to arrive in Gaza on December 27, the second anniversary of 2008-2009 Israeli incursion into Gaza "Operation Cast Lead." Information from the organization can be found on its website at asiatogaza.org. Posts are also requested to seek more information on the "Asia to Gaza Solidarity Caravan."

4. (U) According to press reports and Asian People's Solidarity for Palestine press releases, organizers expect 100-500 activists from 17 Arab and Asian nations to participate. Organizers, including the Turkish Humanitarian Relief Foundation (IHH), announced plans for the caravan in early October in India, Iran, Indonesia, Lebanon, and Turkey.

5. (C/REL Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria) Amman, Beirut, and Damascus are requested to deliver the following points to appropriate host government officials. Please slug reply to NEA/IPA Jack Doutrich.

Begin talking points:

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- Early statements by organizers indicated that the "Asia to Gaza Solidarity Caravan" intended to break through Israel's naval blockade to deliver assistance to Gaza by sea.

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- We would be interested in hearing what your government knows about this group and its planned "Asia to Gaza Solidarity Caravan."

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- We urge you to take whatever steps you can to prevent this convoy from taking this approach; we must do all we can to avoid another incident like the tragic events of May 31 aboard the M/V Mavi Marmara.

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-- All those wishing to deliver goods should do so through established channels so cargo can be inspected and transferred via land crossings into Gaza.

-- We hope that you will engage the convoy organizers to underscore the need to focus on how best to assist the people of Gaza and to avoid provocative confrontations.

6. (U) Minimize considered.

CLINTON

Signature: CLINTON

Classified By: Ronald Schlicher, A/S, Acting NEA,
Declassify on: 2020/12/20
Drafted By: NEA_IPA:DOUTRICH, JACK T -- 12/20/10
Cleared By: NEA/FO:WALLES, JACOB SEMEP (NEA/I-POL):KHOURY-KINCANNON, SAHAR
NEA/IPA:BUZBEE, JOHN R NEA:RIGGS, SUSAN J EA/ELA:ABELL, J ANDREW
NEA:ROBERTS, KRISTI M DRL/MLGA:JOHNSTON-GARDNER, SARAH R (DRL)
L/AN:DOLAN, JOANN
Approved By: NEA/FO:SCHLICHER, RONALD L
Info: JERUSALEM, AMCONSUL *ROUTINE*; ANKARA, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; CAIRO,
AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; ISLAMABAD, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; NEW DELHI,
AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; TEL AVIV, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*
Attachments: metadata.dat

Action Post:

Dissemination Rule: POL, DAO_Action2, POL_INFO, EXEC_INFO

CONFIDENTIAL

I 255

Bowers, Allyson M

RELEASED IN PART 1.4(B),B1,B5,1.4(D),B6

From: Doutrich, Jack T
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2011 12:00 PM
To: Sindle, James M; Evans, Heidi B
Cc: Zurcher, Kenneth M
Subject: RE: FW: INITIAL ISRAELI RESPONSE ON ANNIVERSARY FLOTILLA DEMARCHE
Attachments: image001.gif

Categories: Working

B5

Jack Doutrich
Political Officer
NEA/IPA
(202) 647-4132

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

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Derived From: DSCG 05-1 b, d
Declassify On: 2021/04/18

From: Sindle, James M
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2011 11:04 AM
To: Doutrich, Jack T; Evans, Heidi B
Cc: Zurcher, Kenneth M
Subject: FW: FW: INITIAL ISRAELI RESPONSE ON ANNIVERSARY FLOTILLA DEMARCHE

Jack and Heidi,

Thanks,
Jim

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Derived From: DSCG 05-1 b, d
Declassify On: 2021/04/18

From: Grubb, Jason B
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2011 8:51 AM
To: NEA-IPA-DL; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL; 'Kumar, Prem G.'
Cc: TELAVIV POL; Goldberger, Thomas H
Subject: FW: INITIAL ISRAELI RESPONSE ON ANNIVERSARY FLOTILLA DEMARCHE

FYI...

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
 Derived From: DSCG 05-1 b, d
 Declassify On: 2021/04/18

From: SMART Core

Sent: Monday, April 18, 2011 03:44:17

To: Grubb, Jason B

Cc: USUN, SMARTS; SANAA-SMARTS; KUWAIT, SMARTS; BEIRUT, SMARTS; VATICAN, SMARTS; PARIS-SMARTS; ANKARA-SMARTS; RABAT-SMARTS; JEDDAH-SMARTS; MOSCOW-SMARTS; AbuDhabi-SMARTS; MADRID-SMARTS; RIYADH, SMARTS; DOHA, SMARTS; TELAVIV-SMARTS; DHAHRAN, SMARTS; BERLIN-SMARTS; USEU-SMARTS; TUNIS, SMARTS; CASABLANCA, SMARTS; LONDON-SMARTS; Damascus, SmartS; Baghdad, SMARTS; ALGIERS, SMARTS; Amman-SMARTS; MUSCAT-SMARTS; JERUSALEM-SMARTS; OSLO-SMARTS; NOUAKCHOTT, SMARTS; MANAMA, SMARTS; Cairo-SMARTS; GENEVA, SMARTS; MILAN-SMARTS; SMARTS, Reykjavik; Valletta, SMARTS; BAKU-SMARTS; SOFIA-SMARTS; NICOSIA, SMARTS; TBILISI, SMARTS; BARCELONA, SMARTS; Stockholm-SMARTS; BELGRADE-SMARTS; Dushanbe, SMARTS; VILNIUS, SMARTS; THEHAGUE-SMARTS; USNATO, SMARTS; YEREVAN-SMARTS; PODGORICA, SMARTS; ATHENS-SMARTS; SKOPJE, SMARTS; WARSAW-SMARTS; TALLINN, SMARTS; Sarajevo, SMARTS; BERN, SMARTS; UNVIE-SMARTS; LISBON, SMARTS; DUBLIN, SMARTS; Tashkent, SMARTS; BRUSSELS-SMARTS; OSCE-SMARTS; ISTANBUL, SMARTS; BUDAPEST-SMARTS; FRANKFURT, SMARTS; ZAGREB-SMARTS; LJUBLJANA-SMARTS; KYIV-SMARTS; Ottawa-SmartS; STRASBOURG-SMARTS; HELSINKI-SMARTS; ASTANA-SMARTS; TiranaSMARTS; Bishkek, SMARTS; BRATISLAVA-SMARTS; PRAGUE, SMARTS; HAMBURG-SMARTS; Riga, SMARTS; ROME, SMARTS; KRAKOW-SMARTS; LUXEMBOURG-SMARTS; NAPLES, SMARTS; Copenhagen-SMARTS; MUNICH-SMARTS; CHISINAU-SMARTS; Pristina, SMARTS; Ashgabat, SMARTS; BUCHAREST-SMARTS; VIENNA-SMARTS; PMAT (Pol-Mil Action Team); [REDACTED]

Aims, Clifford A;

B6

Subject: INITIAL ISRAELI RESPONSE ON ANNIVERSARY FLOTILLA DEMARCHE

CONFIDENTIAL



MRN: 11 TEL AVIV 505
Date/DTG: Apr 18, 2011 / 181242Z APR 11
From: AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE IMMEDIATE
E.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

Subject:

INITIAL ISRAELI RESPONSE ON ANNIVERSARY FLOTILLA DEMARCHE

1. (C) Summary: During brief pre-Passover conversations, MFA officials made clear they remain actively involved in efforts to prevent the upcoming flotilla scheduled to correspond with the one-year anniversary of the Mavi Marmara's interdiction. [REDACTED]

1.4(B)

1.4(D)

B1

2. (C) On April 18, MFA [REDACTED] welcomed refel points, and thanked Washington for this "important effort." [REDACTED]

3. [REDACTED]

1.4(B)

1.4(D)

B1

4. [REDACTED]

5. [REDACTED]

6. (SBU) We will follow up with [REDACTED] on April 26 once the Passover holidays conclude.

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: Released Copy

CONFIDENTIAL

Tracking:

Recipient

Sindle, James M

Evans, Heidi B

Zurcher, Kenneth M

Read

Read: 4/18/2011 12:00 PM

I268

Law, Rosemary C

From: Reisser, Wesley J
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 5:08 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, Nili I; Lewis, Glenn K; Beran, Sarah; Greengrass, Sara D; Kaplan, Dean M; Walker, Carolee B; Finver, Frank J; Greene, David J; Manning, 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 (Baghdad); Baily, Jess L; Tomlinson, Christina; Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Gisvold, Lisa C (Istanbul); Parker, Andrew C; Silliman, Douglas A; Rosenstock, Matthew S; Goodman, Ilan A; Danover, Jennifer J; Marwaha, Brianne C; Finnegan, Joseph P; Giauque, Jeffrey G (Belgrade); Frelich, Karlene H
Subject: Free Gaza Update & Spreadsheet
Attachments: Free Gaza May 2010.xlsx

All – Many thanks for your help so far, as we have been able to gather a lot of information for our Tel Aviv and Cairo colleagues use as the flotilla moves towards Gaza. Boats may arrive in waters off Gaza sometime between Friday and Sunday (with the MV Rachel Corrie en route from Ireland perhaps as late as Monday). We have gained confirmation from Cypriot authorities that the boats will not be allowed to dock there, so they will gather somewhere south of Cyprus and begin the final leg soon. I have put together a spreadsheet of the vessels as best as we know them. All information with a question mark has not been fully confirmed. We do not know which vessel many of the Amcits are on at this point, nor have we confirmed that some Amcits (such as [redacted]) are on a boat at all. As of this time, the Israeli Navy has publically announced that they intend to board all the ships, haul them into port and deport the passengers. They have reported that approved items will then be transferred to Gaza overland.

B6

The spreadsheet linked here should be both viewable and editable by everyone on this email. Please make use of it to update information for our Embassies on the receiving end of this as you gain more information! (I have attached a hard copy for those of you unable to access, but this should work for all on OpenNet.)

<http://nea.p.state.sbu/sites/ipa/Shared%20Documents/Free%20Gaza%20May%202010.xlsx>

Furthermore, as we move into a holiday weekend, I want to make sure that all the appropriate contacts are known, as I understand many key players (myself included) do not have blackberries and may need to be reached via State Ops:

CA/OCS – Kim Richter (Israel & Egypt), Teresa Mendel (Greece, Cyprus, Turkey), Bree Marwaha (OCS Duty Officer)
 NEA/IPA – Wes Reisser, in Washington on standby are also Jeff Giauque and Karlene Frelich
 NEA/Duty – Jennifer Danover
 Ops/CMS – Joe Finnegan
 Emb Tel Aviv Consular – Andy Parker
 Emb Tel Aviv DATT – [redacted]
 Emb Cairo Consular (if the boats go south to Egypt) – Yolanda Parra

Wes

Wesley J. Reisser, Ph.D.
 Desk Officer - NEA/IPA
 Office of Israel & Palestinian Affairs

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Phone (202) 647-2647
Fax (202) 736-4461

This message is UNCLASSIFIED/SBU according to the definitions provided by E.O. 12958.

RELEASED IN PART B6

I268A

Name of Ship	Point of Departure	Country/Flag	Known Amcits on Board
MV Rachel Corrie	Ireland	Cambodia/Cambodia	Dublin reports no Amcits on board
Challenger 1	Crete	Greece?/USA?	
Challenger 2	Crete	Greece?/USA?	
Mavi Marmara	Istanbul	Turkey/Turkey	
Gazze	Antalya	Turkey/Turkey	
Defne	Antalya	Turkey/Turkey	
			Ed Peck?,
Boat 8000	Athens?	unknown	
			Ed Peck?,
Eleftri Mesogeios	Athens?	unknown	

B6

(Listed Below are possible ones provided by Greece, but are not on the Israeli list of ships)

			Ed Peck?,
(unreadable) Ocean?	Athens	Marshall Is.	
			Ed Peck?,
Novorosysk Star?	Athens	Malta	
			Ed Peck?,
Kykladdes?	Athens	Panama	
			Ed Peck?,
Kallavan?	Athens	Marshall Is.	
			Ed Peck?,
Ocean Star?	Athens	Malta	
			Ed Peck?,
Shenandoah Highway?	Athens	Panama	

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

I290

Law, Rosemary C

From: Morrison, Andrew L
Sent: Saturday, July 10, 2010 9:37 PM
To: Masilko, Barbara J (USUN); NEA-IPA-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; Levin, Jan; Sievers, Marc J; Waters, John R; 'Prem_G._Kumar@nss.eop.gov'; Bass, Warren; Naranjo, Brian R; Anderson, Gerald C; Noble, David A.; Goodman, Ilan A; Scariatelli, Adam W; Kalmbach, Heather E; Katz, Jonathan D; Nossel, Suzanne F; Ostermeier, Amy A; NEA-ELA-DL; Struwe, Rebecca L; Kosa, Lauren S
Cc: Ried, Curtis R (USUN); Germain, Ellen J (USUN); Grant, William K (USUN); Baily, Jess L; Nardi, Margaret H; Riley, Richard H
Subject: AP: Libyan Aid Ship Plans Run to Gaza
Attachments: image001.jpg; image002.jpg

fyi:

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Published: July 11, 2010

ATHENS (AP) - A ship commissioned by a Libyan charity has left Greece with food and medical supplies for Gaza, but it remains unclear whether it will challenge the Israeli blockade of sea routes to the territory.. Greek authorities said the ship was headed to the Egyptian port of Al Arish, and not for Gaza, as originally planned. But Youssef Sawani, executive director of the Gaddafi International Charity and Development Foundation, which has mounted the aid operation, said that the goal remained to unload the supplies in Gaza. Still, Mr. Sawani said that the ship, the Amalthea, would not seek confrontation with the Israelis and that it would seek another "appropriate" destination if the Israelis refused to give it access to Gaza. The Amalthea's trip, which is expected to last several days, comes more than a month after Israeli commandos killed nine Turks in a raid on a flotilla trying to break the Gaza blockade.

From: Morrison, Andrew L
To: Morrison, Andrew L; Masilko, Barbara J (USUN); NEA-IPA-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; Levin, Jan; Sievers, Marc J; Waters, John R; 'Kumar, Prem G.' <Prem_G._Kumar@nss.eop.gov>; Bass, Warren; Naranjo, Brian R; Anderson, Gerald C; Noble, David A.; Goodman, Ilan A; Scariatelli, Adam W; Kalmbach, Heather E; Katz, Jonathan D; Nossel, Suzanne F; Ostermeier, Amy A; NEA-ELA-DL; Struwe, Rebecca L; Kosa, Lauren S
Cc: Ried, Curtis R (USUN); Germain, Ellen J (USUN); Grant, William K (USUN); Baily, Jess L; Nardi, Margaret H; Riley, Richard H
Sent: Fri Jul 09 20:48:01 2010
Subject: RE: New ship to Gaza? - Israeli letter to Security Council

B5

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

From: Morrison, Andrew L
Sent: Friday, July 09, 2010 8:42 PM
To: Masilko, Barbara J (USUN); NEA-IPA-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; Levin, Jan; Sievers, Marc J; Waters, John R; 'Kumar, Prem G.'; Bass, Warren; Naranjo, Brian R; Anderson, Gerald C; Noble, David A.; Goodman, Ilan A; Scariatelli, Adam W; Kalmbach, Heather E; Katz, Jonathan D; Nossel, Suzanne F; Ostermeier, Amy A
Cc: Ried, Curtis R (USUN); Germain, Ellen J (USUN); Grant, William K (USUN); Baily, Jess L; Nardi, Margaret H
Subject: RE: New ship to Gaza? - Israeli letter to Security Council

Looping in the Greece and Libya Desks, IO/HR, and IO/FO Suzanne Nossel and Jon Katz.

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Masilko, Barbara J (USUN)

Sent: Friday, July 09, 2010 8:35 PM

To: Morrison, Andrew L; NEA-IPA-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; Levin, Jan; Sievers, Marc J; Waters, John R; 'Kumar, Prem G.'; Bass, Warren; Naranjo, Brian R; Anderson, Gerald C; Noble, David A.

Cc: Ried, Curtis R (USUN); Germain, Ellen J (USUN); Grant, William K (USUN)

Subject: RE: New ship to Gaza? - Israeli letter to Security Council

No, the letter was not circulated until late (5:30 p.m.) so nothing yet. Has there been any DC action/reaction?

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Morrison, Andrew L

Sent: Friday, July 09, 2010 8:17 PM

To: Masilko, Barbara J (USUN); NEA-IPA-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; Levin, Jan; Sievers, Marc J; Waters, John R; 'Kumar, Prem G.'; Bass, Warren; Naranjo, Brian R; Anderson, Gerald C; Noble, David A.

Cc: Ried, Curtis R (USUN); Germain, Ellen J (USUN); Grant, William K (USUN)

Subject: RE: New ship to Gaza? - Israeli letter to Security Council

Thanks. Just saw the JPost report. Has there been any reaction to the letter?

Photo by: Associated Press



Israel asks UN to halt Libyan ship

By JPOST.COM STAFF AND REBECCA ANNA STOIL
07/10/2010 01:07

Israel on Friday has requested the UN step up efforts in preventing the Gaza-bound Libyan ship from setting sail from Greece Friday.

In an in an official letter to UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon, Israeli Ambassador to the UN Gabriela Shalev requested the international community use its power to halt the humanitarian aid ship, funded by an organization headed by the son of Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi.

"Israel calls upon the international community to exert its influence on the government of Libya to demonstrate responsibility and prevent the ship from departing to the Gaza Strip," the envoy requested.

"Israel reserves the right under international law to prevent this ship from violating the existing naval blockade on the Gaza Strip," Shalev told Ban Ki Moon.

The Moldova-flagged cargo ship Amalthea will leave no later than Saturday from the port of Lavrio, south of Athens, carrying 2,000 tons of food and medical supplies, officials from the organization told The Associated Press. There will be 27 people on board.

"The declared intentions of this mission are even more questionable and provocative given the recent measures taken by Israel to ensure the increase of humanitarian aid flowing into the Gaza Strip," Shalev stated in the letter.

Amalthea's journey to Gaza is expected to take up to 80 hours. Aid on the Amalthea included sacks of rice and sugar, and corn oil and olive paste mostly donated from Greek companies and charities, organizers said. The ship will also carry pro-Palestinian activists who are interested in breaking the blockade of Gaza.

The Israeli ambassador asked the UN and international community "to discourage their nationals from taking part in such action" and "expects the international community to ensure that this ship does not sail."

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Masilko, Barbara J (USUN)

Sent: Friday, July 09, 2010 8:12 PM

To: NEA-IPA-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; Levin, Jan; Sievers, Marc J; Waters, John R; Morrison, Andrew L; 'Kumar, Prem G.'; Bass, Warren; Naranjo, Brian R

Cc: Ried, Curtis R (USUN); Germain, Ellen J (USUN); Grant, William K (USUN)

Subject: New ship to Gaza? - Israeli letter to Security Council

Attached is the letter from the Israeli Mission to the Security Council, circulated late this afternoon, expressing concern that a Moldovan ship plans to depart tomorrow from Greece for Gaza.

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

RELEASED IN PART B5,B6

I303

Law, Rosemary C

From: Sutphin, Paul R
Sent: Friday, July 01, 2011 2:22 PM
To: NEA-IPA-DL
Subject: FW: Additional Flotilla Update - July 1 Open Source

B5

Thanks,

Paul Sutphin

Director

Office of Israel and Palestinian Affairs

Room 6251, Department of State

(T) 202-647-3672 (F) 202-736-4461

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Eussen, Matthew
Sent: Friday, July 01, 2011 1:48 PM
To: Spera, Vincent D
Cc: Patterson, Coney D; Silverman, Robert J; NEA-IPA-DL
Subject: Re: Additional Flotilla Update - July 1 Open Source

From: Spera, Vincent D
To: Eussen, Matthew
Cc: Patterson, Coney D
Sent: Fri Jul 01 20:41:22 2011
Subject: RE: Additional Flotilla Update - July 1 Open Source

- Vinny

From: Eussen, Matthew
Sent: Friday, July 01, 2011 1:12 PM

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

To: Doutrich, Jack T; Jakobson, Nicholas W; NEA-IPA-DL; EUR-SE-DL; NEA-Egypt; PM-CPMS; SES-O; Vasquez, Edgar J; Levin, Jan; Silverman, Robert J; Walles, Jacob; Sutphin, Paul R; Richter, Kim B; Worman, Patrick F; Zurcher, Kenneth M; Goldberger, Thomas H; Masilko, Barbara J (USUN); Marchese, Gregory M; Blome, Donald A; Waters, John R; Pilz, Amanda C; Miller, Walter R; 'Prem_G._Kumar@nss.eop.gov'; 'melissa.h.russell@'; Jacobson, Michael N; Bilge, Kerem S; CA-OCS-Duty; Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Rodriguez, Hugo F; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; Greene, Elisa; George, Leah
Subject: Re: Additional Flotilla Update - July 1 Open Source

B6

and Tweets from participants confirm US Audacity of Hope returning to port.

From: Eussen, Matthew

To: Doutrich, Jack T; Jakobson, Nicholas W; NEA-IPA-DL; EUR-SE-DL; NEA-Egypt; PM-CPMS; SES-O; Vasquez, Edgar J; Levin, Jan; Silverman, Robert J; Walles, Jacob; Sutphin, Paul R; Richter, Kim B; Worman, Patrick F; Zurcher, Kenneth M; Goldberger, Thomas H; Masilko, Barbara J (USUN); Marchese, Gregory M; Blome, Donald A; Waters, John R; Pilz, Amanda C; Miller, Walter R; 'Prem_G._Kumar@nss.eop.gov' <Prem_G._Kumar@nss.eop.gov>; 'melissa.h.russell@'; <melissa.h.russell@>; Jacobson, Michael N; Bilge, Kerem S; CA-OCS-Duty; Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Rodriguez, Hugo F; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; Greene, Elisa; George, Leah

Sent: Fri Jul 01 19:59:24 2011

Subject: Re: Additional Flotilla Update - July 1 Open Source

US to Gaza organizers post a prepared set of responses to boarding on website. It. Includes protests at Israeli missions in the U.S.

<http://ustogaza.org/emergency-support-actions/>

From: Eussen, Matthew

To: Doutrich, Jack T; Jakobson, Nicholas W; NEA-IPA-DL; EUR-SE-DL; NEA-Egypt; PM-CPMS; SES-O; Vasquez, Edgar J; Levin, Jan; Silverman, Robert J; Walles, Jacob; Sutphin, Paul R; Richter, Kim B; Worman, Patrick F; Zurcher, Kenneth M; Goldberger, Thomas H; Masilko, Barbara J (USUN); Marchese, Gregory M; Blome, Donald A; Waters, John R; Pilz, Amanda C; Miller, Walter R; 'Prem_G._Kumar@nss.eop.gov' <Prem_G._Kumar@nss.eop.gov>; 'melissa.h.russell@'; <melissa.h.russell@>; Jacobson, Michael N; Bilge, Kerem S; CA-OCS-Duty; Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Rodriguez, Hugo F; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; Greene, Elisa; George, Leah

Sent: Fri Jul 01 19:54:01 2011

Subject: Re: Additional Flotilla Update - July 1 Open Source

Israeli press report: <http://www.jpost.com/Israel/Article.aspx?id=227498>

Twitter feed from participant says passengers on US Audacity of Hope preparing to resist Hellenic CG boarding requesting US contact captain to urge he comply with CG's orders.

From: Eussen, Matthew

To: Doutrich, Jack T; Jakobson, Nicholas W; NEA-IPA-DL; EUR-SE-DL; NEA-Egypt; PM-CPMS; SES-O; Vasquez, Edgar J; Levin, Jan; Silverman, Robert J; Walles, Jacob; Sutphin, Paul R; Richter, Kim B; Worman, Patrick F; Zurcher, Kenneth M; Goldberger, Thomas H; Masilko, Barbara J (USUN); Marchese, Gregory M; Blome, Donald A; Waters, John R; Pilz, Amanda C; Miller, Walter R; 'Prem_G._Kumar@nss.eop.gov' <Prem_G._Kumar@nss.eop.gov>; 'melissa.h.russell@'; <melissa.h.russell@>; Jacobson, Michael N; Bilge, Kerem S; CA-OCS-Duty; Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Rodriguez, Hugo F; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; Greene, Elisa; George, Leah; Goldberger, Thomas H

Sent: Fri Jul 01 19:25:55 2011

Subject: Re: Additional Flotilla Update - July 1 Open Source

confirmed to us that Greek authorities worked in coord with Israel to prevent departure of flotilla ships.

From: Doutrich, Jack T

To: Jakobson, Nicholas W; NEA-IPA-DL; EUR-SE-DL; NEA-Egypt; PM-CPMS; SES-O; Vasquez, Edgar J; Levin, Jan;

Silverman, Robert J; Walles, Jacob; Sutphin, Paul R; Richter, Kim B; Worman, Patrick F; Zurcher, Kenneth M; Goldberger, Thomas H; Masilko, Barbara J (USUN); Marchese, Gregory M; Blome, Donald A; Waters, John R; Pilz, Amanda C; Miller, Walter R; 'Prem_G_Kumar@nss.eop.gov' <Prem_G_Kumar@nss.eop.gov>; Eussen, Matthew; 'Melissa Russell' <melissa.h.russell@nss.eop.gov>; Jacobson, Michael N; Bilge, Kerem S; CA-OCS-Duty; Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Rodriguez, Hugo F; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; Greene, Elisa; George, Leah; Daniels, Cherrie S; Slakey, Monica M; Rudman, Mara; Reed, Julia G; Khoury-Kincannon, Sahar; Bitar, Maher B; Norman, Marc E; Nardi, Margaret H; Smith, Daniel B (Athens); Miller, Thomas S (Athens); Lawton, Daniel J (Athens); Cockrell, John D (Athens); McKeever, Matthew X (Athens); Brandeis, Katherine L (Athens); Bass, Warren; Ried, Curtis R (USUN); Berns, David B

B6

Sent: Fri Jul 01 18:40:19 2011

Subject: RE: Additional Flotilla Update - July 1 Open Source

Further to the report AP report below, Embassy Athens POL is reporting that "The Audacity of Hope" is returning to the Port of Athens at the instruction of Greek authorities.

FYI, I just spoke with Ops concerning the Audacity of Hope, the U.S. Gaza flotilla ship at Piraeus. News reports indicated it left port late this afternoon, and Ops called for a status update. I spoke with Joe Hicks, who tracked down some info, which I conveyed via telephone to Ops.

The ship did leave port, without the permission of the Hellenic Coast Guard, which had forbidden the ship to depart due to questions of seaworthiness. The Greek authorities had instructed the vessel not to leave port.

At present, the Coast Guard has instructed the vessel to return to port, and "it is being returned to port," according to the info Joe had. It was NOT boarded by Hellenic Coast Guard. Greeks estimate 25 PAX, including media, on board.

JD.

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Doutrich, Jack T

Sent: Friday, July 01, 2011 11:00 AM

To: Doutrich, Jack T; Jakobson, Nicholas W; NEA-IPA-DL; EUR-SE-DL; NEA-Egypt; PM-CPMS; SES-O; Vasquez, Edgar J; Grubb, Jason B; Levin, Jan; Silverman, Robert J; Walles, Jacob; Sutphin, Paul R; Richter, Kim B; Worman, Patrick F; Zurcher, Kenneth M; Goldberger, Thomas H; Masilko, Barbara J (USUN); Marchese, Gregory M; Blome, Donald A; Waters, John R; Pilz, Amanda C; Miller, Walter R; 'Prem_G_Kumar@nss.eop.gov'; 'Melissa Russell'; Jacobson, Michael N; Bilge, Kerem S; CA-OCS-Duty; Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Rodriguez, Hugo F; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; Greene, Elisa; George, Leah; Daniels, Cherrie S; Slakey, Monica M; Rudman, Mara; Reed, Julia G; Khoury-Kincannon, Sahar; Bitar, Maher B; Norman, Marc E; Nardi, Margaret H; Smith, Daniel B (Athens); Miller, Thomas S (Athens); Lawton, Daniel J (Athens); Cockrell, John D (Athens); McKeever, Matthew X (Athens); Brandeis, Katherine L (Athens); Bass, Warren; Ried, Curtis R (USUN)

Subject: RE: Additional Flotilla Update - July 1 Open Source

Additional Media reports for July 1, 2011:

CNN Turk and NTV reporting that Greece is not letting Greek ships in the flotilla depart – on the scroll. Permission was not given to depart the port in Athens.

Gaza flotilla boat departs from Greek port (AP)

ATHENS (AP) - Witnesses say a boat carrying several dozen Americans who seek to break Israel's sea blockade of the Gaza Strip has set sail from a Greek port.

The boat dubbed "The Audacity of Hope" is part of a flotilla of nine vessels and several hundred activists who say they want to deliver aid to the Palestinian territory. The boat left the port of Perama on Friday afternoon. American activists have alleged that the administrative delays in their plans were caused by Israeli pressure on Greece. Israel has said it will thwart any effort to breach the sea blockade of Gaza.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Doutrich, Jack T

Sent: Friday, July 01, 2011 10:09 AM

To: Jakobson, Nicholas W; NEA-IPA-DL; EUR-SE-DL; NEA-Egypt; PM-CPMS; SES-O; Vasquez, Edgar J; Grubb, Jason B; Levin, Jan; Silverman, Robert J; Walles, Jacob; Sutphin, Paul R; Richter, Kim B; Worman, Patrick F; Zurcher, Kenneth M; Goldberger, Thomas H; Masilko, Barbara J (USUN); Marchese, Gregory M; Blome, Donald A; Waters, John R; Pilz, Amanda C; Miller, Walter R; 'Prem_G_Kumar@nss.eop.gov'; 'Melissa Russell'; Jacobson, Michael N; Bilge, Kerem S; CA-OCS-Duty; Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Rodriguez, Hugo F; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; Greene, Elisa; George, Leah; Daniels, Cherrie S; Slakey, Monica M; Rudman, Mara; Reed, Julia G; Khoury-Kincannon, Sahar; Bitar, Maher B; Norman, Marc E; Nardi, Margaret H; Smith, Daniel B (Athens); Miller, Thomas S (Athens); Lawton, Daniel J (Athens); Cockrell, John D (Athens); McKeever, Matthew X (Athens); Brandeis, Katherine L (Athens); Bass, Warren; Ried, Curtis R (USUN)

Subject: Flotilla Update - July 1 Open Source

Another Mysterious Malfunction

Yisrael Hayom July 1, 2011 (p.2) by Shlomo Cezana et al -- [...] [O]n Thursday Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu addressed the issue of the expected flotilla to Gaza and said that "sometimes, we not only need to deflect our enemies' physical attacks, but also deflect the attack on our right to protect ourselves." At the end of the IAF flight school graduation ceremony in Hatzerim, Netanyahu thanked the many world leaders who spoke out and acted against in recent days "against the provocation flotilla," first and foremost the American and European leaders, and the secretary general of the United Nations. The prime minister also commended his Greek counterpart George Papandreou, who is closely cooperating with Israel in coordinating the moves related to the flotilla. "Israel has the full right to act against the attempts to legitimize the smuggling of missiles, rockets and other weaponry for Hamas's terror enclave," Netanyahu said, in what could be understood as a hint to the damage some of the flotilla's vessels experienced.

Defense Minister Ehud Barak predicted on Thursday that the current flotilla would be calmer than the previous one, but stressed that Israel was bracing for any possible scenario. "The Marmara is absent and the IHH is absent, but nobody can predict that there won't be a small group, or that one of the ships will try to resist forcefully, or a more extreme case of somebody who brought weapons and will try to use them," Barak said. He added that the IDF's working premise was that they were liable to face extremely violent resistance, and even use of arms.

Barak threatened that a ship from which shots would be fired at IDF soldiers would be defined as a "terror ship." The implication would be a different attitude of the soldiers, in other words, the exercise of different procedures and other modes of action. "In such a case, things are simpler and more clear-cut. The soldiers will have an easier time dealing with it, since if they are fired at, this is no longer a ship of activists to them," security sources said on Thursday.

Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman said on Thursday that there is a wall-to-wall coalition in the world against the flotilla, but "there are marginal groups, anarchists and extreme Islamic groups, that will try to harm Israel by the flotilla. There are not coming to help the residents of Gaza, but to confront the State of Israel and create a provocation against it. As a sovereign state we can't allow anyone to harm our sovereignty. No self-respecting state would let that happen."

Information Minister Yuli Edelstein said on Thursday that the fact the flotilla was joined by Amin Abu Rashid, who is in charge of raising money for Hamas's terror activities, "is clear-cut evidence that this is not a humanitarian flotilla, but a covert flotilla for provocation and terror activity."

Edelstein added that in the previous flotilla, Rashid spoke of his intention to confront IDF soldiers, which should be taken into account as his intention for the current flotilla as well.

The US State Department on Thursday addressed the claims of deliberate sabotage to the ships, and the deputy spokesman said that while not justifying sabotage in any way, the flotilla itself is a bad idea that endangers the passengers.

Opposition Chairwoman Tzippi Livni met on Thursday with UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in New York, and called to continue the delegitimization of Hamas. "Whoever wants to help citizens doesn't do so by severe and unnecessary provocations like the planned flotilla. The international community should convey a clear message to this flotilla and those that will come, that such provocations are unacceptable and should be prevented and stopped," Livni said.

The Activists are Splitting

Yedioth Ahronoth July 1, 2011 (p. 5) by Yossi Yehoshua, Menahem Ganz and Itamar Eichner -- Intelligence information that has reached Israel indicates that a clash is developing between two groups of activists on the planned flotilla. The argument is over the departure date for Gaza and on willingness to promise not to employ violence in an encounter with the IDF.

Peace activists groups say that they worked on organizing the flotilla for a year and that they should wait until all the malfunctions are corrected. In contrast, the extremist group of Arabs, from different countries, is demanding to leave now with the ships that are operational (this is eight out of ten ships). Another argument is over the non-consent of the Arabs to sign forms obligating them not to use weapons and their extremist statements about their wanting to hurt IDF soldiers. [...]

...Yediot reported that Israel has obtained intelligence about Arab extremists who will not commit themselves to renounce violence and who wish for the flotilla to depart now. Yediot quoted a Dutch journalist who was supposed to join the flotilla as saying that he and other journalists and crew were leaving it because they had lost faith in the operation's organizers.

ISRAEL RADIO NEWS 7:00 AM Hebrew Report – July 1, 2011

*** Flotilla:** The flotilla to Gaza might be further delayed. Flotilla initiator Greta Berlin estimated it would set sail in five days after the damage to the vessels is repaired. Flotilla organizers claim that Israel sabotaged the ships.

ISRAEL RADIO July 1, 2011

GRETA BERLIN, FOUNDER OF THE FREE GAZA MOVEMENT AND ONE OF THE PROMINENT ORGANISORS OF THE FLOTILLA TOLD IL RADIO OVERNIGHT THAT SHE IS ON BOARD THE VESSEL "AUDACITY OF HOPE" ANCHORED IN PIRAEUS, "WAITING FOR THE FINAL PAPERWORK TO RELEASE OUR BOAT."

BERLIN TOLD IL RADIO:

"PEOPLE KEEP ASSURING US WE HAVE ONE MORE THING TO FILL OUT – ONE MORE THING TO DO. THE GREEK BUREAUCRACY IS DOING ITS BEST TO PREVENT US FROM GOING BUT WE'RE PRETTY DETERMINED. WE'VE SAID WE'RE GOING TO GO IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. I THINK THAT OUR DROP-DEAD DEADLINE IS GOING TO BE JULY 5TH. I REALISE THAT THAT IS 2 WEEKS LATER THAN WE SAID WE WERE GOING TO GO, BUT I'VE DONE A LOT OF THESE AND WE ARE NEVER ON TIME."

"SOMETIMES WE FEEL THAT WE ARE THE BESIEGED PEOPLE AS WELL AS THE PALESTINIANS OF GAZA. ISRAEL IS DOING ITS VERY VERY BEST TO MAKE SURE WE DON'T GET OUT OF PORT BECAUSE ONCE WE GET OUT OF PORT – AND WE WILL – THEY ARE NOW FACED WITH WHAT THEY ARE GOING TO DO WITH US. SO THEY WOULD RATHER SABOTAGE OUR BOATS, TIE US UP IN PAPERWORK AND PREVENT US FROM GOING. IT'S DIFFICULT FOR THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT TO UNDERSTAND THAT THAT IS NOT GOING TO CHANGE OUR DETERMINATION."

Jerusalem Political-Security Update – July 1, 2011

PM Netanyahu said Thursday [June 30] Israel is fully entitled to try to **stop an upcoming flotilla bound for the Gaza Strip in an attempt** to break Israel's naval blockade on the Strip. The Prime Minister said Israel has the full right to operate against efforts to smuggle missiles, rockets and other weapons to Hamas' terror enclave. PM Netanyahu expressed his gratitude to many world leaders who expressed themselves and acted against this provocation flotilla, including the US, Europe, the UN secretary general and Greek Prime Minister. Hamas is a ruthless enemy who maliciously harms the Israeli cities and children and holds Gilad Shalit captive against all humane standards, PM Netanyahu added at a graduating ceremony for Israel Air Force pilots.

YNET. July 1, 2011

Gazans unimpressed by flotilla (abridged)

Israeli claims over futility of flotilla receive reinforcement from surprising direction – Gazan businessmen who say it isn't imports that are problem, it's exports. 'Gaza doesn't need any more humanitarian aid,' says Gisha movement director

Israel has been claiming for quite some time that the desire to break through the blockade on the Gaza Strip is devoid of any basis since it is possible to transfer essential goods to Gaza through the monitored crossings. This claim received unexpected reinforcement on Thursday from none other than the Gazans themselves.

In a conversation with Ynet Palestinian businessmen expressed veiled criticism saying that the flotilla organizers were missing their target since the main problem wasn't getting goods into Gaza – but exporting them outside of the strip.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

I314

Law, Rosemary C

From: Levin, Jan
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 5:35 AM
To: Gaza Flotilla Monitoring Group
Subject: FW: DEPORTATIONS UPDATE -- IL RADIO

RELEASED IN PART
B6

FYI. Embassy Tel Aviv will try to confirm this afternoon.

Israel will act to immediately expel all the detainees according to the procedures set by law

Israel will act to immediately expel all the detainees according to the procedures set by law 01/06/2010. Following the discussion of the security and diplomatic cabinet today, the Prime Minister consulted with the Defense Minister, Justice Minister, and Interior Minister on the question of expelling the detainees from the flotilla to Gaza.

It was agreed that the detainees would be expelled immediately – according to the procedures set by law. The Interior Minister announced that the expulsion will begin this evening, and the assessment is that it can be completed in approximately 48 hours.

Subject: DEPORTATIONS UPDATE -- IL RADIO

IL RADIO REPORTS THAT TO DATE 325 PERSONS DETAINED FROM THE GAZA FLOTILLA HAVE BEEN TRANSFERRED TO BEN GURION AIRPORT FOR DEPORTATION TO TURKEY. APPROXIMATELY 180 REMAIN IN JAIL AND WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE AIRPORT IN THE COMING HOURS. IL RADIO'S REPORTER ADI ME'IRI SAYS IL INTENDS TO DEPORT ALL THE FOREIGN NATIONALS DETAINED IN CONNECTION WITH THE GAZA FLOTILLA BY THE END OF THE DAY.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

J; Cizek, Michael; Schellhammer, Michael W

Subject: DEPARTURE OF THE JULIA: Cyprus Marine Police Say It's Left Lebanon for Cyprus

The Cyprus Marine Police have just informed us that the JULIA has departed Lebanon and declared Cyprus as its next destination. They did not have further info on passengers/crew or follow-on destination. The JULIA did not indicate which port in Cyprus it intended to use. The Cyprus Marine Police are watching for it closely and will let us know if they learn more.

Can Embassy Beirut confirm that it has indeed departed Lebanon?

Thanks,
Jonathan

From: Daughton, Thomas F (Beirut)

Sent: Sunday, June 20, 2010 8:58 AM

To: 'Shapiro, Daniel B.'; 'Hajjar, Hagar H.'; Sievers, Marc J; Cunningham, James B; Lawson, Christine M; Catalano, Elisa; Connelly, Maura; Shampaine, Nicole D; Riley, Richard H; Evans, Jennifer R; Urbancic, Frank C; Cohen, Jonathan R; Walles, Jacob; Schlicher, Ronald L; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Holmstrom, Todd C

Cc: Sison, Michele J; Cornforth, Jeremy A; Bauer, Paul (Beirut); Lantz, James V; SES-O; 'Kumar, Prem G.'; Jackson, Mollie J

Subject: MORE INFO ON GOL BLOCKING DEPARTURE OF THE JULIA

B6

There are a couple of follow-up pieces of information this morning on the blocking of the JULIA:

[] contacted our DATT again last night with some background. [] reported that the JULIA had been stuck in some kind of legal limbo that had left it floating in Tripoli harbor for an extended period of time. After Hassan Nasrallah's June 4 speech calling for more ships to challenge the blockade on Gaza, someone [] speculates it may have been [] paid the money needed to deliver the ship out of its legal limbo. Since then, the ship has remained outside the port of Tripoli, a few hundred meters off the breakwater. It asked for authorization from the Tripoli port authority to enter the port and go pierside to be loaded with equipment for Gaza. To do so, it must pay an additional \$80,000 in fees, which [] says the promoters of the venture don't appear to have been able to get their hands on yet. [] who was not directly involved in last night's GOL action, reported that the key decision yesterday evening was the blocking of the ship's entry into Tripoli port (this tracks with what [] told the AMB).

[] reported further than he talked to [] [] said that he was dealing with the affair in coordination with the prime minister, defense minister and LAF commander Gen Kahwaji. [] told [] that so far the matter was not a military issue, but a political one (which [] agreed with). [] concluded that as of last night the JULIA was outside the port, had to pay \$80,000 to be granted authorization to enter, was causing embarrassment to everyone, and that "everyone is praying that the ship or [] shall neither have the money nor the will to proceed forward with that stupid enterprise." He also noted that the ship is in bad condition from a technical standpoint. It hasn't been at sea for a number of years because of the pending judicial problem. [] told [] that, among other things, JULIA has problems with its onboard power generators.

-- The AMB also received a text message from [] late last night. It said: "Until now, no sail. We are diluting the issue. I think that it will not sail."

Thomas F. Daughton
Deputy Chief of Mission
U.S. Embassy - Beirut, Lebanon
Tel: [961] 454-2600

I315

Law, Rosemary C

From: Connelly, Maura
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 11:21 AM
To: NEA-IPA-DL
Subject: FW: DG Statement to the Media

RELEASED IN PART B6

From: Dan Arbell [mailto:dcm@washington.mfa.gov.il]
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 9:07 AM
To: Connelly, Maura
Subject: Fwd: DG Statement to the Media

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Ushpiz Alon <Alon.Ushpiz@mfa.gov.il>
Date: 4 יוני 2010 09:07:20 GMT-04:00
To: Arbell Dan <Dan.Arbell@mfa.gov.il>
Cc: [REDACTED] "Lior Weintraub" <Emb-mng@washington.mfa.gov.il>
Subject: FW: DG Statement to the Media

B6

From: Benjamin Eliav
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 4:04 PM
To: Caspi Yigal; Palmor Yigal; Levy Yossef; Shacham Chaim; Zohar-Zonshine Daniel; Sztulman Ilan; David Andy
Cc: Ushpiz Alon; Cohen Gilad; Weitzman Ilan; Barak Rafael; Miller Brett Jonathan; Kursh Dana
Subject: DG Statement to the Media
Importance: High

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

להלן הצהרת המנכ"ל לתקשורת, מלפני מספר דקות:

I want to once again deliver a message that has been delivered in both public and private channels to the Rachel Corie ship heading toward Gaza:

"We have no desire for a confrontation. We have no desire to board the ship. If the ship decides to sail the port of Ashdod, then we will ensure its safe arrival and will not board it.

Israel is prepared to receive the ship and to offload its contents.

After an inspection to ensure that no weapons and war materials are on board, we are prepared to deliver all of the goods to Gaza.

Representative of the people on board and relevant NGOs are welcome to accompany the goods to the crossings.

We will work with the UN and international organizations to ensure that all the goods are used for the benefit of the people of Gaza."

עד כאן, לשימושכם המיידי.

Eliav Benjamin

Advisor to the Director General

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Tel: +972-2-5303968

Mobile: +972-50-6203506

Mobile: +972-52-2877137

Fax: +972-2-5303704

Email: Eliav.Benjamin@mfa.gov.il

[Http://www.mfa.gov.il](http://www.mfa.gov.il)



Before printing this email, please think about the environment

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This footnote confirms that this email message has been scanned by
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Law, Rosemary C

RELEASED IN PART NR,B6

I 3/16

From: Reisser, Wesley J
Sent: Friday, June 18, 2010 9:32 AM
To: Holmstrom, Todd C; Sindle, James M; Giauque, Jeffrey G; Frelich, Karlene H; Lawson, Christine M
Subject: FW: Background information on some of the upcoming flotillas
Attachments: image001.jpg

Latest from Beirut CONS. They have not been able to confirm any Amcit participation yet. They are continuing to press on this issue and are also reporting Sunday as the soonest the boat will sail.

From: Richter, Kim B
Sent: Friday, June 18, 2010 9:27 AM
To: Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Walker, Carolee B
Cc: Hunter, Jo-Ann L; Reisser, Wesley J
Subject: FW: Background information on some of the upcoming flotillas

Apparently Sunday would be the earliest the ship would sail – if it sails.

From: Jackson, Mollie J
Sent: Friday, June 18, 2010 4:21 PM
To: Greene, Elisa; Hosking, Erika L
Subject: RE: Background information on some of the upcoming flotillas

Hi Elisa-

We have not been able to obtain any biodata or confirm that there are any Americans on board. We only know what we've seen in the media, which is mention of the four AmCit nuns and possibly an AmCit journalist. Our POL section has been working extensively with the GOL to get the nationalities and any biodata for those on the potential manifest, so far without success. CA was able to confirm that [REDACTED] who was originally reported as being part of the flotilla, is in the U.S. and is not expected to join the flotilla.

B6

I've gotten permission to share with you on the unclass side that, as far as we are being told, Sunday would be the earliest possible date that the women's ship would sail.

Our latest reporting cable should be going out shortly. I'm sorry I don't have more specific information at this point...
Mollie

Privacy/PII
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Greene, Elisa
Sent: Friday, June 18, 2010 4:05 PM
To: Jackson, Mollie J; Hosking, Erika L
Subject: RE: Background information on some of the upcoming flotillas

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Is there anything you can share with me not on the high side? Difficult to access classified from here. Specifically, I'm looking for Amcit biodata and date any ships carrying Amcits will set sail from Lebanon (or elsewhere). Thanks, elisa

From: Jackson, Mollie J
Sent: Friday, June 18, 2010 3:54 PM
To: Greene, Elisa
Subject: RE: Background information on some of the upcoming flotillas

Elisa-

Erika Hosking, our ACS chief, is forwarding you a message on a high side, with some of the reporting our POL section has been doing on this issue. The latest report is from last night. I think tonight's report will be sent out as an actual cable.

Mollie

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Greene, Elisa
Sent: Friday, June 18, 2010 3:09 PM
To: Greene, Alden S; Abouzeid, Wahib G; Jackson, Mollie J; Richter, Kim B; Daughton, Thomas F (Beirut); Shampaine, Nicole D; Lawson, Christine M; Sison, Michele J; Cornforth, Jeremy A
Cc: Zeroubavely, Sandra S; Zuckerman, Eve; Parker, Andrew C; Tanus, George; Wetherbee, Amos A; Nobel, Natanya D; Plott, Susan M
Subject: FW: Background information on some of the upcoming flotillas

Dear Colleagues:

We have received unconfirmed reports that four Amcit nuns may be on an upcoming ship of women only sailing from Lebanon in an attempt to break the Israeli blockade on Gaza. Are you aware of this? If so, can you provide further information: names, biodata, where they will sail from, when, etc?

Media reports (thus far, Arabic-only, for example <http://daralhayat.com/portalaricicendah/153074>) state that the women-only ship, the Mariam, will be comprised of 50 women, of whom 30 are Lebanese and 20 are foreigners. They will be taking medical supplies and plan to sail "as soon as possible."

We look forward to your response,

Elisa Greene Chief, American Citizen Services **U.S. Embassy Tel Aviv, Israel**
Address from Israel: 71 Ha-Yarkon Street, Tel Aviv 63900, Israel
Address from the U.S.: Box 13, APO AE 09830, U.S.A.
Switchboard Tel: +972-3-519-7575; Fax: +972-3-517-2348; Email: greenee@state.gov

From: Otto, Jeffrey L
To: Parker, Andrew C
Cc: Slevens, Marc J
Sent: Fri Jun 18 12:52:31 2010
Subject: FW: Background information on some of the upcoming flotillas

Andy,
I'm forwarding this email from The Israel Project because of the reference to four AmCits (highlighted) that may be on the Miriam women's flotilla from Lebanon.
Regards,
-Jeff-

Jeffrey L. Otto
U.S. Embassy, Tel Aviv

From: Shai Oseran [mailto:shaio@theisraelproject.org]
Sent: Thursday, June 17, 2010 6:21 PM
To: Eli Ovits
Subject: Background information on some of the upcoming flotillas

Please find below some background information (and links to sources) on some of the upcoming flotillas from Lebanon and Iran – prepared by TIP's research team for your reference.

We will be happy to help facilitate interviews with experts on these subjects.

Eli Ovits
Director of Communications
The Israel Project - Israel Office
T: +972 (0)2 623 6427
C: +972 (0)54 807 9093
F: +972 (0)2 623 6439
www.theisraelproject.org

Journalists' flotilla

The ship is organized by Free Palestine, an organization headed by Yasser Qoshlok, who is also behind the *Miriam*, and by a Beirut-based group calling themselves "Journalists Without Bounds" and "Reporters Without Bounds" and "Journalists Without Limits" - not to be confused with Reporters Without Borders/Reporters Sans Frontières, the respected international NGO based in Paris. The Beirut-based group has a Facebook page and a blog:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=133472209999269&v=info#!/group.php?gid=133472209999269&v=info>

<http://journaliststogaza.wordpress.com/>

The organizers claim they will have 50 reporters on the ship, out of 225 reporters who applied to come along. The date of departure and the names of the people who will be on the ship remain unclear - apparently this is a policy decision.

With the exception of one reporter who wrote he applied to join, we have not seen any information about the participants.

NR

NR

Women flotilla

Relations to Hezbollah and Syria:

Samer al-Hajj will lead the *Miriam*. She is a former journalist and best known for being the wife of Ali al-Hajj, a former general in the Lebanese security forces implicated in the assassination of Rafik al-Hariri. Samer al-Hajj has been the public face of the *Miriam*. She has given many interviews in the past few days, including one that appeared on the Hezbollah website.

<http://www.alintiqad.com/essaydetails.php?eid=33463&cid=76>

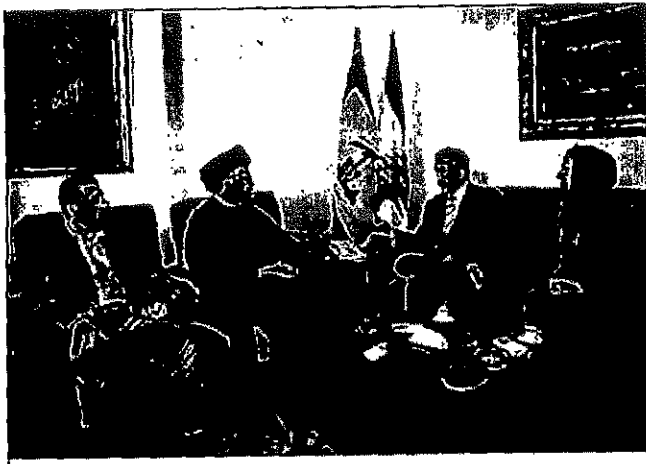
NR

<http://www.assafir.com/Article.aspx?EditionId=1548&ChannelId=36053&ArticleId=2433&Author=>

Even though Samer al-Hajj and Yasser Khashlak say the ship has no connection to Hezbollah or Hamas, she said in her last interview that Nasrallah's campaign to lift the siege is "something that is motivating everyone"

<http://daralhayat.com/portalarticlendam/153074>

The organizers say the ship will also be carrying four American nuns.



From right to left: Samer al-Hajj; Ali al-Hajj (her husband); Hassan Nasrallah (the Secretary General of Hezbollah);

Wafik Safa (head of the Hezbollah coordination and liaison committee, responsible for the negotiations to release murdered Israeli soldiers Ehud Goldwasser and Eldad Regev

NR

NR

The Iranian flotilla:

One of the Ayatollahs saying it is a privilege to die on the way to Gaza

<http://www.irna.ir/AR/View/FullStory/?NewsId=1173464&IdLanguage=2>

The former head of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard saying he is willing to go to Gaza the minute they will need him

<http://arabic.farsnews.com/newstext.aspx?nn=8903260150>

_____ Information from ESET NOD32 Antivirus, version of virus signature database 5204 (20100617)

The message was checked by ESET NOD32 Antivirus.

<http://www.eset.com>

RELEASED IN PART B6

I335

Law, Rosemary C

From: Grubb, Jason B
 Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 5:39 AM
 To: Sindle, James M; Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; 'Sergio L. Aguirre@nss.eop.gov'; Reisser, Wesley J; Holmstrom, Todd C; [redacted]@osd.mil'; Waller, Robert P; Rana, Gautam A; [redacted]@js.pentagon.mil'; [redacted]@osd.mil'; 'Daniel B. Shapiro@nss.eop.gov'; 'Prem G. Kumar@nss.eop.gov'; Burgess, Richard J; Hickey, Mary E; Schwartz, Jonathan B; [redacted]@eucom.mil'; [redacted]@js.pentagon.mil'; [redacted]@osd.mil'; Sievers, Marc J; Grubb, Jason B; Dolan, JoAnn; Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Giauque, Jeffrey G; Frelich, Karlene H; Connelly, Maura; Harris, Robert K; Mortlock, David JL; 'Timothy.P.Connors@uscg.mil'; Rudman, Mara; Waters, John R; Pelton, Erin; Harutunian, Ruben; Levin, Jan
 Subject: FW: News Updates on the Flotilla

B6

-----Original Message-----

From: Landau, Avida
 Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:25 PM
 To: Harutunian, Ruben; Levin, Jan; Feldboy, Yael; Gutman, Bonnie S; Hoyer, Kurt J
 Cc: Grubb, Jason B; Parker, Andrew C; Sievers, Marc J
 Subject: Re: News Updates on the Flotilla

Channel 1: new footage from on board the Marmara will be released shortly. Report saying that protesters used molotov cocktails against the soldiers and soldiers being thrown from the upper decks to lower decks in acts of lynch.

State of alert raised throughout israel, including in Gaza vicinity, Wadi Ara region, and within prison service for fear of riots.

Avida Landau
 Media specialist
 Press section
 U.S. Embassy, Tel Aviv
 Tel: 972-3-5103822/6
 Fax: 972-3-5103828
 Mobile: 972-57-420-6829
 E-mail: landauax@state.gov

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

----- Original Message -----

From: Harutunian, Ruben
 To: Landau, Avida; Levin, Jan; Feldboy, Yael; Gutman, Bonnie S; Hoyer, Kurt J
 Cc: Grubb, Jason B; Parker, Andrew C; Sievers, Marc J
 Sent: Mon May 31 11:40:01 2010
 Subject: RE: News Updates on the Flotilla

Just spoke with [redacted] at the IDF:

--confirmed live fire on the Israeli Navy troops as they boarded the Free Gaza vessel; --no way to indicate when the boats will arrive at Ashdod Port, as last night's events have delayed the voyage; --this was a clear act of a pre-planned lynch, committed by those on board the flotilla vessels; --large gap between the stated mission of the voyage and its outcomes; --Israeli Navy forces were under strict orders not to confront passengers; --last night, the vessels were contacted once again with the offer to divert goods to Ashdod, but were met with a refusal and curses

Ruben

-----Original Message-----

From: Landau, Avida

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:20 AM

To: Harutunian, Ruben; Levin, Jan; Feldboy, Yael; Gutman, Bonnie S; Hoyer, Kurt J

Cc: Grubb, Jason B; Parker, Andrew C; Sievers, Marc J

Subject: Re: News Updates on the Flotilla

From Ayalon press conference:

We are sorry for any loss of life.

This was not a humanitarian mission

We offered them to help transfer the goods to gaza but they refused.

They said their intent was to break the blockade on gaza and not a humanitarian mission.

Allowing these ships to get to gaza would have opened a channel to gaza for smuggling of weapons and other banned goods and would have caused more bloodshed.

The organizers did not heed the calls to peacefully follow them to port.

No sovereign country would have tolerated such violence.

We are calling all countries involved to do everything in their power to calm the situation and bring to a peaceful end.

The organizing body of this flotilla is well known to have ties with Hamas and they had the interest to provoke violence.

Avida Landau
Media specialist
Press section
U.S. Embassy, Tel Aviv
Tel: 972-3-5103822/6
Fax: 972-3-5103828
Mobile: 972-57-420-6829
E-mail: landauax@state.gov

----- Original Message -----

From: Harutunian, Ruben

To: Landau, Avida; Levin, Jan; Feldboy, Yael; Gutman, Bonnie S; Hoyer, Kurt J

Cc: Grubb, Jason B; Parker, Andrew C; Sievers, Marc J

Sent: Mon May 31 11:08:21 2010

Subject: Re: News Updates on the Flotilla

Live on bbc

Ruben Harutunian
Deputy Press Attche
Office of Public Affairs
United States Embassy Tel Aviv

Tel: (057)4206815

----- Original Message -----

From: Landau, Avida
To: Levin, Jan; Harutunian, Ruben; Feldboy, Yael; Gutman, Bonnie S; Hoyer, Kurt J
Cc: Grubb, Jason B; Parker, Andrew C; Sievers, Marc J
Sent: Mon May 31 11:06:38 2010
Subject: Re: News Updates on the Flotilla

Ayalon press conference just started

Avida Landau
Media specialist
Press section
U.S. Embassy, Tel Aviv
Tel: 972-3-5103822/6
Fax:972-3-5103828
Mobile:972-57-420-6829
E-mail:landauax@state.gov

----- Original Message -----

From: Levin, Jan
To: Landau, Avida; Harutunian, Ruben; Feldboy, Yael; Gutman, Bonnie S; Hoyer, Kurt J
Cc: Grubb, Jason B; Parker, Andrew C; Sievers, Marc J
Sent: Mon May 31 10:52:12 2010
Subject: Re: News Updates on the Flotilla

All: I will accompany the Ambassador to the 12 noon MFA briefing and will be out of touch during the briefing. If there are updates after 12, please cc: Jason Grubb and he will update the larger list.

Thanks.

Jan

----- Original Message -----

From: Landau, Avida
To: Harutunian, Ruben; Feldboy, Yael; Gutman, Bonnie S; Hoyer, Kurt J
Cc: Levin, Jan
Sent: Mon May 31 10:30:44 2010
Subject: Re: News Updates on the Flotilla

Avi Bnayahu IDF spokesman said that some of those killed had taken weapons from the soldiers and fired live rounds at the soldiers. He is saying the soldiers were lynched and were in danger for their lives.

Body count: 10 protesters dead
10 soldiers wounded

Avida Landau
Media specialist
Press section
U.S. Embassy, Tel Aviv
Tel: 972-3-5103822/6
Fax:972-3-5103828

Mobile:972-57-420-6829
E-mail:landauax@state.gov

----- Original Message -----

From: Harutunian, Ruben
To: Landau, Avida; Feldboy, Yael; Gutman, Bonnie S; Hoyer, Kurt J
Cc: Levin, Jan
Sent: Mon May 31 10:24:18 2010
Subject: Re: News Updates on the Flotilla

Mark Regev on BBC insisting that the Israeli Naval Forces came under live fire from on-board the intercepted vessel.

Ruben Harutunian
Deputy Press Attche
Office of Public Affairs
United States Embassy Tel Aviv
Tel: (057)4206815

----- Original Message -----

From: Landau, Avida
To: Harutunian, Ruben; Feldboy, Yael; Gutman, Bonnie S; Hoyer, Kurt J
Cc: Levin, Jan
Sent: Mon May 31 10:19:40 2010
Subject: Re: News Updates on the Flotilla

☐ is saying that the soldiers were met with fierce opposition, including with knives, spikes, pipes, and other blunt and sharp objects.

B6

Avida Landau
Media specialist
Press section
U.S. Embassy, Tel Aviv
Tel: 972-3-5103822/6
Fax:972-3-5103828
Mobile:972-57-420-6829
E-mail:landauax@state.gov

----- Original Message -----

From: Harutunian, Ruben
To: Landau, Avida; Feldboy, Yael; Gutman, Bonnie S; Hoyer, Kurt J
Cc: Levin, Jan
Sent: Mon May 31 10:16:52 2010
Subject: Re: News Updates on the Flotilla

Mark Regev is on BBC right now as well

Ruben Harutunian
Deputy Press Attche
Office of Public Affairs
United States Embassy Tel Aviv
Tel: (057)4206815

----- Original Message -----

From: Landau, Avida

To: Feldboy, Yael; Harutunian, Ruben; Gutman, Bonnie S; Hoyer, Kurt J
Cc: Levin, Jan
Sent: Mon May 31 10:15:48 2010
Subject: Re: News Updates on the Flotilla

Avital is on TV now giving a statement

Avida Landau
Media specialist
Press section
U.S. Embassy, Tel Aviv
Tel: 972-3-5103822/6
Fax: 972-3-5103828
Mobile: 972-57-420-6829
E-mail: landauax@state.gov

----- Original Message -----

From: Feldboy, Yael
To: Harutunian, Ruben; Gutman, Bonnie S; Hoyer, Kurt J; Landau, Avida
Cc: Levin, Jan
Sent: Mon May 31 10:13:44 2010
Subject: Re: News Updates on the Flotilla

[REDACTED]

B6

----- Original Message -----

From: Harutunian, Ruben
To: Feldboy, Yael; Gutman, Bonnie S; Hoyer, Kurt J; Landau, Avida
Cc: Levin, Jan
Sent: Mon May 31 10:08:13 2010
Subject: Re: News Updates on the Flotilla

Yael,

I'd like to speak with the IDF's spokesman, to get her sense of what's happened. Could you please pass me the number for [REDACTED] or whoever else you think is more appropriate. Thanks!

Ruben

Ruben Harutunian
Deputy Press Attche
Office of Public Affairs
United States Embassy Tel Aviv
Tel: (057)4206815

----- Original Message -----

From: Feldboy, Yael
To: Gutman, Bonnie S; Hoyer, Kurt J; Harutunian, Ruben; Landau, Avida
Cc: Levin, Jan
Sent: Mon May 31 10:03:39 2010
Subject: News Updates on the Flotilla

All,

At the request of Jan Levin and the approval of Bonnie Gutman we'll assist POL on updates. As of 1100, Avida has agreed to be on duty.

As of now, Jan has requested to update her by phone. Preferably at her home phone. Her contact no; 0774821574 H; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] will also update all of us by email on dramatic developments if take place.
Have a nice day, where ever you are scattered... Y.

B6

RELEASED IN PART B6

I336

Law, Rosemary C

From: Grubb, Jason B
 Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 6:13 AM
 To: Sindle, James M; Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; 'Sergio L. Aguirre@nss.eop.gov'; Reisser, Wesley J; Holmstrom, Todd C; [REDACTED] Waller, B6
 Robert P; Rana, Gautam A; [REDACTED]
 'Daniel_B_Shapiro@nss.eop.gov'; 'Prem G. Kumar@nss.eop.gov'; Burgess, Richard J;
 Hickey, Mary E; Schwartz, Jonathan B; [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED] Sievers, Marc J; Grubb, Jason B;
 Dolan, JoAnn; Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Giauque, Jeffrey G; Frelich, Karlene H; Connelly,
 Maura; Harris, Robert K; Mortlock, David JL; [REDACTED] Rudman, Mara;
 Waters, John R; Pelton, Erin; Harutunian, Ruben; Levin, Jan; Roberts, Kristi (Tel Aviv)
 Subject: FW: News Updates on the Flotilla

Fyi...

-----Original Message-----

From: Harutunian, Ruben
 Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:12 PM
 To: Landau, Avida; Levin, Jan; Feldboy, Yael; Gutman, Bonnie S; Hoyer, Kurt J
 Cc: Grubb, Jason B; Parker, Andrew C; Sievers, Marc J
 Subject: RE: News Updates on the Flotilla

BBC just reporting that Turkey is recalling its ambassador to Israel.

-----Original Message-----

From: Landau, Avida
 Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:59 PM
 To: Harutunian, Ruben; Levin, Jan; Feldboy, Yael; Gutman, Bonnie S; Hoyer, Kurt J
 Cc: Grubb, Jason B; Parker, Andrew C; Sievers, Marc J
 Subject: Re: News Updates on the Flotilla

Channel 10: anti-terror bureau issued a travel warning for Israelis who are in Turkey to stay indoors and keep out of the streets.

Avida Landau
 Media specialist
 Press section
 U.S. Embassy, Tel Aviv
 Tel: 972-3-5103822/6
 Fax: 972-3-5103828
 Mobile: 972-57-420-6829
 E-mail: landauax@state.gov

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

RELEASED IN PART B6

I339

Law, Rosemary C

From: Reisser, Wesley J
Sent: Tuesday, August 31, 2010 9:13 AM
To: NEA-IPA-DL
Subject: FW: Gaza Flotilla Fundraising--Dublin Daily - August 31, 2010
Attachments: image001.jpg

Categories: Working

From Embassy Dublin – still just in a fund raising mode.

Fundraising for Second Gaza Flotilla

(U) A coalition of seven pro-Palestinian groups in Ireland has launched a fundraising campaign to purchase an Irish ship to participate in the planned "Second Freedom Flotilla" to Gaza. [redacted] an Irish campaigner who was one of the eight Irish citizens who travelled with the first flotilla in May, is spearheading the project. [redacted] said the coalition is raising funds to buy a boat, fuel, and hire a legal team. Up to 50 Irish citizens are expected to take part in the new flotilla. An Irish-funded vessel, the Rachel Corrie, was among those in the May flotilla.

B6

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Garrigus, Ashley
Sent: Tuesday, August 31, 2010 8:52 AM
To: Reisser, Wesley J
Subject: Gaza Flotilla Fundraising--Dublin Daily - August 31, 2010

Wesley,

I am covering the Ireland desk in Jason Hackworth's absence and he asked that I send today's 'Dublin Daily' to you, highlighting the "Fundraising for Second Gaza Flotilla".

Best,

Ashley Garrigus

U.S. Department of State
 Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs
 Office of Western Europe, Rm 5218
 Phone: 202-647-5687
 Email: GarrigusA@state.gov

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

RELEASED IN PART B6

I341

Law, Rosemary C

From: Reisser, Wesley J
 Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 11:36 AM
 To: Gaza Flotilla Monitoring Group
 Subject: FW: MV Rachel Corrie Manifest
 Attachments: CARGO MANIFEST img090.jpg; PASSENGERS ON THE MV RACHEL CORRIE.doc; UN Certification Team request.pdf

Emb Tel Aviv or CA/OCS – Please check the manifest against PIERS. All others, FYI on the Rachel Corrie from the NGO community.
 Wes

From: [REDACTED]
 Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 11:32 AM
 To: Reisser, Wesley J
 Cc: [REDACTED]
 Subject: Re: MV Rachel Corrie Manifest

B6

Dear Wesley,

Thank you for calling me back yesterday. As discussed, and with the permission of [REDACTED] I am forwarding the list of passengers and the manifest for the MV Rachel Corrie. There is an international crew. You asked specifically if any Americans will be on board. Although none are currently registered, [REDACTED] weighing the possibility of going.

I am copying [REDACTED] on this message.

My goal is to help to assure maximum transparency and safety for voyage of the MV Rachel Corrie and any boats who may join them, in part because these are my friends are the organizers and in part because the Rebuilding Alliance put chocolates and school supplies, sports equipment and wheelchairs, and cement to build a kindergarten on that boat. Your suggestions on behalf of the State Department would be sincerely appreciated.

The Rebuilding Alliance and the Free Gaza Movement are ramping up to tell the stories of the NGO projects that will receive the humanitarian aid and to publish the passenger list and manifest as well. Please note the request I sent [REDACTED] to the Quartet in April, requesting temporary "UN Certification Team" status and support to go to Gaza to assure transparency for this all-NGO transport and project installment -- there was no reply from the Quartet. Can you raise the proposal now at the Quartet level? Please note: My team and I are uniquely qualified to assume this role in Gaza and hold an invitation from UNRWA and good welcome from the Palestinian NGO Network, and Gaza Community Mental Health Programme. President Carter can press a message to the H government to assure that the NGOs have full approval to receive the materials and install them with streamlined building permits. I am well-positioned to form a team in Gaza to certify use of construction materials by the NGO's --- and these are your best allies.

Please note there are no plans to bring the MV Rachel Corrie or other boats to Turkey nor are they requesting military escort. They do not expect to leave for Gaza until early next week.

You can also reach [REDACTED] by phone at the following numbers:

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

B6

[REDACTED]

Sincerely,
Donna
Mobile: 650 440-9667

P.S. I am copying [REDACTED] on this message. If you are having difficulty reaching me please give [REDACTED] a call at [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On Thu, Jun 3, 2010 at 7:35 AM, Reisser, Wesley J <ReisserWJ@state.gov> wrote:

[REDACTED] – Do you have the manifest as we discussed yesterday? Any info you have is exceptionally helpful so that our consular personnel in Tel Aviv can be ready to assist Americans as necessary.

B6

Wes

Wesley J. Reisser, Ph.D.
Desk Officer - NEA/IPA
Office of Israel & Palestinian Affairs
Phone (202) 647-2647
Fax (202) 736-4461

This message is UNCLASSIFIED/SBU according to the definitions provided by E.O. 12958.

RELEASED IN PART B6

I362

Law, Rosemary C

From: Bartels, Katharine V
Sent: Saturday, June 05, 2010 1:21 PM
To: Gaza Flotilla Monitoring Group
Subject: FW: Rachel Corrie Boarding

FYI...

From: Parker, Andrew C
Sent: Saturday, June 05, 2010 1:13 PM
To: Levin, Jan; Bartels, Katharine V; Sievers, Marc J
Cc: Burnett, David R; Greene, Elisa
Subject: Re: Rachel Corrie Boarding

The Irish consul is with the 19 from the ship at a facility in Holon near TLV. At 10 pm they will go to Ben Gurion detention facility. Those who accept will be repatriated ASAP. They have 72 hours to appeal their deportation. Those who take the three days to think about that will most likely be repatriated at the end of the 72 hours, ie use the time to make their point. No Amcits, but one Cuban. He also told me that a participant in the first wave of boats [redacted] was Irish but also Amcit, former US Marine, who had tried at some point to relinquish US citiz.

B6

From: Levin, Jan
To: Bartels, Katharine V; Sievers, Marc J
Cc: Parker, Andrew C; Burnett, David R
Sent: Sat Jun 05 19:36:07 2010
Subject: Re: Rachel Corrie Boarding

I don't have anything new, Katherine, but pls see my colleague Dave Burnett's msg re distro of goods. CG Andy Parker may be able to answer your question as to where the activists are being held and how long they might expect to stay in Israel.

From: Bartels, Katharine V
To: Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan
Sent: Sat Jun 05 19:20:04 2010
Subject: RE: Rachel Corrie Boarding

Hi Jan/Marc,

I'm drafting the SitRep for NEA this afternoon and wanted to check in to see if there were any additional developments regarding the Rachel Corrie since Marc's last email below.

Specifically:

1. Do we have any further information on the delivery of goods? Or are things on hold as it's a Saturday?
2. Any other information regarding the ship's cargo?
3. Where are the activists being held? Are they likely to be released or will they remain in Israel for some time?

Many thanks,
 Kit Bartels
 NEA Duty Officer

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

RELEASED IN PART B6

I 363.

Law, Rosemary C

From: Reisser, Wesley J
Sent: Tuesday, July 20, 2010 10:08 AM
To: NEA-IPA-DL
Subject: FW: Rachel Corrie -- FYI from Dublin

FYI

From: Hackworth, Jason K
Sent: Tuesday, July 20, 2010 9:42 AM
To: Reisser, Wesley J
Subject: Rachel Corrie -- FYI from Dublin

Flotilla Boat to Be Released

(U) An Irish-owned ship that took part in the flotilla attempt to break the blockade of Gaza should be released within the next two weeks. The Rachel Corrie is the only remaining ship held by Israel. The ship's first mate, [REDACTED] was informed by authorities at the Port of Ashod of the procedures necessary to return the ship. B6 Irish activists aboard the ship during its first attempt to break the blockade are now planning for another try in the next few months.

(SBU) Comment: Irish public opinion is strongly in favor of ending the Gaza blockade of Gaza. Many Irish tend to view the Israel/Palestine situation through their own troubled history with the British, siding philosophically with the Palestinians. End comment.

Jason K. Hackworth
Desk Officer for Ireland and Northern Ireland
(202) 647-6585 phone
(202) 647-3459 fax
hackworthjk@state.gov

AS OUTLINED IN THE PROVISIONS OF E.O. 12958 THIS E-MAIL IS UNCLASSIFIED

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

RELEASED IN PART B5

I3666

Law, Rosemary C

From: Sindle, James M
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 8:41 PM
To: Connelly, Maura
Cc: NEA-IPA-DL
Subject: FW: U.S. flagged vessels in the second wave of the GAZA Flotilla

Below is L/OES's legal views regarding how we might deal with Challenger II. Highlighted portion describes the option we're currently looking at.

Jim

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 8:24 PM
To: Sindle, James M; Maggi, Robert W
Cc: PM-Counter-Piracy-DL; Countryman, Thomas; Maxwell, Raymond D; Johns, Terry M; O'Brien, Gregory J (OES); Frederick, Jeffrey D; Kirshner, Amy Coletta; Polizzotto, Susan; 'Frederick.J.Kenney@uscg.mil'; Darr, Charles
Subject: RE: U.S. flagged vessels in the second wave of the GAZA Flotilla

Pasted below are some factual/legal bullets, which L/FO provided informally to the 7th floor....some of which respond to questions posed in the email string below. Also, I'm copying USCG colleagues, since some of the legal angles are in their lane (and they are of course invited to correct or amplify, as appropriate).

Thanks,
 Kevin

Factual Issues

- There are two vessels – Challenger I and Challenger II – that have been involved in this incident and are confirmed as U.S. flagged yachts (Delaware registered). Challenger I is believed to have been part of the flotilla that was intercepted on Monday by the IDF, although there were no violent confrontations with this vessel.
- Although the facts are uncertain, Challenger II is believed to be currently in the Cypriot port of Limassol, with the likely intent of breaching the blockade in the coming days. Cypriot authorities have stated that they are not allowing ships to depart for the blockade.
- It appears there are 12-20 persons on each vessel; Challenger II does not appear to have any AMCITs on board. As a pleasure craft, it is not equipped with identification/tracking gear, which makes it harder to track its location.

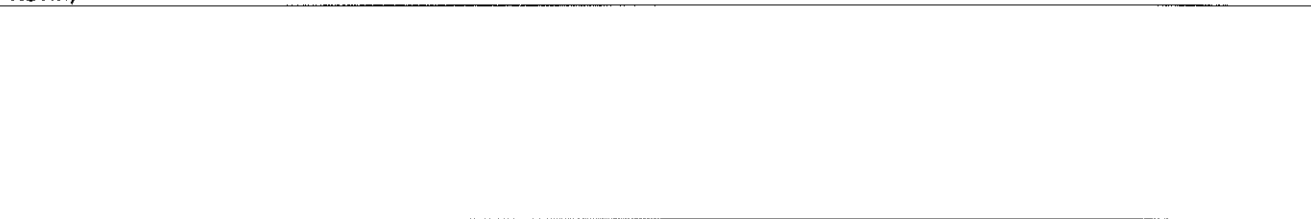
Legal issues and possible courses of action

B5

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

From: Sindle, James M
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 12:12 PM
To: Baumert, Kevin A; Maggi, Robert W
Cc: PM-Counter-Piracy-DL; Countryman, Thomas; Maxwell, Raymond D; 'Cook, Kevin RDML'; Johns, Terry M; O'Brien, Gregory J (OES); Frederick, Jeffrey D; Kirshner, Amy Coletta; Polizzotto, Susan
Subject: RE: U.S. flagged vessels in the second wave of the GAZA Flotilla

Kevin,



Thanks,

Jim Sindle

Pol-Mil Officer
Office of Israel and Palestinian Affairs
U.S. Department of State

Unclassified: SindleJM@state.gov
Classified: SindleJM@state.sgov.gov

202-647-4386 (office)

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 11:59 AM
To: Maggi, Robert W
Cc: PM-Counter-Piracy-DL; Countryman, Thomas; Sindle, James M; Maxwell, Raymond D; 'Cook, Kevin RDML'; Johns, Terry M; O'Brien, Gregory J (OES); Frederick, Jeffrey D; Kirshner, Amy Coletta
Subject: RE: U.S. flagged vessels in the second wave of the GAZA Flotilla

B5

From: Maggi, Robert W
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 11:49 AM
To: Baumert, Kevin A
Cc: PM-Counter-Piracy-DL; Countryman, Thomas; Sindle, James M; Maxwell, Raymond D; Cook, Kevin RDML; Johns, Terry M; O'Brien, Gregory J (OES); Frederick, Jeffrey D; Kirshner, Amy Coletta
Subject: FW: U.S. flagged vessels in the second wave of the GAZA Flotilla

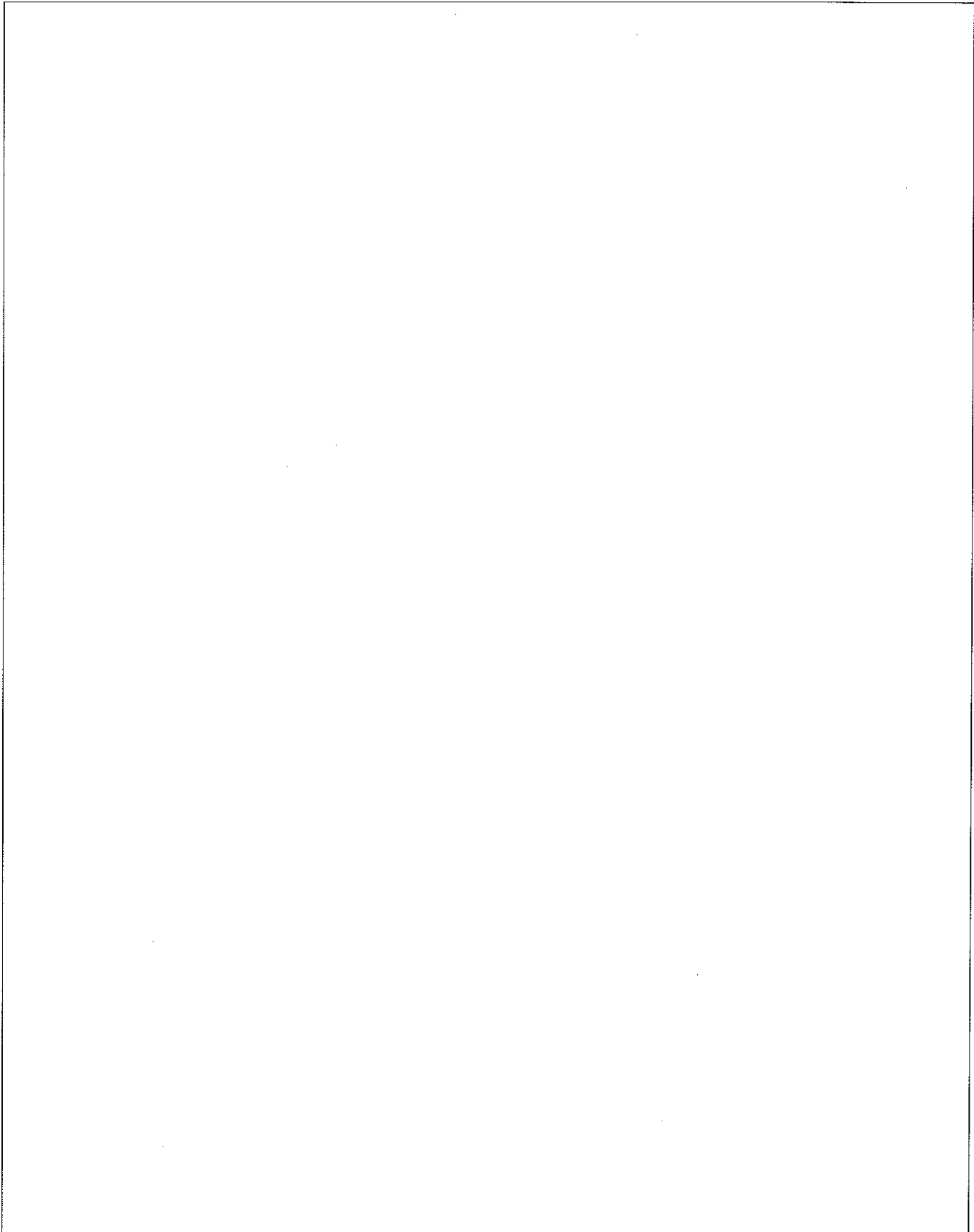
Kevin, thanks!

Best
turk

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 9:36 AM
To: Sindle, James M; Polizzotto, Susan; Warner, Trent (OES-OPA); Johns, Terry M; O'Brien, Gregory J (OES); Frederick, Jeffrey D
Subject: RE: US flagged vessels

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 12:08 AM
To: Thessin, James H
Cc: Townley, Stephen G; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Harris, Robert K; Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F
Subject: US flagged vessels

B5



Thanks,

Kevin

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

1367

Bowers, Allyson M

From: Snipes, Christopher K
Sent: Friday, June 24, 2011 12:03 PM
To: Riley, Robert J; Gregonis, Meghan E
Cc: NEA-IPA-DL
Subject: FW: FPD IIR Gaza Freedom Flotilla

Categories: Working

[Redacted]

B5

Sensitivity: Sensitive
Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Derived From: Derived from previous message in thread.
Declassify On: 2036/06/24

From: Lawton, Daniel J (Athens)
Sent: Friday, June 24, 2011 11:33 AM
To: Snipes, Christopher K
Cc: Goodman, Ilan A; Smith, Daniel B (Athens); Miller, Thomas S (Athens)
Subject: FW: FPD IIR Gaza Freedom Flotilla

1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

Chris -

1)

2)

3)

[Redacted]

Regards,
Dan L.

Sensitivity: Sensitive
Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Classified by: Daniel Lawton, Political Counselor, Embassy Athens
Reason: 1.4b, d
Declassify On: 2036/06/24

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

I 369

Bowers, Allyson M

From: Snipes, Christopher K
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2011 10:58 AM
To: Riley, Robert J; Gregonis, Meghan E
Cc: NEA-IPA-DL
Subject: FW: FPD IIR Gaza Freedom Flotilla Follow-up Two
Attachments: IIR 6 120 0022 11 - IDENTIFICATION OF SHIPS PARTICIPATING IN THE.doc

RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP

Categories: Working

The attachment contains the names and locations of the flotilla ships. Chris

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

Sensitivity: Sensitive
Classification: SECRET//NOFORN
Derived From: MS
Declassify On: 2021/06/28

From: Lawton, Daniel J (Athens)
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2011 10:47 AM
To: Snipes, Christopher K; Goodman, Ian A
Subject: FW: FPD IIR Gaza Freedom Flotilla Follow-up Two

Chris/Ilan – Over to you. Regards, Dan

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Sensitivity: Sensitive
Classification: SECRET//NOFORN
Derived From: MS
Declassify On: 2021/06/28

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

From: Hicks, Joseph T (Athens)
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2011 4:31 PM
To: Purcell, Alan S (Athens); [REDACTED]; Brandeis, Charles B3 DOD-CP
Cc: Lawton, Daniel J (Athens); Martin, Leah A (Athens)
Subject: FPD IIR Gaza Freedom Flotilla Follow-up Two

All,
Attached is another follow-up with additional information.
R/
Joe

Joseph Hicks
Force Protection Detachment
U.S. Embassy Athens, Greece
Unclass: HicksJT@State.gov
Tel: (30) 210-720-2245
Mob: (30) 694-498-7883

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Sensitivity:	Sensitive
Classification:	SECRET//NOFORN
Derived From:	MS
Declassify On:	2021/06/28

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

I373.

Bowers, Allyson M

From: Parsell, Benjamin C
Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2011 9:49 AM
To: NEA-IPA-DL; NEA-SEMEP-DL; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; Walles, Jacob; Shapiro, Daniel S; 'ssimon@nss.eop.sgov.gov'
Cc: Cunningham, James B; Goldberger, Thomas H; TELAVIV POL; Bjanki, Ashwin
Subject: FW: Israel: Turkish Government Unlikely to Extend Olive Branch Following Election Victory
Attachments: StateSeal.gif
Categories: Working

FYI...

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL**Derived From: DSCG 05-1 b, d****Declassify On: 2021/06/14**

From: SMART Core
Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2011 04:45:13
To: Parsell, Benjamin C
 TELAVIV-SMARTS; ANKARA-SMARTS; SANAA-SMARTS; KUWAIT, SMARTS; BEIRUT, SMARTS; VATICAN, SMARTS; PARIS-SMARTS; RABAT-SMARTS; JEDDAH-SMARTS; MOSCOW-SMARTS; AbuDhabi-SMARTS; MADRID-SMARTS; RIYADH, SMARTS; DOHA, SMARTS; DHAHRAN, SMARTS; BERLIN-SMARTS; USEU-SMARTS; TUNIS, SMARTS;
Cc: CASABLANCA, SMARTS; LONDON-SMARTS; Damascus, SmartS; Baghdad, SMARTS; ALGIERS, SMARTS; Amman-SMARTS; MUSCAT-SMARTS; USUN, SMARTS; JERUSALEM-SMARTS; OSLO-SMARTS; NOUAKCHOTT, SMARTS; MANAMA, SMARTS; Cairo-SMARTS; GENEVA, SMARTS; PMAT (Pol-Mil Action Team); daria.darnell@incirlik.af.smil.mil
Subject: Israel: Turkish Government Unlikely to Extend Olive Branch Following Election Victory

CONFIDENTIAL**REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer**

MRN: 11 TEL AVIV 699
Date/DTG: Jun 14, 2011 / 141344Z JUN 11
From: AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, KWBG, KPAL, SY, TU, IS
Reference: A) 11 TEL AVIV 693
Subject: Israel: Turkish Government Unlikely to Extend Olive Branch Following Election Victory

1.4(D)
B1

1. (C) Summary and comment

2. (U) MFA officials were skeptical that Turkish Prime Minister Erdogan would use his party's recent election victory to improve relations with Israel. Speaking to the press, Deputy Foreign Minister Danny Ayalon appeared to provide Ankara an opportunity to improve relations by publicly pointing out that Israel and Turkey have maintained relations, despite the recent downturn in ties, and that AKP's victory is an opportunity to mend fences. "We don't see Turkey an enemy state," said Ayalon, who also said that Israel is ready to improve relations, but only at Ankara's initiative.

3. (U) According to Israeli media reports, unnamed "diplomatic sources" in the MFA said publicly that Erdogan is unlikely to reach out to Israel. Erdogan likely sees AKP's election victory as a stamp of approval for his tough stance toward Israel in recent years, and will likely continue this position, which has contributed to his domestic and regional popularity. Former MFA Director General Alon Liel said publicly that Turkey's relations with Israel will not change significantly in light of AKP's election victory. Erdogan's and Davutoglu's regional policy of "zero problems with its neighbors," coupled with their criticism of Israel over the sluggish peace process and its blockade of the Gaza Strip, has been a winning strategy that they will likely continue.

4. (C) [REDACTED] a think tank in Israel and focuses on Turkish politics, told Post that the election in Turkey will not help improve relations with Israel because it does not resolve the dispute over last year's flotilla incident.

Signature:

GOLDBERGER

Derived From:

DSCG 05-1 b, d

Declassify on:

2021/06/14

Drafted By:

TEL AVIV:Parsell, Benjamin C

Cleared By:

POL:Levin, Jan X

Approved By:

EXEC:Goldberger, Thomas H

Released By:

TEL AVIV:Parsell, Benjamin C

Info:

ANKARA, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE ROUTINE

XMT:

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

Attachments:

Metadata.dat

Action Post:

Dissemination Rule:

Released Copy

CONFIDENTIAL

RELEASED IN PART B1,B5,1.4(D)

1374

Bowers, Allyson M

From: Sutphin, Paul R
Sent: Friday, May 27, 2011 2:59 PM
To: Reed, Julia G; Sachar, Alon; Rudman, Mara; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Walles, Jacob; Kaidanow, Tina S; Van Diepen, Vann H; Ganzer, Ann K; Foley, Philip A; Jacobson, Michael N; Anderson, Gerald C; Cunningham, James B; Goldberger, Thomas H; Silverman, Robert J; DiCarlo, Rosemary A (USUN); Germain, Ellen J (USUN); Bass, Warren; [redacted]@osd.smil.mil; [redacted]@osd.smil.mil; [redacted]@osd.smil.mil; [redacted]@js.smil.mil; [redacted]@js.smil.mil; [redacted]@js.smil.mil; Kumar, Prem G.; Riley, Robert J; Gregonis, Meghan E; Shapiro, Daniel B.; Simon, Steven N.; Desjardins, Marc; Champaine, Nicole D; Schedlbauer, Amy W; Burnett, David R; Silverman, Robert J; Schwartz, Jonathan B (Legal)
Cc: Sindle, James M; Buzbee, John R; Levinson, Jesse S; Jacoby, Julia I; Doutrich, Jack T
Subject: Gaza Flotilla Update / new GOI Asks
Attachments: 11-STATE-36240.eml.pdf; 11-AMMAN-569.eml.pdf
Importance: High

B6

Colleagues:

As a follow up to our discussions regarding [redacted] the prospective Mavi Marmara anniversary flotilla, we wanted to update you the latest information from Israel, immediate next steps, and flag for your attention additional [redacted] issues for consideration in red).

Update from the GOI1.4(D)
B1Next Steps

- [redacted]
- [redacted]

B5

Re [redacted] (per Tel Aviv 613 below):

1.4(D)
B1

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

1.4(D)
B1
B5

Paul Sutphin

Director

NEA/IPA

tel: 202-647-3672

Fax: 202-736-4461

VIPER: 202-647-1686

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Sensitivity: Sensitive

Classification: SECRET//NOFORN

Derived From: Derived from previous message in thread.

Declassify On: 2021/05/26

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Sensitivity: Sensitive
Classification: SECRET//NOFORN
Classified by: Paul R. Sutphin, Director, NEA/IPA, State
Reason: 1.4b, d
Declassify On: 2036/05/27

From: SMART Core

Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2011 09:45:34

To:

Cc: Holliday, Gregory E; Neal, Bobbie S; Rax, Dwayne E; Thompson, Peter M; Tyson, Paul H; Hopkins, Donna L

Subject: Israel on Flotillas

SECRET//NOFORN

1.4(D)
B1



Info Office: STAFF, CPO, FAO, DIRECTOR

MRN: 11 TEL AVIV 613
Date/DTG: May 24, 2011 / 241344Z MAY 11
From: AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, KWBG, IS
Captions: NOFORN
Reference: A) IIR 6 849 0496
Subject: Israel on Flotillas

1.4(D)
B1

1.4(D)
B1

Page Denied

1.4(D)
B1**Signature:** BURNETT**Classified By:** Name: David Burnett, Title: Charge d'Affaires
Office: U.S. Embassy Tel Aviv
Agency: Dept of State**Reason:** 1.4 (b), (d)**Declassify on:** 2021/05/24**Drafted By:** TEL AVIV:Levin, Jan X**Cleared By:** POL:Grubb, Jason B
POL:Silverman, Robert J**Approved By:** ECON:Burnett, David R**Released By:** TEL AVIV:Levin, Jan X**Info:** USUN NEW YORK, USMISSION ROUTINE; ANKARA, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; KUALA
LUMPUR, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE ROUTINE**XMT:** AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI**Attachments:** Metadata.dat**Action Post:****Dissemination Rule:** DIS_STAFF, DIS_CPO, DIS_FAO, DIS_DIRECTOR**SECRET//NOFORN**

I375

Bowers, Allyson M

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

From: Doutrich, Jack T
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2011 11:39 AM
To: NEA-IPA-DL; EUR-SE-DL; Masilko, Barbara J (USUN); Zurcher, Kenneth M; Eilts, Colin C
Cc: Eussen, Matthew M: '#EU JACIDEM'; '6th Fleet Watch';

B6

'Christopher Koenig'; 'Christopher Smith'; 'Clay, Andreia';

'Friedmann, Chelsey'; Goldberger, Thomas H;

Holliday, Gregory E;

Jakobson, Nicholas W; 'Joshua Townley'; 'Kumar, Prem G.'; 'Kyna

Simson';

Palestine'; 'Mulroy, Kara L.'; O'Brien, Gregory J (OES);

Selinger, Thomas B; Silverman, Robert J;

Subject: FW: FW: Greece Bans Departure of Flotilla vessels to Gaza, Offers to Deliver Aid
Attachments: StateSeal.gif

Categories: Working

Jack Doutrich
 Political Officer
 NEA/IPA
 (202) 647-4132

Sensitivity: Sensitive

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

Derived From: Derived from previous message in thread.

Declassify On: 2021/07/06

From: SMART Core
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2011 06:13:54
To: Martin, Leah A (Athens)
 ATHENS-SMARTS; JERUSALEM-SMARTS; MILAN-SMARTS; SMARTS, Reykjavik; Valletta, SMARTS; GENEVA, SMARTS; BAKU-SMARTS; SOFIA-SMARTS; NICOSIA, SMARTS; TBILISI, SMARTS; BARCELONA, SMARTS; OSLO-SMARTS; Stockholm-SMARTS; BELGRADE-SMARTS; Dushanbe, SMARTS; VILNIUS, SMARTS; VATICAN, SMARTS;
Cc: THEHAGUE-SMARTS; USNATO, SMARTS; YEREVAN-SMARTS; PODGORICA, SMARTS; SKOPJE, SMARTS; MOSCOW-SMARTS; WARSAW-SMARTS; ANKARA-SMARTS; TALLINN, SMARTS; Sarajevo, SMARTS; PARIS-SMARTS; BERN, SMARTS; UNVIE-SMARTS; LISBON, SMARTS; DUBLIN, SMARTS; Tashkent, SMARTS; BRUSSELS-SMARTS; OSCE-SMARTS; ISTANBUL, SMARTS; BUDAPEST-SMARTS; FRANKFURT, SMARTS; ZAGREB-SMARTS;

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

LJUBLJANA-SMARTS; MADRID-SMARTS; KYIV-SMARTS; Ottawa-SmartS; HELSINKI-SMARTS; ASTANA-SMARTS; TiranaSMARTS; Bishkek, SMARTS; LONDON-SMARTS; BRATISLAVA-SMARTS; PRAGUE, SMARTS; HAMBURG-SMARTS; Riga, SMARTS; USEU-SMARTS; ROME, SMARTS; KRAKOW-SMARTS; BERLIN-SMARTS; LUXEMBOURG-SMARTS; NAPLES, SMARTS; Copenhagen-SMARTS; MUNICH-SMARTS; CHISINAU-SMARTS; Pristina, SMARTS; Ashgabat, SMARTS; USUN, SMARTS; BUCHAREST-SMARTS; VIENNA-SMARTS; PMAT (Pol-Mil Action Team); eklotter@fbi.sgov.gov;

[redacted]@incirlik.af.smil.mil; [redacted]@incirlik.af.smil.mil; [redacted]@dia.smil.mil;
[redacted]@dia.smil.mil

B6

Subject: Greece Bans Departure of Flotilla Vessels to Gaza, Offers to Deliver Aid

CONFIDENTIAL



MRN: 11 ATHENS 407
Date/DTG: Jul 06, 2011 / 061512Z JUL 11
From: AMEMBASSY ATHENS
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PREL, PHUM, PHSA, PTER, KCSY
Reference: A) 11 ATHENS 383
 B) 11 ATHENS 349
Pass Line: AMEMBASSY ASTANA PASS TO AMCONSUL ALMATY
 AMEMBASSY ANKARA PASS TO AMCONSUL ADANA
 AMEMBASSY ROME PASS TO AMCONSUL FLORENCE
 AMEMBASSY PARIS PASS TO AMCONSUL STRASBOURG
 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
Subject: Greece Bans Departure of Flotilla Vessels to Gaza, Offers to Deliver Aid

1.4(B)

1.4(D)

B1

1. (C) SUMMARY: The Greek government's decision on July 1 to prohibit the departure of ships from Greek ports intended for Gaza was a significant shift from Greece's previous, less visibly confrontational, approach towards "Flotilla II - Stay Alive" Gaza vessels and activists. Over the July 4 weekend two boats attempting to depart Greek ports, in violation of the ban, were intercepted by the Hellenic Coast Guard, resulting in the arrest of the AMCIT captain of one of the boats. Also over the weekend, Gaza flotilla activists protested the Coast Guard action at the American Embassy and the Embassy Mission Residence (EMR). [redacted]

Greek Ban on Departure of Ships to Gaza

2. (SBU) On July 1, the Ministry of Citizen Protection released a notice to flotilla participants that the departure of ships with Greek and foreign flags from Greek ports to the maritime area of Gaza was prohibited, and that the Hellenic Coast Guard would take all appropriate measures to enforce the decision. Despite the departure ban by the Greek government (as well as an order to remain in port due to unresolved questions about the vessel's documentation and seaworthiness), the American-flagged vessel "Audacity of Hope" attempted to depart the Greek port of Perama, near Piraeus on July 1. The Hellenic Coast Guard intercepted the vessel and after a standoff at sea, the ship consented to return to port.
3. (SBU) The American captain was arrested by Greek authorities upon the ship's return to port. Embassy Athens provided regular consular services to Amcit members of this year's "Flotilla II – Stay Alive" US Boat to Gaza organization both before and after the captain's arrest. On June 24, American Citizens Services (ACS) Chief and Counsel General met with AMCIT flotilla participants to provide a consular briefing and ACS Chief had regular contact with the captain and his attorney, including a meeting on July 5 to verify that he was in good health, understood his arrest, had legal representation, and that authorities were treating him well. The captain was released on July 6 without bail. There will be a trial at some point, but the captain will not have to return to Greece.

4.

1.4(D)
B1

According to Embassy sources, a total of nine ships intending to participate in the flotilla docked around Greece. Two of those, the "Audacity of Hope" and "Tahrir", defied the departure ban, prompting Coast Guard action. Seven have remained docked.

5. (SBU) On July 1 some 35 demonstrators assembled outside the American Embassy to protest on behalf of the Gaza flotilla. On the evening of July 3, a group of eight people from the US Boat to Gaza organization assembled at the American Embassy and presented a letter calling for U.S. officials to defend their rights to sail out of Greece to Gaza and to request 50 tickets to the Embassy's upcoming Independence Day celebration. On both occasions the protestors dispersed peacefully. On July 4, nine demonstrators assembled outside the EMR. The demonstrators were taken into custody briefly for identification checks after stating they planned to sleep on the sidewalk in front of the EMR. The demonstrators spent under two hours in the station and were released. They were never placed under arrest.
6. (SBU) In addition to the group's regular website updates and Tweets, the Embassy has received roughly 500 calls and emails since July 1 asking the USG to put pressure on Greece to allow the flotilla to proceed to Gaza.

Greek Proposal to Deliver Humanitarian Aid to Gaza

7. (SBU) PM Papandreou spoke by phone with Palestinian Authority leader Mahmoud Abbas on July 3. According to reports, Abbas positively viewed a Greek government proposal to facilitate the transport of humanitarian aid to Gaza, in cooperation with the United Nations. The proposal was confirmed later in the day when the MFA

released a statement announcing Greece's intention to undertake the task of transporting humanitarian aid to Gaza through "appropriate channels." The statement also reiterated Greece's ban on departure from Greek ports primarily to protect human life and stressed Greece's concurrent view that the naval blockade should be lifted. The MFA announced plans to liaise with all concerned parties, while flotilla organizers and activists decried both the Greek government's intent and Abbas' alleged backstabbing collusion with the Greeks.

8. (C) [REDACTED] 1.4(B)
[REDACTED] 1.4(D)
B1

COMMENT

9. (C) On June 22, the Greek MFA issued a strongly worded statement discouraging its citizens from participating in the flotilla, [REDACTED]

Signature:

SMITH

Classified By:	Name: Daniel B. Smith, Title: Ambassador
Reason:	1.4 (b), (d)
Declassify on:	2021/07/06
Drafted By:	ATHENS:Martin, Leah A (Athens)
Cleared By:	POL:Cockrell, John D (Athens)
	POL:Lawton, Daniel J (Athens)
	Brandeis, Charles D (Athens)
	Smith, Stuart M (Athens)
	Miller, Thomas S (Athens)
	Brandeis, Katherine (Athens)
Approved By:	EXEC:Smith, Daniel B (Athens)
Released By:	ATHENS:Martin, Leah A (Athens)

Info: JERUSALEM, AMCONSUL *ROUTINE*; EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE *ROUTINE*;
ZEN/AMCONSUL ALMATY; ZEN/AMCONSUL ADANA; ZEN/AMCONSUL FLORENCE;
ZEN/AMCONSUL STRASBOURG; ZEN/AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK;
ZEN/AMEMBASSY MINSK; ZEN/AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF; ZEN/AMCONSUL
YEKATERINBURG; ZEN/AMCONSUL LEIPZIG; ZEN/AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG

Attachments: Metadata.dat

Action Post:

Dissemination Rule: Released Copy

CONFIDENTIAL

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

I378

Bowers, Allyson M

From: Brownstein, David P
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2011 1:40 PM
To: Feltman, Jeffrey D; NEA-JPA-DL
Cc: NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL
Subject: FW: (S/NF) FRENCH BOAT HEADING FOR GAZA [REDACTED] 1.4(B)
 [REDACTED] 1.4(D)
Attachments: FRENCH BOAT NO LONGER HEADED TO GAZA; FRENCH BOAT HEADED TOWARD B1
 GAZA; Reuters article - July 18, 2011.pdf; 7-17-11 Communiqué - A French Boat for
 Gaza.docx; 7-18-11 Gaza ship - passenger list.docx
Importance: High
Categories: Working

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

Classification: SECRET//NOFORN
Classified by: Christopher C Klein, Acting Minister Counselor for Political Affairs, Pol, State
Reason: 1.4(b), (d)
Declassify On: 2021/07/18

From: Miller, James N
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2011 1:17 PM
To: Shampaine, Nicole D; Schedlbauer, Amy W; Cockrell, John D (Athens); Berns, David B; Eussen, Matthew M; Silverman, Robert J; Eussen, Matthew M; Doutrich, Jack T; Waters, John R; Harrington, Kimberly D; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; Parris, Walter; Blome, Donald A; Tueller, Matthew H; Walles, Jacob
Cc: Klein, Christopher C; Bain, Wallace R; McCawley, David; Bofill, Mariju L; Taplin, Mark A; Klein, Christopher C; Sharma, Sujata; Bain, Wallace R; Bauer, Jen M; Weinrauch, Marissa
Subject: (S/NF) FRENCH BOAT HEADING FOR GAZA [REDACTED]
Importance: High

+ Jake Walles, Nicole Shampaine and Amy Schedlbauer

James N. Miller
 Political Affairs
 U.S. Embassy Paris
 millerjn@state.sgov.gov
 +33-(0)14-312-2575

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

Classification: SECRET//NOFORN
Classified by: Christopher C Klein, Acting Minister Counselor for Political Affairs, Pol, State
Reason: 1.4(b), (d)
Declassify On: 2021/07/18

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

From: Miller, James N**Sent:** Monday, July 18, 2011 7:15 PM**To:** Cockrell, John D (Athens); Berns, David B; Eussen, Matthew M; Silverman, Robert J; Eussen, Matthew M; Doutrich, Jack T; Waters, John R; Harrington, Kimberly D; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; Parrs, Walter; Blome, Donald A; Tueller, Matthew H**Cc:** Klein, Christopher C; Bain, Wallace R; McCawley, David; Bofill, Mariju L; Taplin, Mark A; Klein, Christopher C, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)ia, Sujata; Bain, Wallace R; Bauer, Jen M; Weinrauch, Marissa**Subject:** (S/NF) FRENCH BOAT HEADING FOR GAZA [REDACTED] B1**Importance:** High

(S) A French boat carrying 16 passengers of French, Canadian, Israeli and other nationalities [REDACTED]

1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

[REDACTED]

1.4(B)
1.4(D)B1 1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

(SBU) The passenger list provided to the French by the organizers (attached) notably includes two Israeli citizens, including [REDACTED]. Two Al Jazeera journalists are also on board, along with representatives of Flotilla boats from Sweden, Canada and Greece. See attached for a translation of the French boat's official press release.

B6

(U) The French MFA spokesman today reiterated the GOF position on the Flotilla, advising French citizens not to take part in the flotilla because of the risks it poses, and because other means exist to transfer humanitarian aid. He also said Israel has to do more to transfer humanitarian aid to Gaza. Here is the full text of his statement:

We are following closely updates on the progress of the boat, "Dignity Al Karama." We have advised our nationals not to participate in a new flotilla destined for Gaza, in light of the security risks that they take in this enterprise. These initiatives can only reinforce the tensions that currently exist. Humanitarian aid destined for Gaza should transit through land routes, which are the most effective and most responsible means to help the civilian population of Gaza.

This call for responsible behavior does not change our position on the Gaza blockade, which must be lifted. It is crucial that Israeli authorities facilitate the delivery of international aid to Gaza. The development and reconstruction projects carried out by the United Nations must equally be able to operate without obstacles. Foreign visitors must have access to the Palestinian territories.

(U) For background and context, I've attached some of our previous reporting on the "Dignity Al Karama," and an article from Reuters.

James N. Miller

Political Affairs
U.S. Embassy Paris
millerjn@state.sgov.gov
+33-(0)14-312-2575

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

Classification: SECRET//NOFORN

Classified by: Christopher C Klein, Acting Minister Counselor for Political Affairs, Pol, State

Reason: 1.4(b), (d)

Declassify On: 2021/07/18

From: Bofill, Mariju L
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2011 2:45 PM
To: Miller, James N; Sharma, Sucheta
Cc: Klein, Christopher C; Bain, Wallace R; McCawley, David
Subject: FW: Gaza Flotilla Update 1: M/V Dignite location (S/NF)

FYI

From: Masliyah, Amir P
Sent: Sunday, July 17, 2011 3:50 PM
To: Quanrud, Pamela G; Turner, Michael A; Mohamoud, Safia O; Miranda, Anthony; NEA-ELA-DL; Cutrona, Aimee; Austin, Jonathan T; SES_DutyDeputies; S_SpecialAssistants; D(S); D(N); P; R_Special Assistants; PA FO Group; NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL; ca-staffers-mailbox; Ops_Targeted_Alerts_EUR_DL
Cc: DS Command Center; SES-O
Subject: Gaza Flotilla Update 1: M/V Dignite location (S/NF)

(S/NF) Media report the French-flag vessel M/V Dignite is en route to Gaza. Embassy Athens receive 1.4(B) confirmation from the [REDACTED] that M/V Dignite left the island of Kastelorizo (Southeast 1.4(D) Mediterranean near the Greek border with Turkey) July 16 [REDACTED] B1

Previous update sent 7/16/11 at 1316 EDT:

(SBU) Audacity of Hope organizers have renewed their telephone campaign seeking State Department assistance for American citizens participating in the flotilla to Gaza. Flotilla supporters claim Greek authorities have cut all electricity and power to the Audacity of Hope and are preventing American citizens on board from leaving the docked boat.

(SBU) Embassy Athens reports the Audacity of Hope continues to have generator power. Post is in regular touch with the organizers and has advised the group to seek legal assistance to resolve title and other legal issues concerning the boat.

(SBU) As of 1830 EDT, approximately 99 public callers have contacted the Operations Center July 16 regarding the Gaza flotilla.

RELEASED IN PART B6

I379

Bowers, Allyson M

From: Snipes, Christopher K
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2011 10:46 AM
To: Riley, Robert J; Gregonis, Meghan E
Cc: NEA-IPA-DL; Goodman, Ilan A
Subject: FW: (C) [redacted] Tomorrow's Flotilla

B6

Categories: Working

A little info. on flotilla departure and what they intend to have on the boats, according to one of the participants.

Sensitivity: Sensitive

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

Derived From: Derived from previous message in thread.

Declassify On: 2021/06/29

From: Lawton, Daniel J (Athens)
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2011 10:17 AM
To: Snipes, Christopher K; Goodman, Ilan A
Cc: Smith, Daniel B (Athens); Miller, Thomas S (Athens)
Subject: FW: (C) [redacted] Tomorrow's Flotilla

FYI. Regards, Dan L.

Sensitivity: Sensitive

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

Classified by: Vaida Vidugiris, Political Officer

Reason: 1.4(d)

Declassify On: 2021/06/29

From: Vidugiris, Vaida (Athens)
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2011 4:49 PM
To: Lawton, Daniel J (Athens)
Cc: Cockrell, John D (Athens); Martin, Leah A (Athens)
Subject: (C) [redacted] Tomorrow's Flotilla

[redacted] today shared the following information with us regarding the flotilla:

- The first tranche of ships will depart tomorrow, June 30, from different undisclosed ports to an undisclosed location (the boats will not/not be heading to the Israeli-designated port). [redacted] stated that they will not be handing over the supplies to the Israelis for transfer to the intended recipients, adding that "the waters around Gaza do not belong neither to the Israelis nor to the Palestinians."
- [redacted] will be aboard one of the ships tomorrow (he participated in last year's flotilla as well). According to him, the vessels can hold up to 50 persons/each. He stated that [redacted]

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

and noted that many Jews will be traveling in addition to academics and parliamentarians from other countries (naming a couple of Scandinavian countries), as well as "many Americans."

- According to [] the ships will have medicine, construction material, and ready-assembled houses onboard; he stated that there will be no/no weapons aboard the vessels.

B6

Sensitivity: Sensitive

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

Classified by: Vaida Vidugiris, Political Officer

Reason: 1.4(d)

Declassify On: 2021/06/29

I382

Bowers, Allyson M

From: Gregonis, Meghan E
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2011 8:19 AM
To: NEA-IPA-DL
Cc: EUR-SE-TU-DL
Subject: (SBU) No IHH Participation in Freedom Flotilla 2

FYI from Ankara.

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

From: Howard, Jeremiah H
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2011 7:49 AM
To: Silliman, Douglas A; 'Godfrey, Anthony F.'; EUR-SE-TU-DL
Cc: Ahn, Michael; Hay, Andrew W
Subject: (SBU) No IHH Participation in Freedom Flotilla 2

1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

CONFIDENTIAL

Citing a meeting he had had last Tuesday at IHH, [REDACTED] here told me June 30 none of the NGO's members will be participating in Freedom Flotilla 2. IHH representatives plan to hail some flotilla vessels at European departure ports, but they won't board.

[REDACTED] also told [REDACTED] the NGO had been instructed not to speak publicly about its disengagement from the flotilla. [REDACTED] would not identify the source of that instruction.

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

Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Classified by: J. Howard, A/POLCOUNS
Reason: 1.4(b), (d)
Declassify On: 2021/06/30

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

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

I396/B.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Historic FF2 Chronological Timeline

- (U) On 29 Jun, the number of expected participating activists reportedly dropped from 1,500 to 350. The Israeli government was hopeful that a continued delay of the launch would lead to a further drop in the number of vessels and participants. The more the "organizers and participants have to run in place in Athens," the better it is for Israel, one official said. Bureaucratic delays, strikes at Greek ports and damaged ships continue to delay the flotilla. (Source: JPost.com)

- (U) On 29 Jun, Defense Minister Ehud Barak downplayed Israeli worries about the Gaza flotilla. Barak told a local television channel that while he has directed the IDF to stop the flotilla by force, if necessary, he believed that while pockets of resistance were possible, flotilla participants this year would be less violent than last year's. According to the open source, political and military leaders are in fact more worried about the implications of the state comptroller's report on the raid on 2010's Gaza flotilla, a draft of which was recently submitted to senior officials. (Source: Haaretz.com)

1.4(B)
1.4(C)
1.4(D)
B1

- (U) On 28 Jun, Israel Defense Ministry proposed confiscating the ships that attempt to break the naval blockade to Gaza, a move aimed at deterring future flotillas. Israeli press reporting indicates IDF claims they have intelligence showing some flotilla participants are planning to use violence and possibly chemical weapons against the troops. Flotilla members claim this is an attempt to justify IDF violence. (Source: Jerusalem Post)

- (U) On 27 Jun, the Israeli "Lawfare" Group took responsibility for lodging the complaint against flotilla ship AUDACITY OF HOPE. Free Gaza Movement (FGM) organizers and AUDACITY OF HOPE passengers believe the complaint was frivolous and are now confident the Greek government will allow them to depart Greece.

- (U) On 27 Jun, the "Freedom Flotilla II (FF2) – Stay Human" press conference occurred in Athens but no specific ship names, departure dates, launch times, or rendezvous date, time, or area were revealed. Organizers also withheld the length of time the flotilla would remain at the rendezvous area before heading south. In short, FF2 spokespersons stated the flotilla will press forward with their departure plans despite Israel's warnings.

- (U) On 27 Jun, after two days of closed-doors meetings, the Israeli ministers committee on security affairs voted in favor of the navy plans to stop the FF2 flotilla from breaching the Israeli-imposed naval blockade on the Palestinian territory, giving the army authority to use "all necessary means" during the operation. The Israeli cabinet has ordered Israeli troops to operate with "maximal restraint and avoid clashes with activists on board the vessels."

Classification Extended ~ Class: SECRET ~ Reason: 1.4(B), 1.4(C), 1.4(D), B1 ~
Declassify on: 06/01/2021

	1.4(B) 1.4(C) 1.4(D) B1

- (U) On 22 Jun, USDOS warned US citizens against taking part in the flotilla and to avoid all travel to the Gaza Strip, citing threats to themselves as well as US interests. (STATE)

B82

Coleman, Charmaine (DRL)

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 1:12 PM
To: Gaza Flotilla Monitoring Group
Subject: FW: Australian comments on the Gaza Flotilla incident [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Attachments: 100601 Australian FM statement to Parliament on Gaza flotilla incident.pdf; 100602 Australian PM statement to Parliament on Gaza flotilla incident.pdf; 100603 Australian FM comments to media on Gaza flotilla incident.pdf

B6

RELEASED IN PART B6

From: [redacted]@dfat.gov.au [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 11:31 AM
To: [redacted] pkuimar@nsc.eop.gov
Cc: [redacted]@dfat.gov.au; [redacted]@dfat.gov.au
Subject: Australian comments on the Gaza Flotilla incident [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Prem/Tóm

I attach below, for your reference, statements on the Gaza flotilla incident made to Parliament by Australia's Prime Minister Kevin Rudd and Foreign Minister Stephen Smith. Also attached is Mr Smith's most recent media interview on the subject.

Prime Minister Rudd spoke to Prime Minister Netanyahu on the evening of 1 June to reiterate the Australian Government's deep concern at the loss of life and injuries that occurred as part of the Israeli Defence Force operation.

Mr Rudd told Mr Netanyahu that Israel needed to mount an independent enquiry into the incident so that all facts could be established and informed judgement made about the events surrounding the incident.

Foreign Minister Smith told Parliament on 1 June that the onus was on Israel to conduct a credible and transparent investigation into the matter, and that the investigation should be subject to the scrutiny of the international community.

Australian leaders have called for an easing of the blockade to enable aid and humanitarian assistance to be delivered to Gaza. They have reiterated Australia's view that the long-term solution must be an enduring peace in the Middle East, where both Israelis and Palestinians can live in peace.

Australia continues to strongly support the state of Israel and its security. The Prime Minister reiterated to Prime Minister Netanyahu our strong support for Israel. In Parliament on the 2nd of June, Prime Minister Rudd said that Australia understood the unique security challenges that Israel faced from Iran and the terrorist organisations that Iran supported.

Please let me know if you would like any further information on Australia's position.

Regards

Peter

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

[redacted]
 Embassy of Australia
 1601 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
 Washington DC 20036

Tel:
Fax:

B6

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

Law, Rosemary C

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
Sent: Tuesday, June 01, 2010 7:48 AM
To: Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda; Baumert, Kevin A; Aswad, Evelyn M
Subject: [REDACTED]

B1
 1.4(B)
 1.4(D)

From: Koh, Harold Hongju
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Harris, Robert K; Cleveland, Sarah H; Donoghue, Joan E; Pomper, Stephen E; Joyce, Anne
Sent: Tue Jun 01 07:21:04 2010
Subject: [REDACTED]

Harold Hongju Koh
 The Legal Adviser
 U.S. Department of State
 Suite 6421
 2201 C St. NW
 Washington, DC 20520-6421
 202 647 9598 office
 202 262 8295 mobile
 202 647 7096 fax

Classified by DAS, A/GIS, DoS on : 12/11/2012 Class: Confidential ~ Reason: 1.4(B), 1.4(D), B1
 ~ Declassify on: 06-01-2030

From: Alan.Kessel@international.gc.ca <Alan.Kessel@international.gc.ca>
To: Koh, Harold Hongju
Sent: Tue Jun 01 04:13:28 2010
Subject: [REDACTED]

Alan H. Kessel
 The Legal Adviser/Le Jurisconsulte (JFM)
 Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade/Ministère des Affaires étrangères et du Commerce international
 125 Sussex Drive Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0G2 Canada
 Tel: (613) 995-8901
 Fax: (613) 944-0845
 e-mail: alan.kessel@international.gc.ca

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

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Page Denied

B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)

[Alan.Kessel@international.gc.ca [mailto:Alan.Kessel@international.gc.ca :**From**
Monday, May 31, 2010 7:56 PM :**Sent**
[redacted] **To**
[redacted] **Subject**

[redacted]
Alan

Alan H. Kessel
The Legal Adviser/Le Jurisconsulte (JFM)
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade/Ministère des Affaires étrangères et du Commerce international
125 Sussex DriveOttawa, Ontario K1A 0G2Canada
Tel: (613) 995-8901
Fax: (613) 944-0845
e-mail: alan.kessel@international.gc.ca

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**BİRLEŞMİŞ MİLLETLER NEZDİNDE
TÜRKİYE DAİMİ TEMSİLCİLİĞİ**

**PERMANENT MISSION OF TURKEY
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

2010/Turkuno DT/23224

RELEASED IN FULL

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 Secretary-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
FULL

TALKING POINTS

- The United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC) decided to set up an Independent International Fact Finding Mission (IFFM) on June 2, 2010, in order to investigate the facts and circumstances surrounding the attack carried out by Israel on May 31, 2010, against an international humanitarian aid convoy in the international waters of the Mediterranean which resulted in the killing of eight Turks and one U.S. citizen.
- The IFFM presented its report to the HRC on September 22, 2010. The report was a product of a comprehensive and detailed study.
- During its meeting on September 29, 2010, the HRC welcomed the report of the IFFM and endorsed the conclusions contained in its report.
- The HRC has also decided to follow up the implementation of the IFFM's report at its sixteenth session.
- The sixteenth session of the HRC is currently underway in Geneva.
- On behalf of Turkey, the Organization of the Islamic Conference will present a draft resolution to the HRC on March 23-25, 2011, requesting the follow up of the Fact Finding Mission's report during its seventeenth session in June 2011.
- Turkey holds that report of the IFFM was a result of an objective and independent legal process and that its implementation by the international community is of great importance.
- Turkey expects the members of the HRC to ensure that the principles of accountability and prevention of impunity are regarded as cordial and inviolable, thus remain upheld by all countries.
- Turkey further believes that the United States will be steadfast in supporting these principles.
- Accordingly, Turkey requests the support of the United States towards this resolution, or, should this not be viewed possible, abstention is exercised during the voting to take place on March 23-25, 2011.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior
Reviewer

RELEASED IN PART B1,B3 CIA-PO,B5,B3 CIA-SM,1.4(D),1.4(C),B6

357

Logg, Cristina A

From:

[Redacted]

B6

Sent:

Wednesday, June 29, 2011 1:16 AM

To:

Ricciardone, Francis J; Silliman, Douglas A; Witmer, Kami A

Subject:

1.4(C)

Attachments:

1.4(D)

B1

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET//NOFORN

Ambassador, this is the latest I have on the Freedom Flotilla. The fourth ship listed below, the Challenger, [Redacted]

B5

Vr, [Redacted]

B6

-----Original Message-----

B6

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

B6

Subject: [REDACTED]
(SECRET)

B1
1.4(C)
1.4(D)

Classification: SECRET
Caveats: NOFORN

Good morning J2 -

[REDACTED] will continue to provide daily updates.

B6

Request all addressees continue to please feed updates to USEUCOM theater all-source fusion analysis center at [REDACTED]. This will help to ensure accuracy, timeliness, relevancy, and dissemination to senior leadership at all levels.

B6

Convention: Blue is new.

1.4(C)
1.4(D)
B1
B3 CIA-SM

(U) The international "Freedom Flotilla II (FF2) - Stay Human" will include 10 ships, at least two of which are cargo boats carrying aid, while the rest are passenger ships carrying hundreds of people, among them, politicians, MEPs, writers, religious faith representatives, people of arts and culture and activists. Press releases indicate many TV crews will be also on board (CNN, NBC, Al-Jazeera, et al) as well as journalists sent by various world media and newspapers. "Stay Human" was selected in honor of 36-year old Italian pro-Palestinian activist Vittorio Arrigoni, who was killed 14 Apr 2011 after being kidnapped in Gaza City by Salafist radicals.

SITREP follows:

BLUF: As of this writing, the Freedom Flotilla II (FF2) has not formed i.e., ships have NOT commenced southbound transit towards Gaza.

1.4(C)
1.4(D)
B1
B3 CIA-SM

1.4(C)
1.4(D)
B1
B3 CIA-SM

Page Denied

1.4(C)
1.4(D)
B1
B3 CIA-SM

(U) Political Developments:

- (U) On 28 Jun, Israel Defense Ministry proposed confiscating the ships that attempt to break the naval blockade to Gaza, a move aimed at deterring future flotillas. Israeli press reporting indicates IDF claims they have intelligence showing some flotilla participants are planning to use violence and possibly chemical weapons against the troops. Flotilla members claim this is an attempt to justify IDF violence. (Source: Jerusalem Post)

- (U) On 27 Jun, the Israeli "Lawfare" Group took responsibility for lodging the complaint against flotilla ship AUDACITY OF HOPE. Free Gaza Movement (FGM) organizers and AUDACITY OF HOPE passengers believe the complaint was frivolous and are now confident the Greek government will allow them to depart Greece.

- (U) On 27 Jun, the "Freedom Flotilla II (FF2) - Stay Human" press conference occurred in Athens but no specific ship names, departure dates, launch times, or rendezvous date, time, or area were revealed. Organizers also withheld the length of time the flotilla would remain at the rendezvous area before heading south. In short, FF2 spokespersons stated the flotilla will press forward with their departure plans despite Israel's warnings.

- (U) On 27 Jun, after two days of closed-doors meetings, the Israeli ministers committee on security affairs voted in favor of the navy plans to stop the FF2 flotilla from breaching the Israeli-imposed naval blockade on the Palestinian territory, giving the army authority to use "all necessary means" during the operation. The Israeli cabinet has ordered Israeli troops to operate with "maximal restraint and avoid clashes with activists on board the vessels."

1.4(C)
1.4(D)
B1
B3 CIA-SM

- (U) On 22 Jun, US STATE Dept warned US citizens against taking part in the flotilla and to avoid all travel to the Gaza Strip, citing threats to themselves as well as US interests.
(STATE)

1.4(C)
1.4(D)
B1
B3 CIA-SM

JAC Molesworth will continue to keep ALCON informed.

B6

B1
1.4(C)
1.4(D)
B3 CIA-PO

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET//NOFORN

RELEASED IN PART B1,B3
CIA-SM,1.4(D),1.4(C),B6

158

Logg, Cristina A

From:

[Redacted]

B6

Sent:

Tuesday, July 05, 2011 7:31 AM

To:

Ricciardone, Francis J

Cc:

Silliman, Douglas A; Witmer, Kami A

Subject:

Attachments:

[Redacted]

1.4(C)

1.4(D)

B1

Categories:

Working

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET//NOFORN

1.4(C)

Ambassador, [Redacted]

1.4(D)

B1

B3 CIA-SM

Thanks, [Redacted]

B6

-----Original Message-----

[Large Redacted Area]

B6

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Page Denied

B6

Subject: [REDACTED]

B1
1.4(C)
1.4(D)Classification: SECRET
Caveats: NOFORNClassification: SECRET
Caveats: NOFORN

Sir,

Please find today's updated FF2 update.

1.4(C)
1.4(D)
B1
B3 CIA-SM

Request all continue to please feed updates to USEUCOM theater all-source fusion analysis center at (jac.watch.swo@jac.eucom.smil.mil).
This will help to ensure accuracy, timeliness, relevancy, and dissemination to senior leadership at all levels.

1.4(C)
1.4(D)
B1
B3 CIA-SM

(U) The international "Freedom Flotilla II (FF2) - Stay Human" will include 10 ships, at least two of which are cargo boats carrying aid, while the rest are passenger ships carrying hundreds of people, among them, politicians, MEPs, writers, religious faith representatives, people of arts and culture and activists. Press releases indicates many TV crews will be also on board (CNN, NBC, Al-Jazeera, et al) as well as journalists sent by various world media and newspapers. "Stay Human" was selected in honor of 36-year old Italian pro-Palestinian activist Vittorio Arrigoni, who was killed 14 Apr 2011 after being kidnapped in Gaza City by Salafist radicals.

SITREP follows:

BLUF: As of this writing, Freedom Flotilla II (FF2) has not formed and all vessels are in port. The M/V TAHRIR departed its berth in Crete on the evening of 4 July, but was stopped shortly thereafter by the Hellenic coast guard and forced to return to Crete. After all passengers on the TAHRIR claimed they were the vessel's captain, the Hellenic Coast Guard detained everyone onboard. The Captain of the AUDACITY OF HOPE, which was detained on 1 July after attempting to sail from Greece without permission, is scheduled to appear in Greek court today, charged with endangering the lives of the AUDACITY's passengers. The M/V LOUISE MICHEL staged a symbolic departure on 4 July, revving its engines and honking its horn; however, the vessel did not actually get underway. Open source reporting indicates two unidentified vessels linked with FF2, ostensibly French, are operating in international waters off Greece; the plans and intentions of these vessels are unknown. Additional open source reporting indicates that remaining FF2 participants are tentatively scheduled to set sail around 5-6 July.

1.4(C)
1.4(D)
B1
B3 CIA-SM

Page Denied

1.4(C)

1.4(D)

B1

B3 CIA-SM

(U) Political Developments:

- (U//FOUO) According to USG publically available maritime databases, the M/V AUDACITY OF HOPE has been confirmed as a US flagged vessel, licensed in Delaware, registration number DL2894AF. The vessel has been assigned SCONUM R33479. The vessel is not US Coast Guard documented, nor has it been inspected by USCG. (ONI, USCG)

- (U) According to open source information, passengers onboard M/V AUDACITY OF HOPE, sponsored by the US Boat to Gaza, followed through on their claim that the vessel could set sail even if it did not receive permission to leave port from Hellenic officials. 01 July the vessel did, in fact, attempt to depart Piraeus, Greece although was stopped by the Hellenic Coast Guard and forced to return to port. Earlier, complaints were lodged against the vessel necessitating proof of seaworthiness. (CBS News, Twitter, A US Boat to Gaza website)

- (U) According to open source information, the Israeli Navy (INF) has established two operating rooms within the mess decks of INF surface combatants to help deal with casualties that could occur while interdicting "Freedom Flotilla 2" vessels. The INF also expects to have military Med-Evac flights available and on stand-by to evacuate any personnel to shore, and the Israeli Defense Force (IDF) Medical Corps will deploy onboard ships and to Ashdod port. (Haaretz)

1.4(C)
1.4(D)
B1
B3 CIA-SM

- (U) On 29 Jun number of expected participants reportedly went from 1,500 to 350. The Israeli government was hopeful that a continued delay of the launch of the Gaza-bound flotilla will lead to a further drop in the number of vessels and participants. The more the "organizers and participants have to run in place in Athens," the better is for Israel, one official said. Bureaucratic delays, strikes at Greek ports and damaged ships continue to delay the flotilla, which was originally scheduled to set sail at mid-week. (Source: JPost.com)

- (U) On 29 Jun Defense Minister Ehud Barak tried downplaying Israeli worries about Gaza flotilla. Barak told a local television channel that while he has directed the IDF to stop the flotilla by force, if necessary, he believed that while pockets of resistance were possible the flotilla participants this year would be less violent than last year's. According to the open source, political and military leaders are in fact more worried about the implications of the state comptroller's report on the raid on 2010's Gaza flotilla, a draft of which was recently submitted to senior officials. (Source: Haaretz.com)

1.4(C)
1.4(D)
B1

- (U) On 28 Jun, Israel Defense Ministry proposed confiscating the ships that attempt to break the naval blockade to Gaza, a move aimed at deterring future flotillas. Israeli press reporting indicates IDF claims they have intelligence showing some flotilla participants are planning to use violence and possibly chemical weapons against the troops. Flotilla members claim this is an attempt to justify IDF violence. (Source: Jerusalem Post)

1.4(C)
1.4(D)
B1
B3 CIA-SM

- (U) On 27 Jun, the Israeli "Lawfare" Group took responsibility for lodging the complaint against flotilla ship AUDACITY OF HOPE. Free Gaza Movement (FGM) organizers and AUDACITY OF HOPE passengers believe the complaint was frivolous and are now confident the Greek government will allow them to depart Greece.

- (U) On 27 Jun, the "Freedom Flotilla II (FF2) - Stay Human" press conference occurred in Athens but no specific ship names, departure dates, launch times, or rendezvous date, time, or area were revealed. Organizers also withheld the length of time the flotilla would remain at the rendezvous area before heading south. In short, FF2 spokespersons stated the flotilla will press forward with their departure plans despite Israel's warnings.

- (U) On 27 Jun, after two days of closed-doors meetings, the Israeli ministers committee on security affairs voted in favor of the navy plans to stop the FF2 flotilla from breaching the Israeli-imposed naval blockade on the Palestinian territory, giving the army authority to use "all necessary means" during the operation. The Israeli cabinet has ordered Israeli troops to operate with "maximal restraint and avoid clashes with activists on board the vessels."

- (U) On 22 Jun, USDOS warned US citizens against taking part in the flotilla and to avoid all travel to the Gaza Strip, citing threats to themselves as well as US interests. (STATE)

1.4(C)
1.4(D)
B1
B3 CIA-SM

(S) US Navy Forces

- USS MONTEREY (CG-61) remains inport Souda Bay, Greece through 8 Jul.

1.4(C)
1.4(D)
B1
B3 CIA-SM

V/r,

B6

1.4(C)
1.4(D)
B1
B3 CIA-SM

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET//NOFORN

Law, Rosemary C**RELEASED IN PART B3****DOD-CP, B5**

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 4:21 PM
To: Harris, Robert K; Thessin, James H; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Jacobson, Linda; Townley, Stephen G; Dolan, JoAnn; Guthrie, Peter A
Cc: Sullivan, David J
Subject: RE: 4:30 pm Gaza flotilla conference call
Attachments: RE: 4:30 pm Gaza flotilla conference call

Call in info here, in case anyone else is going to join.

BRIDGE NUMBER: **202-395-6392**

CONFEREE PASSCODE: **420 8141**

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 3:05 PM
To: Harris, Robert K; Donoghue, Joan E; Thessin, James H; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Jacobson, Linda; Townley, Stephen G; Dolan, JoAnn; Guthrie, Peter A
Cc: Mortlock, David JL; Sullivan, David J
Subject: FW: 4:30 pm Gaza flotilla conference call

NSC is hosting a lawyers call focused on issues related to the US flagged vessel(s). Would others like to join?

From: Egan, Brian J. [mailto:Brian.J.Egan@nss.eop.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 2:38 PM
To: Charles.V.Darr@uscg.mil; david.grimord@dot.gov; Kenney, Frederick CAPT; Baumert, Kevin A; Sean.Thornton@do.treas.gov; [redacted] DoD OGC; Mortlock, David JL; Sullivan, David J
Cc: Bahar, Michael
Subject: 4:30 pm Gaza flotilla conference call

B3 DOD-CP

B5

Brian Egan
 Deputy Legal Adviser
 National Security Staff
 202/456-9116

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Law, Rosemary C

From: Baumert, Kevin A **RELEASED IN PART B5,B6**
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 10:53 AM
To: Deeks, Ashley S; Guarin, Marc F; Jacobson, Linda
Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Reisser, Wesley J
Subject: FW: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

Ashley, Marc, Linda - [REDACTED]

B5

Thanks,
Kevin

From: Reisser, Wesley J
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 10:36 AM
To: Baumert, Kevin A
Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Goodman, Ilan A; Scarlatelli, Adam W; Holmstrom, Todd C; Goldberger, Thomas H
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

Kevin - [REDACTED]

Wes

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 3:41 PM
To: Reisser, Wesley J
Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Goodman, Ilan A; Scarlatelli, Adam W; Holmstrom, Todd C
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

Wes - [REDACTED]

Thanks,
Kevin

From: Reisser, Wesley J
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 3:00 PM
To: Baumert, Kevin A

Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Goodman, Ilan A; Scarlatelli, Adam W; Holmstrom, Todd C
Subject: FW: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

Kevin - [REDACTED]

B5

Thanks!
 Wes

From: Schlereth, Frank G
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 11:06 AM
To: Schlereth, Frank G; Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Burnett, David R; Baron, Desiree A; Parker, Andrew C; Greene, Elisa; Burgess, Richard J; Chere, John E
Cc: Reisser, Wesley J; Goldberger, Thomas H
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

Correction from Israel Navy –
 Vessels departed Greece and are currently on the way to Cyprus.

V/R,
 LCDR Frank Schlereth
 Assistant Naval Attaché
 US Defense Attaché Office
 US Embassy, Tel Aviv
 Tel: 972 3 519 7486
 Email: schlerethfg@state.gov

From: Schlereth, Frank G
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 5:51 PM
To: Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Burnett, David R; Baron, Desiree A; Parker, Andrew C; Greene, Elisa; Burgess, Richard J; Chere, John E
Cc: Reisser, Wesley J; Goldberger, Thomas H
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

The Israel Navy is inquiring about two vessels –Challenger I and Challenger II that they believe have departed Cyprus as a part of the Flotilla and reportedly are now flying American Flags. They have asked if there is any way to confirm this. I will reach out to our POCs in Cyprus, but appreciate any insight folks may have on this topic. I have trouble believing they would be legitimately sailing under an American Flag, but if so for some reason, potentially complicates the situation more. Thanks.

R/

[REDACTED]
 Assistant Naval Attaché
 US Defense Attaché Office
 US Embassy, Tel Aviv
 Tel: 972 3 519 7486
 Email: [REDACTED]

B6

From: Reisser, Wesley J

Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 5:06 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, 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

Subject: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

(SBU) Courtesy Embassy Tel Aviv, a message on how the navy intends to handle this:

"The Israel Navy has expressed to me that they intend to respond to this situation as peaceful as possible; however they have been directed by the GOI to prevent the vessels from arriving in Gaza. Their intention is to ensure the ships arrive in Ashdod, process the individuals to be deported and deliver any legitimate humanitarian aide to Gaza via land. It should be noted, that GOI has made it clear that although they have directed a peaceful response, those participating are viewed as individuals deliberately attempting to provoke the Israel Navy and appropriate action to prevent arrival in Gaza will be taken."

Wesley J. Reisser, Ph.D.

Desk Officer - NEA/IPA

Office of Israel & Palestinian Affairs

Phone (202) 647-2647

Fax (202) 736-4461

This message is UNCLASSIFIED/SBU according to the definitions provided by E.O. 12958.

RELEASED IN PART B5

Law, Rosemary C

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:09 PM
To: Dolan, JoAnn; Pomper, Stephen E; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Donoghue, Joan E; Jacobson, Linda; McLeod, Mary (USUN); Sullivan, David J; Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B; Aswad, Evelyn M
Cc: Harris, Robert K
Subject: Re: Humanitarian flotilla

My phone is 202-341-2074

From: Dolan, JoAnn
To: Pomper, Stephen E; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Donoghue, Joan E; Jacobson, Linda; McLeod, Mary (USUN); Sullivan, David J; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B; Aswad, Evelyn M
Cc: Harris, Robert K
Sent: Mon May 31 11:45:13 2010
Subject: RE: Humanitarian flotilla

Thanks, Steve. I have been unable to reach Alexandra or Kevin by phone. I have left phone messages for both but will try them through op center next. I will go through emails and circulate what I have for benefit of addressees. Conference call may be the way to go. Including Evelyn as she is following HRC angle.

-----Original Message-----

From: Pomper, Stephen E
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:40 AM
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Donoghue, Joan E; Jacobson, Linda; McLeod, Mary (USUN); Sullivan, David J; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Dolan, JoAnn; Heinemann, Thomas B
Cc: Harris, Robert K
Subject: Re: Humanitarian flotilla

Joann just reached me. I haven't tracked this beyond this mornong's traffic and the front page of the nyt but can help coordinate this afternoon. If someone could send me any analysis done in the run up last week that would be very helpful. Would it be useful to set up a call so that those folks who have been working the issue can pool info re knowledge/work done to date/etc?

----- Original Message -----

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
To: Donoghue, Joan E; Jacobson, Linda; McLeod, Mary (USUN); Pomper, Stephen E; Sullivan, David J; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Dolan, JoAnn; Heinemann, Thomas B
Cc: Harris, Robert K; Jacobson, Linda
Sent: Mon May 31 11:29:10 2010
Subject: Re: Humanitarian flotilla

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Embassy Tel Aviv has been sending in transcripts of Israeli briefings; JoAnn can forward to anyone who doesn't have. Essentially, Israeli boarding party says it was attacked with lethal force so they responded in kind. They claim to have found evidence on board of a plan to resist with force, unlike the prior flotillas. L is being asked:

JoAnn is reaching out to L/PM to see if they can coordinate with the Navy. A Quartet statement will be discussed at noon, UNSC meets at 1, and Human Rights Council meets tomorrow. So

B5

----- Original Message -----

From: Donoghue, Joan E
To: Jacobson, Linda; McLeod, Mary (USUN); Pomper, Stephen E; Sullivan, David J; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Dolan, JoAnn; Heinemann, Thomas B
Sent: Mon May 31 11:21:26 2010
Subject: Re: Humanitarian flotilla

On the self- defense rationale, what has GOI said and do we know the facts?

----- Original Message -----

From: Jacobson, Linda
To: McLeod, Mary (USUN); Pomper, Stephen E; Sullivan, David J; Donoghue, Joan E; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Dolan, JoAnn; Heinemann, Thomas B
Sent: Mon May 31 10:05:35 2010
Subject: Re: Humanitarian flotilla

Including others working on this.

----- Original Message -----

From: McLeod, Mary (USUN)
To: Jacobson, Linda; Pomper, Stephen E; Sullivan, David J; Donoghue, Joan E; Schwartz, Jonathan B
Sent: Mon May 31 09:57:46 2010
Subject: Humanitarian flotilla

All--Assume you all are working on this. I know Todd and Harold are in Kampala and bbs aren't working. I am rushing back to NYC to try to make the SC meeting, currently scheduled for 1. Anticipate much interest in legal issues focused on Israeli claims they were acting in self-defense and that the flotilla was violating international law.

Law, Rosemary C

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 6:53 AM
To: Harris, Robert K; Donoghue, Joan E; Thessin, James H; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Jacobson, Linda; Townley, Stephen G; Dolan, JoAnn; Guthrie, Peter A
Cc: Mortlock, David JL; Sullivan, David J
Subject: RE: Readout -- NSC Gaza flotilla conference call

RELEASED IN PART B3

DOD-CP, B5

Re: Challenger vessels, below is what Emb Nicosia reports based on info provided by "Cypriot Marine Police".

- Challenger III remains in Limassol, is seriously damaged and will take an estimated month to repair. There are currently no captain, crew or passengers aboard the ship. As they have stated previously, Cypriots have no intention of allowing ship depart for Gaza.
- Challenger II, a different ship, is damaged and anchored in the Med outside of Cypriot territorial waters. Cypriot marine police do not believe it is seaworthy.
- Previously, upon learning of the Challenger III's potential for involvement with the Gaza Flotilla, Embassy Consular Officers asked Cypriot authorities for a briefing on the ship's status, crew and passengers to protect any Amcits potentially aboard. It was then that the Cypriots informed Embassy that there were no Amcits on board and the GoC had no intention of allowing the ship to depart for Gaza. Embassy officers of course agreed with the GoC's course of action and thanked them for the briefing.

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 9:19 PM
To: Harris, Robert K; Donoghue, Joan E; Thessin, James H; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Jacobson, Linda; Townley, Stephen G; Dolan, JoAnn; Guthrie, Peter A
Cc: Mortlock, David JL; Sullivan, David J
Subject: Readout -- NSC Gaza flotilla conference call

Pasted below is Brian Egan's readout of the 4:30 interagency lawyers call. Though it was probably useful for Brian, it was otherwise not so illuminating and mainly a rehashing of conversations we've had with USCG.

It is also worth noting that the factual picture regarding the existence and location of US flagged vessel is murkier than ever – Challenger II has variously been reported to be (1) out of the water in Cyprus for a month of repairs (Cyprus port authorities), (2) in the Cyprus port of Limassol, (GoC, Emb Nicosia), (3) "underway" flying a foreign flag with location unknown (US Navy), and (4) receiving repairs in a port on the Turkish side of Cyprus (press account). Adding to the confusion is the emergence of a possible "Challenger III" that has an unknown flag and location. None of these vessels is equipped with identification/tracking gear, due to their small size and typical recreational usage.

Thanks, Kevin

>>

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

B5

B5

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 3:05 PM
To: Harris, Robert K; Donoghue, Joan E; Thessin, James H; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Jacobson, Linda; Townley, Stephen G; Dolan, JoAnn; Guthrie, Peter A
Cc: Mortlock, David JL; Sullivan, David J
Subject: FW: 4:30 pm Gaza flotilla conference call

NSC is hosting a lawyers call focused on issues related to the US flagged vessel(s). Would others like to join?

From: Egan, Brian J. [mailto:Brian_J._Egan@nss.eop.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 2:38 PM
To: Charles.V.Darr@uscg.mil; david.grimord@dot.gov; Kenney, Frederick CAPT; Baumert, Kevin A; Sean.Thornton@do.treas.gov; [redacted] DoD OGC; Mortlock, David JL; Sullivan, David J
Cc: Bahar, Michael
Subject: 4:30 pm Gaza flotilla conference call

B3 DOD-CP

B5

Brian Egan
Deputy Legal Adviser
National Security Staff
202/456-9116

RELEASED IN PART B5

Law, Rosemary C

From: Aswad, Evelyn M
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 10:13 AM
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Harris, Robert K; Jacobson, Linda; Cleveland, Sarah H; Koh, Harold Hongju; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Brancato, Gilda M; Banos, Mariano H; Martin, Julie B; Perina, Alexandra H; Khanna, Melanie J
Subject: FW: URGENT! HRC Action re: Gaza Aid Flotilla - use this chain

B5

From: Nossel, Suzanne F
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 8:41 AM
To: 'Scott_W._Busby@nss.eop.gov'; Martin, Julie B; Cassayre, Mark J; IO-HR-DL; DRL-MLGA-M; Legal-HRR-DL; Geneva HRC; Griffiths, Douglas M; Johnston-Gardner, Sarah R (DRL); Salih, Lana L; Fitzpatrick, Kathleen M; Perina, Alexandra H; 'Samantha_J._Power@nss.eop.gov'; 'Daniel_B._Shapiro@nss.eop.gov'; 'Prem_G._Kumar@nss.eop.gov'; 'Denis_R._McDonough@nss.eop.gov'; 'Benjamin_J._Rhodes@nss.eop.gov'; Connelly, Maura; Goldberger, Thomas H; Giauque, Jeffrey G
Cc: 'DL-NSC-Democracy@eopds.eop.gov'
Subject: URGENT! HRC Action re: Gaza Aid Flotilla - use this chain

Putting NSC on same chain with NEA.

From: Busby, Scott W. <Scott_W._Busby@nss.eop.gov>
To: Martin, Julie B; Cassayre, Mark J; Nossel, Suzanne F; IO-HR-DL; DRL-MLGA-M; Legal-HRR-DL; Geneva HRC; Griffiths, Douglas M; Johnston-Gardner, Sarah R (DRL); Salih, Lana L; Fitzpatrick, Kathleen M; Perina, Alexandra H; Power, Samantha J. <Samantha_J._Power@nss.eop.gov>; Shapiro, Daniel B. <Daniel_B._Shapiro@nss.eop.gov>; Kumar, Prem G. <Prem_G._Kumar@nss.eop.gov>; McDonough, Denis R. <Denis_R._McDonough@nss.eop.gov>; Rhodes, Benjamin J. <Benjamin_J._Rhodes@nss.eop.gov>
Cc: DL-NSC-Democracy <DL-NSC-Democracy@eopds.eop.gov>
Sent: Mon May 31 09:37:05 2010
Subject: Re: URGENT!!! HRC Action re: Gaza Aid Flotilla

+ Samantha Power, Dan Shapiro, Prem Kumar, Denis McDonoughN Ben Rhodes and others at NSC.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

From: Martin, Julie B <MartinJB@state.gov>
To: Cassayre, Mark J <CassayreMJ@state.gov>; Nossel, Suzanne F <NosselSF@state.gov>; IO-HR-DL <IO-HR-DL@state.gov>; DRL-MLGA-M <MLGAM@state.gov>; Legal-HRR-DL <Legal-HRR-DL@state.gov>; Geneva HRC <GenevaHRC@state.gov>; Griffiths, Douglas M <GriffithsDM@state.gov>; Busby, Scott W.; Johnston-Gardner, Sarah R (DRL) <JohnstonGardnerSR@state.gov>; Salih, Lana L <SalihLL@state.gov>; Fitzpatrick, Kathleen M <FitzpatrickKM@state.gov>; Perina, Alexandra H <PerinaAH@state.gov>

Sent: Mon May 31 09:28:09 2010

Subject: RE: URGENT!!! HRC Action re: Gaza Aid Flotilla

Looping in L/PM's Alexandra Perina.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Cassayre, Mark J

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 3:21 PM

To: Nossel, Suzanne F; IO-HR-DL; DRL-MLGA-M; Legal-HRR-DL; Geneva HRC; Griffiths, Douglas M; 'Busby, Scott W.'; Johnston-Gardner, Sarah R (DRL); Salih, Lana L; Fitzpatrick, Kathleen M

Subject: URGENT!!! HRC Action re: Gaza Aid Flotilla

NEED GUIDANCE

"SPECIAL SITTING" of HRC to occur Tuesday (tomorrow) afternoon on the Israeli boarding of flotilla.

B5

WE NEED TALKING POINTS ASAP AND WILL NEED POINTS FOR A STATEMENT, IF WE INTEND TO MAKE ONE DURING THIS "SPECIAL SITTING."

Mark Cassayre
Counselor
Political and Specialized Agencies
U.S. Mission to the United Nations and Specialized Agencies
Geneva, Switzerland
Direct tel: +41 22 749-4214
Mobile: +41 79 775-3680
Fax: +41.22.749.4717
cassayremj@state.gov

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

RELEASED IN PART B5

Law, Rosemary C

From: Aswad, Evelyn M
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 5:43 PM
To: Jacobson, Linda; Baumert, Kevin A; Dolan, JoAnn; Pomper, Stephen E; Townley, Stephen G; Guarin, Marc F; Perina, Alexandra H; Banos, Mariano H; Gorove, Katherine M; Sullivan, David J; Mortlock, David JL; Guthrie, Peter A; Martin, Julie B
Cc: Harris, Robert K
Subject: RE: PC on Flotilla Thursday evening

Hi JoAnn -

Best, EA

From: Dolan, JoAnn
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 3:41 PM
To: Pomper, Stephen E; Townley, Stephen G; Guarin, Marc F; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Aswad, Evelyn M; Banos, Mariano H; Gorove, Katherine M; Sullivan, David J
Cc: Harris, Robert K; Jacobson, Linda
Subject: PC on Flotilla Thursday evening

Israel Desk has just called to alert us that NSC is scheduling a PC for Thursday evening to which S plans to attend. While agenda is still being worked out it apparently includes such items as:

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

RELEASED IN PART B3
DOD-CP,B5

Law, Rosemary C

From: Egan, Brian J. [Brian.J.Egan@nss.eop.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 3:19 PM
To: Baumert, Kevin A; [redacted]@uscg.mil; david.grimord@DOT.GOV; [redacted] B3 DOD-CP
 CAPT; Sean.Thornton@do.treas.gov; [redacted] DoD OGC; Mortlock, David JL;
 Sullivan, David J; Will.Schisa@do.treas.gov
Cc: Bahar, Michael
Subject: RE: 4:30 pm Gaza flotilla conference call

Here is the call-in information:

BRIDGE NUMBER: 202-395-6392

CONFEREE PASSCODE: 420 8141

Thanks, Brian

From: Baumert, Kevin A [mailto:baumertka@state.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 3:02 PM
To: [redacted]@uscg.mil; Egan, Brian J.; david.grimord@DOT.GOV; [redacted] CAPT;
 Sean.Thornton@do.treas.gov; [redacted] DoD OGC; Mortlock, David JL; Sullivan, David J
Cc: Bahar, Michael
Subject: RE: 4:30 pm Gaza flotilla conference call

As will I.

From: Charles.V.Darr@uscg.mil [mailto:Charles.V.Darr@uscg.mil]
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 2:46 PM
To: Egan, Brian J.; david.grimord@DOT.GOV; [redacted] CAPT; Baumert, Kevin A; Sean.Thornton@do.treas.gov;
 [redacted] DoD OGC; Mortlock, David JL; Sullivan, David J
Cc: Bahar, Michael
Subject: RE: 4:30 pm Gaza flotilla conference call

I will be available to participate.

Best Regards,

Bud

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

-----Original Message-----

From: Egan, Brian J. [mailto:Brian.J.Egan@nss.eop.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 02:38 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: Darr, Charles; david.grimord@dot.gov; Kenney, Frederick CAPT; Baumert, Kevin A; Sean.Thornton@do.treas.gov; [redacted]
 [redacted] DoD OGC; Mortlock, David JL; Sullivan, David J
Cc: Bahar, Michael
Subject: 4:30 pm Gaza flotilla conference call **REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer**

B5

B5

Brian Egan

Deputy Legal Adviser

National Security Staff

202/456-9116

RELEASED IN PART B5

Law, Rosemary C

From: Sullivan, David J
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 4:40 PM
To: Baumert, Kevin A; Dolan, JoAnn; Pomper, Stephen E; Townley, Stephen G; Guarin, Marc F; Perina, Alexandra H; Aswad, Evelyn M; Banos, Mariano H; Gorove, Katherine M
Cc: Harris, Robert K; Jacobson, Linda
Subject: RE: PC on Flotilla Thursday evening

We have been in contact with Brian to get NSC/Legal involved in teeing up an interagency lawyers call on issues related to bullet 1 (or 1bis) with respect to the [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED] This will likely happen tomorrow.

B5

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 4:17 PM
To: Dolan, JoAnn; Pomper, Stephen E; Townley, Stephen G; Guarin, Marc F; Perina, Alexandra H; Aswad, Evelyn M; Banos, Mariano H; Gorove, Katherine M; Sullivan, David J
Cc: Harris, Robert K; Jacobson, Linda
Subject: RE: PC on Flotilla Thursday evening

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 4:14 PM
To: Dolan, JoAnn; Pomper, Stephen E; Townley, Stephen G; Guarin, Marc F; Perina, Alexandra H; Aswad, Evelyn M; Banos, Mariano H; Gorove, Katherine M; Sullivan, David J
Cc: Harris, Robert K; Jacobson, Linda
Subject: RE: PC on Flotilla Thursday evening

From: Dolan, JoAnn
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 3:41 PM
To: Pomper, Stephen E; Townley, Stephen G; Guarin, Marc F; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Aswad, Evelyn M; Banos, Mariano H; Gorove, Katherine M; Sullivan, David J
Cc: Harris, Robert K; Jacobson, Linda
Subject: PC on Flotilla Thursday evening

Israel Desk has just called to alert us that NSC is scheduling a PC for Thursday evening to which S plans to attend. While agenda is still being worked out it apparently includes such items as:

- o [REDACTED]
- o [REDACTED]
- o [REDACTED]

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

RELEASED IN PART B5

Law, Rosemary C

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 5:48 PM
To: Jacobson, Linda; Daley, John D; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Joyce, Anne; Gorove, Katherine M; Kim, John J (Kimm); Johnson, Karen K
Cc: Buchwald, Todd F; Simonoff, Mark A (USUN); Townley, Stephen G; Perina, Alexandra H; Banos, Mariano H; Newman, David S (L-CA)
Subject: RE: flotilla incident -- Comoros-flagged vessel ?

B5

From: Jacobson, Linda
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 5:05 PM
To: Baumert, Kevin A; Daley, John D; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Joyce, Anne; Gorove, Katherine M; Kim, John J (Kimm); Johnson, Karen K
Cc: Buchwald, Todd F; Simonoff, Mark A (USUN); Townley, Stephen G; Perina, Alexandra H; Banos, Mariano H; Newman, David S (L-CA)
Subject: RE: flotilla incident -- Comoros-flagged vessel ?

Kevin, this is an incident allegedly occurring during an armed conflict. Wouldn't that impact your advice?

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 5:03 PM
To: Daley, John D; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Joyce, Anne; Gorove, Katherine M; Kim, John J (Kimm); Johnson, Karen K; Jacobson, Linda
Cc: Buchwald, Todd F; Simonoff, Mark A (USUN); Townley, Stephen G; Perina, Alexandra H; Banos, Mariano H; Newman, David S (L-CA)
Subject: RE: flotilla incident -- Comoros-flagged vessel ?

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Right.

B5

*Article 94**Duties of the flag State*

7. Each State shall cause an inquiry to be held by or before a suitably qualified person or persons into every marine casualty or incident of navigation on the high seas involving a ship flying its flag and causing loss of life or serious injury to nationals of another State or serious damage to ships or installations of another State or to the marine environment. The flag State and the other State shall cooperate in the conduct of any inquiry held by that other State into any such marine casualty or incident of navigation.

From: Daley, John D**Sent:** Thursday, October 14, 2010 4:30 PM**To:** Schwartz, Jonathan B; Joyce, Anne; Gorove, Katherine M; Kim, John J (Kimm); Johnson, Karen K; Jacobson, Linda**Cc:** Buchwald, Todd F; Simonoff, Mark A (USUN); Townley, Stephen G; Perina, Alexandra H; Banos, Mariano H; Newman, David S (L-CA); Baumert, Kevin A**Subject:** RE: flotilla incident -- Comoros-flagged vessel ?**From:** Schwartz, Jonathan B**Sent:** Thursday, October 14, 2010 4:12 PM**To:** Daley, John D; Joyce, Anne; Gorove, Katherine M; Kim, John J (Kimm); Johnson, Karen K; Jacobson, Linda**Cc:** Buchwald, Todd F; Simonoff, Mark A (USUN); Townley, Stephen G; Perina, Alexandra H; Banos, Mariano H; Newman, David S (L-CA)**Subject:** RE: flotilla incident -- Comoros-flagged vessel ?**From:** Daley, John D**Sent:** Thursday, October 14, 2010 4:09 PM**To:** Joyce, Anne; Gorove, Katherine M; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Kim, John J (Kimm); Johnson, Karen K; Jacobson, Linda**Cc:** Buchwald, Todd F; Simonoff, Mark A (USUN); Townley, Stephen G; Perina, Alexandra H; Banos, Mariano H; Newman, David S (L-CA)**Subject:** RE: flotilla incident -- Comoros-flagged vessel ?

Spoke to Baumert – he had EB check the database and it is indeed a Comoros-flagged vessel.

From: Joyce, Anne

Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 4:07 PM

To: Gorove, Katherine M; Daley, John D; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Kim, John J (Kimm); Johnson, Karen K; Jacobson, Linda
Cc: Buchwald, Todd F; Simonoff, Mark A (USUN); Townley, Stephen G; Perina, Alexandra H; Banos, Mariano H; Newman, David S (L-CA)

Subject: RE: flotilla incident -- Comoros-flagged vessel ?

David Newman knows a lot about the incident b/c of the visa sanctions issue -- it's not directly related, but maybe he came across the issue of what flag the vessels were flying. It's the first I've heard of Comoros. aj

From: Gorove, Katherine M

Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 4:02 PM

To: Daley, John D; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Kim, John J (Kimm); Johnson, Karen K; Jacobson, Linda; Joyce, Anne
Cc: Buchwald, Todd F; Simonoff, Mark A (USUN); Townley, Stephen G; Perina, Alexandra H; Banos, Mariano H

Subject: RE: flotilla incident -- Comoros-flagged vessel ?

The HRC reports used the language of war crimes. Although the Turkish report has been given to the Secretary-General, I don't believe that it is public (nor do I think that the USG has seen it).

From: Daley, John D

Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 3:51 PM

To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Kim, John J (Kimm); Johnson, Karen K; Jacobson, Linda; Joyce, Anne
Cc: Buchwald, Todd F; Simonoff, Mark A (USUN); Townley, Stephen G; Perina, Alexandra H; Gorove, Katherine M; Banos, Mariano H

Subject: RE: flotilla incident -- Comoros-flagged vessel ?

B5

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B

Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 3:43 PM

To: Daley, John D; Kim, John J (Kimm); Johnson, Karen K; Jacobson, Linda; Joyce, Anne
Cc: Buchwald, Todd F; Simonoff, Mark A (USUN); Townley, Stephen G; Perina, Alexandra H; Gorove, Katherine M; Banos, Mariano H

Subject: RE: flotilla incident -- Comoros-flagged vessel ?

jon

From: Daley, John D

Sent: Thursday, October 14, 2010 3:31 PM

To: Kim, John J (Kimm); Johnson, Karen K; Jacobson, Linda; Joyce, Anne
Cc: Buchwald, Todd F; Simonoff, Mark A (USUN); Townley, Stephen G; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Perina, Alexandra H
Subject: flotilla incident -- Comoros-flagged vessel ?

John/Karen -

The press is reporting today that lawyers for the families of those killed by Israeli forces in connection with the Flotilla incident this spring have sent a letter to the ICC Prosecutor urging him to take action. Evidently their jurisdictional

theory is based on an allegation that the ship, although Turkish operated, was flying the Comoros flag and apparently was registered there. While neither Turkey or Israel are Rome Statute parties, Comoros is – and Article 12 of the Rome Statute is fairly express that there can be jurisdiction if the crimes occurred on a vessel where the state of registration is a Rome Statute party.

B5

Thanks.

RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP,B5

Law, Rosemary C

From: Townley, Stephen G
Sent: Tuesday, June 08, 2010 11:47 AM
To: Jacobson, Linda
Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Pomper, Stephen E; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Harris, Robert K; Banos, Mariano H; Gorove, Katherine M
Subject: RE: Close Hold: Mr. Donilon's Meeting on [REDACTED] (06/08)

B5

A few additional questions, drawing on discussion this morning, some of which overlap with JoAnn's excellent questions:

- (1)
- (2)
- (3)
- (4)
- (5)
- (6)
- (7)
- (8)
- (9)
- (10)

From: Jacobson, Linda
Sent: Tuesday, June 08, 2010 10:26 AM
To: Townley, Stephen G; Harris, Robert K; Banos, Mariano H; Aswad, Evelyn M; Pomper, Stephen E; Gorove, Katherine M; Eichensehr, Kristen E; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Baumert, Kevin A; Guarin, Marc F
Subject: FW: Close Hold: Mr. Donilon's Meeting on [REDACTED] (06/08)

Please see JoAnn's excellent comments and work from these to comment or add further thoughts. Thanks.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

From: Dolan, JoAnn
Sent: Tuesday, June 08, 2010 10:20 AM
To: Jacobson, Linda
Subject: RE: Close Hold: Mr. Donilon's Meeting on [REDACTED] (06/08)

Comments on paper:

B5

From: Jacobson, Linda
Sent: Tuesday, June 08, 2010 8:11 AM
To: Dolan, JoAnn
Subject: FW: Close Hold: Mr. Donilon's Meeting on [REDACTED] (06/08)

From: Townley, Stephen G
Sent: Tuesday, June 08, 2010 7:45 AM
To: Jacobson, Linda; Pomper, Stephen E; Gorove, Katherine M; Banos, Mariano H
Cc: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Harris, Robert K
Subject: Close Hold: Mr. Donilon's Meeting on [REDACTED] (06/08)

See attached for discussion at the WH this afternoon. Let's please try to have thoughts/reactions compiled by late morning. Please keep close hold. Thanks, Stephen

From: Zimmerman, Thomas S. <Thomas_S._Zimmerman@nss.eop.gov>
To: george@george.mitchell.com <george@george.mitchell.com>; Reed, Julia G; Ross, Dennis B.

<Dennis_B._Ross@nss.eop.gov>; Shapiro, Daniel B. <Daniel_B._Shapiro@nss.eop.gov>; McDonough, Denis R. <Denis_R._McDonough@nss.eop.gov>; Alhassani, Mehdi K. <Mehdi_K._Alhassani@nss.eop.gov>; Rhodes, Benjamin J. <Benjamin_J._Rhodes@nss.eop.gov>; Sullivan, Jacob J; Kumar, Prem G. <Prem_G._Kumar@nss.eop.gov>; Power, Samantha J. <Samantha_J._Power@nss.eop.gov>; DeRosa, Mary B. <Mary_B._DeRosa@nss.eop.gov>; Egan, Brian J. <Brian_J._Egan@nss.eop.gov>; Sherwood-Randall, Elizabeth D. <Elizabeth_D._Sherwood-Randall@nss.eop.gov>; Brink, Bridget A. <Bridget_A._Brink@nss.eop.gov>; Alexander, Diane J; Lavy, Brendan L; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Donoghue, Joan E; [REDACTED]@dodgc.osd.mil <[REDACTED]@dodgc.osd.mil>; Barks-Ruggles, Erica J; Harris, Grant T; [REDACTED]@dodgc.osd.mil <[REDACTED]@dodgc.osd.mil>; [REDACTED]@js.pentagon.mil <[REDACTED]@js.pentagon.mil>

B3 DOD-CP

Cc: Donilon, Thomas E. <Thomas_E._Donilon@nss.eop.gov>; Lang, Kimberly C. <Kimberly_C._Lang@nss.eop.gov>; Strickler, Adam G. <Adam_G._Strickler@nss.eop.gov>; Phillips, Katherine J. <Katherine_J._Phillips@nss.eop.gov>; Spence, Matthew J. <Matthew_J._Spence@nss.eop.gov>; Fishman, Benjamin I. <Benjamin_I._Fishman@nss.eop.gov>; Pascal, Alexander J. <Alexander_J._Pascal@nss.eop.gov>

Sent: Mon Jun 07 22:38:46 2010

Subject: Mr. Donilon's Meeting on [REDACTED] (06/08)

B5

All,

[REDACTED]

B5

We will provide more specific information tomorrow as soon as we are able. Please direct any further questions to Kate Phillips, at 202-456-9481 or kphillips@nss.eop.gov.

R45

Gilmore, Bradley T

From: Gilmore, Bradley T
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 9:20 PM
To: DS Command Center
Cc: Ross, Michael H; Ober, Richard C; Combs, James D; Roundy, Brian A; McCarthy, David T (Istanbul); Kolega, Alen
Subject: Spot Report-Protests in Ankara, Istanbul, Adana.docx
Attachments: Spot Report-Protests in Ankara, Istanbul, Adana.docx

Categories: Working
AttachmentsClassification:
Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
SensitivityCode: UNCLASSIFIED Sensitive

RELEASED IN PART B6

Brad Gilmore
Assistant Regional Security Officer
U.S. Embassy
Ankara, Turkey
Office: (90) (312) 455-5555 ext. 7024
Cell: [REDACTED]
Fax: (90) (312) 457-7060
IVG: 295-7014

B6

This message is unclassified based on E.O. 12958

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

R41

Gilmore, Bradley T

From: de Otalvaro, Laura H
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 5:09 PM
To: Gilmore, Bradley T
Cc: McCarthy, David T (Istanbul)
Subject: FW: RSO action: Spot Report No. 1 - Latest Situation on Gaza Aid Flotilla (SBU)

Categories: Working
Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
SensitivityCode: Sensitive

RELEASED IN PART
 B7(C),B6

SBU
 This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: McCarthy, David T (Istanbul)
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 5:00 PM
To: Dayton, Win (Istanbul)
Cc: McCarthy, David T (Istanbul); Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Tomlinson, Christina (Istanbul); Roundy, Brian A; Lillis, Amy J (Istanbul); de Otalvaro, Laura H; Appleton, Richard H; Darnell, Daria L; Combs, James D
Subject: RE: RSO action: Spot Report No. 1 - Latest Situation on Gaza Aid Flotilla (SBU)

Win,

I've just gotten off the phone with [REDACTED] He and his family are fine and reports that there have been no incidents or demonstrators in his neighborhood. He and his family have been staying indoors. He will let us know if the situation changes. He did ask if we thought he and his family should consider evacuation, but I told him that at this time there was no recommendation to do so. B6 B7(C)

Brian received a report from his FSNI that the written cable was supposedly sent from MFA to all security posts in Turkey authorizing any needed additional security for both the Israelis and ourselves. We've determined that the Besiktas Protection Unit has received it. The Besiktas chief stated that he would not be assigning any additional men, at the moment, to the Maya Residence, since they have a police station located there. He will react additional units if the situation changes. [REDACTED] is still trying to confirm an additional TNP unit to the CGR, but the Besiktas chief stated that if we have an incident there he would dispatch units immediately with a react time of 1-2 minutes. As I stated in another email, we've added another two LGF guards to that location thru tomorrow morning.

[REDACTED] has yet to receive a call back from the Sariyer police chief, but it's not from lack of trying. We are still attempting to confirm additional police units for the consulate and will advise when we have a definite answer.

Regards,

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Dave

From: Dayton, Win (Istanbul)
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 3:04 PM
To: Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Tomlinson, Christina (Istanbul); Roundy, Brian A; McCarthy,

David T (Istanbul); Lillis, Amy J (Istanbul); de OtaIvaro, Laura H; Appleton, Richard H; Darnell, Daria L
Subject: RSO action: Spot Report No. 1 - Latest Situation on Gaza Aid Flotilla (SBU)

Brian/David:

Please reach out (yourself or via [] to [] (who is a US citizen, tel # below) to ascertain his security and concerns and to counsel him on security as appropriate. I understand [] has given him at least one security briefing in the past, and the [] is also known to Amy. Please report back when this is done. B6 B7(C)

Also, please keep this circle informed on latest developments you get from TNP and/or roving patrol regarding the demonstration(s). Also, please advise if/when the TNP supplies additional resources for the CGR and/or ConGen. I understand an Ankara office has sent instructions to that effect but can you (if you haven't) ascertain whether they've received the instructions and will comply?

Also, please be sure to clear with the CG or me whatever is being reported back to DS Command, Ankara or within the Mission. If your information is being exchanged by phone, please send a note to all so we all have the latest information. CG and I will be away from homes this evening but on blackberry.

Thanks, Win

From: Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul)
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 2:32 PM
To: Dayton, Win (Istanbul); Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Tomlinson, Christina (Istanbul); Roundy, Brian A; McCarthy, David T (Istanbul)
Subject: Re: Spot Report No. 1 - Latest Situation on Gaza Aid Flotilla (SBU)

I just received a call from the ops center who passed call to me from [] B6
[] He is concerned about Istanbul [] who lives with his family at the Center. I promised to have someone call re security. I'll call vwin right now.

From: Dayton, Win (Istanbul)
To: Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Tomlinson, Christina (Istanbul); Roundy, Brian A; McCarthy, David T (Istanbul)
Sent: Mon May 31 14:08:42 2010
Subject: FW: Spot Report No. 1 - Latest Situation on Gaza Aid Flotilla (SBU)

Fyi, I understood Op Center's next spot report on this would likely be about 1900 our time.

From: Morgan, Jack A
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:56 PM
To: Dayton, Win (Istanbul); de OtaIvaro, Laura H
Cc: Leedy, Jean B
Subject: Spot Report No. 1 - Latest Situation on Gaza Aid Flotilla (SBU)

Colleagues,

Cc'd on this email is J.B. Leedy the oncoming editor. She will be the best POC for the Afternoon Sport Report No. 2.

Cheers,

Jack Morgan

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

SPOT REPORT NO. 1

LATEST SITUATION ON GAZA AID FLOTILLA

Monday, May 31, 2010
0615 EDT

ISRAELI NAVY INTERCEPTS GAZA FLOTILLA, 15 ACTIVISTS KILLED

- (SBU) Nine of the 15 killed are reportedly Turkish citizens, according to press. In addition, dozens of activists and six Israeli commandos are reported injured. The wounded are being taken to hospitals in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, and Haifa. *(Ops/Embassy Tel Aviv e-mail, France 24)*
- (SBU) There are currently no reports of wounded or killed American citizens. *(Ops/Embassy Tel Aviv e-mail)*
- (SBU) The incident occurred around 0430 local time May 31, when Israeli soldiers boarded the Turkish flagged ship "Blue Marmara," approximately 70 miles off Israel's coast. *(Ops/Embassy Ankara e-mail)*
- (U) Raed Salah, the head of the northern faction of the Islamic Movement, has been wounded in the incident and is undergoing surgery in an Israeli hospital, media report. *(Jerusalem Post)*

FLOTILLA HEADED TO ASHDOD; ISRAELI POLICE ON HIGH ALERT

- (U) The Israeli police are on their highest state of alert and have instituted several road blocks, including one in the Temple Mount area. *(YNet News)*

ISRAELI CONSULATE ISTANBUL SURROUNDED BY THOUSANDS

- (SBU) Consulate General Istanbul reports Turkish police are deployed around the Israeli Consulate and there are no reports of violence or injuries. At least 5000 protestors are marching from the consulate toward the city's main square, according to press. *(Ops/Consulate General Istanbul e-mail, AP)*
- (SBU) Consulate Adana issued a Warden Message May 31 advising American citizens of potential anti-U.S. and Israeli demonstrations. *(Ops/Consulate Adana e-mail)*

TURKEY "STRONGLY PROTESTS" INCIDENT; EU CALLS FOR INQUIRY

- (SBU) The Turkish Foreign Ministry issued a statement calling the incident "unacceptable" and demanding an "urgent explanation" from Israel, according to press. Embassy Ankara reports the Turkish MFA has summoned Israel's ambassador to Turkey but that Ambassador Levi has been unable to meet with Turkish officials due to a protest surrounding the Israeli Embassy. *(Ops/Embassy Ankara e-mail, AP)*
- (U) EU High Representative Ashton expressed her deep regret at the loss of life and violence and demanded a full inquiry. *(Reuters)*
- (U) Arab League Secretary General Moussa called for an emergency meeting June 1 to discuss Israel's "terrorist act." *(Reuters)*
- (U) President Abbas called for three days of mourning throughout the Palestinian Territories. *(Reuters)*

Drafted: JAMorgan

Approved: PSlattery

Dist: State (all bureaus), NSC, HSC, OSD, NMCC, JCS, CIA, FBIS, NCTC, DHS

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

R38

Gilmore, Bradley T

From: de Otalvaro, Laura H
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 3:22 PM
To: Gilmore, Bradley T
Subject: FW: RSO action: Spot Report No. 1 - Latest Situation on Gaza Aid Flotilla (SBU)

Categories: Working
Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
SensitivityCode: Sensitive

RELEASED IN PART B7(C),B6

SBU
 This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Dayton, Win (Istanbul)
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 3:04 PM
To: Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Tomlinson, Christina (Istanbul); Roundy, Brian A; McCarthy, David T (Istanbul); Lillis, Amy J (Istanbul); de Otalvaro, Laura H; Appleton, Richard H; Darnell, Daria L
Subject: RSO action: Spot Report No. 1 - Latest Situation on Gaza Aid Flotilla (SBU)

B6
 B7(C)

Brian/David:

Please reach out (yourself or via [redacted] to [redacted] (who is a US citizen, tel # below) to ascertain his security and concerns and to counsel him on security as appropriate. I understand [redacted] has given him at least one security briefing in the past, and [redacted] is also known to Amy. Please report back when this is done.

Also, please keep this circle informed on latest developments you get from TNP and/or roving patrol regarding the demonstration(s). Also, please advise if/when the TNP supplies additional resources for the CGR and/or ConGen. I understand an Ankara office has sent instructions to that effect but can you (if you haven't) ascertain whether they've received the instructions and will comply?

Also, please be sure to clear with the CG or me whatever is being reported back to DS Command, Ankara or within the Mission. If your information is being exchanged by phone, please send a note to all so we all have the latest information. CG and I will be away from homes this evening but on blackberry.

Thanks, Win

From: Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul)
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 2:32 PM
To: Dayton, Win (Istanbul); Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Tomlinson, Christina (Istanbul); Roundy, Brian A; McCarthy, David T (Istanbul)
Subject: Re: Spot Report No. 1 - Latest Situation on Gaza Aid Flotilla (SBU)

I just received a call from the ops center who passed call to me from [redacted]
 [redacted] He is concerned about Istanbul [redacted] who lives with his family at the Center. I promised to have someone call re security. I'll call Win right now.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

From: Dayton, Win (Istanbul)
To: Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul); Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Tomlinson, Christina (Istanbul); Roundy, Brian A; McCarthy, David T (Istanbul)
Sent: Mon May 31 14:08:42 2010
Subject: FW: Spot Report No. 1 - Latest Situation on Gaza Aid Flotilla (SBU)

Fyi, I understood Op Center's next spot report on this would likely be about 1900 our time.

From: Morgan, Jack A
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:56 PM
To: Dayton, Win (Istanbul); de Otaivaro, Laura H
Cc: Leedy, Jean B
Subject: Spot Report No. 1 - Latest Situation on Gaza Aid Flotilla (SBU)

Colleagues,

Cc'd on this email is J.B. Leedy the oncoming editor. She will be the best POC for the Afternoon Sport Report No. 2.

Cheers,

Jack Morgan

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

SPOT REPORT NO. 1

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Monday, May 31, 2010
0615 EDT

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- (SBU) Nine of the 15 killed are reportedly Turkish citizens, according to press. In addition, dozens of activists and six Israeli commandos are reported injured. The wounded are being taken to hospitals in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, and Haifa. (*Ops/Embassy Tel Aviv e-mail, France 24*)
- (SBU) There are currently no reports of wounded or killed American citizens. (*Ops/Embassy Tel Aviv e-mail*)
- (SBU) The incident occurred around 0430 local time May 31, when Israeli soldiers boarded the Turkish flagged ship "Blue Marmara," approximately 70 miles off Israel's coast. (*Ops/Embassy Ankara e-mail*)
- (U) Raed Salah, the head of the northern faction of the Islamic Movement, has been wounded in the incident and is undergoing surgery in an Israeli hospital, media report. (*Jerusalem Post*)

FLOTILLA HEADED TO ASHDOD; ISRAELI POLICE ON HIGH ALERT

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- (SBU) Consulate Adana issued a Warden Message May 31 advising American citizens of potential anti-U.S. and Israeli demonstrations. (*Ops/Consulate Adana e-mail*)

TURKEY "STRONGLY PROTESTS" INCIDENT; EU CALLS FOR INQUIRY

- (SBU) The Turkish Foreign Ministry issued a statement calling the incident "unacceptable" and demanding an "urgent explanation" from Israel, according to press. Embassy Ankara reports the Turkish MFA has summoned Israel's ambassador to Turkey but that Ambassador Levi has been unable to meet with Turkish officials due to a protest surrounding the Israeli Embassy. (*Ops/Embassy Ankara e-mail, AP*)
- (U) EU High Representative Ashton expressed her deep regret at the loss of life and violence and demanded a full inquiry. (*Reuters*)
- (U) Arab League Secretary General Moussa called for an emergency meeting June 1 to discuss Israel's "terrorist act." (*Reuters*)
- (U) President Abbas called for three days of mourning throughout the Palestinian Territories. (*Reuters*)

Drafted: JAMorgan

Approved: PSlattery

Dist: State (all bureaus), NSC, HSC, OSD, NMCC, JCS, CIA, FBIS, NCTC, DHS

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASED IN FULL

R49

Gilmore, Bradley T

From: Roundy, Brian A
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 1:13 PM
To: Gilmore, Bradley T; Combs, James D; Kolega, Alen
Subject: FW: Sunday's Demonstration

Categories: Working
Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

FYI. According to Rodney's sources, see below, the crowds could be huge.

Brian Roundy
 Deputy Regional Security Officer
 US Embassy Ankara Turkey
 IVG. 295-7010
 Tel. 90-312-457-7010
 FAX. 90-312-457-7060
 Embassy Switchboard. 90-312-455-5555

In accordance with E.O. 12958, this message is UNCLASSIFIED.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Hunter, Rodney M
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 11:36 AM
To: de Otalvaro, Laura H; Howard, Jeremiah "Jerry"; Arvey, Jason M
Cc: Roundy, Brian A; Proctor, Tony A
Subject: Sunday's Demonstration

We spoke to Mazlum-Der about the protest planned at 1600 on Sunday, June 6 in Sihhiye, Ankara.

It is being organized by a coalition of NGOs. These include:

- Mazlum-Der (Islamist Human Rights Org.)
- IHH (organizers of the flotilla)
- Hak-Is (Islamist Labor Union)
- Memur Sen
- BBP Youth Group (Turkish Nationalists who are also Islamists)
- Anadolu Genclik Dernegi (Anatolian Youth Association)

Political Parties are not officially involved, but members of some parties can come, and likely will.

When this group organized a similar rally on April 18, 2009, over 80,000 people attended, according to them. They expect a similar turn-out on Sunday -- and hope for more than before.

Thanks,
 RH

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Rodney M. Hunter
Political Officer
U.S. Embassy, Ankara
(90) 312-457-72-96

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

R45A

UNCLASSIFIED

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**BUREAU OF DIPLOMATIC SECURITY
SPOT REPORT**

**U.S. Embassy Ankara
U.S. Consulate General Istanbul
U.S. Consulate Adana
May 31, 2010**

RELEASED IN PART B6

SUBJECT: Ankara, Istanbul, and Adana - Protests against the Israeli military for stopping the Turkish Humanitarian Aid Foundation (IHH) flotilla

REFERENCES: E-mail to Regional Security Officer Jim Combs on 05/31/2010

SUMMARY: On May 31, 2010 at approximately 4:30 a.m. the Israeli military landed soldiers on the deck of the Turkish flag ship "Blue Marmara" 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. Reports indicate that shots were fired and between 10 and 16 people were killed.

Protests by Turks against the actions of the Israeli military began the same day in Ankara, Istanbul, and Adana. In Ankara and Istanbul, the protesters demonstrated outside Israeli diplomatic facilities. In Adana, protesters demonstrated outside of the U.S. Consulate. The protestors did not attack any U.S. personnel or facilities.

ANKARA DETAILS: Throughout the day and evening, protesters demonstrated outside the Israeli Embassy and Israeli Ambassador's Residence. Approximately 1,000 protesters remain outside of the Israeli Ambassador's Residence. The Turkish National Police (TNP) deployed riot police and closed numerous streets in response. No protestors demonstrated outside the U.S. Embassy, Ankara although a large group of approximately 200 protesters passed by at 8:45 p.m. local time. The protestors in Ankara have not threatened the U.S. or Americans living in Turkey.

ISTANBUL DETAILS: This morning, approximately 2,000 protestors demonstrated outside the Israeli Consulate. Riot police pushed the protesters away from the Israeli Consulate and used water cannons. The demonstrators then marched to Taksim Square, their numbers swelling to approximately 5,000 people.

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REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

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The demonstration in Taksim Square ended at approximately 3:30 p.m. local time. The protestors in Istanbul have not threatened the U.S. or Americans living in Turkey.

ADANA DETAILS: At 12:30 p.m., approximately 4,000 protesters demonstrated in front of the U.S. Consulate. The protesters laid a black wreath in front of the U.S. Consulate and said that the U.S. was an invading country. The protesters dispersed at 2:00 p.m., and did not threaten the U.S. or Americans living in Turkey.

LOCATIONS:

1. Israeli Embassy, Ankara. Büyükesat Mh. Mahatma Gandhi Cd. 06700, Çankaya.
2. Israeli Ambassador's Residence, Ankara. Ataturk Blvd and Presidential Palace.
3. Israeli Consulate, Istanbul. Buyukudere CAD. Yapi Kredi, Plaza Block C KAT.7, Levent.
4. Taksim Square, Istanbul.
5. U.S. Consulate, Adana. Girne Bulvari No: 212 Guzelevler Mah. Yuregir.

STEPS TAKEN:

- RSOs in Ankara and Istanbul confirmed that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) sent a cable to TNP authorizing additional security for U.S. installations,
- TNP provided additional police officers to protect U.S. diplomatic facilities in Ankara, Istanbul, and Adana, and
- RSOs increased the number of local guards assigned to the Chief of Mission's Residence and Consul General's Residence.

NEXT STEPS:

- Post will continue to monitor the situation and make a determination regarding whether to convene an Emergency Action Committee.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

POC: Ankara ARSO Brad Gilmore, IVG: 295-7014, Cell: Email:
GilmoreBT@state.gov

POC: Istanbul ARSO David McCarthy, 90 212 335-9338. Email: McCarthyD1@state.gov

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UNCLASSIFIED

B6

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ENCLOSURES: None

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UNCLASSIFIED

R47

Gilmore, Bradley T

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 9:10 AM
To: Gilmore, Bradley T
Cc: Combs, James D; Roundy, Brian A; Kolega, Alen
Subject: Demonstration at Sihhiye Square
Attachments: Demonstration Site - Sihhiye Square.pdf, Israeli Ambassador's Residence.pdf

B6
B7(C)

Categories: Working

AttachmentsClassification:

RELEASED IN PART B7(C),B6

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

SensitivityCode: UNCLASSIFIED

SensitivityCode: Sensitive

Brad - There are two important things for this weekend,

Firstly, there will be a large scale demonstration at Sihhiye Square (near Kizilay Square) organized by MAZLUMDER (The Association of Human Rights and Solidarity for Oppressed People) in the name of "Freedom for Palestinians" on Sunday, June 6, 2010, at 16:00.

TNP expects up to 20,000 people to gather for this demonstration and there will be road closures around Sihhiye Square between 12:00 and 18:00.

Secondly, TNP expects demonstrations at Israeli Ambassador's Residence over the weekend.

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

RELEASED IN PART B7(E),B7(C),B6

R50

Gilmore, Bradley T

From: [redacted] B6
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 4:21 PM B7(C)
To: Solomon, Robin D; Darnell, Daria L; Lo, Debra; Ones, Leyla L; Combs, James D; Roundy, Brian A; Kolega, Alen; Gilmore, Bradley T; [redacted]
Subject: RE: Funeral ceremony of a killed Humanitarian Relief member/Adana
Categories: Working
Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
SensitivityCode: Sensitive

I just talked to an official from the Sabanci Mosque; he says there were 30,000-40,000 people. Sorry I think it was too hot!!!

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [redacted] B6
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 3:20 PM B7(C)
To: Solomon, Robin D; Darnell, Daria L; Lo, Debra; Ones, Leyla L; Combs, James D; Roundy, Brian A; Kolega, Alen; Gilmore, Bradley T; [redacted]
Subject: Funeral ceremony of a killed Humanitarian Relief member/Adana

Over 60, 000 people joined in the funeral ceremony of a killed Humanitarian Relief member which held at the Sabanci Mosque of Adana.

The provincial TNP Director, Governor of Adana, Adana's MPs, mayors and all other officials attended in the ceremony. The mosque area was full of people, and there was no place inside or outside the mosque. The ceremony was quiet and no violent incident happened, only several times demonstrators chanted anti-Israeli slogans, no anti-American slogans reported.

The common slogan which chanted various times by the crowd was "Islamic movement can't be stopped."

The majority of the crowd were men, but there were thousands of women as well. All women were wearing headscarf, almost half of the women were wearing Islamic black arbaya dresses. There were many flags or headbands written in Arabic words as well.

There were heavy security precautions and the guys from various Islamic foundations controlled the crowd very well and stopped them whenever they wanted to chant anti-Israeli slogan.

Banners as follows:

Thousands of salutes from Adana to Gaza
 Children murderer Israel
 Cut the relationships with the Zionist gang
 Gaza will be a graveyard for Israel
 shut down the Zionist embassy
 Palestinians are not alone
 We will beat the Zionism and Islamic resistance will win
 we are Palestinians
 Martyrs are our honor
 long-live our Islamic struggle.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

The ceremony was monitored by [redacted] and [redacted]

Please check the attached pictures for more info.

B7(E)

B6
B7(C)

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

RELEASED IN PART B3
DOD-CP,B5,B3 DODFGI

Law, Rosemary C

From: Deeks, Ashley S
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 11:04 AM
To: Baumert, Kevin A; Guarin, Marc F; Jacobson, Linda
Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Reisser, Wesley J; Perina, Alexandra H; Pomper, Stephen E
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

Looping in AP for the Israeli angle and SP for the blockade angle, based on his Georgia work.

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 10:53 AM
To: Deeks, Ashley S; Guarin, Marc F; Jacobson, Linda
Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Reisser, Wesley J
Subject: FW: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

B5

Thanks,
Kevin

From: Reisser, Wesley J
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 10:36 AM
To: Baumert, Kevin A
Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Goodman, Ilan A; Scarlatelli, Adam W; Holmstrom, Todd C; Goldberger, Thomas H
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

Kevin

Wes

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 3:41 PM
To: Reisser, Wesley J
Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Goodman, Ilan A; Scarlatelli, Adam W; Holmstrom, Todd C
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Thanks,
Kevin

From: Reisser, Wesley J
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 3:00 PM
To: Baumert, Kevin A
Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Goodman, Ilan A; Scariatelli, Adam W; Holmstrom, Todd C
Subject: FW: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

Kevin

B5

Thanks!
Wes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 11:06 AM
To: [REDACTED] Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Burnett, David R; Baron, Desiree A; Parker, Andrew C; Greene, Elisa; Burgess, Richard J; Chere, John E
Cc: Reisser, Wesley J; Goldberger, Thomas H
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

B3
DOD-CP

V/R,

B3 DODFGI

B3
DOD-CP

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 5:51 PM
To: Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Burnett, David R; Baron, Desiree A; Parker, Andrew C; Greene, Elisa; [REDACTED]
Cc: Reisser, Wesley J; Goldberger, Thomas H
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

B3 DOD-CP

B3 DODFGI

Thanks.

R/

B5

B3
DOD-CP

B3 DOD-CP

From: Reisser, Wesley J

Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 5:06 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; Slevens, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Burnett, David R; Baron, Desiree A; Adams, Julie D; Parker, Andrew C; Greene, Elisa; Zeroubavely, Sandra S; [redacted]; Waters, John R; Rogan, Thomas G; Towry, Debra J; Hananla, Vera V; Weinfeld, Nili I; Lewis, Glenn K; Beran, Sarah; Greengrass, Sara D; Kaplan, Dean; Walker, Carolee B; Finver, Frank J; [redacted]; Manning, 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, Allison 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

Subject: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

(SBU) Courtesy Embassy Tel Aviv, a message on how the navy intends to handle this:

"The Israel Navy has expressed to me that they intend to respond to this situation as peaceful as possible; however they have been directed by the GOI to prevent the vessels from arriving in Gaza. Their intention is to ensure the ships arrive in Ashdod, process the individuals to be deported and deliver any legitimate humanitarian aide to Gaza via land. It should be noted, that GOI has made it clear that although they have directed a peaceful response, those participating are viewed as individuals deliberately attempting to provoke the Israel Navy and appropriate action to prevent arrival in Gaza will be taken."

Wesley J. Reisser, Ph.D.

Desk Officer - NEA/IPA

Office of Israel & Palestinian Affairs

Phone (202) 647-2647

Fax (202) 736-4461

This message is UNCLASSIFIED/SBU according to the definitions provided by E.O. 12958.

Law, Rosemary C

RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP,B3
DODFGI,B5,B6

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:46 AM
To: Cunningham, James B
Cc: Jacobson, Linda
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B5

-----Original Message-----

From: Jacobson, Linda
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:43 AM
To: Goldberger, Thomas H
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

----- Original Message -----

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
To: Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
Sent: Mon May 31 11:39:39 2010
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

-----Original Message-----

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:34 AM
To: Jacobson, Linda; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

----- Original Message -----

From: Jacobson, Linda
To: Baumert, Kevin A; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M
Sent: Mon May 31 11:20:32 2010
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

----- Original Message -----

From: Baumert, Kevin A [REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer]

To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M
Sent: Mon May 31 11:18:29 2010
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B5

Kevin
L/OES

----- Original Message -----

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Baumert, Kevin A; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
Sent: Mon May 31 10:50:27 2010
Subject: FW: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

-----Original Message-----

From: Cunningham, James B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 10:47 AM
To: Goldberger, Thomas H
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

Sent from my BlackBerry

----- Original Message -----

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
To: Cunningham, James B; Hale, David M; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rubinstein, Daniel H; Connelly, Maura; Schlicher, Ronald L; 'Daniel_B._Shapiro@nsc.eop.gov' <Daniel_B._Shapiro@nsc.eop.gov>
Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Jacobson, Linda; Dolan, JoAnn
Sent: Mon May 31 17:37:00 2010
Subject: FW: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

-----Original Message-----

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 9:13 AM
To: Goldberger, Thomas H

Sent: Mon May 31 08:08:22 2010
Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

B3 DOD-CP
B3 DODFGI

Many of the details briefed have already been provided via other means. Specific Highlights

- Ongoing Operation
- Two Ships in Ashdod to include the CHALLENGER I
- M/V MAVI MARMARA expected in port between 1700L and 1800L
- All ships will be in port by later today
- 10-14 Civilians Seriously Injured or Killed
- 30 Civilians Wounded
- 10 IDF wounded to include 1 serious and 1 with "medium" wounds
- Turkish Ambassador to Israel recalled
- Interaction occurred approx 70 NM from coastline. IDF confident in International Law because of intent by flotilla to breach the blockade. (See Attached Slides)

B3 DOD-CP

-----Original Message-----

From: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem)

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 2:46 PM

To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [REDACTED]; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey

B3 DOD-CP

D

Cc: 'Dennis_B_Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

This may largely repeat at this point what is out in other places and/or others have heard from me, but just to assure that various reporting lines have same info, this is from Gen. [REDACTED] who also spoke with the UN's Serry, among others, this am.

B6

[REDACTED] reported that when Israeli soldiers boarded the main deck of the main ship, they met with what he described as clearly planned active/armed resistance, including live fire. Military who boarded were attacked with knives, sharpened metal and wood instruments, etc. He said the military who boarded were attacked by dozens; He indicated that some of the soldiers were stabbed and slashed. Made clear situation was one in which actions taken were in self-defense.

B6

Current estimates of those killed from flotilla 14-15 "maybe more". He said all injured being moved to Israeli hospital - by helicopter. He said ships coming into Ashdod (some reports have them coming into Haifa). At Ashdod, he and others will meet the ships. There, they will need to ID the bodies; move the people either to return them to home countries rapidly and/or detain; ID the cargo and as planned initially, move as much of into Gaza as promptly as possible.

Earlier this morning [REDACTED] made the following calls/contacts:

B6

B6

--Turkish FM and MoD [] Erakat, Fayyad, and Hussein al Sheikh [] He felt the calls w the Turks given the situation were OK, but the concern clearly is Erdogan and how he will handle. With Pals, Erakat in particular, they discussed extent to which levels of rhetoric could be kept in check. With Fayyad they discussed primarily need for security cooperation, keeping things calm. Concern about how this will be affected by status of Israeli Arab Islamic leader on board the flotilla.

(PIC seems to be on track/going forward. Some events may be affected by it.)

-----Original Message-----

From: Cunningham, James B

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:38 PM

To: Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [] B3 DOD-CP

[] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman,

Jeffrey D

Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

Subject: Re: MFA flotilla briefing

Our Consular people are in contact with MFA and Ashdod to get info on amcits as soon as it's available. UN had been approached by COGAT last week to help in forwarding cargo from ships in Ashdod. Serry is trying to send a couple of observers to Ashdod, has told cogat that assisting deliveries of humanitarian goods, much of which is destined for Hamas, is problematic but he'll see. Barak just gave a press conference, and appears to have spoken to Davotuglu this am.

Sent from my BlackBerry

----- Original Message -----

From: Levin, Jan

To: Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Cunningham, James B; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [] B3 DOD-CP

[] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman,

Jeffrey D

Sent: Mon May 31 13:20:31 2010

Subject: MFA flotilla briefing

B3 DODFGI

Highlights - Identification of dead and wounded taking time. MFA will reach out proactively to Embassies as IDs are done, with location and status of citizens. The uninjured will be processed and escorted to airport for deportation. Unclear how long this will take.

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-- [] told Ambassador that activists on Mavi Marmara were prepared for boarders aB3 DODFGI were armed. Unclear if they had firearms in advance or took them from IDF boarding party. One IDF soldier nearly beaten to death with metal bar. Activists also had knives.

-- Events took place in international waters. Israel asserted it had the legal right to intercept in intl waters because there is a military blockade under the law of armed conflict between Israel and Hamas.

Ambassador Cunningham requests that Embassy Tel Aviv clear Dept guidance on this issue, thank you.

Law, Rosemary C

RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP,B3

DODFGI,B5,B6

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 8:55 AM
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Knopf, Payton L; Baumert, Kevin A; Heinemann, Thomas B; Connelly, Maura
Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

B5

-----Original Message-----

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 8:48 AM
To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Knopf, Payton L; Baumert, Kevin A; Heinemann, Thomas B
Subject: Re: MFA flotilla briefing

B5

Jon

----- Original Message -----

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
To: Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Knopf, Payton L
Sent: Mon May 31 08:24:00 2010
Subject: FW: MFA flotilla briefing

B5

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]
To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J;
Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters,
John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara
(Jerusalem); Burgess, Richard J; Murphy, Michael P; Pica, Tolan M; Levin, Jan; [REDACTED]

B3 DOD-CP

B3 DOD-CP

Sent: Mon May 31 08:08:22 2010
Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

B3 DOD-CP

Many of the details briefed have already been provided via other means. Specific High B3 DODFGI

- [REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer]
- Ongoing Operation
 - Two Ships in Ashdod to include the CHALLENGER I
 - M/V MAVI MARMARA expected in port between 1700L and 1800L

- All ships will be in port by later today
- 10-14 Civilians Seriously Injured or Killed
- 30 Civilians Wounded
- 10 IDF wounded to include 1 serious and 1 with "medium" wounds
- Turkish Ambassador to Israel recalled
- Interaction occurred approx 70 NM from coastline. IDF confident in International Law because of intent by flotilla to breach the blockade. (See Attached Slides)

B3 DOD-CP

-----Original Message-----

From: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem)

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 2:46 PM

To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [redacted] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Je

B3 DOD-CP

Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

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[redacted] who also spoke with the UN's Serry, among others, this am. [redacted] reported that when Israeli soldiers boarded the main deck of the main ship, they met with what he described as clearly planned active/armed resistance, including live fire. Military who boarded were attacked with knives, sharpened metal and wood instruments, etc. He said the military who boarded were attacked by dozens; He indicated that some of the soldiers were stabbed and slashed. Made clear situation was one in which actions taken were in self-defense.

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[REDACTED] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

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To: Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Cunningham, James B; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [REDACTED] B3 DOD-CP
[REDACTED] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

Sent: Mon May 31 13:20:31 2010

Subject: MFA flotilla briefing

[REDACTED] B3 DODFGI

Highlights - Identification of dead and wounded taking time. MFA will reach out proactively to Embassies as IDs are done, with location and status of citizens. The uninjured will be processed and escorted to airport for deportation. Unclear how long this will take.

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Ambassador Cunningham requests that Embassy Tel Aviv clear Dept guidance on this issue, thank you.

Law, Rosemary C

RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP, B5, B3
DODFGI

From: Dolan, JoAnn
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 2:02 PM
To: Jacobson, Linda
Subject: FW: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 1:40 PM
To: Reisser, Wesley J
Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Goodman, Ilan A; Scarlatelli, Adam W; Holmstrom, Todd C; Goldberger, Thomas H; Netos, Eleftherios
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

B5

B5

Thanks,
Kevin

From: Reisser, Wesley J
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 12:37 PM
To: Baumert, Kevin A
Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Goodman, Ilan A; Scarlatelli, Adam W; Holmstrom, Todd C; Goldberger, Thomas H; Netos, Eleftherios
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

B5
B3 DOD-CP

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 11:15 AM
To: Baumert, Kevin A; Reisser, Wesley J
Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Goodman, Ilan A; Scarlatelli, Adam W; Holmstrom, Todd C; Goldberger, Thomas H; Netos, Eleftherios
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

B5

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 11:00 AM
To: Reisser, Wesley J
Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Goodman, Ilan A; Scarlatelli, Adam W; Holmstrom, Todd C; Goldberger, Thomas H; Netos, Eleftherios
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

B5

[REDACTED]

Thanks,
Kevin

From: Reisser, Wesley J
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 10:56 AM
To: Baumert, Kevin A
Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Goodman, Ilan A; Scariatelli, Adam W; Holmstrom, Todd C; Goldberger, Thomas H; Netos, Eleftherios E
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

[REDACTED]

Wes

From: Reisser, Wesley J
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 10:36 AM
To: Baumert, Kevin A
Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Goodman, Ilan A; Scariatelli, Adam W; Holmstrom, Todd C; Goldberger, Thomas H
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

[REDACTED]

Wes

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 3:41 PM
To: Reisser, Wesley J
Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Goodman, Ilan A; Scariatelli, Adam W; Holmstrom, Todd C
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

[REDACTED]

Kevin

From: Reisser, Wesley J
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 3:00 PM
To: Baumert, Kevin A
Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Goodman, Ilan A; Scarlatelli, Adam W; Holmstrom, Todd C
Subject: FW: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

B5

Thanks!
Wes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 11:06 AM
To: [REDACTED] Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Burnett, David R; Baron, Desiree A; Parker, Andrew C; Greene, Elisa; Burgess, Richard J; Chere, John E
Cc: Reisser, Wesley J; Goldberger, Thomas H
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

B3 DOD-CP

B3 DODFGI

V/R,

B3 DOD-CP

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 5:51 PM
To: Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Burnett, David R; Baron, Desiree A; Parker, Andrew C; Greene, Elisa; Burgess, Richard J; Chere, John E
Cc: Reisser, Wesley J; Goldberger, Thomas H
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

B3 DOD-CP

B3 DODFGI

R/

B3 DOD-CP

B3 DOD-CP

From: Reisser, Wesley J

Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 5:06 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; Slevens, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Burnett, David R; Baron, Desiree A; Adams, Julie D; Parker, Andrew C; Greene, Elisa; Zeroubavely, Sandra S; 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; 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; Dillworth, 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; Sillman, Douglas A; Rosenstock, Matthew S

Subject: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

(SBU) Courtesy Embassy Tel Aviv, a message on how the navy intends to handle this:

"The Israel Navy has expressed to me that they intend to respond to this situation as peaceful as possible; however they have been directed by the GOI to prevent the vessels from arriving in Gaza. Their intention is to ensure the ships arrive in Ashdod, process the individuals to be deported and deliver any legitimate humanitarian aide to Gaza via land. It should be noted, that GOI has made it clear that although they have directed a peaceful response, those participating are viewed as individuals deliberately attempting to provoke the Israel Navy and appropriate action to prevent arrival in Gaza will be taken."

Wesley J. Reisser, Ph.D.

Desk Officer - NEA/IPA

Office of Israel & Palestinian Affairs

Phone (202) 847-2647

Fax (202) 736-4481

This message is UNCLASSIFIED/SBU according to the definitions provided by E.O. 12958.

Law, Rosemary C

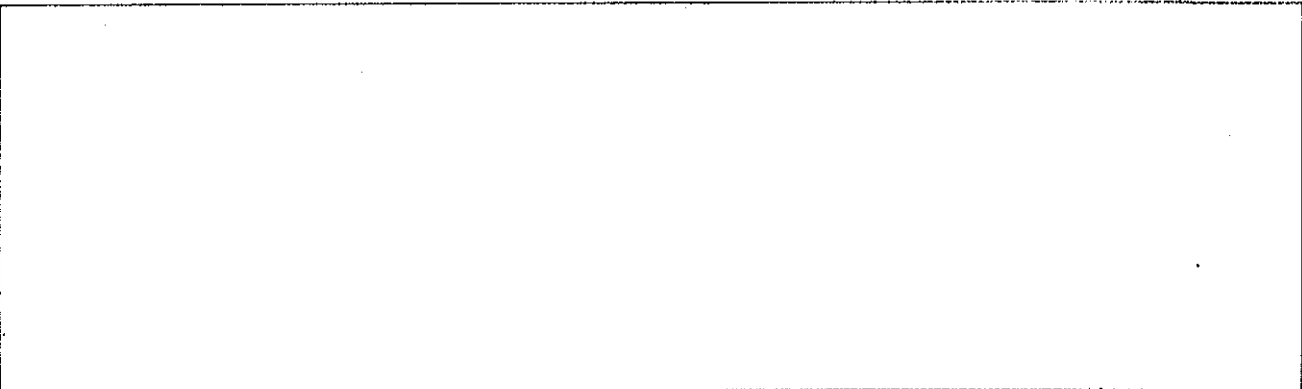
RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP, B3
DODFGI, B5, B6

From: Dolan, JoAnn
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 2:52 PM
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Guarin, Marc F; Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Heinemann, Thomas B; Pomper, Stephen E
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; 'pomper_andersen@hotmail.com'; McLeod, Mary (USUN); Donoghue, Joan E; Jacobson, Linda; Goldberger, Thomas H
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

Israeli Briefing excerpts I circulated earlier say interaction occurred 70NM out. For those not familiar with Interim Agreement full text with further links to annexes is at <http://www.mfa.gov.il/MFA/Peace+Process/Guide+to+the+Peace+Process/THE+ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN+INTERIM+AGREEMENT.htm>

-----Original Message-----

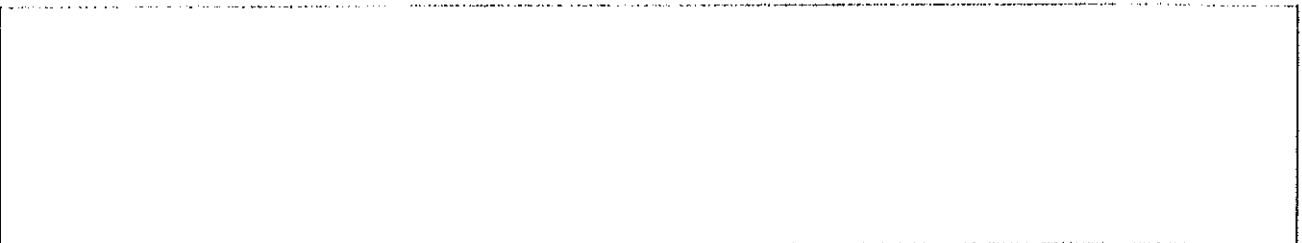
From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 2:40 PM
To: Guarin, Marc F; Perina, Alexandra H; Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; 'pomper_andersen@hotmail.com'; Pomper, Stephen E; McLeod, Mary (USUN); Donoghue, Joan E
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>



-----Original Message-----

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

From: Guarin, Marc F
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 2:34 PM
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Perina, Alexandra H; Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; 'pomper_andersen@hotmail.com'; Pomper, Stephen E
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>



B5

Marc

-----Original Message-----

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:02 PM
To: Perina, Alexandra H; Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; 'pomper_andersen@hotmail.com'; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

jon

-----Original Message-----

From: Perina, Alexandra H
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:56 PM
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; 'pomper_andersen@hotmail.com'; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B5

-----Original Message-----

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:17 PM
To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

-----Original Message-----

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:40 AM
To: Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

-----Original Message-----

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:34 AM
To: Jacobson, Linda; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

----- Original Message -----

From: Jacobson, Linda
To: Baumert, Kevin A; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M
Sent: Mon May 31 11:20:32 2010
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

----- Original Message -----

From: Baumert, Kevin A
To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M

Sent: Mon May 31 11:18:29 2010
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B5

Kevin
L/OES

----- Original Message -----

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Baumert, Kevin A; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
Sent: Mon May 31 10:50:27 2010
Subject: FW: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

-----Original Message-----

From: Cunningham, James B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 10:47 AM
To: Goldberger, Thomas H
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

Sent from my BlackBerry

----- Original Message -----

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
To: Cunningham, James B; Hale, David M; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rubinstein, Daniel H; Connelly, Maura; Schlicher, Ronald L; 'Daniel_B._Shapiro@nsc.eop.gov' <Daniel_B._Shapiro@nsc.eop.gov>
Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Jacobson, Linda; Dolan, JoAnn
Sent: Mon May 31 17:37:00 2010
Subject: FW: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

See below from Jonathan pls.

-----Original Message-----

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 9:13 AM
To: Goldberger, Thomas H
Cc: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Dolan, JoAnn; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B
Subject: FW: MFA flotilla briefing

B5

Jon

----- Original Message -----

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
To: Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B
Cc: Baumert, Kevin A; Harris, Robert K; Donoghue, Joan E; Dolan, JoAnn
Sent: Mon May 31 09:05:16 2010
Subject: Fw: MFA flotilla briefing

B5

Jon

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From: Goldberger, Thomas H
To: Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Knopf, Payton L
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Subject: FW: MFA flotilla briefing

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From: [REDACTED]
To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J;
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John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara
(Jerusalem); Burgess, Richard J; Murphy, Michael P; Pica, Tolan M; Levin, Jan; [REDACTED]

B3 DOD-CP

Sent: Mon May 31 08:08:22 2010
Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

B3 DOD-CP

[redacted]
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B3 DODFGI

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[redacted]
B3 DOD-CP

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John R; [redacted] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jef B3 DOD-CP

D

Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

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RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP,B3
DODFGI,B5,B6

Law, Rosemary C

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:46 AM
To: Cunningham, James B
Cc: Jacobson, Linda
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B5

-----Original Message-----

From: Jacobson, Linda
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:43 AM
To: Goldberger, Thomas H
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

----- Original Message -----

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
To: Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
Sent: Mon May 31 11:39:39 2010
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

-----Original Message-----

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:34 AM
To: Jacobson, Linda; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

----- Original Message -----

From: Jacobson, Linda
To: Baumert, Kevin A; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M
Sent: Mon May 31 11:20:32 2010
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

----- Original Message -----

From: Baumert, Kevin A

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

15

To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M
Sent: Mon May 31 11:18:29 2010
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing

B5

Kevin
L/OES

----- Original Message -----

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Baumert, Kevin A; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
Sent: Mon May 31 10:50:27 2010
Subject: FW: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing

-----Original Message-----

From: Cunningham, James B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 10:47 AM
To: Goldberger, Thomas H
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing

Sent from my BlackBerry

----- Original Message -----

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
To: Cunningham, James B; Hale, David M; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rubinstein, Daniel H; Connelly, Maura; Schlicher, Ronald L; 'Daniel_B._Shapiro@nsc.eop.gov' <Daniel_B._Shapiro@nsc.eop.gov>
Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Jacobson, Linda; Dolan, JoAnn
Sent: Mon May 31 17:37:00 2010
Subject: FW: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing

See below from Jonathan pls.

-----Original Message-----

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 9:13 AM
To: Goldberger, Thomas H

Cc: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Dolan, JoAnn; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B
Subject: FW: MFA flotilla briefing

B5

Jon

----- Original Message -----

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
To: Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B
Cc: Baumert, Kevin A; Harris, Robert K; Donoghue, Joan E; Dolan, JoAnn
Sent: Mon May 31 09:05:16 2010
Subject: FW: MFA flotilla briefing

B5

Jon

----- Original Message -----

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
To: Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Knopf, Payton L
Sent: Mon May 31 08:24:00 2010
Subject: FW: MFA flotilla briefing

B5

----- Original Message -----

From: [redacted]
To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J;
Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters,
John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara
(Jerusalem); Burgess, Richard J; Murphy, Michael P; [redacted] Levin, Jan; [redacted]

B3 DOD-CP

B3 DOD-CP

Sent: Mon May 31 08:08:22 2010
Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

B3 DOD-CP

Many of the details briefed have already been provided via other means. Specific High B3 DODFGI

- Ongoing Operation
- Two Ships in Ashdod to include the CHALLENGER I
- M/V MAVI MARMARA expected in port between 1700L and 1800L
- All ships will be in port by later today
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- 30 Civilians Wounded
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- Interaction occurred approx 70 NM from coastline. IDF confident in International Law because of intent by flotilla to breach the blockade. (See Attached Slides)

B3 DOD-CP

-----Original Message-----

From: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem)
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 2:46 PM
To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J;
Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters,
John R; [REDACTED] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, JeB3 DOD-CP
Cc: 'Dennis B. Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'
Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

This may largely repeat at this point what is out in other places and/or others have heard from me, but just to assure that various reporting lines have same info, this is from [REDACTED] B6
[REDACTED] who also spoke with the UN's Serry, among others, this am.

[REDACTED] reported that when Israeli soldiers boarded the main deck of the main ship, they met with what he described as clearly planned active/armed resistance, including live fire. Military who boarded were attacked with knives, sharpened metal and wood instruments, etc. He said the military who boarded were attacked by dozens; He indicated that some of the soldiers were stabbed and slashed. Made clear situation was one in which actions taken were in self-defense. B6

Current estimates of those killed from flotilla 14-15 "maybe more". He said all injured being moved to Israeli hospital - by helicopter. He said ships coming into Ashdod (some reports have them coming into Haifa). At Ashdod, he and others will meet the ships. There, they will need to ID the bodies; move the people either to return them to home countries rapidly and/or detain; ID the cargo and as planned initially, move as much of into Gaza as promptly as possible.

Earlier this morning [REDACTED] made the following calls/contacts: B6

--Turkish FM and MOD [] Erakat, Fayyad, and Hussein al Sheikh []. He felt the calls w the Turks given the situation were OK, but the concern clearly is Erdogan and how he will handle. With Pals, Erakat in particular, they discussed extent to which levels of rhetoric could be kept in check. With Fayyad they discussed primarily need for security cooperation, keeping things calm. Concern about how this will be affected by status of Israeli Arab Islamic leader on board the flotilla.

(PIC seems to be on track/going forward. Some events may be affected by it.)

B6

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Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:38 PM

To: Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; []

B3 DOD-CP

Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

Subject: Re: MFA flotilla briefing

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From: Levin, Jan

To: Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Cunningham, James B; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; []

B3 DOD-CP

Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

Sent: Mon May 31 13:20:31 2010

Subject: MFA flotilla briefing

MFA DG Yossi Gal and IDF Col. Assaf Orion, Dir. Of Dept of Strategic Coordination, briefed foreign ambassadors at 12:30 local time today.

Highlights - Identification of dead and wounded taking time. MFA will reach out proactively to Embassies as IDs are done, with location and status of citizens. The uninjured will be processed and escorted to airport for deportation. Unclear how long this will take.
-- Most violence occurred on ship Mavi (Blue) Marmara. As far as is currently known, all injuries occurred on this ship.
-- Col. Orion told Ambassador that activists on Mavi Marmara were prepared for boarders and were armed. Unclear if they had firearms in advance or took them from IDF boarding party. One IDF soldier nearly beaten to death with metal bar. Activists also had knives.
-- Events took place in international waters. Israel asserted it had the legal right to intercept in intl waters because there is a military blockade under the law of armed conflict between Israel and Hamas.

Ambassador Cunningham requests that Embassy Tel Aviv clear Dept guidance on this issue, thank you.

RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP,B3
DODFGI,B5,B6

Law, Rosemary C

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 8:55 AM
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Knopf, Payton L; Baumert, Kevin A; Heinemann, Thomas B; Connelly, Maura
Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

B5

-----Original Message-----

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 8:48 AM
To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Knopf, Payton L; Baumert, Kevin A; Heinemann, Thomas B
Subject: Re: MFA flotilla briefing

B5

Jon

----- Original Message -----

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
To: Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Knopf, Payton L
Sent: Mon May 31 08:24:00 2010
Subject: FW: MFA flotilla briefing

B5

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]
To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Burgess, Richard J; Murphy, Michael P; [REDACTED] Levin, Jan; [REDACTED]

B3 DOD-CP

B3 DOD-CP

Sent: Mon May 31 08:08:22 2010
Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

B3 DOD-CP

Many of the details briefed have already been provided via other means. Specific High [REDACTED] B3 DODFGI

- Ongoing Operation
- Two Ships in Ashdod to include the CHALLENGER I
- M/V MAVI MARMARA expected in port between 1700L and 1800L

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior
Reviewer

39

- All ships will be in port by later today
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- 30 Civilians Wounded
- 10 IDF wounded to include 1 serious and 1 with "medium" wounds
- Turkish Ambassador to Israel recalled
- Interaction occurred approx 70 NM from coastline. IDF confident in International Law because of intent by flotilla to breach the blockade. (See Attached Slides)

B3 DOD-CP

-----Original Message-----

From: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem)

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 2:46 PM

To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [redacted] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Je

B3 DOD-CP

D

Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

This may largely repeat at this point what is out in other places and/or others have heard from me, but just to assure that various reporting lines have same info, this is from Gen. Dangot, the COGAT, who also spoke with the UN's Serry, among others, this am.

Dangot reported that when Israeli soldiers boarded the main deck of the main ship, they met with what he described as clearly planned active/armed resistance, including live fire. Military who boarded were attacked with knives, sharpened metal and wood instruments, etc. He said the military who boarded were attacked by dozens; He indicated that some of the soldiers were stabbed and slashed. Made clear situation was one in which actions taken were in self-defense.

Current estimates of those killed from flotilla 14-15 "maybe more". He said all injured being moved to Israeli hospital - by helicopter. He said ships coming into Ashdod (some reports have them coming into Haifa). At Ashdod, he and others will meet the ships. There, they will need to ID the bodies; move the people either to return them to home countries rapidly and/or detain; ID the cargo and as planned initially, move as much of into Gaza as promptly as possible.

Earlier this morning he and [redacted] made the following calls/contacts: --Turkish FM and MoD [redacted] Erakat, Fayyad, and Hussein al Sheikh [redacted]. He felt the calls w the Turks given the situation were OK, but the concern clearly is Erdogan and how he will handle. With Pals, Erakat in particular, they discussed extent to which levels of rhetoric could be kept in check. With Fayyad they discussed primarily need for security cooperation, keeping things calm. Concern about how this will be affected by status of Israeli Arab Islamic leader on board the flotilla.

B6

(PIC seems to be on track/going forward. Some events may be affected by it.)

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To: Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C;

Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D B3 DOD-CP

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Subject: Re: MFA flotilla briefing

Our Consular people are in contact with MFA and Ashdod to get info on amcits as soon as it's available. UN had been approached by COGAT last week to help in forwarding cargo from ships in Ashdod. Serry is trying to send a couple of observers to Ashdod, has told cogat that assisting deliveries of humanitarian goods, much of which is destined for Hamas, is problematic but he'll see. Barak just gave a press conference, and appears to have spoken to Davotuglu this am.

Sent from my BlackBerry

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From: Levin, Jan

To: Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Cunningham, James B; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman,

Jeffrey D

Sent: Mon May 31 13:20:31 2010

Subject: MFA flotilla briefing

MFA DG Yossi Gal and IDF Col. Assaf Orion, Dir. Of Dept of Strategic Coordination, briefed foreign ambassadors at 12:30 local time today.

Highlights - Identification of dead and wounded taking time. MFA will reach out proactively to Embassies as IDs are done, with location and status of citizens. The uninjured will be processed and escorted to airport for deportation. Unclear how long this will take.

-- Most violence occurred on ship Mavi (Blue) Marmara. As far as is currently known, all injuries occurred on this ship.

-- Col. Orion told Ambassador that activists on Mavi Marmara were prepared for boarders and were armed. Unclear if they had firearms in advance or took them from IDF boarding party. One IDF soldier nearly beaten to death with metal bar. Activists also had knives.

-- Events took place in international waters. Israel asserted it had the legal right to intercept in intl waters because there is a military blockade under the law of armed conflict between Israel and Hamas.

Ambassador Cunningham requests that Embassy Tel Aviv clear Dept guidance on this issue, thank you.

RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP,B3
DODFGI,B5,B6

Law, Rosemary C

From: McLeod, Mary (USUN)
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 10:20 AM
To: Jacobson, Linda
Subject: Re: MFA flotilla briefing

Have a safe flight! I'm sure we'll be in touch over the coming days.

----- Original Message -----

From: Jacobson, Linda
To: McLeod, Mary (USUN)
Sent: Mon May 31 10:07:18 2010
Subject: Fw: MFA flotilla briefing

Fyi, I am in Israel en route to airport so will be out of commission.

----- Original Message -----

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Knopf, Payton L; Baumert, Kevin A; Heinemann, Thomas B
Sent: Mon May 31 08:47:48 2010
Subject: Re: MFA flotilla briefing

B5

Jon

----- Original Message -----

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
To: Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Knopf, Payton L
Sent: Mon May 31 08:24:00 2010
Subject: FW: MFA flotilla briefing

B5

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]
To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Burgess, Richard J; Murphy, Michael P; [REDACTED] Levin, Jan; [REDACTED]

B3 DOD-CP

B3 DOD-CP

Sent: Mon May 31 08:08:22 2010 REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer
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B3 DOD-CP

Many of the details briefed have already been provided via other means. Specific High B3 DODFGI

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Cc: 'Dennis_B_Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

B6

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DODFGI, B5, B6

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B3 DOD-CP

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B3 DOD-CP

B3 DODFGI

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From: Levin, Jan

To: Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Cunningham, James B; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew

C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R;

[REDACTED] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman,

Jeffrey D

Sent: Mon May 31 13:20:31 2010

Subject: MFA flotilla briefing

MFA DG Yossi Gal and IDF Col. Assaf Orion, Dir. Of Dept of Strategic Coordination, briefed foreign ambassadors at 12:30 local time today.

Highlights - Identification of dead and wounded taking time. MFA will reach out proactively to Embassies as IDs are done, with location and status of citizens. The uninjured will be processed and escorted to airport for deportation. Unclear how long this will take.

-- Most violence occurred on ship Mavi (Blue) Marmara. As far as is currently known, all injuries occurred on this ship.

-- Col. Orion told Ambassador that activists on Mavi Marmara were prepared for boarders and were armed. Unclear if they had firearms in advance or took them from IDF boarding party. One IDF soldier nearly beaten to death with metal bar. Activists also had knives.

-- Events took place in international waters. Israel asserted it had the legal right to intercept in intl waters because there is a military blockade under the law of armed conflict between Israel and Hamas.

Ambassador Cunningham requests that Embassy Tel Aviv clear Dept guidance on this issue, thank you.

RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP,B5,B3
DODFGI

Law, Rosemary C

From: Pomper, Stephen E
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 2:13 PM
To: Jacobson, Linda; Deeks, Ashley S; Baumert, Kevin A; Guarin, Marc F; Heinemann, Thomas B
Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Reisser, Wesley J; Perina, Alexandra H; Meier, Michael W
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

Jane Dalton worked extensively on the blockade law issues surrounding Georgia; it would be worth locating those files for general knowledge (Kevin maybe you have some of the papers?) though it's not clear that questions about our view of the legality of Israel's blockade are necessarily going to come up here (let's hope not).

From: Jacobson, Linda
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 2:05 PM
To: Deeks, Ashley S; Baumert, Kevin A; Guarin, Marc F; Heinemann, Thomas B
Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Reisser, Wesley J; Perina, Alexandra H; Pomper, Stephen E
Subject: Re: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

[redacted] Israel's position is that it is engaged in armed conflict w Hamas and it's actions to seal Gaza's maritime borders are acts of self-defense.

B5

From: Deeks, Ashley S
To: Baumert, Kevin A; Guarin, Marc F; Jacobson, Linda
Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Reisser, Wesley J; Perina, Alexandra H; Pomper, Stephen E
Sent: Thu May 27 11:04:23 2010
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

Looping in AP for the Israeli angle and SP for the blockade angle, based on his Georgia work.

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 10:53 AM
To: Deeks, Ashley S; Guarin, Marc F; Jacobson, Linda
Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Reisser, Wesley J
Subject: FW: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

Thanks,
Kevin

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

From: Reisser, Wesley J
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 10:36 AM
To: Baumert, Kevin A
Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Goodman, Ilan A; Scarlatelli, Adam W; Holmstrom, Todd C; Goldberger, Thomas H
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

Kevin - We are still trying to get confirmation from Greece on the 2 ships. They are yachts and may actually be U.S. registered.

B5

Wes

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 3:41 PM
To: Reisser, Wesley J
Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Goodman, Ilan A; Scarlatelli, Adam W; Holmstrom, Todd C
Subject: RE: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

Wes - It is definitely worth pursuing more factual information as to which vessels are actually doing what. I suspect they are not US flagged vessels, and might not even be Greek flagged (may just be Greek owned, but who knows).

B5

Thanks,
Kevin

From: Reisser, Wesley J
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 3:00 PM
To: Baumert, Kevin A
Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Goodman, Ilan A; Scarlatelli, Adam W; Holmstrom, Todd C
Subject: FW: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

Kevin - We have a whole bunch of ships headed towards Gaza right now to "break the Israeli blockade." The Israeli Navy will probably interdict them this weekend, board the ships, haul them to port and deport all of the foreign nationals (they did this last summer). However, we have a slight hitch this time in that two of the boats, after leaving Greece, are now supposedly flying American flags rather than Greek ones. Embassy Athens is looking into this to find out if the boats are registered in Greece or the U.S.

The Israeli Embassy has contacted us about this, and they have been contacted by the Greek Ambassador here, who has stated these ships are flying U.S. flags (although he did not tell the Israelis if the boats are American or Greek registered).

B5

soon.
Thanks!
Wes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 11:06 AM
To: [REDACTED] Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Burnett, David R; Baron, Desiree A; Parker, Andrew C; Greene, Elisa;
Cc: Reisser, Wesley J; Goldberger, Thomas H
Subject: RE: [REDACTED]

B3 DOD-CP

B3 DODFGI

B3 DODFGI

B3 DOD-CP

B3 DOD-CP

[Redacted]
V/R,
[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 5:51 PM
To: Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Burnett, David R; Baron, Desiree A; Parker, Andrew C; Greene, Elisa; [Redacted]
Cc: Reisser, Wesley J; Goldberger, Thomas H
Subject: RE: [Redacted]

B3 DODFGI

B3 DODFGI

B5

B3 DOD-CP

R/
[Redacted]

From: Reisser, Wesley J
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2010 5:06 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; [Redacted] B3 DOD-CP
[Redacted] 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;
Manning, 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, Allison E; Osman, Amany A; Netos, Eleftherios E; Taylor, Victoria J; Riley, Robert J; Dayton, Win (Istanbul); Marsh, Denise M; Bailly, Jess L; Tomlinson, Christina (Istanbul); Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Gislvoed, Lisa C (Istanbul); Parker, Andrew C; Silliman, Douglas A;
Rosenstock, Matthew S
Subject: Israel Navy on Free Gaza

(SBU) Courtesy Embassy Tel Aviv, a message on how the navy intends to handle this:

"The Israel Navy has expressed to me that they intend to respond to this situation as peaceful as possible; however they have been directed by the GOI to prevent the vessels from arriving in Gaza. Their intention is to ensure the ships arrive in Ashdod, process the individuals to be deported and deliver any legitimate humanitarian aide to Gaza via land. It should be noted, that GOI has made it clear that although they have directed a peaceful response, those participating are viewed as individuals deliberately attempting to provoke the Israel Navy and appropriate action to prevent arrival in Gaza will be taken."

Wesley J. Reisser, Ph.D.
Desk Officer - NEA/IPA
Office of Israel & Palestinian Affairs

Phone (202) 647-2647
Fax (202) 736-4461

This message is UNCLASSIFIED/SBU according to the definitions provided by E.O. 12958.

Law, Rosemary C

RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP, B3
DODFGI, B5

From: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem)
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 8:14 AM
To: Jacobson, Linda; Schwartz, Jonathan B
Subject: FW: MFA flotilla briefing
Attachments: Legal Aspects.ppt

B5

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 3:08 PM
To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J;
Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters,
John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara
(Jerusalem); [REDACTED] Murphy, Michael P; [REDACTED] Levin, Jan; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

B3 DOD-CP

B3 DOD-CP

B3 DOD-CP
B3 DODFGI

Many of the details briefed have already been provided via other means. Specific High

- Ongoing Operation
- Two Ships in Ashdod to include the CHALLENGER I
- M/V MAVI MARMARA expected in port between 1700L and 1800L
- All ships will be in port by later today
- 10-14 Civilians Seriously Injured or Killed
- 30 Civilians Wounded
- 10 IDF wounded to include 1 serious and 1 with "medium" wounds
- Turkish Ambassador to Israel recalled
- Interaction occurred approx 70 NM from coastline. IDF confident in International Law because of intent by flotilla to breach the blockade. (See Attached Slides)

B3 DOD-CP

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

-----Original Message-----
From: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem)
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 2:46 PM
To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J;
Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters,
John R; [REDACTED] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, J
Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

B3 DOD-CP

Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

This may largely repeat at this point what is out in other places and/or others have heard from me, but just to assure that various reporting lines have same info, this is from [] who also spoke with the UN's Serry, among others, this am.

B6
B6

[] reported that when Israeli soldiers boarded the main deck of the main ship, they met with what he described as clearly planned active/armed resistance, including live fire. Military who boarded were attacked with knives, sharpened metal and wood instruments, etc. He said the military who boarded were attacked by dozens; He indicated that some of the soldiers were stabbed and slashed. Made clear situation was one in which actions taken were in self-defense.

B6

Current estimates of those killed from flotilla 14-15 "maybe more". He said all injured being moved to Israeli hospital - by helicopter. He said ships coming into Ashdod (some reports have them coming into Haifa). At Ashdod, he and others will meet the ships. There, they will need to ID the bodies; move the people either to return them to home countries rapidly and/or detain; ID the cargo and as planned initially, move as much of into Gaza as promptly as possible.

Earlier this morning [] made the following calls/contacts:

--Turkish FM and MoD [] Erakat, Fayyad, and Hussein al Sheikh []. He felt the calls w the Turks given the situation were OK, but the concern clearly is Erdogan and how he will handle. With Pals, Erakat in particular, they discussed extent to which levels of rhetoric could be kept in check. With Fayyad they discussed primarily need for security cooperation, keeping things calm. Concern about how this will be affected by status of Israeli Arab Islamic leader on board the flotilla.

B6

(PIC seems to be on track/going forward. Some events may be affected by it.)

-----Original Message-----

From: Cunningham, James B

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:38 PM

To: Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C;

Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; []

[] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

Cc: 'Dennis_B_Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

Subject: Re: MFA flotilla briefing

Our Consular people are in contact with MFA and Ashdod to get info on amcits as soon as it's available. UN had been approached by COGAT last week to help in forwarding cargo from ships in Ashdod. Serry is trying to send a couple of observers to Ashdod, has told cogat that assisting deliveries of humanitarian goods, much of which is destined for Hamas, is problematic but he'll see. Barak just gave a press conference, and appears to have spoken to Davotuglu this am.

Sent from my BlackBerry

----- Original Message -----

From: Levin, Jan

To: Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Cunningham, James B; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; []

[] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

Sent: Mon May 31 13:20:31 2010

Subject: MFA flotilla briefing

B3 DODFGI

Highlights - Identification of dead and wounded taking time. MFA will reach out proactively to Embassies as IDs are done, with location and status of citizens. The uninjured will be processed and escorted to airport for deportation. Unclear how long this will take.

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-- Events took place in international waters. Israel asserted it had the legal right to intercept in intl waters because there is a military blockade under the law of armed conflict between Israel and Hamas.

Ambassador Cunningham requests that Embassy Tel Aviv clear Dept guidance on this issue, thank you.

Law, Rosemary C

RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP,B3
DODFGI,B5,B6

From: Pomper, Stephen E
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:02 PM
To: Jacobson, Linda; Perina, Alexandra H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; [REDACTED] Guarin, Marc F; B6
Donoghue, Joan E
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B5

----- Original Message -----

From: Jacobson, Linda
To: Perina, Alexandra H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F
Sent: Mon May 31 12:58:16 2010
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

B5

----- Original Message -----

From: Perina, Alexandra H
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F
Sent: Mon May 31 12:55:35 2010
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

B5

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

-----Original Message-----

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:17 PM
To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

-----Original Message-----

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:40 AM
To: Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

-----Original Message-----

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:34 AM
To: Jacobson, Linda; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

----- Original Message -----

From: Jacobson, Linda
To: Baumert, Kevin A; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M
Sent: Mon May 31 11:20:32 2010
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

----- Original Message -----

From: Baumert, Kevin A
To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M
Sent: Mon May 31 11:18:29 2010
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

Kevin
L/OES

----- Original Message -----

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Baumert, Kevin A; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
Sent: Mon May 31 10:50:27 2010
Subject: FW: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

-----Original Message-----

From: Cunningham, James B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 10:47 AM
To: Goldberger, Thomas H
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

----- Original Message -----

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
To: Cunningham, James B; Hale, David M; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rubinstein, Daniel H; Connelly, Maura; Schlicher, Ronald L; 'Daniel_B._Shapiro@nsc.eop.gov' <Daniel_B._Shapiro@nsc.eop.gov>
Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Jacobson, Linda; Dolan, JoAnn
Sent: Mon May 31 17:37:00 2010
Subject: FW: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

See below from Jonathan pls.

-----Original Message-----

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 9:13 AM
To: Goldberger, Thomas H
Cc: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Dolan, JoAnn; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B
Subject: Fw: MFA flotilla briefing

Tom -

B5

Jon

----- Original Message -----

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
To: Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B
Cc: Baumert, Kevin A; Harris, Robert K; Donoghue, Joan E; Dolan, JoAnn
Sent: Mon May 31 09:05:16 2010
Subject: Fw: MFA flotilla briefing

Alexandra/Tom -Are either of you in a position to assist L/OES?

B5

Jon

----- Original Message -----

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
To: Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Knopf, Payton L
Sent: Mon May 31 08:24:00 2010
Subject: FW: MFA flotilla briefing

B5

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]
To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Burgess, Richard J; Murphy, Michael P; [REDACTED] Levin, Jan; [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

B3 DOD-CP

Sent: Mon May 31 08:08:22 2010
Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

B3 DOD-CP

Many of the details briefed have already been provided via other means. Specific High B3 DOD-CP

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- M/V MAVI MARMARA expected in port between 1700L and 1800L

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B3 DOD-CP

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To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [REDACTED] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

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Dangot reported that when Israeli soldiers boarded the main deck of the main ship, they met with what he described as clearly planned active/armed resistance, including live fire. Military who boarded were attacked with knives, sharpened metal and wood instruments, etc. He said the military who boarded were attacked by dozens; He indicated that some of the soldiers were stabbed and slashed. Made clear situation was one in which actions taken were in self-defense.

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Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [REDACTED] B3 DOD-CP

[REDACTED] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman,

Jeffrey D

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[REDACTED] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman,

Jeffrey D

Sent: Mon May 31 13:20:31 2010

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Highlights - Identification of dead and wounded taking time. MFA will reach out proactively to Embassies as IDs are done, with location and status of citizens. The uninjured will be processed and escorted to airport for deportation. Unclear how long this will take.
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Ambassador Cunningham requests that Embassy Tel Aviv clear Dept guidance on this issue, thank you.

RELEASED IN PART 1.4(B),B3 DOD-CP,B1,B5,1.4(D),1.4(C)

I140

Bowers, Allyson M

From: Sindle, James M
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:35 PM
To: NEA-SEMEP-DL; NEA-IPA-DL; Grubb, Jason B; Levin, Jan X; Sievers, Marc J; Greene, Elissa B; Parker, Andrew C; [redacted] B3 DOD-CP
Subject: FW: Recent [redacted] Reporting on Israel/Gaza
Attachments: 8_Hour_Update_310600_MAY10_CLEAR.doc; Free Gaza Flotilla 5x8 - 31May10.doc

This is what has been reported to the CJCS from [redacted] Nothing really new from our own reporting.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:59 PM
To: Sindle, James M
Subject: Recent [redacted] Reporting on Israel/Gaza

Classification: SECRET//NOFORN

Jim,
Enclosed and below is what we have.

311400 MAY 10

Israel:

[Source: [redacted]]

(U) Gaza Freedom Flotilla Situation Update: The latest reports on Israel's seizure of the Gaza Freedom Flotilla indicate at least nine dead and up to 80 wounded, with all of the casualties on the Turkish flagged ship MAVI MARMARA. A press statement from the Israeli Defense Minister expressed regret over the injuries, but placed blame on the organizers and participants of the Freedom Flotilla. The statement further indicated passengers on the MAVI MARMARA resisted with clubs, knives, and possible small arms and "violence encountered necessitated acts of self defense." Video of the raid on the MAVI MARMARA shows an Israeli soldier being assaulted by people on the ship. Israel has said they will conduct a full investigation. Prime Minister Netanyahu of Israel has canceled a meeting with President Obama to deal with the aftermath of the event. Condemnation of the raid has been widespread. All European Union member countries have summoned their respective Israeli ambassadors to explain what happened and China has publicly condemned Israel, as have most Muslim majority countries. The government of Turkey has canceled upcoming military exercises with Israel, the Turkish prime minister has ended a trip to Latin America early, and more than 10,000 demonstrators are on the streets in Istanbul. The Turkish government has called meetings of both the United Nations Security Council and NATO to discuss the event. Two American citizens were reportedly aboard the MAVI MARMARA and one was reportedly injured. Former U.S. ambassador Edward Peck, also reportedly with the flotilla, was reported to be on a flight back to the U.S. according to a statement on his website.

Comment: While there are indications of violent resistance by passengers on the MAVI MARMARA, reaction to the event around the world has been very critical of Israel. The prevailing response is the use of force was disproportionate. Israel is likely to experience a great deal of international pressure over the next several weeks and threats to the U.S. could increase as well due to U.S. support of Israel.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

301400 MAY 10

Israel:

[Source: [redacted]]

(S//NF) Counter-Flotilla Sails to "Free Gaza from Hamas": According to press reports, a small fleet of privately-owned Israeli boats will sail from Ashdod and Herzliya, Israeli coastal cities south and north of Tel Aviv, respectively, to meet the Free Gaza Flotilla that has rendezvoused off the coast of Cyprus en route on its humanitarian mission to deliver aid to Gaza. The counter-demonstration is sponsored by the Los Angeles-based StandWithUs organization. Crews have reportedly decorated their boats with "Free Gaza from Hamas" banners. Comment: According to the Free Gaza website, the Free Gaza Flotilla of six ships departed international waters in the vicinity of Cyprus at 1315Z on 30 May; they estimate they will arrive off the coast of Gaza 18 hours later (around 0915Z on 31 May).

<<8_Hour_Update_310600_MAY10_CLEAR.doc>> <<Free Gaza Flotilla 5x8 - 31May10.doc>>

B1
1.4(B)
1.4(C)
1.4(D)

RELEASED IN FULL

I 26

Bowers, Allyson M

From: Schwedt, Miriam L
 Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 2010 8:39 AM
 To: NEA-IPA-DL
 Cc: NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL
 Subject: FW: Blue Border - Summary of Conclusions of the Restricted Principals Committee Meeting on the Flotilla (SES 201011051) CONFIDENTIAL
 Attachments: 201011051

-----Original Message-----

From: Reaves, Stacey A
 Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 2010 8:02 AM
 To: TTL-NEA
 Cc: TTL-S; TTL-D-L; TTL-D-S; TTL-P; TTL-Y; TTL-SP; TTL-INR; TTL-EUR; TTL-ID; TTL-L; TTL-PM; TTL-SSEMEP; TTL-USUN-W; SES_4; Sarkis, Saadia E
 Subject: Blue Border - Summary of Conclusions of the Restricted Principals Committee Meeting on the Flotilla (SES 201011051) CONFIDENTIAL

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Bowers, Allyson M

I134

From: Kumar, Prem G. [PKumar@nss.eop.sgov.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2011 7:07 PM **B3 DOD-CP**
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FREEDOM FLOTILLA II" GAZA AID CONVOY UPDATE - 6 JUL (SECRET) [SECRET, Record]

Categories: Working **RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP,B1,1.4(D)**

+ Rian Harris (Director for Aegean Affairs at NSC)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2011 7:32 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

B3 DOD-CP

Subject: FREEDOM FLOTILLA II" GAZA AID CONVOY UPDATE - 6 JUL (SECRET)

Classification: SECRET
Caveats: NOFORN

1.4(D)
B1

Good morning J2 -

(U) The international "Freedom Flotilla II (FF2) - Stay Human" will include at least 10 ships, at least two of which are cargo boats carrying aid, while the rest are passenger ships carrying hundreds of people, among them, politicians, MEPs, writers, religious faith representatives, people of arts and culture and activists. Press releases indicates many TV crews will be also on board (CNN, NBC, Al-Jazeera, et al) as well as journalists sent by various world media and newspapers. "Stay Human" was selected in honor of 36-year old Italian pro-Palestinian activist Vittorio Arrigoni, who was killed 14 Apr 2011 after being kidnapped in Gaza City by Salafist radicals.

SITREP follows:

[REDACTED]

While there is conflicting open source reporting suggesting two FF2 ships are underway, there is no confirmation that any of the FF2 participants are en route to Gaza. 1.4(D)
B1

(S//OC//NF) [REDACTED]

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
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- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.
- 13.
- 14.

(S//OC//NF) [REDACTED]

- 1.
- 2.

(S) Note (1): [REDACTED]

(S//NF) Note (2): [REDACTED]

(U) Political Developments:

- (U) On 6 Jul, the Palestinian news agency WAFA reported that some 40 organizations have confirmed their participation in the "Welcome to Palestine" campaign to be carried out between 8-16 Jul. Activists from around the world, though mainly from Europe, plan to land at Ben Gurion International Airport to tour Jerusalem, Ramallah, Bethlehem, and the Jordan Valley.

Assessment: Israel's Foreign Ministry, Aviation Authority, Internal Security Ministry, police, and Prime Minister's Office are expecting some 500 activists and are preparing for the pro-Palestinian fly-in. An Israeli Public Security Ministry official states that activists identified at the airport as seeking provocation will not be allowed in Israel and will be sent back to their countries. Those who riot at the airport or refuse to head back will be transferred to a special airport facility or turned over to the Prison Service. (Press, 6 Jul)

- (U) On 5 Jul, Israeli intelligence indicates a group of Arabs, of unknown origin, is attempting to travel from Jordan to Turkey in order to procure a boat in order to join the Gaza flotilla. (USDAO Ankara 051243Z Jul)

- (U) On 4 Jul, M/V TAHRIR, sponsored by the Canadian Boat to Gaza, attempted to depart Crete but was intercepted by the Hellenic Coast Guard and forced to return to port. (Press, OSINT)

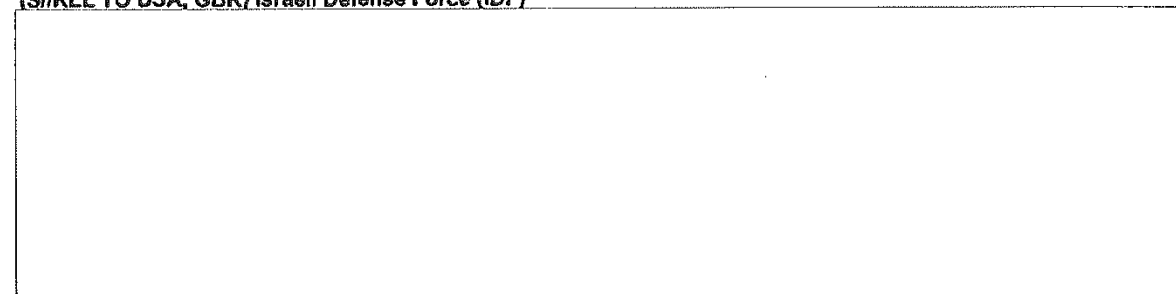
1.4(D)

B1

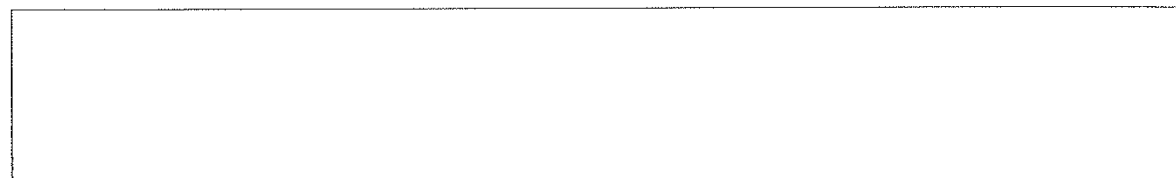
- (U) On 1 Jul, M/V AUDACITY OF HOPE, sponsored by the US Boat to Gaza, attempted to depart Piraeus, Greece but was stopped by the Hellenic Coast Guard and forced to return to port. (Press, OSINT)



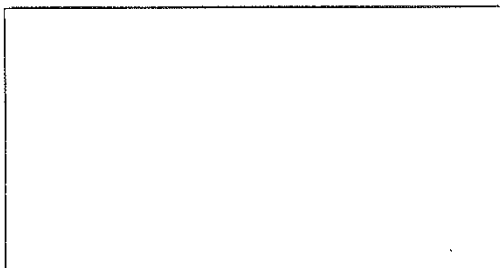
(S//REL TO USA, GBR) Israeli Defense Force (IDF)



(S) Nearest US Navy Forces



V/R, Larry



B3 DOD-CP

Attachment Classification: SECRET
Attachment Caveats: NOFORN
Classification: SECRET
Caveats: NOFORN

RELEASED IN FULL

T26A

CONFIDENTIALINTERAGENCY DOCUMENT
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

201011051

ACTION: NEA

S/ES

2010 Jun 22 A 8:56

INFO COPIES TO:

DATE

6/22/10

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S/ES	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> MCC	<input type="checkbox"/> S/GHFSI
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D(L)	<input type="checkbox"/> S/ES-EX	<input type="checkbox"/> CA	<input type="checkbox"/> MED	<input type="checkbox"/> S/GPI
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S/ES-IA	<input type="checkbox"/> CPR	<input type="checkbox"/> M/PRI	<input type="checkbox"/> S/GWI
<input type="checkbox"/> F	<input type="checkbox"/> S/ES-IRM	<input type="checkbox"/> DGHR	<input type="checkbox"/> M/WHL	<input type="checkbox"/> S/NKP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> P	<input type="checkbox"/> S/ES-O	<input type="checkbox"/> DRL	<input type="checkbox"/> OBO	<input type="checkbox"/> S/OCR
<input type="checkbox"/> M	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S/ES-CR	<input type="checkbox"/> DS	<input type="checkbox"/> OES	<input type="checkbox"/> S/SANAC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E	<input type="checkbox"/> S/ES-S	<input type="checkbox"/> ECA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OIG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S/SECC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> T	<input type="checkbox"/> AF	<input type="checkbox"/> EEB	<input type="checkbox"/> PM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S/SEMEP
<input type="checkbox"/> G	<input type="checkbox"/> EAP	<input type="checkbox"/> FSI	<input type="checkbox"/> PRM	<input type="checkbox"/> S/SRAP
<input type="checkbox"/> R	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EUR	<input type="checkbox"/> H	<input type="checkbox"/> RM	<input type="checkbox"/> S/SRGIA
<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> NEA	<input type="checkbox"/> IIP	<input type="checkbox"/> S/CIEA	<input type="checkbox"/> S/SRMC
<input type="checkbox"/> PA	<input type="checkbox"/> SCA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INL	<input type="checkbox"/> S/CRS	<input type="checkbox"/> S/USSES
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S/P	<input type="checkbox"/> WHA	<input type="checkbox"/> IO	<input type="checkbox"/> S/CT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S/WCI
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INR		<input type="checkbox"/> IRM	<input type="checkbox"/> S/EEE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> USUN/W
<input type="checkbox"/> USAID		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ISN	<input type="checkbox"/> S/EENI	<input type="checkbox"/> VCI
		<input type="checkbox"/> L	<input type="checkbox"/> S/GAC	<input type="checkbox"/> G/STAS
			<input type="checkbox"/> S/GC	<input type="checkbox"/> G/TIF

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS OF THE RESTRICTED PRINCIPALS
COMMITTEE MEETING ON THE FLOTILLA -- 6/3/10

COPY ADVANCED TO:

REMARKS:

ACTION REQUESTED:

☐ MEMORANDUM FOR:☒ APPROPRIATE HANDLING☐ FOR YOUR INFORMATION☐ OTHER

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

DATE DUE IN S/ES: _____

AUTHORIZED BY: SAADIA SARKIS

S/ES-S, ROOM 7241

EXT: 7-6590

FAX: 7-2283

CONFIDENTIAL

A COPY OF THIS TASKER SHOULD ACCOMPANY YOUR RESPONSE

RELEASED IN PART B5

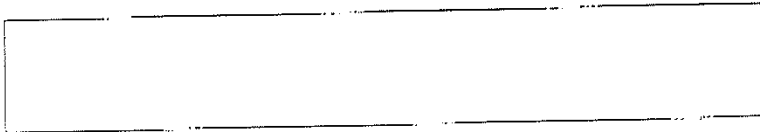
Law, Rosemary C

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 4:14 PM
To: Dolan, JoAnn; Pomper, Stephen E; Townley, Stephen G; Guarin, Marc F; Perina, Alexandra H; Aswad, Evelyn M; Banos, Mariano H; Gorove, Katherine M; Sullivan, David J
Cc: Harris, Robert K; Jacobson, Linda
Subject: RE: PC on Flotilla Thursday evening

I've passed this to USCG, which needs to be involved in the first bullet since it is a US flagged vessel.

From: Dolan, JoAnn
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 3:41 PM
To: Pomper, Stephen E; Townley, Stephen G; Guarin, Marc F; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Aswad, Evelyn M; Banos, Mariano H; Gorove, Katherine M; Sullivan, David J
Cc: Harris, Robert K; Jacobson, Linda
Subject: PC on Flotilla Thursday evening

Israel Desk has just called to alert us that NSC is scheduling a PC for Thursday evening to which S plans to attend. While agenda is still being worked out it apparently includes such items as:



Apparently the [redacted] has been tasked to NSC/Legal and Desk assumed that we were already working with them and was looking for a point of contact to help them prepared the annotated agenda for S. Has anyone else heard about this and can I give Jeff Giaque a point of contact on that issue. It sounds like an L/HRR and L/UNA task in preparation for HCR, but cannot be sure.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

RELEASED IN
PART B5

Law, Rosemary C

From: Knopf, Payton L
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 2:10 PM
To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Hof, Frederic C; Sindle, James M; Giauque, Jeffrey G; Holmstrom, Todd C; Jacobson, Linda
Subject: RE: Condensed version of the State paper for the PC

Have we seen the L paper?

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 2:06 PM
To: Hof, Frederic C; Sindle, James M; Giauque, Jeffrey G; Holmstrom, Todd C; Knopf, Payton L; Jacobson, Linda
Subject: FW: Condensed version of the State paper for the PC

From: Kumar, Prem G. [mailto:Prem_G_Kumar@nss.eop.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 2:02 PM
To: Bass, Warren; Mustafa, Herro K.; Goldberger, Thomas H; Lynn, Eric CIV OSD POLICY; alan.sims@js.pentagon.mil; Antonietti, Patrick M CIV OSD POLICY
Subject: Condensed version of the State paper for the PC

B5

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Page Denied

C18750924

RELEASED IN PART B1,B3 DOD-CP,1.4(C),B6

I 381

Bowers, Allyson M

From: SMART Core [svcSMARTHBTSRctSPrec@state.sgov.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2011 2:38 PM
Cc: Douthich, Jack T; Sachar, Alon; Eilts, Colin C; Pickett, Margarita; Rubinstein, Arriel J; Jimenez, Elizabeth
Subject: (U) CONSUMER IIR EVALUATION/OIC-621
Categories: Archival

SECRET//NOFORN

Sensitive

Info Office: POLITICAL

MRN: [REDACTED] B3 DOD-CP
Date/DTG: Jul 06, 2011 / 061738Z JUL 11
From: [REDACTED]
Action: 547IS NELLIS AFB NV ROUTINE; 970SS ALTUS AFB OK//IN// ROUTINE; ACC CTIG LANGLEY AFB VA//DOXD// ROUTINE; AFIAA AMHS BOLLING AFB DC ROUTINE; AFIOC LACKLAND AFB TX ROUTINE; AFNORTH A2 TYNDALL AFB FL//IN// ROUTINE; ANCHORY FT GEORGE G MEADE MD ROUTINE; APL JHU LAUREL MD//STILO// ROUTINE; CDR USEUCOM INTEL VAHINGEN GE//ECJ22-P-M// ROUTINE; CDR USTRANSCOM INTEL CELL SCOTT AFB IL ROUTINE; CDR3DSFGA FT BRAGG NC//AOSO-SFT-SB// ROUTINE; CDRUSAREUR DCSINT HEIDELBERG GE ROUTINE; CIA WASHINGTON DC//PWSTAFF/JR// ROUTINE; COGARD INTELCOORDCEN WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; COGARD MIFC PAC ALAMEDA CA ROUTINE; COMJSOC FT BRAGG NC//J2-CMD// ROUTINE; COMMARFORCOM ROUTINE; COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI ROUTINE; COMSEVENTHFLT ROUTINE; COMSOCCENT INTEL MACDILL AFB FL ROUTINE; COMUSFLTFORCOM NORFOLK VA ROUTINE; COMUSMARCENT INTEL MACDILL AFB FL ROUTINE; COMUSNAVCENT ROUTINE; CTF 50 ROUTINE; CTF 56 ROUTINE; CTF 561 ROUTINE; CTF 67 ROUTINE; CTF 69 ROUTINE; DA-AMHS WASHINGTON DC//INTEL// ROUTINE; DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC//IN-1// ROUTINE; DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC//INTEL// ROUTINE; DIRJIATF SOUTH J2 ROUTINE; [REDACTED] DIRNSA FT GEORGE G MEADE MD//S512// ROUTINE; DNI WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; DNI WATCH ROUTINE; FAA NATIONAL HQ WASHINGTON DC//ACI-100// ROUTINE; FORSCOM ACE FT MCPHERSON GA ROUTINE; HOMELAND SECURITY CENTER WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; HQ AF ISR AGENCY LACKLAND AFB TX//IOC// ROUTINE; HQ AFOSI ANDREWS AFB MD ROUTINE; HQ AFTAC PATRICK AFB FL ROUTINE; HQ NORAD USNORTHCOM INTEL PETERSON AFB CO ROUTINE; INTEL FACILITY SOUTHEAST SECTOR TYNDALL AFB FL ROUTINE; JAC MOLESWORTH JCDX RAF MOLESWORTH UK ROUTINE; JAC MOLESWORTH RAF MOLESWORTH UK ROUTINE; JIATF SOUTH INTEL KEY WEST FL ROUTINE; JIATF WEST ROUTINE; JIOWC SAN ANTONIO TX//J52// ROUTINE; JWAC DAHLGREN VA ROUTINE; MARCORINTACT QUANTICO VA ROUTINE; NASIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OH ROUTINE; NATIONAL DRUG INTELLIGENCE CENTER JOHNSTOWN PA ROUTINE; NAVCENT INTEL MANAMA BA ROUTINE; NAVEODTECHDIV INDIAN HEAD MD ROUTINE; NAVOCEANO STENNIS SPACE CENTER MS ROUTINE; NAVSTKAIRWARCEN FALLON NV ROUTINE; NGA WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; NGIC INTEL OPS CHARLOTTESVILLE VA ROUTINE; NORAD-

USNORTHCOM J2 PETERSON AFB CO ROUTINE; NRC WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE;
PACOM IDHS HONOLULU HI ROUTINE; PACOM JIOC HONOLULU HI//SVL// ROUTINE;
WASHDC, SECSTATE//INR/DC// ROUTINE; SR JOIC NAPLES IT ROUTINE; STILO
PATUXENT RIVER MD//STILO// ROUTINE; UDITDUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE ROUTINE;
US CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; US SECRET
SERVICE WASHINGTON DC//SAIC// ROUTINE; US SURVEY DIV SHAPE BE ROUTINE;
USAREUR ACE DARMSTADT GE ROUTINE; USARPAC INTEL FT SHAFTER HI ROUTINE;
USCENTCOM INTEL CEN MACDILL AFB FL//CCJ2// ROUTINE; [REDACTED] B1
[REDACTED] ROUTINE; USSOCOM INTEL MACDILL AFB FL ROUTINE; USSS CRIMINAL 4(C)
INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE; USSTRATCOM INTEL
DIRECTORATE OFFUTT AFB NE//OP322// ROUTINE; UTAIS RAMSTEIN AB GE//INAAT//
ROUTINE

Captions: Sensitive, NOFORN

Reference:

Subject: (U) CONSUMER IIR EVALUATION/OIC-621

B3 DOD-CP

SECRET //NOFORN

QQQQ

SERIAL: (U) [REDACTED]

B3 DOD-CP

COUNTRY: (U) GREECE (GRC); ISRAEL (ISR); SIERRA LEONE (SLE).

SUBJ: (U) CONSUMER IIR EVALUATION/OIC-621

REF: (C/[REDACTED]) Location; Pictures; Current

B3 DOD-CP

Activity and Possible Schedule for Possible Gaza Freedom Flotilla II
Participants IVO Piraeus, Greece--Update One

B3 DOD-CP

TEXT: (U)

B1
1.4(C)

1.4(C)
B1

2. (S//NF) [REDACTED]

1.4(C)
B1

[REDACTED] will support further analysis for correlation and
identification.

B3 DOD-CP

GUID: 1. [REDACTED]

B1
1.4(C)

1.4(C)
B6

VALUE: (U) B - High Value
EVALNME: (U) [REDACTED]
PRODUCE: (U//FOUO) A - Update Database, B - Confirm analytical
judgment, D - Oral Briefing, F - Support Law Enforcement
CUSTNO: (U) Q008

B6

B3 DOD-CP

DRV FROM: MULTIPLE SOURCES.

DECL: 25X1-human.

Derived From:	MULTIPLE SOURCES
Declassify on:	25X1-human
Attachments:	metadata.dat

Action Post:
Dissemination Rule: DIS_POLITICAL

SECRET//NOFORN
Sensitive

RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP

I360

Law, Rosemary C

From: Levin, Jan
 Sent: Saturday, June 05, 2010 10:12 AM
 To: Gaza Flotilla Monitoring Group
 Subject: Fw: Rachel Corrie Boarding

Fyi

From: [REDACTED]
 To: Cunningham, James B
 Cc: Sievers, Marc J; Levin, Jan; Grubb, Jason B; [REDACTED]
 Sent: Sat Jun 05 16:55:13 2010
 Subject: Rachel Corrie Boarding

B3 DOD-CP

Sir,

Rachel Corrie boarding as reported by YNET:

Takeover ended in 5 minutes

Ron Ben-Yishai reports from the field: Five days after bloody raid on Marmara, Navy stages peaceful takeover at sea; female combat soldiers take part in quick raid on Rachel Corrie, fighters board ship using rope ladders
 Ron Ben-Yishai

Published: 06.05.10, 16.35 / Israel News

Just five minutes – this is the estimated time it took Israel's Navy to commandeer the Rachel Corrie Ship en route to the Gaza Strip.

The raid got underway with the vessel roughly 23 miles west of the Gaza shore, right on the boundary of the naval blockade imposed on the strip. Navy Chief Major General Elazer Maron received the chief of staff's approval before proceeding. The top military officials were also in touch with Defense Minister Ehud Barak during the operation.

The overall operation was headed by the commander of Israel's missile boat fleet, while the actual raid on the ship was led by the commander of the Flotilla 13 commando unit, Colonel A.

The decision to take over the vessel was taken roughly at 12 pm, when it became clear that the ship had no intention of complying with the Navy's messages and turn to the Ashdod port for an inspection.

The vessel's captain was informed that Navy soldiers will board the ship in line with international law and without using force, and that the IDF expected personnel on the ship to behave similarly.

4 female fighters

The captain made it clear to the forces he had no intention to offer violent resistance. He gathered the 11 passengers and crewmembers on the ship's deck, where they peacefully waited for the Navy's boats. The Navy dispatched three missile boats to the area, as well as several patrol vessels which have been accompanying the Rachel Corrie since Friday. Additional missile boats were deployed in case the operation turned violent.

Shortly before 12:30, two missile boats reached the Rachel Corrie carrying about 20 combat soldiers, including four female fighters belonging to the Navy's special security unit, in charge of securing ports and vessels. The females were brought in so that they personally handle the females on board, including Nobel Prize Laureate Mairead Maguire.

The Navy commander was on board a nearby missile boat along with Flotilla 13's commander during the operation. The fighters boarded the ship using rope ladders without facing any resistance, explained their demands to the captain, and ensured they were being met.

The operation took about five minutes, with activists on board the ship yelling slogans at Navy troops but refraining from any violence. The incident highlighted the difference between passengers on Board the Marmara, who planned a violent and lethal clash in order to smear Israel, and Rachel Corrie activists. The Navy said the latter activists were part of a "provocative self", but made do with conveying their political message, thereby averting any kind of violent clash.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP, B3 DOD-FGI, B6

I358

Law, Rosemary C

From: Levin, Jan
 Sent: Saturday, June 05, 2010 5:04 AM
 To: Gaza Flotilla Monitoring Group
 Subject: Fw: Rachel Corrie

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED] B3 DOD-CP
 To: [REDACTED] Sievers, Marc J; Palm, Robert H; Levin, Jan; Grubb, Jason B
 Sent: Sat Jun 05 11:36:46 2010
 Subject: Re: Rachel Corrie

[REDACTED] that RC is "making circles" in the Med and still insisting to go to Gaza. IDF is not going to allow RC into Gaza. No IDF boarding yet. B3 DOD-FGI

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED] B3 DOD-CP
 To: [REDACTED] Sievers, Marc J; Palm, Robert H; Levin, Jan; Grubb, Jason B
 Sent: Sat Jun 05 10:57:14 2010
 Subject: Re: Rachel Corrie

RC approx 25 miles from coast. Have rejected multiple requests to dock at Ashdod Port.
 Additional steps to be taken by INF.

B3 DOD-CP

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED] B3 DOD-CP
 To: [REDACTED] Sievers, Marc J; Palm, Robert H; Levin, Jan; Grubb, Jason B;
 Schlereth, Frank G
 Sent: Sat Jun 05 08:54:09 2010
 Subject: Re: Rachel Corrie

[REDACTED] RC continuing to refuse to head to Ashdod. Expect additional steps to have vessel make port in Ashdod. B3 DOD-FGI

B3 DOD-CP

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED] B3 DOD-CP
 To: Sievers, Marc J; [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
 Sent: Sat Jun 05 08:29:36 2010
 Subject: Rachel Corrie B6

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

C18750896

B3 DODFGI

[redacted] saying RC still has not been boarded and negotiations with crew continue to convince them to proceed to Ashdod. [redacted] the message that RC will not be allowed into Gaza. RC is about 55 miles out and expect her to reach land around noon today.

I384

Bowers, Allyson M

From: Sindie, James M
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2011 9:14 AM
To: NEA-IPA-DL; EUR-SE-DL
Cc: NEA-ELA-DL
Subject: FW: "FREEDOM FLOTILLA II" GAZA AID CONVOY (SITREP #1) (SECRET)
Attachments: Free Gaza II Flotilla Update_23 Jun 2011.ppt

Importance: High

Categories: Working

RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP,B1,B5,1.4(D)

B5

1.4(D)
B1

FYSA...

V/R,
Jim Sindie

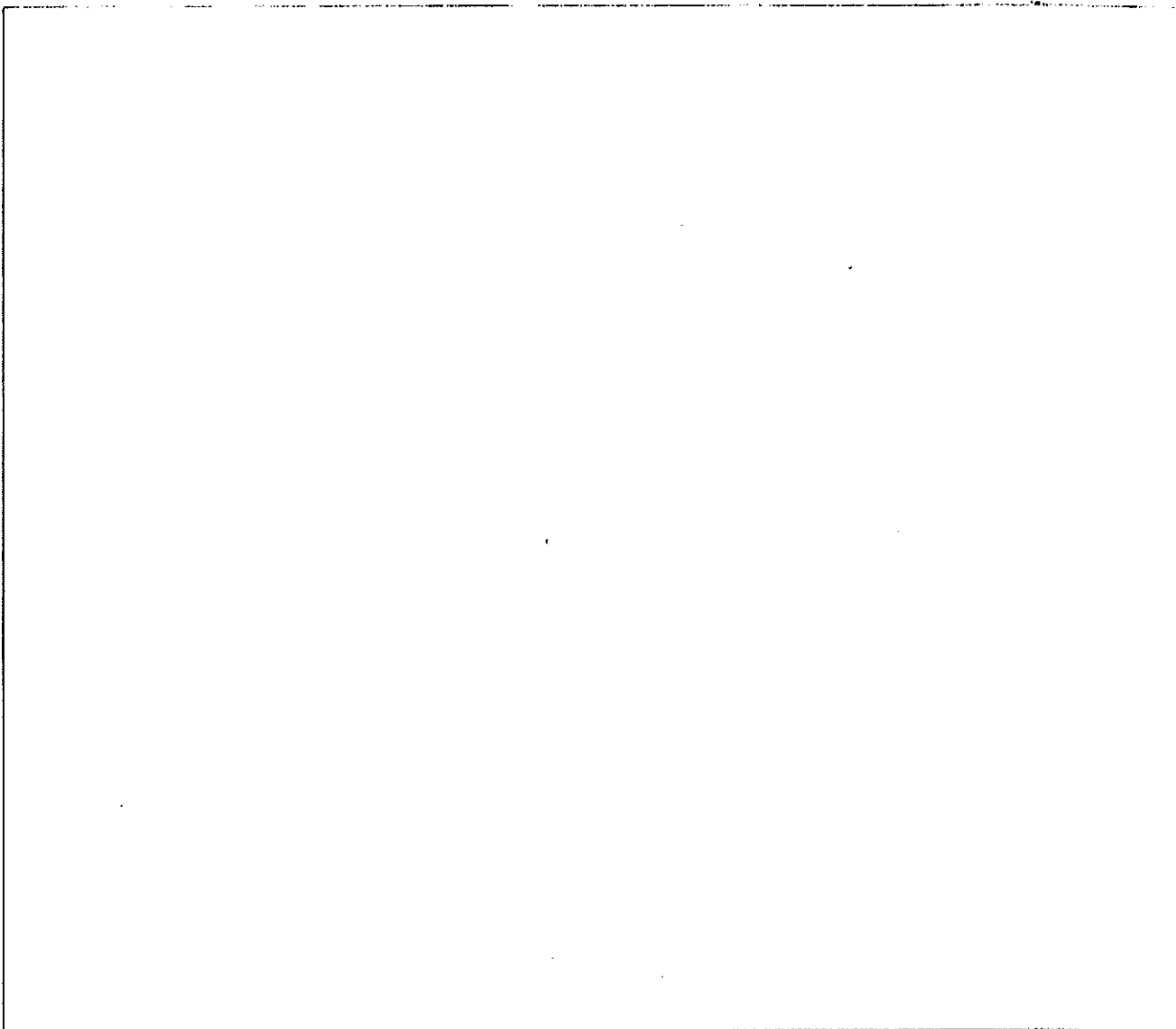
This document is SECRET//NOFORN when separated from SECRET//NOFORN attachment(s).

Sensitivity: Sensitive
Classification: SECRET//NOFORN
Derived From: DSCG 05-1 (b), (d)
Declassify On: 2021/08/23

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2011 2:26 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]

B3 DOD-CP



Subject: "FREEDOM FLOTILLA II" GAZA AID CONVOY (SITREP #1) (SECRET)

Classification: SECRET
Caveats: NOFORN

B5

Good morning J2 / DJ2 --



PAGE DENIED

C18750927

Attachment Classification: SECRET//REL TO USA, GBR
Classification: SECRET
Caveats: NOFORN

RELEASED IN PART 1.4(B),B3 DOD-CP,B1,1.4(D),B7(C)

I137

Bowers, Allyson M

From:

Sent:

To:

Cc:

Wednesday, July 06, 2011 12:12 PM

B3 DOD-CP

Doutrich, Jack T; NEA-IPA-DL; EUR-SE-DL; Masilko, Barbara J (USUN); Zurcher, Kenneth M; Ells, Colin C

Subject:

RE: Greece Bans Departure of Flotilla Vessels to Gaza, Offers to Deliver Aid

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

CAVEATS: NOFORN

REL TO: NONE

1.4(D)
B1

Jack/David/Matt -

V/R.

B3 DOD-CP

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

-----Original Message-----

From: Doutrich, Jack T [mailto:DoutrichJT@state.sgov.gov]

B3 DOD-CP

Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2011 11:39 AM

To: NEA-IPA-DL: EUR-SE-DL: Masilko, Barbara J (USUN); Zurcher, Kenneth M; Filts, Colin C

Subject: FW: Greece Bans Departure of Flotilla Vessels to Gaza, Offers to Deliver Aid

Jack Doutrich

Political Officer

NEA/IPA

(202) 647-4132

Sensitivity:

Sensitive

Classification:

CONFIDENTIAL

Derived From:

Derived from previous message in thread.

Declassify On:

2021/07/06

From:

SMART Core

Sent:

Wednesday, July 06, 2011 06:13:54

To:

Martin, Leah A (Athens)

Cc:

ATHENS-SMARTS; JERUSALEM-SMARTS; MILAN-SMARTS; SMARTS, Reykjavik; Valletta, SMARTS; GENEVA, SMARTS; BAKU-SMARTS; SOFIA-SMARTS; NICOSIA, SMARTS; TBILISI, SMARTS; BARCELONA, SMARTS; OSLO-SMARTS; Stockholm-SMARTS; BELGRADE-SMARTS; Dushanbe, SMARTS; VILNIUS, SMARTS; VATICAN, SMARTS; THEHAGUE-SMARTS; USNATO, SMARTS; YEREVAN-SMARTS; PODGORICA, SMARTS; SKOPJE, SMARTS; MOSCOW-SMARTS; WARSAW-SMARTS; ANKARA-SMARTS; TALLINN, SMARTS; Sarajevo, SMARTS; PARIS-SMARTS; BERN, SMARTS; UNVIE-SMARTS; LISBON, SMARTS; DUBLIN, SMARTS; Tashkent, SMARTS; BRUSSELS-SMARTS; OSCE-SMARTS; ISTANBUL, SMARTS; BUDAPEST-SMARTS; FRANKFURT, SMARTS; ZAGREB-SMARTS; LJUBLJANA-SMARTS; MADRID-SMARTS; KYIV-SMARTS; Ottawa-SmartS; HELSINKI-SMARTS; ASTANA-SMARTS; TiranaSMARTS; Bishkek, SMARTS; LONDON-SMARTS; BRATISLAVA-SMARTS; PRAGUE, SMARTS; HAMBURG-SMARTS; Riga, SMARTS; USEU-SMARTS; ROME, SMARTS; KRAKOW-SMARTS; BERLIN-SMARTS; LUXEMBOURG-SMARTS; NAPLES, SMARTS; Copenhagen-SMARTS; MUNICH-SMARTS; CHISINAU-SMARTS; Pristina, SMARTS; Ashgabat, SMARTS; USUN, SMARTS; BUCHAREST-SMARTS; VIENNA-SMARTS; PMAT (Pol-Mil Action Team);

fbfbi.sgov.gov;

B7(C)

B3 DOD-CP

Subject:

Greece Bans Departure of Flotilla Vessels to Gaza, Offers to Deliver Aid

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE SEAL

MRN:

11 ATHENS 407

Date/DTG:

Jul 06, 2011 / 061512Z JUL 11

From:

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

Action:

WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE

E.O.:

13526

TAGS:

PREL, PHUM, PHSA, PTER, KCSY

Reference:

A) 11 ATHENS 383

<http://repository.state.sgov.gov/_layouts/OSSearchResults.aspx?k=mrn%3a%22:11%20ATHENS%20383%22>

B) 11 ATHENS 349

<http://repository.state.sgov.gov/_layouts/OSSearchResults.aspx?k=mrn%3a%22:11%20ATHENS%20349%22>

Pass Line:

AMEMBASSY ASTANA PASS TO AMCONSUL ALMATY AMEMBASSY ANKARA PASS TO AMCONSUL ADANA AMEMBASSY ROME PASS TO AMCONSUL FLORENCE AMEMBASSY PARIS PASS TO AMCONSUL STRASBOURG 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

Subject:

Greece Bans Departure of Flotilla Vessels to Gaza, Offers to Deliver Aid

1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

1. (C) SUMMARY: The Greek government's decision on July 1 to prohibit the departure of ships from Greek ports intended for Gaza was a significant shift from Greece's previous, less visibly confrontational, approach towards "Flotilla II - Stay Alive" Gaza vessels and activists. Over the July 4 weekend two boats attempting to depart Greek ports, in violation of the ban, were intercepted by the Hellenic Coast Guard, resulting in the arrest of the AMCIT captain of one of the boats. Also over the weekend, Gaza flotilla activists protested the Coast Guard action at the American Embassy and the Embassy Mission Residence (EMR).

END SUMMARY.

Greek Ban on Departure of Ships to Gaza

2. (SBU) On July 1, the Ministry of Citizen Protection released a notice to flotilla participants that the departure of ships with Greek and foreign flags from Greek ports to the maritime area of Gaza was prohibited, and that the Hellenic Coast Guard would take all appropriate measures to enforce the decision. Despite the departure ban by the Greek government (as well as an order to remain in port due to unresolved questions about the vessel's documentation and seaworthiness), the American-flagged vessel "Audacity of Hope" attempted to depart the Greek port of Perama, near Piraeus on July 1. The Hellenic Coast Guard intercepted the vessel and after a standoff at sea, the ship consented to return to port.

3. (SBU) The American captain was arrested by Greek authorities upon the ship's return to port. Embassy Athens provided regular consular services to Amcit members of this year's "Flotilla II - Stay Alive" US Boat to Gaza organization both before and after the captain's arrest. On June 24, American Citizens Services (ACS) Chief and Counsel General met with AMCIT flotilla participants to provide a consular briefing and ACS Chief had regular contact

with the captain and his attorney, including a meeting on July 5 to verify that he was in good health, understood his arrest, had legal representation, and that authorities were treating him well. The captain was released on July 6 without bail. There will be a trial at some point, but the captain will not have to return to Greece.

4. (C) On July 4, the Canadian boat "Tahrir" was intercepted by the Hellenic Coast Guard five kilometers off shore when it attempted to leave the eastern port of Aghios Nikolaos on the island of Crete. The boat carrying 50 Gaza activists and medicine was towed back to an undisclosed location on Crete. According to reports, no arrests were made. According to Embassy sources, a total of nine ships intending to participate in the flotilla docked around Greece. Two of those, the "Audacity of Hope" and "Tahrir", defied the departure ban, prompting Coast Guard action. Seven have remained docked.

5. (SBU) On July 1 some 35 demonstrators assembled outside the American Embassy to protest on behalf of the Gaza flotilla. On the evening of July 3, a group of eight people from the US Boat to Gaza organization assembled at the American Embassy and presented a letter calling for U.S. officials to defend their rights to sail out of Greece to Gaza and to request 50 tickets to the Embassy's upcoming Independence Day celebration. On both occasions the protestors dispersed peacefully. On July 4, nine demonstrators assembled outside the EMR. The demonstrators were taken into custody briefly for identification checks after stating they planned to sleep on the sidewalk in front of the EMR. The demonstrators spent under two hours in the station and were released. They were never placed under arrest.

6. (SBU) In addition to the group's regular website updates and Tweets, the Embassy has received roughly 500 calls and emails since July 1 asking the USG to put pressure on Greece to allow the flotilla to proceed to Gaza.

Greek Proposal to Deliver Humanitarian Aid to Gaza .

7. (SBU) PM Papandreou spoke by phone with Palestinian Authority leader Mahmoud Abbas on July 3. According to reports, Abbas positively viewed a Greek government proposal to facilitate the transport of humanitarian aid to Gaza, in cooperation with the United Nations. The proposal was confirmed later in the day when the MFA released a statement announcing Greece's intention to undertake the task of transporting humanitarian aid to Gaza through "appropriate channels." The statement also reiterated Greece's ban on departure from Greek ports primarily to protect human life and stressed Greece's concurrent view that the naval blockade should be lifted. The MFA announced plans to liaise with all concerned parties, while flotilla organizers and activists decried both the Greek government's intent and Abbas' alleged backstabbing collusion with the Greeks.

1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

COMMENT

1.4(B)
1.4(D)

9. (C) On June 22, the Greek MFA issued a strongly worded statement discouraging its citizens from participating in the flotilla, [REDACTED] B1

Signature:

SMITH

Classified By:

Name: Daniel B. Smith, Title: Ambassador

Reason:

1.4 (b), (d)

Declassify on:

2021/07/06

Drafted By:

ATHENS:Martin, Leah A (Athens)

Cleared By:

POL:Cockrell, John D (Athens)

POL:Lawton, Daniel J (Athens)

Brandeis, Charles D (Athens)

Smith, Stuart M (Athens)

Miller, Thomas S (Athens)

Brandeis, Katherine (Athens)

C18750663

Approved By:

EXEC:Smith, Daniel B (Athens)

Released By:

ATHENS:Martin, Leah A (Athens)

Info:

JERUSALEM; AMCONSUL ROUTINE; EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE ROUTINE; ZEN/AMCONSUL ALMATY;
ZEN/AMCONSUL ADANA; ZEN/AMCONSUL FLORENCE; ZEN/AMCONSUL STRASBOURG; ZEN/AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK;
ZEN/AMEMBASSY MINSK; ZEN/AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF; ZEN/AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG; ZEN/AMCONSUL
LEIPZIG; ZEN/AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG

Attachments:

Metadata.dat

Action Post:

Dissemination Rule:

Released Copy

CONFIDENTIAL

DERIVED FROM: Multiple Sources.
DECLASSIFY ON: 20360706

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET
CAVEATS: NDFORN
REL TO: NONE

RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP,B3
DODFGI,B6,B6

Law, Rosemary C

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:57 PM
To: Pomper, Stephen E; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Dolan, JoAnn; Baumert, Kevin A; Harris, Robert K; Jacobson, Linda; Donoghue, Joan E
Subject: FW: MFA flotilla: TU Parliament For Aff Comm Chief Murat Mercan on Next Steps
Attachments: Legal Aspects.ppt

A further plea for L's advice on international law aspects.

B3 DOD-CP

-----Original Message-----

From: Sindle, James M
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:53 PM
To: Gordon, Philip H; Jeffrey, James F; [REDACTED] Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); [REDACTED] Hale, David M; [REDACTED] 'elizabeth_d._sherwood-randall@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Bbrink@nsc.eop.gov'; McEldowney, Nancy E; Kaidanow, Tina S; Baily, Jess L; Riley, Robert J; Marsh, Denise M; Waser, Tamir G; Silliman, Douglas A; Ankara-POL-DL; Wolff, Alexis S; [REDACTED] Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Dolan, JoAnn; Schwartz, Jonathan B
Subject: RE: MFA flotilla: TU Parliament For Aff Comm Chief Murat Mercan on Next Steps

According to attachment and in several statements, GOI believes that they are in armed conflict with Hamas in Gaza and have the right to enforce blockade, including interdicting ships in international waters that intend to break that blockade. [REDACTED]

B5

-----Original Message-----

B3 DOD-CP

From: Gordon, Philip H
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:35 PM
To: Jeffrey, James F; [REDACTED] Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); [REDACTED] Hale, David M; [REDACTED] 'elizabeth_d._sherwood-randall@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Bbrink@nsc.eop.gov'; McEldowney, Nancy E; Kaidanow, Tina S; Baily, Jess L; Riley, Robert J; Marsh, Denise M; Waser, Tamir G; Silliman, Douglas A; Ankara-POL-DL; Wolff, Alexis S
Subject: Re: MFA flotilla: TU Parliament For Aff Comm Chief Murat Mercan on Next Steps

Isr Amb Oren told D-Steinberg that Israel would release/deport all the people forthwith. Did not address plans for the ships.

----- Original Message -- [REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer]

From: Jeffrey, James F

To: [redacted] Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); [redacted] M; Hale, David M; [redacted] B3 DOD-CP

[redacted] 'elizabeth_d_sherwood-randall@nsc.eop.gov' <elizabeth_d_sherwood-randall@nsc.eop.gov>; 'bbrink@nsc.eop.gov' <bbrink@nsc.eop.gov>; Gordon, Philip H; McElDowney, Nancy E; Kaidanow, Tina S; Bailly, Jess L; Riley, Robert J; Marsh, Denise M; Waser, Tamir G; Silliman, Douglas A; Ankara-POL-DL; Wolff, Alexis S; Rice, Susan E (USUN)
Sent: Mon May 31 13:27:49 2010

Subject: Re: MFA flotilla: TU Parliament For Aff Comm Chief Murat Mercan on Next Steps

Aside from stressing as Amb Tan did to Phil Gordon need for Am 'condemnation' of Israel Mercan-who can speak usually better for AKP leadership and Erdogan than MFA, Told Codel Delahunt and me that of particular importance for Turks is immediate release of Turkish ships and all personnel. He asserted and we need to look at, that under international law enforcing a blockade does not convey the right to seize people/property. [redacted] B5

----- Original Message -----

B3 DOD-CP

From: [redacted]

To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); [redacted] Levin, Jan; Hale, David M; Murphy, Michael P; [redacted]

Sent: Mon May 31 19:27:09 2010

B3 DOD-CP

Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

B3 DODFGI

All,

[redacted] link between IHH organization and Muslim Brotherhood. Clear action on part of individuals on MAVI MARMARA to incite violence. Beat first wave of soldiers who arrived on board via Fast Rope. Several Rhibs and 3 Blackhawks were used in action against MAVI MARMARA. Took approximately an hour for INF forces (Flotilla 13(Navy Seals)) to gain control of the vessel. All 6 boats were boarded at approximately the same time(0400-0500L) in international waters. Violence isolated to MAVI MARMARA. Medical attention rendered to all injured.

- As of 1700L 3-4 of the vessels are in port Ashdod. MAVI MARMARA to arrive soon.
- All IDF forces are monitoring for reaction, but currently no heightened activity on borders or in Gaza. Some minor incidents involving Israeli Arabs within Israel (stone throwing). Israeli Arab protests and strike expected tomorrow. IDF continuing to monitor situation to determine reactions.
- Several meetings and conversations with Turkish officials have taken place. There is concern for safety of Israeli representatives in Turkey.
- Air exercise that has been taking place in Crete with Greeks has been stopped by the Greeks and the IAF assets have been asked to leave.
- GOI and IDF focused on getting the facts out. Multiple video clips depicting violence against IDF forces being released. They will review the operation internally.

- No decision on reaction to any additional vessels that may attempt to head to Gaza.
- We are awaiting response on CHALLENGER I Flag and any status of AMCITs.
- At this time, unclear if any riot related gas, etc was used.

V/R,



B3 DOD-CP

-----Original Message-----

B3 DOD-CP

From: Murphy, Michael P

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 4:37 PM

To: [REDACTED] Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); [REDACTED] Levin, Jan; Hale, David M
Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

Ma'am, Sir,



B3 DODFGI

"There was a significant event this morning, we don't have all the details, and we are still in the event. We will continue to update you."

B3 DODFGI

[REDACTED] a prepared, written statement beginning with the assertion that the Gaza Strip is ruled by a hostile enemy, HAMAS, that does not recognize the State of Israel. HAMAS encourages and executes hostile activity against Israel and is currently holding an Israeli citizen, Gilad Shalit, against international convention.

The naval blockade was established prevent smuggling that supports terrorist activity.

The Free Gaza flotilla was organized by the Turkish IHH which is belligerent towards Israel and supports the Muslim Brotherhood.

Israel tried different avenues to prevent the flotilla from launching to include communications with the ships' owning countries and companies to no avail. Israel expressed willingness to transfer any non-contraband supplies via established land procedures and Israel continues to look for ways to ameliorate the human conditions in Gaza. Israel assesses that there is no Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza.

When the organizers of the flotilla showed no desire to divert to Ashdod when requested by the Government of Israel (GoI), the GoI made the decision to board the ships in strict accordance with international law and with a desire to minimize damage to the ships and injury to passengers.

Boarding of the ships.

During boarding of the ship Mavi Marmara, Israel Navy (INF) Personnel encountered "severe physical violence" including knives, clubs and firearms. 1 INF weapon was seized by passengers. Due to a clear and present danger to INF personnel, the INF initiated contact using riot control systems (NFI) then transitioned to live fire. The injured in the event, both Israeli and foreign, have been transferred to "4-5 hospitals."

Short term future actions.

Provision of Medical attention to the wounded.

Non-contraband supplies, after inspection and processing, will be transferred to Gaza. An IDF investigation will be initiated.

The GoI continues to see HAMAS as a terrorist group. (Note: this seemed out of place in the context of the current topic of the briefing).

Israel is taking action to prevent escalation of the situation.

Israel will "respond heavily" to any entity seeking to provoke escalation.

B3 DODFGI

Legal Aspects

[redacted] that a separate briefing would be provided on the legal aspects of the operation. This was the attachment provided on [redacted]'s earlier summary. A copy is attached as well to this email.

B3 DOD-CP

Questions from the assembled group.

What are the nationalities of the casualties?

No information yet, should have details in "a few hours." This information will be transmitted via "diplomatic" channels, not military.

Where are the ships?

2 ships are at Ashdod, to include the Challenger I (as of 1415). The Challenger has US citizens, European citizens and at least one Israeli citizen. The Mavi Marmara should arrive to Ashdod between 1700-1800.

What will happen to passengers?

Passengers will have 2 options. Accept immediate extradition or be jailed by Israeli authorities. By "tonight," all personal details should be known.

Any information on nationalities?

Information will be passed to the Ambassador.

What time and where did boarding occur?

Between 0500-0600, 70 NM from Israel in international waters. All 6 ships were boarded. Only on the Mavi Marmara was serious violence encountered. One other minor incident occurred on a second ship. All casualties were on the Mavi Marmara.

Was permission granted to board the ships?

Unknown at this time.

What weapons were encountered?

One INF sailor was seriously wounded by rifle or pistol fire. 2 pistols were seized from dead passengers. One INF weapon was seized by the passengers during boarding.

What international reaction has occurred?

HAMAS has declared 3 days of mourning. Turkey has recalled its Ambassador. Israeli Ambassador to Turkey was summoned to the Turkish Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and was passed a "serious message."

[redacted] spoke with UNIFIL, and MFO to coordinate for de-escalation effortB3 DODFGI
Lebanon and Egypt.

The INF assesses that there were Jordanians on the ships, but no details were given. If there are Syrian or Lebanese citizens on the ships, then they will be transferred via the Red Cross and UN to their respective countries.

The MoD and IDF sent messages to the Palestinian Authority and the Israeli Arab Community to not escalate the situation. At least one Palestinian passenger may have been wounded.

[redacted] pointed out that there has been no US reaction as of yet.

B3 DODFGI

Casualties?

10-14 passengers severely wounded or killed, all on the Mavi Marmara. A total of 30 passengers now at 4-5 Israeli hospitals.

10 INF wounded, 1 seriously, one moderately

B3 DODFGI

Why were the ships boarded in international waters?

[redacted] started by saying the organizers were warned that the GoI would respond to any provocation and the Free Gaze flotilla was meant only as a provocation. He then said he would not get into operational details, but the INF intercepted at 70 NM in accordance with international law as the flotilla made it clear that its intention was to violate the Israeli exclusion zone.

Did the INF know what was on board?

Only through press accounts, but INF assessed contraband items such as concrete, and iron.

Intentions for the ships?

The ships will remain at Ashdod until further notice.

Very Respectfully,

B3 DOD-CP

-----Original Message-----

From: [redacted]

B3 DOD-CP

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 3:08 PM

To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Marc (Jerusalem); [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] Levin, Jan; Schlereth, [redacted]

B3 DOD-CP

Frank G

Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

B3 DOD-CP

B3 DODFGI

Many of the details briefed have already been provided via other means. Specific Highlights

- Ongoing Operation
- Two Ships in Ashdod to include the CHALLENGER I
- M/V MAVI MARMARA expected in port between 1700L and 1800L
- All ships will be in port by later today
- 10-14 Civilians Seriously Injured or Killed
- 30 Civilians Wounded
- 10 IDF wounded to include 1 serious and 1 with "medium" wounds
- Turkish Ambassador to Israel recalled

- Interaction occurred approx 70 NM from coastline. IDF confident in International Law because of intent by flotilla to breach the blockade. (See Attached Slides)

B3 DOD-CP

-----Original Message-----

From: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem)

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 2:46 PM

To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [redacted] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Felt

B3 DOD-CP

Cc: 'Dennis_B_Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

This may largely repeat at this point what is out in other places and/or others have heard from me, but just to assure that various reporting lines have same info, this is from [redacted], who also spoke with the UN's Serry, among others, this am.

B6

[redacted] reported that when Israeli soldiers boarded the main deck of the main ship, they met with what he described as clearly planned active/armed resistance, including live fire. Military who boarded were attacked with knives, sharpened metal and wood instruments, etc. He said the military who boarded were attacked by dozens; He indicated that some of the soldiers were stabbed and slashed. Made clear situation was one in which actions taken were in self-defense.

B6

Current estimates of those killed from flotilla 14-15 "maybe more". He said all injured being moved to Israeli hospital - by helicopter. He said ships coming into Ashdod (some reports have them coming into Haifa). At Ashdod, he and others will meet the ships. There, they will need to ID the bodies; move the people either to return them to home countries rapidly and/or detain; ID the cargo and as planned initially, move as much of into Gaza as promptly as possible.

Earlier this morning he and [redacted] made the following calls/contacts:

--Turkish FM and MoD [redacted]; Erakat, Fayyad, and Hussein al Sheikh [redacted] He felt the calls w the Turks given the situation were OK, but the concern clearly is Erdogan and how he will handle. With Pals, Erakat in particular, they discussed extent to which levels of rhetoric could be kept in check. With Fayyad they discussed primarily need for security cooperation, keeping things calm. Concern about how this will be affected by status of Israeli Arab Islamic leader on board the flotilla.

B6

(PIC seems to be on track/going forward. Some events may be affected by it.)

-----Original Message-----

From: Cunningham, James B

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:38 PM

To: Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [redacted]

B3 DOD-CP

[redacted] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D
Cc: 'Dennis_B_Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'
Subject: Re: MFA flotilla briefing

Our Consular people are in contact with MFA and Ashdod to get info on amcits as soon as it's available. UN had been approached by COGAT last week to help in forwarding cargo from ships in Ashdod. Serry is trying to send a couple of observers to Ashdod, has told cogat that assisting deliveries of humanitarian goods, much of which is destined for Hamas, is problematic but he'll see. Barak just gave a press conference, and appears to have spoken to Davutoglu this am.
Sent from my BlackBerry

----- Original Message -----

From: Levin, Jan
To: Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Cunningham, James B; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [redacted]
[redacted] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D
Sent: Mon May 31 13:20:31 2010
Subject: MFA flotilla briefing

MFA DG Yossi Gal and IDF Col. [redacted] briefed foreign ambassadors at 12:30 local time today.

B6

Highlights - Identification of dead and wounded taking time. MFA will reach out proactively to Embassies as IDs are done, with location and status of citizens. The uninjured will be processed and escorted to airport for deportation. Unclear how long this will take.

-- Most violence occurred on ship Mavi (Blue) Marmara. As far as is currently known, all injuries occurred on this ship.

-- Col. [redacted] told Ambassador that activists on Mavi Marmara were prepared for boarders and were armed. Unclear if they had firearms in advance or took them from IDF boarding party. One IDF soldier nearly beaten to death with metal bar. Activists also had knives.

-- Events took place in international waters. Israel asserted it had the legal right to intercept in intl waters because there is a military blockade under the law of armed conflict between Israel and Hamas.

B6

Ambassador Cunningham requests that Embassy Tel Aviv clear Dept guidance on this issue, thank you.

RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP,B3
DODFGI,B5,B6

Law, Rosemary C

From: Townley, Stephen G
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 2:56 PM
To: Pomper, Stephen E; Heinemann, Thomas B; Donoghue, Joan E; Cleveland, Sarah H; Eichensehr, Kristen E; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Jacobson, Linda; Dolan, JoAnn; Baumert, Kevin A
Subject: Fw: MFA flotilla: TU Parliament For Aff Comm Chief Murat Mercan on Next Steps
Attachments: Legal Aspects.ppt

Sending also to L/PM. Seems related to another ongoing discussion.

----- Original Message -----

From: Gordon, Philip H
To: Donoghue, Joan E; Townley, Stephen G; Koh, Harold Hongju; Connery, Joyce L.
<Joyce_L_Connery@nsc.eop.gov>
Sent: Mon May 31 14:06:54 2010
Subject: FW: MFA flotilla: TU Parliament For Aff Comm Chief Murat Mercan on Next Steps

Making sure you guys have this. (Tom Donilon asked for chop).

-----Original Message-----

From: Sindle, James M
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:53 PM
To: Gordon, Philip H; Jeffrey, James F; [redacted] Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); [redacted] Hale, David M; [redacted] 'elizabeth_d_sherwood-randall@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Bbrink@nsc.eop.gov'; McElDowney, Nancy E; Kaidanow, Tina S; Baily, Jess L; Riley, Robert J; Marsh, Denise M; Waser, Tamir G; Silliman, Douglas A; Ankara-POL-DL; Wolff, Alexis S; [redacted] JCS JS AO'; [redacted]; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Dolan, JoAnn; Schwartz, Jonathan B
Subject: RE: MFA flotilla: TU Parliament For Aff Comm Chief Murat Mercan on Next Steps

B3 DOD-CP

According to attachment and in several statements, GOI believes that they are in armed conflict with Hamas in Gaza and have the right to enforce blockade, including interdicting ships in international waters that intend to break that blockade. [redacted]

B5

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

-----Original Message-----

From: Gordon, Philip H
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:35 PM
To: Jeffrey, James F; [redacted] Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey

B3 DOD-CP

D: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); [redacted] Hale, David M; [redacted]
[redacted] 'elizabeth_d._sherwood-randall@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Bbrink@nsc.eop.gov';
McEldowney, Nancy E; Kaidanow, Tina S; Baily, Jess L; Riley, Robert J; Marsh, Denise M;
Waser, Tamir G; Silliman, Douglas A; Ankara-POL-DL; Wolff, Alexis S
Subject: Re: MFA flotilla: TU Parliament For Aff Comm Chief Murat Mercan on Next Steps

Isr Amb Oren told D-Steinberg that Israel would release/deport all the people forthwith. Did not address plans for the ships.

B3 DOD-CP

----- Original Message -----

From: Jeffrey, James F
To: [redacted] Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Sievers, Marc J;
Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters,
John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara
(Jerusalem); [redacted] Hale, David M; [redacted]
[redacted] 'elizabeth_d._sherwood-randall@nsc.eop.gov' <elizabeth_d._sherwood-
randall@nsc.eop.gov>; 'bbrink@nsc.eop.gov' <bbrink@nsc.eop.gov>; Gordon, Philip H;
McEldowney, Nancy E; Kaidanow, Tina S; Baily, Jess L; Riley, Robert J; Marsh, Denise M;
Waser, Tamir G; Silliman, Douglas A; Ankara-POL-DL; Wolff, Alexis S; Rice, Susan E (USUN)
Sent: Mon May 31 13:27:49 2010
Subject: Re: MFA flotilla: TU Parliament For Aff Comm Chief Murat Mercan on Next Steps

Aside from stressing as Amb Tan did to Phil Gordon need for Am 'condemnation' of Israel
Mercan-who can speak usually better for AKP leadership and Erdogan than MFA, Told Codel
Delahunt and me that of particular importance for Turks is immediate release of Turkish ships
and all personnel. He asserted and we need to look at, that under international law
enforcing a blockade does not convey the right to seize people/property. [redacted]

B5

----- Original Message -----

From: [redacted]
To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J;
Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters,
John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara
(Jerusalem); [redacted] Levin, Jan; Hale, David M; [redacted]
[redacted]
Sent: Mon May 31 19:27:09 2010
Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

B3 DOD-CP

All.

B3 DOD-CP
B3 DODFGI

[redacted] stressed link between IHH organization and Muslim Brotherhood. Clear action on
part of individuals on MAVI MARMARA to incite violence. Beat first wave of soldiers who
arrived on board via Fast Rope. Several Rhibs and 3 Blackhawks were used in action against
MAVI MARMARA. Took approximately an hour for INF forces (Flotilla 13(Navy Seals)) to gain
control of the vessel. All 6 boats were boarded at approximately the same time(0400-0500L)
in international waters. Violence isolated to MAVI MARMARA. Medical attention rendered to
all injured.

- As of 1700L 3-4 of the vessels are in port Ashdod. MAVI MARAMRA to arrive soon.
- All IDF forces are monitoring for reaction, but currently no heightened activity on borders
or in Gaza. Some minor incidents involving Israeli Arabs within Israel (stone throwing).

Israeli Arab protests and strike expected tomorrow. IDF continuing to monitor situation to determine reactions.

- Several meetings and conversations with Turkish officials have taken place. There is concern for safety of Israeli representatives in Turkey.
- Air exercise that has been taking place in Crete with Greeks has been stopped by the Greeks and the IAF assets have been asked to leave.
- GOI and IDF focused on getting the facts out. Multiple video clips depicting violence against IDF forces being released. They will review the operation internally.
- No decision on reaction to any additional vessels that may attempt to head to Gaza..
- We are awaiting response on CHALLENGER I Flag and any status of AMCITs.
- At this time, unclear if any riot related gas, etc was used.

V/R.

B3 DOD-CP

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 4:37 PM

B3 DOD-CP

To: [REDACTED] Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); [REDACTED] Levin, Jan; Hale, David M
Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

Ma'am, Sir,

B3 DODFGI

"There was a significant event this morning, we don't have all the details, and we are still in the event. We will continue to update you."

B3 DODFGI

[REDACTED] a prepared, written statement beginning with the assertion that the Gaza Strip is ruled by a hostile enemy, HAMAS, that does not recognize the State of Israel. HAMAS encourages and executes hostile activity against Israel and is currently holding an Israeli citizen, Gilad Shalit, against international convention.

The naval blockade was established prevent smuggling that supports terrorist activity.

The Free Gaza flotilla was organized by the Turkish IHH which is belligerent towards Israel and supports the Muslim Brotherhood.

Israel tried different avenues to prevent the flotilla from launching to include communications with the ships' owning countries and companies to no avail. Israel expressed willingness to transfer any non-contraband supplies via established land procedures and

Israel continues to look for ways to ameliorate the human conditions in Gaza. Israel assesses that there is no Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza.

When the organizers of the flotilla showed no desire to divert to Ashdod when requested by the Government of Israel (GoI), the GoI made the decision to board the ships in strict accordance with international law and with a desire to minimize damage to the ships and injury to passengers.

Boarding of the ships.

During boarding of the ship Mavi Marmara, Israel Navy (INF) Personnel encountered "severe physical violence" including knives, clubs and firearms. 1 INF weapon was seized by passengers. Due to a clear and present danger to INF personnel, the INF initiated contact using riot control systems (NFI) then transitioned to live fire. The injured in the event, both Israeli and foreign, have been transferred to "4-5 hospitals."

Short term future actions.

Provision of Medical attention to the wounded.

Non-contraband supplies, after inspection and processing, will be transferred to Gaza.

An IDF investigation will be initiated.

The GoI continues to see HAMAS as a terrorist group. (Note: this seemed out of place in the context of the current topic of the briefing).

Israel is taking action to prevent escalation of the situation.

Israel will "respond heavily" to any entity seeking to provoke escalation.

B3 DODFGI

Legal Aspects

[redacted] that a separate briefing would be provided on the legal aspects of the operation. This was the attachment provided on [redacted]'s earlier summary. A copy is attached as well to this email.

B3 DOD-CP

Questions from the assembled group.

What are the nationalities of the casualties?

No information yet, should have details in "a few hours." This information will be transmitted via "diplomatic" channels, not military.

Where are the ships?

2 ships are at Ashdod, to include the Challenger I (as of 1415). The Challenger has US citizens, European citizens and at least one Israeli citizen. The Mavi Marmara should arrive to Ashdod between 1700-1800.

What will happen to passengers?

Passengers will have 2 options. Accept immediate extradition or be jailed by Israeli authorities. By "tonight," all personal details should be known.

Any information on nationalities?

Information will be passed to the Ambassador.

What time and where did boarding occur?

Between 0500-0600, 70 NM from Israel in international waters. All 6 ships were boarded. Only on the Mavi Marmara was serious violence encountered. One other minor incident occurred on a second ship. All casualties were on the Mavi Marmara.

Was permission granted to board the ships?

Unknown at this time.

What weapons were encountered?

One INF sailor was seriously wounded by rifle or pistol fire. 2 pistols were seized from dead passengers. One INF weapon was seized by the passengers during boarding.

What international reaction has occurred?

HAMAS has declared 3 days of mourning. Turkey has recalled its Ambassador. Israeli Ambassador to Turkey was summoned to the Turkish Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and was passed a "serious message."

[redacted] spoke with UNIFIL, and MFO to coordinate for de-escalation efforts [redacted] B3 DODFGI
Lebanon and Egypt.

The INF assesses that there were Jordanians on the ships, but no details were given. If there are Syrian or Lebanese citizens on the ships, then they will be transferred via the Red Cross and UN to their respective countries.

The MoD and IDF sent messages to the Palestinian Authority and the Israeli Arab Community to not escalate the situation. At least one Palestinian passenger may have been wounded.

[redacted] pointed out that there has been no US reaction as of yet. B3 DODFGI

Casualties?

10-14 passengers severely wounded or killed, all on the Mavi Marmara. A total of 30 passengers now at 4-5 Israeli hospitals.

10 INF wounded, 1 seriously, one moderately

Why were the ships boarded in international waters?

[redacted] started by saying the organizers were warned that the GoI would respond to any provocation and the Free Gaze flotilla was meant only as a provocation. He then said he would not get into operational details, but the INF intercepted at 70 NM in accordance with international law as the flotilla made it clear that its intention was to violate the Israeli exclusion zone. B3 DODFGI

Did the INF know what was on board?

Only through press accounts, but INF assessed contraband items such as concrete, and iron.

Intentions for the ships?

The ships will remain at Ashdod until further notice.

Very Respectfully,

[redacted]

B3 DOD-CP

-----Original Message-----

From: [redacted]

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 3:08 PM

To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); [redacted] Levin, Jan; [redacted] B3 DOD-CP

Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

B3 DOD-CP

B3 DODFGI

[REDACTED]

Many of the details briefed have already been provided via other means. Specific Highlights

- Ongoing Operation
- Two Ships in Ashdod to include the CHALLENGER I
- M/V MAVI MARMARA expected in port between 1700L and 1800L
- All ships will be in port by later today
- 10-14 Civilians Seriously Injured or Killed
- 30 Civilians Wounded
- 10 IDF wounded to include 1 serious and 1 with "medium" wounds
- Turkish Ambassador to Israel recalled
- Interaction occurred approx 70 NM from coastline. IDF confident in International Law because of intent by flotilla to breach the blockade. (See Attached Slides)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

B3 DOD-CP

-----Original Message-----

From: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem)

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 2:46 PM

To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [REDACTED] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

B3 DOD-CP

This may largely repeat at this point what is out in other places and/or others have heard from me, but just to assure that various reporting lines have same info, this is from [REDACTED] who also spoke with the UN's Serry, among others, this am.

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[REDACTED] reported that when Israeli soldiers boarded the main deck of the main ship, they met with what he described as clearly planned active/armed resistance, including live fire. Military who boarded were attacked with knives, sharpened metal and wood instruments, etc. He said the military who boarded were attacked by dozens; He indicated that some of the soldiers were stabbed and slashed. Made clear situation was one in which actions taken were in self-defense.

Current estimates of those killed from flotilla 14-15 "maybe more". He said all injured being moved to Israeli hospital - by helicopter. He said ships coming into Ashdod (some reports have them coming into Haifa). At Ashdod, he and others will meet the ships. There, they will need to ID the bodies; move the people either to return them to home countries rapidly and/or detain; ID the cargo and as planned initially, move as much of into Gaza as promptly as possible.

Earlier this morning he and [REDACTED] made the following calls/contacts:

--Turkish FM and MoD (Barak); Erakat, Fayyad, and Hussein al Sheikh (Dangot). He felt the calls w the Turks given the situation were OK, but the concern clearly is Erdogan and how he will handle. With Pals, Erakat in particular, they discussed extent to which levels of

B6

rhetoric could be kept in check. With [] they discussed primarily need for securityB3 DODFGI cooperation, keeping things calm. Concern about how this will be affected by status of Israeli Arab Islamic leader on board the flotilla.

(PIC seems to be on track/going forward. Some events may be affected by it.)

-----Original Message-----

From: Cunningham, James B

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:38 PM

B3 DOD-CP

To: Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C;

Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; []

[] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman,

Jeffrey D

Cc: 'Dennis_B_Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

Subject: Re: MFA flotilla briefing

Our Consular people are in contact with MFA and Ashdod to get info on amcits as soon as it's available. UN had been approached by COGAT last week to help in forwarding cargo from ships in Ashdod. Serry is trying to send a couple of observers to Ashdod, has told cogat that assisting deliveries of humanitarian goods, much of which is destined for Hamas, is problematic but he'll see. Barak just gave a press conference, and appears to have spoken to Davotuglu this am.

Sent from my BlackBerry

----- Original Message -----

From: Levin, Jan

To: Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Cunningham, James B; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew

C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; []

[] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman,

Jeffrey D

Sent: Mon May 31 13:20:31 2010

Subject: MFA flotilla briefing

MFA DG Yossi Gal and IDF Col. Assaf Orion, Dir. Of Dept of Strategic Coordination, briefed foreign ambassadors at 12:30 local time today.

Highlights - Identification of dead and wounded taking time. MFA will reach out proactively to Embassies as IDs are done, with location and status of citizens. The uninjured will be processed and escorted to airport for deportation. Unclear how long this will take.

-- Most violence occurred on ship Mavi (Blue) Marmara. As far as is currently known, all injuries occurred on this ship.

-- Col. Orion told Ambassador that activists on Mavi Marmara were prepared for boarders and were armed. Unclear if they had firearms in advance or took them from IDF boarding party. One IDF soldier nearly beaten to death with metal bar. Activists also had knives.

-- Events took place in international waters. Israel asserted it had the legal right to intercept in intl waters because there is a military blockade under the law of armed conflict between Israel and Hamas.

Ambassador Cunningham requests that Embassy Tel Aviv clear Dept guidance on this issue, thank you.

I-120A



RELEASED IN PART B1,1.4(C)

SECRET

JIOCEUR Analytical Center
Morning Update Brief


Israel: Gaza Flotilla Update

[Redacted]
[Redacted] (S//REL TO USA, FVEY)

- **19 Jun: First Gaza Flotilla vessel scheduled to leave port from Hamburg, GE (U)**
 - Up to 22 ships, 1000 participants possible in Flotilla (U)
 - ~27 Jun: Flotilla to rdvs south of Cyprus (U)
- **Turkish NGO IHH sending mixed messages about Flotilla sailing (U)**
 - [Redacted]
 - Says may postpone flotilla due to concerns over possible int'l intervention in Syria (U)
- **Ankara discouraging Flotilla participation, but states it cannot block participation (U)**

(S//REL TO USA, FVEY) B1

Flotilla Rendezvous Point



Country	Candidate Vessel
USA	M/V Ozell (Audacity of Hope) IVO Croatia as of 5 May 11
ITA	M/V Stefano Chierini
YUR	M/V Mavi Marmara IVO Istanbul as of 31 May 11
YUR	M/V Gazze IVO Istanbul as of 4 Apr 11
KHM	M/V Rachel Corrie
CAN	M/V Tahrir
GBR	M/V Discovery II
DEU	M/V Freedom Flotilla II
IRE	M/V Saoirse

(S//REL TO USA, FVEY)

[Redacted]
[Redacted] (S//REL TO USA, FVEY)

16 Jun 11

SECRET

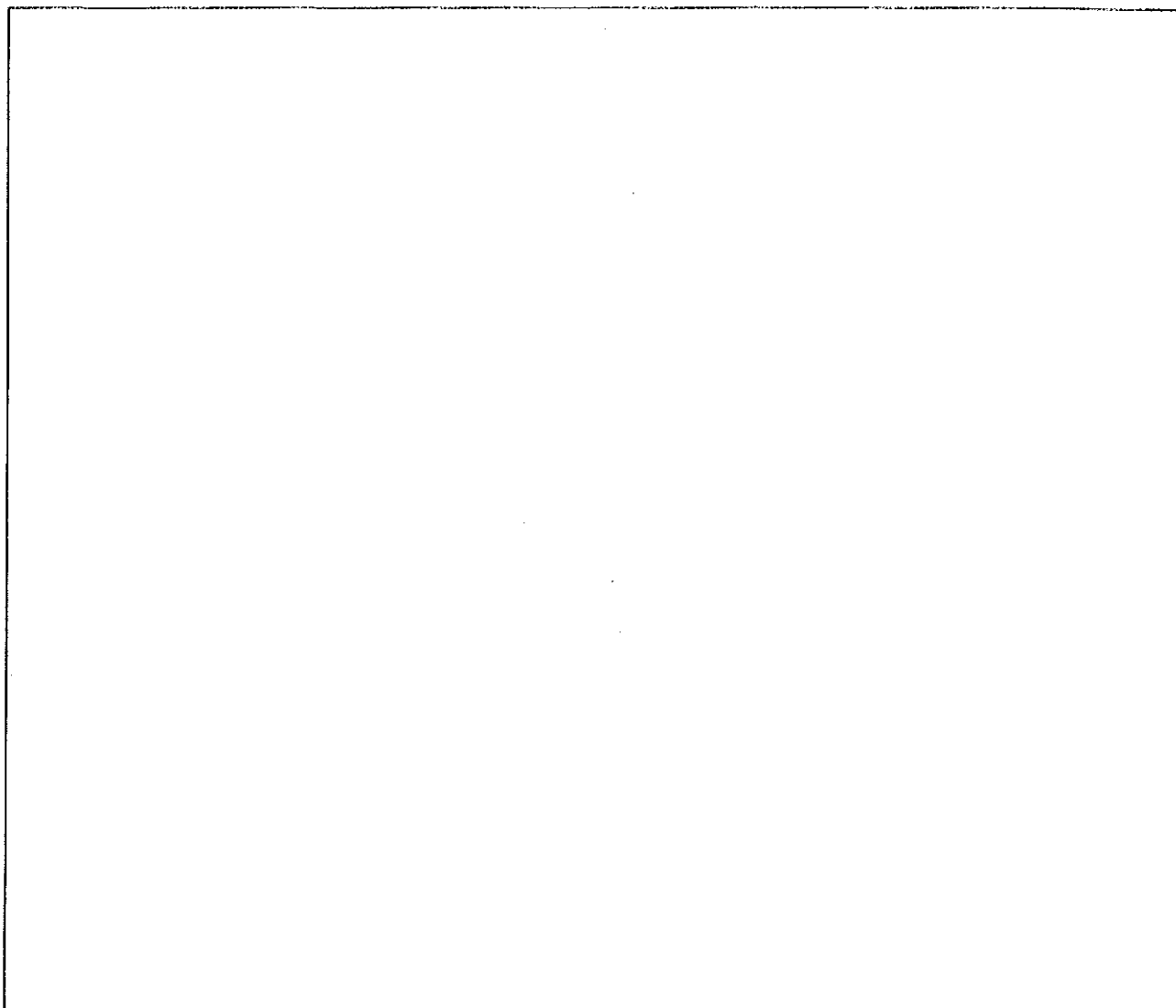
Declassify On: 16 Jun 36

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

P50

Logg, Cristina A

From: Stafford, Edward G
Sent: Thursday, November 03, 2011 1:33 PM
To: Berns, David B; 'Kumar, Prem G'; Erickson, Mark D; Levin, Jan X; 'Stein, Lawrence J.'
Cc: EUR-SE-TU-DL; NEA-IPA-DL; Ankara-PMA; Ankara-Political; [REDACTED] B3 DOD-CP
POL; 'AGodfrey@nss.eop.sgov.gov' TELAVIV
Subject: RE: "FREEDOM WAVES TO GAZA" FLOTILLA - (SITREP 2) - 3 NOV 2011 (SECRET)
[SECRET, Record]



REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

Sensitivity: Sensitive
Classification: SECRET//NOFORN
Derived From: incoming IIR

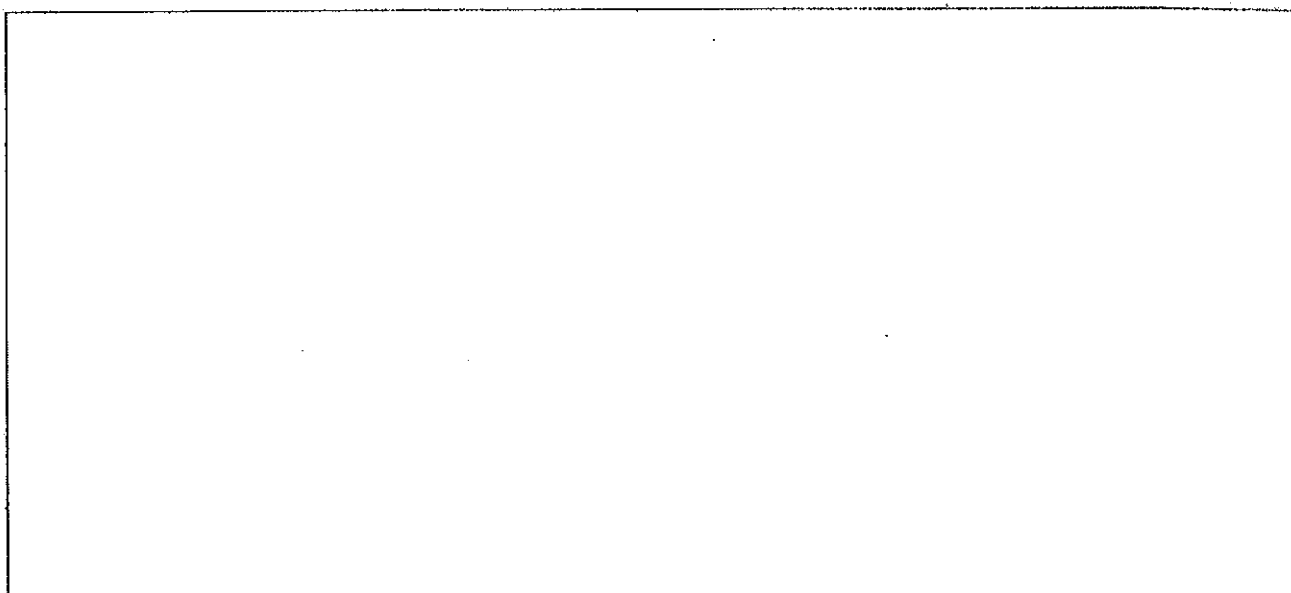
Declassify On: 2036/11/03

B3 DOD-CP
B6

From: Berns, David B

Sent: Thursday, November 03, 2011 5:57 PM

To: 'Kumar, Prem G.'; Stafford, Edward G; Erickson, Mark D; Levin, Jan X;



Subject: RE: "FREEDOM WAVES TO GAZA" FLOTILLA - (SITREP 2) - 3 NOV 2011 (SECRET) [SECRET, Record]

01 01 031156Z NOV 11 RR RR SSSS

AT ZYUW HOTRPMC

B3 DOD-CP

FM

[Redacted]

B3 DOD-CP

TO DIA WASHINGTON DC

[Redacted]

B3 DOD-CP

CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL

CDR USEUCOM [Redacted] VAHINGEN GE/ [Redacted]

CDR USTRANSCOM [Redacted] SCOTT AFB IL

[Redacted]

CIA WASHINGTON DC

CNO WASHINGTON DC

[Redacted]

DA WASHINGTON DC/ [Redacted]

DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC

DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY WASHINGTON DC/ [Redacted]

[Redacted]

DIRNSA FT GEORGE G MEADE MD/ [Redacted]

DNI WASHINGTON DC

ERI WASHINGTON DC

[Redacted]

HQ NORAD PETERSON AFB CO/ [Redacted]

HQ USEUCOM VAHINGEN GE

[Redacted]

B3 DOD-CP

SECDEF WASHINGTON DC/
SECSTATE WASHDC/

USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL/

USSOCOM MACDILL AFB FL

USSTRATCOM OFFUTT AFB NE/

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM WASHINGTON DC

S E C R E T /NOFORN
QQQQ

B3 DODFGI

SERIAL: (U)

B3 DODFGI

COUNTRY: (U) Israel (ISR); Palestinian Territory, Occupied (PSE);
Comoros (COM); Turkey (TUR); Greece (GRC).

IPSP: (U)

B3 DODFGI

SUBJ: Update on Flotilla to Gaza - 3 November 2011
(S//NF).

B3 DODFGI

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY
EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED
S E C R E T /NOFORN.

B3 DODFGI

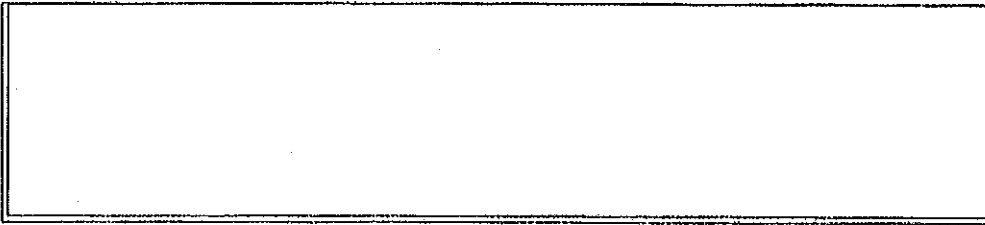
DOI: (U) 20111103.

REQS: (U)

B3 DODFGI

SOURCE:

1.4(C)
B1



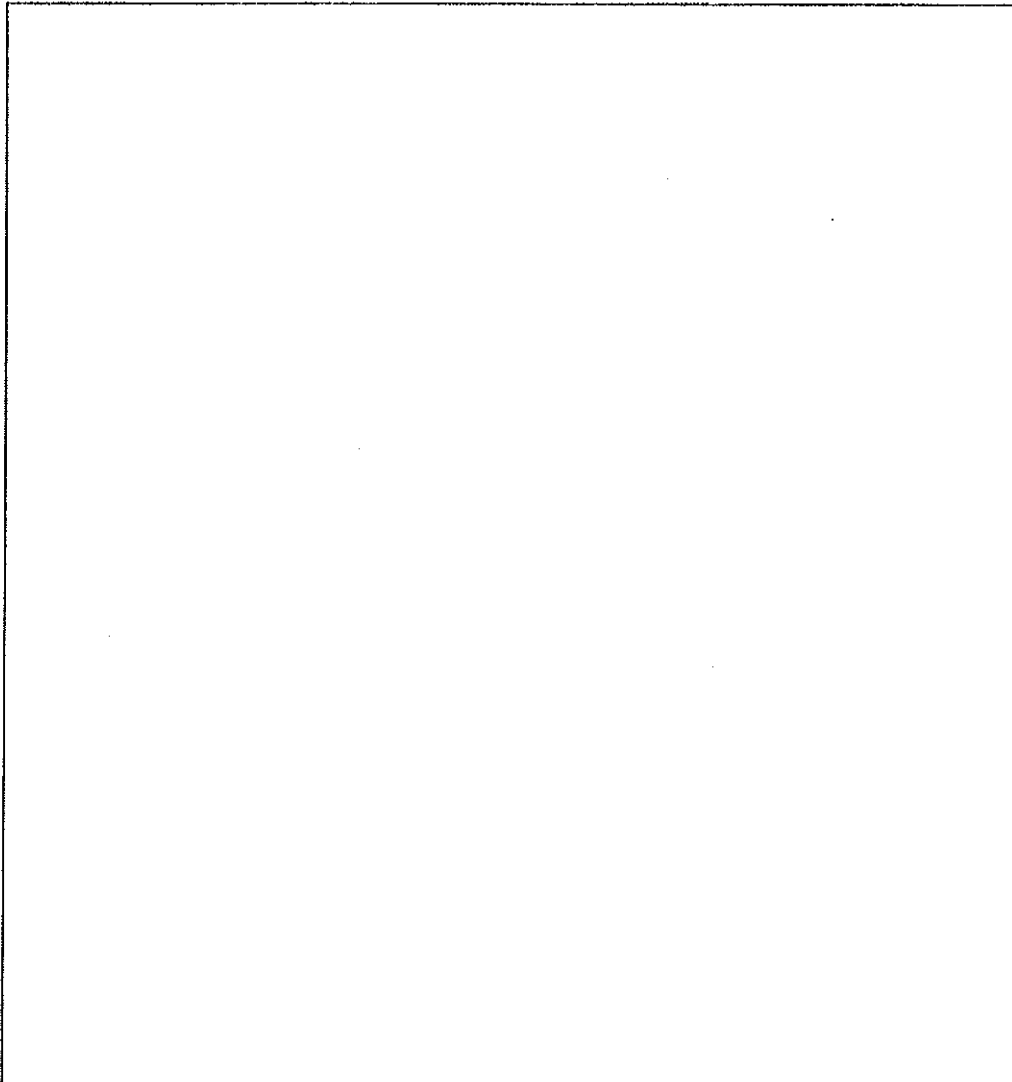
1.4(C)
B1
B3 DODFGI

SUMMARY: (U) SEE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY, TEXT PARAGRAPH 1, BELOW.

TEXT: 1. (S//NF) EXECUTIVE SUMMARY. The November 2011 Gaza Flotilla has transited south of Cyprus and as of 0730Z was located approximately 250 nm from Gaza. There are 27 participants from multiple nations. The vessels declared a next port of call to Rhodes, but then changed course after departing Turkish port. There is a Turkish vessel providing an escort for the flotilla, but at this time, it is not causing great consternation among the Israel Naval Forces. The intentions of this flotilla are still not known, and



1.4(C)
B1



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B1

1.4(B)

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B3 DOD-CP

Page Denied

B3 DOD-CP

6. (U//FOUO) POC Information: [REDACTED]

7. (U) [REDACTED]

COLL: (U)

INSTR: (U)

PREP: (U)

ACQ: (U)

WARNING: (U) REPORT CLASSIFIED
S E C R E T / [REDACTED] / NOFORN.

CLASSIFIED BY: [REDACTED]

DERIVED FROM: [REDACTED]

DECLASSIFY ON: [REDACTED]

SECRET / [REDACTED] / NOFORN
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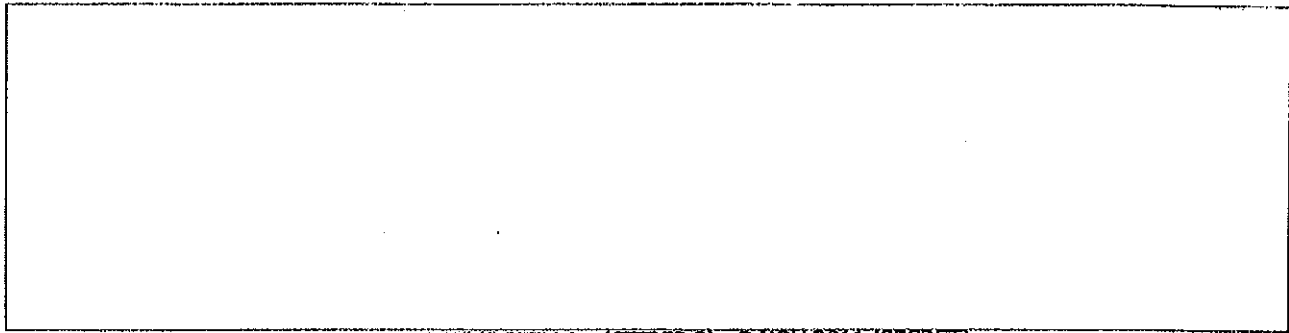
Classification: SECRET//NOFORN
Derived From: DSCG 05-1 (a), (b), (d)
Declassify On: 2036/11/03

B3 DOD-CP
B6

From: Kumar, Prem G. [mailto:PKumar@nss.eop.sgov.gov]
Sent: Thursday, November 03, 2011 2:50 PM
To: Stafford, Edward G; Erickson, Mark D; Levin, Jan X; [REDACTED]

Page Denied

Page Denied



Subject: RE: "FREEDOM WAVES TO GAZA" FLOTILLA - (SITREP 2) - 3 NOV 2011 (SECRET)

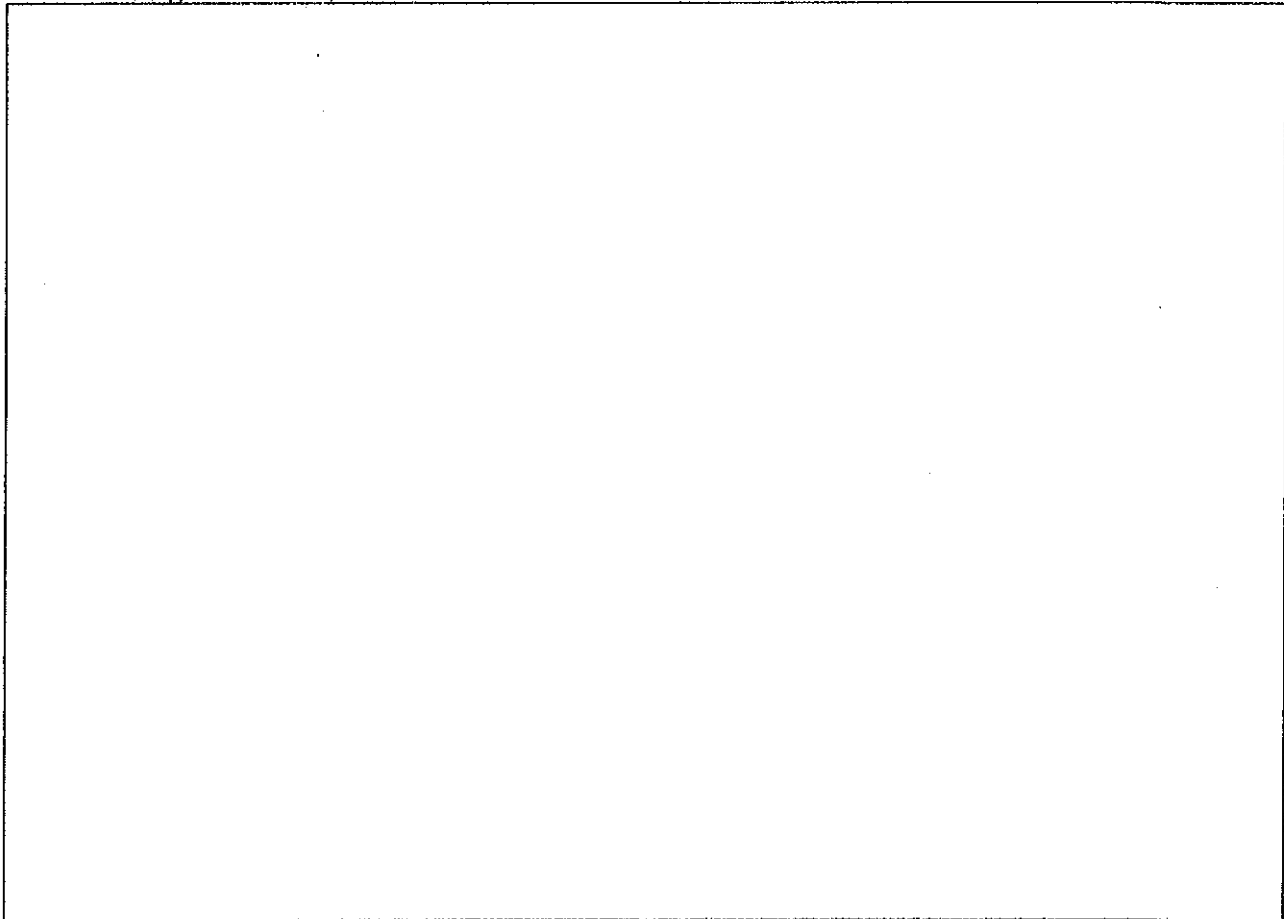


B5

Sensitivity: Sensitive
Classification: SECRET
Derived From: preceding thread
Declassify On: 2021/11/03

B3 DOD-CP
B6

From: Levin, Jan X
Sent: Thursday, November 03, 2011 11:34 AM



Subject: RE: "FREEDOM WAVES TO GAZA" FLOTILLA - (SITREP 2) - 3 NOV 2011 (SECRET)

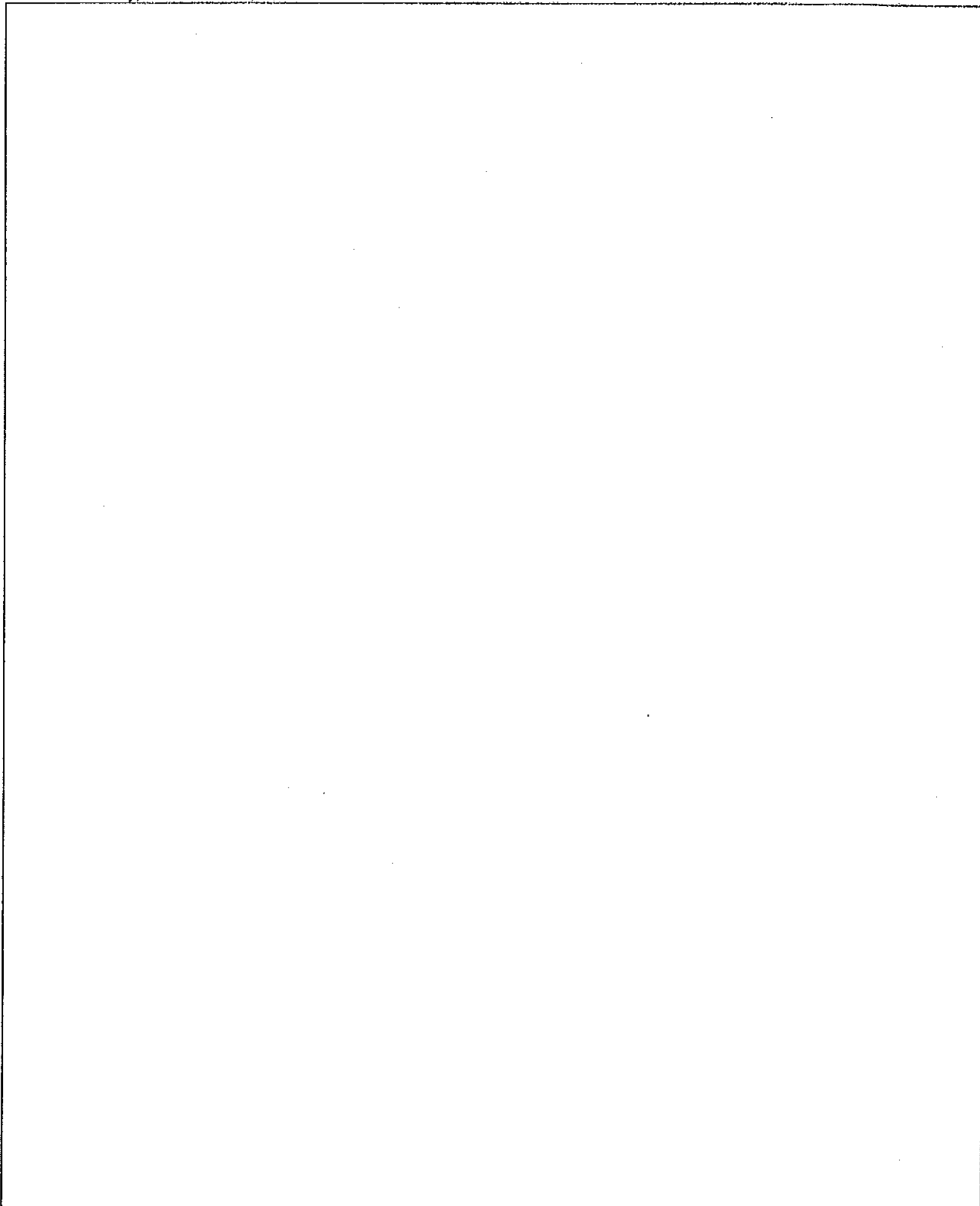
1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

Sensitivity: Sensitive
Classification: SECRET
Derived From: preceding thread
Declassify On: 2021/11/03

B3 DOD-CP

From:

Sent: Thursday, November 03, 2011 8:14 AM



B6

Subject: "FREEDOM WAVES TO GAZA" FLOTILLA - (SITREP 2) - 3 NOV 2011 (SECRET)

Classification: SECRET//REL TO USA, GBR

Classification: SECRET//REL TO USA, GBR

Good morning J2 --

1.4(B)
1.4(C)
B1

SITREP follows:

Convention: Blue is new

(U) This event, called "Freedom Waves for Gaza," unites 27x activists from at least 6x countries, including America, Canada, Denmark, Belgium, Germany, and Australia, alongside Palestinians from Bethlehem and Haifa in an international movement to break Israel's blockade of the 1.6 million inhabitants of the Gaza Strip. "Freedom Waves for Gaza" is the 11th attempt by international activists to deliver humanitarian aid through the Israeli blockade of Gaza since 2008.

B1
1.4(B)
1.4(C)

(S//REL TO USA, GBR) Flotilla Ships

B1
1.4(C)
1.4(D)

1.4(C)
1.4(D)
B1

(S//REL TO USA, FVEY) 
Naval Activity: Routine

1.4(C)
1.4(D)
B1

JAC Molesworth will continue to keep ALCON informed.

B3 DOD-CP
B6

Attachment Classification: SECRET//REL TO USA, FVEY
Classification: SECRET//REL TO USA, GBR

RELEASED IN FULL

The Supreme Court sitting as the High Court of Justice

HCJ 4169/10
HCJ 4193/10
HCJ 4220/10
HCJ 4221/10
HCJ 4240/10
HCJ 4243/10

*Before: The Honorable President D. Beinisch, The Honorable Justice
M. Naor, The Honorable Justice U. Vogelman*

Petitioners in HCJ 4169/10: Yiftach Cohen; Omer Shatz, Itamar Mann
Respondents in HCJ 4169/10: The Minister of Defense; The Minister of
the Interior; The Minister of Public Security

Petitioners in HCJ 4193/10: Adalah – The Legal Center for Arab
Minority Rights in Israel; Public Committee Against Torture in Israel;
Physicians for Human Rights
Respondents in HCJ 4193/10: The Minister of Defense; The Military
Advocate General; The Israel Prison Service; The Israel Police; The
Immigration Authority

Petitioners in HCJ 4220/10: Al Jazeera Satellite Network; Othman Al
Bukhairi; Abas Naser; Muhammad Fal; Ali Sabri; Andrei Abu Khalil;
Jamal Al Shial; Wasima Bin Salah
Respondents in HCJ 4220/10: The Israel Defense Forces; The Minister of
Defense; The Minister of Public Security

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Petitioner in HCJ 4221/10: Yekutiel Ben Yaakov

Respondents in HCJ 4221/10: The Israel Police; The Israel Prison Service; The Government of Israel; The Minister of Defense; The Prime Minister

Petitioner in HCJ 4240/10: Shurat Hadin – Israel Law Center

Respondents in HCJ 4240/10: The Attorney General; The Prime Minister; The Minister of Public Security; The Minister of the Interior; The Israel Police

Petitioners in HCJ 4243/10: 1. Almagor – Terror Victims Association; Y.S. – Navy commando (res.); D.B. – Navy commando (res.) and bereaved brother; Pnuel Krichman; Yekira and Zecharia Komemi; Aviva and Rahanim Komemi; Tzila Rahamim; Moshe Keinan; Briana and Shmuel Hilberg

Respondents in HCJ 4243/10: The Prime Minister; The Minister of the Interior; The Attorney General; The Inspector General of the Israel Police

Petitions to grant an order nisi

Date of hearing: 20 Nisan 5770 (June 2, 2010)

For the petitioners in HCJ 4169/10: Itamar Mann; Yiftach Cohen; Omer Shatz

For the petitioners in HCJ 4193/10: Fatima El Ajou

For the petitioners in HCJ 4220/10: Zaki Kamal; Kamal Zaki Kamal

For the petitioner in HCJ 4421/10: Himself

For the petitioner in HCJ 4240/10: Nitsana Darshan Leitner

For the petitioners in HCJ 4243/10: Sharon Avni; Shira Greenberg

For the respondents: The State Attorney Moshe Lador; Osnat Mandel;
Dina Zilber; Hila Groni

Judgment

President D. Beinisch:

1. In view of the control of the Gaza Strip by the Hamas organization, Israel has taken various measures designed to prevent direct access to the Gaza Strip, among them a blockade of the Gaza Strip which, as declared by the State, is designed to prevent the infiltration of weapons and arms to the Hamas organization, which, for years, has carried out acts of shooting and terrorism at Israeli territory for the purpose of harming civilians.

2. In recent weeks, announcements have been publicly made by various organizations, among them organizations that declared themselves to be acting for humanitarian purposes, regarding their intention to arrange a flotilla of ships which, they claimed, were designated to transfer foodstuffs and materials as humanitarian aid to the residents of the Gaza Strip. Israel, for its part, made efforts to prevent the flotilla from reaching the shores of Gaza and breaching the blockade in such manner. The State proposed to the organizers of the flotilla, among others, that the cargo – which was supposed to reach Gaza – be unloaded from the ships and transferred directly to Gaza via Israel. This proposal was rejected.

In the early hours of May 31, a number of ships approached the shores of Israel to implement the flotilla's plan. As decided by the political echelon, the IDF prepared to take measures to prevent the entry of the ships into the Gaza Strip as stated. In the framework of an operation that was designed to stop the ships, soldiers landed on the deck of the ship Mavi Marmara, the largest ship in the flotilla. The soldiers met with a violent and severe response from the flotilla participants on the ship. The soldiers were attacked with knives, clubs and iron rods. Attempts were made to seize the soldiers' personal weapons and they were violently attacked. One of the soldiers was even thrown off the deck of the ship. The soldiers were forced to respond to defend their lives and, unfortunately, the operation ended with unexpected loss of life – nine people were killed and both soldiers and flotilla participants were injured. The operation concluded with the ships being halted and their passengers removed and detained in Israel.

3. That same morning, when the results of the operation became known, the petition in HCI 4169/10 was filed with this court (hereinafter, *the First Petition*), in which four attorneys filed the petition as public petitioners. It should be noted that at the opening of the hearing before us, the petitioners gave notice of the request of attorney A. Feldman, who was among the petitioners, to strike his name from the petition. The petition ascribed grave and illegal acts to the State of Israel and the petitions sought a remedy of habeas corpus to free all the detainees. It is evident in the petition, which was hastily filed, that, notwithstanding the fact that the petitioners knew nothing about the actual events, they were quick to cast the gravest aspersions on the actions of the IDF forces, while using inappropriate language. Notwithstanding that stated, because

the relief sought was the release of the detainees, the petition was not stricken in limine at that stage, and the State's response was requested by the following day.

During the course of that day and the following day, a number of additional petitions were filed with court. In HCJ 4193/10, which was filed on behalf of the Adalah organization and other human rights organizations, the petitioners requested information on the detainees and their whereabouts, as well as details on the injured and the dead. This petition was also filed as a public petition. Another petition (HCJ 4220/10) was filed by the Al Jazeera television network and in the name of journalists acting on its behalf who had been arrested on the ship. This petition requested the release of the network personnel who had participated in the flotilla. It should be noted that during the hearing that we held, it transpired that this petition was superfluous since the petitioners had already been released.

4. On June 1, 2010, the government issued a statement that all the foreign flotilla participants would be released and returned to their countries. After this statement was issued, three additional petitions were filed with this court: HCJ 4221/10, which was filed on behalf of Mr. Yekutiel Ben Yaakov; HCJ 4240/10, which was filed by Shurat Hadin -- Israel Law Center; and HJC 4243/10 filed by Almagor -- Terror Victims Association. In these three petitions, the remedy sought was to bar the release of the foreign flotilla participants, with the main argument being that these were people who had committed an offense, who were required both for investigating the facts and the circumstances surrounding the incident and for a decision about arraignment for trial.

In view of the remedy sought, which related to the question of the release of a large number of detainees, we conducted an urgent hearing and deliberated all the petitions together before the panel at that session, and within two days of the filing of the First Petition.

5. Before the hearing, the State submitted a written response in which it protested the description of the events in the First Petition and pointed out the distortion of the facts therein. In essence, the State addressed the legality of the blockade and referred to an alternative remedy set forth in the relevant provisions of the Entry into Israel Law, 5712-1952, with regard to the foreign participants in the flotilla and the relevant provisions of the law pertaining to the criminal proceedings of investigation and detention with regard to the Israeli suspects who participated in the event. During the day, proximate to the time of hearing the petitions, the State completed its statement and submitted a decision formulated by the attorney general, which stated that on the day of the event, May 31, 2010, the attorney general ordered the opening of an investigation on suspicion of offenses committed on the deck of the ship Mavi Marmara, including the offense of the grave attack on IDF soldiers, disturbing the peace, endangering the lives of soldiers, seizing weapons and so forth. The attorney general further stated that the next day, the ministerial committee on national security matters convened and conducted a long and exhaustive discussion of the security, political, legal and other aspects of the affair. At the end of the discussion, the senior political echelon recommended "to enable the immediate deportation of all the foreigners who had arrived on the flotilla, who were suspected of committing criminal offenses. This is recommended for clear political reasons pertaining to foreign relations and the security of the State of Israel." In his decision, the attorney general noted that he had

discussed the matter with the state attorney and other senior officials at the Ministry of Justice and other government ministries, at the end of which he decided, as stated, to allow the immediate deportation of all the foreigners from Israel.

6. During the hearing before us, State Attorney Moshe Lador, appeared together with senior attorneys. It should be noted that due to the nature of the proceedings which we conducted, we sought not to address the claims pertaining to the legality of the blockade, nor with the factual events during that grave incident, the full details of which had not been presented to us. Claims pertaining to the detention of Israelis suspected of committing offenses while participating in the flotilla were also not adjudicated before us, as they should be argued in individual hearings on the criminal arrest proceedings before the competent courts. The hearing focused on the urgent remedies sought which pertain to holding the foreign detainees. The state attorney stated that all the foreigners who wished to do so could be released from detention and, in effect, those who had not yet left the country were on their way to the airport. The wounded whose medical condition allowed for it, were also removed to their countries of origin. Apparently, two of the wounded remained in the hospital because their condition did not enable them to be flown back to their country. The state attorney further stated that the names of all the wounded had been submitted to the relevant consulates and, with regard to those who came from countries that do not have diplomatic relations with Israel, the details were provided to the Red Cross. It should be noted that the State did not see fit to acquiesce to the request to provide details in this matter to counsel for the Adalah organization, as the details had been provided to the relevant entities. However, the possibility arose that if a specific, substantive application were to be made to obtain details

regarding one of the casualties or the wounded, the State would examine the possibility of providing counsel for the Adalah organization with the requested details. It further transpired that the remaining details requested by the Adalah organization regarding the place in which the detainees were being held were resolved. The Adalah organization's counsel also made claims with regard to the detainees' ability to meet with attorneys. During the hearing it was made clear that there had been no intention to prevent such a meeting, and many detainees had actually already met with attorneys. Due to the need to release hundreds of people quickly, not all the detainees may have had the opportunity to meet with an attorney.

The position of the attorney general to release all the foreign participants meant that the main remedy sought in the First Petition was already granted. In the course of the arguments, in view of the response of the state attorney and the comments of the court, the petitioners retracted the style of the scathing verbal attack that they had employed in the petition.

7. As stated, three of the petitions were filed against the attorney general's decision to release the foreign detainees. Each one of the petitioners argued before us at length about the importance of keeping the detainees in Israel for the purpose of conducting an exhaustive investigation regarding the grave events that occurred on the ship, and regarding the need to exercise the full rigor of the law or, at least, to investigate details which, they claim, would constitute defense arguments for the IDF soldiers.

We did not find any ground for intervention in the decision of the attorney general. The decision to release the detainees is in the realm

of the attorney general's discretion. In a long series of judgments, this Court has ruled that the scope of intervention in the attorney general's discretion in decisions pertaining to investigation or prosecution is limited to exceptional and unusual instances. Due to the unusual nature of the event and the circumstances entailed therein which, aside from the criminal aspects, also encompass political aspects pertaining to the State's foreign relations, the attorney general was entitled to consider these aspects. The developments that have ensued in the international arena indicate that a particular political sensitivity exists in everything pertaining to the handling of the matter by the enforcement entities. The attorney general noted that he consulted with all the relevant government entities and after taking into account the fact that nine flotilla participants were killed and several dozen were wounded, he reached the conclusion that the public, political and security interests outweigh the interests of criminal enforcement. We did not find in this decision, which was reasoned as stated, and in the considerations underlying it, any cause for intervention.

Wherefore, after we were convinced that the main remedies sought in some of the petitions were superfluous, and in the absence of cause to intervene in the decision of the attorney general, we have decided to deny the petitions.

Given this day, 20 Sivan 5770 (June 2, 2010).

The President

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MFA Spokesman on Gaza flotilla

24 May 2010

Ships forcing their way into Gaza will do nothing to aid the people there. Existing land crossings are more than capable of meeting their needs.

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REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Text:

Ships forcing their way into Gaza will do nothing to aid the people there. Existing land crossings are more than capable of meeting their needs. International aid organizations and the private sector of Gaza ensure that all the necessary food, medicine and clothing are provided to the Strip via Israel.

In a typical week, 15,000 tons of supplies enter Gaza. Truckloads of meat, poultry, fish, dairy products, fruits, vegetables, milk

powder, baby food, wheat and other staples arrive in Gaza on a daily basis. Building materials are also shipped in, when monitored by International organization so as not to be commandeered by Hamas for the fortification of bunkers.

Since the ceasefire in January 2009, well over a million tons of humanitarian supplies entered Gaza from Israel - that is almost a ton of aid for each man, woman and child in the Strip.

The land crossings remain the most efficient system to transfer goods to Gaza, and the flotilla organizers are well aware of this fact. The organizers also know that since December 2008, their ships have been denied permission to land.

Israel has invited the organizers of the flotilla to use the land crossings, in the same manner as all the reputable international organizations.

However, they are less interested in bringing in aid than in promoting their radical agenda, playing into the hands of Hamas provocations. While they have wrapped themselves in a humanitarian cloak, they are engaging in political propaganda and not in pro-Palestinian aid.

If the organizers were truly interesting in providing humanitarian aid - as opposed to engaging in publicity stunts - they would use the proper channels to ensure delivery of any supplies.

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community keep the focus on what is certainly the main problem in the Middle East and in the world: a nuclear Iran. Iran is trying in numerous ways to distract international attention away from its nuclearization on the eve of the Security Council's resolution on the subject. Iran is using extremist organizations and states in order to distract world attention, and it is entirely possible that the timing of the "terrorist flotilla" is not coincidental.

2. The purpose of intercepting the flotilla was to protect Israel's security and sovereignty by maintaining the maritime blockade on the Hamas terrorist entity and the hostile territory of the Gaza Strip. Israel must continue the blockade in order to prevent more terrorist victims. If the international community wants to give the proximity talks between Israel and the Palestinian Authority a real chance, it must strengthen the PA and Abu Mazen and not the Hamas.
3. The goal of the flotilla was not peace but rather to continue the terrorism and to strengthen the waning status of Hamas, which has been losing political and economic power.
4. IHH, the organization behind the flotilla, has close connections with Hamas, Al-Qaeda, and Global Jihad.
5. Israel regrets the loss of life, but responsibility for Monday's events rests solely on the organizers.

In answer to a question concerning Israeli-Turkish relations, the deputy foreign minister said that Israel did not attack Turkey, although the latter had the power to stop the flotilla, as Cypress did. Turkey must decide for itself where its interests lie.

DFM Ayalon thanked all the participants for their support of Israel and asked them to continue to engage in public diplomacy. For this purpose, the participants will be sent clips from the IDF Spokesperson.

In light of the conference call's success, the participants asked the organizers to set up calls of this type on a regular basis as well as in times of emergency.

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[Top level Islamic extremists linked to Gaza flotilla](#)

The launching ceremony for the part in the flotilla to the Gaza Strip was attended by several Islamist extremists in Istanbul

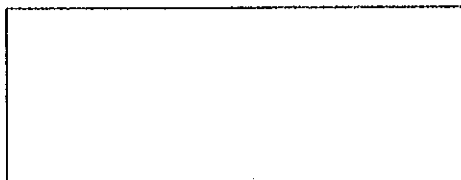
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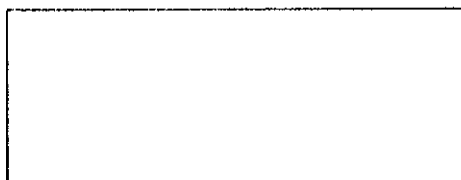
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Despite claims by flotilla to the contrary, IDF continues its policy of coordinating humanitarian aid to the Gaza Strip

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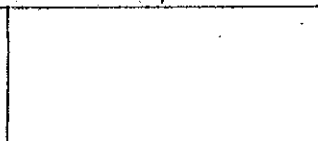
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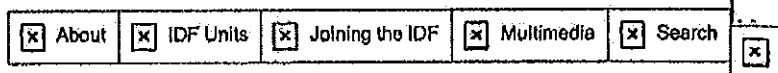


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Humanitarian Trucks Read: Enter the Gaza Strip

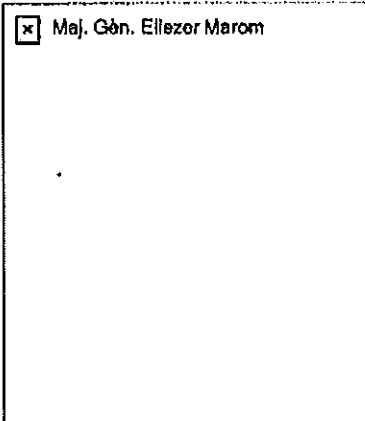




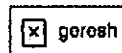
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soldiers: "Act with judgment and accomplish the mission"

Navy Commander to soldiers: "Act with judgment and accomplish the mis
27 May 2010 , 11:39

Maj. Gen.
Marom
required
soldiers not to
be dragged
into
provocations
while
fulfilling their
mission.
Moreover, the
flotilla will
have the
opportunity to
stop its
journey to
Gaza's shores
at several
stages;
otherwise the
passengers
will be
escorted into
Israel's shores
and deported
to their
country of
origin. The
aid brought
by the flotilla
will be
transferred
into the Gaza
Strip after a
security
check.



Navy Commander Maj. Gen.
Eliezer Marom. Photo: IDF
Spokesperson

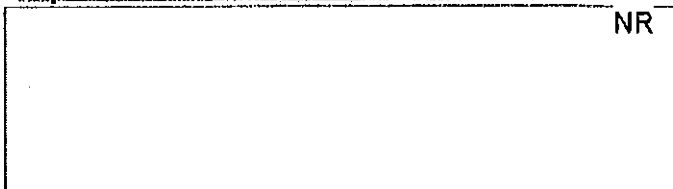


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According to the decision made by the Israeli government, the IDF and the
Navy are getting prepared to prevent the flotilla from reaching the shores c
flotilla's passengers will be given the opportunity to turn back at any stage
or to give up the control of their ships.

From the moment of their departure, the ships will receive formal warning

stages of their journey, requesting them to stop their trip to Gaza's shores.

Should the passengers decide to continue the journey and not take the Israel warning into consideration, they will be arrested, brought to Israel's shore, transferred to the Ministry of Interior and the immigration authorities so they are sent back to their country of origin.

The security forces will grab hold of the aid expected to be brought to Gaza flotilla, and after a security check of the goods, they will be transferred into the Strip.

During the last few days, the Commander of the Navy, Maj. Gen. Eliezer I organized a series of exercises, consisting in stopping the flotilla, gaining control of the ships and bringing them to Israel's shores. He stressed that during the operation Israeli forces will take all the required steps in order to protect the soldiers and make sure that no terrorist agents have been infiltrated into the ships.

Maj. Gen. Marom instructed his forces not to be dragged into provocations without fair judgment; otherwise it could be harmful to the mission's accomplishment.

He also said to his men that there is no intention to cause any harm among hundreds of people expected to arrive on these ships, however a clear mission is assigned to the Israeli Navy and it has to be accomplished.

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Invites the International flotilla to unload its cargo in Ashdod port-27-May-

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Israel invites the international flotilla to unload its cargo in Ashdod port

27 May 2010

The Minister of Defense has issued warrants prohibiting the entrance of the vessels to Gaza. Israel has advised the relevant countries of this ban, and requested they prevent the departure of the vessels.



D-G Gal with Swedish Ambassador Elisabet Borslin today in Jerusalem (Photo: MFA)

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

(Communicated by the MFA Spokesperson)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs Director-General Yossi Gal separately summoned today (Thursday, 27 May 2010) the ambassadors of Turkey, Greece, Cyprus, Sweden and Ireland – the countries from which the ships participating in the flotilla set sail.

At all the meetings, D-G Gal expressly clarified the State of Israel's official position, which declares the flotilla an absolute provocation: There is no shortage of humanitarian aid to Gaza, as food products, fuel and supplies are constantly transferred into the Gaza Strip by the international organizations. Therefore, the flotilla organizers are invited to dock at Ashdod port, to unload their cargo and transfer it to Gaza, after a security check, either via the Israeli authorities or via the humanitarian organizations.



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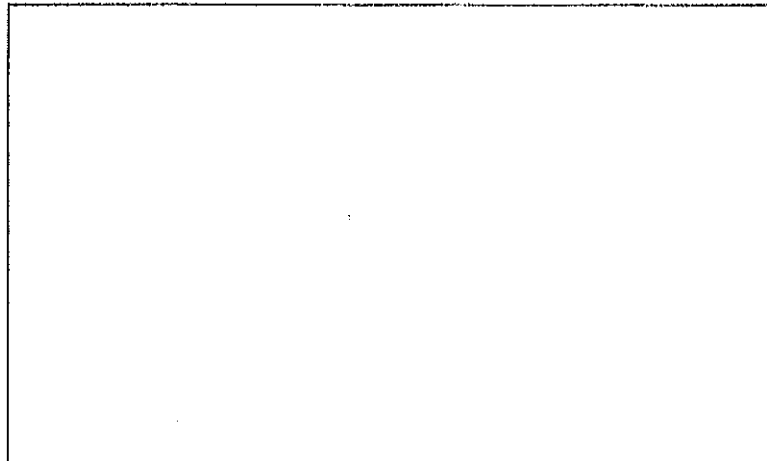
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This is the third round of talks with the ambassadors, and is in addition to parallel activities undertaken by Israeli ambassadors in the various countries warning the governments that the flotilla is about to break international law. In accordance with the authority granted to the State of Israel, the Minister of Defense issued warrants that prohibit the entrance of the vessels to Gaza. Israel has advised the relevant countries of this ban, and requested they prevent the departure of the vessels.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has arranged with the Ministry of Defense to assist the relevant government ministries in their handling of the passengers on the flotilla in order to assist them in leaving the country as soon as possible. The Consular Services Department has contacted the foreign embassies in Israel and explained the measures expected to be implemented against the participants in the flotilla. The MFA's situation room will also be reinforced in order to provide a response to developments.

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IDF SPOKESPERSON ANNOUNCEMENT



N116A

May 31st, 2010
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pistols Found on Flotilla Activists

According to reports from sea, on board the flotilla that was seeking to break the maritime closure on the Gaza Strip, IDF forces apprehended two violent activists holding pistols. The violent activists took these pistols from IDF forces and apparently opened fire on the soldiers as evident by the empty pistol magazines.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

IDF Spokesperson Unit - Foreign Press Branch

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Video Release: "They are firing on us with live fire!"

Video shows soldiers on their way to intercepting the Mavi Marmara ship being shot at with live fire

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Video: Humanitarian aid from flotilla transferred into Gaza

IDF forces unload the humanitarian cargo from the Gaza Flotilla and bring the aid through the Kerem Shalom

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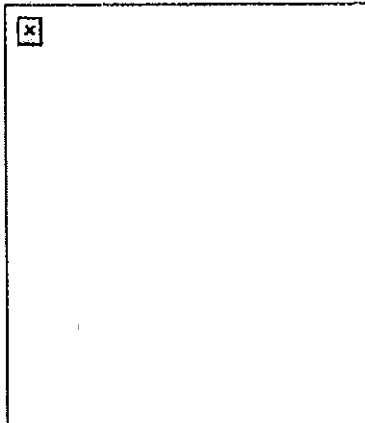
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Video Release: "They are firing on us with live fire!"

01 June 2010, 21:08

Video shows soldiers on their way to intercepting the Mavi Marmara ship being shot at with live fire.



During the operation to redirect the Gaza flotilla on Monday (May 31), IDF commandos boarded the Mavi Marmara ship. On the other five ships which were part of the flotilla, the interception took place with no violence. When the soldiers attempted to board the Mavi Marmara,

IDF commandos boarding the Mavi Marmara ship. Photo: IDF Spokesperson

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activists on board attacked the soldiers and stole two pistols in a prepared :

In this footage you can hear the radio exchange between soldiers on their v bridge and the IDF ship. The soldiers report encountering live fire and seri violence.

On Tuesday (June 1) Captain R., a Naval Special Forces commander of on squadrons who participated in the interception of the Mavi Marmara ship, interview with IDF Radio: "There were terrorists who wanted to kill us. I c explain it any other way. We used every means possible in order that those shouldn't get hurt – would not get hurt."

Captain R. was stabbed in the stomach and was wounded in his arm. "After I descended from the helicopter, I was in front of several terrorists and I took my weapon when I saw one of them come towards me with a knife. I fired one shot at that point, another twenty people started coming at me from every direction, jumped at me and hurled me to the lower deck. At the same time, I felt intense pain in my stomach. I saw a knife stabbed into my stomach and I pulled it out. I then managed to get to the lower level, where there was another mob of people. I, with other team members, jumped into the water. The third commando that was hit in the head and lost consciousness," he said.

"We came to speak, they came to fight."

Another naval soldier, who participated in the interception of the Mavi Marmara and sustained a broken arm while under attack by the ship's passengers, described how the soldiers were shot at from the entrance to the ship's corridor.

"I saw two from my group lying flat on the ground. From the opening of the hatch they were shooting at them the entire time with live fire, bullets. We identified the barrel, and one of us shot at the guy holding it. Afterwards we entered and went down there. About 30 men, they simply came for war. We came to straighten this out, to speak to those who went downstairs, but each of us who descended was subsequently attacked."

"There were some from my group that were thrown to the lower floor, and the passengers took their equipment. They jumped to the water as a last resort. I told them that if they didn't listen, we should shoot at their legs with our paintball pistol. That was to be used only if we really felt our lives in danger, which wasn't the case."

to happen. It would be extremely abnormal. But in the end, that is what ha

"We came with the intention of stopping the ship and taking it to Ashdod, not come with the weapons we usually have, we came for something entirely different."

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Video: Humanitarian aid from flotilla transferred into Gaza

IDF forces unload the humanitarian cargo from the Gaza Flotilla and bring the aid through the Kerem Shalom

crossing. ☒

[Full Article >](#)

☒ Humanitarian Aid Transfer Gaza Strip

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[Full Article >](#)

[Full Article >](#)

Supply of weapons discovered on board the Mavi Marmara

After passengers on board departed the ship, security forces began checking the boat and found a cache of weapons.

☒

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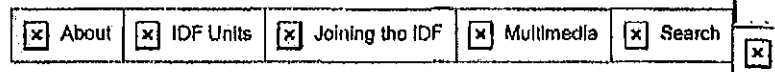
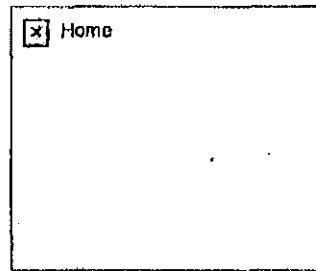
Video eyewitness account by Naval soldier: "They shot at us the entire time"

One of the soldiers injured while intercepting the Mavi Marama ship gives an eye witness account of how his group was beaten and lynched. "We came to speak, they came to fight."

[Full Article >](#)

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

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[English](#) > [News Channels](#) > [News and Events](#) > [2010](#) > [June](#) > Video: Humanitarian aid from flotilla transferred into Gaza

Video: Humanitarian aid from flotilla transferred into Gaza

01 June 2010 , 19:27

IDF forces unload the humanitarian cargo from the Gaza Flotilla and bring the aid through the Kerem


Shalom crossing 

An average of 10,000 tons of aid a week are imported into the Gaza Strip in coordination with international organizations through the land crossings. However, there remains a maritime closure on the strip as Hamas continues to smuggle weapons through tunnels for use against Israeli civilians.

For more information about the IDF's humanitarian operations visit: www.idfspokesperson.com and <https://www.swivel.com/people/1016582>

 Humanitarian Aid Tra
Gaza Strip



Humanitarian aid int
Strip. Photo: IDF Sp


 geresh

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Video: Humanitarian aid from flotilla transferred into Gaza
IDF forces unload the humanitarian cargo from the Gaza Flotilla and bring the aid through the Kerem Shalom crossing. ☒

☒ Humanitarian Aid Transfer Gaza Strip

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☒

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Supply of weapons discovered on board the Mavi Marmara
After passengers on board departed the ship, security forces began checking the boat and found a cache of weapons. ☒

☒

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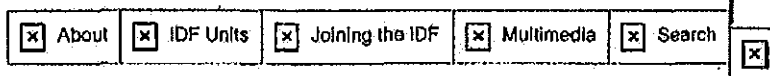
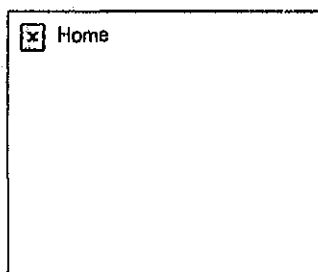
Video eyewitness account by Naval soldier: "They shot at us the entire time"
One of the soldiers injured while intercepting the Mavi Marmara ship gives an eye witness account of how his group was beaten and lynched. "We came to speak, they came to fight." ☒

☒

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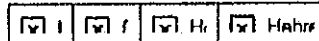
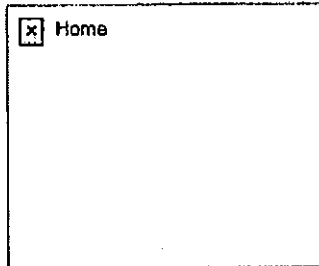
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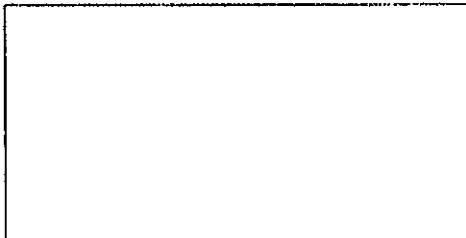
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Appointments

A War Journal

Breaking Footage from Mavi Marmara interception

Video shows what took place as IDF soldiers intercepted the Mavi Marmara ship and were attacked by its passengers

[Full Article >](#)[Full Article >](#)Video Release: "They are firing on us with live fire!"

Video shows soldiers on their way to intercepting the Mavi Marmara ship being shot at with live fire


[Full Article >](#)Video: IAF targets militant group preparing to launch rockets

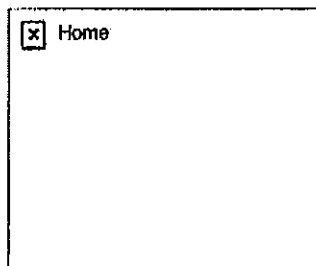
IAF targeted a terrorist squad preparing to fire rockets into Israel from northern

Gaza 

[Full Article >](#)Video: Humanitarian aid from flotilla transferred into Gaza

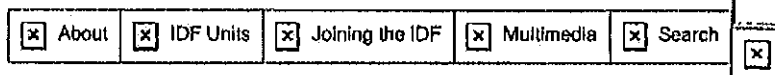
IDF forces unload the humanitarian cargo from the Gaza Flotilla and bring the aid through the Kerem Shalom

crossing. 

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English > News Channels > News and Events > 2010 > June > Breaking F
from Mavi Marmara interception

Breaking Footage from Mavi Marmara interception

02 June 2010 , 14:53

Video shows
what took place
as IDF soldiers
intercepted the
Mavi Marmara
ship and were
attacked by its
passengers

Elana Kieffer

Video footage
shows Shayetet
Naval Special
Forces
attempting to
intercept the
Mavi Marmara
ship which is
part of the Gaza
flotilla.

Passengers on
board are seen
throwing
chains, metal
pipes and a stun
grenade at the
soldiers while
attacking them
with water
hoses. The
passengers later
use the same
metal pipes to
beat the
soldiers who
boarded the
Marmara. The
soldiers can be
seen armed
with paintball
guns, to be
used as a means

☒ grenade thrown from Mavi Marmara
towards IDF soldiers

Photograph shows a grenade
being thrown from the Mavi
Marmara ship towards IDS
soldiers. Photo: taken from
video clip

☒ bullet proof vests

Pictured here is a pile of bullet
proof vests found on board the
Mavi Marmara ship. Photo:
Arielle Yahalom, IDF
Spokesperson

More Articles

Attackers of the IDF soldiers found to be Al Qaeda mercenaries

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of riot
dispersal.

Video Release: "They are firing on us with live fire!"

Video: IAF targets militant group preparing to launch ro

IDF Chief of Staff to combat soldiers: "You operated ou

Terror attack thwarted along Gaza security fence

Video: Humanitarian aid from flotilla transferred into G

Five other ships
arrived to the
area with the
flotilla,

however IDF interception took place with no incident. The passengers on 1
other ships cooperated nonviolently with IDF soldiers and there were no ir

NR

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RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP,B3 DODFGI,B5,B6

Law, Rosemary C

From: Aswad, Evelyn M
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 4:30 PM
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; 'Stephen & Betsy Pomper/Andersen'; Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; [redacted] Townley, Stephen G; Banos, Mariano H; Martin, Julie B
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

Looping in Mariano & Julie. EA

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 3:10 PM
To: 'Stephen & Betsy Pomper/Andersen'; Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; [redacted]
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

B5

Jon

From: Stephen & Betsy Pomper/Andersen [redacted]
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 3:14 PM
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; [redacted]
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

B6

Folks--

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Here is a quick summary of where we seem to be on the grabbag of issues relating to the Israeli action off of Gaza (please jump in/correct as appropriate):

B5

B5

B6

From San Remo Manual on International Law Applicable to Armed Conflicts at Sea, 12 June 1994

<http://www.icrc.org/ihl.nsf/385ec082b509e76c41256739003e636d/7694fe2016f347e1c125641f002d49ce>

Blockade

93. A blockade shall be declared and notified to all belligerents and neutral States.

94. The declaration shall specify the commencement, duration, location, and extent of the blockade and the period within which vessels of neutral States may leave the blockaded coastline.

95. A blockade must be effective. The question whether a blockade is effective is a question of fact.

96. The force maintaining the blockade may be stationed at a distance determined by military requirements.

97. A blockade may be enforced and maintained by a combination of legitimate methods and means of warfare provided this combination does not result in acts inconsistent with the rules set out in this document.

98. Merchant vessels believed on reasonable grounds to be breaching a blockade may be captured. Merchant vessels which, after prior warning, clearly resist capture may be attacked.

99. A blockade must not bar access to the ports and coasts of neutral States.

100. A blockade must be applied impartially to the vessels of all States.

101. The cessation, temporary lifting, re-establishment, extension or other alteration of a blockade must be declared and notified as in paragraphs 93 and 94.

102. The declaration or establishment of a blockade is prohibited if:

- (a) it has the sole purpose of starving the civilian population or denying it other objects essential for its survival; or
- (b) the damage to the civilian population is, or may be expected to be, excessive in relation to the concrete and direct military advantage anticipated from the blockade.

103. If the civilian population of the blockaded territory is inadequately provided with food and other objects essential for its survival, the blockading party must provide for free passage of such foodstuffs and other essential supplies, subject to:

- (a) the right to prescribe the technical arrangements, including search, under which such passage is permitted; and
- (b) the condition that the distribution of such supplies shall be made under the local supervision of a Protecting Power or a humanitarian organization which offers guarantees of impartiality, such as the International Committee of the Red Cross.

104. The blockading belligerent shall allow the passage of medical supplies for the civilian population or for the wounded and sick members of armed forces, subject to the right to prescribe technical arrangements, including search, under which such passage is permitted.

Zones

105. A belligerent cannot be absolved of its duties under international humanitarian law by establishing zones which might adversely affect the legitimate uses of defined areas of the sea.

106. Should a belligerent, as an exceptional measure, establish such a zone:

- (a) the same body of law applies both inside and outside the zone;
- (b) the extent, location and duration of the zone and the measures imposed shall not exceed what is strictly required by military necessity and the principles of proportionality;
- (c) due regard shall be given to the rights of neutral States to legitimate uses of the seas;
- (d) necessary safe passage through the zone for neutral vessels and aircraft shall be provided;
- (i) where the geographical extent of the zone significantly impedes free and safe access to the ports and coasts of a neutral State;
- (ii) in other cases where normal navigation routes are affected, except where military requirements do not permit; and
- (e) the commencement, duration, location and extent of the zone, as well as the restrictions imposed, shall be publicly declared and appropriately notified.

107. Compliance with the measures taken by one belligerent in the zone shall not be construed as an act harmful to the opposing belligerent.

108. Nothing in this Section should be deemed to derogate from the customary belligerent right to control neutral vessels and aircraft in the immediate vicinity of naval operations.

From Commander's Handbook

7.7 BLOCKADE

7.7.1 General

Blockade is a belligerent operation to prevent vessels and/or aircraft of all nations, enemy as well as neutral, from entering or exiting specified ports, airfields, or coastal areas belonging to, occupied by, or under the control of an enemy nation. While the belligerent right of visit and search is designed to interdict the flow of contraband goods, the belligerent right of blockade is intended to prevent vessels and aircraft, regardless of their cargo, from crossing an established and publicized cordon separating the enemy from international waters and/or airspace.

7.7.2 Criteria for Blockades

To be valid, a blockade must conform to the criteria in the following paragraphs.

7.7.2.1 Establishment

A blockade must be established by the government of the belligerent nation. This is usually accomplished by a declaration of the belligerent government or by the commander of the blockading force acting on behalf of the belligerent government. The declaration should include, as a minimum, the date the blockade is to begin, its geographic limits, and the grace period granted neutral vessels and aircraft to leave the area to be blockaded.

7.7.2.2 Notification

It is customary for the belligerent nation establishing the blockade to notify all affected nations of its imposition. Because knowledge of the existence of a blockade is an essential element of the offenses of breach and attempted breach of blockade (see paragraph 7.7.4), neutral vessels and aircraft are always entitled to notification. The commander of the blockading forces will usually also notify local authorities in the blockaded area. The form of the notification is not material so long as it is effective.

7.7.2.3 Effectiveness

To be valid, a blockade must be effective—that is, it must be maintained by a surface, air, or subsurface force or other legitimate methods and means of warfare that is sufficient to render ingress or egress of the blockaded area dangerous. The requirement of effectiveness does not preclude temporary absence of the blockading force, if such absence is due to stress of weather or to some other reason connected with the blockade (e.g., pursuit of a blockade runner). Effectiveness does not require that every possible avenue of approach to the blockaded area be covered.

7.7.2.4 Impartiality

A blockade must be applied impartially to the vessels and aircraft of all nations. Discrimination by the blockading belligerent in favor of or against the vessels and aircraft of particular nations, including those of its own or those of an allied nation, renders the blockade legally invalid.

7.7.2.5 Limitations

A blockade must not bar access to or departure from neutral ports and coasts. Neutral nations retain the right to engage in neutral commerce that does not involve trade or communications originating in or destined for the blockaded area. A blockade is prohibited if the sole purpose is to starve the civilian population or to deny it other objects essential for its survival.

7.7.3 Special Entry and Exit Authorization

Although neutral warships and military aircraft enjoy no positive right of access to blockaded areas, the belligerent imposing the blockade may authorize their entry and exit. Such special authorization may be made subject to such conditions as the blockading force considers to be necessary and expedient. Neutral vessels and aircraft in evident distress should be authorized entry into a blockaded area, and subsequently authorized to depart, under conditions prescribed by the officer in command of the blockading force or responsible for maintenance of the blockading instrumentality (e.g., mines). Similarly, neutral vessels and aircraft engaged in the carriage of qualifying relief supplies for the civilian population and the sick and wounded should be authorized to pass through the blockade cordon, subject to the right of the blockading force to prescribe the technical arrangements, including search, under which passage is permitted.

7.7.4 Breach and Attempted Breach of Blockade

Breach of blockade is the passage of a vessel or aircraft through a blockade without special entry or exit authorization from the blockading belligerent. Attempted breach of blockade occurs from the time a vessel or aircraft leaves a port or airfield with the intention of evading the blockade, and for vessels exiting the blockaded area, continues until the voyage is completed. Knowledge of the existence of the blockade is essential to the offenses of breach of blockade and attempted breach of blockade. Knowledge may be presumed once a blockade has been declared and appropriate notification provided to affected governments. It is immaterial that the vessel or aircraft is at the time of interception bound for neutral territory, if its ultimate destination is the blockaded area. There is a presumption of attempted breach of blockade where vessels or aircraft are bound for a neutral port or airfield serving as a point of transit to the blockaded area. (Capture of such vessels is discussed in paragraph 7.10.)

7.7.5 Contemporary Practice

The criteria for valid blockades, as set out above in paragraph 7.7.2, are for the most part customary in nature, having derived their definitive form through the practice of maritime powers during the nineteenth century. The rules reflect a balance between the right of a belligerent possessing effective command of the sea to close enemy ports and coastlines to international commerce, and the right of neutral nations to carry out neutral commerce with the least possible interference from belligerent forces. The law of blockade is, therefore, premised on a system of

controls designed to effect only a limited interference with neutral trade. This was traditionally accomplished by a relatively "close-in" cordon of surface warships stationed in the immediate vicinity of the blockaded area.

The increasing emphasis in modern warfare on seeking to isolate completely the enemy from outside assistance and resources by targeting enemy merchant vessels as well as warships, and on interdicting all neutral commerce with the enemy, is not furthered substantially by blockades established in strict conformity with the traditional rules. In World Wars I and II, belligerents of both sides resorted to methods which, although frequently referred to as measures of blockade, cannot be reconciled with the traditional concept of the close-in blockade. The so-called long-distance blockade of both world wars departed materially from those traditional rules and were premised in large measure upon the belligerent right of reprisal against illegal acts of warfare on the part of the enemy. Moreover, developments in weapons systems and platforms, particularly submarines, supersonic aircraft, and cruise missiles, have rendered the in-shore blockade exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, to maintain during anything other than a local or limited armed conflict. Accordingly, the characteristics of modern weapon systems will be a factor in analyzing the effectiveness of contemporary blockades.

Notwithstanding this trend in belligerent practices (during general war) away from the establishment of blockades that conform to the traditional rules, blockade continues to be a useful means to regulate the competing interests of belligerents and neutrals in more limited armed conflict. The experience of the United States during the Vietnam conflict provides a case in point. The closing of Haiphong and other North Vietnamese ports, accomplished by the emplacement of mines, was undertaken in conformity with traditional criteria of establishment, notification, effectiveness, limitation, and impartiality, although at the time the mining took place the term "blockade" was not used.

From: [REDACTED]
 To: schwartzjb@state.gov; perinaah@state.gov; baumertka@state.gov; jacobsonl@state.gov;
 heinemannTB@state.gov; dolanja@state.gov
 CC: aswadem@state.gov; sullivanDJ1@state.gov; pomperse2@state.gov; guarinmf@state.gov;
 donoghueje@state.gov
 Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>
 Date: Mon, 31 May 2010 17:29:30 +0000

B6

[REDACTED]
 > Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>
 > Date: Mon, 31 May 2010 13:01:59 -0400
 > From: SchwartzJB@state.gov
 > To: PerinaAH@state.gov; GoldbergerTH@state.gov; baumertka@state.gov; JacobsonL@state.gov;
 HeinemannTB@state.gov; DolanJA@state.gov
 > CC: AswadEM@state.gov; SullivanDJ1@state.gov; [REDACTED]
 PomperSE2@state.gov; GuarinMF@state.gov

B5

B6

[REDACTED]
 > jon
 >
 > -----Original Message-----
 > From: Perina, Alexandra H
 > Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:56 PM
 > To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann,
 Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn

B5

> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; [REDACTED] Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F
> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

B5

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:17 PM
> To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B5

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Goldberger, Thomas H
> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:40 AM
> To: Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B5

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Baumert, Kevin A
> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:34 AM
> To: Jacobson, Linda; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B5

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Jacobson, Linda

> To: Baumert, Kevin A; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H

> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M

> Sent: Mon May 31 11:20:32 2010

> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Baumert, Kevin A

> To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda; Perina, Alexandra H

> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M

> Sent: Mon May 31 11:18:29 2010

> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

>

> Kevin

> L/OES

>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Goldberger, Thomas H

> To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Baumert, Kevin A; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda

> Sent: Mon May 31 10:50:27 2010

> Subject: FW: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Cunningham, James B

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 10:47 AM

> To: Goldberger, Thomas H

> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Goldberger, Thomas H

> To: Cunningham, James B; Hale, David M; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rubinstein, Daniel H; Connelly, Maura; Schlicher, Ronald L; 'Daniel_B._Shapiro@nsc.eop.gov' <Daniel_B._Shapiro@nsc.eop.gov>

> Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Jacobson, Linda; Dolan, JoAnn

> Sent: Mon May 31 17:37:00 2010

> Subject: FW: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

>
> See below from Jonathan pls.
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 9:13 AM
> To: Goldberger, Thomas H
> Cc: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Dolan, JoAnn; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B
> Subject: Fw: MFA flotilla briefing

B5

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
> To: Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B
> Cc: Baumert, Kevin A; Harris, Robert K; Donoghue, Joan E; Dolan, JoAnn
> Sent: Mon May 31 09:05:16 2010
> Subject: Fw: MFA flotilla briefing

B5

>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Goldberger, Thomas H
> To: Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
> Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Knopf, Payton L
> Sent: Mon May 31 08:24:00 2010
> Subject: FW: MFA flotilla briefing

B5

>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From:
> To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker,

B3 DOD-CP

B3 DOD-CP

Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); [redacted]

[redacted] Levin, Jan; [redacted]

> Sent: Mon May 31 08:08:22 2010

> Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

>

B3 DOD-CP

Many of the details briefed have already been provided via other means. Specific Highlights -

B3 DODFGI

> - Ongoing Operation

> - Two Ships in Ashdod to include the CHALLENGER I

> - M/V MAVI MARMARA expected in port between 1700L and 1800L

> - All ships will be in port by later today

> - 10-14 Civilians Seriously Injured or Killed

> - 30 Civilians Wounded

> - 10 IDF wounded to include 1 serious and 1 with "medium" wounds

> - Turkish Ambassador to Israel recalled

> - Interaction occurred approx 70 NM from coastline. IDF confident in International Law because of intent by flotilla to breach the blockade. (See Attached Slides)

>

B3 DOD-CP

>

>

> ---Original Message-----

> From: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem)

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 2:46 PM

> To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [redacted]

[redacted] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

B3 DOD-CP

> Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

> Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

>

> This may largely repeat at this point what is out in other places and/or others have heard from me, but just to assure that various reporting lines have same info, this is from [redacted] who also spoke with the UN's Serry, among others, this am.

B6

>

> [redacted] reported that when Israeli soldiers boarded the main deck of the main ship, they met with what he described as clearly planned active/armed resistance, including live fire. Military who boarded were attacked with knives, sharpened metal and wood instruments, etc. He said the military who boarded were attacked by dozens; He indicated that some of the soldiers were stabbed and slashed. Made clear situation was one in which actions taken were in self-defense.

B6

>

> Current estimates of those killed from flotilla 14-15 "maybe more". He said all injured being moved to Israeli hospital - by helicopter. He said ships coming into Ashdod (some reports have them coming into Haifa). At Ashdod, he and others will meet the ships. There, they will need to ID the bodies; move the people either to return them to home countries rapidly and/or detain; ID the cargo and as planned initially, move as much of into Gaza as promptly as possible.

>

> Earlier this morning [redacted] made the following calls/contacts:

> --Turkish FM and MoD [redacted] Erakat, Fayyad, and Hussein al Sheikh [redacted] He felt the calls w the Turks given the situation were OK, but the concern clearly is Erdogan and how he will handle. With Pals,

B6

Erakat in particular, they discussed extent to which levels of rhetoric could be kept in check. With Fayyad they discussed primarily need for security cooperation, keeping things calm. Concern about how this will be affected by status of Israeli Arab Islamic leader on board the flotilla.

>
 > (PIC seems to be on track/going forward. Some events may be affected by it.)
 >
 > -----Original Message-----
 > From: Cunningham, James B
 > Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:38 PM
 > To: Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [REDACTED] Amodeo, B3 DOD-CP Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D
 > Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'
 > Subject: Re: MFA flotilla briefing

>
 > Our Consular people are in contact with MFA and Ashdod to get info on amcits as soon as it's available. UN had been approached by COGAT last week to help in forwarding cargo from ships in Ashdod. Serry is trying to send a couple of observers to Ashdod, has told cogat that assisting deliveries of humanitarian goods, much of which is destined for Hamas, is problematic but he'll see. Barak just gave a press conference, and appears to have spoken to Davutoglu this am.

> Sent from my BlackBerry

>
 > ----- Original Message -----
 > From: Levin, Jan
 > To: Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Cunningham, James B; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [REDACTED] B3 DOD-CP Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D
 > Sent: Mon May 31 13:20:31 2010
 > Subject: MFA flotilla briefing

[REDACTED] B3 DODFGI

>
 > Highlights - Identification of dead and wounded taking time. MFA will reach out proactively to Embassies as IDs are done, with location and status of citizens. The uninjured will be processed and escorted to airport for deportation. Unclear how long this will take.

> -- Most violence occurred on ship Mavi (Blue) Marmara. As far as is currently known, all injuries occurred on this ship.

> -- [REDACTED] told Ambassador that activists on Mavi Marmara were prepared for boarders and were B3 DODFGI armed. Unclear if they had firearms in advance or took them from IDF boarding party. One IDF soldier nearly beaten to death with metal bar. Activists also had knives.

> -- Events took place in international waters. Israel asserted it had the legal right to intercept in intl waters because there is a military blockade under the law of armed conflict between Israel and Hamas.

> Ambassador Cunningham requests that Embassy Tel Aviv clear Dept guidance on this issue, thank you.

Hotmail has tools for the New Busy. Search, chat and e-mail from your inbox. [Learn more.](#)

The New Busy is not the old busy. Search, chat and e-mail from your inbox. [Get started.](#)

RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP,B3 DODFGI,B5,B6

Law, Rosemary C

From: Aswad, Evelyn M
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:35 PM
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Perina, Alexandra H; Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Sullivan, David J; [REDACTED] Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Martin, Julie B; Banos, Mariano H; Khanna, Melanie J; Harris, Robert K
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B5

Looping in Julie Martin who is TDY to Geneva for HRC and following this issue from there as well as Mariano who will follow this during the week from DC. EA

-----Original Message-----

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:02 PM
To: Perina, Alexandra H; Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; [REDACTED]; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B5

B5

jon

-----Original Message-----

From: Perina, Alexandra H
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:56 PM
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; [REDACTED]; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B5

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

33

-----Original Message-----

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:17 PM
To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

-----Original Message-----

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:40 AM
To: Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

-----Original Message-----

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:34 AM
To: Jacobson, Linda; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

----- Original Message -----

From: Jacobson, Linda
To: Baumert, Kevin A; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M
Sent: Mon May 31 11:20:32 2010
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

----- Original Message -----

From: Baumert, Kevin A

To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M
Sent: Mon May 31 11:18:29 2010
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B5

Kevin
L/OES

----- Original Message -----

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Baumert, Kevin A; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
Sent: Mon May 31 10:50:27 2010
Subject: FW: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

-----Original Message-----

From: Cunningham, James B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 10:47 AM
To: Goldberger, Thomas H
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

----- Original Message -----

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
To: Cunningham, James B; Hale, David M; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rubinstein, Daniel H; Connelly, Maura; Schlicher, Ronald L; 'Daniel_B._Shapiro@nsc.eop.gov' <Daniel_B._Shapiro@nsc.eop.gov>
Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Jacobson, Linda; Dolan, JoAnn
Sent: Mon May 31 17:37:00 2010
Subject: FW: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

See below from Jonathan pls.

-----Original Message-----

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 9:13 AM
To: Goldberger, Thomas H

Cc: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Dolan, JoAnn; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B
Subject: Fw: MFA flotilla briefing

B5

Jon

----- Original Message -----

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
To: Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B
Cc: Baumert, Kevin A; Harris, Robert K; Donoghue, Joan E; Dolan, JoAnn
Sent: Mon May 31 09:05:16 2010
Subject: Fw: MFA flotilla briefing

B5

----- Original Message -----

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
To: Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Knopf, Payton L
Sent: Mon May 31 08:24:00 2010
Subject: FW: MFA flotilla briefing

B5

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]
To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); [REDACTED]; Levin, Jan; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

B3 DOD-CP

Sent: Mon May 31 08:08:22 2010
 Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

Many of the details briefed have already been provided via other means. Specific High

B3 DOD-CP
 B3 DODFGI

- Ongoing Operation
- Two Ships in Ashdod to include the CHALLENGER I
- M/V MAVI MARMARA expected in port between 1700L and 1800L
- All ships will be in port by later today
- 10-14 Civilians Seriously Injured or Killed
- 30 Civilians Wounded
- 10 IDF wounded to include 1 serious and 1 with "medium" wounds
- Turkish Ambassador to Israel recalled
- Interaction occurred approx 70 NM from coastline. IDF confident in International Law because of intent by flotilla to breach the blockade. (See Attached Slides)

B3 DOD-CP

-----Original Message-----

From: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem)

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 2:46 PM

To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [REDACTED] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Je

B3 DOD-CP

Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

This may largely repeat at this point what is out in other places and/or others have heard from me, but just to assure that various reporting lines have same info, this is from Gen. [REDACTED] who also spoke with the UN's Serry, among others, this am.

B6

[REDACTED] reported that when Israeli soldiers boarded the main deck of the main ship, they met with what he described as clearly planned active/armed resistance, including live fire. Military who boarded were attacked with knives, sharpened metal and wood instruments, etc. He said the military who boarded were attacked by dozens; He indicated that some of the soldiers were stabbed and slashed. Made clear situation was one in which actions taken were in self-defense.

Current estimates of those killed from flotilla 14-15 "maybe more". He said all injured being moved to Israeli hospital - by helicopter. He said ships coming into Ashdod (some reports have them coming into Haifa). At Ashdod, he and others will meet the ships. There, they will need to ID the bodies; move the people either to return them to home countries rapidly and/or detain; ID the cargo and as planned initially, move as much of into Gaza as promptly as possible.

Earlier this morning [REDACTED] made the following calls/contacts:

--Turkish FM and MoD [redacted]; Erakat, Fayyad, and Hussein al Sheikh [redacted]. He felt the calls w the Turks given the situation were OK, but the concern clearly is Erdogan and how he will handle. With Pals, Erakat in particular, they discussed extent to which levels of rhetoric could be kept in check. With Fayyad they discussed primarily need for security cooperation, keeping things calm. Concern about how this will be affected by status of Israeli Arab Islamic leader on board the flotilla.

(PIC seems to be on track/going forward. Some events may be affected by it.)

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From: Cunningham, James B

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:38 PM

To: Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C;

Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [redacted]

[redacted] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Felt B3 DOD-CP

Jeffrey D

Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

Subject: Re: MFA flotilla briefing

Our Consular people are in contact with MFA and Ashdod to get info on amcits as soon as it's available. UN had been approached by COGAT last week to help in forwarding cargo from ships in Ashdod. Serry is trying to send a couple of observers to Ashdod, has told cogat that assisting deliveries of humanitarian goods, much of which is destined for Hamas, is problematic but he'll see. Barak just gave a press conference, and appears to have spoken to Davotuglu this am.

Sent from my BlackBerry

----- Original Message -----

From: Levin, Jan

To: Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Cunningham, James B; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [redacted]

[redacted] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Felt B3 DOD-CP

Jeffrey D

Sent: Mon May 31 13:20:31 2010

Subject: MFA flotilla briefing

B3 DODFGI

Highlights - Identification of dead and wounded taking time. MFA will reach out proactively to Embassies as IDs are done, with location and status of citizens. The uninjured will be processed and escorted to airport for deportation. Unclear how long this will take.

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Ambassador Cunningham requests that Embassy Tel Aviv clear Dept guidance on this issue, thank you.

RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP,B3 DODFGI,B5,B6

Law, Rosemary C

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 4:54 PM
To: Pomper, Stephen E; Aswad, Evelyn M; Schwartz, Jonathan B; [redacted] Perina, Alexandra H; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Sullivan, David J; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; Townley, Stephen G; Banos, Mariano H; Martin, Julie B
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

B5

From: Pomper, Stephen E
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 4:31 PM
To: Aswad, Evelyn M; Schwartz, Jonathan B; [redacted] Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Sullivan, David J; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; Townley, Stephen G; Banos, Mariano H; Martin, Julie B
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

removing non L address

From: Aswad, Evelyn M
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; 'Stephen & Betsy Pomper/Andersen' [redacted] Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; [redacted] Townley, Stephen G; Banos, Mariano H; Martin, Julie B
Sent: Mon May 31 16:29:33 2010
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

B6
B6

Looping in Mariano & Julie. EA

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 3:10 PM
To: 'Stephen & Betsy Pomper/Andersen'; Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; [redacted] Townley, Stephen G
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

B5

From: Stephen & Betsy Pomper/Andersen [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 3:14 PM

To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn

Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; [REDACTED]
Townley, Stephen G

Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

B6

Folks--

From San Remo Manual on International Law Applicable to Armed Conflicts at Sea, 12 June 1994

<http://www.icrc.org/ihl.nsf/385ec082b509e76c41256739003e636d/7694fe2016f347e1c125641f002d49ce>

Blockade

93. A blockade shall be declared and notified to all belligerents and neutral States.

94. The declaration shall specify the commencement, duration, location, and extent of the blockade and the period within which vessels of neutral States may leave the blockaded coastline.

95. A blockade must be effective. The question whether a blockade is effective is a question of fact.

96. The force maintaining the blockade may be stationed at a distance determined by military requirements.

97. A blockade may be enforced and maintained by a combination of legitimate methods and means of warfare provided this combination does not result in acts inconsistent with the rules set out in this document.

98. Merchant vessels believed on reasonable grounds to be breaching a blockade may be captured. Merchant vessels which, after prior warning, clearly resist capture may be attacked.

99. A blockade must not bar access to the ports and coasts of neutral States.

100. A blockade must be applied impartially to the vessels of all States.

101. The cessation, temporary lifting, re-establishment, extension or other alteration of a blockade must be declared and notified as in paragraphs 93 and 94.

102. The declaration or establishment of a blockade is prohibited if:

- (a) it has the sole purpose of starving the civilian population or denying it other objects essential for its survival; or
- (b) the damage to the civilian population is, or may be expected to be, excessive in relation to the concrete and direct military advantage anticipated from the blockade.

103. If the civilian population of the blockaded territory is inadequately provided with food and other objects essential for its survival, the blockading party must provide for free passage of such foodstuffs and other essential supplies, subject to:

- (a) the right to prescribe the technical arrangements, including search, under which such passage is permitted; and
- (b) the condition that the distribution of such supplies shall be made under the local supervision of a Protecting Power or a humanitarian organization which offers guarantees of impartiality, such as the International Committee of the Red Cross.

104. The blockading belligerent shall allow the passage of medical supplies for the civilian population or for the wounded and sick members of armed forces, subject to the right to prescribe technical arrangements, including search, under which such passage is permitted.

Zones

105. A belligerent cannot be absolved of its duties under international humanitarian law by establishing zones which might adversely affect the legitimate uses of defined areas of the sea.

106. Should a belligerent, as an exceptional measure, establish such a zone:

- (a) the same body of law applies both inside and outside the zone;
- (b) the extent, location and duration of the zone and the measures imposed shall not exceed what is strictly required by military necessity and the principles of proportionality;
- (c) due regard shall be given to the rights of neutral States to legitimate uses of the seas;
- (d) necessary safe passage through the zone for neutral vessels and aircraft shall be provided;
- (i) where the geographical extent of the zone significantly impedes free and safe access to the ports and coasts of a neutral State;
- (ii) in other cases where normal navigation routes are affected, except where military requirements do not permit; and
- (e) the commencement, duration, location and extent of the zone, as well as the restrictions imposed, shall be publicly declared and appropriately notified.

107. Compliance with the measures taken by one belligerent in the zone shall not be construed as an act harmful to the opposing belligerent.

108. Nothing in this Section should be deemed to derogate from the customary belligerent right to control neutral vessels and aircraft in the immediate vicinity of naval operations.

From Commander's Handbook

7.7 BLOCKADE

7.7.1 General

Blockade is a belligerent operation to prevent vessels and/or aircraft of all nations, enemy as well as neutral, from entering or exiting specified ports, airfields, or coastal areas belonging to, occupied by, or under the control of an enemy nation. While the belligerent right of visit and search is designed to interdict the flow of contraband goods, the belligerent right of blockade is intended to prevent vessels and aircraft, regardless of their cargo, from crossing an established and publicized cordon separating the enemy from international waters and/or airspace.

7.7.2 Criteria for Blockades

To be valid, a blockade must conform to the criteria in the following paragraphs.

7.7.2.1 Establishment

A blockade must be established by the government of the belligerent nation. This is usually accomplished by a declaration of the belligerent government or by the commander of the blockading force acting on behalf of the belligerent government. The declaration should include, as a minimum, the date the blockade is to begin, its geographic limits, and the grace period granted neutral vessels and aircraft to leave the area to be blockaded.

7.7.2.2 Notification

It is customary for the belligerent nation establishing the blockade to notify all affected nations of its imposition. Because knowledge of the existence of a blockade is an essential element of the offenses of breach and attempted breach of blockade (see paragraph 7.7.4), neutral vessels and aircraft are always entitled to notification. The commander of the blockading forces will usually also notify local authorities in the blockaded area. The form of the notification is not material so long as it is effective.

7.7.2.3 Effectiveness

To be valid, a blockade must be effective—that is, it must be maintained by a surface, air, or subsurface force or other legitimate methods and means of warfare that is sufficient to render ingress or egress of the blockaded area dangerous. The requirement of effectiveness does not preclude temporary absence of the blockading force, if such absence is due to stress of weather or to some other reason connected with the blockade (e.g., pursuit of a blockade runner). Effectiveness does not require that every possible avenue of approach to the blockaded area be covered.

7.7.2.4 Impartiality

A blockade must be applied impartially to the vessels and aircraft of all nations. Discrimination by the blockading belligerent in favor of or against the vessels and aircraft of particular nations, including those of its own or those of an allied nation, renders the blockade legally invalid.

7.7.2.5 Limitations

A blockade must not bar access to or departure from neutral ports and coasts. Neutral nations retain the right to engage in neutral commerce that does not involve trade or communications originating in or destined for the blockaded area. A blockade is prohibited if the sole purpose is to starve the civilian population or to deny it other objects essential for its survival.

7.7.3 Special Entry and Exit Authorization

Although neutral warships and military aircraft enjoy no positive right of access to blockaded areas, the belligerent imposing the blockade may authorize their entry and exit. Such special authorization may be made subject to such conditions as the blockading force considers to be necessary and expedient. Neutral vessels and aircraft in evident distress should be authorized entry into a blockaded area, and subsequently authorized to depart, under conditions prescribed by the officer in command of the blockading force or responsible for maintenance of the blockading instrumentality (e.g., mines). Similarly, neutral vessels and aircraft engaged in the carriage of qualifying relief supplies for the civilian population and the sick and wounded should be authorized to pass through the blockade cordon, subject to the right of the blockading force to prescribe the technical arrangements, including search, under which passage is permitted.

7.7.4 Breach and Attempted Breach of Blockade

Breach of blockade is the passage of a vessel or aircraft through a blockade without special entry or exit authorization from the blockading belligerent. Attempted breach of blockade occurs from the time a vessel or aircraft leaves a port or airfield with the intention of evading the blockade, and for vessels exiting the blockaded area, continues until the voyage is completed. Knowledge of the existence of the blockade is essential to the offenses of breach of blockade and attempted breach of blockade. Knowledge may be presumed once a blockade has been declared and appropriate notification provided to affected governments. It is immaterial that the vessel or aircraft is at the time of interception bound for neutral territory, if its ultimate destination is the blockaded area. There is a presumption of attempted breach of blockade where vessels or aircraft are bound for a neutral port or airfield serving as a point of transit to the blockaded area. (Capture of such vessels is discussed in paragraph 7.10.)

7.7.5 Contemporary Practice

The criteria for valid blockades, as set out above in paragraph 7.7.2, are for the most part customary in nature, having derived their definitive form through the practice of maritime powers during the nineteenth century. The rules reflect a balance between the right of a belligerent possessing effective command of the sea to close enemy ports and coastlines to international commerce, and the right of neutral nations to carry out neutral commerce with the least possible interference from belligerent forces. The law of blockade is, therefore, premised on a system of controls designed to effect only a limited interference with neutral trade. This was traditionally accomplished by a relatively "close-in" cordon of surface warships stationed in the immediate vicinity of the blockaded area.

The increasing emphasis in modern warfare on seeking to isolate completely the enemy from outside assistance and resources by targeting enemy merchant vessels as well as warships, and on interdicting all neutral commerce with the enemy, is not furthered substantially by blockades established in strict conformity with the traditional rules. In World Wars I and II, belligerents of both sides resorted to methods which, although frequently referred to as measures of blockade, cannot be reconciled with the traditional concept of the close-in blockade. The so-called long-distance blockade of both world wars departed materially from those traditional rules and were premised in large measure upon the belligerent right of reprisal against illegal acts of warfare on the part of the enemy.

Moreover, developments in weapons systems and platforms, particularly submarines, supersonic aircraft, and cruise missiles, have rendered the in-shore blockade exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, to maintain during anything other than a local or limited armed conflict. Accordingly, the characteristics of modern weapon systems will be a factor in analyzing the effectiveness of contemporary blockades.

Notwithstanding this trend in belligerent practices (during general war) away from the establishment of blockades that conform to the traditional rules, blockade continues to be a useful means to regulate the competing interests of belligerents and neutrals in more limited armed conflict. The experience of the United States during the Vietnam conflict provides a case in point. The closing of Haiphong and other North Vietnamese ports, accomplished by the emplacement of mines, was undertaken in conformity with traditional criteria of establishment, notification, effectiveness, limitation, and impartiality, although at the time the mining took place the term "blockade" was not used.

From:
 To: schwartzjb@state.gov; perinaah@state.gov; baumertka@state.gov; jacobsonl@state.gov;
 heinemanntb@state.gov; dolanja@state.gov
 CC: aswadem@state.gov; sullivandj1@state.gov; pomperse2@state.gov; guarinmf@state.gov;
 donoghueje@state.gov

B6

Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>
 Date: Mon, 31 May 2010 17:29:30 +0000

Marc Guarin is going to log in and weigh in on this question. I also reached out to JCS legal to see if they have a Navy lawyer we can talk to. Have taken Tom G off this chain for the moment. Steve

> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>
 > Date: Mon, 31 May 2010 13:01:59 -0400
 > From: SchwartzJB@state.gov
 > To: PerinaAH@state.gov; GoldbergerTH@state.gov; baumertka@state.gov; JacobsonL@state.gov; HeinemannTB@state.gov; DolanJA@state.gov
 > CC: AswadEM@state.gov; SullivanDJ1@state.gov; [REDACTED]
 PomperSE2@state.gov; GuarinMF@state.gov

B6

B5

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Perina, Alexandra H
 > Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:56 PM
 > To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
 > Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; [REDACTED] Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F
 > Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>
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B5

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> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

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> -----Original Message-----

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> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:40 AM
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> From: Baumert, Kevin A
> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:34 AM
> To: Jacobson, Linda; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Jacobson, Linda
> To: Baumert, Kevin A; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M
> Sent: Mon May 31 11:20:32 2010
> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Baumert, Kevin A
> To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda; Perina, Alexandra H
> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M
> Sent: Mon May 31 11:18:29 2010
> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

> L/OES

>
 > ----- Original Message -----
 > From: Goldberger, Thomas H
 > To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Baumert, Kevin A; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
 > Sent: Mon May 31 10:50:27 2010
 > Subject: FW: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B5

> ----- Original Message -----
 > From: Cunningham, James B
 > Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 10:47 AM
 > To: Goldberger, Thomas H
 > Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

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 > From: Goldberger, Thomas H
 > To: Cunningham, James B; Hale, David M; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rubinstein, Daniel H; Connelly, Maura; Schlicher, Ronald L; 'Daniel_B._Shapiro@nsc.eop.gov' <Daniel_B._Shapiro@nsc.eop.gov>
 > Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Jacobson, Linda; Dolan, JoAnn
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> See below from Jonathan pls.

> -----Original Message-----
 > From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
 > Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 9:13 AM
 > To: Goldberger, Thomas H
 > Cc: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Dolan, JoAnn; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B
 > Subject: Fw: MFA flotilla briefing

> Jon

> ----- Original Message -----
 > From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
 > To: Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B
 > Cc: Baumert, Kevin A; Harris, Robert K; Donoghue, Joan E; Dolan, JoAnn
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 > Subject: Fw: MFA flotilla briefing

B5

nt

> ----- Original Message -----
 > From: Goldberger, Thomas H
 > To: Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
 > Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Knopf, Payton L
 > Sent: Mon May 31 08:24:00 2010
 > Subject: FW: MFA flotilla briefing

B5

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: [REDACTED]
 > To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); [REDACTED]
 > [REDACTED] Levin, Jan; [REDACTED]

B3 DOD-CP

> Sent: Mon May 31 08:08:22 2010
 > Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

B3 DOD-CP
 B3 DODFGI

Many of the details briefed have already been provided via other means. Specific Highlights -

- > - Ongoing Operation
- > - Two Ships in Ashdod to include the CHALLENGER I
- > - M/V MAVI MARMARA expected in port between 1700L and 1800L
- > - All ships will be in port by later today
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> From: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem)

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 2:46 PM

> To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker,

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[REDACTED] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

B3 DOD-CP

> Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

> Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

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> This may largely repeat at this point what is out in other places and/or others have heard from me, but just to assure that various reporting lines have same info, this is from [REDACTED] who also spoke with the UN's Serry, among others, this am.

B6

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> [REDACTED] reported that when Israeli soldiers boarded the main deck of the main ship, they met with what he described as clearly planned active/armed resistance, including live fire. Military who boarded were attacked with knives, sharpened metal and wood instruments, etc. He said the military who boarded were attacked by dozens; He indicated that some of the soldiers were stabbed and slashed. Made clear situation was one in which actions taken were in self-defense.

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> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:38 PM

> To: Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason

B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [REDACTED]; Amodeo, B3 DOD-CP

Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

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> Subject: Re: MFA flotilla briefing

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> Sent from my BlackBerry

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> To: Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Cunningham, James B; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C;

Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [REDACTED] B3 DOD-CP

Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

> Sent: Mon May 31 13:20:31 2010

> Subject: MFA flotilla briefing

>

B3 DODFGI

- >
- > Highlights - Identification of dead and wounded taking time. MFA will reach out proactively to Embassies as IDs are done, with location and status of citizens. The uninjured will be processed and escorted to airport for deportation. Unclear how long this will take.
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- > Ambassador Cunningham requests that Embassy Tel Aviv clear Dept guidance on this issue, thank you.

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The New Busy is not the old busy. Search, chat and e-mail from your inbox. [Get started.](#)

RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP,B3 DODFGI,B5,B6

Law, Rosemary C

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:24 PM
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Goldberger, Thomas H; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

Yes, just to confirm, that was my point. Thanks. Kevin

----- Original Message -----

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
Sent: Mon May 31 12:17:15 2010
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B5

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From: Goldberger, Thomas H
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:40 AM
To: Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

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From: Jacobson, Linda
To: Baumert, Kevin A; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M **REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer**
Sent: Mon May 31 11:20:32 2010
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B5

Kevin
L/OES

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Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Jacobson, Linda; Dolan, JoAnn
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B5

Jon

----- Original Message -----

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Cc: Baumert, Kevin A; Harris, Robert K; Donoghue, Joan E; Dolan, JoAnn
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From: [REDACTED]
To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara

B3 DOD-CP

(Jerusalem); [REDACTED] Levin, Jan; [REDACTED] B3 DOD-CP

Sent: Mon May 31 08:08:22 2010
Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

B3 DOD-CP

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B6

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Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; []

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B3 DODFGI

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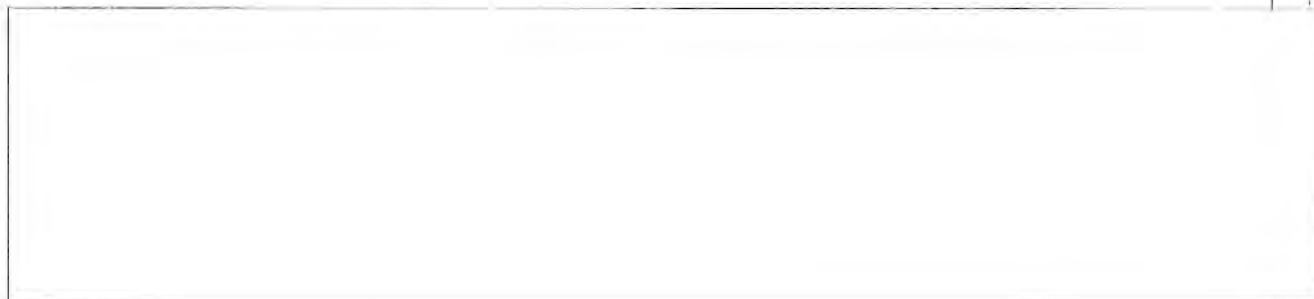
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RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP,B3 DODFGI,B5,B6

Law, Rosemary C

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 3:02 PM
To: 'Stephen & Betsy Pomper/Andersen'; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Perina, Alexandra H; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

I'm going to be inaccessible by email for a few hours. Here is my \$.02 on the laws of the sea angle. This can be re-packaged, as appropriate to the broader policy distro.



B5

Thanks,
 Kevin

From: Stephen & Betsy Pomper/Andersen [redacted]
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:30 PM
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

Marc Guarin is going to log in and weigh in on this question. I also reached out to JCS legal to see if they have a Navy lawyer we can talk to. Have taken Tom G off this chain for the moment. Steve

> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>
 > Date: Mon, 31 May 2010 13:01:59 -0400
 > From: SchwartzJB@state.gov
 > To: PerinaAH@state.gov; GoldbergerTH@state.gov; baumertka@state.gov; JacobsonL@state.gov; HeinemannTB@state.gov; DolanJA@state.gov
 > CC: AswadEM@state.gov; SullivanDJ1@state.gov; [redacted]
 > PomperSE2@state.gov; GuarinMF@state.gov
 >

B6



> jon
 > **REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer**
 > -----Original Message-----
 > From: Perina, Alexandra H
 > Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:56 PM
 > To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann,

Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn

> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; [REDACTED] Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F
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> From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:17 PM
> To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
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> Kevin
> L/OES
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> To: Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda

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> ----- Original Message -----

> From:

B3 DOD-CP

> To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); [REDACTED]

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> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:38 PM

> To: Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [REDACTED] Amodeo, B3 DOD-CP
Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

> Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

> Subject: Re: MFA flotilla briefing

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Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

> Sent: Mon May 31 13:20:31 2010

> Subject: MFA flotilla briefing

B3 DODFGI

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Hotmail has tools for the New Busy. Search, chat and e-mail from your inbox. [Learn more.](#)

Law, Rosemary C

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:34 AM
To: Jacobson, Linda; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B5

----- Original Message -----

From: Jacobson, Linda
To: Baumert, Kevin A; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M
Sent: Mon May 31 11:20:32 2010
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

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To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda; Perina, Alexandra H
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M
Sent: Mon May 31 11:18:29 2010
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

Kevin
L/OES

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

----- Original Message -----

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Baumert, Kevin A; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
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To: Cunningham, James B; Hale, David M; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rubinstein, Daniel H; Connelly, Maura; Schlicher, Ronald L; 'Daniel_B._Shapiro@nsc.eop.gov' <Daniel_B._Shapiro@nsc.eop.gov>
Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Jacobson, Linda; Dolan, JoAnn
Sent: Mon May 31 17:37:00 2010
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See below from Jonathan pls.

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Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 9:13 AM
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Cc: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Dolan, JoAnn; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B
Subject: Fw: MFA flotilla briefing

Jon

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From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
To: Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B
Cc: Baumert, Kevin A; Harris, Robert K; Donoghue, Joan E; Dolan, JoAnn
Sent: Mon May 31 09:05:16 2010
Subject: Fw: MFA flotilla briefing

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From: Goldberger, Thomas H
 To: Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
 Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Knopf, Payton L
 Sent: Mon May 31 08:24:00 2010
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From: [REDACTED]
 To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); [REDACTED] Levin, Jan; [REDACTED]
 Sent: Mon May 31 08:08:22 2010
 Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

B3 DOD-CP

[REDACTED] B3 DOD-CP
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- Ongoing Operation
- Two Ships in Ashdod to include the CHALLENGER I
- M/V MAVI MARMARA expected in port between 1700L and 1800L
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- 10 IDF wounded to include 1 serious and 1 with "medium" wounds
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From: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem)
 Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 2:46 PM

To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [redacted] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D B3 DOD-CP

Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

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[redacted] who also spoke with the UN's Serry, among others, this am.

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DODFGI,B5,B6

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From: Dolan, JoAnn
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 4:17 PM
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; 'Stephen & Betsy Pomper/Andersen'; Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; [redacted] Townley, Stephen G
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

[redacted]

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 4:10 PM
To: 'Stephen & Betsy Pomper/Andersen'; Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; [redacted]
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From: Stephen & Betsy Pomper/Andersen [redacted]
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 3:14 PM
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; [redacted]
Townley, Stephen G
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

Folks--

[redacted]

B5
B6

Steve

From San Remo Manual on International Law Applicable to Armed Conflicts at Sea, 12 June 1994

<http://www.icrc.org/ihl.nsf/385ec082b509e76c41256739003e636d/7694fe2016f347e1c125641f002d49ce>

Blockade

93. A blockade shall be declared and notified to all belligerents and neutral States.

94. The declaration shall specify the commencement, duration, location, and extent of the blockade and the period within which vessels of neutral States may leave the blockaded coastline.

95. A blockade must be effective. The question whether a blockade is effective is a question of fact.

96. The force maintaining the blockade may be stationed at a distance determined by military requirements.

97. A blockade may be enforced and maintained by a combination of legitimate methods and means of warfare provided this combination does not result in acts inconsistent with the rules set out in this document.

98. Merchant vessels believed on reasonable grounds to be breaching a blockade may be captured. Merchant vessels which, after prior warning, clearly resist capture may be attacked.

99. A blockade must not bar access to the ports and coasts of neutral States.

100. A blockade must be applied impartially to the vessels of all States.

101. The cessation, temporary lifting, re-establishment, extension or other alteration of a blockade must be declared and notified as in paragraphs 93 and 94.

102. The declaration or establishment of a blockade is prohibited if:

- (a) it has the sole purpose of starving the civilian population or denying it other objects essential for its survival; or
- (b) the damage to the civilian population is, or may be expected to be, excessive in relation to the concrete and direct military advantage anticipated from the blockade.

103. If the civilian population of the blockaded territory is inadequately provided with food and other objects essential for its survival, the blockading party must provide for free passage of such foodstuffs and other essential supplies, subject to:

- (a) the right to prescribe the technical arrangements, including search, under which such passage is permitted; and
- (b) the condition that the distribution of such supplies shall be made under the local supervision of a Protecting Power or a humanitarian organization which offers guarantees of impartiality, such as the International Committee of the Red Cross.

104. The blockading belligerent shall allow the passage of medical supplies for the civilian population or for the wounded and sick members of armed forces, subject to the right to prescribe technical arrangements, including search, under which such passage is permitted.

Zones

105. A belligerent cannot be absolved of its duties under international humanitarian law by establishing zones which might adversely affect the legitimate uses of defined areas of the sea.

106. Should a belligerent, as an exceptional measure, establish such a zone:

- (a) the same body of law applies both inside and outside the zone;
- (b) the extent, location and duration of the zone and the measures imposed shall not exceed what is strictly required by military necessity and the principles of proportionality;
- (c) due regard shall be given to the rights of neutral States to legitimate uses of the seas;
- (d) necessary safe passage through the zone for neutral vessels and aircraft shall be provided:
- (i) where the geographical extent of the zone significantly impedes free and safe access to the ports and coasts of a neutral State;
- (ii) in other cases where normal navigation routes are affected, except where military requirements do not permit; and
- (e) the commencement, duration, location and extent of the zone, as well as the restrictions imposed, shall be publicly declared and appropriately notified.

107. Compliance with the measures taken by one belligerent in the zone shall not be construed as an act harmful to the opposing belligerent.

108. Nothing in this Section should be deemed to derogate from the customary belligerent right to control neutral vessels and aircraft in the immediate vicinity of naval operations.

From Commander's Handbook

7.7 BLOCKADE

7.7.1 General

Blockade is a belligerent operation to prevent vessels and/or aircraft of all nations, enemy as well as neutral, from entering or exiting specified ports, airfields, or coastal areas belonging to, occupied by, or under the control of an enemy nation. While the belligerent right of visit and search is designed to interdict the flow of contraband goods, the belligerent right of blockade is intended to prevent vessels and aircraft, regardless of their cargo, from

crossing an established and publicized cordon separating the enemy from international waters and/or airspace.

7.7.2 Criteria for Blockades

To be valid, a blockade must conform to the criteria in the following paragraphs.

7.7.2.1 Establishment

A blockade must be established by the government of the belligerent nation. This is usually accomplished by a declaration of the belligerent government or by the commander of the blockading force acting on behalf of the belligerent government. The declaration should include, as a minimum, the date the blockade is to begin, its geographic limits, and the grace period granted neutral vessels and aircraft to leave the area to be blockaded.

7.7.2.2 Notification

It is customary for the belligerent nation establishing the blockade to notify all affected nations of its imposition. Because knowledge of the existence of a blockade is an essential element of the offenses of breach and attempted breach of blockade (see paragraph 7.7.4), neutral vessels and aircraft are always entitled to notification. The commander of the blockading forces will usually also notify local authorities in the blockaded area. The form of the notification is not material so long as it is effective.

7.7.2.3 Effectiveness

To be valid, a blockade must be effective—that is, it must be maintained by a surface, air, or subsurface force or other legitimate methods and means of warfare that is sufficient to render ingress or egress of the blockaded area dangerous. The requirement of effectiveness does not preclude temporary absence of the blockading force, if such absence is due to stress of weather or to some other reason connected with the blockade (e.g., pursuit of a blockade runner). Effectiveness does not require that every possible avenue of approach to the blockaded area be covered.

7.7.2.4 Impartiality

A blockade must be applied impartially to the vessels and aircraft of all nations. Discrimination by the blockading belligerent in favor of or against the vessels and aircraft of particular nations, including those of its own or those of an allied nation, renders the blockade legally invalid.

7.7.2.5 Limitations

A blockade must not bar access to or departure from neutral ports and coasts. Neutral nations retain the right to engage in neutral commerce that does not involve trade or communications originating in or destined for the blockaded area. A blockade is prohibited if the sole purpose is to starve the civilian population or to deny it other objects essential for its survival.

7.7.3 Special Entry and Exit Authorization

Although neutral warships and military aircraft enjoy no positive right of access to blockaded areas, the belligerent imposing the blockade may authorize their entry and exit. Such special authorization may be made subject to such conditions as the blockading force considers to be necessary and expedient. Neutral vessels and aircraft in evident distress should be authorized entry into a blockaded area, and subsequently authorized to depart, under conditions prescribed by the officer in command of the blockading force or responsible for maintenance of the blockading instrumentality (e.g., mines). Similarly, neutral vessels and aircraft engaged in the carriage of qualifying relief supplies for the civilian population and the sick and wounded should be authorized to pass through the blockade cordon, subject to the right of the blockading force to prescribe the technical arrangements, including search, under which passage is permitted.

7.7.4 Breach and Attempted Breach of Blockade

Breach of blockade is the passage of a vessel or aircraft through a blockade without special entry or exit authorization from the blockading belligerent. Attempted breach of blockade occurs from the time a vessel or aircraft leaves a port or airfield with the intention of evading the blockade, and for vessels exiting the blockaded area, continues until the voyage is completed. Knowledge of the existence of the blockade is essential to the offenses of breach of blockade and attempted breach of blockade. Knowledge may be presumed once a blockade has been declared and appropriate notification provided to affected governments. It is immaterial that the vessel or aircraft is at the time of interception bound for neutral territory, if its ultimate destination is the blockaded area. There is a presumption of attempted breach of blockade where vessels or aircraft are bound for a neutral port or airfield serving as a point of transit to the blockaded area. (Capture of such vessels is discussed in paragraph 7.10.)

7.7.5 Contemporary Practice

The criteria for valid blockades, as set out above in paragraph 7.7.2, are for the most part customary in nature, having derived their definitive form through the practice of maritime powers during the nineteenth century. The rules reflect a balance between the right of a belligerent possessing effective command of the sea to close enemy ports and coastlines to international commerce, and the right of neutral nations to carry out neutral commerce with

the least possible interference from belligerent forces. The law of blockade is, therefore, premised on a system of controls designed to effect only a limited interference with neutral trade. This was traditionally accomplished by a relatively "close-in" cordon of surface warships stationed in the immediate vicinity of the blockaded area. The increasing emphasis in modern warfare on seeking to isolate completely the enemy from outside assistance and resources by targeting enemy merchant vessels as well as warships, and on interdicting all neutral commerce with the enemy, is not furthered substantially by blockades established in strict conformity with the traditional rules. In World Wars I and II, belligerents of both sides resorted to methods which, although frequently referred to as measures of blockade, cannot be reconciled with the traditional concept of the close-in blockade. The so-called long-distance blockade of both world wars departed materially from those traditional rules and were premised in large measure upon the belligerent right of reprisal against illegal acts of warfare on the part of the enemy. Moreover, developments in weapons systems and platforms, particularly submarines, supersonic aircraft, and cruise missiles, have rendered the in-shore blockade exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, to maintain during anything other than a local or limited armed conflict. Accordingly, the characteristics of modern weapon systems will be a factor in analyzing the effectiveness of contemporary blockades.

Notwithstanding this trend in belligerent practices (during general war) away from the establishment of blockades that conform to the traditional rules, blockade continues to be a useful means to regulate the competing interests of belligerents and neutrals in more limited armed conflict. The experience of the United States during the Vietnam conflict provides a case in point. The closing of Haiphong and other North Vietnamese ports, accomplished by the emplacement of mines, was undertaken in conformity with traditional criteria of establishment, notification, effectiveness, limitation, and impartiality, although at the time the mining took place the term "blockade" was not used.

From: pomper [redacted]
 To: schwartzjb@state.gov; perinaah@state.gov; baumertka@state.gov; jacobsonl@state.gov; heinemannb@state.gov; dolanja@state.gov
 CC: aswadem@state.gov; sullivanjd1@state.gov; pomperse2@state.gov; guarinmf@state.gov; donoghueje@state.gov
 Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>
 Date: Mon, 31 May 2010 17:29:30 +0000

> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>
 > Date: Mon, 31 May 2010 13:01:59 -0400
 > From: SchwartzJB@state.gov
 > To: PerinaAH@state.gov; GoldbergerTH@state.gov; baumertka@state.gov; JacobsonL@state.gov; HeinemannTB@state.gov; DolanJA@state.gov
 > CC: AswadEM@state.gov; SullivanDJ1@state.gov; pomper [redacted]
 PomperSE2@state.gov; GuarinMF@state.gov

>
 > jon
 >
 > -----Original Message-----
 > From: Perina, Alexandra H
 > Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:56 PM
 > To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann,

Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn

> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; [REDACTED] Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F

> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

B5

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Schwartz, Jonathan B

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:17 PM

> To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H

> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J

> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Goldberger, Thomas H

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:40 AM

> To: Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H

> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J

> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Baumert, Kevin A

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:34 AM

> To: Jacobson, Linda; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H

> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J

> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Jacobson, Linda
> To: Baumert, Kevin A; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M
> Sent: Mon May 31 11:20:32 2010
> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Baumert, Kevin A
> To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda; Perina, Alexandra H
> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M
> Sent: Mon May 31 11:18:29 2010
> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

>
> Kevin
> L/OES
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Goldberger, Thomas H
> To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Baumert, Kevin A; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
> Sent: Mon May 31 10:50:27 2010
> Subject: FW: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Cunningham, James B
> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 10:47 AM
> To: Goldberger, Thomas H
> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

> Sent from my BlackBerry
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Goldberger, Thomas H
> To: Cunningham, James B; Hale, David M; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rubinstein, Daniel H; Connelly, Maura; Schlicher, Ronald L; 'Daniel_B._Shapiro@nsc.eop.gov' <Daniel_B._Shapiro@nsc.eop.gov>
> Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Jacobson, Linda; Dolan, JoAnn
> Sent: Mon May 31 17:37:00 2010

> Subject: FW: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

>

> See below from Jonathan pls.

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Schwartz, Jonathan B

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 9:13 AM

> To: Goldberger, Thomas H

> Cc: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Dolan, JoAnn; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B

> Subject: Fw: MFA flotilla briefing

>

B5

> Jon

>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Schwartz, Jonathan B

> To: Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B

> Cc: Baumert, Kevin A; Harris, Robert K; Donoghue, Joan E; Dolan, JoAnn

> Sent: Mon May 31 09:05:16 2010

> Subject: Fw: MFA flotilla briefing

>

B5

>

> Jon

>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Goldberger, Thomas H

> To: Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda

> Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Knopf, Payton L

> Sent: Mon May 31 08:24:00 2010

> Subject: FW: MFA flotilla briefing

>

B5

>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From:

B3 DOD-CP

> To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); B3 DOD-CP

> [redacted] M; Levin, Jan; [redacted]

> Sent: Mon May 31 08:08:22 2010

> Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

> [redacted] B3 DOD-CP
B3 DODFGI

Many of the details briefed have already been provided via other means. Specific Highlights -

- > - Ongoing Operation
- > - Two Ships in Ashdod to include the CHALLENGER I
- > - M/V MAVI MARMARA expected in port between 1700L and 1800L
- > - All ships will be in port by later today
- > - 10-14 Civilians Seriously Injured or Killed
- > - 30 Civilians Wounded
- > - 10 IDF wounded to include 1 serious and 1 with "medium" wounds
- > - Turkish Ambassador to Israel recalled
- > - Interaction occurred approx 70 NM from coastline. IDF confident in International Law because of intent by flotilla to breach the blockade. (See Attached Slides)

> [redacted] B3 DOD-CP

>
>
> -----Original Message-----

> From: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem)

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 2:46 PM

> To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [redacted] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

> Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

> Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

>
> This may largely repeat at this point what is out in other places and/or others have heard from me, but just to assure that various reporting lines have same info, this is from [redacted], who also spoke with the UN's Serry, among others, this am.

> [redacted] reported that when Israeli soldiers boarded the main deck of the main ship, they met with what he described as clearly planned active/armed resistance, including live fire. Military who boarded were attacked with knives, sharpened metal and wood instruments, etc. He said the military who boarded were attacked by dozens; He indicated that some of the soldiers were stabbed and slashed. Made clear situation was one in which actions taken were in self-defense.

>
> Current estimates of those killed from flotilla 14-15 "maybe more". He said all injured being moved to Israeli hospital - by helicopter. He said ships coming into Ashdod (some reports have them coming into Haifa). At Ashdod, he and others will meet the ships. There, they will need to ID the bodies; move the people either to return them to home countries rapidly and/or detain; ID the cargo and as planned initially, move as much of into Gaza as promptly as possible.

>
> Earlier this morning [redacted] made the following calls/contacts: B6
> --Turkish FM and MoD [redacted] Erakat, Fayyad, and Hussein al Sheikh [redacted]. He felt the calls w the

Turks given the situation were OK, but the concern clearly is Erdogan and how he will handle. With Pals, Erakat in particular, they discussed extent to which levels of rhetoric could be kept in check. With Fayyad they discussed primarily need for security cooperation, keeping things calm. Concern about how this will be affected by status of Israeli Arab Islamic leader on board the flotilla.

>
 > (PIC seems to be on track/going forward. Some events may be affected by it.)
 >
 > -----Original Message-----
 > From: Cunningham, James B
 > Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:38 PM
 > To: Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [REDACTED] Amodeo, B3 DOD-CP
 > Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D
 > Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'
 > Subject: Re: MFA flotilla briefing

>
 > Our Consular people are in contact with MFA and Ashdod to get info on amcits as soon as it's available. UN had been approached by COGAT last week to help in forwarding cargo from ships in Ashdod. Serry is trying to send a couple of observers to Ashdod, has told cogat that assisting deliveries of humanitarian goods, much of which is destined for Hamas, is problematic but he'll see. Barak just gave a press conference, and appears to have spoken to Davutoglu this am.

> Sent from my BlackBerry

>
 > ----- Original Message -----
 > From: Levin, Jan
 > To: Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Cunningham, James B; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [REDACTED] B3 DOD-CP
 > Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D
 > Sent: Mon May 31 13:20:31 2010
 > Subject: MFA flotilla briefing

> [REDACTED] briefed foreign B6
 > ambassadors at 12:30 local time today.

>
 > Highlights - Identification of dead and wounded taking time. MFA will reach out proactively to Embassies as IDs are done, with location and status of citizens. The uninjured will be processed and escorted to airport for deportation. Unclear how long this will take.

> -- Most violence occurred on ship Mavi (Blue) Marmara. As far as is currently known, all injuries occurred on this ship.

> -- [REDACTED] told Ambassador that activists on Mavi Marmara were prepared for boarders and were armed. Unclear if they had firearms in advance or took them from IDF boarding party. One IDF soldier nearly beaten to death with metal bar. Activists also had knives. B6

> -- Events took place in international waters. Israel asserted it had the legal right to intercept in intl waters because there is a military blockade under the law of armed conflict between Israel and Hamas.

>
 > Ambassador Cunningham requests that Embassy Tel Aviv clear Dept guidance on this issue, thank you.

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The New Busy is not the old busy. Search, chat and e-mail from your inbox. [Get started.](#)

RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP,B3 DODFGI,B5,B6

Law, Rosemary C

From: Donoghue, Joan E
Sent: Tuesday, June 01, 2010 4:05 AM
To: Martin, Julie B; Baumert, Kevin A; Pomper, Stephen E; Aswad, Evelyn M; Schwartz, Jonathan B; [redacted] Perina, Alexandra H; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; McLeod, Mary (USUN)
Cc: Sullivan, David J; Guarin, Marc F; Townley, Stephen G; Banos, Mariano H
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

B5

From: Martin, Julie B
To: Baumert, Kevin A; Pomper, Stephen E; Aswad, Evelyn M; Schwartz, Jonathan B; [redacted] Perina, Alexandra H; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Sullivan, David J; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; Townley, Stephen G; Banos, Mariano H
Sent: Tue Jun 01 03:47:45 2010
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

Thanks to all.

B5

Thanks, Julie

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Baumert, Kevin A
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 10:54 PM
To: Pomper, Stephen E; Aswad, Evelyn M; Schwartz, Jonathan B; [redacted] Perina, Alexandra H; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Sullivan, David J; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; Townley, Stephen G; Banos, Mariano H; Martin, Julie B
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

B5

Thanks, Kevin

From: Pomper, Stephen E
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 4:31 PM
To: Aswad, Evelyn M; Schwartz, Jonathan B; 'pomper [redacted] Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A;

B6

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn

Cc: Sullivan, David J; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; Townley, Stephen G; Banos, Mariano H; Martin, Julie B

Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

removing non L address

From: Aswad, Evelyn M

To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; 'Stephen & Betsy Pomper/Andersen' [redacted]; Perina, Alexandra H;

Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn

Cc: Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; [redacted]

[redacted] Townley, Stephen G; Banos, Mariano H; Martin, Julie B

Sent: Mon May 31 16:29:33 2010

Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

[redacted]

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 3:10 PM

To: 'Stephen & Betsy Pomper/Andersen'; Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn

Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; eandersen@asil.org; Townley, Stephen G

Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

Jon

From: Stephen & Betsy Pomper/Andersen [mailto:[redacted]]

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 3:14 PM

To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn

Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; [redacted]

Townley, Stephen G

Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

Folks--

B6

B5

Steve

From San Remo Manual on International Law Applicable to Armed Conflicts at Sea, 12 June 1994

<http://www.icrc.org/ihl.nsf/385ec082b509e76c41256739003e636d/7694fe2016f347e1c125641f002d49ce>

Blockade

93. A blockade shall be declared and notified to all belligerents and neutral States.

94. The declaration shall specify the commencement, duration, location, and extent of the blockade and the period within which vessels of neutral States may leave the blockaded coastline.

95. A blockade must be effective. The question whether a blockade is effective is a question of fact.

96. The force maintaining the blockade may be stationed at a distance determined by military requirements.

97. A blockade may be enforced and maintained by a combination of legitimate methods and means of warfare provided this combination does not result in acts inconsistent with the rules set out in this document.

98. Merchant vessels believed on reasonable grounds to be breaching a blockade may be captured. Merchant vessels which, after prior warning, clearly resist capture may be attacked.

99. A blockade must not bar access to the ports and coasts of neutral States.

100. A blockade must be applied impartially to the vessels of all States.

101. The cessation, temporary lifting, re-establishment, extension or other alteration of a blockade must be declared and notified as in paragraphs 93 and 94.

102. The declaration or establishment of a blockade is prohibited if:

- (a) it has the sole purpose of starving the civilian population or denying it other objects essential for its survival; or
- (b) the damage to the civilian population is, or may be expected to be, excessive in relation to the concrete and direct military advantage anticipated from the blockade.

103. If the civilian population of the blockaded territory is inadequately provided with food and other objects essential for its survival, the blockading party must provide for free passage of such foodstuffs and other essential supplies, subject to:

- (a) the right to prescribe the technical arrangements, including search, under which such passage is permitted; and
- (b) the condition that the distribution of such supplies shall be made under the local supervision of a Protecting Power or a humanitarian organization which offers guarantees of impartiality, such as the International Committee of the Red Cross.

104. The blockading belligerent shall allow the passage of medical supplies for the civilian population or for the wounded and sick members of armed forces, subject to the right to prescribe technical arrangements, including search, under which such passage is permitted.

Zones

105. A belligerent cannot be absolved of its duties under international humanitarian law by establishing zones which might adversely affect the legitimate uses of defined areas of the sea.

106. Should a belligerent, as an exceptional measure, establish such a zone:

- (a) the same body of law applies both inside and outside the zone;
- (b) the extent, location and duration of the zone and the measures imposed shall not exceed what is strictly required by military necessity and the principles of proportionality;
- (c) due regard shall be given to the rights of neutral States to legitimate uses of the seas;
- (d) necessary safe passage through the zone for neutral vessels and aircraft shall be provided:
- (i) where the geographical extent of the zone significantly impedes free and safe access to the ports and coasts of a neutral State;
- (ii) in other cases where normal navigation routes are affected, except where military requirements do not permit; and
- (e) the commencement, duration, location and extent of the zone, as well as the restrictions imposed, shall be publicly declared and appropriately notified.

107. Compliance with the measures taken by one belligerent in the zone shall not be construed as an act harmful to the opposing belligerent.

108. Nothing in this Section should be deemed to derogate from the customary belligerent right to control neutral vessels and aircraft in the immediate vicinity of naval operations.

From Commander's Handbook

7.7 BLOCKADE

7.7.1 General

Blockade is a belligerent operation to prevent vessels and/or aircraft of all nations, enemy as well as neutral, from

entering or exiting specified ports, airfields, or coastal areas belonging to, occupied by, or under the control of an enemy nation. While the belligerent right of visit and search is designed to interdict the flow of contraband goods, the belligerent right of blockade is intended to prevent vessels and aircraft, regardless of their cargo, from crossing an established and publicized cordon separating the enemy from international waters and/or airspace.

7.7.2 Criteria for Blockades

To be valid, a blockade must conform to the criteria in the following paragraphs.

7.7.2.1 Establishment

A blockade must be established by the government of the belligerent nation. This is usually accomplished by a declaration of the belligerent government or by the commander of the blockading force acting on behalf of the belligerent government. The declaration should include, as a minimum, the date the blockade is to begin, its geographic limits, and the grace period granted neutral vessels and aircraft to leave the area to be blockaded.

7.7.2.2 Notification

It is customary for the belligerent nation establishing the blockade to notify all affected nations of its imposition. Because knowledge of the existence of a blockade is an essential element of the offenses of breach and attempted breach of blockade (see paragraph 7.7.4), neutral vessels and aircraft are always entitled to notification. The commander of the blockading forces will usually also notify local authorities in the blockaded area. The form of the notification is not material so long as it is effective.

7.7.2.3 Effectiveness

To be valid, a blockade must be effective—that is, it must be maintained by a surface, air, or subsurface force or other legitimate methods and means of warfare that is sufficient to render ingress or egress of the blockaded area dangerous. The requirement of effectiveness does not preclude temporary absence of the blockading force, if such absence is due to stress of weather or to some other reason connected with the blockade (e.g., pursuit of a blockade runner). Effectiveness does not require that every possible avenue of approach to the blockaded area be covered.

7.7.2.4 Impartiality

A blockade must be applied impartially to the vessels and aircraft of all nations. Discrimination by the blockading belligerent in favor of or against the vessels and aircraft of particular nations, including those of its own or those of an allied nation, renders the blockade legally invalid.

7.7.2.5 Limitations

A blockade must not bar access to or departure from neutral ports and coasts. Neutral nations retain the right to engage in neutral commerce that does not involve trade or communications originating in or destined for the blockaded area. A blockade is prohibited if the sole purpose is to starve the civilian population or to deny it other objects essential for its survival.

7.7.3 Special Entry and Exit Authorization

Although neutral warships and military aircraft enjoy no positive right of access to blockaded areas, the belligerent imposing the blockade may authorize their entry and exit. Such special authorization may be made subject to such conditions as the blockading force considers to be necessary and expedient. Neutral vessels and aircraft in evident distress should be authorized entry into a blockaded area, and subsequently authorized to depart, under conditions prescribed by the officer in command of the blockading force or responsible for maintenance of the blockading instrumentality (e.g., mines). Similarly, neutral vessels and aircraft engaged in the carriage of qualifying relief supplies for the civilian population and the sick and wounded should be authorized to pass through the blockade cordon, subject to the right of the blockading force to prescribe the technical arrangements, including search, under which passage is permitted.

7.7.4 Breach and Attempted Breach of Blockade

Breach of blockade is the passage of a vessel or aircraft through a blockade without special entry or exit authorization from the blockading belligerent. Attempted breach of blockade occurs from the time a vessel or aircraft leaves a port or airfield with the intention of evading the blockade, and for vessels exiting the blockaded area, continues until the voyage is completed. Knowledge of the existence of the blockade is essential to the offenses of breach of blockade and attempted breach of blockade. Knowledge may be presumed once a blockade has been declared and appropriate notification provided to affected governments. It is immaterial that the vessel or aircraft is at the time of interception bound for neutral territory, if its ultimate destination is the blockaded area. There is a presumption of attempted breach of blockade where vessels or aircraft are bound for a neutral port or airfield serving as a point of transit to the blockaded area. (Capture of such vessels is discussed in paragraph 7.10.)

7.7.5 Contemporary Practice

The criteria for valid blockades, as set out above in paragraph 7.7.2, are for the most part customary in nature,

having derived their definitive form through the practice of maritime powers during the nineteenth century. The rules reflect a balance between the right of a belligerent possessing effective command of the sea to close enemy ports and coastlines to international commerce, and the right of neutral nations to carry out neutral commerce with the least possible interference from belligerent forces. The law of blockade is, therefore, premised on a system of controls designed to effect only a limited interference with neutral trade. This was traditionally accomplished by a relatively "close-in" cordon of surface warships stationed in the immediate vicinity of the blockaded area. The increasing emphasis in modern warfare on seeking to isolate completely the enemy from outside assistance and resources by targeting enemy merchant vessels as well as warships, and on interdicting all neutral commerce with the enemy, is not furthered substantially by blockades established in strict conformity with the traditional rules. In World Wars I and II, belligerents of both sides resorted to methods which, although frequently referred to as measures of blockade, cannot be reconciled with the traditional concept of the close-in blockade. The so-called long-distance blockade of both world wars departed materially from those traditional rules and were premised in large measure upon the belligerent right of reprisal against illegal acts of warfare on the part of the enemy. Moreover, developments in weapons systems and platforms, particularly submarines, supersonic aircraft, and cruise missiles, have rendered the in-shore blockade exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, to maintain during anything other than a local or limited armed conflict. Accordingly, the characteristics of modern weapon systems will be a factor in analyzing the effectiveness of contemporary blockades. Notwithstanding this trend in belligerent practices (during general war) away from the establishment of blockades that conform to the traditional rules, blockade continues to be a useful means to regulate the competing interests of belligerents and neutrals in more limited armed conflict. The experience of the United States during the Vietnam conflict provides a case in point. The closing of Haiphong and other North Vietnamese ports, accomplished by the emplacement of mines, was undertaken in conformity with traditional criteria of establishment, notification, effectiveness, limitation, and impartiality, although at the time the mining took place the term "blockade" was not used.

From: [REDACTED]
 To: schwartzjb@state.gov; perinaah@state.gov; baumertka@state.gov; jacobsonl@state.gov; heinemannTB@state.gov; dolanja@state.gov
 CC: aswadem@state.gov; sullivandj1@state.gov; pomperse2@state.gov; guarinmf@state.gov; donoghueje@state.gov
 Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>
 Date: Mon, 31 May 2010 17:29:30 +0000

B6

B5

> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>
 > Date: Mon, 31 May 2010 13:01:59 -0400
 > From: SchwartzJB@state.gov
 > To: PerinaAH@state.gov; GoldbergerTH@state.gov; baumertka@state.gov; JacobsonL@state.gov; HeinemannTB@state.gov; DolanJA@state.gov
 > CC: AswadEM@state.gov; SullivanDJ1@state.gov; pomper [REDACTED]
 PomperSE2@state.gov; GuarinMF@state.gov

B6

> jon
 >
 > -----Original Message-----

> From: Perina, Alexandra H
> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:56 PM
> To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; [REDACTED] Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F
> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

B5

> -----Original Message-----
> From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:17 PM
> To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B5

> -----Original Message-----
> From: Goldberger, Thomas H
> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:40 AM
> To: Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B5

> -----Original Message-----
> From: Baumert, Kevin A
> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:34 AM
> To: Jacobson, Linda; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B5

[REDACTED]

>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Jacobson, Linda
> To: Baumert, Kevin A; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M
> Sent: Mon May 31 11:20:32 2010
> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

[REDACTED]

>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Baumert, Kevin A
> To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda; Perina, Alexandra H
> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M
> Sent: Mon May 31 11:18:29 2010
> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

[REDACTED]

>
> Kevin
> L/OES
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Goldberger, Thomas H
> To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Baumert, Kevin A; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
> Sent: Mon May 31 10:50:27 2010
> Subject: FW: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

[REDACTED]

>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Cunningham, James B
> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 10:47 AM
> To: Goldberger, Thomas H
> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

[REDACTED]

> Sent from my BlackBerry
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Goldberger, Thomas H
> To: Cunningham, James B; Hale, David M; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rubinstein, Daniel H; Connelly, Maura;

Schlicher, Ronald L; 'Daniel_B._Shapiro@nsc.eop.gov' <Daniel_B._Shapiro@nsc.eop.gov>

> Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Jacobson, Linda; Dolan, JoAnn

> Sent: Mon May 31 17:37:00 2010

> Subject: FW: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

>

> See below from Jonathan pls.

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Schwartz, Jonathan B

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 9:13 AM

> To: Goldberger, Thomas H

> Cc: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Dolan, JoAnn; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B

> Subject: Fw: MFA flotilla briefing

>

B5

>

> Jon

>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Schwartz, Jonathan B

> To: Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B

> Cc: Baumert, Kevin A; Harris, Robert K; Donoghue, Joan E; Dolan, JoAnn

> Sent: Mon May 31 09:05:16 2010

> Subject: Fw: MFA flotilla briefing

>

>

> Jon

>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Goldberger, Thomas H

> To: Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda

> Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Knopf, Payton L

> Sent: Mon May 31 08:24:00 2010

> Subject: FW: MFA flotilla briefing

>

>

>
 > ----- Original Message -----
 > From: [REDACTED] B3 DOD-CP
 > To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); [REDACTED] B3 DOD-CP
 > Sent: Mon May 31 08:08:22 2010
 > Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing
 >

[REDACTED] B3 DOD-CP
 B3 DODFGI
 Many of the details briefed have already been provided via other means. Specific Highlights -
 > - Ongoing Operation
 > - Two Ships in Ashdod to include the CHALLENGER I
 > - M/V MAVI MARMARA expected in port between 1700L and 1800L
 > - All ships will be in port by later today
 > - 10-14 Civilians Seriously Injured or Killed
 > - 30 Civilians Wounded
 > - 10 IDF wounded to include 1 serious and 1 with "medium" wounds
 > - Turkish Ambassador to Israel recalled
 > - Interaction occurred approx 70 NM from coastline. IDF confident in International Law because of intent by flotilla to breach the blockade. (See Attached Slides)
 >

[REDACTED] B3 DOD-CP

>
 >
 > -----Original Message-----
 > From: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem)
 > Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 2:46 PM
 > To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [REDACTED] B3 DOD-CP
 > [REDACTED] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D
 > Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'
 > Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing
 >
 > This may largely repeat at this point what is out in other places and/or others have heard from me, but just to assure that various reporting lines have same info, this is from [REDACTED] who B3 DODFGI spoke with the UN's Serry, among others, this am.
 >
 > [REDACTED] reported that when Israeli soldiers boarded the main deck of the main ship, they met with B3 DODFGI he described as clearly planned active/armed resistance, including live fire. Military who boarded were attacked with knives, sharpened metal and wood instruments, etc. He said the military who boarded were attacked by dozens; He indicated that some of the soldiers were stabbed and slashed. Made clear situation was one in which actions taken were in self-defense.
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> Earlier this morning [] made the following calls/contacts: B6

> --Turkish FM and MoD [] Erakat, Fayyad, and Hussein al Sheikh []. He felt the calls w the Turks given the situation were OK, but the concern clearly is Erdogan and how he will handle. With Pals, Erakat in particular, they discussed extent to which levels of rhetoric could be kept in check. With Fayyad they discussed primarily need for security cooperation, keeping things calm. Concern about how this will be affected by status of Israeli Arab Islamic leader on board the flotilla.

>

> (PIC seems to be on track/going forward. Some events may be affected by it.)

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Cunningham, James B

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:38 PM

> To: Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [] Amodeo, B3 DOD-CP

> Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

> Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

> Subject: Re: MFA flotilla briefing

>

> Our Consular people are in contact with MFA and Ashdod to get info on amcits as soon as it's available. UN had been approached by COGAT last week to help in forwarding cargo from ships in Ashdod. Serry is trying to send a couple of observers to Ashdod, has told cogat that assisting deliveries of humanitarian goods, much of which is destined for Hamas, is problematic but he'll see. Barak just gave a press conference, and appears to have spoken to Davutoglu this am.

> Sent from my BlackBerry

>

> ----- Original Message ----- B3 DOD-CP

> From: Levin, Jan

> To: Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Cunningham, James B; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

> Sent: Mon May 31 13:20:31 2010

> Subject: MFA flotilla briefing

>

[] briefed foreign B6

ambassadors at 12:30 local time today.

>

> Highlights - Identification of dead and wounded taking time. MFA will reach out proactively to Embassies as IDs are done, with location and status of citizens. The uninjured will be processed and escorted to airport for deportation. Unclear how long this will take.

> -- Most violence occurred on ship Mavi (Blue) Marmara. As far as is currently known, all injuries occurred on this ship.

> -- [] told Ambassador that activists on Mavi Marmara were prepared for boarders and were armed. Unclear if they had firearms in advance or took them from IDF boarding party. One IDF soldier nearly beaten to death with metal bar. Activists also had knives.

> -- Events took place in international waters. Israel asserted it had the legal right to intercept in intl waters because there is a military blockade under the law of armed conflict between Israel and Hamas.

>

> Ambassador Cunningham requests that Embassy Tel Aviv clear Dept guidance on this issue, thank you.

Hotmail has tools for the New Busy. Search, chat and e-mail from your inbox. [Learn more.](#)

The New Busy is not the old busy. Search, chat and e-mail from your inbox. [Get started.](#)

RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP,B3 DODFGI,B5,B6

Law, Rosemary C

From: Dolan, JoAnn
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:14 PM
To: Dolan, JoAnn; Pomper, Stephen E; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Donoghue, Joan E; Jacobson, Linda; McLeod, Mary (USUN); Sullivan, David J; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B; Aswad, Evelyn M
Cc: Harris, Robert K
Subject: RE: Humanitarian flotilla
Attachments: Fw: MFA flotilla briefing; Fw: MFA flotilla briefing; FW: DEF. MINISTER BARAK NEWS CONF. -- YNET ; MOD Flotilla Brief... ; FW: IDF Spokesperson Announcement-Pistols Found on Flotilla Activists; FW: IDF Spokesperson Announcement: IDF Forces Met with Pre-Planned Violence when attempting to Board Flotilla

I have not found full transcript of Israeli briefings in my queue but here are what appear to be most relevant from morning

From: Dolan, JoAnn
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:45 AM
To: Pomper, Stephen E; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Donoghue, Joan E; Jacobson, Linda; McLeod, Mary (USUN); Sullivan, David J; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B; Aswad, Evelyn M
Cc: Harris, Robert K
Subject: RE: Humanitarian flotilla

Thanks, Steve. I have been unable to reach Alexandra or Kevin by phone. I have left phone messages for both but will try them through op center next. I will go through emails and circulate what I have for benefit of addressees. Conference call may be the way to go. Including Evelyn as she is following HRC angle.

-----Original Message-----

From: Pomper, Stephen E
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:40 AM
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Donoghue, Joan E; Jacobson, Linda; McLeod, Mary (USUN); Sullivan, David J; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Dolan, JoAnn; Heinemann, Thomas B
Cc: Harris, Robert K
Subject: Re: Humanitarian flotilla

Joann just reached me. I haven't tracked this beyond this mornong's traffic and the front page of the nyt but can help coordinate this afternoon. If someone could send me any analysis done in the run up last week that would be very helpful. Would it be useful to set up a call so that those folks who have been working the issue can pool info re knowledge/work done to date/etc?

----- Original Message -----

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
To: Donoghue, Joan E; Jacobson, Linda; McLeod, Mary (USUN); Pomper, Stephen E; Sullivan, David J; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Dolan, JoAnn; Heinemann, Thomas B
Cc: Harris, Robert K; Jacobson, Linda
Sent: Mon May 31 11:29:10 2010
Subject: Re: Humanitarian flotilla

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

B5

[REDACTED]

Jon

----- Original Message -----

From: Donoghue, Joan E
To: Jacobson, Linda; McLeod, Mary (USUN); Pomper, Stephen E; Sullivan, David J; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Dolan, JoAnn; Heinemann, Thomas B
Sent: Mon May 31 11:21:26 2010
Subject: Re: Humanitarian flotilla

[REDACTED]

----- Original Message -----

From: Jacobson, Linda
To: McLeod, Mary (USUN); Pomper, Stephen E; Sullivan, David J; Donoghue, Joan E; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Dolan, JoAnn; Heinemann, Thomas B
Sent: Mon May 31 10:05:35 2010
Subject: Re: Humanitarian flotilla

Including others working on this.

----- Original Message -----

From: McLeod, Mary (USUN)
To: Jacobson, Linda; Pomper, Stephen E; Sullivan, David J; Donoghue, Joan E; Schwartz, Jonathan B
Sent: Mon May 31 09:57:46 2010
Subject: Humanitarian flotilla

All--Assume you all are working on this. I know Todd and Harold are in Kampala and bbs aren't working. I am rushing back to NYC to try to make the SC meeting, currently scheduled for 1. Anticipate much interest in legal issues focused on Israeli claims they were acting in self-defense and that the flotilla was violating international law.

Law, Rosemary C

From: Grubb, Jason B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 7:09 AM
To: Sindle, James M; Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; 'Sergio L. Aguirre@nss.eop.gov'; Holmstrom, Todd C; 'Eric.Lynn@osd.mil'; Waller, Robert P; Rana, Gautam A; 'Patrick.Antoniotti@osd.mil'; 'Daniel B. Shapiro@nss.eop.gov'; 'Prem_G._Kumar@nss.eop.gov'; Hickey, Mary E; Schwartz, Jonathan B; 'joe.ramirez@eucom.mil'; 'mike.holmes@osd.mil'; 'Timothy.P.Connors@uscg.mil'; Sievers, Marc J; Dolan, JoAnn; Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Giauque, Jeffrey G; Frelich, Karlene H; Connelly, Maura; Harris, Robert K; Mortlock, David JL; Rudman, Mara; Waters, John R; Marchese, Gregory M; Pelton, Erin; Gutman, Bonnie S; Greene, Elisa; Harutunian, Ruben; Levin, Jan; Roberts, Kristi (Tel Aviv); Reisser, Wesley J; Parker, Andrew C;
Subject: FW: DEF. MINISTER BARAK NEWS CONF. -- YNET

From: Blaukopf, Ruth B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:53 PM
To: BARON Desirée; Garcia, Dennis J; KAPLAN Crystal; Burnett, David R; Frelich, Karlene H; Giauque, Jeffrey G; Goldberger, Thomas H; Hale, David M; Harden, Dave; Hertzberg, David A; Holmstrom, Todd C; Irwin, Matthew T (IrwinMT@state.gov); Jacoby, Julia I; Khoury-Kincannon, Sahar; Knopf, Payton L; Lentz, Andrew N; Marc Sievers; Mayo, Iris J; Reisser, Wesley J; Roberts, Kristi (Tel Aviv); Sachar, Alon (NEA/IPA); Sindle, James M; Waters, John R; Alan Holst; Grubb Jason; Levin, Jan (LevinJ@state.gov); Michael Honigstein; Michaels, David G (MichaelsDG@state.gov); Nelson Tim
Subject: DEF. MINISTER BARAK NEWS CONF. -- YNET Jason pls note

YNET 13:23 , 05.31.10

Barak: Sail's organizers responsible for deadly raid

Defense minister, IDF chief of staff and Navy commander explain Israeli considerations following takeover of aid ships sailing to Gaza, which left at least 15 pro-Palestinian activists dead. 'We regret the casualties, but the sail's organizers are fully responsible'

Attila Somfalvi

Defense Minister Ehud Barak said Monday that the organizers of the flotilla to Gaza were responsible for the deadly Israel Defense Forces raid of the ships, which left at least 15 pro-Palestinian activists dead and dozens injured.

Speaking at a joint press briefing with IDF Chief of Staff Gabi Ashkenazi and Navy Commander Eliezer Marom, Barak said, "We express our regret over the injuries, but the sail's organizers and its participants are fully responsible."

He added that a violent incident took place on only one of the six ships involved in the sail.

"The State of Israel appealed to the organizers before the ships set sail and during the sail and invited them to arrive at the Ashdod Port and transfer the aid to Gaza after security checks," he said. "All of our appeals were turned down. The soldiers were attacked after arriving at one of the ships. Some were injured by serious physical violence on the part of the protestors."

"I am familiar with these types of operations and their possible developments, and I am familiar with the units which operated and with their commanders. They are the best of our people," the defense minister explained.

"In light of the life-threatening situation, the soldiers were forced to use crowd dispersal means and firearms," he said, adding that some of the casualties were killed by firearms. According to Barak, 10 soldiers were injured in the incident, some from firearms and some from cold arms.

"The IHH organization, which was behind these unruly ship, is a violent and radical organization acting under the cover of humanitarian activity," Barak argued.

"This is the time for responsibility and I call on everyone to act with restraint and common sense and not let an anarchistic organization and radical elements seeking to undermine the public order to take advantage of this unfortunate incident for violence."

'Crowd dispersal equipment wasn't enough'

Law, Rosemary C

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 9:13 AM
To: Goldberger, Thomas H
Cc: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Dolan, JoAnn; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B
Subject: Fw: MFA flotilla briefing
Attachments: Legal Aspects.ppt

B5

Jon

----- Original Message -----

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
To: Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B
Cc: Baumert, Kevin A; Harris, Robert K; Donoghue, Joan E; Dolan, JoAnn
Sent: Mon May 31 09:05:16 2010
Subject: Fw: MFA flotilla briefing

Jon

----- Original Message -----

From: Goldberger, Thomas H
To: Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Knopf, Payton L
Sent: Mon May 31 08:24:00 2010
Subject: FW: MFA flotilla briefing

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]
 To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); [REDACTED] Levin, Jan; [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]

Sent: Mon May 31 08:08:22 2010

Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

B3 DOD-CP

B3 DOD-CP

Many of the details briefed have already been provided via other means. Specific High [REDACTED] B3 DODFGI

- Ongoing Operation
- Two Ships in Ashdod to include the CHALLENGER I
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To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [REDACTED] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, JeB3 DOD-CP

D

Cc: 'Dennis_B_Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

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B6

[REDACTED] who also spoke with the UN's Serry, among others, this am.

[REDACTED] reported that when Israeli soldiers boarded the main deck of the main ship, they met with what he described as clearly planned active/armed resistance, including live fire. Military who boarded were attacked with knives, sharpened metal and wood instruments, etc. He said the military who boarded were attacked by dozens; He indicated that some of the soldiers were stabbed and slashed. Made clear situation was one in which actions taken were in self-defense.

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(PIC seems to be on track/going forward. Some events may be affected by it.)

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Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:38 PM

To: Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C;

Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [redacted]

[redacted] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; FeltB3 DOD-CP

Jeffrey D

Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

Subject: Re: MFA flotilla briefing

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From: Levin, Jan

To: Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Cunningham, James B; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Schlereth, Frank G; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

Sent: Mon May 31 13:20:31 2010

Subject: MFA flotilla briefing

[redacted] briefed
foreign ambassadors at 12:30 local time today.

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Ambassador Cunningham requests that Embassy Tel Aviv clear Dept guidance on this issue, thank you.

Law, Rosemary C**RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP,B3
DODFGI,B5,B6**

From: McLeod, Mary (USUN)
Sent: Tuesday, June 01, 2010 8:32 AM
To: Martin, Julie B; Donoghue, Joan E; Baumert, Kevin A; Pomper, Stephen E; Aswad, Evelyn M; Schwartz, Jonathan B; [REDACTED] Perina, Alexandra H; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Sullivan, David J; Guarin, Marc F; Townley, Stephen G; Banos, Mariano H
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

B5

From: Martin, Julie B
To: Donoghue, Joan E; Baumert, Kevin A; Pomper, Stephen E; Aswad, Evelyn M; Schwartz, Jonathan B; [REDACTED] Perina, Alexandra H; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; McLeod, Mary (USUN)
Cc: Sullivan, David J; Guarin, Marc F; Townley, Stephen G; Banos, Mariano H
Sent: Tue Jun 01 05:10:54 2010
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

B5

From: Donoghue, Joan E
To: Martin, Julie B; Baumert, Kevin A; Pomper, Stephen E; Aswad, Evelyn M; Schwartz, Jonathan B; [REDACTED] Perina, Alexandra H; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; McLeod, Mary (USUN)
Cc: Sullivan, David J; Guarin, Marc F; Townley, Stephen G; Banos, Mariano H
Sent: Tue Jun 01 04:04:41 2010
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

B5

Cd someone send the SYG statement please? Thanks.

From: Martin, Julie B
To: Baumert, Kevin A; Pomper, Stephen E; Aswad, Evelyn M; Schwartz, Jonathan B; [REDACTED] Perina, Alexandra H; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Sullivan, David J; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; Townley, Stephen G; Banos, Mariano H
Sent: Tue Jun 01 03:47:45 2010
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

Thanks to all.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

B5

Thanks, Julie

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Baumert, Kevin A

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 10:54 PM

To: Pomper, Stephen E; Aswad, Evelyn M; Schwartz, Jonathan B; [REDACTED] Perina, Alexandra H; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn

Cc: Sullivan, David J; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; Townley, Stephen G; Banos, Mariano H; Martin, Julie B

Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

B5

Thanks, Kevin

From: Pomper, Stephen E

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 4:31 PM

To: Aswad, Evelyn M; Schwartz, Jonathan B; [REDACTED] Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn

Cc: Sullivan, David J; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; Townley, Stephen G; Banos, Mariano H; Martin, Julie B

Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

removing non L address

From: Aswad, Evelyn M

To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; 'Stephen & Betsy Pomper/Andersen' [REDACTED] Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn

Cc: Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; [REDACTED]; Townley, Stephen G; Banos, Mariano H; Martin, Julie B

Sent: Mon May 31 16:29:33 2010

Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

Looping in Mariano & Julie. EA

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 3:10 PM

To: 'Stephen & Betsy Pomper/Andersen'; Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn

Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; [REDACTED] Townley, Stephen G

Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

B5

Jon

From: Stephen & Betsy Pomper/Andersen [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 3:14 PM

To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn

Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; [REDACTED]
Townley, Stephen G

Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

Folks--

B6

B6

B5

B5

B6

Steve

From San Remo Manual on International Law Applicable to Armed Conflicts at Sea, 12 June 1994<http://www.icrc.org/ihl.nsf/385ec082b509e76c41256739003e636d/7694fe2016f347e1c125641f002d49ce>**Blockade**

93. A blockade shall be declared and notified to all belligerents and neutral States.

94. The declaration shall specify the commencement, duration, location, and extent of the blockade and the period within which vessels of neutral States may leave the blockaded coastline.

95. A blockade must be effective. The question whether a blockade is effective is a question of fact.

96. The force maintaining the blockade may be stationed at a distance determined by military requirements.

97. A blockade may be enforced and maintained by a combination of legitimate methods and means of warfare provided this combination does not result in acts inconsistent with the rules set out in this document.

98. Merchant vessels believed on reasonable grounds to be breaching a blockade may be captured. Merchant vessels which, after prior warning, clearly resist capture may be attacked.

99. A blockade must not bar access to the ports and coasts of neutral States.

100. A blockade must be applied impartially to the vessels of all States.

101. The cessation, temporary lifting, re-establishment, extension or other alteration of a blockade must be declared and notified as in paragraphs 93 and 94.

102. The declaration or establishment of a blockade is prohibited if:

- (a) it has the sole purpose of starving the civilian population or denying it other objects essential for its survival; or
- (b) the damage to the civilian population is, or may be expected to be, excessive in relation to the concrete and direct military advantage anticipated from the blockade.

103. If the civilian population of the blockaded territory is inadequately provided with food and other objects essential for its survival, the blockading party must provide for free passage of such foodstuffs and other essential supplies, subject to:

- (a) the right to prescribe the technical arrangements, including search, under which such passage is permitted; and
- (b) the condition that the distribution of such supplies shall be made under the local supervision of a Protecting Power or a humanitarian organization which offers guarantees of impartiality, such as the International Committee of the Red Cross.

104. The blockading belligerent shall allow the passage of medical supplies for the civilian population or for the wounded

and sick members of armed forces, subject to the right to prescribe technical arrangements, including search, under which such passage is permitted.

Zones

105. A belligerent cannot be absolved of its duties under international humanitarian law by establishing zones which might adversely affect the legitimate uses of defined areas of the sea.

106. Should a belligerent, as an exceptional measure, establish such a zone:

- (a) the same body of law applies both inside and outside the zone;
- (b) the extent, location and duration of the zone and the measures imposed shall not exceed what is strictly required by military necessity and the principles of proportionality;
- (c) due regard shall be given to the rights of neutral States to legitimate uses of the seas;
- (d) necessary safe passage through the zone for neutral vessels and aircraft shall be provided:
 - (i) where the geographical extent of the zone significantly impedes free and safe access to the ports and coasts of a neutral State;
 - (ii) in other cases where normal navigation routes are affected, except where military requirements do not permit; and
- (e) the commencement, duration, location and extent of the zone, as well as the restrictions imposed, shall be publicly declared and appropriately notified.

107. Compliance with the measures taken by one belligerent in the zone shall not be construed as an act harmful to the opposing belligerent.

108. Nothing in this Section should be deemed to derogate from the customary belligerent right to control neutral vessels and aircraft in the immediate vicinity of naval operations.

From Commander's Handbook

7.7 BLOCKADE

7.7.1 General

Blockade is a belligerent operation to prevent vessels and/or aircraft of all nations, enemy as well as neutral, from entering or exiting specified ports, airfields, or coastal areas belonging to, occupied by, or under the control of an enemy nation. While the belligerent right of visit and search is designed to interdict the flow of contraband goods, the belligerent right of blockade is intended to prevent vessels and aircraft, regardless of their cargo, from crossing an established and publicized cordon separating the enemy from international waters and/or airspace.

7.7.2 Criteria for Blockades

To be valid, a blockade must conform to the criteria in the following paragraphs.

7.7.2.1 Establishment

A blockade must be established by the government of the belligerent nation. This is usually accomplished by a declaration of the belligerent government or by the commander of the blockading force acting on behalf of the belligerent government. The declaration should include, as a minimum, the date the blockade is to begin, its geographic limits, and the grace period granted neutral vessels and aircraft to leave the area to be blockaded.

7.7.2.2 Notification

It is customary for the belligerent nation establishing the blockade to notify all affected nations of its imposition. Because knowledge of the existence of a blockade is an essential element of the offenses of breach and attempted breach of blockade (see paragraph 7.7.4), neutral vessels and aircraft are always entitled to notification. The commander of the blockading forces will usually also notify local authorities in the blockaded area. The form of the notification is not material so long as it is effective.

7.7.2.3 Effectiveness

To be valid, a blockade must be effective—that is, it must be maintained by a surface, air, or subsurface force or other legitimate methods and means of warfare that is sufficient to render ingress or egress of the blockaded area dangerous. The requirement of effectiveness does not preclude temporary absence of the blockading force, if such absence is due to stress of weather or to some other reason connected with the blockade (e.g., pursuit of a blockade runner). Effectiveness does not require that every possible avenue of approach to the blockaded area be covered.

7.7.2.4 Impartiality

A blockade must be applied impartially to the vessels and aircraft of all nations. Discrimination by the blockading belligerent in favor of or against the vessels and aircraft of particular nations, including those of its own or those of an allied nation, renders the blockade legally invalid.

7.7.2.5 Limitations

A blockade must not bar access to or departure from neutral ports and coasts. Neutral nations retain the right to engage in neutral commerce that does not involve trade or communications originating in or destined for the blockaded area. A blockade is prohibited if the sole purpose is to starve the civilian population or to deny it other objects essential for its survival.

7.7.3 Special Entry and Exit Authorization

Although neutral warships and military aircraft enjoy no positive right of access to blockaded areas, the belligerent imposing the blockade may authorize their entry and exit. Such special authorization may be made subject to such conditions as the blockading force considers to be necessary and expedient. Neutral vessels and aircraft in evident distress should be authorized entry into a blockaded area, and subsequently authorized to depart, under conditions prescribed by the officer in command of the blockading force or responsible for maintenance of the blockading instrumentality (e.g., mines). Similarly, neutral vessels and aircraft engaged in the carriage of qualifying relief supplies for the civilian population and the sick and wounded should be authorized to pass through the blockade cordon, subject to the right of the blockading force to prescribe the technical arrangements, including search, under which passage is permitted.

7.7.4 Breach and Attempted Breach of Blockade

Breach of blockade is the passage of a vessel or aircraft through a blockade without special entry or exit authorization from the blockading belligerent. Attempted breach of blockade occurs from the time a vessel or aircraft leaves a port or airfield with the intention of evading the blockade, and for vessels exiting the blockaded area, continues until the voyage is completed. Knowledge of the existence of the blockade is essential to the offenses of breach of blockade and attempted breach of blockade. Knowledge may be presumed once a blockade has been declared and appropriate notification provided to affected governments. It is immaterial that the vessel or aircraft is at the time of interception bound for neutral territory, if its ultimate destination is the blockaded area. There is a presumption of attempted breach of blockade where vessels or aircraft are bound for a neutral port or airfield serving as a point of transit to the blockaded area. (Capture of such vessels is discussed in paragraph 7.10.)

7.7.5 Contemporary Practice

The criteria for valid blockades, as set out above in paragraph 7.7.2, are for the most part customary in nature, having derived their definitive form through the practice of maritime powers during the nineteenth century. The rules reflect a balance between the right of a belligerent possessing effective command of the sea to close enemy ports and coastlines to international commerce, and the right of neutral nations to carry out neutral commerce with the least possible interference from belligerent forces. The law of blockade is, therefore, premised on a system of controls designed to effect only a limited interference with neutral trade. This was traditionally accomplished by a relatively "close-in" cordon of surface warships stationed in the immediate vicinity of the blockaded area.

The increasing emphasis in modern warfare on seeking to isolate completely the enemy from outside assistance and resources by targeting enemy merchant vessels as well as warships, and on interdicting all neutral commerce with the enemy, is not furthered substantially by blockades established in strict conformity with the traditional rules. In World Wars I and II, belligerents of both sides resorted to methods which, although frequently referred to as measures of blockade, cannot be reconciled with the traditional concept of the close-in blockade. The so-called long-distance blockade of both world wars departed materially from those traditional rules and were premised in large measure upon the belligerent right of reprisal against illegal acts of warfare on the part of the enemy. Moreover, developments in weapons systems and platforms, particularly submarines, supersonic aircraft, and cruise missiles, have rendered the in-shore blockade exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, to maintain during anything other than a local or limited armed conflict. Accordingly, the characteristics of modern weapon systems will be a factor in analyzing the effectiveness of contemporary blockades.

Notwithstanding this trend in belligerent practices (during general war) away from the establishment of blockades that conform to the traditional rules, blockade continues to be a useful means to regulate the competing interests of belligerents and neutrals in more limited armed conflict. The experience of the United States during the Vietnam conflict provides a case in point. The closing of Haiphong and other North Vietnamese ports, accomplished by the emplacement of mines, was undertaken in conformity with traditional criteria of establishment, notification, effectiveness, limitation, and impartiality, although at the time the mining took place the term "blockade" was not used.

From: pomper [REDACTED]
 To: schwartzjb@state.gov; perinaah@state.gov; baumertka@state.gov; jacobsonl@state.gov;
 heinemannTB@state.gov; dolanja@state.gov
 CC: aswadem@state.gov; sullivanDJ1@state.gov; pomperse2@state.gov; guarinmf@state.gov;
 donoghueje@state.gov
 Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>
 Date: Mon, 31 May 2010 17:29:30 +0000

B6

[REDACTED]

> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>
 > Date: Mon, 31 May 2010 13:01:59 -0400
 > From: SchwartzJB@state.gov
 > To: PerinaAH@state.gov; GoldbergerTH@state.gov; baumertka@state.gov; JacobsonL@state.gov;
 HeinemannTB@state.gov; DolanJA@state.gov
 > CC: AswadEM@state.gov; SullivanDJ1@state.gov; [REDACTED]
 PomperSE2@state.gov; GuarinMF@state.gov
 >

B5

B5

B5

>
 > jon
 >
 > -----Original Message-----
 > From: Perina, Alexandra H
 > Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:56 PM
 > To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann,
 Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
 > Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; [REDACTED] Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin,
 Marc F
 > Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>
 >

B6

B5

B5

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Schwartz, Jonathan B

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:17 PM

> To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H

> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J

> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Goldberger, Thomas H

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:40 AM

> To: Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H

> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J

> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Baumert, Kevin A

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:34 AM

> To: Jacobson, Linda; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H

> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J

> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Jacobson, Linda

> To: Baumert, Kevin A; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H

> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M

> Sent: Mon May 31 11:20:32 2010

> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Baumert, Kevin A

> To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda; Perina, Alexandra H

> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M

> Sent: Mon May 31 11:18:29 2010

> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B5

[REDACTED]

> Kevin
> L/OES
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Goldberger, Thomas H
> To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Baumert, Kevin A; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
> Sent: Mon May 31 10:50:27 2010
> Subject: FW: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

[REDACTED]

> -----Original Message-----
> From: Cunningham, James B
> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 10:47 AM
> To: Goldberger, Thomas H
> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

[REDACTED]

> Sent from my BlackBerry
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Goldberger, Thomas H
> To: Cunningham, James B; Hale, David M; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rubinstein, Daniel H; Connelly, Maura; Schlicher, Ronald L; 'Daniel_B._Shapiro@nsc.eop.gov' <Daniel_B._Shapiro@nsc.eop.gov>
> Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Jacobson, Linda; Dolan, JoAnn
> Sent: Mon May 31 17:37:00 2010
> Subject: FW: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

> See below from Jonathan pls.
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 9:13 AM
> To: Goldberger, Thomas H
> Cc: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Dolan, JoAnn; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B
> Subject: Fw: MFA flotilla briefing
>

[REDACTED]

>
> Jon
>
> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
 > To: Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B
 > Cc: Baumert, Kevin A; Harris, Robert K; Donoghue, Joan E; Dolan, JoAnn
 > Sent: Mon May 31 09:05:16 2010
 > Subject: Fw: MFA flotilla briefing
 >

B5

>
 > Jon
 >
 > ----- Original Message -----
 > From: Goldberger, Thomas H
 > To: Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
 > Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Knopf, Payton L
 > Sent: Mon May 31 08:24:00 2010
 > Subject: FW: MFA flotilla briefing
 >

>
 >
 > ----- Original Message -----
 > From: [REDACTED]
 > To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Burgess, Richard J; Murphy, Michael P; [REDACTED] Levin, Jan; [REDACTED]
 > Sent: Mon May 31 08:08:22 2010
 > Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing
 >

B3 DOD-CP

Many of the details briefed have already been provided via other means. Specific Highlights -

B3 DOD-CP
B3 DODFGI

- > - Ongoing Operation
- > - Two Ships in Ashdod to include the CHALLENGER I
- > - M/V MAVI MARMARA expected in port between 1700L and 1800L
- > - All ships will be in port by later today
- > - 10-14 Civilians Seriously Injured or Killed
- > - 30 Civilians Wounded
- > - 10 IDF wounded to include 1 serious and 1 with "medium" wounds
- > - Turkish Ambassador to Israel recalled
- > - Interaction occurred approx 70 NM from coastline. IDF confident in International Law because of intent by flotilla to breach the blockade. (See Attached Slides)

B3 DOD-CP

B3 DOD-CP

>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem)

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 2:46 PM

> To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [redacted]

> [redacted] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

B3 DOD-CP

> Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

> Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

>

> This may largely repeat at this point what is out in other places and/or others have heard from me, but just to assure that various reporting lines have same info, this is from [redacted] who also spoke with the UN's Serry, among others, this am.

B6

>

> [redacted] reported that when Israeli soldiers boarded the main deck of the main ship, they met with what he described as clearly planned active/armed resistance, including live fire. Military who boarded were attacked with knives, sharpened metal and wood instruments, etc. He said the military who boarded were attacked by dozens; He indicated that some of the soldiers were stabbed and slashed. Made clear situation was one in which actions taken were in self-defense.

B6

>

> Current estimates of those killed from flotilla 14-15 "maybe more". He said all injured being moved to Israeli hospital - by helicopter. He said ships coming into Ashdod (some reports have them coming into Haifa). At Ashdod, he and others will meet the ships. There, they will need to ID the bodies; move the people either to return them to home countries rapidly and/or detain; ID the cargo and as planned initially, move as much of into Gaza as promptly as possible.

>

> Earlier this morning [redacted] made the following calls/contacts:

B6

> --Turkish FM and MoD [redacted]; Erakat, Fayyad, and Hussein al Sheikh [redacted]. He felt the calls w the Turks given the situation were OK, but the concern clearly is [redacted] and how he will handle. With Pals, [redacted] in particular, they discussed extent to which levels of rhetoric could be kept in check. With [redacted] they discussed primarily need for security cooperation, keeping things calm. Concern about how this will be affected by status of Israeli Arab Islamic leader on board the flotilla.

>

> (PIC seems to be on track/going forward. Some events may be affected by it.)

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Cunningham, James B

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:38 PM

> To: Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [redacted] Amodeo, B3 DOD-CP

> Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

> Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

> Subject: Re: MFA flotilla briefing

>

> Our Consular people are in contact with MFA and Ashdod to get info on amcits as soon as it's available. UN had been approached by COGAT last week to help in forwarding cargo from ships in Ashdod. Serry is trying to send a couple of observers to Ashdod, has told cogat that assisting deliveries of humanitarian goods, much of which is destined for Hamas, is problematic but he'll see. Barak just gave a press conference, and appears to have spoken to Davotuglu this am.

> Sent from my BlackBerry

>

> ----- Original Message -----

B3 DOD-CP

> From: Levin, Jan
 > To: Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Cunningham, James B; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C;
 Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [REDACTED]
 Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D
 > Sent: Mon May 31 13:20:31 2010
 > Subject: MFA flotilla briefing

B3 DODFGI

>
 [REDACTED]
 >
 > Highlights - Identification of dead and wounded taking time. MFA will reach out proactively to Embassies as IDs are done, with location and status of citizens. The uninjured will be processed and escorted to airport for deportation. Unclear how long this will take.
 > -- Most violence occurred on ship Mavi (Blue) Marmara. As far as is currently known, all violence occurred on this ship. B3 DODFGI
 > -- [REDACTED] told Ambassador that activists on Mavi Marmara were prepared for boarders and were armed. Unclear if they had firearms in advance or took them from IDF boarding party. One IDF soldier nearly beaten to death with metal bar. Activists also had knives.
 > -- Events took place in international waters. Israel asserted it had the legal right to intercept in intl waters because there is a military blockade under the law of armed conflict between Israel and Hamas.
 >
 > Ambassador Cunningham requests that Embassy Tel Aviv clear Dept guidance on this issue, thank you.

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The New Busy is not the old busy. Search, chat and e-mail from your inbox. [Get started.](#)

RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP,B3 DODFGI,B5,B6

Law, Rosemary C

From: Pomper, Stephen E
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 4:31 PM
To: Aswad, Evelyn M; Schwartz, Jonathan B; [REDACTED] Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Sullivan, David J; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; Townley, Stephen G; Banos, Mariano H; Martin, Julie B
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

removing non L address

From: Aswad, Evelyn M
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; 'Stephen & Betsy Pomper/Andersen' <[REDACTED]> Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; [REDACTED] <eandersen@asil.org>; Townley, Stephen G; Banos, Mariano H; Martin, Julie B
Sent: Mon May 31 16:29:33 2010
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

Looping in Mariano & Julie. EA

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 3:10 PM
To: 'Stephen & Betsy Pomper/Andersen'; Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; eandersen@asil.org; Townley, Stephen G
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

Jon

From: Stephen & Betsy Pomper/Andersen [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 3:14 PM
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; [REDACTED]
Townley, Stephen G
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Folks--

B5

B6

Steve

From San Remo Manual on International Law Applicable to Armed Conflicts at Sea, 12 June 1994

<http://www.icrc.org/ihl.nsf/385ec082b509e76c41256739003e636d/7694fe2016f347e1c125641f002d49ce>

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108. Nothing in this Section should be deemed to derogate from the customary belligerent right to control neutral vessels and aircraft in the immediate vicinity of naval operations.

From Commander's Handbook**7.7 BLOCKADE****7.7.1 General**

Blockade is a belligerent operation to prevent vessels and/or aircraft of all nations, enemy as well as neutral, from entering or exiting specified ports, airfields, or coastal areas belonging to, occupied by, or under the control of an enemy nation. While the belligerent right of visit and search is designed to interdict the flow of contraband goods, the belligerent right of blockade is intended to prevent vessels and aircraft, regardless of their cargo, from crossing an established and publicized cordon separating the enemy from international waters and/or airspace.

7.7.2 Criteria for Blockades

To be valid, a blockade must conform to the criteria in the following paragraphs.

7.7.2.1 Establishment

A blockade must be established by the government of the belligerent nation. This is usually accomplished by a declaration of the belligerent government or by the commander of the blockading force acting on behalf of the belligerent government. The declaration should include, as a minimum, the date the blockade is to begin, its geographic limits, and the grace period granted neutral vessels and aircraft to leave the area to be blockaded.

7.7.2.2 Notification

It is customary for the belligerent nation establishing the blockade to notify all affected nations of its imposition. Because knowledge of the existence of a blockade is an essential element of the offenses of breach and attempted breach of blockade (see paragraph 7.7.4), neutral vessels and aircraft are always entitled to notification. The commander of the blockading forces will usually also notify local authorities in the blockaded area. The form of the notification is not material so long as it is effective.

7.7.2.3 Effectiveness

To be valid, a blockade must be effective—that is, it must be maintained by a surface, air, or subsurface force or other legitimate methods and means of warfare that is sufficient to render ingress or egress of the blockaded area dangerous. The requirement of effectiveness does not preclude temporary absence of the blockading force, if such absence is due to stress of weather or to some other reason connected with the blockade (e.g., pursuit of a blockade runner). Effectiveness does not require that every possible avenue of approach to the blockaded area be covered.

7.7.2.4 Impartiality

A blockade must be applied impartially to the vessels and aircraft of all nations. Discrimination by the blockading belligerent in favor of or against the vessels and aircraft of particular nations, including those of its own or those of an allied nation, renders the blockade legally invalid.

7.7.2.5 Limitations

A blockade must not bar access to or departure from neutral ports and coasts. Neutral nations retain the right to engage in neutral commerce that does not involve trade or communications originating in or destined for the blockaded area. A blockade is prohibited if the sole purpose is to starve the civilian population or to deny it other objects essential for its survival.

7.7.3 Special Entry and Exit Authorization

Although neutral warships and military aircraft enjoy no positive right of access to blockaded areas, the belligerent imposing the blockade may authorize their entry and exit. Such special authorization may be made subject to such conditions as the blockading force considers to be necessary and expedient. Neutral vessels and aircraft in evident distress should be authorized entry into a blockaded area, and subsequently authorized to depart, under conditions prescribed by the officer in command of the blockading force or responsible for maintenance of the blockading instrumentality (e.g., mines). Similarly, neutral vessels and aircraft engaged in the carriage of qualifying relief supplies for the civilian population and the sick and wounded should be authorized to pass through the blockade cordon, subject to the right of the blockading force to prescribe the technical arrangements, including search, under which passage is permitted.

7.7.4 Breach and Attempted Breach of Blockade

Breach of blockade is the passage of a vessel or aircraft through a blockade without special entry or exit authorization from the blockading belligerent. Attempted breach of blockade occurs from the time a vessel or aircraft leaves a port or airfield with the intention of evading the blockade, and for vessels exiting the blockaded area, continues until the voyage is completed. Knowledge of the existence of the blockade is essential to the offenses of breach of blockade and attempted breach of blockade. Knowledge may be presumed once a blockade

has been declared and appropriate notification provided to affected governments. It is immaterial that the vessel or aircraft is at the time of interception bound for neutral territory, if its ultimate destination is the blockaded area. There is a presumption of attempted breach of blockade where vessels or aircraft are bound for a neutral port or airfield serving as a point of transit to the blockaded area. (Capture of such vessels is discussed in paragraph 7.10.)

7.7.5 Contemporary Practice

The criteria for valid blockades, as set out above in paragraph 7.7.2, are for the most part customary in nature, having derived their definitive form through the practice of maritime powers during the nineteenth century. The rules reflect a balance between the right of a belligerent possessing effective command of the sea to close enemy ports and coastlines to international commerce, and the right of neutral nations to carry out neutral commerce with the least possible interference from belligerent forces. The law of blockade is, therefore, premised on a system of controls designed to effect only a limited interference with neutral trade. This was traditionally accomplished by a relatively "close-in" cordon of surface warships stationed in the immediate vicinity of the blockaded area.

The increasing emphasis in modern warfare on seeking to isolate completely the enemy from outside assistance and resources by targeting enemy merchant vessels as well as warships, and on interdicting all neutral commerce with the enemy, is not furthered substantially by blockades established in strict conformity with the traditional rules. In World Wars I and II, belligerents of both sides resorted to methods which, although frequently referred to as measures of blockade, cannot be reconciled with the traditional concept of the close-in blockade. The so-called long-distance blockade of both world wars departed materially from those traditional rules and were premised in large measure upon the belligerent right of reprisal against illegal acts of warfare on the part of the enemy. Moreover, developments in weapons systems and platforms, particularly submarines, supersonic aircraft, and cruise missiles, have rendered the in-shore blockade exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, to maintain during anything other than a local or limited armed conflict. Accordingly, the characteristics of modern weapon systems will be a factor in analyzing the effectiveness of contemporary blockades.

Notwithstanding this trend in belligerent practices (during general war) away from the establishment of blockades that conform to the traditional rules, blockade continues to be a useful means to regulate the competing interests of belligerents and neutrals in more limited armed conflict. The experience of the United States during the Vietnam conflict provides a case in point. The closing of Haiphong and other North Vietnamese ports, accomplished by the emplacement of mines, was undertaken in conformity with traditional criteria of establishment, notification, effectiveness, limitation, and impartiality, although at the time the mining took place the term "blockade" was not used.

From: [REDACTED]
 To: schwartzjb@state.gov; perinaah@state.gov; baumertka@state.gov; jacobsonl@state.gov; heinemannnb@state.gov; dolanja@state.gov
 CC: aswadem@state.gov; sullivanjd1@state.gov; pomperse2@state.gov; guarinmf@state.gov; donoghueje@state.gov
 Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>
 Date: Mon, 31 May 2010 17:29:30 +0000

B6

> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>
 > Date: Mon, 31 May 2010 13:01:59 -0400
 > From: SchwartzJB@state.gov
 > To: PerinaAH@state.gov; GoldbergerTH@state.gov; baumertka@state.gov; JacobsonL@state.gov; HeinemannTB@state.gov; DolanJA@state.gov
 > CC: AswadEM@state.gov; SullivanDJ1@state.gov; [REDACTED]
 PomperSE2@state.gov; GuarinMF@state.gov
 >

B5

B6

B5

B5

> jon

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Perina, Alexandra H

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:56 PM

> To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn

> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; [REDACTED] Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F

> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

B5

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Schwartz, Jonathan B

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:17 PM

> To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H

> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J

> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

dy

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Goldberger, Thomas H

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:40 AM

> To: Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H

> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J

> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Baumert, Kevin A

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:34 AM

> To: Jacobson, Linda; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H

> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J

> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Jacobson, Linda

> To: Baumert, Kevin A; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H

> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M

> Sent: Mon May 31 11:20:32 2010

> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Baumert, Kevin A

> To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda; Perina, Alexandra H

> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M

> Sent: Mon May 31 11:18:29 2010

> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

>

> Kevin

> L/OES

>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Goldberger, Thomas H

> To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Baumert, Kevin A; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda

> Sent: Mon May 31 10:50:27 2010

> Subject: FW: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Cunningham, James B

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 10:47 AM

> To: Goldberger, Thomas H

> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

>

B5

[REDACTED]

> Sent from my BlackBerry
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Goldberger, Thomas H
> To: Cunningham, James B; Hale, David M; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rubinstein, Daniel H; Connelly, Maura; Schlicher, Ronald L; 'Daniel_B._Shapiro@nsc.eop.gov' <Daniel_B._Shapiro@nsc.eop.gov>
> Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Jacobson, Linda; Dolan, JoAnn
> Sent: Mon May 31 17:37:00 2010
> Subject: FW: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

>
> See below from Jonathan pls.
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 9:13 AM
> To: Goldberger, Thomas H
> Cc: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Dolan, JoAnn; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B
> Subject: Fw: MFA flotilla briefing
>

[REDACTED]

> Jon
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
> To: Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B
> Cc: Baumert, Kevin A; Harris, Robert K; Donoghue, Joan E; Dolan, JoAnn
> Sent: Mon May 31 09:05:16 2010
> Subject: Fw: MFA flotilla briefing
>

[REDACTED]

> Jon
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Goldberger, Thomas H
> To: Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda

> Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Knopf, Payton L
 > Sent: Mon May 31 08:24:00 2010
 > Subject: FW: MFA flotilla briefing
 >

B5

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: [REDACTED]
 > To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); [REDACTED]
 > [REDACTED] Levin, Jan; [REDACTED]

B3 DOD-CP

> Sent: Mon May 31 08:08:22 2010
 > Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing
 >

B3 DOD-CP
 B3 DODFGI

Many of the details briefed have already been provided via other means. Specific Highlights -

- > - Ongoing Operation
- > - Two Ships in Ashdod to include the CHALLENGER I
- > - M/V MAVI MARMARA expected in port between 1700L and 1800L
- > - All ships will be in port by later today
- > - 10-14 Civilians Seriously Injured or Killed
- > - 30 Civilians Wounded
- > - 10 IDF wounded to include 1 serious and 1 with "medium" wounds
- > - Turkish Ambassador to Israel recalled
- > - Interaction occurred approx 70 NM from coastline. IDF confident in International Law because of intent by flotilla to breach the blockade. (See Attached Slides)

> [REDACTED]

B3 DOD-CP

> -----Original Message-----
 > From: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem)
 > Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 2:46 PM
 > To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [REDACTED]
 > [REDACTED] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D
 > Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'
 > Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing
 >

B3 DOD-CP

> This may largely repeat at this point what is out in other places and/or others have heard from me, but just to assure that various reporting lines have same info, this is from [REDACTED] who also spoke with the UN's Serry, among others, this am.

B6

> [REDACTED] reported that when Israeli soldiers boarded the main deck of the main ship, they met with what he described as clearly planned active/armed resistance, including live fire. Military who boarded were attacked with knives, sharpened metal and wood instruments, etc. He said the military who boarded were attacked by dozens; He indicated that some of the soldiers were stabbed and slashed. Made clear situation

B6

was one in which actions taken were in self-defense.

>

> Current estimates of those killed from flotilla 14-15 "maybe more". He said all injured being moved to Israeli hospital - by helicopter. He said ships coming into Ashdod (some reports have them coming into Haifa). At Ashdod, he and others will meet the ships. There, they will need to ID the bodies; move the people either to return them to home countries rapidly and/or detain; ID the cargo and as planned initially, move as much of into Gaza as promptly as possible.

B6

> Earlier this morning [] made the following calls/contacts:

> --Turkish FM and MoD []; Erakat, Fayyad, and Hussein al Sheikh []. He felt the calls w the Turks given the situation were OK, but the concern clearly is Erdogan and how he will handle. With Pals, Erakat in particular, they discussed extent to which levels of rhetoric could be kept in check. With Fayyad they discussed primarily need for security cooperation, keeping things calm. Concern about how this will be affected by status of Israeli Arab Islamic leader on board the flotilla.

>

> (PIC seems to be on track/going forward. Some events may be affected by it.)

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Cunningham, James B

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:38 PM

> To: Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [] Amodeo, B3 DOD-CP
Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

> Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

> Subject: Re: MFA flotilla briefing

>

> Our Consular people are in contact with MFA and Ashdod to get info on amcits as soon as it's available. UN had been approached by COGAT last week to help in forwarding cargo from ships in Ashdod. Serry is trying to send a couple of observers to Ashdod, has told cogat that assisting deliveries of humanitarian goods, much of which is destined for Hamas, is problematic but he'll see. Barak just gave a press conference, and appears to have spoken to Davotuglu this am.

> Sent from my BlackBerry

>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Levin, Jan

> To: Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Cunningham, James B; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [] B3 DOD-CP
Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

> Sent: Mon May 31 13:20:31 2010

> Subject: MFA flotilla briefing

>

B3 DODFGI

>

> Highlights - Identification of dead and wounded taking time. MFA will reach out proactively to Embassies as IDs are done, with location and status of citizens. The uninjured will be processed and escorted to airport for deportation. Unclear how long this will take.

> -- Most violence occurred on ship Mavi (Blue) Marmara. As far as is currently known, all injuries occurred on this ship.

> - [] told Ambassador that activists on Mavi Marmara were prepared for boarders and were B3 DODFGI
armed. Unclear if they had firearms in advance or took them from IDF boarding party. One IDF soldier nearly beaten to death with metal bar. Activists also had knives.

> -- Events took place in international waters. Israel asserted it had the legal right to intercept in intl waters because there is a military blockade under the law of armed conflict between Israel and Hamas.

>

> Ambassador Cunningham requests that Embassy Tel Aviv clear Dept guidance on this issue, thank you.

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The New Busy is not the old busy. Search, chat and e-mail from your inbox. [Get started.](#)

RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP,B3 DODFGI,B5,B6

Law, Rosemary C

From: Pomper, Stephen E
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 4:20 PM
To: Dolan, JoAnn; Schwartz, Jonathan B; [REDACTED] Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; Townley, Stephen G
Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

Rmoving a non USG family-member address that wound up on this chain.

[REDACTED]

From: Dolan, JoAnn
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; 'Stephen & Betsy Pomper/Andersen' [REDACTED] Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; [REDACTED] Townley, Stephen G
Sent: Mon May 31 16:16:35 2010
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

[REDACTED]

From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 4:10 PM
To: 'Stephen & Betsy Pomper/Andersen'; Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; eandersen@asil.org; Townley, Stephen G
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

[REDACTED]

Jon

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

From: Stephen & Betsy Pomper/Andersen [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 3:14 PM

To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn

Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E; [REDACTED]
Townley, Stephen G

Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

Folks--

Here is a quick summary of where we seem to be on the grabbag of issues relating to the Israeli action off of Gaza (please jump in/correct as appropriate):

B6

B5

Steve

From San Remo Manual on International Law Applicable to Armed Conflicts at Sea, 12 June 1994

<http://www.icrc.org/ihl.nsf/385ec082b509e76c41256739003e636d/7694fe2016f347e1c125641f002d49ce>

Blockade

93. A blockade shall be declared and notified to all belligerents and neutral States.

94. The declaration shall specify the commencement, duration, location, and extent of the blockade and the period within which vessels of neutral States may leave the blockaded coastline.

95. A blockade must be effective. The question whether a blockade is effective is a question of fact.

96. The force maintaining the blockade may be stationed at a distance determined by military requirements.

97. A blockade may be enforced and maintained by a combination of legitimate methods and means of warfare provided this combination does not result in acts inconsistent with the rules set out in this document.

98. Merchant vessels believed on reasonable grounds to be breaching a blockade may be captured. Merchant vessels which, after prior warning, clearly resist capture may be attacked.

99. A blockade must not bar access to the ports and coasts of neutral States.

100. A blockade must be applied impartially to the vessels of all States.

101. The cessation, temporary lifting, re-establishment, extension or other alteration of a blockade must be declared and notified as in paragraphs 93 and 94.

102. The declaration or establishment of a blockade is prohibited if:

- (a) it has the sole purpose of starving the civilian population or denying it other objects essential for its survival; or
- (b) the damage to the civilian population is, or may be expected to be, excessive in relation to the concrete and direct military advantage anticipated from the blockade.

103. If the civilian population of the blockaded territory is inadequately provided with food and other objects essential for its survival, the blockading party must provide for free passage of such foodstuffs and other essential supplies, subject to:

- (a) the right to prescribe the technical arrangements, including search, under which such passage is permitted; and
- (b) the condition that the distribution of such supplies shall be made under the local supervision of a Protecting Power or a humanitarian organization which offers guarantees of impartiality, such as the International Committee of the Red Cross.

104. The blockading belligerent shall allow the passage of medical supplies for the civilian population or for the wounded and sick members of armed forces, subject to the right to prescribe technical arrangements, including search, under which such passage is permitted.

Zones

105. A belligerent cannot be absolved of its duties under international humanitarian law by establishing zones which might adversely affect the legitimate uses of defined areas of the sea.

106. Should a belligerent, as an exceptional measure, establish such a zone:

- (a) the same body of law applies both inside and outside the zone;
- (b) the extent, location and duration of the zone and the measures imposed shall not exceed what is strictly required by military necessity and the principles of proportionality;
- (c) due regard shall be given to the rights of neutral States to legitimate uses of the seas;
- (d) necessary safe passage through the zone for neutral vessels and aircraft shall be provided:
 - (i) where the geographical extent of the zone significantly impedes free and safe access to the ports and coasts of a neutral State;
 - (ii) in other cases where normal navigation routes are affected, except where military requirements do not permit; and
- (e) the commencement, duration, location and extent of the zone, as well as the restrictions imposed, shall be publicly

declared and appropriately notified.

107. Compliance with the measures taken by one belligerent in the zone shall not be construed as an act harmful to the opposing belligerent.

108. Nothing in this Section should be deemed to derogate from the customary belligerent right to control neutral vessels and aircraft in the immediate vicinity of naval operations.

From Commander's Handbook

7.7 BLOCKADE

7.7.1 General

Blockade is a belligerent operation to prevent vessels and/or aircraft of all nations, enemy as well as neutral, from entering or exiting specified ports, airfields, or coastal areas belonging to, occupied by, or under the control of an enemy nation. While the belligerent right of visit and search is designed to interdict the flow of contraband goods, the belligerent right of blockade is intended to prevent vessels and aircraft, regardless of their cargo, from crossing an established and publicized cordon separating the enemy from international waters and/or airspace.

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7.7.2.2 Notification

It is customary for the belligerent nation establishing the blockade to notify all affected nations of its imposition. Because knowledge of the existence of a blockade is an essential element of the offenses of breach and attempted breach of blockade (see paragraph 7.7.4), neutral vessels and aircraft are always entitled to notification. The commander of the blockading forces will usually also notify local authorities in the blockaded area. The form of the notification is not material so long as it is effective.

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Although neutral warships and military aircraft enjoy no positive right of access to blockaded areas, the belligerent imposing the blockade may authorize their entry and exit. Such special authorization may be made subject to such conditions as the blockading force considers to be necessary and expedient. Neutral vessels and aircraft in evident distress should be authorized entry into a blockaded area, and subsequently authorized to depart, under conditions prescribed by the officer in command of the blockading force or responsible for maintenance of the blockading instrumentality (e.g., mines). Similarly, neutral vessels and aircraft engaged in the carriage of qualifying relief supplies for the civilian population and the sick and wounded should be authorized to pass through the blockade cordon, subject to the right of the blockading force to prescribe the technical

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The criteria for valid blockades, as set out above in paragraph 7.7.2, are for the most part customary in nature, having derived their definitive form through the practice of maritime powers during the nineteenth century. The rules reflect a balance between the right of a belligerent possessing effective command of the sea to close enemy ports and coastlines to international commerce, and the right of neutral nations to carry out neutral commerce with the least possible interference from belligerent forces. The law of blockade is, therefore, premised on a system of controls designed to effect only a limited interference with neutral trade. This was traditionally accomplished by a relatively "close-in" cordon of surface warships stationed in the immediate vicinity of the blockaded area. The increasing emphasis in modern warfare on seeking to isolate completely the enemy from outside assistance and resources by targeting enemy merchant vessels as well as warships, and on interdicting all neutral commerce with the enemy, is not furthered substantially by blockades established in strict conformity with the traditional rules. In World Wars I and II, belligerents of both sides resorted to methods which, although frequently referred to as measures of blockade, cannot be reconciled with the traditional concept of the close-in blockade. The so-called long-distance blockade of both world wars departed materially from those traditional rules and were premised in large measure upon the belligerent right of reprisal against illegal acts of warfare on the part of the enemy. Moreover, developments in weapons systems and platforms, particularly submarines, supersonic aircraft, and cruise missiles, have rendered the in-shore blockade exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, to maintain during anything other than a local or limited armed conflict. Accordingly, the characteristics of modern weapon systems will be a factor in analyzing the effectiveness of contemporary blockades. Notwithstanding this trend in belligerent practices (during general war) away from the establishment of blockades that conform to the traditional rules, blockade continues to be a useful means to regulate the competing interests of belligerents and neutrals in more limited armed conflict. The experience of the United States during the Vietnam conflict provides a case in point. The closing of Haiphong and other North Vietnamese ports, accomplished by the emplacement of mines, was undertaken in conformity with traditional criteria of establishment, notification, effectiveness, limitation, and impartiality, although at the time the mining took place the term "blockade" was not used.

From:
 To: schwartzjb@state.gov; perinaah@state.gov; baumertka@state.gov; jacobsonl@state.gov;
 heinemanntb@state.gov; dolanja@state.gov
 CC: aswadem@state.gov; sullivandj1@state.gov; pomperse2@state.gov; guarinmf@state.gov;
 donoghueje@state.gov
 Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>
 Date: Mon, 31 May 2010 17:29:30 +0000

Marc Guarin is going to log in and weigh in on this question. I also reached out to JCS legal to see if they have a Navy lawyer we can talk to. Have taken Tom G off this chain for the moment. Steve

> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>
 > Date: Mon, 31 May 2010 13:01:59 -0400
 > From: SchwartzJB@state.gov

> To: PerinaAH@state.gov; GoldbergerTH@state.gov; baumertka@state.gov; JacobsonL@state.gov;
HeinemannTB@state.gov; DolanJA@state.gov
> CC: AswadEM@state.gov; SullivanDJ1@state.gov; [REDACTED]
PomperSE2@state.gov; GuarinMF@state.gov

B6

>
> Thanks Alexandra. [REDACTED]

B5

> jon
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Perina, Alexandra H
> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:56 PM
> To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann,
Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; [REDACTED]; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin,
Marc F
> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B6

B5

> -----Original Message-----
> From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:17 PM
> To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn;
Perina, Alexandra H
> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

B5

> -----Original Message-----
> From: Goldberger, Thomas H

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:40 AM
> To: Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

>

>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Baumert, Kevin A
> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:34 AM
> To: Jacobson, Linda; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J
> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

>

>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Jacobson, Linda
> To: Baumert, Kevin A; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H
> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M
> Sent: Mon May 31 11:20:32 2010
> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

>

> Kevin,

>

>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Baumert, Kevin A
> To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda; Perina, Alexandra H
> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M
> Sent: Mon May 31 11:18:29 2010
> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

>

> Kevin

> L/OES

>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Goldberger, Thomas H
> To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Baumert, Kevin A; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
> Sent: Mon May 31 10:50:27 2010
> Subject: FW: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

>

>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Cunningham, James B
> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 10:47 AM
> To: Goldberger, Thomas H
> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

>
> [Redacted]
> Sent from my BlackBerry

>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Goldberger, Thomas H
> To: Cunningham, James B; Hale, David M; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rubinstein, Daniel H; Connelly, Maura; Schlicher, Ronald L; 'Daniel_B._Shapiro@nsc.eop.gov' <Daniel_B._Shapiro@nsc.eop.gov>
> Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Jacobson, Linda; Dolan, JoAnn
> Sent: Mon May 31 17:37:00 2010
> Subject: FW: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

>
> See below from Jonathan pls.

>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 9:13 AM
> To: Goldberger, Thomas H
> Cc: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Dolan, JoAnn; Baumert, Kevin A; Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B
> Subject: Fw: MFA flotilla briefing

>
> Tom - [Redacted]

>
> Jon

>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Schwartz, Jonathan B
> To: Perina, Alexandra H; Heinemann, Thomas B
> Cc: Baumert, Kevin A; Harris, Robert K; Donoghue, Joan E; Dolan, JoAnn
> Sent: Mon May 31 09:05:16 2010
> Subject: Fw: MFA flotilla briefing

>
> Alexandra/Tom -Are either of you in a position to assist L/OES? [Redacted]

B5

B5

> Jon

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Goldberger, Thomas H

> To: Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda

> Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Knopf, Payton L

> Sent: Mon May 31 08:24:00 2010

> Subject: FW: MFA flotilla briefing

> Sorry, but could we get quick reactions to this? [REDACTED] B5

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: [REDACTED]

> To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); [REDACTED]

> Sent: Mon May 31 08:08:22 2010

> Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

B3 DOD-CP

B3 DOD-CP

B3 DODFGI

Many of the details briefed have already been provided via other means. Specific Highlights -

- > - Ongoing Operation
- > - Two Ships in Ashdod to include the CHALLENGER I
- > - M/V MAVI MARMARA expected in port between 1700L and 1800L
- > - All ships will be in port by later today
- > - 10-14 Civilians Seriously Injured or Killed
- > - 30 Civilians Wounded
- > - 10 IDF wounded to include 1 serious and 1 with "medium" wounds
- > - Turkish Ambassador to Israel recalled
- > - Interaction occurred approx 70 NM from coastline. IDF confident in International Law because of intent by flotilla to breach the blockade. (See Attached Slides)

B3 DOD-CP

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem)

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 2:46 PM

> To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [REDACTED]

> Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

> Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

> Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

B3 DOD-CP

> This may largely repeat at this point what is out in other places and/or others have heard from me, but just to assure that various reporting lines have same info, this is from [] who also spoke with the UN's Serry, among others, this am.

B6

> [] reported that when Israeli soldiers boarded the main deck of the main ship, they met with what he described as clearly planned active/armed resistance, including live fire. Military who boarded were attacked with knives, sharpened metal and wood instruments, etc. He said the military who boarded were attacked by dozens; He indicated that some of the soldiers were stabbed and slashed. Made clear situation was one in which actions taken were in self-defense.

B6

> Current estimates of those killed from flotilla 14-15 "maybe more". He said all injured being moved to Israeli hospital - by helicopter. He said ships coming into Ashdod (some reports have them coming into Haifa). At Ashdod, he and others will meet the ships. There, they will need to ID the bodies; move the people either to return them to home countries rapidly and/or detain; ID the cargo and as planned initially, move as much of into Gaza as promptly as possible.

> Earlier this morning [] made the following calls/contacts:

B6

> --Turkish FM and MoD []; Erakat, Fayyad, and Hussein al Sheikh [] He felt the calls w the Turks given the situation were OK, but the concern clearly is Erdogan and how he will handle. With Pals, Erakat in particular, they discussed extent to which levels of rhetoric could be kept in check. With Fayyad they discussed primarily need for security cooperation, keeping things calm. Concern about how this will be affected by status of Israeli Arab Islamic leader on board the flotilla.

> (PIC seems to be on track/going forward. Some events may be affected by it.)

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Cunningham, James B

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:38 PM

> To: Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [] Amodeo, B3 DOD-CP Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

> Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

> Subject: Re: MFA flotilla briefing

> Our Consular people are in contact with MFA and Ashdod to get info on amcits as soon as it's available. UN had been approached by COGAT last week to help in forwarding cargo from ships in Ashdod. Serry is trying to send a couple of observers to Ashdod, has told cogat that assisting deliveries of humanitarian goods, much of which is destined for Hamas, is problematic but he'll see. Barak just gave a press conference, and appears to have spoken to Davutoglu this am.

> Sent from my BlackBerry

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Levin, Jan

> To: Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Cunningham, James B; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [] B3 DOD-CP Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

> Sent: Mon May 31 13:20:31 2010

> Subject: MFA flotilla briefing

B3 DODFGI

> Highlights - Identification of dead and wounded taking time. MFA will reach out proactively to Embassies as IDs are done, with location and status of citizens. The uninjured will be processed and escorted to airport for deportation. Unclear how long this will take.

> -- Most violence occurred on ship Mavi (Blue) Marmara. As far as is currently known, all injuries occurred on this ship.

> -- [] told Ambassador that activists on Mavi Marmara were prepared for boarders and were B3 DODFGI

armed. Unclear if they had firearms in advance or took them from IDF boarding party. One IDF soldier nearly beaten to death with metal bar. Activists also had knives.

> -- Events took place in international waters. Israel asserted it had the legal right to intercept in intl waters because there is a military blockade under the law of armed conflict between Israel and Hamas.

>

> Ambassador Cunningham requests that Embassy Tel Aviv clear Dept guidance on this issue, thank you.

Hotmail has tools for the New Busy. Search, chat and e-mail from your inbox. [Learn more.](#)

The New Busy is not the old busy. Search, chat and e-mail from your inbox. [Get started.](#)

Declassify on: 06/04/2020

Bowers, Allyson M

I37

From: Sindle, James M
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 10:43 AM
To: Gaza Flotilla Monitoring Group
Subject: FW: PM 4 JUN 10 - FREE GAZA MOVEMENT (FGM) FLOTILLA UPDATE - WAVE # 2 (SITREP #9) (SECRET)
Attachments: Free Gaza Movement Flotilla Update_PM 4 Jun 10.ppt; GAZA FLOTILLA AFTERMATH - SITREP 3.doc

RELEASED IN PART B3
DOD-CP,B1,B5,1.4(D),1.4(C),B6

The latest locations of the Israeli SAARs and Rachel Corrie.

1.4(C)
B1

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 10:28 AM
To: Gardner, John D. LTG; john.allen@centcom.smil.mil
Cc: [REDACTED]

B3 DOD-CP

B6

B3 DOD-CP
B6

Subject: PM 4 JUN 10 - FREE GAZA MOVEMENT (FGM) FLOTILLA UPDATE - WAVE # 2 (SITREP #9) (SECRET)**REVIEW AUTHORITY:** Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

Classification: SECRET//REL TO USA, AUS, CAN, GBR

Good afternoon LTG Gardner / LtGen Allen

1.4(C)
B1

1.4(C)
B1

Current Situation:

1. Free Gaza Movement (FGM) "Freedom" Flotilla – Wave # 2 (reduced to a single ship)

1.4(D)
B1

- Open source reporting indicates RACHEL CORRIE has no plans to stop until reaching port in Gaza and does not intend to resist, should Israeli forces attempt to board. 1.4(C)
B1

1.4(C)
B1

Assessment:

1.4(C)
B1

2. Israeli Defense Force (IDF)

Naval Activity:

1.4(C)
B1

V/R, Larry



B6

B3 DOD-CP

Attachment Classification: SECRET

Attachment Caveats: NOFORN

Classification: SECRET//REL TO USA, AUS, CAN, GBR

RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP,B1,1.4(D),B6,1.4(C)

I132

Bowers, Allyson M

From: Yoo, Donny H
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2011 4:59 AM
To: Eussen, Matthew M; SES-O_OPS-WatchTeam
Cc: NEA-IPA-DL; Silverman, Robert J; Levin, Jan X; Grubb, Jason B; Berns, David B
Subject: RE: "FREEDOM FLOTILLA II" GAZA AID CONVOY UPDATE (SITREP #7) (SECRET)

Mr. Eussen,

Many thanks for these very helpful emails.

Thanks,
Donny Yoo

From: Eussen, Matthew M
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2011 4:15 AM
To: SES-O_OPS-WatchTeam
Cc: NEA-IPA-DL; Silverman, Robert J; Levin, Jan X; Grubb, Jason B; Berns, David B
Subject: FW: "FREEDOM FLOTILLA II" GAZA AID CONVOY UPDATE (SITREP #7) (SECRET)

Additional information.

Respectfully-
-Matt

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

Sensitivity: Sensitive
Classification: SECRET//NOFORN
Derived From: previous msg in thread.
Declassify On: 2021/06/30

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

From: [REDACTED] B3 DOD-CP
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2011 7:42 AM B6
To: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

B3 DOD-CP

B6

Subject: "FREEDOM FLOTILLA II" GAZA AID CONVOY UPDATE (SITREP #7) (SECRET)

Classification: SECRET

Caveats: NOFORN

Good morning J2 –

[Redacted]

1.4(C)
B1

Request all addressees continue to please feed updates to USEUCOM theater all-source fusion analysis center at [redacted] This will help to ensure accuracy, timeliness, relevancy, and dissemination B3 DOD-CP, leadership at all levels. B6

Convention: Blue is new.

1.4(D)
B1

(U) The international "Freedom Flotilla II (FF2) – Stay Human" will include 10 ships, at least two of which are cargo boats carrying aid, while the rest are passenger ships carrying hundreds of people, among them, politicians, MEPs, writers, religious faith representatives, people of arts and culture and activists. Press releases indicates many TV crews will be also on board (CNN, NBC, Al-Jazeera, et al) as well as journalists sent by various world media and newspapers. "Stay Human" was selected in honor of 36-year old Italian pro-Palestinian activist Vittorio Arrigoni, who was killed 14 Apr 2011 after being kidnapped in Gaza City by Salafist radicals.

SITREP follows:

1.4(C)
1.4(D)
B1

(U) Political Developments:

- (U) On 28 Jun, Israel Defense Ministry proposed confiscating the ships that attempt to break the naval blockade to Gaza, a move aimed at deterring future flotillas. Israeli press reporting indicates IDF claims they have intelligence showing some flotilla participants are planning to use violence and possibly chemical weapons against the troops. Flotilla members claim this is an attempt to justify IDF violence. (Source: Jerusalem Post)

1.4(C)

1.4(D)

B1

- (U) On 27 Jun, the Israeli "Lawfare" Group took responsibility for lodging the complaint against flotilla ship AUDACITY OF HOPE. Free Gaza Movement (FGM) organizers and AUDACITY OF HOPE passengers believe the complaint was frivolous and are now confident the Greek government will allow them to depart Greece.

- (U) On 27 Jun, the "Freedom Flotilla II (FF2) – Stay Human" press conference occurred in Athens but no specific ship names, departure dates, launch times, or rendezvous date, time, or area were revealed. Organizers also withheld the length of time the flotilla would remain at the rendezvous area before heading south. In short, FF2 spokespersons stated the flotilla will press forward with their departure plans despite Israel's warnings.

- (U) On 27 Jun, after two days of closed-doors meetings, the Israeli ministers committee on security affairs voted in favor of the navy plans to stop the FF2 flotilla from breaching the Israeli-imposed naval blockade on the Palestinian territory, giving the army authority to use "all necessary means" during the operation. The Israeli cabinet has ordered Israeli troops to operate with "maximal restraint and avoid clashes with activists on board the vessels."

- (U) On 22 Jun, US STATE Dept warned US citizens against taking part in the flotilla and to avoid all travel to the Gaza Strip, citing threats to themselves as well as US interests. (STATE)

(S//REL TO USA, GBR) Israeli Defense Force (IDF)

1.4(C)
1.4(D)
B1

(S) US Navy Forces

1.4(C)
1.4(D)
B1

B3 DOD-CP
B6

V/R,

B3 DOD-CP
B6

Attachment Classification: SECRET
Attachment Caveats: NOFORN
Classification: SECRET
Caveats: NOFORN

RELEASED IN PART B3 DOD-CP,B3
DODFGI,B5,B6

Law, Rosemary C

From: Stephen & Betsy Pomper/Andersen [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:29 PM
To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Perina, Alexandra H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F; Donoghue, Joan E
Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing

B6

Marc Guarin is going to log in and weigh in on this question. I also reached out to JCS legal to see if they have a Navy lawyer we can talk to. Have taken Tom G off this chain for the moment. Steve

> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>
 > Date: Mon, 31 May 2010 13:01:59 -0400
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 > CC: AswadEM@state.gov; SullivanDJ1@state.gov; pomper_andersen [REDACTED]
 PomperSE2@state.gov; GuarinMF@state.gov

B6

B5

>
 > jon
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 > -----Original Message-----
 > From: Perina, Alexandra H
 > Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:56 PM
 > To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn
 > Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J; [REDACTED] Pomper, Stephen E; Guarin, Marc F
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B6

B5

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

B5

>

>

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> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 12:17 PM

> To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H

> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J

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> To: Baumert, Kevin A; Jacobson, Linda; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H

> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J

> Subject: RE: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

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> -----Original Message-----

> From: Baumert, Kevin A

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 11:34 AM

> To: Jacobson, Linda; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H

> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M; Sullivan, David J

> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

>

>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Jacobson, Linda

> To: Baumert, Kevin A; Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Perina, Alexandra H

> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M

> Sent: Mon May 31 11:20:32 2010

> Subject: Re: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>

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> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Baumert, Kevin A

> To: Goldberger, Thomas H; Schwartz, Jonathan B; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda; Perina, Alexandra H

> Cc: Aswad, Evelyn M

> Sent: Mon May 31 11:18:29 2010

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>

B5

[REDACTED]

> Kevin
> L/OES
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Goldberger, Thomas H
> To: Schwartz, Jonathan B; Baumert, Kevin A; Heinemann, Thomas B; Dolan, JoAnn; Jacobson, Linda
> Sent: Mon May 31 10:50:27 2010
> Subject: FW: L comments on MFA flotilla briefing>
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[REDACTED]

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> To: Goldberger, Thomas H
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[REDACTED]

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 > ----- Original Message -----
 > From: [REDACTED]
 > To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D; Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); [REDACTED]
 > [REDACTED] M; Levin, Jan; [REDACTED]
 > Sent: Mon May 31 08:08:22 2010
 > Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing
 >

B3 DOD-CP

B3 DOD-CP

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 > - Two Ships in Ashdod to include the CHALLENGER I
 > - M/V MAVI MARMARA expected in port between 1700L and 1800L
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 > - Interaction occurred approx 70 NM from coastline. IDF confident in International Law because of intent by flotilla to breach the blockade. (See Attached Slides)
 >

B3 DOD-CP

> V/R,

B3 DOD-CP

>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem)

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 2:46 PM

> To: Cunningham, James B; Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [REDACTED]

> Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

B3 DOD-CP

> Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

> Subject: RE: MFA flotilla briefing

>

> This may largely repeat at this point what is out in other places and/or others have heard from me, but just to assure that various reporting lines have same info, this is from [REDACTED] who also spoke with the UN's Serry, among others, this am.

B6

>

> [REDACTED] reported that when Israeli soldiers boarded the main deck of the main ship, they met with what he described as clearly planned active/armed resistance, including live fire. Military who boarded were attacked with knives, sharpened metal and wood instruments, etc. He said the military who boarded were attacked by dozens; He indicated that some of the soldiers were stabbed and slashed. Made clear situation was one in which actions taken were in self-defense.

B6

>

> Current estimates of those killed from flotilla 14-15 "maybe more". He said all injured being moved to Israeli hospital - by helicopter. He said ships coming into Ashdod (some reports have them coming into Haifa). At Ashdod, he and others will meet the ships. There, they will need to ID the bodies; move the people either to return them to home countries rapidly and/or detain; ID the cargo and as planned initially, move as much of into Gaza as promptly as possible.

>

> Earlier this morning he and [REDACTED] made the following calls/contacts:

> --Turkish FM and MoD [REDACTED] Erakat, Fayyad, and Hussein al Sheikh [REDACTED] He felt the calls w the Turks given the situation were OK, but the concern clearly is Erdogan and how he will handle. With Pals, Erakat in particular, they discussed extent to which levels of rhetoric could be kept in check. With Fayyad they discussed primarily need for security cooperation, keeping things calm. Concern about how this will be affected by status of Israeli Arab Islamic leader on board the flotilla.

B6

>

> (PIC seems to be on track/going forward. Some events may be affected by it.)

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Cunningham, James B

> Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:38 PM

> To: Levin, Jan; Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [REDACTED] Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

B3 DOD-CP

> Cc: 'Dennis_B._Ross@nsc.eop.gov'; 'Dshapiro@who.eop.gov'

> Subject: Re: MFA flotilla briefing

>

> Our Consular people are in contact with MFA and Ashdod to get info on amcits as soon as it's available. UN had been approached by COGAT last week to help in forwarding cargo from ships in Ashdod. Serry is trying to send a couple of observers to Ashdod, has told cogat that assisting deliveries of humanitarian goods, much of which is destined for Hamas, is problematic but he'll see. Barak just gave a press conference, and appears to have spoken to Davutoglu this am.

> Sent from my BlackBerry

>

B3 DOD-CP

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Levin, Jan

> To: Operations Center; Jeffrey, James F; Cunningham, James B; Sievers, Marc J; Parker, Andrew C; Grubb, Jason B; NEA-IPA-DL; Greene, Elisa; Marchese, Gregory M; Waters, John R; [REDACTED]
Amodeo, Salvatore A (Istanbul); Rudman, Mara (Jerusalem); Connelly, Maura; Feltman, Jeffrey D

> Sent: Mon May 31 13:20:31 2010

> Subject: MFA flotilla briefing

>

> MFA DG Yossi Gal and IDF Col. [REDACTED] briefed foreign
ambassadors at 12:30 local time today.

B6

>

> Highlights - Identification of dead and wounded taking time. MFA will reach out proactively to Embassies as IDs are done, with location and status of citizens. The uninjured will be processed and escorted to airport for deportation. Unclear how long this will take.

> -- Most violence occurred on ship Mavi (Blue) Marmara. As far as is currently known, all injuries occurred on this ship.

> -- Col. [REDACTED] told Ambassador that activists on Mavi Marmara were prepared for boarders and were armed. Unclear if they had firearms in advance or took them from IDF boarding party. One IDF soldier nearly beaten to death with metal bar. Activists also had knives.

B6

> -- Events took place in international waters. Israel asserted it had the legal right to intercept in intl waters because there is a military blockade under the law of armed conflict between Israel and Hamas.

>

> Ambassador Cunningham requests that Embassy Tel Aviv clear Dept guidance on this issue, thank you.

Hotmail has tools for the New Busy. Search, chat and e-mail from your inbox. [Learn more.](#)

Bowers, Allyson M

116

From: Sindle, James M
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 8:42 AM
To: Gaza Flotilla Monitoring Group
Subject: FW: 3 JUN 10 - FREE GAZA MOVEMENT (FGM) FLOTILLA UPDATE - WAVE # 2 (SITREP #6) (SECRET)
Attachments: Free Gaza Movement Flotilla Update_3 Jun 10.ppt; 20100604_TUR_IHH.ppt

RELEASED IN PART B1,B3 DOD-CP,1.4(A),B6,1.4(C)

Interesting that Rachel Corrie heading to Alexandria, Egypt.

From: Stein, Lawrence J. CAPT [mailto:Lawrence.Stein@jac.eucom.smil.mil]
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 12:36 AM
To: Gardner, John D. LTG
Cc:

B3 DOD-CP

B6



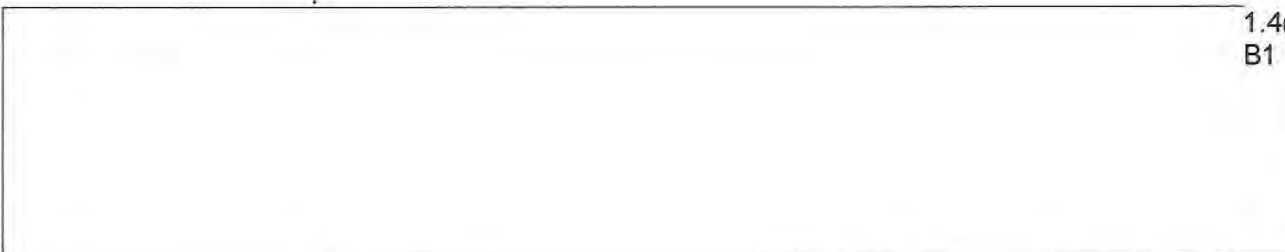
(SECRET)

1.4(A)
B1

Good morning LTG Gardner-

Classification Extended on : 02/19/2013 ~ Class: SECRET ~ Authority: DSCG 11-1 ~ Declassify on: 06-02-2025

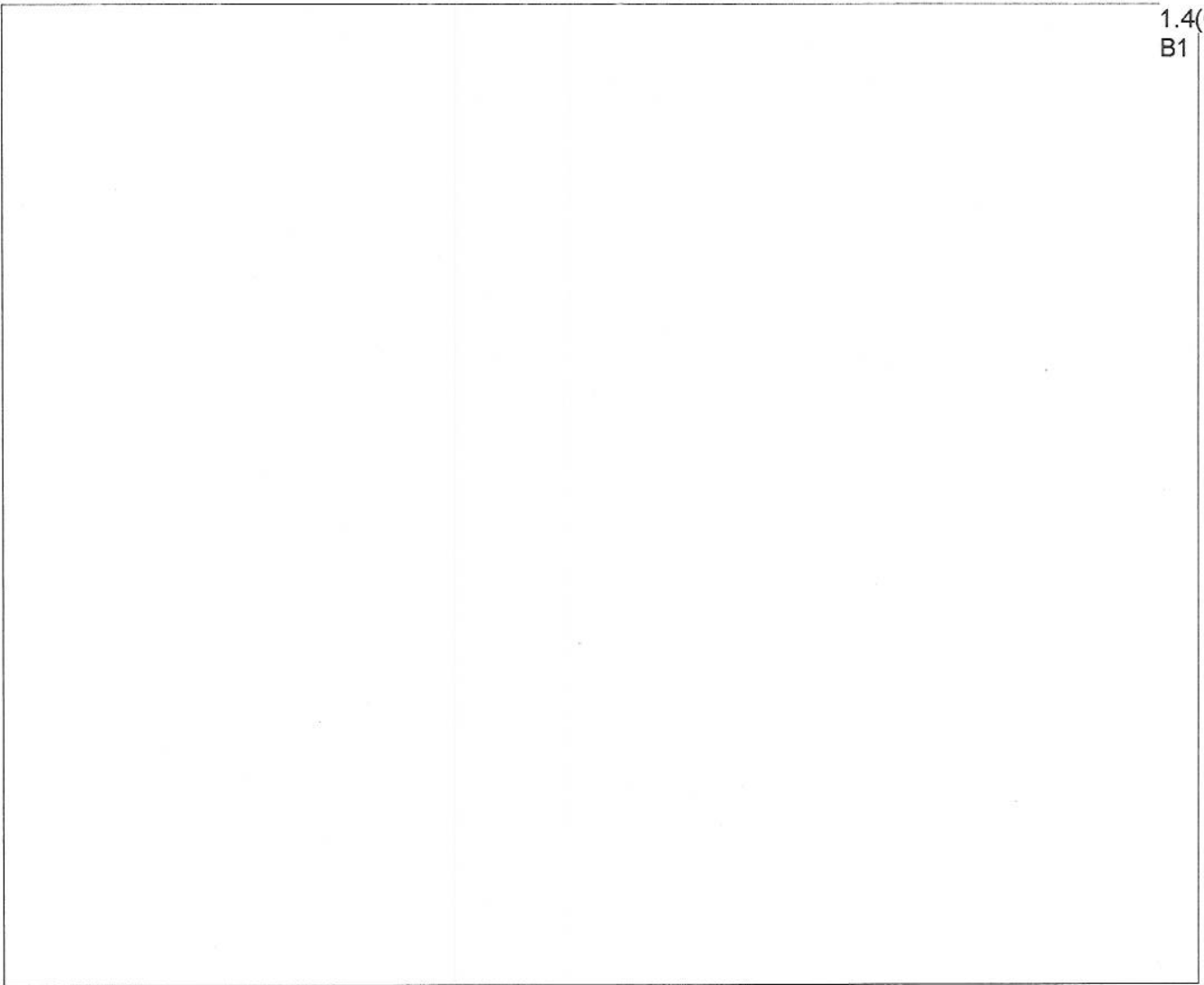
Situation Update:



1.4(C)
B1

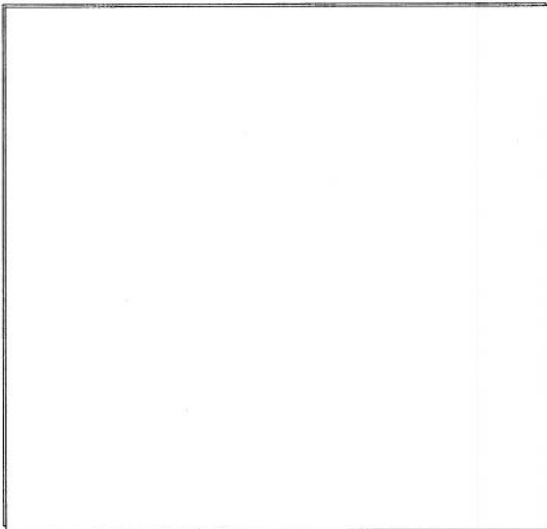
REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

1.4(C)
B1



B6

B3 DOD-CP



B3 DOD-CP

B6

<<Free Gaza Movement Flotilla Update_3 Jun 10.ppt>> <<20100604_TUR_IHH.ppt>>

B5

Schaefer, Courtney

From: Warlow, Molly
 Sent: Thursday, February 17, 2011 10:08 AM
 To: McHenry, Teresa; Warner, David
 Cc: Hammer, Timothy; Schaefer, Courtney
 Subject: RE: Meeting re Furkhat Dogan

RELEASED IN PART B5

I would recommend doing it with State – don't want to have them playing one against the other, plus I would want to know what state says, and I think this more a foreign relations than legal issue at this point. Would you be willing to attend?

Molly

~~From: McHenry, Teresa~~
 Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 6:31 PM
 To: Warlow, Molly; Warner, David
 Cc: Hammer, Timothy; Schaefer, Courtney
 Subject: Re: Meeting re Furkhat Dogan

I inclined to think we shld meet. Don't have strong preference re whether doj does w state, or we do separately

From: Warlow, Molly
 To: Warner, David; McHenry, Teresa
 Cc: Hammer, Timothy
 Sent: Wed Feb 16 13:34:21 2011
 Subject: RE: Meeting re Furkhat Dogan

Or join their meeting?

From: Warner, David
 Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 1:21 PM
 To: McHenry, Teresa; Warlow, Molly
 Cc: Hammer, Timothy
 Subject: Fw: Meeting re Furkhat Dogan

Molly and Teresa, State is taking the meeting with Dogan. They are asking about our intentions re: his proposed meeting with us and whether we want to attend their meeting. With State taking the meeting, do we want to decline the meeting him perhaps provide a talking point that speaks to the lack of jurisdiction under US law? David

From: Wilson, Kathleen A <WilsonKA2@state.gov>
 To: McDonough, Patricia E <McDonoughPE@state.gov>; Hammer, Timothy; Warner, David
 Sent: Wed Feb 16 12:24:47 2011
 Subject: RE: Meeting re Furkhat Dogan

B5

SBU
 This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Charles Daris, Senior Reviewer

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

From: McDonough, Patricia E
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 12:22 PM
To: Hammer, Timothy; 'Warner, David'; Wilson, Kathleen A
Subject: Meeting re Furkhat Dogan

Tim, David -

*State
Dept*

B5

Best,
Trish

Patricia E. McDonough
Attorney-Adviser
US Department of State
Office of the Assistant Legal Adviser, Law Enforcement and Intelligence (L/LEI)
Tel: 202-647-6194

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASED IN FULL

Schaefer, Courtney

RIF

From: McHenry, Teresa
Sent: Friday, February 18, 2011 1:03 PM
To: Warlow, Molly; Warner, David
Cc: Schaefer, Courtney; Swartz, Bruce; Weinstein, Jason
Subject: FW: DOS meeting re: Dogan

J2

Lets discuss

Thks

From: McDonough, Patricia E [mailto:McDonoughPE@state.gov]
Sent: Friday, February 18, 2011 11:56 AM
To: Warner, David; McHenry, Teresa
Cc: Wilson, Kathleen A
Subject: DOS meeting re: Dogan

State Dept

Teresa, David --

I have just been informed that the DOS meeting with Mr. Dogan and his counsel is not going to be open to include a DOJ representative. I had previously been asked to see if DOJ would be interested in attending that meeting on Wednesday, but the office that has been tasked with holding this meeting plans to confine the meeting to DOS consular matters. Thus, the current thinking is that a DOJ representative should not attend the DOS meeting -- rather, if DOJ meets with Mr. Dogan and counsel, such a meeting should be separate.

I am sorry for the confusion on this issue! I just learned of this development this morning. I am happy to discuss -- clearly there has been an evolution of thinking on this end and I do not know whether that will change again.

Best,
Trish

Patricia E. McDonough
Attorney-Adviser
US Department of State
Office of the Assistant Legal Adviser, Law Enforcement and Intelligence (L/LEI)

Tel: 202-647-6194

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Charles Daris, Senior Reviewer

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASED IN FULL

McHenry, Teresa

From: McDonough, Patricia E [McDonoughPE@state.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, February 22, 2011 6:06 PM
To: Warner, David; McHenry, Teresa
Subject: FW: Haaretz - Father of teen killed in Gaza flotilla raid seeks American justice

David, Teresa – From the Turkey desk - you may wish to review (or pass to people attending the Dogan meeting at DOJ tomorrow) for information purposes, if you have not seen these already.

Best,
Trish

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Gregonis, Meghan E
Sent: Tuesday, February 22, 2011 6:05 PM
To: McDonough, Patricia E
Subject: Haaretz - Father of teen killed in Gaza flotilla raid seeks American justice

Trish,
Below see a link to the NYTimes article from this summer and further below there's a Haaretz article from today. DOJ might want to review these in advance of the meeting, if they haven't done so already. Thanks,
Meghan

Meghan Gregonis • Senior Turkey Desk Officer • Office of Southern European Affairs • US Department of State
2201 C St, NW Rm 5511 Washington, DC 20520 | ☎: 202.647.9749 | ✉: GregonisME@state.gov

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/27/opinion/27iht-edcohen.html?scp=1&sq=roger+cohen+dogan&st=nyt>

<http://www.haaretz.com/blogs/focus-u-s-a/father-of-teen-killed-in-gaza-flotilla-raid-seeks-american-justice-1.345023>

- Published 15:36 22.02.11
- Latest update 15:36 22.02.11

Father of teen killed in Gaza flotilla raid seeks American justice

Like the other people on board the Mavi Marmara, says Professor Ahmet Doğan, 'we did not expect Israelis to attack the ship in the middle of the night.'

By [Natasha Mozgovaya](#)

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Charles Daris, Senior Reviewer

State
Dept

Did you see the video of IDF soldiers being attacked on the Mavi Marmara? Did it not look like a provocation to you?

"If these were really dangerous people, instead of throwing away the weapons that they captured from the soldiers, they could have used them and killed the soldiers. When the helicopters were tied to the ship with ropes so that the soldiers could scale down, they could have pulled them down, but they let them go," says Doğan.

"Have you ever imagined what it would be like to be in their shoes, being set upon by commandos at the crack of dawn? I think that the Israelis were the ones that wanted a provocation."

Doğan says he has nothing against Jews or Israel.

"The Turks accepted Jews that were expelled from Spain, Jews that fled the Second World War. That was Furkan's belief. If Jews were living under an oppressive regime, he would have joined a flotilla to aid them. When I studied in the U.S., I had a lot of Jewish friends, I never had anything against them."

"My opinion of the Israeli people has not changed, but I want those responsible for my son's death to face justice. Regardless of who is responsible, including army commanders and the politicians that send them. And if the State of Israel has self-respect, it must admit its mistake," says Doğan. "I would appeal to an Israeli court in a quest for justice, but I no longer believe that Israeli justice is impartial."

Doğan says that no Israeli has made any effort to contact him since the flotilla. "No government official and no peace activist. I was quite surprised by it, because I am sure that there are many people in Israel that do not agree with the policies of their government," he says. "I expected more solidarity."

"Twice we were contacted by the American Embassy, once regarding the death certificate, and a second time the ambassador called to express his condolences, two months after the incident." He has two more grown children, a boy and a girl. "I don't know if there are words that can express what they feel."

He received advice on how to deal with the U.S. government and the names of possible contacts from the parents of Rachel Corrie, the International Solidarity Movement activist that was killed by an Israeli bulldozer in Gaza. They met once in Istanbul and plan to meet again during Doğan's upcoming visit in the U.S.

"They told me who to talk to and what steps to take. They also told me that it won't be easy."

Doğan says that he has still not received the clothes that his son was wearing when he was killed, nor his video camera with which he filmed what happened on the ship.

"If Israel is so certain of its righteousness, I call upon it to stand trial at the international court in the Hague and provide its explanations," says Yugur Sevgili, Doğan's lawyer.

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

34

B5

From: McDonough, Patricia E [mailto:McDonoughPE@state.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, February 23, 2011 11:52 AM
To: Warlow, Molly
Subject: FW: READOUT of meeting with Prof. Dogan (Feb 23)

State Dept

Privacy/PII
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Baily, Jess L
Sent: Wednesday, February 23, 2011 11:48 AM
To: McDonough, Patricia E
Cc: Gregonis, Meghan E
Subject: FW: READOUT of meeting with Prof. Dogan (Feb 23)

State Dept

This just come in. Jess

Privacy/PII
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Pettit, James D
Sent: Wednesday, February 23, 2011 11:41 AM
To: Schnier, David M; Riley, Robert J; Miller, Andrew T; Gregonis, Meghan E
Cc: Baily, Jess L; Mokhtarzada, Homeyra N; Baez, Alejandro X; Kaidanow, Tina S; Ellits, Colin C; Richter, Kim B; Sutphin, Paul R; Flood, Colleen B
Subject: READOUT of meeting with Prof. Dogan (Feb 23)

State Dept

(Please feel free to forward as necessary)

Participants:

DOS

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Charles Daris, Senior Reviewer

Jim Pettit (DAS for CA/OCS)
Kim Richter (OCS/ACS/NESCA)
Colleen Flood (OCS/PRI)

Colin Elfts (NEA/IPA)

Dogan Party

Prof. Ahmet Dogan

Katherine Gallagher (attorney, Center for Constitutional Rights)

Ugur Sevgilli (attorney/interpreter)

Meeting was held at 10:00 a.m. in CA front office on Feb. 23, 2011.

*State
Report*

I just want to share my general impressions - others were taking notes if addressees need more detail.

I expressed condolences to Prof. Dogan on the loss of his son. I told him that CA places a high priority on assisting the next-of-kin when a U.S. citizen dies abroad. He initially stated that he had no contact with the embassy after his son's body arrived in Turkey. I recounted dates and names of individuals from our embassy in Ankara (including the Ambassador) who were in touch with him in the first few days. He eventually qualified his initial assertion by stating that the embassy has not provided any information.

There were repeated calls for a USG investigation. I told them that the USG does not as a rule conduct investigations overseas, but must rely on local jurisdictions. In this instance, we were awaiting the findings of the UN SYG Inquiry panel (Palmer Commission), which would be based on independent investigations of the Gaza Flotilla incident by the governments of both Turkey and Israel. I was queried as to why we did not accept the findings of the earlier UNHRC report and why the USG was critical of that report. I replied that we were seeking a more balanced and better informed study, noting that the UNHRC's mandate had been somewhat unclear and the investigation a bit "rushed."

B5

The meeting was generally friendly, although Ms. Gallagher got a bit aggressive with her questioning toward the end, asking who/when/how we engaged with the Israelis on this issue, whether we had asked for an apology, etc. My response was always "we're waiting for the UN report."

Ms. Gallagher also pressed on the autopsy report, saying that it clearly showed summary execution of protesters and of Furkan. I told her I had seen the autopsy report and agreed that it seemed to evidence gunshots at close range, but that the characterization of the cause of death being "summary execution" was a call that would have to be made by experts who could determine the context.

I apologized for the delay in issuance of a Consular Report of Death, explaining that such documents are issued on the basis of a death report issued by local authorities and not just on the autopsy report.

The group is meeting with DOJ later today. I did say that there were circumstances under which the USG (including the FBI) could and would assist in investigation of crimes against U.S. citizens overseas, but that whether this incident fell within those narrow parameters would have to be determined by DOJ.

Ms. Gallagher pointed out that the Israelis have yet to return the video camera taken from Furkan and insisted that this needed to be returned both because 1) it was the property of a deceased U.S.

citizen and 2) It could have crucial evidentiary/forensic value to the ongoing investigation. I agreed and we committed to ask for an update from our embassy in Tel Aviv on efforts to locate and return this item.

State Dept

I did make the point that we have been in frequent contact with the Israelis on this matter, most recently on February 15.

At the end of the meeting, I told Prof. Dogan that he was always entitled to a response when he asked for information from the Department or our posts and that he should let me know personally if he was not receiving requested information. At the same time, I pointed out that many previous inquiries on his behalf to our embassy in Ankara were made by third parties who had no clear relationship to him (citing the Privacy Act). I added that our consular staff in Ankara would be happy to meet with him upon request.

Let me know if you have questions. I'll be back in the office on March 1.

Jim

Privacy/PII
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RELEASED IN FULL

NON-RESPONSIVE PORTIONS
REDACTED

Text: ~~ISRAEL~~
1d: ~~LEBANON~~

UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS



June 10, 2010

BRIEFING MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

FROM: POL – Jeff Delaurentis
SUBJECT: Meeting with Israeli MFA Deputy DG, IO, Eviatar Manor and BG Yossi Heymann, Friday, June 11, 4:00 p.m., USUN

Background

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Issues/Talking Points

Gaza flotilla:

[REDACTED]

Israeli Foreign Minister Lieberman told Ambassador Rice that the Israeli cabinet would likely make a decision on an investigation on Sunday, June 13.

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

-2-

NR

- We expect your government to conduct a prompt, impartial, credible and transparent investigation conforming to international standards that gets to all the facts surrounding the tragic incident. We are open to different ways of assuring a credible investigation, including international participation.

Lebanon/resolution 1701:

Ghajar:

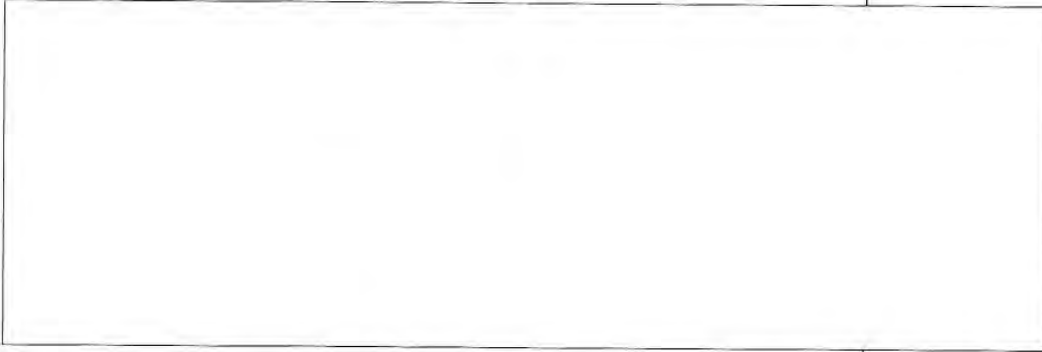
NR

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

-3-

NR



SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

(Low side)

AW 06-8-10 Mtg with Isr MFA Dep DG Manor and BG Heymann.doc

Drafted: POL: ASchedlbauer

RELEASED IN FULL

Participants

Israel

Mr. Eviatar (Evi) Manor, Deputy Director General
for International Organizations, MFA.
Brigadier General Yossi Heymann, Head of Strategic
Division, IDF

Ambassador Gabriela Shalev
Ambassador Danny Carmon
Haim Waxman, Deputy Perm Rep-designate
(will replace Ambassador Carmon in mid-August)
Inbal Eshed, Adviser

United States

Ambassador Wolff
Jeff DeLaurentis (t)
Ellen German
Amy Schedlbauer (notetaker)

**REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior
Reviewer**

RELEASED IN FULL

The White House

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

June 09, 2010

Remarks by President Obama and President Abbas of the Palestinian Authority after Meeting

Oval Office

11:58 A.M. EDT

PRESIDENT OBAMA: Hello, everybody. Be careful, careful.

Before I begin, I know that there was just a vote in the United Nations Security Council. I'm going to comment on that separately. I don't want to detract from the topic at hand here. So for reporters who are interested in that issue, I will be making a statement about that after our session here.

I just want to thank President Abbas for being here, and his delegation. We just concluded some very productive discussions on this issue. I commended President Abbas for the excellent work that he and Prime Minister Fayyad have been engaged in over the last several years in strengthening the security as well as improving the economic situation for his people. He's done so through hard work and dedication, and I think the whole world has noticed the significant improvements that we've seen as a consequence of his good administration.

But obviously there is a lot of work that remains to be done so that we can create a two-state solution in the Middle East in which we have an Israel that is secure and fully accepted by its neighbors, and a Palestinian people that have their own state, self-determination, and the ability to chart their own destiny.

Now, we've just gone through a difficult period in the region. We saw the tragedy with the flotillas, something that I think has drawn attention all around the world to the ongoing problems in Gaza. As part of the United Nations Security Council, we were very clear in condemning the acts that led to this crisis and have called for a full investigation. And it is important that we get all the facts out. But what we also know is that the situation in Gaza is unsustainable. I think increasingly you're seeing debates within Israel, recognizing the problems with the status quo. And so President Abbas and I had very extensive discussions about how we could help to promote a better approach to Gaza.

We agree that Israelis have the right to prevent arms from entering into Gaza that can be used to launch attacks into Israeli territory. But we also think that it is important for us to explore new mechanisms so that we can have goods and services, and economic development, and the ability of people to start their own businesses, and to grow the economy and provide opportunity within Gaza.

And so we are going to be working hand in hand to make sure that we come up with a better approach, and urge Israel to work with all parties involved -- Egypt, the Palestinian Authority, and the international community -- to find a resolution to this issue.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

In the meantime, the United States -- which is already the biggest humanitarian aid donor in Gaza -- is going to be announcing an additional \$400 million in assistance for housing, school construction, business development -- not only in Gaza, but also in the West Bank, because we think it's important for us to reaffirm once again our commitment to improving the day-to-day lives of ordinary Palestinians.

Now, what we also discussed, though, and what we will continue to work on over the next several months is the fact that not only is the status quo with respect to Gaza unsustainable, the status quo with respect to the Middle East is unsustainable. It is time for us to go ahead and move forward on a two-state solution that will affirm the needs of Israeli citizens and will affirm the needs of Palestinian -- Palestinians who are desperate for a homeland.

We have had very productive proximity talks. Senator Mitchell -- who is here, I think standing in the back -- has been very active, working with both the Palestinians and the Israelis to try to start moving this process forward. And I want to thank President Abbas for participating in these proximity talks even under some difficult circumstances. He has shown courage and tenacity in wanting to resolve this issue. And we believe that with Israelis and the Palestinian Authority coming together, making clear that a peaceful, non-violent solution that recognizes both the security needs of Israel as well as the legitimate aspirations of Palestinians is the right way to go, can yield real progress in the coming months.

It's important that we understand the sense of urgency that the Palestinian people feel in this process. Obviously you've got organizations like Hamas that have not recognized Israel, have not renounced violence, who are calling for a different approach. And we think it's important that, given President Abbas's commitment to a peaceful diplomatic solution to these issues, and I think the desire of people both in Israel and Palestine -- Palestinian Territories for a peaceful solution, that we move forward. And the United States is going to put its full weight behind those efforts.

I did share with President Abbas, in order for us to be successful in these next several months, that both sides have to create an environment, a climate, that is going to be conducive to an actual breakthrough. And that means on the Israeli side, curbing settlement activity and recognizing some of the progress that has been made by the Palestinian Authority when it comes to issues like security. It means on the Palestinian side -- and I was very frank with President Abbas that we have to continue to make more progress on both security as well as incitement issues.

And if we can over the next several months try to lift up what are the honest and legitimate concerns of both sides and if both Palestinians and Israelis can recognize that they have a common interest in moving off of what has been this dead end, then I believe that potentially we can make significant progress before the end of the year.

So I just want to let President Abbas know that I said when I took office this was an issue that I cared deeply about and I was willing to spend a lot of time and energy and political capital on. That commitment has not wavered. And I think the American people want to see a resolution of this issue that is equitable. We will continue to work side by side with you, as well as the Israelis, to resolve this in a way that is good for the children and future generations both in Israel and in a future Palestine.

So thank you very much.

PRESIDENT ABBAS: (As translated.) Thank you, Mr. President. And we, indeed, have just held very important discussions that touched on the political process as well as the very important latest development that happened in Gaza.

Of course we value and deeply appreciate all the efforts of the United States, as well as the effort of President Obama, and all the assistance and help for pushing forward the economic and security levels. And we have reached a satisfactory picture of the economic and security levels. Yet we are determined to keep pushing forward in our efforts to bring it up to the next level. And I also appreciate the attention and the determination of President Obama in seeing that we push forward the political process as soon as possible. And I assert and I affirm that we will not give up on this endeavor ahead of us, because it is in our interest, it is in the interest of Israel, in the interest of the world, and also, most of all, in the interest of the United States.

We know that time is of essence; we know that we must not miss this opportunity. We affirm the importance of bringing about peace and security in the region.

And I would like to thank President Obama for the support that he will give to Gaza -- and we have just talked about that now. This is a positive signal of the United States that the United States cares about the suffering of the people in Gaza and about the suffering of the Palestinian people.

And we also see the need to lift the Israeli siege of the Palestinian people, the need to open all the crossings, and the need to let building material and humanitarian material and all the necessities go into the Palestinian people.

And also we appreciate the attention given to the formation of an investigation committee that would investigate what happened in the latest events, the events of what we call the Freedom Flotilla, or the Freedom Fleet.

And I say in front of you, Mr. President, that we have nothing to do with incitement against Israel, and we're not doing that. What we care about is to live in coexistence with Israel, in order to bring about the independent Palestinian state that will live side by side with Israel in peace and stability.

We adopt and we affirm the Arab Peace Initiative that was adopted in summits, in Arab summits, as well as in summits held by Islamic countries. Fifty-seven Arab and Islamic countries have said that they would recognize Israel if Israel withdrew from the occupied Arab land.

Mr. President, we thank you and we express our deep respect for all your efforts, specifically on the peace process and bringing about peace in the Middle East. We know the two-state solution you said is a critical interest of the United States. This is a slogan that we are proud of and we will pursue very seriously our efforts in order to bring about peace in the Middle East.

PRESIDENT OBAMA: We got time for, I think, two questions. So, on the U.S. side, we're going to call on Matt Spetalnick of Reuters.

Q Yes, Mr. President, I know you're going to be making a statement later on Iran, but I just wondered if --

PRESIDENT OBAMA: Yes, so just don't waste that question on that.

Q You're not going to answer anything --

PRESIDENT OBAMA: I'll do that at the next one.

Q Okay. Did President Abbas ask you to take a tougher line with Israel over the Gaza aid flotilla raid, and will you in fact do so in outright condemnation of Israel's actions? And do you support Israel's insistence on doing a flotilla investigation on its own, perhaps with some foreign involvement, or are you in favor of the U.N. proposal for a completely independent inquiry?

PRESIDENT OBAMA: Well, let me take the second question first. What the U.N. Security Council called for was a credible, transparent investigation that met international standards. And we meant what we said; that's what we expect.

I think everybody -- people in Israel, people in Turkey, people within the Palestinian Territories, certainly people here in the United States -- want to know the facts of this tragedy, what led to it, how can we prevent it in the future. And I think I've said to the Israelis directly and certainly my team has communicated the fact that it is in Israel's interest to make sure that everybody knows exactly how this happened so that we don't see these kinds of events occurring again. And we expect that the standard that was called for in the U.N. Security Council to be met.

With respect to the issue of taking a tougher line, I think President Abbas and I spent most of our time discussing how do we solve the problem. One of the things that we see is that so often rhetoric when it comes to issues in the Middle East outstrip actually solving issues. And our conversation was focused on how do we actually allow more goods, more services into Gaza? How do we allow businesses to thrive? How can we get construction moving? How can we put people to work in Gaza?

The Palestinian Authority is already doing a number of things inside of Gaza, providing employment opportunities, providing assistance to people directly. The United States is already providing assistance. But the status quo that we have is one that is inherently unstable. And I think the Israelis have come to recognize that.

The question now is how do we create a different framework so that people in Gaza can thrive and succeed, so that extremists are isolated as opposed to having an excuse for engaging in violent activities; but also, how do we do it in a way that Israel's legitimate security concerns are met.

We -- and I think President Abbas agrees with this -- recognize that Israel should not have missiles flying out of Gaza into its territories. And so there should be a means by which we are able to stop the flow of arms that could endanger Israel's security. At the same time, we're doing so in a way that allows the people in Gaza to live out their aspirations and their dreams both for themselves and their children. And that's something that we're going to spend a lot of time focusing on. And we've already begun some hard-headed discussions with the Israelis in achieving that.

Q (Asks a question in Arabic.)

And, Mr. President, if I may ask you a question --

PRESIDENT OBAMA: Okay, I was just finding out what you were asking him. (Laughter.)

Q I can translate that to you if you want. I just asked him that there is talk that the administration wants to move from proximity talk to direct negotiation, what the Palestinian Authority wants to see as a condition to move to that stage.

And if I may ask you, the European Union has proposed opening of the Gaza crossing. Would you endorse that, with the E.U. supervision? And the money you talked about now, the \$400 million, what mechanism -- who is going to distribute this money? Because in the past it has been a problem regarding the money.

PRESIDENT ABBAS: (As translated.) With regards to the transitioning from the proximity talks to the direct talks, we did not say -- we are not saying that we have conditions. What has happened is that we agreed that should a progress be achieved, then we would move on to direct talks. We are working in order to make progress. President Obama is working for that to see progress. And we -- this is what we have.

PRESIDENT OBAMA: With respect to the aid to Gaza, I'll let my team give you the details in terms of how that will be administered and how the money will begin to flow.

With respect to the broader issue of lifting the blockade, as I said before, I think the key here is making sure that Israel's security needs are met, but that the needs of people in Gaza are also

met. And it seems to us that there should be ways of focusing narrowly on arms shipments, rather than focusing in a blanket way on stopping everything and then in a piecemeal way allowing things into Gaza.

So if we can get a new conceptual framework -- and I'll be talking to my European counterparts, as well as Egypt and Israel and the Palestinian Authority -- it seems to me that we should be able to take what has been a tragedy and turn it into an opportunity to create a situation where lives in Gaza are actually directly improved.

But let me make this final point, that in the long run, the only real way to solve this problem is to make sure that we've got a Palestinian state side by side with an Israel that is secure. And so we're going to be dealing with these short-term problems, but we also have to keep our eye on the horizon and recognize that it's that long-term issue that has to be focused on. So many of the immediate problems in front of us have to do with the fact that we haven't solved this broader problem.

Okay? Thank you very much, everybody.

END

12:21 P.M. EDT

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PALESTINE



799 United Nations Plaza
New York, N.Y. 10017

UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

July 28, 2011

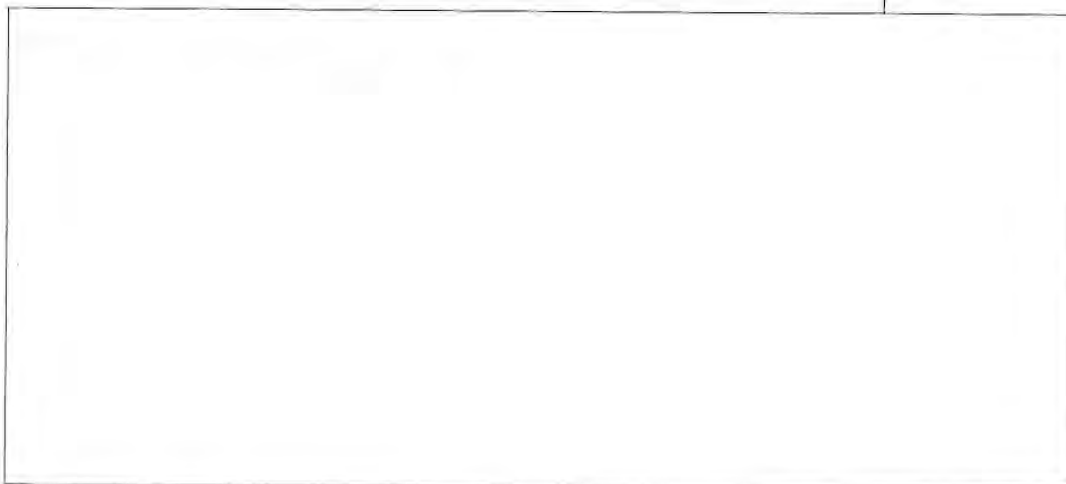
BRIEFING MEMORANDUM FOR THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

FROM: POL – Ellen Germain, Acting

THROUGH: EXEC – Ambassador DiCarlo

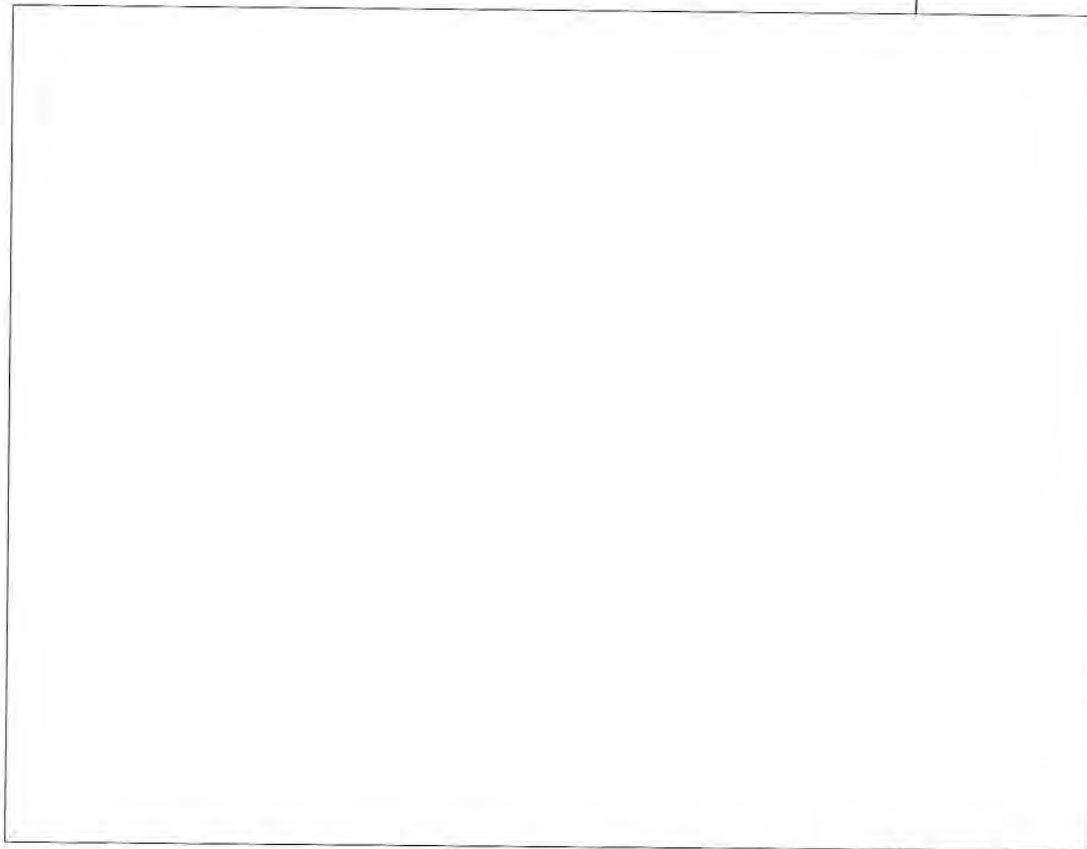
SUBJECT: Meeting with Malcolm Hoenlein, Executive Vice Chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations; Monday, August 1; 10:00 a.m.



REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

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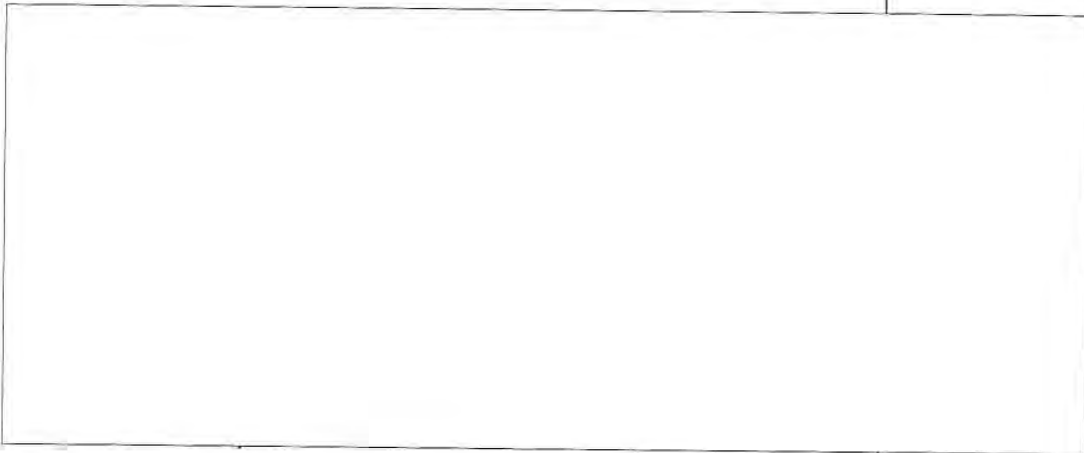


Flotilla/Palmer report: The efforts in early July to launch a second flotilla to Gaza fizzled, as did simultaneous efforts to create an "air flotilla." The Greek government was helpful in refusing permission for vessels to sail to Gaza, and the one French vessel that did finally sail on July 19 was peacefully intercepted by the Israeli Navy. Israel detained activists who arrived by air at Ben Gurion airport on July 8.

The Israeli press has reported that release of the Palmer report will be delayed until August 20, at Israel's request, and Israeli DPR Waxman confirmed to us that the report will be delayed until August 22. News reports say the Israeli-Turkish talks are deadlocked over the issue of an Israeli apology to Turkey for the May 31 incident. In his statement during last week's open debate on the Middle East, the Turkish DPR said Israel must apologize and pay compensation, otherwise there will be no normalization of diplomatic relations.

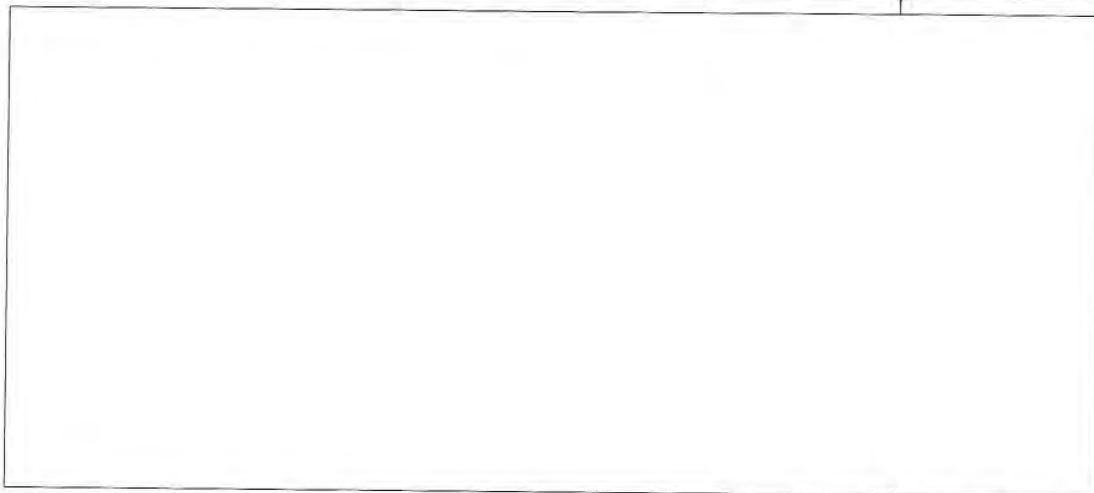
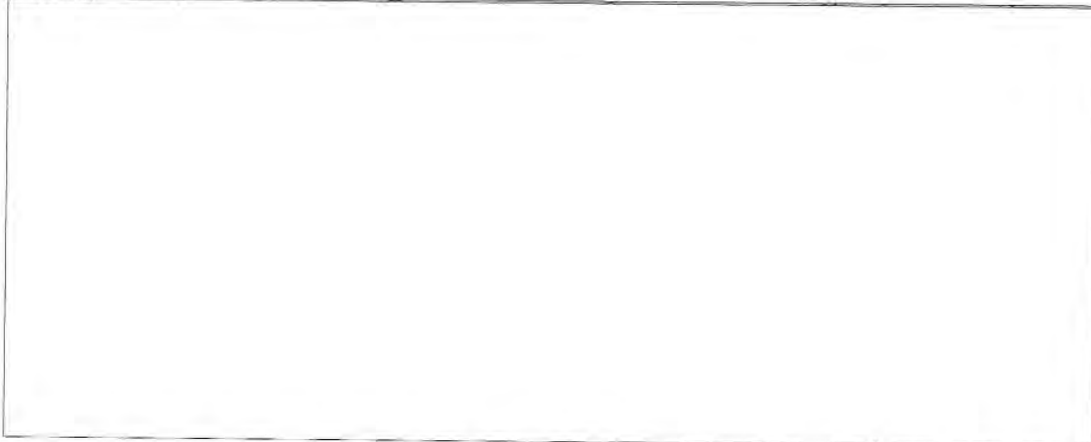
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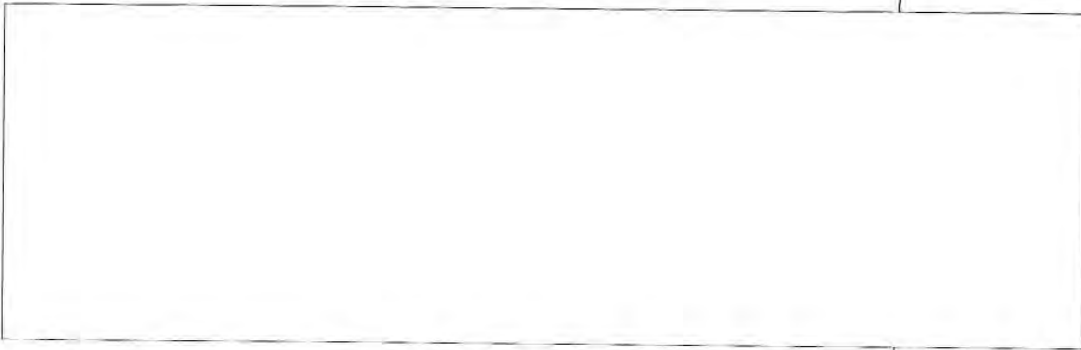


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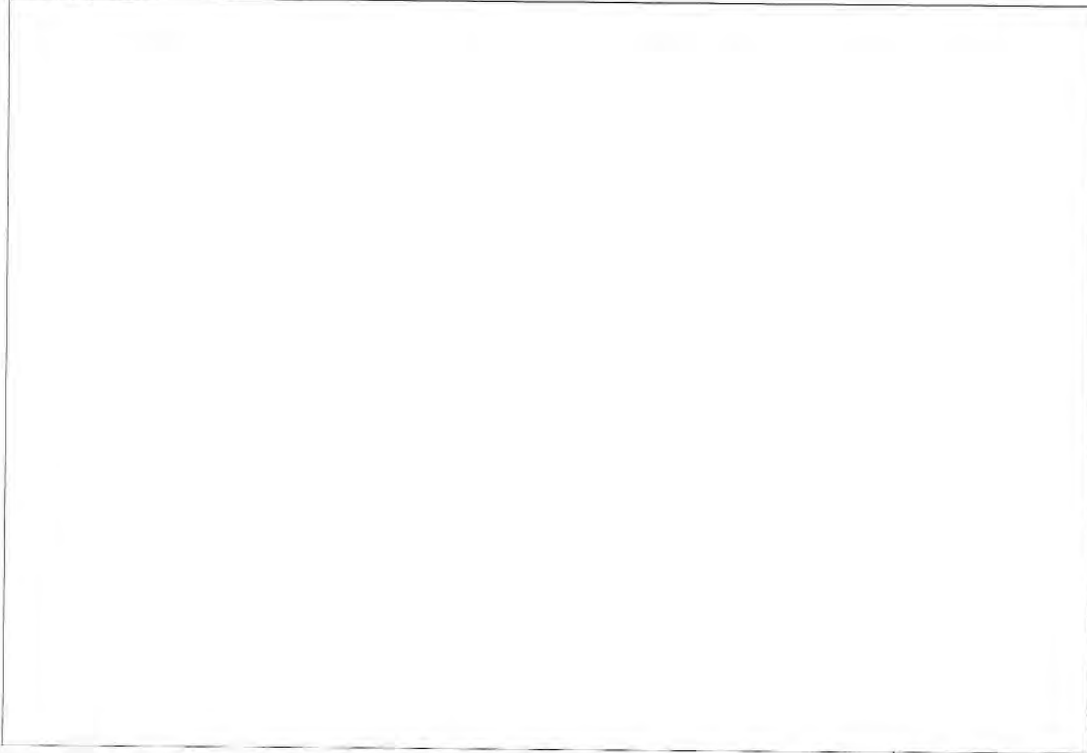


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Iran:



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Drafted: POL: EGermain

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3d: ISRAEL
SOC 14 (ARMED CONFLICT)
MIDDLE EAST



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June 11, 2010

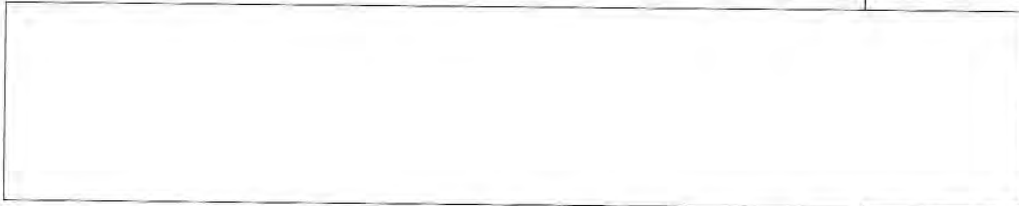
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

FROM: POL – Jeff DeLaurentis
THROUGH: EXEC – Ambassador Wolff
SUBJECT: Security Council Briefing/Consultations on the Middle East, June 15, 2010,
Security Council Chamber/Consultation Room

BACKGROUND:

Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs Oscar Fernandez-Taranco will likely brief the Council on events in the region since the Council's last regular meeting on the Middle East on May 18 and the Council's emergency meeting on the Middle East on May 31 and the issuance of the Presidential Statement. He will likely review the events of May 31 and what has happened subsequently. He may touch on the Secretary-General's consultations with various parties on an investigative mechanism. The most recent public comment from the Secretary-General's office on the investigation came on June 8 from his spokesman: "We have been asked since yesterday about reports that Israel may reject any international investigation into the 31 May incident involving the flotilla. First, we have not yet received an official response from Israel. We would like to underscore the Secretary-General's considered view that credible international involvement is crucial to a prompt, credible, impartial and transparent investigation, as called for in the Security Council's Presidential Statement of 1 June. The Secretary-General understands that Israel is still considering how and if to bring an international element into the investigative process." Fernandez-Taranco should also highlight that the proximity talks between Israelis and Palestinians continued during the May 31 crisis.



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Reviewer

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-2-

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The talking points for Tuesday's consultations have been fully cleared within the Department and by the NSC. There has not yet been a formal Israeli government announcement of its plans for a national (non-IDF) investigation. Such an announcement could come on Sunday, June 13, as Foreign Minister Lieberman mentioned to you, and Washington and USUN may want to update the remarks with revised language to reflect the announcement. The remarks also only contain general language on the need for a new mechanism for Gaza. If there is agreement with the GOI before the meeting on Tuesday, revised language could be included.

Until we have formal announcement of an Israeli national investigation and/or a new mechanism for Gaza, here is the current NSC guidance:

- AS WE'VE SAID FROM THE BEGINNING, we support an Israeli-led investigation into the flotilla incident that is prompt, credible, impartial, and transparent.
- We are open to different ways of ensuring the credibility of this Israeli-led investigation, including international participation, and have been in intensive talks with our Israeli partners in the past few days on how to move forward.
- We know of no resolution that will be debated at the UN on the flotilla investigation next week.

Attachment: Draft talking points for consultations

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Cleared: POL: EGermain ok

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UNSC Middle East Consultations
Talking Points
June 15, 2010

Thank you, Mr. President, and thank you, Assistant Secretary-General Fernandez-Taranco, for your briefing.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On June 1, the President of the Council issued a statement in reaction to the incident involving the convoy sailing to Gaza, expressing on behalf of all Council members our deep regret at the loss of life and injuries, and our condolences to the families. The Council condemned those acts which resulted in these casualties, and called for a prompt, impartial, credible and transparent investigation conforming to international standards.

[REDACTED]

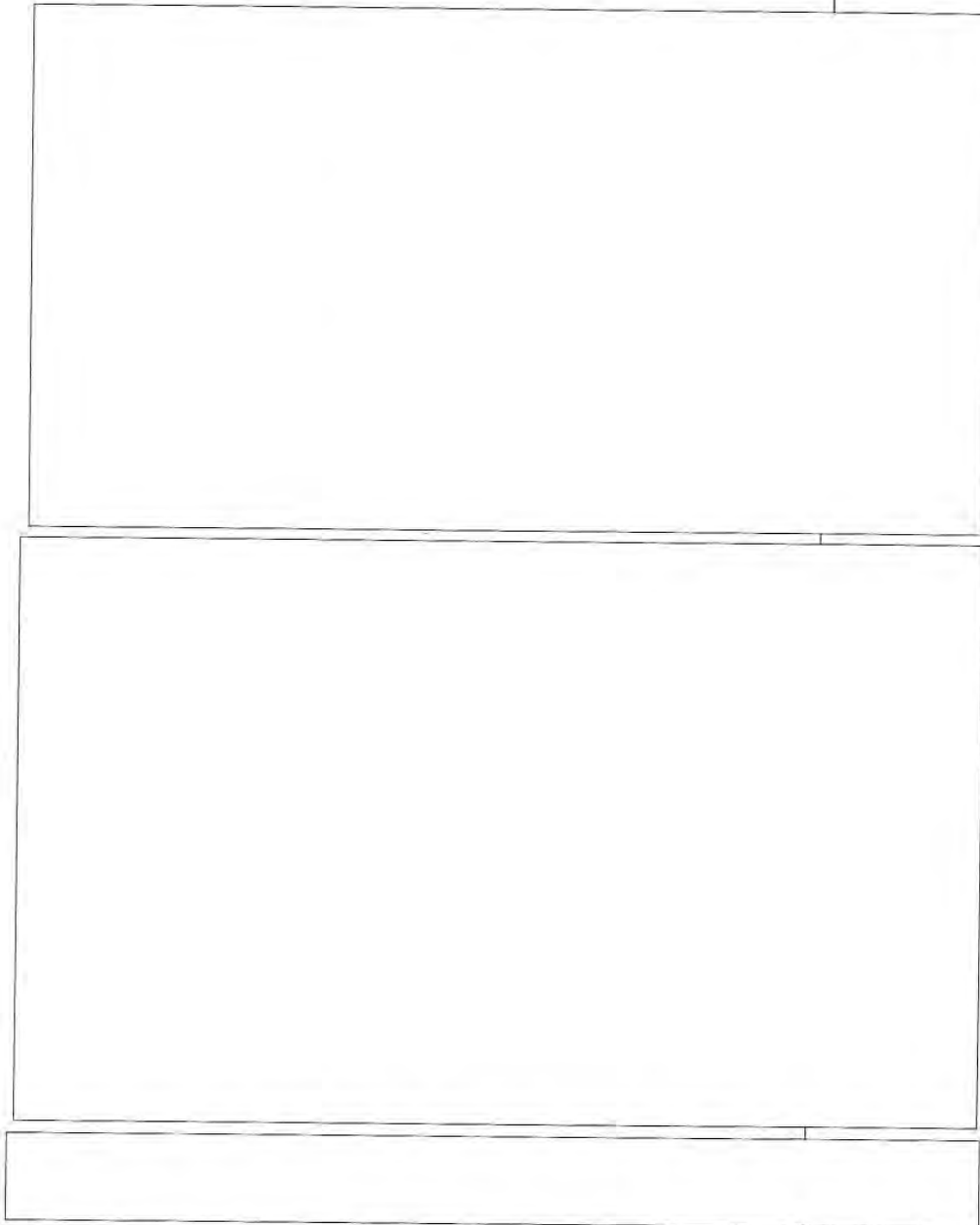
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Thank you Mr. President.

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ISRAEL



UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

June 10, 2010

BRIEFING MEMORANDUM FOR THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

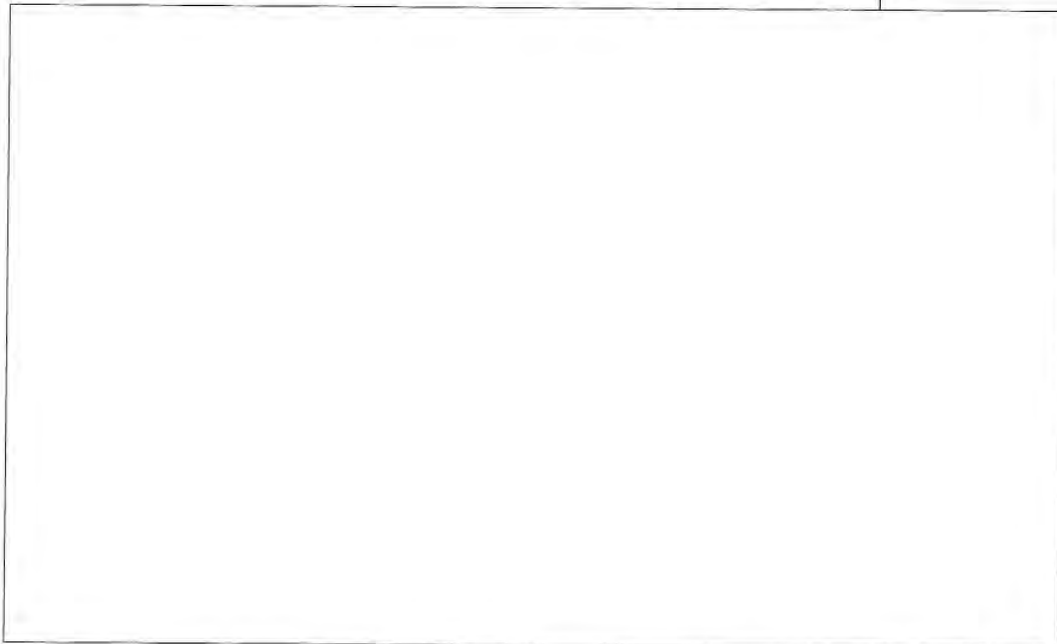
SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

FROM: POL – Bill Grant
THROUGH: EXEC – Ambassador DiCarlo
SUBJECT: Your meeting with IDF Intelligence Director Major General Aviv Kochavi, your office

Background



This is an opportunity to ask for the latest IDF assessments of a second Gaza flotilla.



REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

NR

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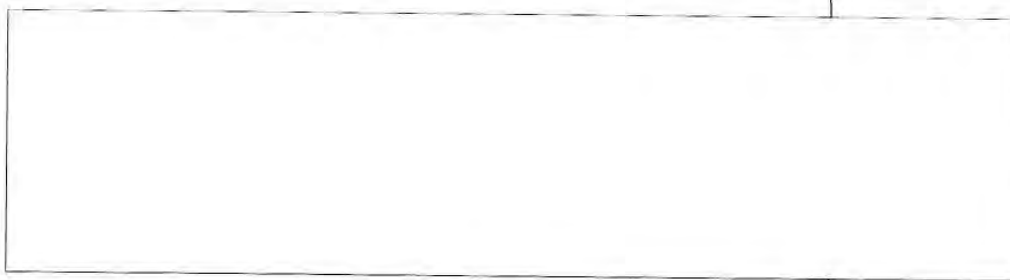
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] On the flotilla, Warren's email readout (on the other system) of yesterday's meeting in Washington is our most up-to-date information.

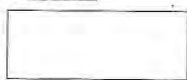
[REDACTED]

- What are the IDF's plans for handling a possible second Gaza flotilla?
- [REDACTED]

NR



Attachments:



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UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

June 10, 2010

BRIEFING MEMORANDUM FOR THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

FROM: POL – Bill Grant
THROUGH: EXEC – Ambassador DiCarlo
SUBJECT: Your meeting with Israeli ambassador to the United States, Michael Oren, June 13, your office

Background

[Redacted]

Oren is also likely to want to discuss [Redacted]

Gaza flotilla follow-up [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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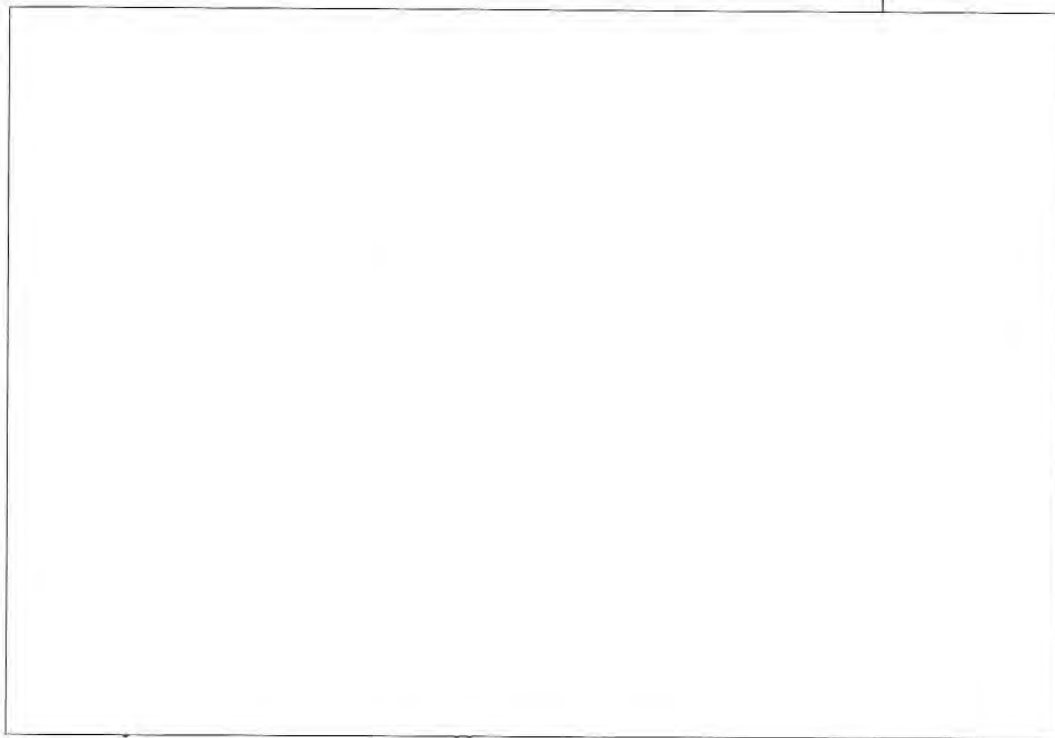
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Gaza flotilla: Turkey has again presented a resolution in Geneva on the follow-up to the Human Rights Council's fact-finding mission on the May 31, 2010, flotilla incident. We will again vote no, most likely in complete isolation. The new resolution requests that the SYG take into consideration the conclusions contained in the report of the HRC fact-finding Mission and drops positive language on the Palmer panel, which Turkey had included in prior HRC resolutions on the incident. The Turkish press has reported that the draft Palmer report says the Israeli blockade of Gaza does not breach international law, and that Turkey is threatening to pull out of the panel unless the report changes.

- We're grateful to those who have issued statements discouraging activists from attempting another flotilla to Gaza, including the SYG. We remain committed to working together with Israel to further expand the flow of reconstruction material and exports, with appropriate safeguards.
- As evidenced by recent terrorist attacks, Gaza militants possess and continue to seek advanced weapons and Israel has legitimate security concerns.
- (If raised - Palmer panel) The SYG told the press on June 6 that the Palmer Panel will report sometime in July, but that no exact date has been set as the panel's work is ongoing.

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UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

July 19, 2010

**BRIEFING MEMORANDUM FOR ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE FOR SPECIAL
POLITICAL AFFAIRS**

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

FROM: POL – William Grant
SUBJECT: Security Council Briefing/Open Debate on the Middle East, July 21, 2010

BACKGROUND:

Under Secretary-General for Political Affairs Pascoe will brief the Council on events in the Middle East since the June 15th briefing by UN Middle East Special Coordinator Robert Serry. In June the Secretariat briefing focused on events in Gaza, in the wake of the May 31 Gaza flotilla incident. The June briefing occurred before Israel's new policy on access for goods into Gaza was announced on June 20. The U.S. statement at this meeting will be the first public U.S. remarks on the Gaza flotilla incident since the June 13 White House statement, from which your remarks are largely drawn.

Regarding the flotilla incident, Serry noted that, "The SYG has taken note of Israel's announcement [of its own investigation] and recognized that a thorough Israeli investigation is important and could be consistent with the SYG's own proposals for an international panel. The two combined would fully meet the international community's expectation for a credible and impartial investigation. The SYG's proposal is not incompatible with domestic inquiries; in fact, the two approaches are complementary, so his proposal, accordingly, remains on the table."

NR

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior
Reviewer SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

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Attachment: Remarks

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Cleared: POL: EGermain

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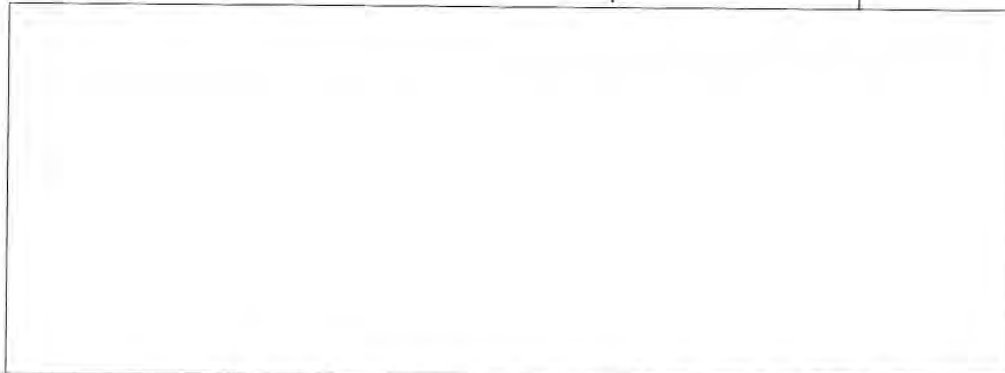
October 15, 2010

BRIEFING MEMORANDUM FOR THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

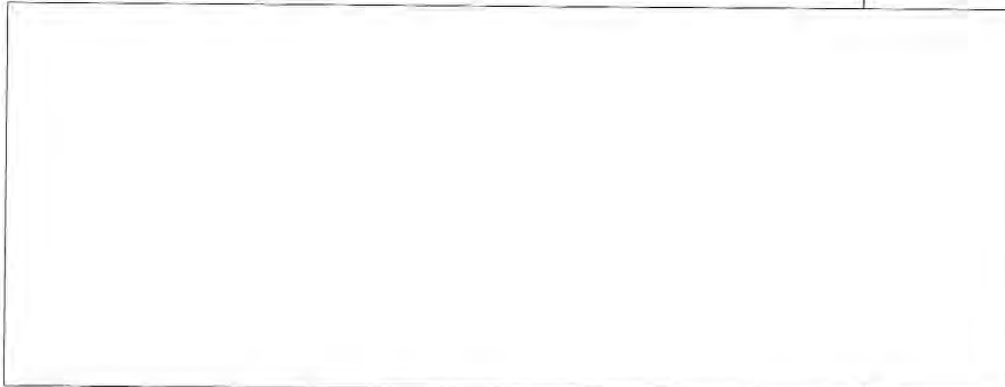
SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

FROM: POL – Bill Grant
THROUGH: EXEC – Ambassador Anderson
SUBJECT: Security Council Briefing/Open Debate on the Middle East, October 18, 2010

BACKGROUND:



[Redacted] We don't expect a Secretariat update on the Gaza flotilla panel, although Turkish victims' families appealed to the ICC prosecutor on the issue this week.



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Reviewer

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Remarks by Ambassador Susan E. Rice,
U.S. Permanent Representative
To the United Nations,
At an Open Security Council Debate
On the Middle East
October 18, 2010

Thank you, Mister President, and thank you, Under Secretary-General Pascoe, for your helpful briefing today.

Mr. President, last month, Israeli and Palestinian leaders took the momentous step of returning to direct talks. The core issues of this longstanding and tragic conflict will not be easily resolved. Direct talks are the path for the parties to reach a solution that resolves all issues, ends all claims, and establishes a viable state of Palestine alongside a secure state of Israel, as a key part of a comprehensive peace among Israel and all of its neighbors.

The United States will continue to be a vigorous and steadfast partner in this vital effort. We are working closely with both sides to allow these negotiations to continue. So we were disappointed by the announcement of new tenders in East Jerusalem on October 14, which was contrary to our efforts to resume negotiations. We have long urged both parties to avoid actions that could undermine trust, including in Jerusalem, and we will continue to do so as we work to make progress toward Middle East peace. Ultimately, however, forging a lasting and just peace will depend on leadership, vision, and courage from the Israelis and the Palestinians.

As President Obama has noted, we have urged Israel to extend the settlement moratorium, which we believe makes sense as long as constructive talks are underway. As we continue to urge Prime Minister Netanyahu to institute another moratorium, we also urge President Abbas to resume negotiations, which remain the only way to resolve the conflict's most difficult issues and give the Palestinians the dignity of an independent state of their own.

We know that many obstacles lie ahead. We know that attempts to move toward lasting peace may be met by rejectionists and terrorism. But we must not let the forces of violence and despair determine whether Israeli and Palestinian children will live in peace or languish in conflict. We must press forward together toward our common goal of a comprehensive Arab-Israeli peace including a two-state solution, with Israel and Palestine living side by side in peace and security. That goal is in the interests of Israelis, Palestinians, the United States, and all those who seek to maintain international peace and security. Those in the region who want a Palestinian state should do all they can to support the parties' efforts to bring about a just and lasting peace. And those around the world who seek an end to this bitter conflict should support these efforts and do nothing to undermine them.

Mr. President, let me turn to the situation in Gaza. We continue to view the situation there with concern. Israel's July 5 announcement was an important step in improving the flow of goods and material into Gaza. That progress is continuing several months later, and we encourage the Government of Israel to take further steps to expand trade in both directions, consistent with its security needs. All those wishing to deliver goods should do so through the expanded

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

established channels to ensure that Israel's legitimate security needs are addressed even as the Palestinians' humanitarian needs are met.

Let us also remember the Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit, whom Hamas abducted in 2006 and who remains in captivity. We call again for his immediate release.

In its June 1 presidential statement on the flotilla incident, the Council called for a prompt, impartial, credible, and transparent investigation conforming to international standards. We commend the Secretary General's constructive initiative in convening a panel that will receive and review the results of Israel and Turkey's investigations. We welcome the spirit of cooperation that this panel represents and continue to regard it as the primary and most appropriate method for the international community to review the incident.

Mr. President, let me conclude by touching on the situation in Lebanon. The United States remains firmly committed to Lebanon's sovereignty and independence, and therefore to the full implementation of Resolutions 1559, 1680, and 1701. We continue to be gravely concerned with attempts by foreign players to undermine Lebanon's independence, endanger its stability, and interfere with its sovereign affairs. The continuing flow of weapons and war-fighting material across the Syrian border to Hizballah is a reckless practice that risks plunging the region into open conflict. We urge this Council to remain vigilant to these destabilizing trends, which threaten international peace and security and the lives of innocent civilians on both sides of the Blue Line.

Finally, let me turn to the Special Tribunal for Lebanon. On October 6, the Secretary-General rightly and unequivocally noted that the Tribunal is an independent body, with a clear mandate from the Security Council to uncover the truth and end the era of impunity for political assassinations in Lebanon. The Tribunal is an independent judicial entity; its work is not a matter of politics but of law. The Tribunal is fulfilling its independent judicial mandate under this Council's Resolution 1757, at the request of the sovereign government of Lebanon. We completely endorse the Secretary-General's statement that the Tribunal's efforts must go forward without interference. Efforts to discredit, hinder, or delay the Tribunal's work should not be tolerated, and those who engage in them do not have the interests of Lebanon or justice at heart.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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August 16, 2010

**BRIEFING MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE FOR
SPECIAL POLITICAL AFFAIRS**

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

FROM: POL – Ellen Germain, Acting
SUBJECT: Security Council Briefing/Open Debate on the Middle East, August 17, 2010

BACKGROUND:

Assistant Secretary-General Oscar Fernandez-Taranco will brief the Council on events in the Middle East since the July 21 briefing by Under Secretary-General for Political Affairs Pascoe.



The Council welcomed the August 2 announcement by the SYG of the formation of a panel of inquiry on the Gaza flotilla incident of May 31st with a press statement (Attachment A). Council members may probe Fernandez-Taranco for additional information about the panel as the Secretariat has carefully restricted information flow in the wake of last week's confusion over the panel's work when the press asked questions about summoning Israeli soldiers to testify.



U.S. draft remarks are attached (Attachment B).

Attachment:

- A) August 4 Council Press Statement
- B) U.S. talking points

**REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior
Reviewer**

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Cleared: POL: EGermain

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**SECURITY COUNCIL PRESS STATEMENT ON PANEL OF INQUIRY ON 31 MAY FLOTILLA
INCIDENT**

The following Security Council press statement was read out on 3 August by Council President Vitaly Churkin (Russian Federation):

The members of the Security Council welcomed the establishment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the Panel of Inquiry on the flotilla incident of 31 May 2010.

The members of the Security Council look forward to a successful implementation by the Panel of its mandate, as announced by the Secretary-General as based on the statement of the President of the Security Council of 1 June 2010, which called for a prompt, impartial, credible and transparent investigation conforming to international standards.

The members of the Security Council welcomed the commitment of Israel and Turkey to provide full cooperation to the Panel.

**REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior
Reviewer**

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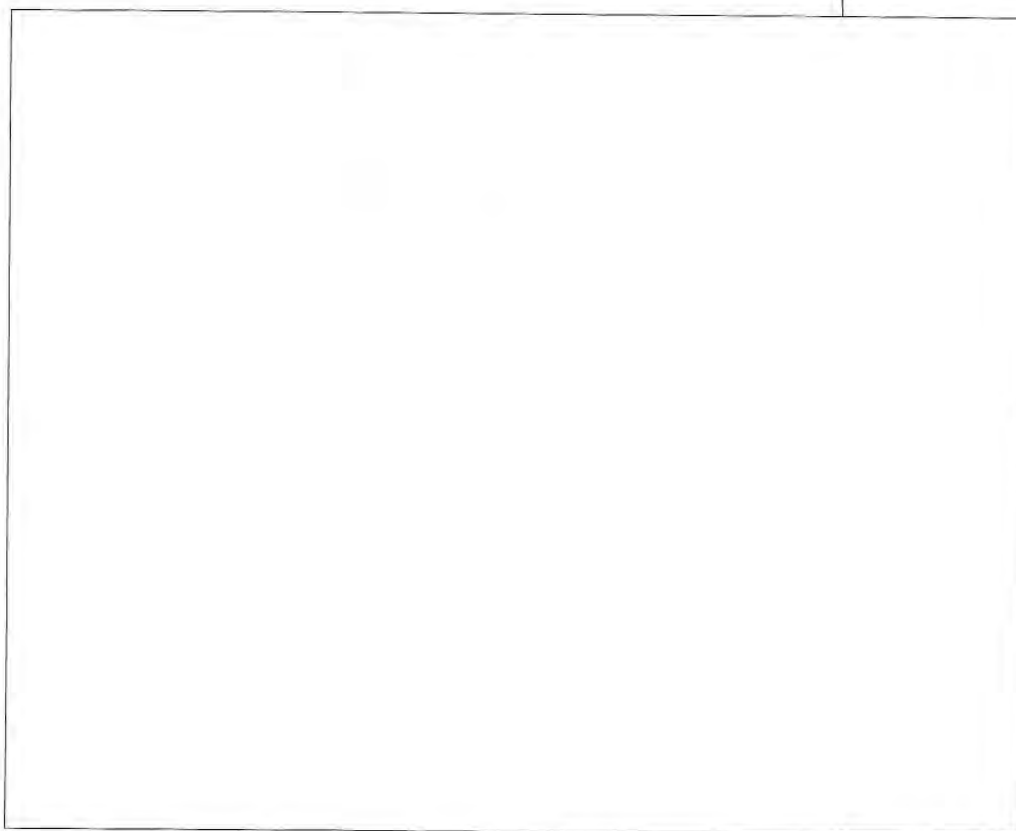
Talking Points for Ambassador Brooke D. Anderson,
U.S. Alternate Representative
For Special Political Affairs,
At Security Council Consultations on
The Middle East
August 17, 2010

- Thank you, Mr. President, and thank you, Assistant Secretary General Fernandez-Taranco, for your briefing.

NR

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior Reviewer

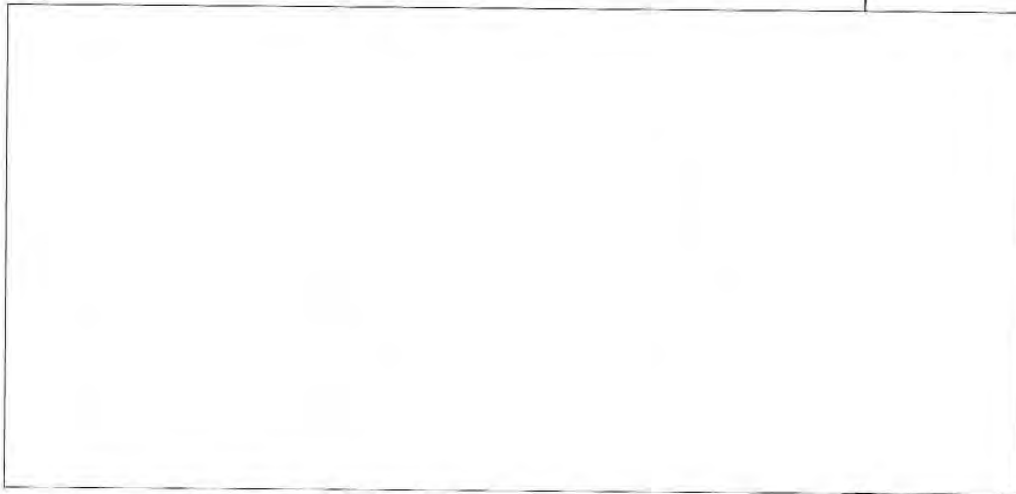
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- Mr. President, the United States has welcomed the Secretary-General's announcement of the establishment of a panel regarding the May 31 flotilla incident. As we have emphasized before, the panel is not a substitute for national investigations.



NR



- Thank you, Mr. President.

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Text: ISRAEL
3d: PALESTINE
SOC 14 (ARMED CONFLICT)
LEBANON

June 14, 2010

BRIEFING MEMORANDUM FOR THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

FROM: POL – Jeff Delaurentis
THROUGH: EXEC – Ambassador Wolff
SUBJECT: Meeting with Israeli Foreign Minister Avigdor Liberman, Tuesday, June 15, 2:30 p.m., USUN

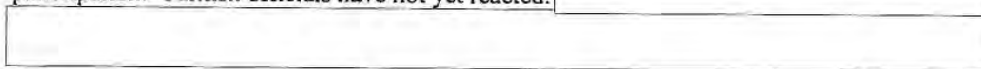
Background

Foreign Minister Liberman is traveling to New York with Deputy Foreign Minister Danny Ayalon, whom you met in April. Liberman will brief the Israeli Missions in North America about the Gaza flotilla (aka Mavi Marmara), the proximity talks, and calls to review Israeli actions under international legal regimes – what Israel has termed a “lawfare” campaign.



Talking Points

Gaza Flotilla: Liberman has been quoted by the Israeli press as supporting an international component to investigating the events related to the Mavi Marmara. He said “We have excellent jurists ... one of whom will be willing to take it on himself, and if they want to include an international member of some sort in their committee that's all right too”. According to press reports, Israel is expected to announce a state panel to investigate the incident with international participation. Turkish officials have not yet reacted.



The OIC and NAM in New York have criticized Israel's actions regarding the Mavi Marmara. The OIC statement from 4 June refers to “Israeli military aggression” and alleges an “explicit act of piracy” under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea. The OIC statement called for an

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-2-

"impartial, credible, transparent, and independent international investigation in accordance with international standards led by the UN Secretary-General." The statement also reiterates demands for accountability related to the Goldstone Report.

NR

- In the wake of the Mavi Marmara incident, it is important to show progress on addressing Gaza access. The NSC statement of June 4 notes that we are working with Israel, the Palestinian Authority and international partners on "new procedures for delivering more goods and assistance to Gaza, while also increasing opportunity for the people of Gaza and preventing the importation of weapons. The current arrangements are unsustainable and must be changed."
- UN partners, especially UNRWA, continue to experience delays and hurdles importing the quantities and range of goods needed to complete projects. As we expand overall access, I hope that you will help ensure that they have the access they need through the crossings. While many of the goods UNRWA needs are available in Gaza as a result of the tunnel economy, the UN is not purchasing those goods.
- Whenever there is a change in the status quo in the West Bank, Gaza, or Jerusalem, it reverberates in New York and often negatively affects the atmosphere.
- Of course, we remain mindful of Israel's security needs and will never ask that Israel take steps that contravene those needs.
- We also remind mindful that Gilad Shlaim remains captive in Gaza and continue to call for his immediate release. As we continue down this path, the cause of his release has not been forgotten.

Peace efforts:

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NR

- President Abbas has rejected calls to suspend the proximity talks after the Mavi Marmara incident. We believe he is sincere and dedicated to peace.

Iran:

Ghajar:

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NR

[REDACTED]

“Lawfare”: Liberman will want to discuss calls to review Israeli actions under international legal regimes. The Swiss appear to be moving forward on consultations on convening a meeting of the High Contracting Parties of the Fourth Geneva convention as called for by General Assembly and Human Rights Council (HRC) resolutions on Goldstone follow-up. Before the Gaza flotilla incident, the Swiss were working on a paper to circulate on possible topics of discussion for such a meeting. The final HRC resolution on the Gaza flotilla asked the 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.”

- We have stood firmly against the counterproductive recommendation to convene the High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention as called for in the Goldstone Report and in subsequent follow-up UN action.

(If raised) SCUD Transfers:

[REDACTED]

(If raised) NPT:

[REDACTED]

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NR

Attachment:

- 1) Participants list
- 2) Security Council PRST on Gaza Flotilla
- 3) HRC resolution on Gaza Flotilla

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Participants

Israel

Deputy PM and Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman
Deputy Foreign Minister Daniel Ayalon
Israeli Ambassador to the US Michael Oren
Ambassador Gabriela Shalev
Ambassador Daniel Carmon
Political Counselor Amir Weissbrod (notetaker)
Yitzhak Bachman - Chief of policy staff to the FM
Sharon Shalom- Chief of staff to the FM

United States

Ambassador Rice
Ambassador Wolff
Deputy Pol Counselor Germain
PolOff Masilko (notetaker)

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(Low side)

L:\LIBS\POLSEC\Masilko\SER Meeting Memoes\SER June-8-2010 Mtg w Israeli FM
Liberman.doc

Drafted: POL: BMasilko
Cleared: POL: EGermain ok

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Non-Relevant
Excised

ISRAEL



UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

June 9, 2010

BRIEFING MEMORANDUM FOR THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

FROM: POL – Bill Grant
THROUGH: EXEC – Ambassador DiCarlo
SUBJECT: Your meeting with AJC Executive Director David Harris, June 13, your office

Background

[Redacted]

[Redacted] Harris is also likely to want to discuss Palestinian reconciliation, developments on [Redacted] Gaza flotilla follow-up, and Syria. [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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NR

NR

Gaza flotilla: Turkey has again presented a resolution in Geneva on the follow-up to the Human Rights Council's fact-finding mission on the tragic May 31, 2010, flotilla incident. We will again vote no, most likely in complete isolation. The new resolution requests that the SYG take into consideration the conclusions contained in the report of the HRC fact-finding Mission and drops positive language on the Palmer panel, which Turkey had included in prior HRC resolutions on the incident. The Turkish press has reported that the draft Palmer report says the Israeli blockade of Gaza doesn't breach international law, and that Turkey is threatening to pull out of the panel unless the report changes.

- We're grateful to those who have issued statements discouraging activists from attempting another flotilla to Gaza, including the SYG. We remain committed to working together with Israel to further expand the flow of reconstruction material and exports, with appropriate safeguards.
- As evidenced by recent terrorist attacks, Gaza militants possess and continue to seek advanced weapons and Israel has legitimate security concerns.
- (If raised - Palmer panel) The SYG told the press on June 6 that the Palmer Panel will report sometime in July, but that no exact date has been set as the panel's work is ongoing.

NR

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NON-RESPONSIVE PORTIONS
REDACTED

Simonoff, Mark A (USUN)

From: Arbogast, John R
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2011 2:41 PM
To: Kim, Elizabeth AB (OES); Schaat, Kenli A (OES)
Cc: Simonoff, Mark A (USUN); Norman, Cherith (USUN)
Subject: LOS resolution, etc.

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
SensitivityCode: Sensitive

Dear Elizabeth & Kenli – a few items on this:

- 122bis “flotilla” para: Mark will be back to you on this.



NR

Many thanks/best regards, john

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

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FULL

Draft for consideration by Panel

Progress Report to the Secretary-General

Secretary-General's Panel of Inquiry

on the 31 May 2010 Flotilla Incident

September 2010

Sir Geoffrey Palmer, Chair

President Alvaro Uribe, Vice-Chair

Mr. Joseph Ciechanover Itzhar

Mr. Suleyman Özden Sanberk

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior
Reviewer

Rev. 2

Summary

1. This document provides a progress report to the Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, from the Secretary-General's Panel of Inquiry on the 31 May 2010 Florilla incident. Upon establishing the Panel, the Secretary-General requested a progress report by 15 September 2010.
2. The introduction outlines the steps that preceded the decision by the Secretary-General to establish the Panel of Inquiry. The report then outlines the Panel's first meeting, a summary of the backdrop to the Panel's work, and a description of the Panel's approach to its task and intended programme of work.

Introduction

3. The Security Council received a briefing on the incident from Mr. Oscar Fernandez-Taranco, Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, on 31 May 2010. He gave the following account to the Security Council of the facts as understood at that time (S/PV.6325):

"In the early hours of this morning, Israeli naval forces boarded a six-ship convoy that was heading towards Gaza. The stated purpose of the convoy was to deliver humanitarian aid to Gaza and to break the Israeli blockade on Gaza. The convoy was reportedly carrying a range of educational, medical and construction materials and approximately 700 activists, citizens of a number of countries. Among their numbers were reportedly members of Parliament from several countries.

"In the lead-up to today's events, the Israeli authorities conveyed their intention, both publicly and through diplomatic channels, not to allow the convoy to reach Gaza. The Israeli authorities stated that, should the convoy

proceed contrary to these warnings, they would divert the convoy to an Israeli port, inspect the cargo, facilitate the entry of only those goods that are allowed into Gaza, in accordance with Israel's blockade, and deport those on board.

"The organizers of the convoy indicated their intention to proceed with their convoy and to attempt to deliver their full consignment of cargo to Gaza and to break the blockade. A committee of persons organized by the de facto Hamas authorities in Gaza was formed to receive the convoy.

"Several Governments with nationals on board the vessels urged restraint on all sides and indicated to the Israeli authorities their utmost concern that their nationals be protected. The Secretary-General's spokesman warned on Friday that all involved should act with a sense of care and responsibility and work for a satisfactory resolution.

"The convoy was due to reach Gaza today. According to the Israeli authorities, Israel's naval forces conveyed directly to the convoy during the early hours this morning that it would not be allowed to reach port in Gaza. However, the convoy proceeded towards Gaza.

"At approximately 4 a.m. local time, the Israeli navy acted to intercept the convoy. This reportedly took place 40 nautical miles off the coast in international waters and involved Israeli military personnel boarding the vessels, supported by naval ships and helicopters. Israeli forces took control of all six vessels. However, there was serious violence on the main passenger vessel, a Turkish-registered ship named Mavi Marmara. We have also seen media reports of violence related to a Greek-registered ship, the Sfendoni. As a result of this violence, according to the latest information, at least 10 people

were killed and at least 30 injured, while at least six Israeli military personnel were injured. There are no final confirmed casualty figures at this stage.

“Given the circumstances, it is not possible to state definitively the sequence or details of what happened. The Israeli Government has stated that the demonstrators on board used knives and clubs against Israel Defense Forces (IDF) naval personnel and possibly live fire, and that a weapon was grabbed from an IDF soldier. Given that those who were on board the ships are now in Israeli custody, including reporters who were travelling with the convoy, and had their transmission equipment confiscated by the boarding Israeli forces, further information from the organizers of the convoy has been minimal since this morning. We have no independent information on what transpired.

“According to Israeli statements, the seriously injured were subsequently evacuated by helicopter to hospitals in Israel. All of the ships have arrived under escort at the Israeli port of Ashdod. An Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesman has stated that all international persons from the vessels will be deported.

“Israeli authorities have expressed regret about the casualties but blamed the activists for the violence. President Abbas has condemned Israel’s actions and the killing of the activists, and declared three days of mourning in the occupied Palestinian territory. There have been widespread regional and international expressions of alarm and concern at the bloodshed, as well as diplomatic demarches seeking a full explanation from the Israeli authorities. There have been protests in Gaza, the West Bank, Israel and several regional capitals.

“The Secretary-General stated earlier today in Kampala that he is shocked by the killing and injury of people on the boats and condemned the violence. He called for a full investigation to determine exactly how the bloodshed took place and stressed that Israel must urgently provide a full explanation.

“At the Secretary-General’s direction, Special Coordinator Robert Serry, along with Filippo Grandi, the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, have been actively engaged on the ground since the crisis broke to urge restraint and an end to the violence, and to coordinate with all relevant parties in the aftermath of this tragedy.”

4. The Panel is not endorsing that statement of facts. It is simply reciting them to contextualise the subsequent steps that led to the establishment of the Panel.
5. On 1 June 2010, the President of the Security Council made a statement on behalf of the Council in connection with the Council’s consideration of the item entitled “The situation in the Middle East including the Palestinian question” (S/PRST/2010/9). Parts of that statement are relevant to the Panel’s inquiry. They are as follows:

“The Security Council deeply regrets the loss of life and injuries resulting from the use of force during the Israeli military operation in international waters against the convoy sailing to Gaza. The Council, in this context, condemns those acts which resulted in the loss of at least ten civilians and many wounded, and expresses its condolences to their families.

“The Security Council requests the immediate release of the ships as well as the civilians held by Israel. The Council urges Israel to permit full consular access, to allow the countries concerned to retrieve their deceased and wounded immediately, and to ensure the delivery of humanitarian assistance from the convoy to its destination.

“The Security Council takes note of the statement of the UN Secretary-General on the need to have a full investigation into the matter and it calls for a prompt, impartial, credible and transparent investigation conforming to international standards.”

6. On 15 June 2010, the UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Mr. Robert Serry, briefed the Security Council on the situation in the Middle East. Among other things he said (S/PV.6340):

“In its 1 June Presidential Statement (S/PRST/2010/9), this Council called for a prompt, impartial, credible and transparent investigation conforming to international standards. The Secretary-General held consultations with the permanent members of the Security Council and a host of other concerned parties on the modalities to comply with the Council’s call. In this context, he has proposed an international panel under the aegis of a third party seen as impartial and in which both Turkey and Israel actively participate. He has briefed the leadership of both Turkey and Israel.”

7. On 2 August 2010, the Secretary-General made a public announcement concerning the Panel in the following terms:

“For the past two months, I have engaged in intensive consultation with the leaders of Israel and Turkey on the setting-up of a Panel of Inquiry on

the flotilla incident of 31 May. Today I am very pleased to announce the launch of the Panel. This is an unprecedented development.

"I thank the leaders of the two countries with whom I have engaged in last minute consultations over the weekend, for their spirit of compromise and forward looking cooperation.

"The Panel will be led by eminent personalities: former Prime Minister of New Zealand, Mr. Geoffrey Palmer as Chair and the outgoing President of Colombia, Mr. Alvaro Uribe as Vice-Chair. The Panel will have two additional members, one each from Israel and Turkey. It will begin its work on 10 August and submit the first progress report by mid September.

"I hope the Panel will fulfil its mandate based on the Presidential Statement of the Security Council and with the fullest cooperation of the relevant national authorities of the two countries. It will also give me recommendations for the prevention of similar incidents in the future. I also hope that today's agreement will impact positively on the relationship between Turkey and Israel as well as the overall situation in the Middle East."

8. On the same day as his public announcement, the Secretary-General formally advised the President of the Security Council of his decision concerning the Panel, saying among other things:

"I hope the Panel will discharge its responsibilities with the fullest cooperation of the relevant national authorities of the two countries. It will also give me recommendations on the prevention of similar incidents in the

future. I further hope that this will impact positively on the overall Turkey-Israel relationship and the situation in the Middle East.”

9. The Secretary-General also thanked the leaders of Turkey and Israel for “their spirit of compromise and forward-looking cooperation”.

10. The Secretary-General appointed Sir Geoffrey Palmer as the Chair of the Panel and President Alvaro Uribe as the Vice-Chair. Israel identified, and the Secretary-General appointed, Mr. Joseph Ciechanover as the member from Israel. Turkey identified, and the Secretary-General appointed, Mr. Suleyman Özden Sanberk as the member from Turkey.

11. The Security Council issued a press statement on 3 August 2010 in response to the Secretary-General’s announcement (SC/10001), which “welcomed the establishment” of the Panel and noted that:

“The members of the Security Council look forward to a successful implementation by the Panel of its mandate, as announced by the Secretary-General as based on the statement of the President of the Security Council of 1 June 2010, which called for a prompt, impartial, credible and transparent investigation conforming to international standards.

“The members of the Security Council welcomed the commitment of Israel and Turkey to provide full cooperation to the Panel.”

The Panel’s First Meeting

12. On 10 August 2010, the Panel convened in New York. It met for two full days on 10 and 11 August. During that time the Panel met with the Secretary-General. He referred to the “unprecedented and critical” nature of the task facing the Panel. He

made reference to the methods of work that are discussed later in this report. He encouraged the Panel to pay close attention to both aspects of its remit: first, to examine and identify the facts, circumstances and context of the Flotilla incident; second, to consider and recommend ways of avoiding similar incidents in the future. He stressed the importance of the Panel's main task to review the reports of national investigations into the incident.

13. The Secretary-General stressed the need for the Panel to work as one team. It would be supported by the United Nations Secretariat. He sought a first progress report from the Panel by 15 September 2010. The Secretary-General expressed the hope that the Panel would have a positive impact to improve the friendly relationship between Israel and Turkey and assist with the situation in the Middle East. He counted on the leadership and commitment of the Panel members and he wanted to achieve a way forward.

Relationships

14. The Panel will examine and identify the facts, circumstances and context of the 31 May incident. In doing so, it is conscious of the deterioration in the relationship between Israel and Turkey that appears to have resulted from the incident. This deterioration has wider implications for the situation in the Middle East as well as bilateral relations between Turkey and Israel. While these consequences are beyond the Panel's frame of reference to report upon, they do make up an important part of the context in which the Panel's work takes place.

15. It is for reason of context that we provide here a brief overview of the relations between Israel and Turkey, and we are particularly concerned in this short analysis to

point out the importance of the economic relations and the consequences that may ensue if they are not repaired.

16. Israel and Turkey have built over the years a strong and dynamic trade, diplomatic and military cooperation alliance, which has contributed to the economic performance of both nations. In 1949, Turkey became the first Muslim majority country to recognize and engage in diplomatic relations with Israel, creating a positive environment for the structuring of a long term bilateral agenda. Since then, each decade has presented constructive evolutions in different fields, and as of today, Turkey represents Israel's largest market in the region.

17. In the late fifties (1958-1959), Israeli Prime Minister David Ben Gurion and his Turkish equivalent Prime Minister Adnan Menderes developed a framework of cooperation that increased bilateral military and intelligence exchange that has been the basis for the construction of trust among both States' highest officials. The evolution of the 1950's alliance helped increase trade, reaching in 1990 a marginal level of commercial exchange close to US\$170 million dollars.

18. During the 1990's, Israeli-Turkish relations became more active than ever. In 1992 both countries formalised the "Parameters for military cooperation" defining all the areas and protocols to be followed in the provision of combat and intelligence equipment. In 1993 the Turkish-Israeli Business Council was created to promote cross border investment and trade, and developed into a vigorous match-making organization and business information provider for corporations, investment firms and project developers.

19. Throughout 1994 another important milestone took place when a cultural exchange cooperation agreement was signed, increasing the number of artistic

performances, museum exchanges and travelling exhibits, and symposia between both nations. The impact of such initiatives strengthened ties between business leaders, academic organizations and government officials and in 1995 Israel publicly supported Turkey's plans to enter the European Union, expressing the substantial contribution that this mechanism would bring to relations within the Mediterranean.

20. Between 1996 and 1997 Israel and Turkey negotiated, signed and ratified a Free Trade Agreement, making Turkey the first Muslim majority country to develop a mechanism of this nature with Israel. The results of this accord can be described in different ways by highlighting that in 2000 both countries signed a protocol for various irrigation projects in Turkey valued above US\$500 million, that in 2001 a scientific cooperation memorandum of understanding was agreed, that more than 300,000 Israeli tourists visited Turkey in 2003, that in 2004 the Magnavot Agreement was signed for Israel to import an annual amount of 50 million water cubic meters for a period of twenty years, and that in 2005 bilateral trade amounted to US\$2,000 million, 13 times the existing trade in 1990.

21. Today Turkey is Israel's eighth largest trading partner, while Israel represents Turkey's 17th largest market. During the first semester of 2010 and despite the recent diplomatic tensions, bilateral trade has increased 40% compared with 2009 and it is expected to surpass the record number of US\$3,000 million reached during the previous year.

22. The normalization of both countries' diplomatic relations after the incident that took place on 31 May 2010 is vital for the continuation of this strategic and prosperous relationship.

23. Against the backdrop of relations between Turkey and Israel, the matters relating to the 31 May incident have resulted in a significant set of issues between the two countries and a concerned state of public opinion in both countries. The Panel is highly conscious that nine people have died in the incident. Precisely how and why they died remains at issue between the nations and there needs to be some rational understanding of what occurred. Those are the questions with which the Panel is concerned. The Panel hopes further that in addressing these questions, its work may contribute to create a better environment with respect to the broader situation in the Middle East.

The Panel's Approach to its Task

Summary of the Panel's Tasks

24. The Secretary-General has asked the Panel to focus and organize its work around four elements. The first and foundation requirement is to receive and review interim and final reports of national investigations into the incident that occurred on 31 May 2010.

25. The dates by which these reports become available to the Panel will be a material consideration in determining the precise timetable for the Panel's work. The Panel will strive to submit its final report to the Secretary-General within six months from the first meeting of the Panel, taking into account the progress of the national investigations. Any adjustment to that timetable will be in the hands of the Secretary-General, depending on the progress of the Panel's work.

26. The second step of the Panel's work will be to request such clarifications and information as it may require from relevant national authorities. What clarifications