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Subject: PAKISTAN MEDIA REACTION: JUNE 02, 2010

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E.O.: 12958
TAGS: KMDR, KPAO, OIIP, OPRC, PGOV, PREL, PK
Captions: SIPDIS
Subject: PAKISTAN MEDIA REACTION: JUNE 02, 2010

UNCLAS ISLAMABAD 001512

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: KMDR, KPAO, OIIP, OPRC, PGOV, PREL, PK
SUBJECT: PAKISTAN MEDIA REACTION: JUNE 02, 2010

Summary: The release of three Pakistanis detained by Israeli authorities while aboard a Gaza-bound aid flotilla dominated electronic and print media on Wednesday morning. Protest demonstrations on the Israeli attack and a failed march by protesters to the U.S. Consulate in Karachi received wide-spread coverage. "The Nation" reported that the White House declined to condemn Israel for its raid on the humanitarian flotilla. Newspapers noted that Al Qaeda's number three leader Mustafa Abu Al-Yazid alias Sheikh Sa'id Al Misri was killed in a U.S. drone attack in North Waziristan. The Pakistan Army's declaration of victory over militants in Orakzai Agency was also carried in most major newspapers. Several Urdu and English language newspapers reported that the Pakistan Navy has inducted two P3C Orion aircrafts, provided by the U.S., in its aviation fleet. In an exclusive story, "Dawn" reported that the Federal and Sindh governments reached a broad agreement on the imposition of the value added tax (VAT). There were also media reports that Pakistan's security agencies have strong reservations against the opening of a proposed U.S. Consulate in Quetta, but a final decision is still

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Steve Blodgett, Senior Reviewer

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pending. Newspapers also reported Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Bill Burns' comments on India and Pakistan, stating that "no one can afford a resurgence of tensions between the two nuclear armed neighbors." Media reported the release of Pakistani national, Mahuhannas Saifur Rehnab Khan, from detention in Chile pending a probe of traces of explosives found during his visit to the U.S. Embassy in Santiago.

The terrorist attack on Jinnah Hospital in Lahore in an unsuccessful bid to rescue a detained comrade dominated editorial themes in Wednesday's mainstream newspapers. "The News," in its editorial "Citizens' stand," observed, "The inescapable reality belatedly dawning is that the southern Punjab Taliban has the capacity to operate province-wide." Additionally, "The Nation," in its critique titled "A grievous lapse," stated, "The terrorist phenomenon in the province has to be thoroughly investigated to get to the truth, especially as the voices announcing the existence of militant groups in southern Punjab are getting louder." "Daily Times," in its article "Punjab's lotus-eaters," also emphasized, "We are in the middle of a civil war and failing to understand its implications will doom us. No part of the country is safe from its nefarious outreach." End Summary.

TOP STORIES

News Story: Pakistanis Held By Israelis Return Today - "Dawn" (06/02)

"Three Pakistanis detained by Israeli commandos who stormed a Gaza aid flotilla on Monday have been sent to Jordan for onward travel to Pakistan, the UN Secretary-General's office informed the Pakistan mission in New York on Tuesday. A press statement by the Pakistan mission to the United Nations said that the three, Mr. Talat Hussain, Mr. Raza Mehmood Agha and Mr. Nadeem Ahmed Khan, had been recovered and sent to Jordan. They were detained in Israel's Beersheba prison."

News Story: Nation Up In Arms Against Israeli Aggression - "The News" (06/02)

"Police here on Tuesday baton-charged a rally, organized by the Imamia Students Organization (ISO), as the country wide protests and rallies were held against the Monday barbarous attack on Gaza bound aid flotilla by Israel. The Police tried to disperse participants of the rally when they reached Fawwara Chowk. The Police used baton and water cannons to scatter the rally. Despite all odds, the participants managed to reach outside the American Consulate and staged sit in there. They also threw shoes at the consulate to register their protest."

News Story: US Declines To Specifically Condemn Israel - "The Nation" (06/02)

"The White House declined Tuesday to specifically condemn Israel for its raid on humanitarian flotilla but said it showed Middle East peace moves were now needed more than ever."

News Story: Pakistan Navy Inducts Two U.S.-Provided Maritime Patrol Aircraft - "Jang," "Ausaf," "Express," "Jinnah," "Nawa-e-Waqt," (06/02)

"In an induction ceremony held today at PNS Mehran, Karachi, U.S. and Pakistani officials commemorated the delivery of two P-3C Orion maritime patrol aircraft to the Government of Pakistan from the

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United States. The aircraft will enhance the Pakistan Navy's maritime patrol operations."

News Story: Centre And Sindh Reach Accord On VAT - "Dawn" (06/02)

"In a major development, the federal and Sindh governments have reached a broad agreement on value added tax (VAT) under which the province will get the power to impose tax on all services but will delegate its authority to the federation to make collection on eight categories."

News Story: Plan For US Consulate In Quetta Opposed - "Dawn" (06/02)

"A veto by the country's security agencies looks to have sealed the fate of the US plans to establish a consulate in Quetta. 'The security establishment has strong reservations about the proposed American consulate in the capital of Balochistan and has not given the required clearance,' a senior official told Dawn on Tuesday. Although a final decision by Islamabad is still awaited, it's evident that a nod is highly unlikely after strong opposition by the security agencies, which fear that the diplomatic facility may be used as an intelligence base in the province. The US had recently sought the government's approval for setting up a consulate in Quetta. 'We are awaiting their response. We made the request by diplomatic note to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs,' U.S. embassy spokesman Richard Snelsire told Dawn."

News Story: No One Can Afford Indo-Pak Tensions: US - "Daily Times" (06/02)

"The US on Tuesday pledged to pursue close relations with Pakistan and India as a senior US diplomat reaffirmed Washington's desire for better ties between the two South Asian countries since 'nobody can afford resurgence of tensions between the two nuclear-armed neighbors'. 'Of course the US attaches considerable importance to relations with Pakistan, but those relations do not come at the expense of India. We refuse to accept the notion that somehow we can have strong relations with only one country in South Asia at a time,' Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Bill Burns said, as Washington and New Delhi prepared for this week's strategic dialogue."

News Story: Pak Suspect Freed Pending Chile Probe - "Daily Times" (06/02)

"A Pakistani man has been freed from detention in Chile pending an investigation into how and why traces of explosive were found on him when he visited the US embassy in Santiago, officials said on Tuesday. Mahuhannas Saifur Rehnab Khan, 28, was released from a 120-day detention period in a high-security prison imposed on him two weeks ago when his probation was revoked on appeal. He will be required to remain in Santiago and confirm his presence every two weeks under the terms of his release, court officials told AFP."

TERRORISM/MILITARY ISSUES

News Story: Israeli Govt Treats International Law With Disdain: UN - "Dawn" (06/02)

"Muslim nations on Tuesday angrily condemned Israel's 'heinous attack' on a Gaza aid flotilla and demanded an international probe at an emergency session of the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva. 'These murderous attacks are characteristic tools used by Israel to

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derail every peaceful effort and silence every voice of moderation and reason,' Pakistan's ambassador Zamir Akram told the council on behalf of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC)."

News Story: Al-Qaeda Number Three Killed In NWA Drone Attack - "The News" (06/02)

"Pakistani security officials and the Taliban believe that al-Qaeda's No three and a close aide to Osama bin Laden, Mustafa Ahmad Mohammad Uthman Abu al-Yazeed, also known as Sheikh Saeed al-Misri, was among the 10 people killed in the US drone attack on May 21 at Saidabad village of Dattakhel subdivision in North Waziristan tribal region."

News Story: Al Qaeda Says Its Top Leader Yazid Dead - "Dawn" (06/02)

"Al Qaeda said its number three leader and Osama bin Laden's one-time treasurer Mustafa Abu Al-Yazid had been killed along with close relatives, in what would be a major blow to the terror network. US monitoring groups said the death of Yazid, who was the leader of Al Qaeda in Afghanistan and its liaison with the Taliban for three years, was announced by the group in a message to jihadi websites on Monday."

News Story: US Confirms Death - "Dawn" (06/02)

"The White House confirmed on Tuesday that a US drone strike has killed a top Al Qaeda leader. Al Qaeda said in a statement published on Monday that a senior figure in the movement had been killed by an American missile in Pakistan's tribal areas. The statement identified the militant as Mustafa Abu Al-Yazid, an Egyptian who "was a top financial chief" for Al Qaeda as well as one of the group's founders."

News Story: Army Declares Victory In Orakzai - "Dawn" (06/02)

"The army declared victory over militants in Orakzai Agency on Tuesday and said that the military operation in the area had been completed and civilians could expect to return home soon. The announcement about the operation's end was contained near the end of a short press release describing a visit to Orakzai and neighboring Kurram tribal regions by Chief of Army Staff Gen Ashfaq Parvez Kayani."

News Story: Punjab Ignoring CID Report On Terror Groups - "Dawn" (06/02)

"The Shahbaz Sharif government appears to be reluctant to take action against the banned sectarian and Jihadi organizations operating in Punjab in spite of evidence that these may have been involved in many terrorist attacks in the province recently and may have strong links with the Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP). The Sharif government's unwillingness to deal with the growing menace of terrorism in the province, including its southern districts, is in defiance of the evaluation by its own counter-terrorism agencies. A recent secret document based on data collected in south Punjab finds that a number of banned groups are carrying out a 'sustained drive' to recruit fresh cadre from among the "poverty stricken, illiterate and unemployed" youth in the region."

News Story: COAS Seeks Tribal Elders' Help For Peace - "The News" (06/02)

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"Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) General Ashfaq Parvez Kayani on Tuesday visited the Kurram and Orakzai agencies and assured the tribal elders that security forces would extend to them all-out support in establishing peace across the tribal belt."

News Story: 18 Militants Killed In Orakzai Blitz - "The News" (06/02)

"Eighteen militants were killed and six others sustained injuries when jet fighters blitzed two hideouts of militants in Tari and Kot Killay areas in upper Tehsil of Orakzai Agency on Tuesday, tribal and official sources said."

News Story: Taliban Blow Up Girls' School In Mohmand - "Daily Times" (06/02)

"Pro-Taliban militants on Tuesday blew up a government school for girls and a health centre at Khushal Kally in Mohmand Agency, while three people were killed in different incidents, officials said."

News Story: Shops, Primary School, NATO Tankers Targeted In Quetta - "Daily Times" (06/02)

"At least eight people were injured in an explosion on Tuesday in the busy commercial area of Hub Industrial Township. Official sources said unidentified assailants on a motorcycle, hurled a hand grenade at a clothes shop located in the busy Rind Market of Hub town."

News Story: Taliban Hideouts Targeted In Landikotal - "Daily Times" (06/02)

"Security forces targeted militant hideouts at Alacha in Landikotal on Tuesday. However, the Taliban managed to flee before the military launched the attack. According to official sources, the forces attacked the hideouts of the Lashkar-e-Islam militants from Ali Masjid and Lala Kandao posts after receiving a tip-off about 60 Taliban seeking refuge in the area."

News Story: Karzai To Offer Incentives To Taliban At Jirga - "Dawn" (06/02)

"About 1,600 Afghans will convene on Wednesday in a giant tent at Kabul Polytechnic University to discuss how to reconcile with Taliban, even as the US rushes in more troops to ramp up the war. President Hamid Karzai will use the conference to roll out his program to offer economic incentives to Taliban and other fighters willing to abandon the nearly nine-year war."

POLITICAL ISSUES

News Story: Minorities Minister Promises Security For Ahmedis - "Daily Times" (06/02)

"Minorities Minister Shahbaz Bhatti on Tuesday promised "full protection" for the Ahmedi sect following Friday's attacks on two of their worship facilities that killed 93 people. Ahmedis claim the government does not protect them and actively discriminates against them."

News Story: Gilani Fires Dr Basit After SC Fiasco - "The News" (06/02)

"Prime Minister Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani took the decision to relieve Dr Abdul Basit as the lead lawyer of the Federation on Monday night

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after he was briefed on his conduct in and out of the Supreme Court... He said the prime minister came to the conclusion that the continuation of Dr Basit as the lawyer of the Federation would further bring a bad name to the government and might create misunderstandings and misconceptions about it."

ECONOMY/ENVIRONMENT

News Story: New Power Tariff Hike To Be Effective From April - "Dawn" (06/02)

"The government has made a commitment to the International Monetary Fund that power tariff, whenever increased, would be applicable with retrospective effect from April 1 this year."

News Story: State Bank Paints Gloomy Picture Of Economy - "Daily Times" (06/02)

"The State Bank of Pakistan on Tuesday painted a gloomy picture of the country's economic condition, saying the agriculture sector's growth was expected to remain below target and the fiscal deficit mark was going to be much higher than earlier estimates. The report also said that the overall external current account position would remain vulnerable."

News Story: Discharge From Attaabad Lake Increasing - "Daily Times" (06/02)

"The discharge from the spillway of the artificial lake at Attaabad has increased to 1,000 cusecs and the inflow reached the level of 3,000 cusecs on Tuesday. According to a private TV channel, the water discharge increased from 650 cusecs to 3,000 cusecs and the water leakage level reached the level of 350 cusecs. According to sources, the melting of glaciers has contributed to the increasing of the water inflow in the lake."

News Story: Multi-Million AIDS Project In Jeopardy, Punjab Health Dept Launches Inquiry Against PACP Official For Giving Undue Favour To NGO, Health Secretary Tells WB Contract With 'Nai Zindagi' Was Terminated Over Irregularities - "Daily Times" (06/02)

"A growing rift between the Punjab Health Department and a local non-governmental organization may lead to the wrap up of a multi-million rupees project sponsored by the World Bank and UK's Department for International Development, initiated to combat AIDS in Pakistan."

EDITORIALS/OPINIONS

Editorial: Citizens' Stand, an editorial in the populist, often sensational national English daily "The News" (cir. 55,000) (06/02)

"The presence of the Taliban in southern Punjab has been known for many years, and it seems that the banning of the three principal groups - Lashkar-e-Jhangvi, Jaish-e-Mohammad and Sipah-e-Sahaba - has made little difference to their operational abilities. Their 'hideouts' from which they are now emerging are well-known to local and national journalists and the international media - but seemingly only very recently to our politicians and ministers. Now within a space of days they have carried out two operations in Lahore that indicate high levels of coordination and sophisticated planning. . . . The inescapable reality belatedly dawning is that the southern Punjab Taliban have the capacity to operate province-wide. There can be little doubt that there will be more attacks - an Ahmedi was

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stabbed to death in Narowal on Monday – and governmental assurances as to its desire to protect minorities sound distinctly hollow. The Taliban did not appear 'as-if-by-magic' in southern Punjab, they are there courtesy of the sympathies and policies of successive governments over the last thirty years and we will not be rid of them unless the citizens act collectively to counter the tide of hatred on which fanaticism thrives."

Editorial: A Grievous Lapse, an editorial in the center-right national English daily "The Nation" (cir. 20,000) (06/02)

"The terrorist phenomenon in the province has to be thoroughly investigated to get to the truth, especially as the voices announcing the existence of militant groups in southern Punjab are getting louder. Interior Minister Rehman Malik charged the other day that it was these groups that were coming out in the open and had become active in the entire province. The charge has either to be denied with facts and figures or confirmed, and in the case of confirmation, suitably tackled."

Editorial: Punjab's Lotus-Eaters, an editorial-note in the Lahore-based liberal English language daily "Daily Times" (cir. 10,000) (06/02)

". . . We are in the middle of a civil war and failing to understand its implications will doom us. No part of the country is safe from its nefarious outreach. Every metropolis, military as well as civilian target, mosque, playground, procession, school, etc, of the terrorists' choice is under threat of potential attack. It may be remembered that during the five years 2002-2007, extremist organisations flourished under the benign, protective and patronising umbrella of the Mutahidda Majlis-e-Amal (MMA) government in the then NWFP. Despite the government's stated policy of fighting militancy, we saw a swift rise of the Pakistani Taliban in FATA, which swelled and spilled into the settled areas. They decimated the pro-government tribal elders, blew up schools, beheaded 'American spies' and soon threw the entire province into blood and chaos. They reached the point where they felt themselves strong enough to challenge the state."

Opinion: Last Friday, an op-ed by Munir Attaullah in the Lahore-based liberal English language daily "Daily Times" (cir. 10,000) (06/02)

". . . Is there any doubt that the Ahmedi community is the victim of state discrimination through specific legislation, and active persecution by fanatic religious elements that the authorities turn a blind eye to?"

Opinion: New Zones For Militancy, an op-ed by Arif Ansar in the Lahore-based liberal English language daily "Daily Times" (cir. 10,000) (06/02)

". . . The emerging collaboration between the TTP and Punjabi Taliban of southern Punjab means that one cannot end the war by simply driving terrorists out of the tribal areas and that Pakistan must prepare itself to fight on several fronts. There is increasing evidence of the collusion between international terrorists and the local extremists in the region. This is extending the war against extremism into new territories, thus reinforcing the perception that it is not confined to the Pak-Afghan region alone. General Petraeus is well aware of this. Recently, the New York Times revealed that, in late 2009, he signed a secret order, which authorises special operations forces to increase their activities in both allied and

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hostile nations in the Middle East, Central Asia and the Horn of

Africa. This newly unveiled US national security strategy has dispensed with the limitations imposed by current international borders. The US appears to have finally reached the conclusion that if the extremists refuse to accept international borders, any effort to counter terrorism must do likewise."

Opinion: Still No Counterterrorism Strategy, an op-ed by Mosharraf Zaidi an editorial in the populist, often sensational national English daily "The News" (cir. 55,000) (06/02)

". . . We are too self-conscious as a nation. Too beholden to mullahs on the one hand, and too dislocated from our own culture and context on the other. The terrorist attacks in Lahore were more of what has become a standard part of life in Pakistan since 2007. The TTP may be ceding ground to the Pakistani Army and the friendly skies that US drones explore on a daily basis. But they are winning the war. The longer we remain stuck in a useless ideological conversation, the more ground the TTP will gain. The most important tribute we can pay to those that were slaughtered by the TTP in Lahore is to formulate and execute a transparent and comprehensive counter-terrorism strategy. Anything less would be a continuation of the failed politics of Pakistani liberals, and the unchallenged run of success enjoyed by Pakistani fanatics."

Opinion: Victims And Victimisers, an op-ed by Rafia Zakaria in the Karachi-based center-left independent national English daily "Dawn" (cir. 55,000) (06/02)

"If the attacks on Ahmadis in Lahore last week were not horrifying enough, the ensuing debate on Pakistani talk shows and television programmes was even more chilling. While condemning the attack, it seems Pakistanis were unwilling to deal with the underlying bigotry that permits such hatred. Across the globe in the United States, on the same day as the attack in Lahore, the Manhattan Community Board in New York City voted to allow the construction of a mosque near Ground Zero despite opposition from several groups. This curious juxtaposition presents a timely illustration of ideas of American pluralism and Muslim identity brought into proximity by globalisation and migration. Can Muslims expect tolerance from western nations where they are minorities when their own nations are unwilling to apply similar concepts?"

Editorial: Pakistan And U.S. Designs, an editorial in the second-largest, nationalist Urdu daily "Nawa-i-Waqt" (cir. 150,000) (06/02)

"America has asked Pakistan to provide full data of passengers traveling to America from Pakistan, and has increased pressure in this regard.... Any unusual demand could be expected from America as if we are a slave country. First it made Pakistan take action in the tribal areas and now it has ordered us to extend the action to Islamabad, Lahore and Multan.... If an iota of self respect remains in Pakistan rulers then American aid and cooperation should be slapped on its face and Pakistan should limit the ties to mere diplomatic relations."

Editorial: A Dangerous Demand, an editorial -note in the center-right national English daily "The Nation" (cir. 20,000) (06/02)

"The US demand to Pakistan to provide information of every Pakistani travelling outside the country so as to contain terrorism is a

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matter of serious concern and must be strongly rebuffed. And there should be little doubt that the Americans intend to have Pakistan effectively under their thumb. . . . Islamabad must strongly resist the US pressure on passenger information. The chance that the data given to the US authorities could be used to malign innocent Pakistani travelers cannot be ruled out."

Opinion: Too Early For Euphoria , an op-ed by Shamshad Ahmad an editorial in the populist, often sensational national English daily "The News" (cir. 55,000) (06/02)

". . . Will Obama's new grand strategy undo the wrongs done by his predecessor? Only time will tell. Obama might be sincere about seeking to break with the Bush legacy, but eventually it is the unrelenting challenges of America's global outreach that will determine his actions. In alleviating Muslim grievances, President Obama must not forget 'the principle of justice to all peoples and nationalities, and their right to live on equal terms of liberty and safety with one another, whether they be strong or weak' that President Woodrow Wilson had spelt out in his famous 14-point congressional speech in January 1918."

Opinion: Possible US Strikes, an op-ed by Mahmood Shah in the Karachi-based center-left independent national English daily "Dawn" (cir. 55,000) (06/02)

". . . Let's be frank with ourselves: the US is no friend of Pakistan or Afghanistan or for that matter of the Muslim world. And anyway we have to see to our national interests which guide the country's policies. We should shun wishful thinking and pretensions. Mr Obama's latest strategic thoughts consist of some very noble ideas and sound concepts but will the US establishment implement these in letter and spirit? One appreciates the US president's vision but one is not confident that he can act upon these given the present environment. If the US carries out its threats against Pakistan as postulated by Ms Clinton then Pakistan would be the third Muslim country in a row after the invasion of Iraq and Afghanistan to have been affected in a similar manner. What will be the reaction of the Islamic world? Mind you, Pakistan is the only Muslim nuclear state."

Editorial: Israeli Terrorism On The Flotilla , an editorial in the Lahore-based liberal English language daily "Daily Times" (cir. 10,000) (06/02)

"Israel's deadly high-seas attack on the aid flotilla bound for the Gaza strip on Monday has, once again, put the spotlight on typical Zionist aggression and its complete defiance of international law. . . . The attack on the flotilla is, as expressed by the Turkish Foreign Minister, Ahmet Davutoglu, an act of piracy and banditry. It is state-sponsored terrorism and the rest of the world now waits to see how the UN, US and the rest of the west will react, given their constant homilies on the 'war against terror'."

Editorial: Israeli Raid On Aid Flotilla, an editorial in the leading mass circulation populist, often sensational Urdu daily "Jang" (cir. 300,000) (06/02)

"The people, who are aware of the real motives behind the illegal creation of Israel, also know why Tel Aviv violated all the universal ethics and international laws in attacking the Gaza-bound aid flotilla. The patrons of Israel should use the UN forum in order to condemn this blatant aggression and to hold the perpetrator

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accountable for this brutal act. Their silence on this issue would expose the true nature of their tall claims about the human rights and peace in the world

Editorial: Time To Use Iron Fist Against Israel, an editorial in the popular rightist Urdu-language daily "Ausaf" (cir. 10,000) (06/02)

"The attack of the ships carrying relief goods for besieged Palestinians of the Gaza Strip has once again demonstrated that Israel is a state inhabited by pirates who only understand the language of force. They have had always killed and oppressed the weak. We think that the time is not far when the Israelis will be eating humble pie."

Editorial: Attack On Aid Flotilla: Israel's Shameful Act, an editorial in the Peshawar-based Urdu-language daily "Mashriq" (cir. 55,000) (06/02)

"The hatred against the U.S. in the world will intensify if the U.S. continues to extend its full support to Israel in the aftermath of the condemnable attack on a Gaza-bound aid fleet. Moreover, all countries should boycott Israel on every forum and, thus, prove that the international community supports peace across the globe. Besides, this shameful act of Israel has also provided an opportunity to Pakistan, Iran, and Turkey to evolve a united strategy to face the potential Israeli threat."

Editorial: Israel's Violations Of International Laws, an editorial in the liberal Urdu daily "Express" (circ. 25,000) (06/02)

"The international community's reaction against Israeli aggression is completely justified. [The Israeli action] is a result of undue support by the U.S. and other countries that support its policies - no amount of lamentation of such support is enough. If the international community wants to strengthen its stance, it will need to devise a strategy to stop countries from supporting Israel unduly.

Only then will it be possible to rein it in. It is now imperative to control Israel to protect the Palestinians rights."

Editorial: State Of Lawlessness, an editorial in the Karachi-based center-left independent national English daily "Dawn" (cir. 55,000) (06/02)

". . . Mr Laljee's abduction speaks volumes for the kind of power that the country's intelligence apparatus wields in Pakistan. Such arbitrary actions actually weaken the law, underscoring the institutional lack of writ in Pakistan. The businessman was lucky to have been released by his captors, in all probability because of his links with the president. However, in a country where all are equal before the law only in theory, what has happened to the hundreds of missing people said to have been picked up by the agencies? What is the fate of the common man, who has few connections in officialdom, and who the security establishment suspects of being involved in wrongdoing? There is virtually no guarantee of his safety and security while in the custody of the intelligence agencies."

(All circulation figures are based on estimation)

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(U) MEPs condemn Israeli operation in heated session with Israel Ambassador Israel's operation against the Gaza flotilla was almost unanimously condemned by Members of the European Parliament Foreign Affairs Committee during a June 1 debate with the Israeli Ambassador and a Council representative. MEPs called for an impartial international inquiry and urged Israel to end the Gaza blockade. Some called for the suspension of the EU-Israel Association Agreement. EU Political and Security Committee (PSC) Chairman Carlos Fernandez Arias, representing HR Ashton, said that "Middle East diplomacy will be more complicated, and regional tensions exacerbated, notably with Turkey. Egypt is also under pressure to open the Rafah border crossing." He added that "the blockade policy must cease" and suggested that "crossings could be opened under international control." He said about 50 EU citizens were detained, with more repatriated, adding that the High Representative had requested consular access. Israel's EU Ambassador Ran Curiel, deplored the loss of lives, but said the flotilla was "not a peaceful humanitarian mission, but a provocation that became a tragedy." He then showed a film that he said demonstrated the violence which met some of the Israeli soldiers as they boarded the ships, as well as pictures of arms found in the convoy. Many MEPs criticized Curiel's use of the film, with Development Committee Chair Eva Joly (Greens, France), responding heatedly that "there is no guarantee as to the authenticity of the images shown to us, and this why there must be an international inquiry.Q An isolated voice in the room in support of Israel, MEP Charles Tannock (UK), Speaking for the conservatives (ECR), reminded the group that Hamas was a terrorist organization and that no more weapons should reach Gaza. Another ECR member, Sir Robert Atkins, however, called for opening talks with Hamas, to which Curiel replied that pre-conditions set by the Middle East Quartet, including the recognition of the right of Israel to exist, had to be met for this to happen. (POL:MVanaverbeke)

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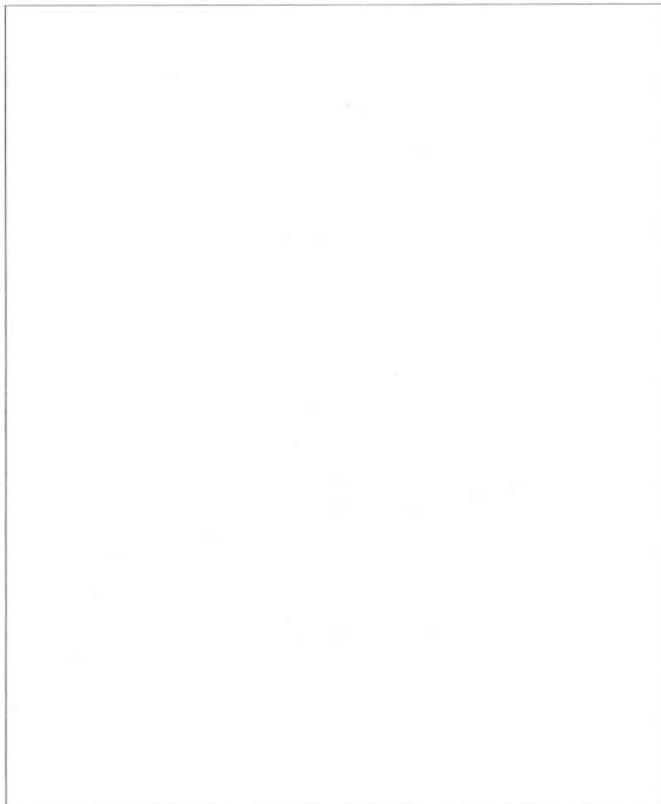
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NR



News

EU ready to intensify efforts to lift Gaza blockade: Ashton - - BRUSSELS, June 1 (AFP) - Europe will intensify its efforts to get Israel to lift its Gaza blockade, following the attack on an aid flotilla, EU foreign affairs chief Catherine Ashton told the Palestinians Tuesday. She gave the assurance to Palestinian premier Salam Fayyad, during telephone talks Tuesday, the day after Israeli troops stormed the Gaza-bound aid flotilla and left nine people dead, an EU spokesman said. Her message was that "the blockade of Gaza should end" and "she's willing to step up efforts in this respect and to discuss with (EU) member states how to work further in this direction," spokesman John Clancy said. Ashton also stressed the importance of the role of the Palestinian Authority in normalising the situation in the Gaza Strip, which is run by the Hamas Islamist group. To that she would welcome a visit to Gaza by Palestinian Authority president Mahmud Abbas, according to Clancy. [] Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Tuesday ordered the opening of the Rafah border crossing to allow humanitarian aid into the Gaza Strip.



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Attachments: metadata.dat

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

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Page 1 of 2

RELEASED IN FULL

From: Lillis, Amanda J (Istanbul)
 Sent: 6/2/2010 8:35:01 AM
 To: svcSMARTHBTSP01
 Subject: Turkish Jewish Community Reports No Threats, Appreciates GOT Statements
 Attachments: Metadata.dat

UNCLASSIFIED



MRN: 10 ISTANBUL 203
 Date/DTG: Jun 02, 2010 / 021235Z JUN 10
 From: AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
 Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
 E.O.: 12958
 TAGS: PGOV, PREL, PHUM, KIRF, OSCE, TU, IS
 Captions: SENSITIVE, SIPDIS
 Subject: Turkish Jewish Community Reports No Threats, Appreciates GOT Statements

1. (SBU) Following the Israeli raid of the Free Gaza Flotilla on May 31, the leadership of the Jewish Community of Turkey reported it is not under threat and expressed appreciation for the GOT's distinction in public statements between the Israeli government and its people, as well as between Israel and those of the Jewish faith. On the morning of May 31 the community issued a press release in English and Turkish noting that they were saddened by the Israeli military operation and the loss of life, and that they shared the public's reaction in Turkey to the operation. News channel Haberturk released the statement, which was also posted on the Community's web site. Jewish Community representatives from Izmir said they have not encountered any problems and stressed that the crisis had been badly managed by Israel.
2. (SBU) On May 31, we engaged proactively with the Jewish Community leadership in Istanbul within hours of the incident to inquire about their security status and share the USG concern for their safety. On the same date the regional security office contacted US citizen Rabbi Chitrik of the Istanbul Habad Center to ascertain his security situation. Both reported no threats during the hours immediately after the event. Rabbi Chitrick and Jewish Community executive director for community affairs Lina Filiba asked if the mission would be able to share any information about security threats against the Community with the Community leadership.
3. (SBU) In their statements about the event, GOT officials, including Prime Minister Erdogan and Deputy Prime Minister Arinc, made a point to highlight the unique history and position of the Turkish Jews and emphasized their status as Turkish citizens who should be respected and protected. During his speech to parliament, Erdogan thanked the Jewish Community for its "rightful reaction" to what had happened and said that "any negative view of or different actions against our Jewish citizens is, should be and will be out of the question." Following the speech, the Jewish Community leadership shared with us their confidence that the PM had changed his approach in working with the Jewish communities in Turkey and the Israeli people. They were especially appreciative of his statements during the speech that distinguished between Israel and Turkey's Jewish population, as well as between the Israeli administration and the people of Israel. On May 31, Deputy Prime Minister Arinc when responding to a question regarding Israel's travel warning for its citizens traveling to Turkey said "Not a single one of our 70 million citizens feel enmity towards our Jewish citizens . . . you will see that not a single person will be harmed." Additionally, Deputy Chairman of the AKP (and former Minister of Education) Huseyin Celik on May 31 said "There should be no negativity toward our Jewish citizens living in Turkey because of the Israeli government's actions . . . It [reactions] should never turn into anti-Semitism."
3. (SBU) On June 1, a taxi driver who participated in the rallies in front of the Israeli Consulate in Istanbul told poloff that

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UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C05717275 Date: 05/06/2015

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he and others would never shift their anti-Israeli sentiments to anti-Semitic actions that might hurt Turkey's Jewish community. "As much as we hate Israel, we would do nothing to our country's Jewish population because Prime Minister Erdogan himself told us we should protect them. They are ours."

4. (SBU) Comment: The GOT appears to be trying to keep the wave of anger against Israel from splashing back against Turkey's Jewish Community. The GOT failed to effectively distinguish between the Jewish Community of Turkey and the actions of the Israeli government during the Gaza operation in 2008, according to the Jewish Community. The Community characterized the recent statements of top GOT and AKP officials that show heightened attentiveness to their concerns as a significant shift. We will continue to monitor GOT statements, public reaction, as well as maintain close communication with the Jewish Community leadership and support with security information as possible. End Comment.

Signature: Wiener

Drafted By: ISTANBUL:Lillis, Amanda J (Istanbul)

Cleared By: Political:Hunter, Rodney M
POL/ECON:Dayton, John W (Win) (Istanbul)

Approved By: EXEC:Wiener, Sharon A (Istanbul)

Released By: ISTANBUL:Lillis, Amanda J (Istanbul)

Info: JAC MOLESWORTH RAF MOLESWORTH UKROUTINE ;
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DCROUTINE ;
DIA DHP-1 WASHINGTON DCROUTINE ; CIA WASHINGTON DCROUTINE ;
EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE ROUTINE

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Page 2 of 2

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C05717275 Date: 05/06/2015

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From: Enderle, Dori A
Sent: 6/2/2010 9:29:04 AM
To: svcSMARTHBTSP0P4
Subject: Paris Points for Wednesday, June 2, 2010
Attachments: Metadata.dat

NON-RESPONSIVE PORTIONS
REDACTED

SECRET//NOFORN

MRN: 10 FTR 511
Date/DTG: Jun 02, 2010 / 021330Z JUN 10
From: Enderle, Dori A
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: PGOV, ECON, FR
Captions: NOFORN
Subject: Paris Points for Wednesday, June 2, 2010

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Paris Points for: Wednesday, June 2, 2010
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□ [Gaza Flotilla: Sarkozy Calls for Impartial Investigation, Implies French-U.S. Plan to Launch Talks](#)

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NR

Gaza Flotilla: Sarkozy Calls for Impartial Investigation, Implies French-U.S. Plan to Launch Talks

(U) President Sarkozy announced June 1 that the investigation into the events of May 31 aboard the flotilla headed toward Gaza must be credible, impartial, and transparent, and he suggested that the United Nations (UN) or the International Committee of the Red Cross could conduct the inquiry. Repeating his criticism of Israel's "disproportionate" use of force, he also called for an immediate return to direct talks between the Israelis and Palestinians, and he stated that, in the autumn, "with our American friends," the GOF "will re-take some initiatives in order to move the peace process into a more active phase." Prime Minister Fillon discussed the issue in the National Assembly, where he forcefully demanded an international inquiry and claimed that, in making this demand, France has adopted a position shared by the European Union and the UN. He also insisted on the immediate release of the nine French citizens remaining in detention in Israel (one of whom left Israel later on June 1). Criticizing Israel, he described the actions of its military as unjustified and against international law. Echoing Sarkozy's words, he also called for a return to direct negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians. At the same time, a Parliamentary committee comprising members from four political parties, including the Union for a Popular Movement (UMP) and the Socialist Party (PS), condemned Israeli actions, called for an end to the blockade of Gaza, and urged the immediate delivery of humanitarian aid. For its part, the MFA focused its public statements on urging respect for U.N. Resolution 1860 of January 2009. While French political leaders took increasingly firm stands on June 1, public protests diminished; approximately 150 pro-Palestinian demonstrators temporarily blocked the Champs Elysee and then gathered in front of the MFA and about 1,000 protested peacefully in Marseilles, but the media and American Presence Posts did not report other major demonstrations around the country.

(SBU) The French press has generally criticized Israel's assault on the flotilla, reported the deterioration in

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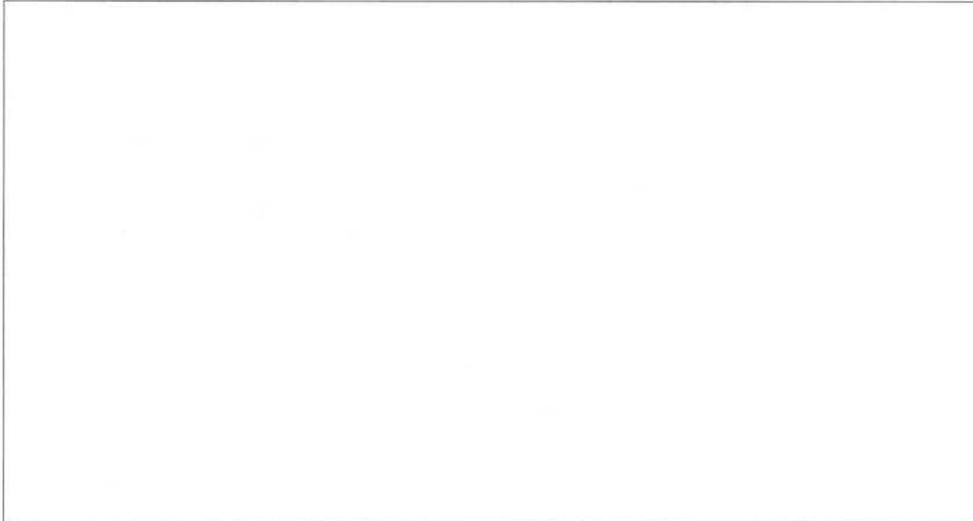
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Israeli-Turkish relations, and noted Israel's increasing political isolation. Breaking this trend, the popular daily, *Le Parisien*, published an article containing accusations that the main French NGO supporting the flotilla, the Committee for Welfare and Aid to the Palestinians (CBSP), has "flirted with Islamists." The article reports Israel's claim that the CBSP has provided logistical and financial support to Hamas. In 2003, the American, Canadian, and Australian governments reportedly classified CBSP as a supporter of terrorist groups. The group has close links to the Union of Islamic Organizations in France (UOIF), which the article notes maintains ties to the Muslim Brotherhood. In a separate article, *Le Parisien* reported that former Prime Minister Villepin has profited politically from his firm stand May 31 against Israeli actions (Paris Points, June 1). Quoting residents of North African extraction, the newspaper emphasized Villepin's strong following in the turbulent Paris suburbs, where many residents reportedly still appreciate the firm stand he took against the Iraq war in 2003 when serving as France's Foreign Minister. (JMiller)

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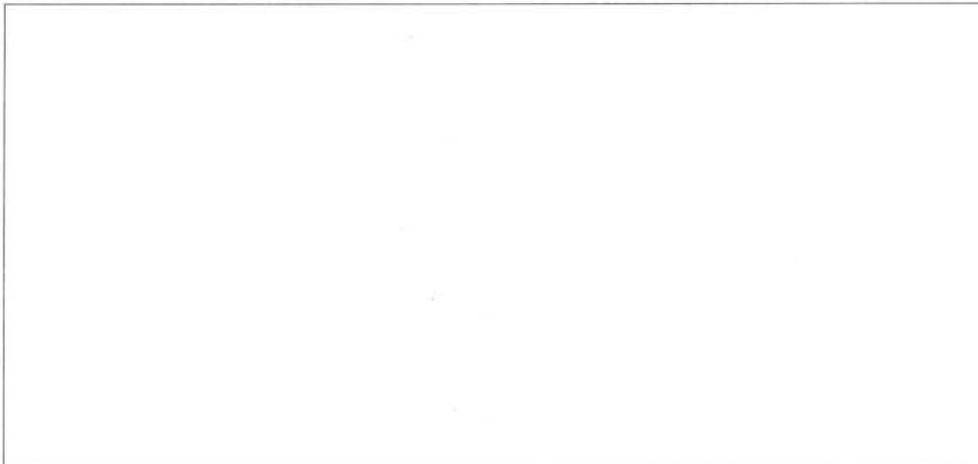
President of Foreign Affairs Committee: Making Progress in Afghanistan



NR

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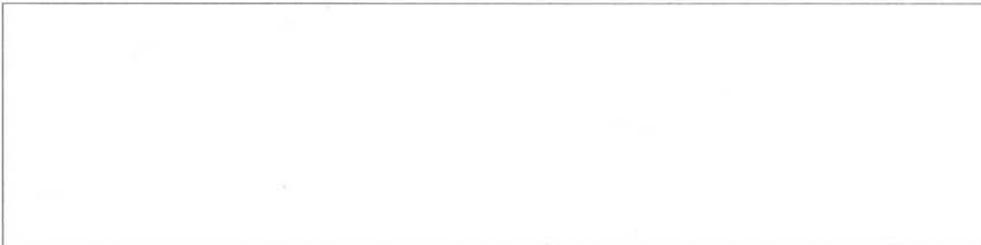
FM Kouchner's Bad Press: "Get Lost and Quickly!" and "What Use is Bernard Kouchner?"



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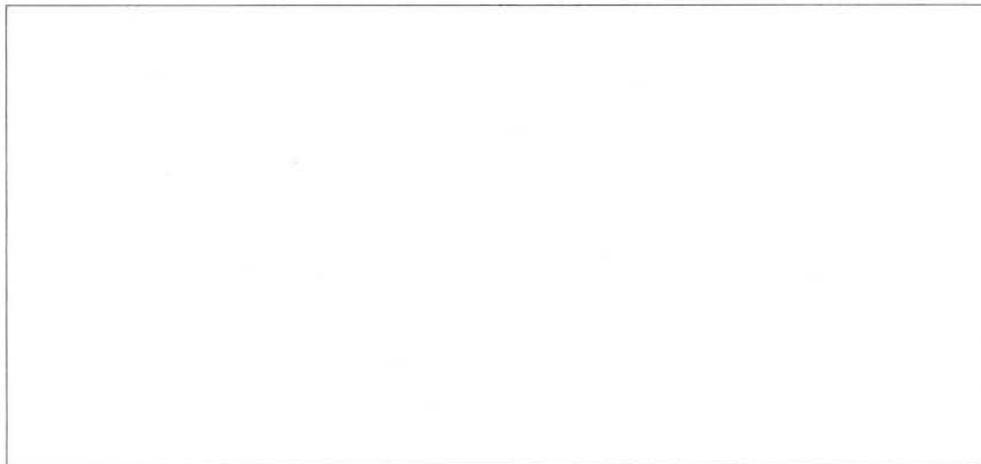
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Unemployment Up Slightly in April



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Note: All euro-to-dollar conversions are rounded valuations on this date.

VISITS

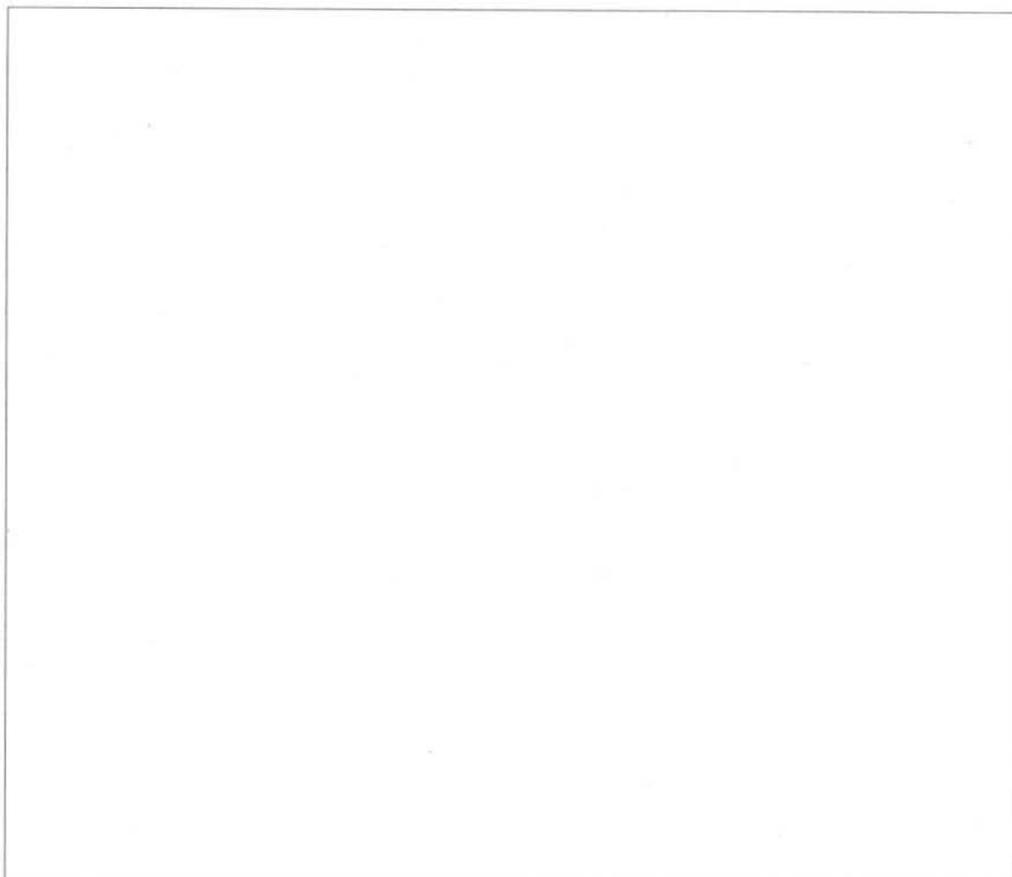


[Please click here for archived daily reports.](#)

[Please click here for biographical information on French government officials.](#)

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Declassify on:	2020/06/02
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Drafted By:	PARIS:Enderle, Dori A
Released By:	PARIS:Enderle, Dori A
Attachments:	Metadata.dat

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

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Attachments: Metadata.dat

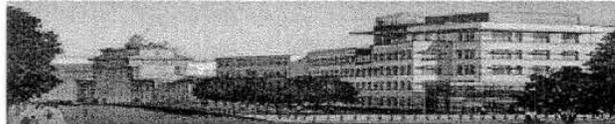
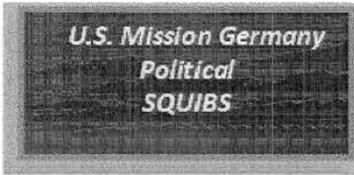
NON-RESPONSIVE PORTIONS
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MRN: 10 FTR 22556
Date/DTG: Jun 02, 2010 / 021330Z JUN 10
From: Yaged, Kimberly
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: PREL, GM, IS, IR
Subject: CORRECTED Germany POL Squibs June 2, 2010

U.S. Mission Germany

*Political
SQUIBS*

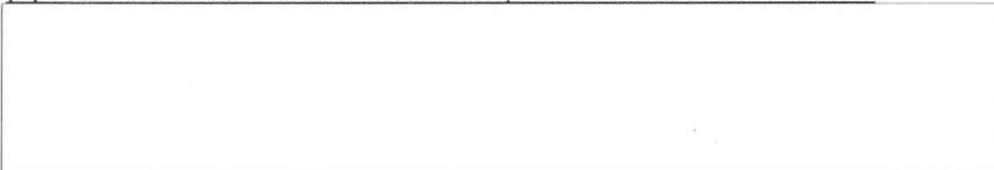


SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

June 2, 2010

Contents:

(U) Israeli Ambassador Criticizes Aid Flotilla; Fate of One German Unknown



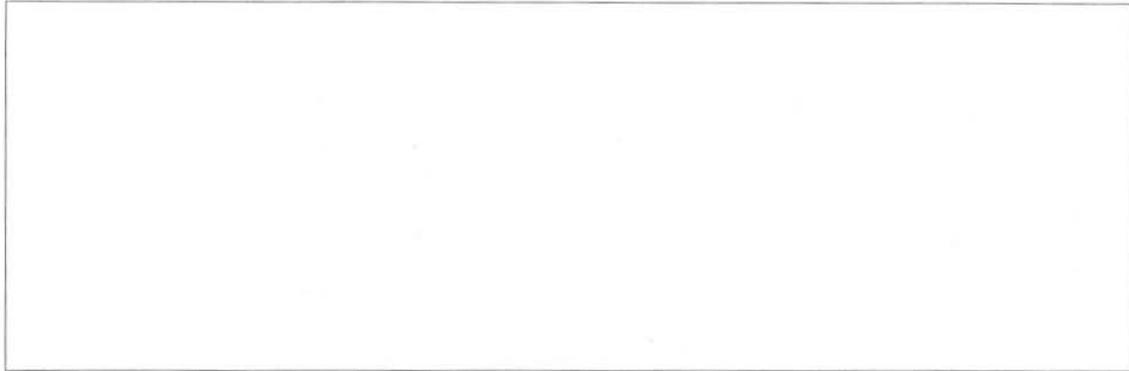
NR

(U) Israeli Ambassador Criticizes Aid Flotilla; Fate of One German Unknown: The Israeli Ambassador to Germany, Yoram Ben-Zeev, defended Israel's military operation against the humanitarian Gaza flotilla, describing it as necessary. He criticized the activists by saying that their intention was not to bring aid to Gaza but to break the sea blockade. Of the eleven Germans that were on the ships, five have returned to Germany and five are still in prison in Beer Sheva. The whereabouts of one German remains unknown.

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SBU
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Drafted By:	BERLIN:Yaged, Kimberly
Released By:	BERLIN:Yaged, Kimberly
Attachments:	Metadata.dat

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Sent: 6/2/2010 10:24:42 AM
To: SMART Core
Subject: QATAR CALLS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL RESOLUTION AGAINST ISRAEL

UNCLASSIFIED

Sensitive



MRN: 10 DOHA 219
Date/DTG: Jun 02, 2010 / 021419Z JUN 10
From: AMEMBASSY DOHA
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE PRIORITY
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: PREL, KPAL, KWBG, TU, IS, QA
Captions: SENSITIVE, SIPDIS
Sensitivity: Sensitive
Subject: QATAR CALLS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL RESOLUTION AGAINST ISRAEL

UNCLAS DOHA 000219

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: PREL, KPAL, KWBG, TU, IS, QA
SUBJECT: QATAR CALLS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL RESOLUTION
AGAINST ISRAEL

KEY POINTS

- On June 1, Qatar called upon the UN Human Rights Council to pass a resolution condemning the Israeli raid on the Gaza-bound flotilla and to conduct an investigation into it.

- Amir Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani called the raid an "act of piracy". Prime Minister Hamad bin Jassim Al Thani questioned whether negotiations could continue between Israel and the Palestinians in the wake of the attack.

- The Arabic language newspaper Al-Rayah echoed the charge of piracy, and also questioned whether negotiations could continue, saying that Israel had proven that it does not want peace. Other newspapers highlighted public outrage at the raid.

- Muslim Brotherhood spiritual lead and Al Jazeera Arabic television personality Yousef al-Qaradawi announced that he

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would lead a "festival of oratory" in support of Gaza after noon prayers on June 4. He also called for a boycott of "the goods of Zionism, as well as the goods of America, which is a pro-Zionist state."

End Key Points.

1. (SBU) On June 1, in its latest expression of outrage at the Israeli raid on the Gaza flotilla, Qatar called on the UN Human Rights Council to pass a resolution condemning the operation and to conduct an investigation into the attack. The call came one day after Amir Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, in opening remarks to the Doha Forum on Democracy, Development, and Free Trade, called the Israeli raid "an act of piracy".
2. (SBU) The official Qatari response to the raid on the Gaza-bound flotilla has been heated. In addition to the Amir's comments, Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Hamad bin Jassim Al Thani blamed the international community for condoning such "barbaric practices". He expressed doubt as to whether the Arab peace initiative could move forward with both direct and indirect negotiations, saying it was clear that "Israel is opposing peace". He also expressed "Qatar's solidarity with the people of Turkey".
3. (SBU) The Arabic-language newspaper Al-Rayah published an editorial on June 2 that praised the approach taken by the Amir and Prime Minister and echoed the charge that the Israeli act constituted an act of piracy: "The responsibility lies with the international community to call for an account of this barbaric act of piracy and because of its negative repercussions and serious threat to the security and stability of the region. The responsibility now lies with the Arab countries to decide to break the Gaza siege and to reconsider the Arab peace initiative, since there is no justification for the continuation of negotiations, direct or indirect, after Israel has exposed the reality that it rejects peace."
4. (SBU) On June 1, Muslim Brotherhood spiritual leader and Al Jazeera Arabic television personality Shaykh Yousef al-Qaradawi announced that he will lead a "festival of oratory" after Friday prayers on June 4 at Doha's Omar bin-Khattab mosque "to declare solidarity with the flotilla of freedom and in condemnation of Israel's attack on it". A statement issued June 1 in the name of the Qaradawi-led Union of Muslim Scholars also called upon the "Arabs and Muslims in the world to boycott the goods of Zionism, as well as the goods of America that is a pro-Zionist state" and to use all available means to reveal Israel's "crimes" to the free world.
5. (SBU) Arabic language newspapers in Qatar conducted a series of "interviews on the street" to highlight popular sentiment concerning the raid on the flotilla. The response was uniformly negative, with much of the hostility aimed at the perceived inability of Arab leaders to act against Israel. One man said "I expected this to happen. What else can we expect from Israel? We have no option other than to pray to God until our leaders wake up from their sleep and express our feelings". Another was quoted as saying: "We feel acute shame and sorrow that we are no longer even able to respond to the Israeli arrogance to the extent that Israel is no longer taking into account the Arab or Muslim

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countries."
LeBaron

Signature: LeBaron

Info: ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

Attachments: metadata.dat

Dissemination Rule: Archive Copy

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UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C05717285 Date: 05/06/2015

StateDept006536

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From: Souza, Eveline S
Sent: 6/2/2010 10:24:40 AM
To: svcSMARTBTSP0P3
Subject: June 02, 2010 Heads Up: A quick look at the Brazilian media
Attachments: Metadata.dat

UNCLASSIFIED

MRN: 10 FTR 22584
Date/DTG: Jun 02, 2010 / 021424Z JUN 10
From: Souza, Eveline S
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: ACOA
Subject: June 02, 2010 Heads Up: A quick look at the Brazilian media

You may also find the Heads-up on the SharePoint Team Site, by clicking on the following link:
<http://wha.p.state.sbu/sites/brazilia/teamsites/news/Brazil%20News%20Heads%20Up/2010-06-02.aspx?PageView=Shared>



PUBLIC AFFAIRS PRESS SUMMARY – HEADS –UP

A Quick Look at the Brazilian Press

Wednesday, June 02, 2010

Summary:

Brazilian news media today featured heavy coverage of the Israeli raid on the peace activist flotilla, with papers reporting on President Lula's condemnation of the attack and - to local media -the comparatively lukewarm USG response. Editorials and analysis articles wrote that the Israeli raid damages USG efforts to mediate peace in the Middle East and undermines the U.S.-led drive for sanctions against Iran. Papers reported that Iran's ambassador to Brazil stated that his country will follow through with the uranium exchange deal reached with Brazil and Turkey, and included a short paragraph stating that FM Amorim acknowledged that Iran could have enough uranium for a nuclear bomb in 8-9 months. Columnists and op-eds were once again critical of the Lula Administration's stance on Iran, stating that GoB diplomacy is "immoral" and "attention-seeking." Northeast media reported that former President Bill Clinton will speak at a university in Natal tomorrow, while Rio papers covered director Oliver Stone's meeting with Dilma Rousseff and Argentina's replacement of the U.S. as the #2 destination for Brazilian exports.

Israeli Raid on Flotilla:

U.S.-Israel relationship under stress – *O Globo* 32: Washington correspondent Fernando Eichenberg writes that the U.S. and Israel are currently going through the worst moment in their bilateral relations. He mentions the meeting between Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu yesterday. While saying that blocking aid to Gaza Strip is "unsustainable" and "unacceptable," Clinton refused to condemn Israel for raiding the Turkish humanitarian aid flotilla. <http://migre.me/L7WX>

USG tones down criticism of Israel

U.S. softens UN statement to avoid explicit condemnation of Israel – *O Estado de S. Paulo* A10 <http://migre.me/L814>

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U.S. adopts caution, avoids criticism of Israel – *Folha de S. Paulo* A15

Massacre puts in check Gaza blockade – *Folha de S. Paulo* A14

Papers report that the USG issued a statement softer than many wanted due to U.S. diplomatic maneuvering.

Lula condemns Israeli raid, demands the world's respect

In speech, Lula condemns Israeli attack – *O Estado de S. Paulo* A12: <http://migre.me/L7of>

Lula condemns action against humanitarian fleet, urges dialogue – *Folha de S. Paulo* A15

Folha quotes President Lula as saying: "I condemn [the raid]. I spoke with Foreign Minister Celso Amorim and the information is that the attack was done in international waters... therefore Israel did not have the right to do what it did..."

Estado adds that in his speech, Lula stated that Brazil wants to be treated the same as other countries. "We don't want to be better than anyone. We want the world's respect."

GoB will demand immediate release of Brazilian filmmaker held in Israel – *O Globo* 31, 33/*Jornal do Brasil* A2-A4:

The GoB will request the "prompt and unconditional" release of Brazilian-American filmmaker Iara Lee, who was on one of the ships of the Turkish humanitarian aid flotilla raided by Israel on Sunday. In an interview with *O Globo*, Lee says her physical condition is good, but mentally, she feels "disturbed" by the attack on the ships. "It was an overreaction. We are non-violent activists and they came with all these weapons, helicopters...it was really shocking," she said. *JB* quotes Lee as telling TV *Globo* that Israel shot people who were already wounded by the attack, and that her two passports are still being retained by local authorities. <http://migre.me/L8dA> and <http://migre.me/L89I>

TV- *Jornal Nacional*, *Jornal da Globo* 06/01/2010 and *Bom Dia Brasil* 06/02/2010: Israel starts deportation of activists.

<http://migre.me/L8rs>, <http://migre.me/L8Be> and <http://migre.me/L8Dg>.

TV- *Jornal Nacional* 06/01/2010: UN presses for end of Gaza blockade. Story quotes Sec. of State Clinton, who states that the situation in Gaza is unacceptable. "We must do justice to the legitimate security needs of Israel, the same way that the legitimate needs of Palestinians to get help in a sustainable way needs to be satisfied." <http://migre.me/L8A4>

Analysis (Patricia Campos Mello): Israeli attack "puts Washington on the defensive" – *O Estado de S. Paulo* A10:

Washington correspondent Patricia Campos Mello says Israel "ran over" the U.S. agenda to approve sanctions against Iran. She also says the attack harms the U.S. negotiating stance at the U.N., as it gives ammunition to those who criticize the U.S. for its differing policies on Israel and Iran. <http://migre.me/L8i6>

Editorial: "Only radicals win" in the case of Israeli attack – *O Globo* 6: The daily writes that by attacking a Turkish humanitarian aid flotilla, Israel transformed what should have been a maritime policy operation into a war. The Israeli overreaction is one more slap in the face to President Obama's foreign policy, as he had said that Middle East conflict mediation was one of his priorities, notes *O Globo*. The daily writes that Israel is becoming isolated internationally, as it practically said "goodbye" to its only Muslim ally, Turkey, after the attack. The relationship between Ankara and Washington – already impacted by the nuclear fuel agreement signed with Iran – is also complicated, "as Turkey demands a more assertive condemnation by the U.S. to the Israeli act," writes *O Globo*.

Editorial: "Disproportionate Reaction" – *O Estado de S. Paulo* A3: Comments on Israel's attack against humanitarian ships near Gaza. <http://migre.me/L8j9>

Editorial: "Violence has become official policy" in Israel – *Valor Economico* A12:

Blog (Paulo Moreira Leite): Israeli Navy's action was "crime at sea" – By *Epoca* magazine editor and former Washington correspondent. <http://migre.me/L70G>

TV- *Globo News Entre Aspas* 06/01/2010: Experts discuss the repercussions of the Israeli raid for conflicts in Middle East.

<http://migre.me/L8EJ>

Iran:

Iranian Ambassador says Iran will comply with nuclear fuel swap agreement – *Jornal do Brasil* A17: Iranian Ambassador to Brazil Mohsen Shaterzadeh said that his country is still committed to the nuclear fuel-swap agreement sealed with Brazil and Turkey. Iran will continue to enrich uranium, but under the rules imposed by the United Nations – for peaceful purposes. Shaterzadeh added that Tehran is still waiting the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to respond about the deal reached with Brazil and Turkey.

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Amorim acknowledges Iran could have a bomb in 8-9 months, reinforces need for confidence building with Iran - *O Estado de S. Paulo* A12: *Estado* includes a short paragraph at the end of a report about Lula's criticism of the Israeli raid [see above], stating that FM Amorim acknowledged in a Brazilian Senate hearing that Iran could have enough uranium to build a bomb in 8-9 months. Paper reports Amorim highlighted the need to "build confidence [with Iran] along with other measures with regards to its uranium enrichment." [PA Brasilia will continue to monitor whether or not coverage of these remarks increases.]

Column (Elio Gaspari): Lula's "immoral" and "third class" diplomacy - *O Globo* 6/ *Folha de S. Paulo* A6: Columnist Elio Gaspari writes an op-ed in which he states that PT presidential pre-candidate Dilma Rousseff and Human Rights Secretary Paulo Vanucchi should read the book "Death to the Dictator" in order to understand how the Iranian dictatorial regime commits Human Rights abuses. Gaspari writes how President Lula's trust in his Iranian counterpart Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is a black mark on Brazilian diplomacy. Gaspari adds that, because of Lula's position in relation to Ahmadinejad, he sounds biased when condemning Israel's attack on the humanitarian flotilla on Sunday. The columnist adds that Turkey has a reason to pursue a good relationship with Iran, due its extensive border with the country, but "Brasilia is 11,000 kilometers away from this trouble." He concludes by writing that by extending negotiations and "importing conflicts" that have little to do with Brazil's best interest, Lula is practicing low-grade diplomacy.

Op-ed (Alexandre Barros): "Brazil's policy for Iran seeks nothing but attention" - *O Estado de S. Paulo* A2: Political scientist and risk consultant claims that Brazil's policy for Iran has sought little more than to draw international attention. According to the author, Brazil and Turkey could not have chosen a worse time to knock at the UNSC's door.

Blog (Patricia Campos Melo): "Israel tramples over U.S. strategy for Iran" - *Historias Globais: Estado's* Washington correspondent comments in her blog that Israel's attack against humanitarian ships over the weekend took the world's attention away from Iran and reduced the U.S. ability to pursue new UN sanctions. <http://migre.me/L71e>

Blog (Christina Lemos): Amorim raises questions about UNSC negotiations over Iran sanctions - *Blog da Christina Lemos*: Brasilia-based TV Record special reporter and news anchor comments in her blog about Minister Celso Amorim's Senate testimony about the nuclear agreement with Iran. <http://migre.me/L76L>

Consular Issues - Hague Convention:

U.S. accuses Brazil of violating Hague Convention on Child Abduction - *O Estado de S. Paulo* C6: Washington correspondent Patricia Campos Mello writes that a report issued on Tuesday by the U.S. Department of State and sent to the U.S. Congress accuses Brazil of not complying with the Hague Convention on Child Abduction. According to the story, of the 68 signatories, Brazil is listed along with Honduras and Mexico as the only three countries that don't respect the treaty. According to the USG, last year 31 cases of abduction to Brazil were reported and all of these children are still in Brazil. In a sidebar, the paper reports that last week an international abduction dispute ended after an agreement was reached between a Brazilian mother and a Canadian father on a custody hearing in Brazil, resulting in the father's agreement to pay all expenses for the mother to live in Canada with the child.

Former President Clinton in Natal:

Bill Clinton to speak in Natal - *Diario de Natal*: Former President Bill Clinton will present a lecture at the Potiguar University (UnP) in Natal, Rio Grande do Norte, as part of the university's 30th anniversary celebrations. According to the story, Clinton will arrive today in Natal for this single speaking engagement, and then immediately fly back to Washington. <http://migre.me/L7yB>

Business, Trade and Economics:

Argentina overtakes the U.S. as 2nd largest importer of Brazilian goods - *O Globo* 24: According to Brazilian trade balance figures for May released yesterday, Argentina now outranks the United States as the 2nd largest market for Brazilian goods. China continues to be the main destination for Brazilian exports, according to the GoB. The Brazilian Trade and Development Ministry explained that the Argentines are purchasing more Brazilian goods due to the country's economic recovery.

Brief editorial in support of Angra 3 nuclear reactor's construction - *O Globo* 27, 28: The daily criticizes the GoB for the 24-year delay in the construction of the Angra 3 nuclear plant, which began yesterday. The paper believes that if other

plants take as long to have their construction permits granted, the country will need to resort to coal and oil-fired plants - which are more polluting - unless the country accepts to be subject to blackouts.

Editorial: From the Gulf of Mexico to the pre-salt - Folha de S. Paulo A2: Paper says BP oil leak in the Gulf of Mexico is a warning for Brazil.

Government and Politics:

President Lula's official agenda for today - Blog do Noblat: The president will be in Brasilia all day today:
<http://migre.me/L6Xj>.

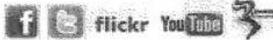
Oliver Stone meets Dilma Rousseff - O Globo 12/Jornal do Brasil A6-A7: Filmmaker Oliver Stone met Brazilian Presidential pre-candidate Dilma Rousseff yesterday in Brasilia, per Stone's request. The daily notes that the director did not have a visa to enter Brazil, and had to wait for two hours in Guarulhos International Airport in São Paulo to have a visa granted. In Brasilia, Stone said that Rousseff is "charismatic, and focused." On the nuclear fuel agreement Brazil and Turkey signed with Iran, Stone said, "she [Rousseff] sees the need for peace and she knows the way to talk to the U.S."

NSS:

Radio (Roberto Nonato): New U.S. defense strategy abandons "War on Terror" - Blog do Nonato: Radio CBN anchor comments on his interview with Brazilian strategic affairs professor about new U.S. National Security Strategy:
<http://migre.me/L744>

The above summary was compiled from news items submitted by the Public Affairs sections in Brasilia, Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro. It reflects the reporting and opinions expressed by the cited news media. Public Affairs does not independently verify information, nor do the reports necessarily reflect the opinion or reporting of the U.S. Embassy. This report is intended for U.S. Government use only.

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Attachments: Metadata.dat

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From: Koch, Ryan J
Sent: 6/2/2010 10:18:25 AM
To: SMART Core
Subject: MEDIA REACTION: SWEDISH MEDIA ON GAZA FLOTILLA INCIDENT

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MRN: 10 STOCKHOLM 302
Date/DTG: Jun 02, 2010 / 021417Z JUN 10
From: AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: OPRC, KMDR, SW, PREL, KPAO
Captions: SIPDIS
Subject: MEDIA REACTION: SWEDISH MEDIA ON GAZA FLOTILLA INCIDENT

1. (U) START SUMMARY

The immediate reaction in Swedish media to the boarding of the Gaza flotilla was emotional and uniformly critical. The reaction was influenced by the fact that eleven Swedes with the flotilla were initially missing. In the last 24 hours, media reporting and commentary has become more muted and focused on balanced discussion of Israel's policy and the situation in Gaza. The traditionally liberal and Israel-friendly print media have tried to strike a balance in editorials between condemning what they see as the excessive force by Israel while not being seen as supportive of Hamas. Sweden's largest circulation paper, Aftonbladet, has featured the harshest criticism of the raid and Israeli policies on settlements and Gaza. (Note: In October 2009, Aftonbladet also caused controversy with Israel over an article connecting the Israeli army with reputed organ theft.) The broadcast media has featured more neutral reporting following initially heated first reactions. The overall trend in the media appears have gone from 'massacre by Israel' to a more 'unfortunate outcome caused by unexpected events.' Among the bloggers the divide is greater, with strong Israel supporters on one side and Palestine supporters on the other, and little or no common ground.

END SUMMARY

2. (U) BROADCAST MEDIA

Swedish broadcast media is two-thirds public service owned and therefore attempts to report rather than comment. Swedish Television's (SVT) senior foreign affairs commentator, Bo-Inge Andersson stated that the Israeli action is threatening President Obama's "grand plan" to achieve peace in the Middle East and continued, "As long as Hamas does not recognize Israel's existence, there can be no agreement," and, "it is pretty clear that Obama will not be able to change Israel's policy." Andersson stated that while the U.S. voters support Israel, Obama cannot overly favor Israel and retain his good reputation in the world. Andersson concludes that support for Hamas is falling in Gaza but the world will need to promise a better life for the Palestinian people for a regime shift to occur which "requires that both Palestinians and Israelis start to think anew." All broadcast media (SVT, TV4 and Swedish Radio) focused much reporting on the fate of the released Swedes, Member of Parliament Mehmet Kaplan and writer Henning Mankell. Mankell called for sanctions against Israel similar to the ones levied against

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Steve Blodgett, Senior Reviewer

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StateDept006541

South Africa during apartheid while Kaplan spoke about how rubber bullets and stun guns were used in the raid.

3. (U) PRINT MEDIA

Traditionally Israel-friendly major liberal and conservative media were attempting to downplay the Israeli raid in their editorials and instead focused on Israel's role in the world and their reputation internationally. Leading opinion maker Dagens Nyheter (DN) wrote on June 1 in its lead editorial that while "there is a legitimate interest that heavy weapons are not smuggled into Gaza, one cannot defend yesterday's deadly confrontation with the pro-Palestinian activists." Conservative Svenska Dagbladet (SVD) commented that Israel reacts to its reputation and sense of isolation by striking back, instead of trying to mitigate the damage. Noting that they believe Israel has reason to feel alone "it does not mean that Israel is always right." Liberal-center morning daily Sydsvenska Dagbladet wrote that "Israel deserves much of the harsh criticism now being heard, even if it is obvious that many of the country's old enemies are taking the opportunity to increase the tone." Sydsvenskan also notes that "It must be presumed that Jerusalem did not expect the boarding to have the consequences it did. That is why further facts should not worsen the diplomatic situation." Liberal-center Göteborgs Posten (GP) writes that at the root of what has happened is "the failed and, in all regards, inhumane isolation of the Gaza area." Social Democratic leading tabloid Aftonbladet called on the global community "to move from statements to actions," and called for both economic sanctions and a cultural boycott of Israel. The traditionally Israel-friendly second-largest tabloid center-liberal Expressen also focused on the blockade rather than the raid itself "which cannot be compared to the abuse that the blockade entails for 1.5 million people in Gaza." Expressen's Foreign Editor Mats Larsson comments in a separate signed column on the situation on what he calls "hypocrisy" as both Egypt and other neighboring states are continuing to use Palestinians as weapons in the fight against Israel.

4. (U) BLOGS

Magnus Norell, terrorism and Middle East expert, opined in an article on Newsmill (Sweden's largest news blog) that "It seems obvious that some Europeans actually didn't know anything about the main organizer - the Turkish Humanitarian Relief Foundation (IHH) - and never intended to forcefully resist the Israelis, should it come to a clash. There is no reason to not believe the many activists who sincerely went on the mission to help alleviate a situation deemed dire from a purely humanitarian perspective. This theory is strengthened by the fact that the only violence that occurred happened on the largest ship in the flotilla. It was the ship where most of the activists had gathered and that contained most of the radical activists from the IHH." Continuing, Norell writes, "For the United States, this couldn't have come at a worse time. With Turkey on the Security Council and the vote on new sanctions coming up, the ruckus with Turkey over the nuclear deal is already causing the Obama Administration a headache. A more nuanced official U.S. response is to be expected in time, but right now, this can only draw attention away for what in Washington is regarded as the main issue in the Middle East; the Iranian nuclear topic."

5. In addition to political commentary by political leaders and ministers, Urban Ahlin, Social Democrat Foreign Affairs spokesman, noted on the Social Democratic blog that "Excessive force and shootings cannot be in any way accepted. It must quickly be made clear what happened when the Israeli military boarded the convoy with humanitarian supplies bound for Gaza. If it occurred in international waters, it is a violation of international law. I am deeply concerned about the humanitarian situation in Gaza. Gaza is under a blockade that in practice has led to a situation where people are living in an outdoor prison. The humanitarian situation is alarming and the possibilities for rebuilding and economic development are being hindered. The blockade of Gaza, like the occupation of all of Palestine, must come to an end." Ahlin also issued a press statement that called for an extra meeting of the Foreign Affairs Council: "Israel's boarding of ships in the 'Ship to Gaza' convoy in international waters and the resulting shootings are very serious actions and, therefore, the council should be convened at once. We must have proper information about the sequence of events from the past few days and find out what the government intends to do to pressure Israel to lift the blockade of Gaza." The two major political youth leaders Niklas Wykman, Young Moderates and Jytte Guteland, Young Social Democrats took separate views on the raid. Wykman created a major debate when he wrote "It is good that Hamas will not be getting the visit they had been expecting. Hamas oppresses and persecutes the people of Gaza while at the same time having the destruction of Israel at the top of their to-do list. 'Ship to Gaza' (activists) are pawns, terrorists and ideologically motivated Israel exterminators ... It is a relief that Hamas will not get the visit they had been expecting. It is a victory for all of Gaza!" Guteland responded to Wykman's statements by saying that "It is among the worst things he has done. It is totally

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unacceptable. This is about violence towards and the murder of aid workers and it is a crime against international law. The Moderates need to react and remove Wykman from their party leadership; otherwise this is now Moderate Party policy." Liberal Youth leader Adam Cwejman, traditionally the party most closely associated with the "pro-Israeli" community wrote "That everyone can yell themselves hoarse about Israel is nothing new. It's also not always strange or wrong. The Israeli government and military have a habit of placing themselves in tricky situations. The latest is particularly disturbing, and if any good can come from this is, it is if the blockade is lifted. At the same time it is of the utmost importance that Hamas is not allowed to attack Israel. It is very difficult to be a friend of Israel today, likewise it is hard to be hopeful of a lasting peace."

Signature: BARZUN

Drafted By: STOCKHOLM:Olofsson, Ann-Charlotte

Cleared By: Stockholm:Koch, Ryan J

Approved By: Stockholm:Koch, Ryan J

Released By: STOCKHOLM:Koch, Ryan J

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RELEASED IN FULL

From: Rubin, Joshua N
Sent: 6/2/2010 10:50:36 AM
To: SMART Core
Subject: ICELAND: PARLIAMENT CONDEMNS GAZA FLOTILLA INCIDENT AND CONTEMPLATES SUSPENDING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL

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MRN: 10 REYKJAVIK 140
Date/DTG: Jun 02, 2010 / 021449Z JUN 10
From: AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: PGOV, PREL, IC
Captions: SENSITIVE
Subject: ICELAND: PARLIAMENT CONDEMNS GAZA FLOTILLA INCIDENT AND CONTEMPLATES SUSPENDING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL

1. (SBU) On June 1 the Icelandic Parliament discussed the recent Israeli raid on the Gaza flotilla and publicly denounced the action as a breach of international law. Members of Parliament from all of the political parties were unified in their condemnation of the raid and several politicians suggested that Iceland should respond by invoking economic sanctions and/or severing diplomatic relations with Israel. Following this general parliamentary debate, the Foreign Affairs Committee passed a resolution requesting the Foreign Minister to formulate an official Icelandic response to the raid. The resolution, besides asking the Foreign Minister to consider the possibility of diplomatic sanctions against Israel, also urged him to provide aid to Gaza and to organize a trip to the region. (Note: The full text of the Foreign Affairs Committee's resolution is included in paragraph five. End Note.)

2. (SBU) Foreign Minister Ossur Skarphedinsson had already publically condemned the Israeli raid even before parliament met to discuss the subject. The Minister said on May 31 that Israel's disproportionate use of power can no longer be accepted. "Gaza is in fact a giant prison where international law is being violated. This has to stop," he said. Skarphedinsson, according to an MFA press release, also sent a letter of condemnation to the Israeli Foreign Ministry and requested a meeting with Israel's Ambassador to Iceland who is resident in Oslo.

3. (SBU) The government's actions are very much in line with public sentiment on this matter. There was a protest yesterday against Israel

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outside of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that, according to the media, attracted approximately 200 people. The protestors carried signs that read "We are responsible for this" with a picture of a burned child, and other signs that read "Stop War Criminals and Imperialism." A group of approximately 20 protestors also demonstrated outside of the U.S. Embassy with similar signs.

4. (SBU) Comment: Post spoke with a well placed contact at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs who suggested that it was too early to consider the idea of Iceland implementing economic sanctions against Israel or severing diplomatic ties with the country. This source, however, did not rule out the possible use of these options in the future. At the same time, we note that Iceland has demonstrated a tendency in the past to follow positions laid out by the EU. It would be out of character for Iceland to unilaterally employ economic sanctions or suspend diplomatic relations. End comment.

5. (U) The full text of the Foreign Affairs Committee's resolution reads as follows:

The majority of the Foreign Affairs Committee harshly condemns the Israeli army's raid on a Turkish ship in a convoy on an international maritime route with aid supplies to the Gaza Strip. The raid is a breach of international law. It goes against people's sense of justice, to use violence to prevent aid supplies from reaching people in dire needs. The majority emphasizes that human rights conventions, United Nations resolutions, and international law be fully respected in occupied Palestine, in Gaza, and on the West Bank, including East Jerusalem.

The majority resolves to ask the Foreign Minister, in consultation with the Foreign Affairs Committee, to organize a trip to the Gaza Strip, and that Iceland send aid supplies to help the people in Gaza and thus oppose the blockade that the Israelis have imposed in Gaza in contradiction to international law. It is unacceptable that for more than half a century UN resolutions on human rights and the Palestine people's right to self-determination have been ignored. It is a serious possibility that Iceland could cut diplomatic relations with Israel, and the Foreign Minister will be asked to assess, in cooperation with other nations, what solutions, which are considered the most effective, shall be employed to compel changes in accordance with international law, such as international solidarity on economic sanctions or severing diplomatic ties with Israel, if other solutions are not fruitful.

Signature:	PERINA
<hr/>	
Drafted By:	REYKJAVIK:Rubin, Joshua N
Cleared By:	AmEmbassy Reykjavik:Rubin, Meredith
Approved By:	AmEmbassy Reykjavik:Perina, Rudolf
Released By:	REYKJAVIK:Rubin, Joshua N
Info:	EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE <i>ROUTINE</i>

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UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2010-04163 Doc No. C05717296 Date: 05/06/2015

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RELEASED IN FULL

From: Vega, Graciela E
Sent: 6/2/2010 2:19:42 PM
To: SMART Core
Subject: MEDIA REACTION; GAZA FLOTILLA; 6/2/10; BUENOS AIRES

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MRN: 10 BUENOS AIRES 858
Date/DTG: Jun 02, 2010 / 021818Z JUN 10
From: AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE IMMEDIATE
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: OPRC, KPAO, KMDR, KNNP, PREL, AR
Captions: SIPDIS
Pass Line: STATE FOR INR/R/MR, I/GWHA, WHA, WHA/PDA, WHA/BSC, WHA/EPSC
Subject: MEDIA REACTION; GAZA FLOTILLA; 6/2/10; BUENOS AIRES

SUMMARY

1. The Israeli attack on the flotilla headed toward Gaza led the international headlines of Argentina's main dailies for a second day. Some reports lamented that Washington's official response fell short of any condemnation, saying comments from Secretary Clinton and A/S Crowley were indirectly supporting Israel's actions. Opinion articles linked the attack to the decline of U.S. influence in the world. Leading circulation Clarin's Washington correspondent suggested the attack could be an Israeli attempt to stall peace talks. End summary.

U.S. OFFICIAL RESPONSE
SPARKS CRITICISM

2. A political analyst in pro-government Pagina 12 criticized A/S Crowley's official remarks that the U.S. "deeply regrets" the "loss of lives of those involved in the incident." The newspaper's international relations expert Atilio Boron regretted that the A/S did not condemn the attack and that his "wording" provided misleading information to hide the massive human rights violations in Gaza. Boron also said Jewish lobbies are actively working in Washington to prevent U.S. lawmakers and USG officials from debating the issue.

3. Largest daily Clarin highlighted Secretary Clinton' comments that the situation is "unacceptable," but stressed she fell short of any condemnation

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of the incident. (Note: Clarin, like several other newspapers, misinterpreted the Secretary's comments as referring specifically to the "blockade" rather than the general situation in Gaza. End note.) Pagina 12 meanwhile decried Washington's double standards and its "obsession" with fighting Islamic terrorism and Iran, while it continues to support Israel, "a state that has given clear signs that it possesses and is ready to use nuclear arms." The daily adds that Washington's support allows Israel to disobey international law and UNSC resolutions.

DECLINING U.S. INFLUENCE SEEN
AS A CAUSE OF THE ATTACK

4. Clarin's Washington correspondent depicted Israel's unilateral actions as a sign of declining U.S. influence in the Middle East, leaving a power vacuum that could be filled by Brazil or Turkey. The author said "U.S. traditional allies," Israel and Turkey, are now adopting policies that are against U.S. interests. In an interview with pro-government Tiempo Argentino, international analyst Carlos Escude called the actions of the ship a "provocation" from NGOs supported by the Turkish government.

ATTACK SEEKS TO
STALL PEACE TALKS

5. Clarin's Washington correspondent suggested that the Israeli government is deliberately generating international incidents to delay peace talks. "Every time" Obama tries to restart peace talks, Netanyahu "comes up with an idea" to "bombard negotiations," as Israel did in March with the announcement of a new settlement in East Jerusalem, she wrote. Escude meanwhile seemed to deny that both incidents might be related, blaming the "clumsiness" of the Israeli authorities.

Signature: MARTINEZ

Drafted By: BUENOS AIRES:Vermaasen, Marco
Approved By: Rose, Susanne C
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Info: CDR USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL.ROUTINE

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Page 2 of 2

From: Henderson, William C
Sent: 6/3/2010 4:39:45 AM
To: SMART Core
Subject: Turkey Media Reaction Special: Israel-Turkey, June 3, 2010

UNCLASSIFIED



MRN: 10 ANKARA 802
Date/DTG: Jun 03, 2010 / 030837Z JUN 10
From: AMEMBASSY ANKARA
Action: SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE ; CJCS WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE ;
SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE ; OSD WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE
E.O.: 12958
TAGS: OPRC, KMDR, TU, PREL, KPAO
Captions: SIPDIS
Pass Line: DEPARTMENT FOR INR/R/MR, EUR/SE, EUR/PD, NEA/PD, DRL
JCS PASS J-5/CDR S. WRIGHT
Subject: Turkey Media Reaction Special: Israel-Turkey, June 3, 2010

Turkey Media Reaction: Turkey-Israel Special Edition for June 3, 2010

US Embassy Ankara – Media Reaction as prepared by the Public Affairs Information Office

How the Headlines Read

"Erdogan to Obama: I Will Not Talk If You Cannot Solve" Hurriyet
"Erdogan: I Won't Let Even a Single Turk be Tried by Israel" Hurriyet
"Sanctions on Israel on Agenda" Hurriyet
"Turkish Parliament to Israel: Apologize and Pay Compensation" Milliyet
"Return From Gaza" Sabah
"Israel Ultimatum to US" Sabah
"Israel Should Apologize" Vatan
"Three Critical Hours" Vatan
"State Assumes Attitude" Cumhuriyet
"US: Find Another Way" Cumhuriyet
"Freedom to Gaza" Radikal
"Turkey's Three Conditions" Radikal
"Gaza Volunteers Return, Now It's Time for an International Investigation" Zaman
"Unanimous Declaration Against Israel From Parliament" Zaman
"America is Not The Big Brother Anymore" Aksam
"Davutoglu Preconditions, Israel Accepts" Aksam

Commentary – Pro-government Media Criticize US for Pro-Israel Stance; Opposition Media See Turkey Sharing the Blame

Pundits continue to comment on Israel-Turkey relations in the Gaza aid flotilla aftermath. Fehmi Kuru has advice for Washington in pro-government/Islamist *Yeni Safak*: "The US must understand the harm it's doing itself by favoring Israel at all times. If this time there is no 'enough is enough' message to Israel from Washington, the international system will be undermined. The US attitude is not in sync with Obama's Ankara and Cairo spirit." Similarly pro-government/Islamist Zaman's Huseyin Gulerce hopes to see recent Israeli acts serve as "wake up call for Washington." Several columnists accuse the Israeli government of being out of touch with reality. Mehmet Barlas in pro-government/mainstream *Sabah* calls

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Steve Blodgett, Senior Reviewer

Tel Aviv's position "anachronistic" and concludes: "Current Israel government is becoming like the Saddam era of Iraq." Erdal Safak in the same paper thinks "Gaza is becoming like Vietnam for Israel." Yasin Dogan in pro-government/Islamist *Yeni Safak* is disappointed by "lack of strong voice from Arabs" and blames Egypt for not opening its border gate with Gaza before the unpleasant events.

Mainstream *Milliyet's* Asli Aydintasbas notes importance of Israel's release of flotilla participants "which paved the way to lowering tensions between Tel Aviv and Ankara." "Despite these events, Turkey will not move away from the West" concludes Mehmet Ali Birand in mainstream *Posta*: "PM Erdogan does not intend to change Turkey's axis from the West. Ankara's strength will be exercised on a diplomatic level." Mehmet Yilmaz in mainstream *Hurriyet* thinks nobody comes out a winner: "Israel lost by earning overwhelming international condemnation, on the other hand, Turkey also lost not only failing to protect its own people but also by letting this happen by provoking things behind the scene." Sedat Ergin of the same paper is worried about "conspiracy driven culture" and says: "It is worrying that both the government and opposition did not see any harm in linking with PKK attack in Iskenderun to Israel even though they had nothing to prove it."

News Coverage

Thousands Welcome Gaza Peace Activists (*Sabah*)

All media outlets report more than 500 "Gaza peace activists" held under detention by Israel returned on Wednesday to Turkey on six planes. Israel decided to release all Turks under detention when Foreign Minister Davutoglu said the planes would not take off if a single activist is left behind. The activists were welcomed by cabinet ministers and thousands of Turks on their return to Istanbul.

Erdogan: "I Won't Let Even a Single Turk be Tried by Israel" (*Hurriyet*)

Hurriyet claims that before speaking with President Obama over the phone on Tuesday, Prime Minister Erdogan asked for "guarantees" that Israel would release all activists under detention. Israel, under US pressure, told news agencies that all Turks detained in the ship raid would be set free, although it had earlier announced that they would be put on trial for "supporting Hamas and terror." In the phone conversation with Erdogan, Obama promised to hold a new meeting with the Turkish PM to discuss developments in Iran and Israel on the sidelines of an international meeting in Ottawa this month. *Cumhuriyet* reports Obama asked Erdogan to find "other ways" to send aid to Gaza, without harming Israel's security. "Israel stepped back in three hours," says *Vatan*. *Yeni Safak* says Turkish determination "brought Israel to its knees."

Ankara Pushes Button for International Investigation of Gaza Raid (*Zaman*)

Papers report that following the return of the Turkish activists detained by Israel, Ankara was preparing to take legal action against Israeli for the raid on the Gaza aid flotilla in international waters. In line with a recent resolution of the UN Security Council, Ankara pressed for the establishment of an "impartial committee" to probe the raid. Turkey demands compensation for those hurt and killed in the raid and for the trial of the perpetrators. Foreign Minister Davutoglu said that today he was going to meet UNSYG Ban Ki-moon to press for the formation of a committee to probe the raid. In the meeting with Davutoglu in Washington, Secretary Clinton said an investigation should be conducted by Israel. Davutoglu rejected this, and stressed Turkey would not accept an investigation to be done by Tel Aviv, saying it would not be "healthy." Davutoglu also said Turkey would continue to press Israel to lift the blockade on the Gaza Strip.

New Aid Flotilla Prepared for Gaza (*Zaman*)

Zaman reports "European human rights organizations" said new aid ships would be sent to Gaza soon. Three new aid ships, dubbed "Freedom Flotilla 2," would set sail in a couple of weeks, says *Zaman*.

Historic Declaration: "Israel Should Apologize" (*Vatan*)

All papers report the Turkish Parliament has released a "historic declaration" on the Israeli attack on humanitarian aid ships. The declaration calls on Israel to apologize for the attack, and demands the establishment of an independent international committee to probe the incident. It also urges the Turkish government to review political, military and economic ties with Israel. The declaration was accepted unanimously. Meanwhile, *Sabah* reports the Human Rights Committee of the Turkish Parliament will go to Israel soon to investigate on the spot human rights violations such as the handcuffing of wounded activists.

Turkey May Suspend Israel from Defense Projects (*Zaman*)

Zaman claims Turkish defense projects carried out together with Israel might be cancelled. The paper says information received from "military circles" says Israel might be suspended from Turkish defense projects. An unidentified senior defense official says Turkey distanced itself from Israel in military projects after the crisis in Davos. He adds further restrictions might be expected after the latest developments, but that the final decision depends on political authorities, says *Zaman*.

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

Page 3 of 5

Signature: JEFFREY

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Approved By: PA:Leary, Thomas M

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ASTILLEROWP@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; BAILYJL@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
BARKS-RUGGLESEJ@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; BASSW@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
BEMISHR@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; BERNIER-TOTHM2@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
BITTERR@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; BRIMMERE@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
BROWNSS@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; BUCKNEBERGJL@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
BUCZACKIJJ@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; CA-CRISIS-MGT@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
CARLSONEA@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; CARPENTERJJ@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
CASSAYREMJ@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; CASSIDYJP@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
CHASEDL@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; CHATTERJIR@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
CHERRYE@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; CHERY-MEDORFN@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
CIOLEKMK@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; CLEMENTSK@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
COEYLM@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; CONNELLYM@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
COUNTRYMANT@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; CULVERJW@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
CUNNINGHAMJB@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; DALYKM@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
DANOVERJJ@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; DAWSONCN@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
DELARAMBELJELL@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; DELAURENTISJA@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
DERETICZ@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; DOLANDL@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
DONAHOEEC@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; MLGAG@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
DUNCANDL@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; ENAVCR@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
ENGELKENS3@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; EUR-SE-DAR-DL@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
FEAGLESAW@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; FELTMANJD@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
FINVERFJ@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; FITZPATRICKKM@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
FLEMINGJT2@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; FRELICHKH@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
FROWICKGH@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; GARUCKISMJ@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
GERMAINEJ@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; GIAUQUEJG@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
GODECRF@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; GOLDBERGERTH@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
GOODMANIA@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; GRAZEDE@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
GREENRY@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; GREENEE@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
GRIFFITHSDM@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; GRIMMBM@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
GROEBLACHERJ@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; GRUBBJB@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
HALEDM2@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; HARRISONPQ@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
HAYESME@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; HAYMONLC@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
HOLMSTROMTC@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; HOLTVK@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
HOWARDJ@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; HOWARDPM2@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
HUDDLEF@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; HUGGINSWD@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
HURREHAI@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; HUTCHINGSJE@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
IRWINMT@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; ISMAILAT@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
JACOBSJL@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; JACOBYJI@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
JEFFREYJF@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; JOHNSONSL2@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
JOHNSTONGARDNERSR@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; JOHNSTONEKA@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
; K AidanOWTS@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; KAZIMIY@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
KIRBYMD@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; KNOPFPL@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
KRILLA@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; KRUCHOSKIPH@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
LAWSONCM@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; LENTZAN@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
LEONECA@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; LEVINJ@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
LEWISRB@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; LIEBERMANJD@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;

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LOGSDONEJ@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; LOHMANL@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; ROUTINE ;
LUMBERTSK@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; MAGARIANS@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
MAGGIRW@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; MANGOLDMA@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
MANNWE@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; MARCHSEGM@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
MARSHDM@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; MARWAHABC@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
MASILKOBJ@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; MAXWELLRD@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
MAYOIJ@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; MCGEENEYKR2@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
MCINTYREJA@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; MCLEODM@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
MIKOSZDJ@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; MOOREKG@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
MORRISONAL@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; NEA-IPA-DL@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
NEA-PRESS-DL@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; NEA-RA-DL@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
NEA-STAFF-ASSISTANTS-DL@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; NETOSEE@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
NEVILLECC@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; NOBLEDA@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
NOSELSEF@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; OCONNORDB@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
OLSSONK@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; OSINAGAC@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
OSTERMEIERAA@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; PAPO@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
PELTONE@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; PRM-ANEUNRWA@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
QUINVILLERS@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; RANAGA@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
RAPPLT@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; RATNEYMA@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
REEDJG@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; REINERMC@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
REISSERWJ@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; RICHELPHDN@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
RILEYLV@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; RILEYRJ@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
ROGANTG@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; ROSEDB@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
RUBINSTEINDH@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; RUDMANM@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
RUDMANM2@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; SACHARAX@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
SALIHLL@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; SAYLESAG@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
SCARLATELLIAW@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; SCARSELLALE@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
SCHEDLBAUERAW@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; SCHRANKAD@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
SCHWEDTM@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; SCOVITCHJR@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
SES-O_CMS@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; SES-O_SHIFT-I@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
SES-O_SHIFT-II@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; SES-O_SHIFT-III@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
SES-O_SWO-ONLY@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; SHAMPAINEND@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
SHAPIROA@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; SHAUNFIELDJR@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
SICADELMA@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; SIEVERSMJ@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
SILLIMANDA@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; SINGLEJM@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
SMITHDSX@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; SOMERSETAD@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
DONICKAE@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; SOUCEKSM@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
STAPLESDA@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; STEVENSRA@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
SULLIVANJL@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; SUTPHINPR@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
TAYLORLB2@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; TAYLORVJ@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
THOMASSL@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; TYSONPH@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
ULLNERJ@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; VANDEVATEK@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
VASQUEZEJ@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; WALDSTEINRE@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
WALKERMK@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; WALLERRP@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
WATERSJR@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; WILSONSV@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
WINTERHALTERES@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; WOLFFAD@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
YETKENMA@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; YOUSSEFRN@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
ZAIBACKEX@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; ZUEHLKERB@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
RMRMAIL@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC
ROUTINE ; CIA WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE ; DIA DHP-1 WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE ;
USEUCOM JIC VAIHINGEN GE ROUTINE ;
USCENTCOM POLITICAL ADVISOR MACDILL AFB FL ROUTINE ; AMEMBASSY ATHENS
ROUTINE ; AMCONSUL ISTANBUL ROUTINE ; AMCONSUL ADANA ROUTINE ;
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS ROUTINE ; USMISSION USNATO ROUTINE ;
USMISSION USIN NEW YORK

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*ROUTINE ; USEUPA@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; 39OS INCIRLIK AB TU ROUTINE ;
AFOSI DET 522 INCIRLIK AB TU ROUTINE ; GUTMANBS@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ;
HOYERKJ@STATE.GOV ROUTINE ; AFOSI DET 523 IZMIR TU ROUTINE ;
ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE ROUTINE ; EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE ROUTINE*

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