

UNCLASSIFIED

074
B

Richter, Kim B

From: Parker, Andrew C
Sent: Monday, June 07, 2010 7:12 AM
To: Richter, Kim B
Cc: Greene, Elisa; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria
Subject: FW: Demarche on Free Gaza Flotilla (2).docx

RELEASED IN PART
B6

Hi Kim,
Just wanted you to know the demarche will be delivered in an hour in Jerusalem. Susan Platt will be notetaker and will prepare a reporting cable. Post is not planning further streps but we will send an e-mail today to clear up some open items/arrests.

Andy

From: Sievers, Marc J
Sent: Monday, June 07, 2010 11:54 AM
To: Holmstrom, Todd C
Cc: Cunningham, James B; Connelly, Maura; Parker, Andrew C
Subject: RE: Demarche on Free Gaza Flotilla (2).docx

B6

Over the weekend I discussed this on the phone with MFA [redacted] and Consul General Andy Parker had several conversations with [redacted] MFA's consular affairs (CA A/S equivalent). [redacted] asked Andy to submit the requests for investigations into the death of Dogan and the wounding of [redacted] in writing, so Andy sent him a letter, which was leaked by someone (not us, it almost certainly had to be someone at MFA) to Ha'aretz this morning. [redacted] told me our formal demarche should be delivered to DDG for North America [redacted] I have an appointment with [redacted] at 3:30 this afternoon. A consular officer will accompany me. We'll report the demarche front channel, but probably not until tomorrow.

B6

From: Holmstrom, Todd C
Sent: Saturday, June 05, 2010 2:36 AM
To: Sievers, Marc J
Cc: Cunningham, James B; Connelly, Maura
Subject: FW: Demarche on Free Gaza Flotilla (2).docx

Marc, P delivered this today to Amb Oren. Please also deliver at a comparable level there.

From: Catalano, Elisa
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 5:54 PM
To: Reisser, Wesley J; Richter, Kim B; Walker, Carolee B; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; CA-Staffers Mailbox; NEA-Staff-
Assistants-DL
Cc: Holmstrom, Todd C
Subject: Demarche on Free Gaza Flotilla (2).docx

P and Dennis Ross talked; there is an edit in the attached. With that, it can crosshatch.

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(b)(6)

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Cable Text

UTE2198

ACTION OCS-00

INFO: LOG-00 CA-00 DS-00 UTEU-00 H-00 TEDE-00 L-00
NEA-00 PPT-00 DSCC-00 SAS-00 /000W
-----755104 111417Z /38

P 111405Z JUN 10
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7296
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 001331

CA/OCS/ACS/NESA
ACSIP_TLV201015324914426_ACSIP

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: CASC, IS: [REDACTED]
SUBJECT: ARREST, CASE OF [REDACTED]

B6

1. NAME: [REDACTED]

2. SEX: [REDACTED]

3. DPOB: [REDACTED]

4. PASSPORT: [REDACTED]

5. OTHER NATIONALITIES, IF ANY, AND HOW ACQUIRED: None.
USUAL COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: U.S.A.
NATIONALITY OF PASSPORT USED TO ENTER COUNTRY OF ARREST: U.S.

6. LAST KNOWN U.S. ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

7. DATE/PLACE OF ARREST: May 31, 2010, Givon Detention Center,
Ramleh

8. CONDITION OF ARRESTEE: [REDACTED]

9. CHARGES: Unknown.

10. PLACE OF DETENTION: Givon Immigration Detention Center, Ramleh

11. JUDICIAL STATUS: Deported

12. TRIAL/HEARING DATE: N/A

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
DATE/CASE ID: 18 NOV 2011 201004163

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13. POSSIBLE SENTENCE: Deportation

14. ATTORNEY: Subject requested that the Embassy contact Attorney Gaby Lasky to notify her of subject's arrest and to relay that he is interested in engaging her services. On 06/02/10, Conasat spoke with Attorney Lasky, who subsequently had contact with subject prior to his departure on June 4 to Istanbul.

15. PRIVACY ACT WAIVER: On 06/01/10, subject signed a full PAW.

16. NOK: [REDACTED]

17. NOTIFICATION: On 05/31/10, Post was notified about subject's arrest by the MFA.

18. ACCESS: On 06/01/10, Consul General visited subject at the Givon Immigration Detention Center, Ramleh. First visit and only visit.

19. OTHER AMERICANS ARRESTED: Yes. Eleven other Amcits from the Gaza Freedom Flotilla were arrested as the ships docked in Ashdod, Israel, on 05/31/10 (see septels).

20. MISTREATMENT: [REDACTED]

21. PROPERTY CONFISCATED: Suitcase was left on the vessel. A credit card that had remained in his possession until confiscated by GOI authorities was subsequently obtained by Post and returned to [REDACTED] by mail.

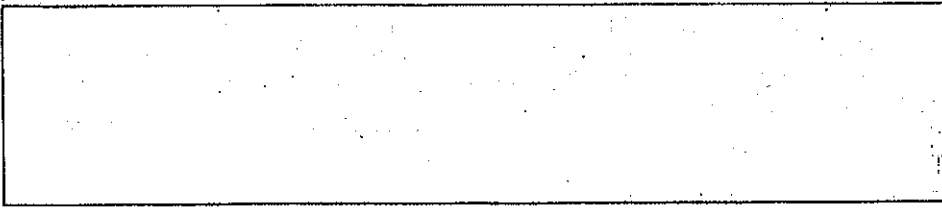
22. JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS: Released without judicial proceedings.

23. EMDA: N/A

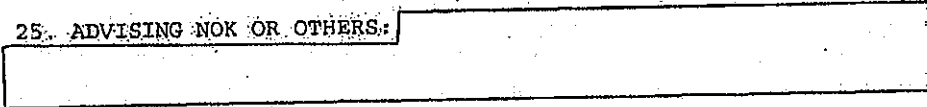
24. REMARKS: [REDACTED]

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25. ADVISING NOK OR OTHERS:



CUNNINGHAM

NNNN

End Cable Text

Kim B Richter 08/11/2010 11:36:27 AM From DB/Inbox: Kim B Richter

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Richter, Kim B

RELEASED IN PART

B

From: Parker, Andrew C
 Sent: Friday, June 11, 2010 10:29 AM
 To: Richter, Kim B; Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Reisser, Wesley J; Appleton, Richard H; Belancourt, Edward A; Hooke, Kathleen H; Goldberger, Thomas H; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria; Holmstrom, Todd C; Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul)
 Cc: Greene, Elisa; Zuckerman, Eve; Zeroubavely, Sandra S; Tanus, George; Plott, Susan M
 Subject: Personal effects of flotilla Amcits

B6

We were told by multiple contacts at the Israeli MFA this week that all personal property was removed from the vessels by the IDF. Almost all of the property of the approximately 700 travelers was returned to Turkey by the GOI on the early morning of June 4. We were told that the effects of possibly twenty people were not sent to Turkey, but according to the MFA officer dealing with this issue, he did not "believe" it belonged to any American citizens. We could possibly find out if they determined that this belonged to Israeli and Palestinians on board, or to Arabs-nation citizens who departed through Allenby, or was not forwarded for some other reason. We simply do not know about that limited amount. The bigger question relates to electronics. All items such as laptops that the Israelis became aware of they confiscated. To the best of our knowledge, these effects are still in their possession. Our MFA contact said the GOI has not yet decided what they will do with such items. We will continue to follow up on the disposition of these items and request that a procedure be spelled out for American citizens to request the return of such items.

Andy

Andrew C. Parker
 Consul General
 U.S. Embassy Tel Aviv
 Tel: 972-3-5197671
 Fax 972-3-5190315
parkerac@state.gov

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

From: Richter, Kim B
 Sent: Friday, June 11, 2010 5:13 PM
 To: Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Reisser, Wesley J; Parker, Andrew C; Appleton, Richard H; Belancourt, Edward A; Hooke, Kathleen H; Goldberger, Thomas H; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria
 Cc: Greene, Elisa
 Subject: RE:

From Tel Aviv:
 From: Greene, Elisa
 Sent: Thursday, June 10, 2010 10:06 AM
 To: Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Richter, Kim B
 Cc: Zeroubavely, Sandra S; Plott, Susan M; Parker, Andrew C; Zuckerman, Eve; Tanus, George; Towry, Debra J
 Subject: missing personal belongings of Amcits on the flotilla ships

Dear Susan:
 This is in regards to your phone call to Eve Zuckerman this morning, requesting that we verify with the MFA further information regarding the personal belongings that were sent to Turkey, and if there was more than one shipment.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
 DATE/CASE ID: 18 NOV 2011 201004163

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We've checked with the MFA. They advised that the IDF removed all personal belongings from all six of the flotilla ships. The MFA has no knowledge of the GOI losing any items; if there are missing items, they surmised that the items may have been thrown overboard prior to/during the IDF boarding of the ships. As far as the MFA is aware, the GOI sent 2 containers to Istanbul, on either 03 or 04 June 2010--they would check the exact date and would advise (it was on the same date that the two GOT airplanes returned to Turkey). Only personal items were sent in the containers. All electrical devices (magnetic medium) were confiscated and the GOI has not yet decided if they will return the items to the owners.

B6

MFA has possession of [redacted] credit card, which was left at Givon Detention Center. We will have our driver pick up the credit card from the MFA today. We will then be in touch with [redacted] to advise him that we have possession of his credit card. (b)(6)

Regarding the credit cards that [redacted] claims were used in Israel without her authorization, [redacted] has since cancelled her credit cards. We have requested [redacted] forward us a copy of her credit card statements and a written complaint; we will then forward these to both Israel Prison Authorities and Israel National Police, as per MFA instructions. (b)(6)

We will continue to be in touch directly with [redacted] (who is currently in our/JRSM's consular districts), with [redacted] (concerning his found credit card), and with [redacted] regarding her stolen credit cards. (b)(6)

Kim, if you could please be in touch with the other Amcmts who have contacted you directly regarding their property, we would appreciate it.

Thanks, elisa

From: Bernier-Toth, Michelle
Sent: Friday, June 11, 2010 10:11 AM
To: Richter, Kim B; Reisser, Wesley J; Parker, Andrew C; Appleton, Richard H; Betancourt, Edward A; Hooke, Kathleen H; Goldberger, Thomas H; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria
Subject: RE:

[redacted] thinks there's more still in Ashdod. Andy, is that true? (b)(6)

From: Richter, Kim B.
Sent: Friday, June 11, 2010 10:10 AM
To: Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Reisser, Wesley J; Parker, Andrew C; Appleton, Richard H; Betancourt, Edward A; Hooke, Kathleen H; Goldberger, Thomas H; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria
Subject: RE:

The personal possessions are in Turkey and ConGen Istanbul is working to help participants get their property back.

From: Bernier-Toth, Michelle
Sent: Friday, June 11, 2010 10:07 AM
To: Reisser, Wesley J; Parker, Andrew C; Appleton, Richard H; Betancourt, Edward A; Hooke, Kathleen H; Richter, Kim B; Goldberger, Thomas H; Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria
Subject:

[redacted] is available to meet Monday. She will deliver a letter to Secretary Clinton that will include the following requests to the USG: (b)(6)

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- Work with the EU to develop a regime to inspect ships headed for Gaza.
- Work to return the personal possessions of the Free Gaza folks from the boats—she thinks most of the luggage is still on the ships at Ashdod
 - o (note: conoffs aren't authorized to take custody of the effects of a living Amcit...but that doesn't mean we can't be on hand to make sure the GOI retrieves everything possible)
- Release of a statement condemning the "murder" of a USC, and a USG investigation

We can meet in Michele Bond's office, here at SA-29. I'm free at 10, 12 and 1. We'd like NEA/IR representation and if any attorneys want to attend, that would be swell.

M

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From: Zeroubavely, Sandra S
Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2010 5:04 AM
To: Richter, Kim B
Cc: Greene, Elisa
Subject: RE: last question for today on the free gaza

Kim,

According to Rachel Shani, MFA, they are considered as déportées - will be banned from entering Israel for ten years, and will have to file an entry request at an Israeli Embassy/Consulate should they wish to visit Israel in the future. At that time each application will be reviewed individually.

Sandra

From: Richter, Kim B
Sent: Monday, June 21, 2010 7:10 PM
To: Zeroubavely, Sandra S
Subject: FW: last question for today on the free gaza

Is there anyway to check on this? We may get questions at some point so it would be good to know.

Thanks.

From: Zuckerman, Eve
Sent: Tuesday, June 15, 2010 5:21 AM
To: Richter, Kim B
Cc: Greene, Elisa
Subject: RE: last question for today on the free gaza

MFA advised that although there was no court order or issuance of a deportation order by the court, MFA believes the passengers are considered as deportees. However, we were advised to check with either Rachel Shani or Daniel Agranov upon their return from vacation. MFA believes that Rachel Shani will be back tomorrow - not certain. We'll try to reach her tomorrow to get verification.

From: Greene, Elisa
Sent: Tuesday, June 15, 2010 12:02 PM
To: Zuckerman, Eve
Cc: Richter, Kim B
Subject: FW: last question for today on the free gaza

Eve, could you please advise? Txs, elisa

Elisa Greene Chief, American Citizen Services U.S. Embassy Tel Aviv, Israel

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
DATE/CASE ID: 18 NOV 2011 201004163

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StateDept0707

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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:
greene@state.gov

From: Richter, Kim B
Sent: Monday, June 14, 2010 9:02 PM
To: Greene, Elisa
Subject: last question for today on the free gaza

Were they deported (and do they have a ten year ban?) We met with [redacted]
[redacted] former FSO - and
she didn't get anything stamped in her ppt and she was wondering.

(b)(6)

B6

Thanks.

Kim Richter
CA/OCS/ACS/NESCA
(202) 647-8308
Bahrain, Bhutan, Egypt, India, Israel, West Bank, Gaza, Nepal,
Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Maldives

richterkb@state.gov

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B

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, June 30, 2010 2:10 PM
To: Richter, Kim B
Subject: Re: Update on lost luggage and electronic equipment

(b)(6) B6

RELEASED IN PART
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Kim,

As you know all the electronics taken from crew/passengers on Challenger were listed by IDF in detail, placed in plastic bags - a separate bag for each person - and numbered on an attached strip of duct tape. My number was 17 which was also placed on my rucksack and carryon bags. If the Israeli authorities checked with the IDF aboard the ship perhaps they could learn who received luggage from them.

Thanks.

[Redacted]

(b)(6)

-----Original Message-----
From: Richter, Kim B <RichterKB@state.gov>

[Redacted]

(b)(6)

Cc: Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul) <AbeytaSK@state.gov>; Greene, Elisa <GreeneE@state.gov>; Zeroubavely, Sandra S <zeroubavelyss@state.gov>; Cross, Lisa T (Istanbul) <CrossLT@state.gov>; Gisvold, Lisa C (Istanbul) <GisvoldLC@state.gov>

Sent: Wed, Jun 30, 2010 5:21 am
Subject: Update on lost luggage and electronic equipment
The U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv has contacted the Government of Israel regarding your belongings and we have been told that they are working on releasing the electronic equipment to the various embassies. As soon as we have more information, we will let you know.

The Israeli authorities claim that they have no additional personal property.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me and I will try to assist you.

Regards,

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
DATE/CASE ID: 18 NOV 2011 201004163

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Kim Richter
Department of State

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Richter, Kim B

From: Reisser, Wesley J
Sent: Wednesday, July 07, 2010 9:25 AM
To: Marsh, Denise M; Richter, Kim B
Subject: FW: (AP) Israel keeping flotilla ships until inquiry ends

RELEASED IN FULL

Just in case this gets raised again...

From: Schwedt, Mirjam
Sent: Wednesday, July 07, 2010 9:20 AM
To: NEA-IPA-DL
Cc: NEA-Staff-Assistants-DL
Subject: FW: (AP) Israel keeping flotilla ships until inquiry ends

From: Pearce, Jennifer
Sent: Wednesday, July 07, 2010 9:09 AM
To: NEWS-NEA
Cc: SES-O_Shift-II
Subject: (AP) Israel keeping flotilla ships until inquiry ends

JERUSALEM - Israel says it will hold on to the six ships that sought to break an Israeli blockade of Gaza at least until it completes its investigation into a deadly raid on one of the vessels. Israel towed the six boats to port days after naval commandos stormed the ships in May, killing nine Turkish activists on board the lead vessel. The bloodshed provoked an international outcry against Israel and forced it to ease its blockade.

Defense Ministry spokesman Shlomo Dror said "nothing will be done with these ships" until after the inquiry because commission members might want to inspect them.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M. BOLSTER
DATE/CASE ID: 02 FEB 2012 201004163

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Richter, Kim B

From: Bernier-Toth, Michelle
Sent: Wednesday, July 07, 2010 9:37 AM
To: Lopatkiewicz, Viktoria M; Richter, Kim B; Mendel, Teresa S; Miller, Andrew T
Subject: FW: Afternoon Key Cables, June 28, 2010.docx
Attachments: Afternoon Key Cables, June 28, 2010.docx

RELEASED IN FULL

T
EVR

From: ca-staffers-mailbox
Sent: Tuesday, July 06, 2010 3:08 PM
To: CA-FG
Subject: Afternoon Key Cables, June 28, 2010.docx

Afternoon Key Cables - 7/06/2010

ANKARA: IHH RELEASES ITS REPORT ON THE GAZA FLOTILLA

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
DATE/CASE ID: 02 FEB 2012 201004163

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ANKARA: IHH RELEASES ITS REPORT ON THE GAZA FLOTILLA

Cable Text:

CONFIDENTIAL

TELEGRAM

July 06, 2010

To: SECSTATE WASHDC - IMMEDIATE

Action: EUR

From: AMEMBASSY ANKARA (ANKARA 979 - IMMEDIATE)

TAGS: PGOV, PREL, PTER, TU

Captions: SIPDIS

Subject: IHH RELEASES ITS REPORT ON THE GAZA FLOTILLA

Ref: 10 ANKARA 971; 10 ANKARA 965; 10 ANKARA 889

REF: 10 ANKARA 971; 10 ANKARA 965; 10 ANKARA 889

CLASSIFIED BY: Douglas Silliman, Deputy Chief of Mission, State.
EXEC. REASON: 1.4(B), (D)

1. (SBU) SUMMARY: International Humanitarian Help -- the organization better known by its acronym, IHH -- has published a report recording its version of what occurred on the "Gaza Peace Flotilla" intercepted by Israeli soldiers, leaving nine people dead. The English-language report is presumably based on the testimony of participants without input from the government of Israel. Predictably, the IHH finds Israel in violation of international law and accuses Israel of "terrorist" acts. The IHH also published an autopsy report which alleges the Israeli soldiers fired upon the ship from the air, and that the Israelis attempted to cover up their "crimes." The reports also state that lawyers in a number of countries intend to bring legal cases against the state of Israel to the International Criminal Court on behalf of the participants in the flotilla. END SUMMARY.

2. (SBU) The IHH drew the Embassy's attention via fax to the publication of its report on the 31 May confrontation between the Israeli army and the "Gaza Peace Flotilla" and to a report detailing the results of a secondary autopsy performed in Turkey on the bodies of the nine activists killed in the operation. Most of the contents of the primary report is unsourced, presumably derived from testimony by the survivors without input from the Israeli government. The doctors who conducted the autopsy claimed that because the bodies of the deceased had been washed and subjected to chemical treatment against decay, certain details of the victims' deaths -- such as the distance from which weapons were fired -- are indeterminate. However, it claims that the "high angle" from which the bullets entered "most" of the bodies indicates the soldiers were in the air when they fired. The report also claims that the

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bodies' having been washed is "clear" proof that the Israeli government intended to destroy evidence.

Furkan Dogan

3. The main report continues to claim Furkan Dogan -- the American citizen who was killed in the incident -- as a Turkish citizen from Kayseri. The autopsy also notes that he was hit by five bullets, and that the damage done to Mr. Dogan's face indicates that those two bullets were fired at close range. The report assesses the range from which the two bullets in his torso struck him was indeterminate because his body had been washed and his clothes were bloodsoaked. A fifth bullet damaged one of his feet. The entry and exit points for the bullets in Mr. Dogan's body do not appear to be consistent with the "high angle" allegation of the report.

General Allegations of the Report

4. (SBU) The primary report declares in its introduction and conclusions that the Israeli government conducted a "terrorist attack" against the flotilla, subjected the survivors -- especially the wounded -- to "physical and psychological torture," attempted to provoke the survivors to violence once in custody on Israeli soil, and had "stolen" personal property of the activists. The authors of the report claim that after Israeli ships attempted to engage the Mavi Marmara -- the flagship of the flotilla -- with grappling irons, Israeli soldiers descended upon the ship from

helicopters, simultaneously firing percussion or gas bombs, automatic weapons, and an indeterminate "high frequency, intermittent" weapon. The report claims that "participants saw the Israeli soldiers firing real bullets as they came down from the upper floors of the ship," at which point the passengers began to resist with random objects at hand. According to the report, three soldiers were subdued and their weapons taken from them and dropped into the sea. IHH head Bulent Yildirim claims he announced over the ship's loudspeakers that the passengers should stop fighting, and that he himself waved a white shirt to indicate the ship's surrender. However, according to the report, Israeli soldiers resumed firing upon the occupants of the ship during the transfer of wounded to Israeli ships for medical treatment.

5. (SBU) Under the category of torture, the report cites exposure to elements and "inhumane" conditions, invasive searches, verbal and physical assaults while under detention, and sleep deprivation. The Mavi Marmara passengers were forced to kneel on the ship's deck while it was transported to Israel, all the while subjected to the wind and seaspray churned up by the blades of hovering helicopters.

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After being transferred to the ship's lounge, the activists complained that the room was overcrowded and inhumanely hot and humid. The group then complained that the automobiles in which they were transferred to Beerheeva Prison were air conditioned to "cold-storage" degrees. All the while, the detainees were, according to the report, kicked, struck with weapons, and verbally assaulted, with intent to "provoke" them. The activists complain of continual searches, repeated interrogation (with the results being handed directly over to Israel's internal intelligence service, Shabak), and hourly questioning in prison, amounting to sleep deprivation. The report claims the detained activists were also pressured to sign documents saying that they had arrived in Israel without permission, and that they repeatedly refused to do so until a record of their having been brought to Israel against their will was included in the documentation. While allegedly the Israeli authorities claimed they would return personal belongings to the detainees, the report claims that all that was returned were empty suitcases and broken electronics equipment. Some claimed the loss of "large sums of money," while others that their credit cards and cell phones have been used since their confiscation.

Some Contradictions:

6. (SBU) The report claims that, upon first contact, the captain of the Mavi Marmara repeatedly told Israeli ships via radio that the ship was "taking humanitarian aid on the ship to Gaza," establishing clear intent to try and break the embargo. The report also notes that the "authorities" on the ship told the activists to put on life jackets in anticipation of "a possible Israeli attack," suggesting awareness beforehand of Israeli warnings that the flotilla would be boarded. The allegation that "many participants reported that large sums of money had been seized by the Israelis" may strengthen the Israeli argument that the ship was intending to deliver financial aid in addition to material aid to Gaza. The autopsy report alleges that "most" of the dead had been fired upon from above, whereas in fact only two or three of the bodies appeared to have wounds that would support such a theory. The report also argues that the Israelis fired upon the ship "with intent to kill" not to disable, contradicted later by the statement that many of the wounded had wounds to their arms and legs, not to their torsos.

Comment

7. (C) The report, though incendiary in style, does not tread any new ground. There is little in the report to cause public uproar, as previous press reports and interviews with the survivors were far more lurid and sensational. Indeed, the GOI's own Press and Information Bureau already has issued a DVD that is far more heavy-handed. The IHH report also stays politically neutral, not calling upon the government of Turkey to take action and explicitly identifying the flotilla as "completely civilian in nature." It also restates that the Mavi Marmara was actually a Comoros-flagged

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ship -- although recent reports dispute whether this registration was completed in time before the vessel set sail.
JEFFREY

Additional Addressees:
None

cc:
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AFOSI DET 521 ANKARA TU
CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL
CIA WASHINGTON DC
DIA WASHINGTON DC
MNF-I C2X BAGHDAD IQ
SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC
JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC
EUROM POLAD VAHINGEN GE
EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE

Distribution:

TED9661
ACTION EUR-00

INFO	LOG-00	EEB-00	AID-00	A-00	ACO-00	CA-00	CCO-00
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	DS-00	FAAE-00	FBIE-00	VCI-00	DIAS-00	FEDE-00	INR-00
	INSE-00	IO-00	L-00	CAC-00	ARMY-00	WOPM-00	WOP-00
	H-00	VCIE-00	NEA-00	NRC-00	NSAE-00	ISN-00	NSCE-00
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DIA WASHINGTON DC
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC
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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

E.O. 13526; DECL. 2020/07/06

TAGS: PGOV, PHEL, PTER, TU

SUBJECT: IHH Releases Its Report on the Gaza Flotilla

End Cable Text

Afternoon Key Cables - 7/06/2010

ANKARA: IHH RELEASES ITS REPORT ON THE GAZA FLOTILLA

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StateDept0717

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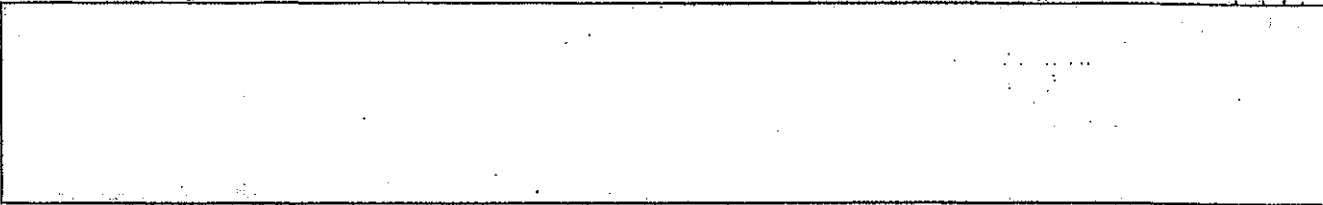
Richter, Kim B.

From: Parker, Andrew C
Sent: Friday, July 16, 2010 9:40 AM
To: Reisser, Wesley J
Cc: Goldberger, Thomas H; Greene, Elisa; Richter, Kim B
Subject: consular items

RELEASED IN PART
B6, NR

Wes,

Corrie investigation report



NR

Flotilla personal property

MFA met with MOD, IDF and INP to discuss return of electronic items seized from flotilla participants. They are working on a plan to return items (which -ugh- may be through the respective embassies). A number of items are not matched with a particular person, despite the receipts ostensibly given to each person whose items were taken. They have lists from us and other embassies identifying many of the missing items.

Also, Turkey returned to the Israelis a number of personal effects which were not claimed in Turkey and did not appear to belong to Turks. The GOI is still figuring out how they can best match these items up with the rightful owners.

We learned earlier this week that the INP advice to [redacted] whose credit card and cell phone were used after they had been seized by the GOI, was that they should report loss/unauthorized use to their credit card and phone service providers and seek reimbursement through them. The INP does not intend to investigate further.

(b)(6)

Andy

B6

Andrew C. Parker
Consul General
U.S. Embassy Tel Aviv
Tel. 972-3-519-7671
Fax 972-3-519-0315
parkerac@state.gov

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: SHARON E AHMAD
DATE/CASE ID: 28 FEB 2012 201004163

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086

Richter, Kim B

RELEASED IN FULL

From: Richter, Kim B
Sent: Tuesday, July 20, 2010 9:33 AM
Subject: RE: Update on lost luggage and electronic equipment

The U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv was again in contact with Israeli authorities regarding your electronic equipment and they continue to work on a plan to return the items to the respective owners. As soon as I have more, I will let you know.

Regards,

Kim Richter

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
DATE/CASE ID: 18 NOV 2011 201004163

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StateDept0719

087

RELEASED IN FULL

From: Reisser, Wesley J
To: Richter, Kim B
Subject: FW: Rachel Corrie -- FYI from Dublin
Sent: 7/20/2010 10:07:30 AM
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, Derek Graham, was informed by authorities at the Port of Ashdod of the procedures necessary to return the ship. 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

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SBU
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Printed By: Richter, Kim B
Page 1 of 1

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
DATE/CASE ID: 02 FEB 2012 201004163

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088

RELEASED IN PART

From: Zuckerman, Eve
Sent: Thursday, August 19, 2010 9:31 AM
To: [redacted]
Cc: Richter, Kim B
Subject: FW: Update on lost luggage and electronic equipment

B6 B6

B
(b)(6)

Dear [redacted],

(b)(6)

Sorry for the delay in responding. Please be advised that we have repeatedly raised the specific cases of missing items belonging to Americans from the Flotilla with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Ministry has acknowledged that it is aware of the property issues and has told us that it has raised this matter with other involved parties. To the best of our knowledge, no decisions have been made on the release of the electronic equipment and we have been told by the Ministry they have no knowledge on other personal effects being held in Israel.

We continue to follow up with the Ministry for updates regarding the electronics, and will, of course, contact you should any decisions be reached.

Sincerely,

Eve Zuckerman
Consular Assistant
US Embassy, Tel Aviv

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, August 18, 2010 4:41 PM
To: Richter, Kim B; Zuckerman, Eve
Subject: Re: Update on lost luggage and electronic equipment

(b)(6)

Dear Kim, Eve,

I hope this note finds you both well.

I did not hear back from either of you so I am resending the note that I sent on August 9. An update / information on the points mentioned below would be much appreciated.

Thank you.

[redacted]
On Mon, Aug 9, 2010 at 9:43 PM, [redacted] wrote:
Dear Kim, Eve

(b)(6)
(b)(6)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
DATE/CASE ID: 18 NOV 2011 201004163

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I appreciate this update, but I would like to ask more specifically what the US Embassy in Tel Aviv and the US State Department has been doing to press the Israelis for more than this?

It is NOT true that the Israelis sent everything but electronic equipment to Turkey. I have been to the IHH warehouse in Istanbul. I found one of three bags of mine and it was practically empty. It only had two shirts and some undergarments in it.

It's been two and a half months already. From the first week that I was released I have been hearing that the Israelis promise to release our belongings soon. As you have probably heard, there is evidence that Israeli authorities stole documents from my computer and handed them over to some disreputable NGO for propaganda purposes. This combined with the fact that I have been without my laptop from which I do all my work for almost 10 weeks already is indefensible. For this, and for all the property (some of which is irreplaceable) that is still missing, the US should be demanding compensation from Israel for US victims (not to mention the measures we expect the US government to take to ensure justice for the family of Furkan Dugan.)

I apologize if you are putting this pressure on the Israelis and we are just not hearing about it. However, the lack of results makes my colleagues and I believe that this is not the case. We saw how as a result of pressure from the Turkish government, the Turkish vessels have been released. The Greek government reports that they have also secured agreement for the release of the Greek vessels. What about the Challenger I, an American-owned and flagged vessel?

Also, in mid-June the Center for Constitutional Rights send to the State Department a letter requesting that the US government demand that Israel turn over to a neutral body our electronic equipment, which contain important information regarding the events of 31 May 2010. We have not seen any kind of response or noticed any action by the US government. What has the US government done to ensure that this evidence, which has been in Israel's sole possession for the past nine weeks is safeguarded?

An update from you as to all of the above would be highly appreciated.

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Thank you.

(b)(6)

On Wed, Jun 30, 2010 at 3:21 PM, Richter, Kim B <RichterKB@state.gov> wrote:
The U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv has contacted the Government of Israel regarding your belongings and we have been told that they are working on releasing the electronic equipment to the various embassies. As soon as we have more information, we will let you know.

The Israeli authorities claim that they have no additional personal property.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me and I will try to assist you.

Regards,

Kim Richter
Department of State

"It's better to die on your feet than to live on your knees." -- Emilio Zapata

"It's better to die on your feet than to live on your knees." -- Emilio Zapata

"It's better to die on your feet than to live on your knees." -- Emilio Zapata

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StateDept0723

RELEASED IN FULL

089

From: Gisvold, Lisa C (Istanbul)
To: Greene, Elisa
CC: Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Richter, Kim B; Zeroubavely, Sandra S; Appleton, Richard H; Dayton, Win (Istanbul); Ertan, Leyla (Istanbul)
Subject: Gaza flotilla and stolen computer issue
Sent: 8/20/2010 3:41:08 AM ..

Elisa -- Greetings from Istanbul. I'm writing to share the recent Turkish media report that two Israeli soldiers are suspected of stealing computers from the Gaza aid flotilla. We are seeking your assistance in obtaining more information about these stolen computers. Perhaps they are the property of the American citizens, who participated in the flotilla? Many thanks for your help. Best regards, Lisa

Lisa Gisvold
ACS Istanbul

Two Israeli soldiers are suspected of having stolen computers from the Gaza-bound aid flotilla that the navy intercepted in a deadly May 31 raid, Israeli media reported on Thursday. One soldier suspected of selling the computers was arrested on Monday, together with three other soldiers who bought the stolen goods. (Hurriyet Daily News)
<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/n.php?n=two-israeli-soldiers-suspected-of-flotilla-theft-media-2010-08-19>

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091
B

Richter, Kim B

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B6, B5

From: Bernier-Toth, Michelle
Sent: Thursday, September 09, 2010 11:37 AM
To: Parker, Andrew C; Greene, Elisa; Richter, Kim B; Reisser, Wesley J; Nelson, Timothy (Tel Aviv); Appleton, Richard H
Subject: RE: Status of Murder Investigation of US citizen Farrakhan Dogan on the Mavi Marmara?

Yep. How's this for a response to [redacted] Rich, sorry to bring you in at the end...

(b)(6) B6

Dear [redacted]

(b)(6) B6

[redacted]

B5

M

From: Parker, Andrew C
Sent: Thursday, September 09, 2010 11:22 AM
To: Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Greene, Elisa; Richter, Kim B; Reisser, Wesley J; Nelson, Timothy (Tel Aviv)
Subject: Re: Status of Murder Investigation of US citizen Farrakhan Dogan on the Mavi Marmara?

Investigation still ongoing. When I asked our MFA consular liaison by phone last week if anything had come to light that would cast any insight into Dogan's death she said she was not authorized to say anything because it is an ongoing investigation. I planned to press further next week when we plan to meet - if S visit does not interfere. We can also ask North American affairs. There is no US investigation - just our request to the Israelis to carry out a proper investigation of his death.

Andy

From: Bernier-Toth, Michelle
To: Greene, Elisa; Parker, Andrew C; Richter, Kim B; Reisser, Wesley J
Sent: Thu Sep 09 16:32:20 2010
Subject: FW: Status of Murder Investigation of US citizen Farrakhan Dogan on the Mavi Marmara?

Elisa, Andy: Comments on the Israel investigation?
Wes, Kim: On the UN investigation [redacted]

(b)(5) B5

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 08, 2010 11:43 PM
To: Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Richter, Kim B
Subject: Status of Murder Investigation of US citizen Farrakhan Dogan on the Mavi Marmara?

(b)(6) B6

Hi Michelle and Kim,

I was wondering what you can tell us about the US investigation into the murder of US Citizen Farrakhan Dogan?

Have the Israelis been cooperative in any way?

We hope that the film, digital images from the cameras of the passengers of the Mavi Marmara will help shed

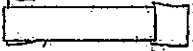
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REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
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light on the circumstances of Farrakhan's death and the deaths of the other eight and the wounding of 50 others.



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List of Topics of consular interest for discussion with the MFA

[Redacted]

NR

No MFA action requested at this time.

[Redacted]

NR

What is the current status of the investigation of this incident?

Nothing new since June. MFA officials will send another request for an update.

[Redacted]

NR

What is the status of this investigation?

[Redacted]

NR

Furkan Dogan:

Furkan Dogan (19 yrs old) was killed on the May 31, 2010 on the Gaza Flotilla (Mavi Marmara).
Status of case: On June 7, 2010, the USG delivered a demarche requesting a thorough, credible and transparent investigation of his death. On June 29, 2010, Andrew Parker forwarded a request to MFA.

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CONS Yigal Tzarfati requesting assistance in obtaining photos taken of the remains, in particular, photos showing entry and exit wounds caused by multiple shots to the head and body, and any written reports that describe the injuries.

We continue to await any report on this death. What is the status of the investigation?

MFA officials explained that it was too early to expect a report of the investigation. The investigation is under way and will take time. Regarding photos and autopsy, MFA advised that we contact Turkish officials and/or our colleagues in Turkey to request assistance in this regard.

MFA officials asked that we warn U.S. citizens not to participate in the pro-Hamas flotillas.

Flotilla Belongings:

A. The Embassy was advised by [redacted] MFA, on August 23, 2010, that the GOI intends to send the electronic equipment, belonging to the flotilla passengers, to the foreign Embassies. To date, the Embassy has not received the equipment belonging to the Amctts.

B6

Can the MFA advise when these items will be returned and, for American citizens whose items are not among those to be returned, please advise any recourse available to those individuals who wish to make claims against the GOI.

B. The Embassy was advised by the MFA that on June 4, 2010 the personal belongings of the flotilla passengers were sent to Turkey. However, a number of American citizens who participated in the flotilla claim that they never received their items. They maintain that Turkish authorities returned some items to Israel.

Can you provide any information on remaining personal effects in GOI possession?

MFA officials confirmed that the IDF has items to be returned to participants of the flotilla. These items are mostly personal items and should be returned soon. Electronic items such as computers or intelligence devices are still under investigation and not part of the effects to be returned yet. MFA consular affairs section has in its possession a small package including a passport card belonging to [redacted] ready to be returned. MFA officials confirmed that other personal effects were put back on the boat in the Mavi Marmara and sent back to Turkey.

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On September 15, 2010 the MFA sent a Dip Note confirming that some documentation and personal effects/equipment will be available for transfer next week.



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093

Richter, Kim B

B6

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From: Bernier-Toth, Michelle
Sent: Friday, September 10, 2010 1:13 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: Reisser, Wesley J; Richter, Kim B
Subject: FW: Status of Murder investigation of US citizen Farrakhan Dogan on the Mavi Marmara?

(b)(6)

Dear [redacted]

(b)(6)

My apologies in not answering sooner - I wanted to make sure I had the latest information from Tel Aviv and Ankara. The Israeli and Turkish investigations into the death of Farrakhan Dogan are still underway, and our contacts in those governments have declined to comment on progress at this time. We regularly raise the issue with both the Israeli and Turkish governments, and have called on the Israelis to conduct a full and open investigation.

Best,
M

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 08, 2010 11:43 PM
To: Bernier-Toth, Michelle; Richter, Kim B
Subject: Status of Murder investigation of US citizen Farrakhan Dogan on the Mavi Marmara?

(b)(6)

Hi Michelle and Kim,

I was wondering what you can tell us about the US investigation into the murder of US Citizen Farrakhan Dogan?

Have the Israelis been cooperative in any way?

We hope that the film, digital images from the cameras of the passengers of the Mavi Marmara will help shed light on the circumstances of Farrakhan's death and the deaths of the other eight and the wounding of 50 others.

[redacted]

(b)(6)

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095
B

From: Gisvold, Lisa C (Istanbul)
To: Richter, Kim B
CC: Mendel, Teresa S; Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Kantar, Ilyas (Istanbul)
Subject: RE: Lost luggage and equipment
Sent: 9/20/2010 2:31:05 AM

Kim - Thanks for the update from Tel Aviv. According to IHH contacts in Istanbul, the Mavi Marmara is currently docked in Iskenderun, which is located on the Mediterranean (near Adana). It was damaged and company that owns it is currently repairing it. IHH representatives have yet to board the boat but hope to travel there in the near future and confirm whether there are any containers on board. According to IHH contacts, Turkey has not returned any belongings to Israel. We will keep you posted and let you know if there is any property on the Mavi Marmara. Best, Lisa

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From: Richter, Kim B
Sent: Friday, September 17, 2010 3:35 PM
To: Gisvold, Lisa C (Istanbul)
Cc: Mendel, Teresa S
Subject: RE: Lost luggage and equipment

Lisa,

Is there a way to check on this and to figure out what is going on? Did the Turks send back containers to Israel? And if so, have any containers come from Israel and can you check them?

Maybe it's Israel's way of saving face and they have put more of the luggage and personal belongings in the containers.

Thanks,

Kim

From: Richter, Kim B
Sent: Friday, September 17, 2010 8:24 AM
To: Gisvold, Lisa C (Istanbul)
Subject: Lost luggage and equipment

FYI,

The MFA has sent Embassy Tel Aviv a Dip Note stating that the equipment will be available for transfer next week. The only other property they are aware of is a press ID card belonging to [redacted] which

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was locked in a safe and which they will also return next week. Any other personal effects that may have been returned by Turkey to Israel was put back on the Mavi Marmara and sent back to Turkey, according to MFA.

I know that you checked the personal effects and only found a few items that actually belonged to our Amelts. Just keeping you updated. I don't imagine whatever was sent back the second time is any different than the first group.

Kim Richter

CA/OCS/ACS/NESCA

(202) 647-8308

Bahrain, Bhutan, Egypt, India, Israel, West Bank, Gaza, Nepal,
Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Maldives

richterkb@state.gov

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096

Richter, Kim B

From: Zuckerman, Eve
Sent: Thursday, October 07, 2010 8:33 AM
To: Richter, Kim B
Subject: FW: flotilla

RELEASED IN PART
B6

Hi Kim,

See below. Andy will speak with someone higher up.

From: Parker, Andrew C
Sent: Thursday, October 07, 2010 11:24 AM
To: Zuckerman, Eve
Cc: Greene, Elisa
Subject: RE: flotilla

yes

From: Zuckerman, Eve
Sent: Thursday, October 07, 2010 9:56 AM
To: Parker, Andrew C
Cc: Greene, Elisa
Subject: FW: flotilla

Andy,

I have been trying to reach [redacted] for weeks. I have sent her e-mails and left messages on her phone. Yesterday, I actually managed to reach her, but she told me she would call me back because she was busy. She never called back. I must have tried calling her about 20 times yesterday. Kim has been e-mailing me every couple of days asking if we have an answer re the flotilla possessions. We also need to know if MFA has an answer from INP as to whether they can release the Atinsky report.

B6

Since Kim is asking if we speak to a higher person, do you think you could call [redacted] and raise these issues?

Thanks. Eve

From: Richter, Kim B
Sent: Wednesday, October 06, 2010 9:48 PM
To: Zuckerman, Eve
Subject: flotilla

Eve,

Any news?

I know they aren't open on Friday but can we ratchet it up on Tuesday - to maybe a higher person?

Thanks.

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DATE/CASE ID: 18-NOV-2011 201004163

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Kim Richter

CA/OCS/ACS/NESCA

(202) 647-8308

Afghanistan, Bahrain, Egypt, Israel, West Bank, Gaza, Saudi Arabia

richterkb@state.gov

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097
B

RELEASED IN PART

From: [redacted]
To: Richter, Kim B
Subject: RE: Filing a Report
Sent: 10/20/2010 10:33:30 AM
Kim,

B6

B6

I spoke with Andy Parker about this and here are some points he raised, which you may wish to relay to [redacted] and any other Amcits who are asking about their belongings:

(b)(6)

- 1) Some of the belongings will be made available soon. These are the items currently being held by the Press Organization;
- 2) The GOI has already advised that the flotilla passengers should file personal insurance claims for any items not returned;
- 3) The GOI representative in the U.S. is the Israeli Embassy or Consulate closest to the individual's places of residence. They should probably be directing any reports of missing items to the Israeli legations in the U.S.

Let me know if you need anything additional.

[redacted]

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From: Richter, Kim B
Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 2010 3:14 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: Filing a Report

[redacted]

Can you get me information to pass on to him?

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 2010 8:46 AM
To: Richter, Kim B
Subject: Re: Filing a Report

(b)(6)

Hi Kim,

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DATE/CASE ID: 18 NOV 2011 201004163

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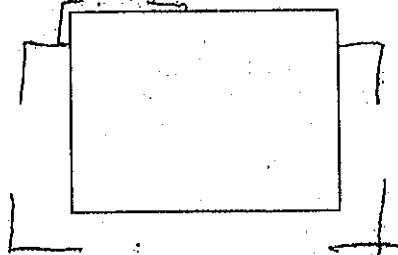
I would like to file a report for my missing equipment before the end of the week.

Please send me any forms I need to fill out, or connect me with whoever I should talk to so I can submit a report. If you aren't sure who I should file the report with, please assist me in finding out today.

It's been over 4 months since my equipment was taken, and clearly the equipment will not be returned. I feel as though it's reasonable to expect to be able to file a report for my stolen equipment at this point.

What steps do I need to take to file a report.

Thanks,



(b)(6)

(b)(6)

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NR, B6

098
B

From: Parker, Andrew C
To: Richter, Kim B; Reisser, Wesley J
CC: Greene, Elisa
Subject: Congressional on flotilla
Sent: 10/27/2010 8:26:30 AM

B6

Kim/Wes,
Some limited input for your response to [redacted] letter of Oct. 20:

(b)(6)

2. The Embassy (CONS) was in touch with the MFA situation room and with consular officials on May 31 as the flotilla vessels and passengers were being brought to Ashdod port. We urgently requested to have access as soon as possible. Due to experience with previous flotillas, we knew that access to our citizens at the Port of Ashdod would not be possible, so we did not deploy to the port as did several other embassies (who were also unsuccessful at getting entry). We were in ongoing communication with the MFA on May 31 and were told that all passengers (approximately 900 detainees) had to be processed and transported to a detention center before it would be possible to visit them. On May 31 at 16:40 we received a fax from the MFA informing us that visits with our citizens would be possible on the following day in coordination with the Israeli Prison Service. We immediately coordinated with the IPS and arranged for our consuls to visit our detainees at Ella Prison in Beersheva on the following morning. Mid-morning on June 1 we visited our detainees at Ella Prison and later that afternoon the CG visited [redacted] the lone hospitalized American, at the Givon prison hospital in Ramle.

(b)(6)

From our consular perspective, Israel fulfilled its responsibilities under the Vienna convention to allow consular access and communication with our detained citizens. At Ella Prison and at Givon, we were allowed to meet with our detainees outside the presence of the authorities, so they were free to speak with us as they wished.

3. As reported in Tel Aviv 001283, A/DCM conveyed our concern about the death of Furkan Dogan and the injuries sustained by [redacted] in a demarche to the MFA on June 7. At that time, we also expressed our concern at the serious injury to [redacted] also sustained on May 31. Although Tel Aviv 001251, the arrest reporting cable on [redacted] did note "visible bruise and scrape on forehead" we evaluated at the time that it did not rise to the level of a protest for mistreatment. He did not require medical treatment as of the time that he was visited by our consul on June 1 and he was able to depart the following day without further medical assistance. On the Embassy mistreatment form which he completed, he also protested mistreatment during interrogation, consisting of inadequate food and deprivation of sleep due to excessive noise.

(b)(6)

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The Embassy periodically asks the MFA for further information on GOI investigations of the death of Furkan Dogan and the injury to [redacted]

(b)(6)

NR

4. The Embassy has reported that the GOI says it has no property belonging to American citizens. All was returned to Turkey on the Mavi Marmara. Some was subsequently returned to Israel from Turkey and, according to the MFA, was again returned to Turkey. Concerning compensation, Israeli officials have suggested detainees could initiate insurance claims if they have insurance. The Embassy has

passed various itemized accounts of missing property to the MFA. Some electronic property is said to be available but has not yet been provided to us. We are actively pursuing the return of this property.

Andrew C. Parker
Consul General
U.S. Embassy Tel Aviv
Tel. +972-3-519-7671
Cell +972-54-324-4153
Fax +972-3-519-7375
parkerac@state.gov

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B

From: Zuckerman, Eve
To: Richter, Kim B
Subject: RE: more flotilla property issues
Sent: 12/1/2010 9:47:37 AM
Hi Kim,

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Here's what the MFA advised at yesterday's meeting with the MFA - attended by Andrew Parker and Elisa Greene:

MFA reps advised that any passengers aboard the Mavi Marmara with missing property should complain directly to the IHH. MFA has possession of a number of "small items" such as watches. The MFA legal department will shortly send a letter to all foreign Missions requesting they reach out to their nationals and identify these items. MFA further stated that all complaints regarding missing personal property should be directed towards the MOJ via a private attorney. MFA returned an id card for [redacted] We will reach out to her directly to (b)(6) return this to her.

B6

Thanks. Eve

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Zuckerman, Eve
Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2010 8:09 AM
To: Richter, Kim B
Subject: RE: more flotilla property issues

Hi Kim,

I understand that we need to get some kind of closure on this matter - otherwise it could drag on forever. I have asked Andy Parker to raise the issue with the MFA when he meets with them this week.

Normally, if a detainee/arrestee does not receive return of their property, they would file a complaint with the Israel Prison Service. However, this case is a little different, in as much as the property was confiscated by the IDF. According to the MFA, the IDF returned all the confiscated belongings to either the Press Organization or the Turkish Embassy. Anyway, let's see what Andy is able to find out from the MFA this week.

Eve

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Richter, Kim B
Sent: Monday, November 29, 2010 7:03 PM
To: Zuckerman, Eve
Subject: more flotilla property issues

When someone is detained in Israel and/or arrested – what happens to their property? As in what they were wearing, their wallets, etc...

If that stuff goes missing after they are released – where would they complain or what would they do to get compensated? We need to try and get out of this flotilla property stuff but until our people have some satisfaction – it's not going to happen. Even if the GOI threw the stuff away – at least tell us that.

I just spoke to [redacted] and he said the Turkish people on the flotilla got their stuff back. I'm going (b)(6) to email Istanbul to see if that is the case.

Kim Richter
Citizens Services Specialist
CA/OCS/ACS/NESCA
(202) 647-8308
Afghanistan, Bahrain, Egypt, Israel, West Bank, Gaza, Saudi Arabia

richterkb@state.gov

101
B

From: Zuckerman, Eve
To: Richter, Kim B
Subject: Flotilla belongings
Sent: 12/3/2010 2:28:55 AM
Kim,

RELEASED IN PART
B6

When Elisa and Andy were at the MFA on 11/30/10, they picked up [redacted] I.D. card. We have her I.D. card and some business cards belonging to her. Could you please ask her if she would like us to send them to her and if so, what is her mailing address?

(b)(6)

B6

Thanks. Eve

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

102

B

NEA Press Guidance
December 16, 2010

Israel: Furkan Dogan and Rachel Corrie

Q: When was the last time that an official from the U.S. spoke to the Israelis about the death of an American citizen involved in the Free Gaza Flotilla?

- Our Embassy in Tel Aviv has been in frequent contact with the Government of Israel regarding their investigation, being conducted by the "Turkel Commission" into the May 31 Mavi Marmara flotilla incident, including requesting additional information on the death of American citizen Furkan Dogan.
- In a discussion with Israeli authorities November 30, we were informed that further information regarding the circumstances of Mr. Dogan's would not be forthcoming until the Turkel Commission has finished its overall inquiry into the incident. We will continue to follow this case closely.

IF ASKED about Rachel Corrie:

- The wrongful death lawsuit concerning American citizen Rachel Corrie is still ongoing in Israeli courts. The last two sessions -- scheduled for December 22, 2010 and January 3, 2011 -- have been cancelled due to a strike by Israeli prosecutors. We expect the court's work to resume after the strike is over.

+++++
 BACKGROUND: [Redacted] (b)(5)
 [Redacted]

B5

UNCLASSIFIED

Drafted by: NEA/PPD: A Sayles, x74184
NEA/IPA: C Eilts

Approved by: NEA/FO: P Sutphin (acting) ok

Cleared by: CA: J Echard
DRL: E Owen
D(S): S Schrepel
S/P: D Rand
P: E Catalano
Emb Tel Aviv: M Lurie

UNCLASSIFIED

104

B

RELEASED IN PART

From: Eilts, Colin C
To: Greene, Elisa
CC: Richter, Kim B
Subject: RE: Inquiry on Furkan Dogan / Possibly Rachel Corrie
Sent: 12/20/2010 3:59:19 PM
Elisa,

Here are the points that we used. Also, thank you for the introduction to Kim. I look forward to our work together!

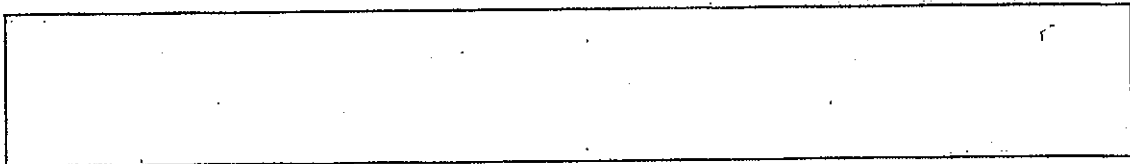
NEA/ISRAEL: When was the last time that an official from the US spoke to the Israelis about the death of an AmCit involved in the Free Gaza Flotilla?

Dogan

- Our Embassy in Tel Aviv has been in constant contact with the Government of Israel regarding their investigation (n.b. "the Turkel Commission") into the May 31 Mavi Marmara flotilla incident, including requesting additional information on the death of American citizen Furkan Dogan.
- In a discussion with Israeli authorities November 30, we were informed that further information regarding the circumstances of Mr. Dogan's would not be forthcoming until the Turkel Commission has finished its overall inquiry into the incident. We will continue to follow this case closely.

Note: [we anticipate the Turkel Commission will finish its report some time in January or early February of 2011, but this should not be cited to the press. (b)(5)]

Also, any update on Rachel Corrie's case is also appreciated. PJ did not officially ask for an update on this, but did mention it in our discussion and I think we need to be prepared for both issues.



NR

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Greene, Elisa
Sent: Friday, December 17, 2010 1:32 AM

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED
SBU
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
DATE/CASE ID: 18 NOV 2011 201004163

Printed By: Richter, Kim B
Page 1 of 5

UNCLASSIFIED

To: Ellits, Colin C
Subject: RE: Inquiry on Furqan Dogan / Possibly Rachel Corrie

Can you please send us a copy so we can keep it for our records in the ACS systems for each of these cases? By the way, our CA/OCS/ACS desk officer, Kim Richter, is the in-house expert on these types of ACS cases. She is a good go-to person on cases that overlap ACS/IPA. At post, ACS is the go-to office when it comes to Amcit issues. Thanks, elisa

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: greene@state.gov

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Ellits, Colin C
Sent: Thursday, December 16, 2010 6:26 PM
To: Levin, Jan
Cc: Silverman, Robert J; Nelson, Timothy (Tel Aviv); Greene, Elisa
Subject: RE: Inquiry on Furqan Dogan / Possibly Rachel Corrie

All,

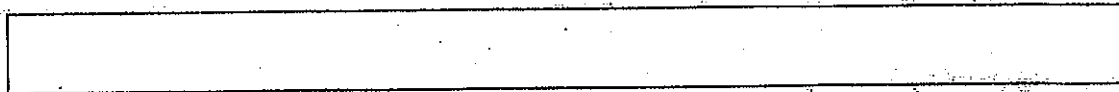
Thank you very much for this information. I will put together some points and get it cleared by our office.

Best,

Colin Ellits

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Levin, Jan
Sent: Thursday, December 16, 2010 10:22 AM
To: Ellits, Colin C
Cc: Silverman, Robert J; Nelson, Timothy (Tel Aviv); Greene, Elisa
Subject: FW: Inquiry on Furqan Dogan / Possibly Rachel Corrie



NR

Thanks,
Jan

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Greene, Elisa
Sent: Thursday, December 16, 2010 5:19 PM
To: Levin, Jan; Silverman, Robert J
Cc: Parker, Andrew C
Subject: FW: Inquiry on Furkan Dogan / Possibly Rachel Corrie

Regarding Furkan Dogan:

Postreps met with MFA reps on 30 Nov 2010. Post requested a status report on the investigation into circumstances of the death of Furkan Dogan, an Amcit killed on the May 2010 flotilla aboard the Mavi Marmara. MFA reps stated that since the Turkel committee has not yet finished, they cannot provide any information about the investigation. MFA requested Post provide the GOI with a copy of Dogan's autopsy report conducted by the Government of Turkey. Post, however, stated that Post was not in a position to give the autopsy report to the MFA.

Please let me know via separate email if you need further information on either case. Thanks, elisa

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: egreene@state.gov

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Greene, Elisa
Sent: Thursday, December 16, 2010 11:47 AM
To: Levin, Jan; Silverman, Robert J
Subject: RE: Inquiry on Furkan Dogan / Possibly Rachel Corrie

Corrie: wrongful death lawsuit is still ongoing. The last two sessions, scheduled for 12/22/2010 and 1/3/2011, have been cancelled due to the prosecutor strike. Pending rescheduling after the strike is over.

Dogan: via separate email.

Txs, elisa

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

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Levin, Jan
Sent: Thursday, December 16, 2010 6:38 AM
To: Silverman, Robert J
Cc: Greene, Elisa
Subject: Fw: Inquiry on Furqan Dogan / Possibly Rachel Corrie

Hi, Elisa: Can you give us a quick update from the ACS perspective on these two cases? Thanks,
Jan

From: Ellits, Colin C
To: Levin, Jan; Nelson, Timothy (Tel Aviv); Lurie, Mike D
Sent: Thu Dec 16 00:30:10 2010
Subject: FW: Inquiry on Furqan Dogan / Possibly Rachel Corrie

Dear TA colleagues,

Do we have any new information on the Furqan Dogan or Rachel Corrie cases? See below. Do you have any recommendations on updated points for NEA Press?

Thank you,

Colin Ellits

SBU:
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Sutphin, Paul R
Sent: Wednesday, December 15, 2010 3:17 PM
To: Buzbee, John R; Jacoby, Julia I; Ellits, Colin C
Subject: RE: Inquiry on Furqan Dogan / Possibly Rachel Corrie

One step forward....

The last update I saw on this case was in a memo for Bill Burns with Oren, if I recall. But we should run the traps with TA and CA on Dogan.

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: Sayles, Ambrose G
Sent: Wednesday, December 15, 2010 1:41 PM
To: Sutphin, Paul R; Buzbee, John R; Jacoby, Julia T; Eilts, Collin C
Cc: Vasquez, Edgar J
Subject: Inquiry on Furqan Dogan / Possibly Rachel Corrie

Hi IPA Team -

PJ has agreed to stand down on requiring additional guidance/points on Abdallah Abu Rahmah. However, he asks that we provide him with up to date points on what we are doing regarding Furqan Dogan. My last understanding of the situation is that we were following developments and that the case was proceeding through the Israeli system. Is this still the case? Can IPA provide a few points that NEA Press can work with moving forward? Also, any update on Rachel Corrie's case is also appreciated. PJ did not officially ask for an update on this, but did mention it in our discussion and I think we need to be prepared for both issues.

Thank you,
Ambrose

Ambrose Sayles | Press Officer | Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs | U.S. Department of State
2201 C St, NW, Rm. 2234, Washington, DC 20520 | P: 202-647-4184 | E: saylesabi@state.gov

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

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B

RELEASED IN PART
B5, B6

From: Zuckerman, Eve
To: Richter, Kim B
Subject: RE: Flotilla belongings
Sent: 1/4/2011 8:06:54 AM
Sounds like a good idea.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Richter, Kim B
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 3:00 PM
To: Zuckerman, Eve
Subject: RE: Flotilla belongings

[Redacted content]

B5

(b)(5)

From: Zuckerman, Eve
Sent: Tuesday, January 04, 2011 1:43 AM
To: Richter, Kim B
Subject: RE: Flotilla belongings

I will discuss with Elisa tomorrow. I'm still at a loss.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Richter, Kim B
Sent: Monday, January 03, 2011 6:29 PM
To: Zuckerman, Eve
Subject: Flotilla belongings

Any thoughts? Can we check with the Turkish Embassy in Tel Aviv or the GOI again? Is there any place they can go for redress?

From: Glaser, Stephen T. (Istanbul)
Sent: Wednesday, December 29, 2010 6:47 AM

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

Printed By: Richter, Kim B
Page 1 of 11

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
DATE/CASE ID: 18 NOV 2011 201004163

UNCLASSIFIED

To: Richter, Kim B.
Cc: Givold, Lisa C (Istanbul); Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul)
Subject: FW: Letter

Kim:
Greetings from Istanbul. Regarding [redacted] email below, we want to respond in a meaningful and respectful way, but ACS Istanbul has done its due diligence on this case. We followed this issue up with the Istanbul Press Union, we had an ACS LES go there, and we made many phone calls following up on the camera issue. As ACS Chief Lisa Givold (who is currently on leave) wrote last to [redacted] his camera was not among those items received here in Istanbul. (b)(6) B6

I'm not sure if we should direct him to the GOI or some other source, but we were hoping for some guidance from you on this, as we have exhausted our resources and followed up on this as much as possible. Thanks,
Stephen

ACS Istanbul

Privacy/PII
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [redacted] (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, December 28, 2010 7:00 PM
To: Richter, Kim B
Cc: Givold, Lisa C (Istanbul); Mendel, Teresa S; Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Appleton, Richard H; Glaser, Stephen T (Istanbul); Peksu, Pinar A (Istanbul); Ertan, Leyla (Istanbul); Sisi, Fatih; Brosius, Theodore A; Zuckerman, Eve; [redacted]
Subject: Re: Letter

Kim & Lisa,

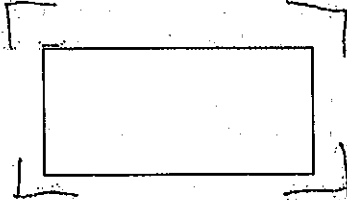
I hope you had a wonderful Christmas!
Who do I contact to get this issue resolved?

[redacted]

On Dec 22, 2010, at 9:36 AM, [redacted] wrote:

But they clearly haven't passed along all of the electronic equipment. They sent a picture of my camera, then sent everything *except* my camera. My laptop has not been located or returned either.

Who can I contact to get this resolved?



(b)(6)

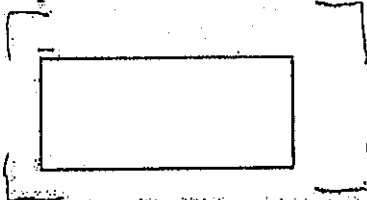
On Dec 22, 2010, at 9:28 AM, Richter, Kim B. wrote:

The Government of Israel has said they have passed everything (the electronic equipment) to the Turkish Embassy in Tel Aviv. The Turkish Embassy has told our Embassy in Tel Aviv that it has sent everything to Turkey.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, December 22, 2010 9:20 AM
To: Givold, Lisa C (Istanbul)
Cc: Richter, Kim B; Mendel, Teresa S; Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Appleton, Richard H; Glaser, Stephen T (Istanbul); Peksu, Pinar A (Istanbul); Ertan, Leyla (Istanbul); Sisi, Fatih; Brosius, Theodore A
Subject: Re: Letter

(b)(6)

When has GOI indicated it will be delivered? Can they confirm that they still have it in their possession?



(b)(6)

On Dec 22, 2010, at 8:57 AM, Givold, Lisa C (Istanbul) wrote:

Hi [Redacted] Thanks for your message. Your camera was not part of the equipment received by the Istanbul Press Members Union recently. Best, Lisa

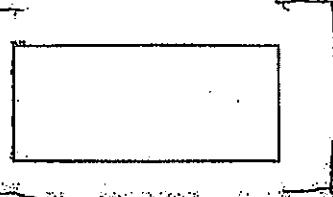
(b)(6)

Privacy/PII
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: [REDACTED] (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, December 22, 2010 1:31 PM.
To: Glsvold, Lisa C (Istanbul)
Cc: Richter, Kim B; Mendel, Teresa S; Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Glaser, Stephen T (Istanbul);
Appleton, Richard H; Ertan, Leyla (Istanbul); Sislil, Fatih; Brosius, Theodore A; Peksu, Pinar A (Istanbul)
Subject: Re: Letter

The photos I saw were taken by Israel? And not all of those items have been released to Turkey yet?

Surely an itemized list accompanied the equipment that has been released so far. Are you certain my camera wasn't part of that?



On Dec 22, 2010, at 3:44 AM, Glsvold, Lisa C (Istanbul) wrote:

Hi [REDACTED] Thanks for your message. We spoke again to the Istanbul Press Members Union this morning. They have not received all the equipment. For example in the inventory, there is a laptop listed but they never received it. They might receive additional equipment but they don't know if this is certain nor when it would arrive. There was not another Nikon camera in the shipment received. The other cameras are Sony cameras not Nikon. I'm sorry I don't have better news. Best, Lisa (b)(6)

Privacy/Pll
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

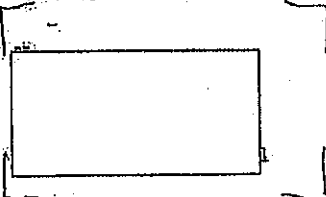
From: [REDACTED] (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2010 5:44 PM
To: Glsvold, Lisa C (Istanbul)
Cc: Richter, Kim B; Mendel, Teresa S; Abeyta, Susan K (Istanbul); Glaser, Stephen T (Istanbul);
Appleton, Richard H; Ertan, Leyla (Istanbul); Sislil, Fatih; Brosius, Theodore A; Peksu, Pinar A (Istanbul)
Subject: Re: Letter

Hi Lisa -

My Nikon d5000 camera was there at one point. I was sent a photograph of my camera along with its appropriate serial number -- my telephoto lens as well -- by Kim Richter.

So it WAS there at one point. Where might it have gone? Was it sent to the wrong person... perhaps the person whose camera I have? How can it be retrieved?

Thank you for your timely response:



(b)(6)

On Dec 21, 2010, at 3:48 AM, Gisvold, Lisa C (Istanbul) wrote:

Hi [redacted] Thanks for your message. We called the Turkish Press Members Union in Istanbul and there aren't other Nikon cameras there. You can send that camera directly to the Turkish Press Members Union at the following address:

(b)(6)

Türkiye Gazeteciler Cemiyeti (Turkish Press Members Union)
Türk Ocakı Cad. Basın Sarayı
Kat:2. Cağaloğlu, İstanbul

Also, the number listed on the FedEx envelope is the Istanbul Consulate's phone number - 90-212-335-9000.

Sorry that your camera was not the camera returned by the Israelis to the Turkish Press Members Union. Best regards, Lisa Gisvold

Lisa Gisvold
American Citizen Services Chief
US Consulate General
Istanbul, Turkey
90-212-335-9000

Privacy/PII
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.



From: Richter, Kim B
Sent: Monday, December 20, 2010 3:51 PM
To: Gisvold, Lisa C (Istanbul)
Subject: FW: Letter

Lisa,

Can you reach out to [redacted]?

(b)(6)

thanks.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Sat, 12/18/2010 7:37 PM
To: Richter, Kim B
Subject: Re: Letter

(b)(6)

Kim,

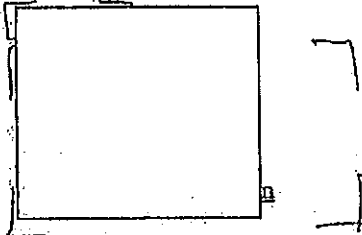
The camera arrived, but it's the wrong camera.

Mine is a digital Nikon D5000, and this is a 1970s Nikon film camera. There must have been a mixup somewhere.

Who can I contact at the Istanbul Embassy? The phone number on the package was for the New York District Attorney...is that who I should work with?

Thanks for your effort thus far, hoping to resolve this soon and be off your back.

(b)(6)



(b)(6)

On Dec 16, 2010, at 8:38 AM, Richter, Kim B wrote:

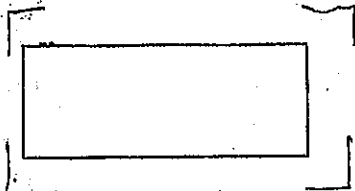
From Istanbul:

We are putting the items in the mail tomorrow morning via FedEx and it should take two working days. Scott should expect the items to arrive on Monday, December 20, 2011.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, December 14, 2010 9:02 AM
To: Richter, Kim B
Subject: Re: Letter

(b)(6)

Thank you..



(b)(6)

On Dec 14, 2010, at 8:27 AM, Richter, Kim B wrote:

It's being mailed from Istanbul, Turkey. Let me forward your email and perhaps they can give you further info.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, December 14, 2010 01:20 AM
To: Richter, Kim B
Subject: Re: Letter

(b)(6)

Where is it being mailed from? When can I anticipate seeing it?

Let me know if you need any other information from me.

[Redacted]

(b)(6)

On Dec 10, 2010, at 2:30 PM, Richter, Kim B wrote:

It appears to be the camera. Right now I have no information on the laptop.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Fri 12/10/2010 11:25 AM
To: Richter, Kim B
Subject: Re: Letter

(b)(6)

[Redacted]

(b)(6)

For what? The camera, the laptop, or both?

Thanks,

[Redacted]

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

On Dec 10, 2010, at 11:17 AM, Richter, Kim B wrote:

[Redacted]

(b)(6)

What is your address?

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Mon 11/29/2010 9:24 AM
To: Richter, Kim B
Subject: Re: Letter

(b)(6)

B6

Any update on my camera and lens?

Any update on my laptop whereabouts?

Hope you had a nice Thanksgiving.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

(b)(6)

[Redacted]

(b)(6)

On Nov 24, 2010, at 1:25 PM, [Redacted] wrote:

(b)(6)

Any update on my camera and lens?

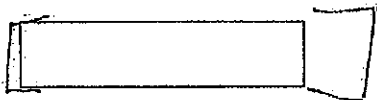
Any update on my laptop whereabouts?

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

(b)(6)



(b)(6)

On Nov 18, 2010, at 3:20 PM, Richter, Kim B wrote:

No word right now on anything else. Still working on it. Right now they are in the possession of the Turkish Embassy in Tel Aviv. I will let our Embassy in Tel Aviv know and they will get them back. I'll be back in contact once we have your items.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2010 8:10 AM
To: Richter, Kim B
Subject: Re: Letter

(b)(6)

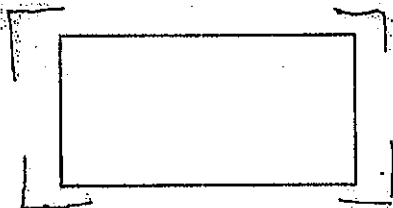
Yes, thank you.

Belonging to me:
#47 Nikon Camera & Lens (SN 3413395)
#52 Nikon Lens (SN 1812902)

Are they in your possession at this point, or Israel's?

They were both in a Lowe Pro "SlingShot" camera bag, and I had three 8GB SD cards in there as well.

Any word on laptops?



(b)(6)

On Nov 18, 2010, at 7:28 AM, Richter, Kim B wrote:



(b)(6)

I'm sorry to do this but can you take a look at any of this and let me know if any of it is yours?

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, November 16, 2010 8:59 PM
To: Richter, Kim B
Subject: Re: Letter

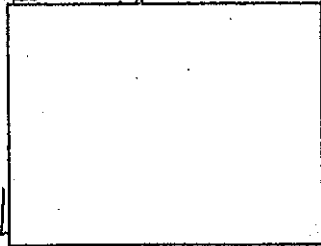
(b)(6)

Kim,

Thank you for that letter. Unfortunately it wasn't sufficient for my insurance company and they denied my claim.

What is being done about the equipment at this point?

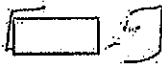
Thanks,



(b)(6)

(b)(6)

On Oct 21, 2010, at 11:38 AM, Richter, Kim B wrote:



What about something like this?

(b)(6)

<Document.pdf>

<equipment list - army.doc>

UNCLASSIFIED

107



RELEASED IN FULL

United States Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

January 12, 2011

Dear Mr. Hamann:

Since June 2010, the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv has been requesting the return of Free Gaza Flotilla participant belongings from the Government of Israel. The Government of Israel claims that all the belongings, including electronic equipment, confiscated from those detained and deported individuals associated with the Free Gaza Flotilla were sent to Turkey.

We regret that some of your personal belongings have not been located, despite considerable effort. The U.S. Consulate General in Istanbul has worked diligently to find any of your confiscated personal items among the belongings returned by the Government of Israel. Please be assured as well that the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv has spent a considerable amount of effort and time engaging the Government of Israel on the question of your belongings.

If you wish to pursue this further, you may want to consult your insurance company or a lawyer in Israel regarding the loss of your belongings. The link to a list of lawyers on the U.S. Embassy Tel Aviv's website is <http://israel.usembassy.gov/lawyers.html>.

Please feel free to contact Kim Richter at (202) 647-8308 or richterkb@state.gov if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

Michelle Bernier-Toth, Acting
Managing Director
Office of Overseas Citizens Services

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
DATE/CASE ID: 18-NOV-2011 201004163

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UNCLASSIFIED

109

RELEASE TO CERTAIN PARTIES

DAS Pettit's Meeting with Mr. Dogan
Wednesday, February 23, 9:15 a.m., 45 minutes

CONTEXT

You are meeting with Mr. Ahmet Dogan, a Turkish citizen and father of U.S. citizen Furkan Dogan who was killed May 31, 2010, by Israeli security forces while participating in the Gaza Flotilla. At the time of his death, Furkan Dogan was also reported to be a Turkish citizen, but was, in fact, a Turkish permanent resident. (He renounced his Turkish citizenship on February 4, 2010). His highly publicized death drew immediate and intense media interest. Mr. Dogan requested a meeting with U.S. government officials to inquire about "his son's killing and to learn of the actions that the United States has taken or can take to assist in seeking justice and accountability for his son's death." Mr. Dogan is also interested in the State Department's efforts to gain the return of personal property seized by Israel, including a video camera that Furkan was alleged to have on the Flotilla. Embassy Ankara and ACS have responded to numerous requests from Mr. Dogan to address his questions and provide consular support, as appropriate. This meeting will provide the opportunity to listen to Mr. Dogan's concerns, clarify the role of the U.S. government, and underscore the consular services the Department routinely offers and has provided in this case.

Talking points for the meeting are attached.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
DATE/CASE ID: 18 NOV 2011 201004163

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~~UNCLASSIFIED~~
~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

TALKING POINTS

- Please accept my condolences for your loss.
- The Department of State has no higher priority than the welfare of U.S. citizens overseas. When a death occurs, our role is to provide consular services to the immediate next-of-kin to ensure that the remains, belongings and estate are handled expeditiously, in accordance with local law.
- The Department of State does not, however, investigate deaths of U.S. citizens overseas—regardless of the circumstances leading to the death. We rely on local authorities to investigate deaths within their jurisdiction.
- The Embassy in Tel Aviv as well as the Department of State has requested that the Government of Israel undertake a thorough, credible, and transparent investigation and provide us with their findings. We have been in touch with all levels of the Government of Israel, most recently on February 15, and have been told that further information regarding Mr. Dogan's death would not be forthcoming until the Turkel Commission has finished its overall inquiry and released the information. They have not yet released all the information from their findings.
- We cannot speak to the finding of foreign governments, or the United Nations, regarding the circumstances of your son's tragic death.
 - *If pushed:* We would suggest you consider options for reviewing locally.
- Additionally, the Department of Justice is charged with investigations related to criminal or civil charges under U.S. law. Questions or concerns regarding a U.S. investigation may be directed to the Department of Justice.
- In your son's case, the Department has responded to your requests for information in a timely manner but we fully understand your frustration at the delay in issuance of the death certificate and subsequent Consular Report of Death Abroad (Note: The autopsy report was received on July 29, 2010, and a CRODA was issued to Mr. Dogan on September 23, 2010).
- We cannot comment about any specific findings or conclusions made in the Turkish autopsy. Under U.S. regulations, the CRODA is an administrative

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report to certify the local death certificate; it is not an independent assessment of cause of death.

- We have acted to assist you throughout the course of events following your son's death. We at the Department and at the Embassy will continue to provide all appropriate consular services.
- We will continue to inquire as to when any private property of U.S. citizens seized on the Flotilla will be returned, but we also encourage you to work through the local court systems or reach out to your own government to pursue this further.

PARTICIPANTS

Department of State

DAS Pettit (CA/OCS)
Colleen Flood (CA/OCS/PRI)
Kim Richter (CA/OCS/ACS/NESCA)

Dogan Family

Mr. Dogan
Katherine Gallagher (attorney)
Others TBD

Attachments:

Furkan Dogan Timeline

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Furkan Dogan Timeline

- 5/31/10 POD = Int'l waters
- 6/3/10 Bodies arrive Istanbul from Israel. Funeral at Fatih Mosque. Dogan body loaded on plane for Kayseri
- CG Appleton calls dad at Ist Airport just after that. Express condolences and his availability any time
- Dad calls back to say US is doing nothing and what will USG do?
- 6/4/10 Funeral and burial in Kayseri
- 6/7/10 Embassy dip note to MFA asks for burial and death certificates; and the autopsy report. Ask to confirm Furkan Dogan's Turkish citizenship.
- 6/9/10 3:30pm Amb Jeffrey calls dad with information about developments. Amb reiterated "It is the responsibility of foreign authorities to determine cause of death and, when appropriate, conduct an investigation."
- 6/10/10 MFA dip note informs Embassy that Furkan Dogan renounced his Turkish citizenship on February 4, 2010.
- 6/14/10 MFA dip note provides Embassy with Furkan Dogan's residency permit, exit information [from seaport of Antalya on May 27, 2010 on his US ppt.] MFA also informs he is not listed as a dependent on his parents' passports.
- 7/22/10 CG Appleton texted a response to an AmcIt friend of Professor Dogan saying it is difficult legally to talk with the friend, that we still await all the documents requested of Turkish authorities, and that Mr. Dogan can always e-mail CG at provided e-mail address.
- 7/29/10 Amb Jeffrey to the press said we had not rec'd autopsy, burial or death records from Turkish authorities. MFA apologized for the delay.
- Dad called the POL Section Ankara to follow up on what he had seen in the press about the lack of an official report on his son
- Cons called dad to say autopsy report rec'd and we were reviewing it. Dad wants to know about the "start of a US investigation."
- 9/23/10 2:35pm Cons phone call to dad about the CRODA arriving by courier and noted his request for a US investigation with the standard language about same (see 6/9/10 entry).
- 9/30/10 Furkan Dogan's official autopsy report, our unofficial translation of the autopsy report, Furkan Dogan's official local death report, official CRODA sent to Andrew Parker (Tel Aviv) via email.
- 10/6/10 A law firm asks to discuss with CG Kilner in Istanbul the "unanswered petition" to DCM Silliman dated 9/7/10
- 10/7/10 Cons response to that letter said we rec'd the lawyer's letter and the firm's interest noted. [The lawyer represents IHH not the Dogan family then].
- 10/12/10 "AmcIt friend of the Dogan family" called Legatt once and Cons twice saying the family is not getting information on any US investigation of death.
- 2/9/11 Dad came for his tourist visa interview. Was very pleasant. Visiting Chicago friends and DC lawyers

There is no Privacy Act Waiver. They have not returned the US ppt for proper cancellation and return to the family.

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Approved: DAS Pettit -

Drafted: CA/OCS/ACS/EUR - J. Rush Marburg, ext. 7-4843

Cleared: CA/OCS: MBernier-Toth -
CA/OCS/ACS/EUR: AMiller -
CA/OCS/ACS/NESCA: VLopatkiewicz -
EUR: -
CA/OCS/PRI: CFlood: -
L/CA: -
DOJ: -
Embassy Ankara: -
Embassy Tel Aviv: -

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From: Pettit, James D
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; Elits, Colin C; Richter, Kim B; Sutphin, Paul R; Flood, Colleen B
Subject: READOUT of meeting with Prof. Dogan (Feb 23)
Sent: 2/23/2011 11:41:25 AM
(Please feel free to forward as necessary)

Participants:

DOS

Jlm Pettit (DAS for CA/OCS)
Kim Richter (OCS/ACS/NESCA)
Colleen Flood (OCS/PRI)
Colin Elits (NEA/IPA)

Dogan Party

Prof. Ahmet Dogan
Katherine Gallagher (attorney, Center for Constitutional Rights)
Ugur Sevgili (attorney/interpreter)

Meeting was held at 10:00 a.m. in CA front office on Feb. 23, 2011.

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

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study, noting that the UNHRC's mandate had been somewhat unclear and the investigation a bit "rushed." (Alas, I had promised myself not to characterize any reports - but that reflects earlier statements by the USG. It would have been difficult not to answer at all.)

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.

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

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RELEASED IN PART B
B6

From: Zeroubavely, Sandra S
To: Richter, Kim B
Subject: RE: Flotilla Property
Sent: 3/8/2011 8:53:40 AM

Sorry I forgot to mention that I also asked how/whether we could receive a list/catalogue of the items taken from the other boats.

Sandra

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Richter, Kim B
Sent: Tuesday, March 08, 2011 3:06 PM
To: Zeroubavely, Sandra S
Subject: RE: Flotilla Property

Okay. Sorry to do this to you - but what happened to the other property. Only Dogan was on the Mavi Marmara - there were several other boats with Arnelts, what happened to their stuff?

From: Zeroubavely, Sandra S
Sent: Tuesday, March 08, 2011 5:02 AM
To: Richter, Kim B
Subject: RE: Flotilla Property

Kim,

According to our MFA contact, the catalogue contains only the property taken from the Mavi Marmara. Some of that property was handed over to the IDF and the rest to the Turkish Embassy.

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

I sent an e-mail to our MFA contact asking whether we could receive the list/catalogue of items taken from the other boats. I will let you know when I receive a response.

Sandra
From: Richter, Kim B
Sent: Thursday, March 03, 2011 7:22 PM

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
DATE/CASE ID: 18 NOV 2011 201004163

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To: Zeroubavely, Sandra S
Subject: Flotilla Property

Sandra,

As you know I've been bugging Eve about this property stuff for months. It was both our understanding that all the items had been returned to the Turks - the property was sent back via containers and the electronics were given to the Turkish Embassy in Tel Aviv.

From your email though it sounds like the IDF still has some. Is there anyway to check if they have the following? This was taken from the file of pictures with Hebrew descriptions.

- 1) [redacted] Item #101: Sony camera. B6 (b)(6)
- 2) [redacted] Item # 37: Sony camcorder, listed as a hdv 1080, is a 25U. (b)(6)
- 3) [redacted] Item #101 - A DSC N1 SONY (SN 578260). (b)(6)
- 4) [redacted] Item #47 Nikon Camera & Lens (SN 3413395) and #52 Nikon Lens (SN 1812902). They were both in a Lowe Pro "SlingShot" camera bag, along with three 8GB SD cards. (b)(6)

Can we confirm that not only the Mavi Mara property was returned to the Turks but all the property? There were several flotilla boats and to my understanding only one Amcit (Dogan) was on the Turkish boat. What happened to the items on the Challenger (a U.S. flagged ship) or the other boats. I can get their names of the other boats - that didn't come from Turkey.

Thanks and I'm sorry to continue to raise this. I thought it was over but once I saw your email saying that the IDF still had some equipment, it just opened the can of worms again.

Kim

SBU
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From: Zeroubavely, Sandra S
Sent: Wednesday, March 02, 2011 11:43 AM
To: Parker, Andrew C
Subject: Furkan Dogan's camera

Andy,

I contacted [redacted] He told me that he is in possession of a catalogue of more than a hundred cameras that were received from the Flotilla. According to Mr. Zaken, approximately half of the cameras in the catalogue have been identified and returned to their owners/families of their owners. The remainder have been handed over to the Turkish Embassy or are in the possession of the IDF.

(b)(6)
(b)(6)

[redacted] will forward the catalogue to me for forwarding to Mr. Dogan's family, to assist in identifying the camera.

(b)(6)

Sandra

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No. 12/11

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Israel and has the honor to refer to the missing personal effects of American citizen Furkan Dogan, who was killed on the Mavi Marmara vessel during the Gaza flotilla on May 31, 2010.

According to the Mr. Dogan's father, Prof. Ahmet Dogan, there are several items belonging to his son that were not retrieved. The items include the following:

- 1) SONY-SX34E Camera (with external memory card);
- 2) NOKIA 58000 Xpress-Music Cellular Phone (IMEI: 351531040269911 (picture attached));
- 3) Silver Ring (picture attached);
- 4) Adidas Sports Shoes (Dark brown with hidden shoelaces)
- 5) White raincoat with hood;
- 6) Adidas black tracksuit bottom;
- 7) Black V-neck t-shirt.

DIPLOMATIC NOTE

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The embassy would appreciate the Ministry's aid in arranging for these items to be located and in facilitating their return as soon as is practicable.

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

Embassy of the United States of America,

Tel Aviv, April 15, 2011



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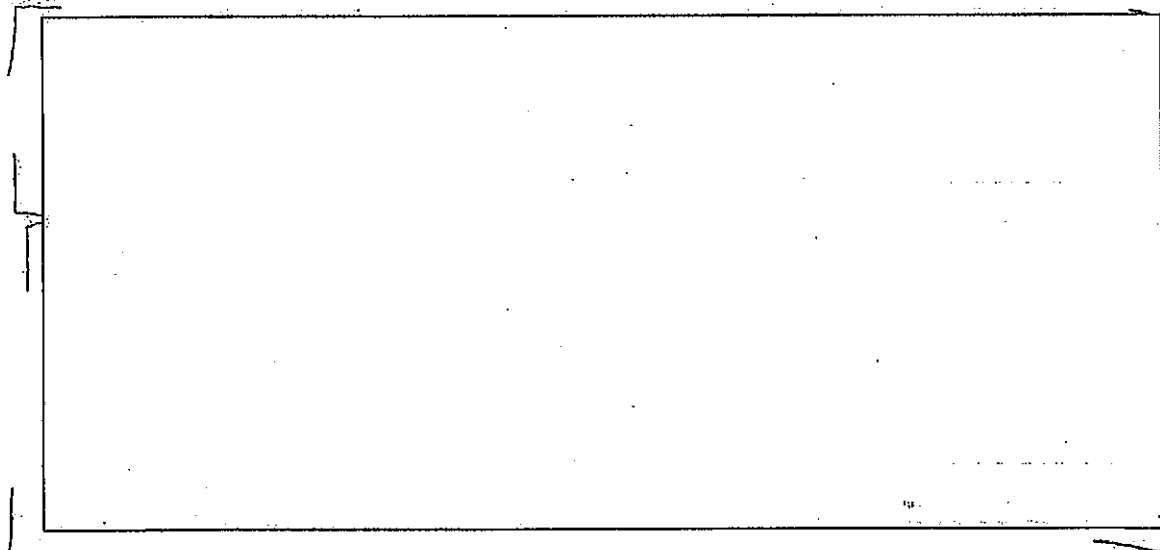


Info Office: CI, Abductions, Special Assistant, ACS_CRISIS_MGMT, ACS_NESCA, PRI, ACS_DIR, DIR

MRN: 11 TEL AVIV 1512
 Date/DTG: May 05, 2011 / 051522Z MAY 11
 From: AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
 Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE IMMEDIATE
 E.O.: 13526
 TAGS: CASC, PHUM, PREL, KWBG, IS
 Captions: SENSITIVE, PRIVACY
 Reference: A) TEL AVIV 562
 Subject: Update on Amolt Cases: CONS TLV Meets with MFA

SUMMARY

1 (SBU) The Consul General and ACS Chief met with Yigal Tzarfall, head of the Israel MFA Consular Affairs Bureau, his assistant Rachel Shani, and Political Officer Martin Peled for a follow-up meeting on May 3, 2011 regarding a range of ongoing ACS cases. END SUMMARY.



N/A NR
(b)(6)
N/A
(b)(6)

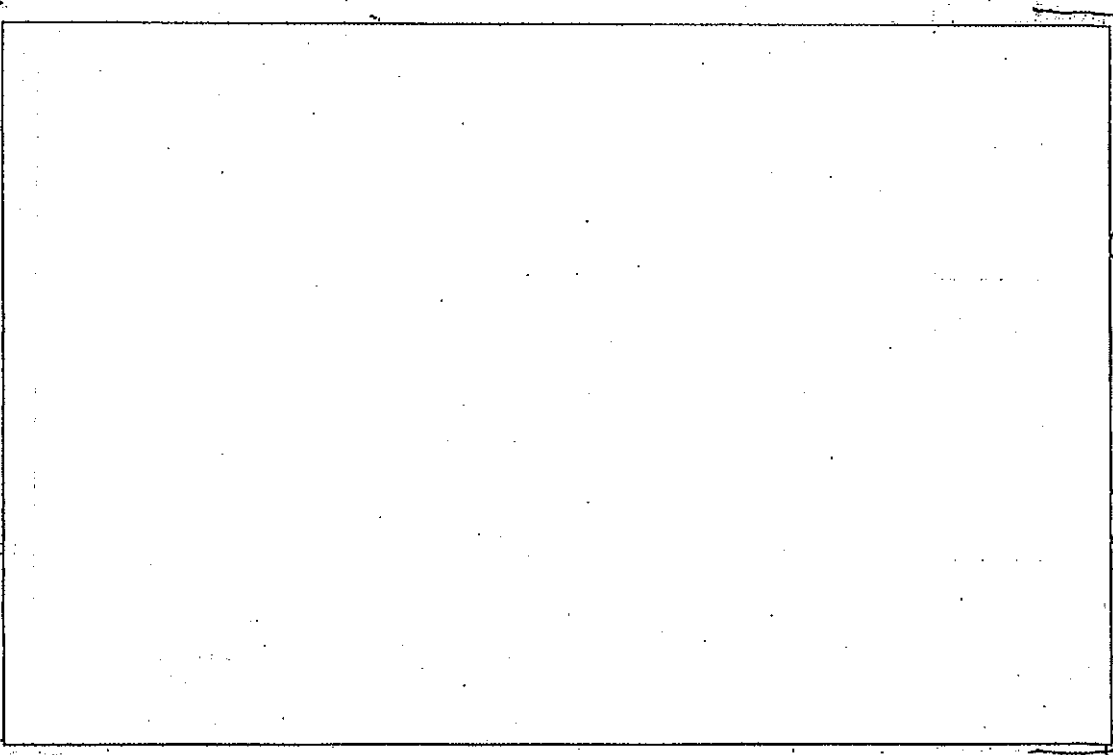
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NR



N/A
(b)(6)

N/A
(b)(6)

FLOTILLA UPDATES

6. (SBU) Furkan Dogan: Post delivered a dipnote on April 27, 2011 regarding the missing personal effects of American citizen Furkan Dogan, who was killed on the Mavi Marmara vessel during the May 2010 Gaza flotilla. The dipnote included a list of 7 items belonging to the deceased that were not received by the next of kin, Prof. Ahmet Dogan. MFA confirmed the Note has been forwarded to the Ministry of Defense for further information.

7. (SBU) Property: According to the MFA, the catalogue received by Post contains only the property taken from the Mavi Marmara. Some of that property was handed over to the IDF and the rest to the Turkish Embassy. Post requested that the MFA determine if there are any items still in the possession of the IDF, and if so, when they will be released and to whom. MFA reps stated that the GOI sent three air shipping containers filled with personal property (but not electronics) to Turkey after the May 2010 flotilla. Two months ago, the GOT returned one shipping container filled with approximately 200 suitcases to Israel. MFA reps described the GOT's actions as "very bizarre" and requested that Post send a message to the GOT via Embassy Ankara asking why these items were returned. Additionally, the GOI removed non-personal items from the flotilla ships and is storing these items, which fill at least part of seven shipping containers which are stored at the Kishon building at the Ashdod Port, under IDF purview. MFA reps stated that the GOI is stumped on what to do with the confiscated ships and property in the shipping containers. COMMENT: [REDACTED]

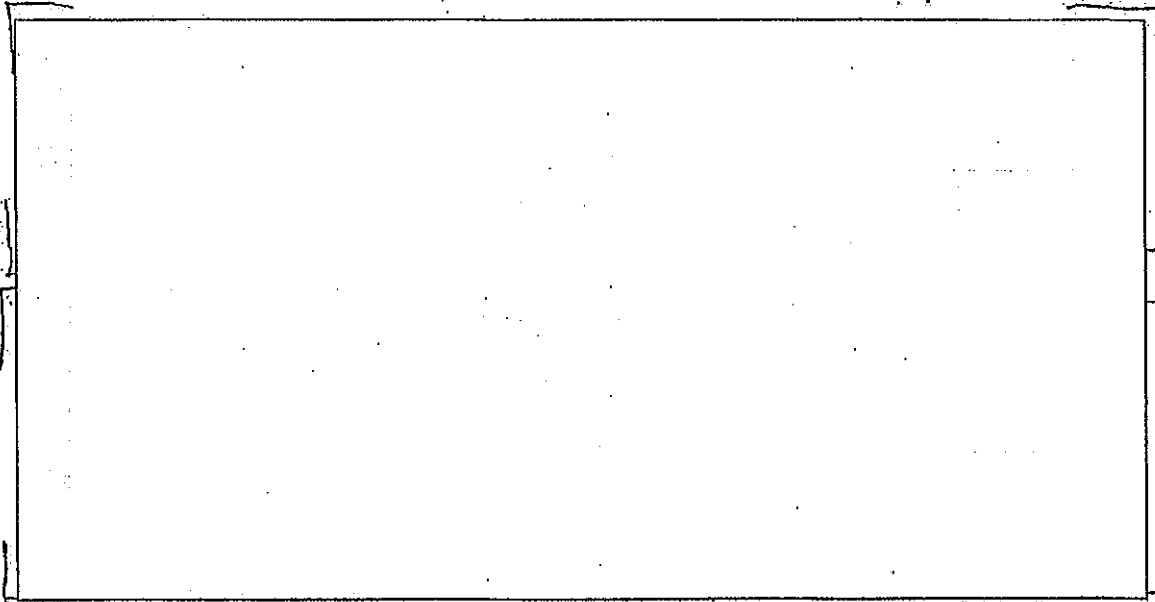
[REDACTED]

END COMMENT

(b)(1)

B5

8. (U) Future Flotillas: MFA had no updates on upcoming possible flotillas. MFA reps suggested the USG put out a travel alert requesting Amcits not participate in future flotillas.



N/A NR
 (b)(6)
 N/A
 (b)(6)

11. (U) Post's meeting with MFA reps was insightful and productive. Post will continue to follow up on these cases.

Signature: GOLDBERGER

Drafted By: TEL AVIV:Zuckerman, Eve

Cleared By: CONS:Parker, Andrew C

CONS - ACS:Greene, Elisa

Approved By: Front Office:Goldberger, Thomas H

Released By: TEL AVIV:Greene, Elisa

Info: Parker, Andrew C. ROUTINE; ANKARA, AMEMBASSY ROUTINE; JERUSALEM, AMCONSUL ROUTINE; Goldberger, Thomas, H. ROUTINE

Attachments: Metadata.dat

Action Post:

Dissemination Rule: DIS_CI_ABDUCTIONS; DIS_ACS_CRISIS_MGMT_CONS; DIS_ACS_NESCA_CONS; DIS_PRI_CONS

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United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

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B6

INFORMATION MEMO FOR THE SECRETARY

FROM: CA – Janice L. Jacobs
NEA – Jeffrey Feltman

SUBJECT: Update on Free Gaza Flotilla 2011

The Free Gaza Movement are again sending multiple ships to the Gaza Strip, and the Humanitarian Relief Foundation have partnered to send multiple ships to the Gaza Strip, some of which are already en route towards Gaza. Their aim is to draw attention to the Israeli "blockade" of the Gaza Strip and create a sea route for people and goods into Gaza in order to gain unrestricted international access. Approximately 10 passenger boats and cargo ships with 600 passengers and humanitarian relief supplies have left Turkey, Ireland, Greece and other European ports and are coordinating to meet off the coast of Cyprus and enter Gazan waters around May 30. Passengers on the boats include members of Parliament from several countries, human rights activists, journalists and other prominent members of society, including former U.S. Ambassador Edward Peck. [redacted] (b)(6) [redacted] was deported from Israel during the last Free Gaza mission, which consisted of a single ship trying to access Gaza in early July 2009. She is not expected to participate in the present mission.

B6

The Israeli Navy, in response to this planned sailing, has built temporary detention facilities at the Port of Ashdod to process passengers if the boats are interdicted and brought to Israel. According to press reports, the GOI plans to deport all foreign passengers and arrest any Israeli citizens, which would repeat the procedures employed during the last Free Gaza mission. At that time, all humanitarian supplies were transferred by the GOI to Gaza overland.

The U.S. Embassies in Tel Aviv and Cairo, as well as the U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem are monitoring the situation and standing by to provide assistance to any U.S. citizens detained or turned away from Gaza.

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DATE/CASE ID: 02 FEB 2012 201004163

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Drafted: CA/OCS/ACS/NESCA:KRichter x7-8308

Cleared:

NEA/FO: RSchlicher
NEA/FO: MConnelly ok
NEA/IPA: THolmstrom ok
NEA/IPA: WReisser ok
CA/OCS/ACS/NESCA: V Lopatkiewicz ok
CA/OCS/ACS: AMiller, Acting ok
CA/OCS: MEHickey info
CA/OCS: MTBond ok
CA: IGBrownlee
EUR: DMarsh/ENetos ok
M: TBurl ok
P: PAguilera ok
D(L): NShepherd ok
D(S): AScanlon ok
S/P: MPatel ok

Approved:

CA: J Jacobs
NEA A/S Jeffrey Feltman

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